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CONGRESS

House of representatives.

April 14.

FOR THE ARGUS.

Continued from our last.

But, had he acted constantly as judge of that court, and was it unconstitutional or illegal for to do it would not justify the passing an unconstitutional law to exclude him.—And that the law in question is unconstitutional is too evident to stand in need of demonstration.

And in point of legality, where is the difference in being judge and clerk of an orphan's court, and judge and clerk of a justices court, or of the sessions, or common pleas. Are not the clerks of the peace and pleas often justices of the peace, and sometimes judges of the pleas also? has not this been frequently the case in many of the counties? was the legality of it ever questioned?

But admitting it to be illegal, why make an ex post facto law unnecessarily? why not apply to the attorney general to file a quo warranto information against him; and oust him in a fair, legal, and constitutional way? or, if you must enact a law, why make a partial one? why not extend it to all other courts? why make a law for a single case and omit many others exactly similar? Surely Mr. C. this self same Cumberland judge must be singularly honoured by this distinguishing mark of personal attention, and his feelings must be highly gratified by a law enacted solely to perpetuate his celebrity; But believe sir, when I assure you that you have by this act of favoritism overrated his consequence, you have done more for him than was ever before done, or perhaps ever will be done; for another citizen of the state.

But waving all objections to the unconstitutional partiality of the law, and admitting the expediency of it as a cautionary rule in future cases, as to the orphan's court; why kick this poor devil of a judge, headlong from the court of common pleas? This must be a wretched and arbitrary stretch of legislative power, for the exercise of which I am unable to discover the least necessity. In this respect your law must be void, a mere nullity, to all intents and purposes, except to record the invidious motive of its author. Admitting you may exercise a power for the public good, to deprive a citizen of one of two offices which are incompatible with each other, it cannot extend to offices no way incompatible. And what connection have the duties of a judge of the common pleas with the business of a surrogate? have they ever in practice interfered? has the business of a surrogate ever prevented or delayed the doing his share of the duties of a judge. So far from it, that it is said, he has never been absent one hour when the court has been sitting since he has been in commission, and is remarkably punctual in doing the duties of a judge of the common pleas.

Can the acts of the surrogate influence his opinion or come in question before him in the court of common pleas, any more than in the sessions? If not, why exclude him from the former, and not the latter? why not make the law consistent, and exclude him from both?

If a Cumberland judge must not hold two offices of any kind, why suffer others to do it? Look around you good Mr. C. Take a peep within the walls of a certain State House, at certain seasons, and candour must compel you to acknowledge the shameful partiality, the palpable injustice and inconsistency of the law. And the iniquity of it is not confined to its intended victim. Your law has deprived or is meant to deprive the county of the judicial talents of a man whose legal knowledge and experience are universally admitted to be inferior to no one in the state not bred to the profession of the law, and whose conduct as a judge has generally been approved of in the county.

If private pique has influenced you, remember it is not the judge but the county you have injured. It was not until after repeated solicitations that he consented to take the commission, and he holds it to oblige the county with the sacrifice of very considerable pecuniary advantages. Was there the least necessity for your officiousness? Had the county complained, or solicited your interposition, it would be some pretext for the law. But even then, while many cases of a similar nature are known to exist in the state, which you have willfully or carelessly omitted, the manifest partiality of it will admit of no apology.

AGRICOLA.

Mr. Israel Smith called up a resolution laid upon the table some time ago, respecting an alteration in holding the district courts of Vermont.

Mr. Bourne wished the district courts of Rhode-Island also to be added.

They were added accordingly, the house agreed to the resolution, and it was referred to a committee of three members.

Mr. Gallatin said he wished to lay a resolution and two petitions on the table. The resolution related to the debt due to the bank of the united states. There was one point which he wished to be clearly understood upon the subject. He wished to know whether the bank had demanded the money for which government stood indebted to them. If they had, he would agree they must be paid.—But as he had seen nothing officially on the subject he wished the matter to be inquired into. For that purpose he proposed a resolution to the following effect.

Resolved, that a committee be appointed to inquire whether the bank of the united states are willing to continue the loans heretofore made by them to government in anticipation of the public revenue, and amounting to 2,000,000 dollar by new loans, similar to those which they were said to obtain.

Mr. Swanwick wished an amendment, "or any part thereof" to be added, which was agreed to, and laid upon the table.

Mr. Gallatin then presented two petitions from the western country, signed by 93 persons, similar to those before presented, praying the house to carry the treaties into effect.

The house then formed itself into a committee of the whole Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair, on the state of the union, when the resolution, as proposed by Mr. Sedgwick, and as proposed to be amended by Mr. Blount by striking out the words dey and regency of Algiers and king of Great Britain, being under consideration, after a considerable debate upon the propriety of adopting the resolution, and on the propriety of entering upon the consideration of the Spanish treaty, in preference to the British, the question was at length taken upon the amendment, but a division being called for it was so put and carried.

Mr. Gallatin then moved to strike out the words "Indian tribes," which was also carried. He then moved [in order to make this resolution conformable to the resolutions some days ago passed and entered upon their journals, explanatory of the powers of that house with respect to treaties] that the words "provision ought to be made by law," be struck out, and the following inserted in their place, "that it is expedient to pass the laws necessary," which was also carried 48 to 20. He then moved as he did not know that a treaty could be carried into effect with bad faith, to have the words "with good faith," struck out, as unnecessary.

Mr. Sedgwick said, he knew himself very well how to execute treaties, as they ought to be executed, with good faith; and that the gentleman from Pennsylvania, had given convincing evidence that he wanted no instructions, how to conduct himself with bad faith.

The motion was agreed to. The resolution then stood, Resolved, that it is expedient to pass the laws necessary for carrying into effect, the treaty lately concluded between the united states and the King of Spain, which, after an eulogium from Mr. Swanwick, on the Spanish treaty passed unanimously.

Mr. Hillhouse then wished to bring forward three out of four resolutions which he had proposed some time before, but which were not then attended to: the three were (for the fourth being for carrying into effect the the Spanish treaty, was already superceded)

"Resolved, that it is expedient to pass the laws necessary for carrying into effect the treaty lately concluded with certain tribes north west of the Ohio."

The other two were in the same words, only for carrying into effect the treaty with the dey and regency of Algiers, and the king of Great Britain. The resolutions for carrying into effect the treaty with the Indians and dey and regency of Algiers, were put and carried without opposition when the one being put for carrying into effect the treaty with Great Britain, Mr. Maclay spoke at considerable length against carrying the treaty into effect; and concluded by proposing the following proposition and resolution to the committee:

"The house having taken into consideration the treaty lately concluded with Great Britain

communicated by the president in his message of the first day of March last, are of opinion, that it is in many respects highly injurious to the interests of the united states; yet were they possessed of any information which could justify the great sacrifices contained in the treaty, their sincere desire to cherish harmony and amicable intercourse with all nations, and their earnest wish to operate in hastening a final adjustment of the differences subsisting between the united states and Great Britain might have induced them to waive their objection to the treaty; but when they contemplate the conduct of Britain in persevering since the treaty was signed, in the imprisonment of American seamen and the seizure of American vessels laden with provisions, contrary to the sacred rights of neutral nations; whether this be viewed as the construction meant to be given to any articles of the treaty or as contrary to an intention of the true bearing and spirit thereof, the house cannot but regard it as incumbent on them, in fidelity to the trust reposed in them, to forbear under such circumstances, taking at present any active measures in the subject, therefore, Resolved, That, under the circumstances aforesaid, and with such information as the house possess, it is not expedient at this time to concur in passing the laws necessary for carrying the said treaty into effect.

Some observations were made upon the propriety of admitting this proposition to be laid on the table and it was allowed not to be in order to introduce it till the question before the committee was disposed of.

A debate then took place whether the committee should rise. The committee at length rose, and had leave to sit again.

Mr. McClay's motion was renewed in the House and referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the union.

Friday, April 15.

Mr. Sherburne, from New Hampshire, had leave of absence granted for four weeks.

Mr. Abiel Foster, from the committee to whom was referred the resolution respecting the expediency of preventing for a limited time the exportation from the united states of indian corn, or corn meal, rye or rye meal, made the following report, which was read and agreed to by the house.

"That in some parts of the united states, owing to an unfavourable season the last year, and other causes, there exists a scarcity of the articles mentioned in the resolution; but that generally there is a plentiful supply. That notwithstanding the price of those articles are high, yet they do not generally exceed the present enhanced price of labour and other articles; that recent information of the state of foreign markets in Europe and other countries, does not authorize the expectation of any considerable exportation of those articles from the united states; that many of the principal sea port towns appear to be well supplied with the articles in question; not only sufficient for their own consumption; but in such abundance as to be able to supply other parts of the united states where scarcity exists; and, from the information received by the committee, it is probable those markets will be referred to, as affording a prospect of better prices than can be expected from foreign markets. The committee also find that merchant mills and stores in several parts of the interior country, are well supplied with very considerable quantities of the articles mentioned in the resolution, as well as with wheat and flour; that the prices of the latter have fallen considerably within a short time past. The committee, therefore, beg leave to submit to the house the following resolutions, viz.

"Resolved, that it is inexpedient to prohibit the exportation of indian corn, corn meal, rye, or rye meal."

The house took up, as next in the order of the day, the resolution for carrying into effect the treaty lately concluded between the united states and the dey and regency of Algiers.

Mr. Swanwick said that one of his constituents had put into his hand this morning, a letter from capt. Wm. Penrose at Algiers, dated January 2, 1796, by which it appeared that the American prisoners were not then released but kept at hard labour there.—Mr. Swanwick read the letter.

Mr. Gallatin made three several motions for committees to be appointed to bring in a bill or bill for carrying each of the three treaties agreed to into effect.

Mr. Gallatin also presented a number of petitions from the western countries signed by 225 persons, praying for the English and Spanish treaties to be carried into effect.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the union, Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair, when, having read the resolution for carrying the British treaty into effect,

Mr. Buck rose and wished the question to be taken upon Mr. Macklay's resolution; this was opposed by Mr. Madison and Mr. Hillhouse, and then Mr. Madison went at great length into the merits of the British treaty, and against the resolution for carrying it into effect; he was followed by Mr. S. Lyman in favour of it; and the sitting was concluded by Mr. Swanwick's speech against the resolution. The committee rose and the house adjourned.

(To be Continued.)

AN ACT FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF CRIMES.

[Continued from our last.]

LIX. *And be it enacted*, that if any person shall wilfully, unlawfully, and maliciously, tear, cut, burn, or in any way whatever, destroy any letters patent, charter, deed, indentured or poll, lease, indentures of apprenticeship, writing sealed, will, testament, bond, annuity, bill, writing-obligatory, release, hankbill or note, check, draught, bill of exchange, promissory note for the payment of money, indorsement or assignment of any bill of exchange or promissory note for the payment of money, or any acceptance of any bill of exchange, or the number or principal sum of any accountable receipt for any note, bill, or other security for the payment of money, or any warrant, order, or request for the payment of money, or the delivery of goods or chattels of any kind, any certificate or other public security of the united states or of this state, or of any of the united states, for the payment of money, or acknowledging the receipt of money or goods, or any acquittance or receipt either for money or goods, or any acquittance, release, or discharge of any debt, account, action, suit demand, or other thing real or personal, or any transfer or assurance of money, stock, goods, or chattels, or other property whatsoever, or any letter of attorney or other power to receive money, or to receive or transfer stock or annuities, or to let, lease, sell, dispose of, alien, or convey, any goods or chattels, lands or tenements, or other estate real or personal, or any daybook, journal, ledger, or book of accounts, or any agreement or contract in writing, whether sealed or not, respecting any estate real or personal, with intent to prejudice, injure, damage or defraud any person or persons, body-politic or corporate, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished by fine not exceeding eight hundred dollars, or imprisonment at hard labour not exceeding ten years, or both.

LX. *And be it enacted*, that if any person shall wilfully, unlawfully, and maliciously, cut down, break down, level, demolish, or otherwise destroy or damage, any bridge, or sea or river, bank, or any meadow bank or mill dam, or break or destroy the windows or doors of any dwelling house or other house or building, or let fire to, or burn or destroy, or procure or cause to be burnt or destroyed, any barn, cock, crib, rick or stack of hay, corn, wheat, rye, barley, oats, or grain of any kind, or any fences, piles of wood, boards or other lumber, or shall wilfully, unlawfully, and maliciously kill or destroy any horse, mare or gelding, or any bull, ox, steer, bullock, cow, heifer, or calf, or any sheep or lamb; every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished by fine, not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars, or imprisonment at hard labour not exceeding two years or both.

LXI. *And be it enacted*, That if any person or persons shall receive or buy any goods or chattels, that shall be stolen or taken by robbery from any other person, knowing the same to have been stolen or taken by robbery, or shall receive, harbour or conceal any thief or thieves, robber or robbers, knowing him, her or them to be; he, she, or they so offending shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and on conviction, punished by fine not exceeding three hundred dollars, or imprisonment at hard labour not exceeding three years, or both.

LXII. *And be it enacted*, That if any person or persons having knowledge of the actual commission of murder, manslaughter, sodomy, rape, arson, burglary, larceny, robbery or forgery within the jurisdiction of this state, shall conceal, and not as soon as may be disclose and make known the same to some one of the judges of the supreme court, or one of the justices of the peace in and for any of the counties of this state, such person or persons, on conviction thereof shall be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars, or suffer an imprisonment at hard labour not exceeding three years, or both.

LXIII. *And be it enacted*, That if any person shall attempt to commit murder, sodomy, rape, robbery, arson or burglary, and in such attempt shall be slain, the slayer shall be deemed faultless and be liable to no forfeiture, and be totally acquitted and discharged.

LXIV. *And be it enacted*, That if any person kill another by inadvertence, or in his or her own defence, or in defence of his or her husband, wife, parent, child, master, mistress, or servant; then the person so killing shall be deemed guiltless, be liable to no forfeiture, and be totally acquitted and discharged.

LXV. *And be it enacted*, That if any person or persons in committing or attempting to commit sodomy, rape, arson, robbery or burglary, or any

unlawful act against the peace of this state, of which the probable consequence may be bloodshed, shall kill another, or if the death of any one shall ensue from the committing or attempting to commit any such crime or act as aforesaid; or if any person or persons shall kill any judge, justice of the peace, sheriff, coroner, constable or other commonly known officer of justice, either civil or criminal of this state, or the marshal or other commonly known officer of justice, either civil or criminal of the united states; in the execution of his office or duty, or shall kill any of his assistants, whether specially called to his aid or not, endeavouring to keep and preserve the peace, or apprehend a criminal, shewing the authority of such assistant, or shall kill a private person, endeavouring to suppress an affray, or to apprehend a criminal, knowing the intention with which such private person interposes; then such person or persons so killing as aforesaid, on conviction shall be adjudged to be guilty of murder, and shall suffer death.

[To be continued.]

COMMUNICATIONS.

(From the Gazette of the United States.)

"The right of discussing public measures, has been advocated by the enemies of the government when it could promote their liberticide designs. Now that they have got a majority in the house, any strictures on their conduct are called disorganizing doctrines."

Querr. Who look most like disorganizers—those who applaud the measures of the immediate representatives of the people, or those who call the majority in the house, enemies of the government.

It is confidently reported in Philadelphia that it was lord Grenville's opinion that a treaty could not be carried into effect without the concurrence of the house of representatives. This is said to be one reason why the president refused to deliver the papers called for.

INTELLIGENCE.

WARSAW, Nov. 18.

Kosciusko has received from St. Petersburg the annual pension of one thousand one hundred ducats, settled on him by the united states of America, in whose cause he served. He immediately divided this sum between his countrymen who are fellow prisoners with him.

BERLIN Dec. 5.

The life annuity of 15,000 ducats settled by Russia on the unfortunate Stanislaus, will not, in all probability, be long a burthen to the finances of the imperial Catherine; this imprisoned king is dying at Grodno.

PARIS, Dec. 22.

The most severe measures are taken in Paris to force the departure of all the young men of the first requisition, they do not dispense even those who had received protections on account of their talents.

A letter from Louis Monneron to the editor of the Journal of Perles, states that the exchange of prisoners between England and France is perfectly agreed upon.

The letters from Bretagne state, that la Vendee is now of little consequence; that our troops are almost masters of the whole country; that the greatest part of the Chouans are dispersed; that Charette is no longer there, as he is gone to Morbihan, where the Chouans have re-united their forces, and where it appears the English mean to attempt another descent. Stofflet remains quiet in a fort of fortified castle. Gen. Hoche is said to be at Paris.

Feb. 20.

The executive directory has recalled Mr. Adet from the United States of America, who is to be succeeded by Mr. Fontanno of Bordeaux.

LONDON Feb. 27.

It was reported on Saturday that the Dutch fleet had been seen near the Orkneys, Scotland, on Tuesday last, and supposed to be going round Ireland; we cannot authenticate this news, though it is said to be brought by the Caroline frigate, arrived at Hull.

The prefs on the river is now carried on with vigour, without respect to protections. The merchants have lately engaged a great number of Danes Swedes, and Portugues sailors, at very large bounties.

The king has been pleased to appoint Robert Liston, esq. to be his majesty's envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the united states of America.

The king has also been pleased to appoint Edward Thornton, esq. to be his majesty's secretary of legation to the said united states.

March 8.

We yesterday stated the receipt of a Paris journal of the third inst. last night we received a series from the 27th ultimo to the 4th inst. inclusive. The most interesting article is the execution of Stofflet, the Chouan chief, with some of his adherents in arms.

Several articles which the Hamburg mail, arrived this morning, brings, revive the hopes of effective negotiation.

PORTSMOUTH, March, 12.

The Thunder, admiral Christian, with the remainder of the West India fleet, will sail tomorrow.

AMSTERDAM, March 1.

They write from Wesel that the negotiation between the king of Prussia and the French government, relative to the Prussian states on the left bank of the Rhine, is nearly concluded. In all probability the French republicans will keep a body of troops in this part of the Prussian states till the peace; but the civil administration will be under the direction of the court of Berlin.

According to private letters from Friesland, the fugitive representatives, 27 in number, have taken with them the provincial chest, and retired into a foreign territory. Among them is the celebrated Joha. This revolution however, was without bloodshed. The number of the fugitives is reckoned at 400. They consist of the before mentioned representatives, the citizens who espoused their cause, and the adherents to the old system of government.

HAGUE, March 1.

The day of the meeting of the national convention, to earnestly wished for, has at length arrived; and at the moment this letter is sent off, it will enter into all the functions of the representative body of the sovereignty of our Batavian republic. The deputies assembled at about eleven in the morning; the hall had been filled with spectators from before seven.

Our whole garrison was drawn out, and the national guards received and escorted the deputies to the hall. At noon the commission of the states general by which the convention was constituted was opened. A deputation from the new convention accompanied the commission back, after which the states general dissolved themselves.

We do not yet know with certainty who will be chosen president of the convention, but probably citizen Paulus, who, was first president of the assembly of Holland.

On the opening of the national convention all the ships displayed the national flag, and every sailor received a pint of wine a quarter of a pound of tobacco, and two pipes. The labourers in the public works likewise had a holiday with their usual pay.

It is now altered that the fleet of of four ships of the line and thirteen frigates, which sailed from the Texel last week, is bound to the East Indies, and it is expected that they will be joined off Brest or Rochfort, by a French squadron.

HAMBURG, March 4.

[Extract of a private letter.]

On the 4th ult. every thing remained quiet on the Rhine; but it was feared that the renewal of hostilities was near at hand.

Letters from Vienna state, that his Imperial majesty may perhaps proceed in person to Mentz, for the purpose of being near the operations of war; but this is not yet certain. A report which is current here, and may perhaps find its way in the newspapers, that field marshal Wurmer is to be entrusted with the command in chief of both the imperial armies on the Rhine, is without foundation.

We understand that Mr. Charles Grenville, son-in-law to the duke of Portland, is to be the new under secretary of state in his grace's office.

It is not generally known that the present duc de Bolton was engaged to the late Gen. Wolfe.

Letters from Frankfurt by the last mails mention that the reigning Duke of Wurtemberg has sent his grand Maitre Zeppelin to Vienna to influence the emperor in favour of a marriage between the Hereditary Prince (whose sister was the Emperor's first wife) and the prince's Royal of England; another messenger it is said, is dispatched to St. Petersburg, on a similar mission, the grand dutchess being sister of the Hereditary prince.

All the late discussions in the French Legislature on the ruinous state of the public finances, clearly demonstrate not only their truly desperate condition, but also the utter impossibility of restoring public credit. At first it was supposed, that by depreciating the assignats, specie would be forced into circulation; but the measures adopted for this purpose, having entirely failed of success they are now again endeavouring to raise the credit of assignats. They may be compared to a whirlwind, tossed about the centre, and carrying away with it whatever it meets in its dreadful sweep. That Gay Vernon the Jacobin bishop, should attribute the depreciation of assignats to counter revolutionary plans, at the very moment when the French government is obliged to reduce them to the tenth part of their nominal value, is curious indeed; for if this be the case, government itself and not the royalists must needs have formed these plans.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 20.

The Adriana, Dawson, for Baltimore, in going out on Saturday, got upon Pluckington bank, and

strained in such a manner that she must unload and come into dock for repair.

ITALY, Feb. 20.

The French have now 20,000 men before the Genoese fortress Savona, and our curiosity is excited to know whether they will employ force to obtain possession of a place which is of the utmost importance to them, if they mean to penetrate into Lombardy.

They have requested that only a part of their troops might have possession of the fortress, in conjunction with the Genoese garrison; but this has refused.

The report that the French had made a landing on the island of Sardinia, is unfounded.

The English fleet has again put to sea from Leghorn, after having been joined by the Neapolitan ship of the line, the Tancred.

SAVANNAH, March 24.

Yesterday a discovery was made on the island of Cumberland of 70 or 72 brigand negroes, who, on examination before Judge Pendleton, appear to be a part of those people employed by the Spaniards in St. Domingo against the French republicans; they are part of the villainous murderers at Fort Dauphin, and under the command of the black general John Francois, now in St. Augustine; they sailed from Monte Christi about two months past, bound to the Havannah; it appears that they had a white captain, but he is not to be found, and from a variety of corroborating circumstances, I think there is not a doubt of their having killed him; his name appears to be Peter Appenell, a native of Virginia; the vessel in which they were stranded a few days past on Cumberland island; it was a schooner, about 25 tons; they had several trunks and boxes on board, chiefly valuable female clothing, apparently plundered from the unfortunate French planters of St. Domingo. The whole of these pirates were brought to this place last night in consequence of a precept from the federal judge supported by a detachment from the federal troops under the command of lieutenant Cobb; they are now secured in Fort Tammany, under the direction of Col. Gaither, whose readiness in aiding the civil authority on this and all other occasions of late has been very conspicuous. A great part of the goods on board have been plundered by some worthless wretches on Cumberland, and parties are sent after them.

BAITIMORE, April 15.

The following letter from Tortola, to a house in this town, was last evening handed to the printers of the *Merak Gazette*.
The recent transactions in the court of Admiralty of Tortola, in the case of the brig Maria Wilmans, and others would warrant a representation to be made to the secretary of the united States of the commanders of British ships, detaining on board their ships the owners, supercargoes, and captains of American vessels, six or eight days, and not allowing them to speak to any one, as can be proved by captain Oaks, Mr. Val Rutter and others, by which they, in particular, lost the advice of counsel, as the detention of these two prevented their applying to a Mr. Cains, who had attended the decision of some causes, prior to their arrival, and went from the island the day before Mr. Rutter's release, for St. Kitt's.

Let the grievance in the decisions in the court of Vice Admiralty be strongly represented, their contradiction to the known practice of great Britain, and her courts of Admiralty; the judges not confining themselves to the fees allowed by the prize acts, but exacting and taxing enormous costs, of which the judges receive a principal share, which must act in influencing the determinations. The conduct of the judge in the case of the Maria Wilmans, ought to be particularly set forth—his ordering the whole cargo to be sold, to ascertain the one third, instead of its being appraised, as in other cases. As a judge of that court in revenue causes, he must have known, that on the two thirds being sold, they must, by our revenue laws, be shipped to Great Britain, in a British bottom, or if shipped in a foreign bottom, be liable to pay a high duty; and that his decision would deprive the owners of the benefit of carrying it away to a good market, and compelled them to sell it to his friend the king's agent, at his cheap price; when had it only been appraised, it might have been taken on board the brig again.

PHILADELPHIA April 18.

Extract of a letter from Norfolk April 10.

The only news we have, is that the British arms have been grazed with another Quiberon affair. The schooner swallow captain M'Dermot has just arrived after a short passage from St. Domingo. He informs us that on Sunday the 20th of March an attempt was made on Leogane by the British—that 2 line of battle ships, five frigates and a number of transports with four thousand troops on board, proceeded from Port au Prince to the neighbourhood of Leogane, where the troops were landed without opposition, that the ships of war then drew near the batteries and commenced a heavy attack—that the fires was returned from the batteries with such effect as greatly to injure and scatter the ships which obliged them to sheer off and abandon their land forces to their fate: that

the troops were surrounded and of the 4000 who landed not a man was suffered to escape; that the ships returned to Port au Prince where captain M'Dermot left them a few days after.

Extract of a letter from a merchant of New-York to his friend here, dated April 18

Dear Sir, Yours of the 16th I received, requesting to know what premium our underwriters would ask on your brig Malabar. Owing to the resolutions in Congress brought forward by Mr. Galatin, all insurances and other business is at a stand: nothing doing: the merchants from the country, who came for a supply of goods, all going back without, as our merchants decline selling at present. Produce has fell amazingly since Saturday. Superfine flour at 11 dollars. Beef at 9 dols. Pork, 14. Wheat, 18/6 per bushel and other things in proportion; indeed there is no sale for any thing. Our banks, I understand, have got alarmed; very little they will do, as they seem to have lost confidence in the government. I say the majority of the house of Representatives. The consequence I fear will be fatal to a number of our merchants and speculators here, if opinions do not alter in congress; but I hope in God they will if they do not, I am afraid our government will be afloat.

NEW-YORK, April 18.

We are informed by one of the managers of the Aims-House lottery, that the 10,000 dollar prize, drawn on Friday, is the property of a free black man, named Derry, formerly the slave of Mr. George Burns, deceased, who for many years since kept the city tavern in Broad Way. His widow is still living, aged about 80 years, and has for several years been, and is still, supported by faithful Derry, at the rate of £30 per annum, which he paid out of his monthly earnings. We are further informed, that when he received the information of his good fortune, he replied "Well, now I will be able to maintain my old mistress genteelly."

Foreign accounts mention that gen. Wurmsler is to command the Austrians in Italy, and that archduke Charles and gen. Mack command on the Rhine.

Capt. Tatten of the Apollo, from the coast of Africa, informs, that the governor of Senegal had, in consequence of a decree of the convention of France, prohibited the exportation of gum in American bottoms.

Morocco is reported to be agitated on the scene of domestic commotions, and that Suly Soliman has been driven from his capital by his rebellious brother. It is further added, that communication with Europe was suspended, in consequence of which the garrison of Gibraltar has experienced much inconvenience.

Bridge-town, April 29 1796.

By the accounts from New York and Philadelphia, it appears that those cities are in a great fermentation. Party spirit runs high. Petitions for and against the treaty are pouring into congress. Business, in a great measure, seems to be stagnated till the decision of the house of representatives shall be known. The house are busily engaged in discussing the treaty, and it appears highly probable that the appropriations to carry it into effect will not be granted.

Last week a blacksmith's shop belonging to Mr. Daniel Burt, of Fairfield, caught on fire, and was entirely consumed. The fire, however was discovered in time to prevent any considerable damage except the loss of the building.

T O B E S O L D,

AT public Vendue on Seventh-day the 30th inst. at ten o'clock in the forenoon at the house of Philip Souder foundry lots of land in Bridge-town, adjoining Eli Elmer and others; also a lot of woodland near the above, by

MARK MILLER, Junr.

April 26th 1796.

N O T I C E.

Whereas my wife Naamah Bowden, late Naamah M'Brice, hath eloped from my bed and board, and given herself to lewdness, and, on my having accused her with the same, swore the peace against me, for which I was committed to the goal of this county, and, during my time there, she carried away all my property consisting of stock and household furniture, this is to give public notice not to trust her on my account, as I will not pay any debts of her contracting. I will give 20 dollars to any person who will give information within three months from the date hereof where my property or any part thereof is concealed, so that it may be found, as I mean to proceed as the law directs.

EDWARD BOWDEN.

Cape-May, April 1, 1796.

FROM DODSLEY'S COLLECTION

The man whose constitution's strong,
And free from vexing cares his mind,
As changing seasons pass along
Can in them all fresh pleasure find,

Not only in the reeking bud,
The opening leaf and following bloom
Urg'd by the sap's ascending flood;
And fruit fair knitting in its room;

Not only when the smiling fields
In all their gaitly appear,
And the perfumes their bosoms yield
On balmy wings the zephyrs bear.

In morning fair, in evening mild,
The murmuring brook and cooling shade,
Bird's airy notes in concert wild,
And Philomela's serenade.

Not only in the waving ear,
And branches bending with their load,
Or whilst the produce of the year
Is gathering and in safety stow'd.

He pleas'd in days autumnal sees
The shadowy leaf diversified
With various colors and the trees
Stripp'd and stand forth in naked pride.

Each hollow blast, and hasty shower,
The rattling hail, and dreary snow,
The candied rime, and scattered hoar,
And icicles which downward grow.

The shining pavement of the flood
To which the youthful tribes resort,
And game which the discovered wood
Exposes to the fowler's sport.

The sun, which from the northern signs
Scorch'd with infernal heat,
Now in a milder glory shines
And every glancing ray is sweet.

The silver morn, and each fair star
Forth to the best advantage shine,
And by the richest scene prepare
For noble thoughts the expand'd mind.

He, when the mornings slowest rise
Can sweetly pass the night away
In lubrication with the wife
Or conversation with the gay.

And when the winter tedious grows
And lengthning days cold stronger bring;
A new increasing pleasure flows
From expectation of the spring.

So he whose faculties are found,
His heart upright and conscience clean,
Agreeably can pass his round
Of life in every pleasing scene.

Not only in his youthful prime,
And whilst his powers continue firm,
But when he feels the effects of time,
And age prepares him for the worm.

Grateful for every blessing past,
Patient in every present ill,
And on whatever ground he's placed
Hope does with pleasing prospects fill;

And trust in heaven's enchanting love,
(From whence that sun shall soon appear
Whose smiles make endless spring above)
Does all his doubts and darkness clear.

A N E C D O T E,

From Alexander's History of Women.

A Scots clergyman, whose wife was, it seems, a descendant of the famous Xantippe,* in going through a course of lectures on the Revelations of St. John, took up the opinion that the sex had no souls, and were incapable of future rewards and punishments. It was no sooner known in the country that he maintained such a doctrine, than he was summoned before a presbytery of his brethren, to be dealt with according to his delinquency. When he appeared at their bar they asked him, if he really held so heretical an opinion? He told them plainly, that he did. On desiring to be informed of his reasons for so doing, "In the Revelation of St. John the Divine," said he, "you will find this passage, 'And there was silence in heaven for about the space of half an hour'; and I appeal to all of you, to tell me whether that could possibly have happened had there been any women there? and since there are none there, charity bids us to imagine that they are all in a worse place; therefore it follows, that they have no immortal part; and happy is it for them, as they are thereby exempted from being accountable for all the noise and disturbance they have raised in this world.

* Xantippe, the most famous scold of antiquity.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Published by
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At a period when the United States of America are advancing rapidly in the Career of improvement to all the arts, that meliorate and embellish life, every attempt to add to the general Stock in this way will doubtless meet with that share of attention which it deserves. It is on this presumption only that this work is offered to the public inspection, and the editor is happy in believing that a work like this, calculated to promote industry, and stimulate genius will be received as an acceptable contribution.

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If the basest plot, devised against virtuous love, and conjugal Felicity, a plot arising from the Malice of disappointment, conducted by the darkest intrigue, but so overruled by Providence, as at once to disgrace the Malevolence of persecution, and to show female innocence and virtue splendidly triumphant and happy—if such a picture drawn by a masterly hand, can interest the heart, or convey entertainment and instruction to the mind, Louisa the lovely orphan, merits our attention, but the judicious reader will require no higher recommendation of this elegant work, than to be informed that, it has in a short time passed through no fewer than seven Editions.

IX. The Mystic cottager of Chamouny.—Price Bound 6s.

This interesting Novel, has been lately published in London, for the sole endeavour of raising a sum for the Benefit of a distressed orphan, deprived of the blessing of light.

X. The Royal Captives; a fragment of secret History; copied from an old manuscript. By Ann Yearly Milk woman, of Bristol, Author of Earl Godwin; an Historical play—also several celebrated Poems.

XI. The Proceedings of the Society of United Irishmen.

It is hoped that this publication will prove in the highest degree acceptable to all the virtuous and patriotic citizens of the United States. To them the cause of Freedom is ever sacred, and the struggles of an injured nation to regain their dear rights lost, will, we hope, keep alive on their minds a spirit of watchfulness over their public officers, and a disposition to resist with becoming firmness every encroachment on their Liberties, that they may enjoy the ineffable blessings of the free and most happy government on earth.

XII. The American tablet of Memory, containing the most memorable events in History, &c. from the earliest period till the year 1795. The whole being intended to form a comprehensive Abridgement of History and Chronology, particularly of that period which relates to America. Neatly bound.—Price one dollar.

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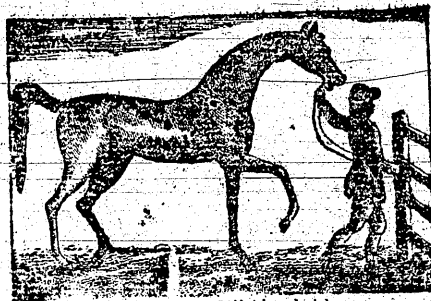
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In addition to the above, said STEPHENS sells every American publication and has received by the last arrivals a complete assortment of the best European books; also, a variety of stationary—all which he continues as usual to sell cheap; and offers to wholesale purchasers a liberal allowance, Gentlemen wishing to complete libraries, or embark in the book-selling business, can have a supply at the shortest notice, and every information necessary.



The handsome, full-blooded horse,
ARABIAN,

Will cover mares this season at the stables of the subscriber, in Fairfield, at the low rate of two dollars the single leap, four dollars the season and eight dollars to insure a foal: the insurance money to be paid if the mare is removed from Fairfield.

The Arabian is of a chestnut sorrel, with a blaze in his forehead and two white feet, sixteen hands high, has an elegant carriage, and is excellent for the saddle or harness.

JAMES BRADFORD.

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of the late Dea. John Thomas Hampton, either by bond, note, or book account, are requested to discharge the same by the 20th of April next, or they will be proceeded against agreeably to law.

MERCY WESTCOTT, Executrix.
March 21.

FOR SALE.

A PART of the plantation whereon the subscriber now lives; situate in the county of Cumberland, New Jersey, a short half mile above Cohansy bridge, containing one hundred acres, sixty of which are cleared and in good cedar fence, the remainder wood land. There is a lively stream of water running through the premises, on which is a small quantity of swamp meadow. A considerable part of the upland is under clover, part of which affords a good burden. On the said plantation is a good barn and some fruit trees.

Also a lot of valuable bank meadow of six acres, distant three miles, and a lot of good cedar swamp of six acres distant eighteen miles.

The above plantation is well situated for a farm store, or any mechanical business, laying on the main Philadelphia road: lots for building may be disposed of to good advantage; the situation is high, pleasant and healthy, and in full view of the growing village of Bridgetown.

EBENEZER SEELEY.

Laurel hill, April 9, 1796.

FOR SALE.

A valuable plantation, containing two hundred and fifty acres, situate in Nantuxet creek, township of Downs, county of Cumberland, State of New Jersey, more than one hundred acres of which are wood-land of the first quality; fifty cleared and in good condition to produce wheat, corn, or rye; the remainder salt meadow. There are on the premises a frame house, one story and a half high, and a log kitchen, &c. The plantation is adjoining lands of Mughin Hews, David Page, and others, within half a mile of Delaware bay, and two miles and a half of Charles landing. For conditions apply to captain Elijah Davis, in Deerfield, or Mrs. Elizabeth Stratton, Bridgetown.

N. B. As the subscriber wishes to sell, the conditions will be made easy to the purchaser.

BUCKLEY CARLL.

April 6th, 1796.

FOR SALE.

TWO Tracts of land, in Norlumber land county, State of Pennsylvania, in or adjoining Bald-Eagle township, on the west branch of the river Susquehanna, containing four hundred and twenty acres each tract, with large allowance for roads, &c. These lands were taken up and patented by the particular direction of the honourable Thomas M'Kean chief justice of the state of Pennsylvania, whose peculiar opportunity, when riding the circuits, and possessing the first information respecting the quality of all these lands need not be questioned. The above tracts are the very pick of twelve tracts which the person employed to direct the survey chose for his services. It joins thick settlements and the river Susquehanna. For terms apply at the office of the Argus. wtf

NEW JERSEY TREASURY OFFICE.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons holding notes, or certificates of this State, of the following description, to wit, those issued by the Treasurer to the officers and soldiers of the late continental army, for the depreciation of their pay, those issued by Silas Condict, and Ezekiel Ewing; and those issued by the commissioners in the several counties for militia pay, also all the contractors and surplus certificates received by the Treasurer, and by him and the Auditor, stated and reported to the legislature, to be just claims against the State, to produce the same at this office, on or after the fifteenth day of April next, when the principal and interest to that date will be added together, and one fourth part thereof paid, and a note given for the other three fourths, payable in three equal annual payments, with an interest of three and a half per cent.—Agreeably to "An act for the gradual redemption of the State debts," passed March 12, 1796.
Trenton, March 22, 1796.

JAMES MOTT, Treasurer.

FOR SALE.

THREE Acres of land on the south side of the new road from Bridge-town to Roadtown; beautifully situated for building. The whole may be purchased together, or in lots of one acre. For terms apply to

JOSEPH JONES.

Bridge-town, April 7, 1796.

FOR SALE.

ONE hundred and twenty one acres of land lying in the township of Downs, Cumberland county, about two miles and a half from Mattox's landing on Maurice river, adjoining lands of Jacob Bailey, James Blizard and others. A considerable part of it is woodland, the remainder of a good quality for grass or grain.

Fifty six acres of salt marsh, lying on Nantuxet creek, adjoining marsh late Enoch Sheppard's, and is part of a tract of 500 acres of land and marsh, known by the name of Winter pasture. Any person who may wish to purchase the whole or part of the above property, may know the terms by applying to Levi Heaton, at Dividing creek bridge, or to the Subscriber.

Also, a number of beautiful building lots in Bridgeton, some of which are adjoining the creek.

The above property will be disposed of upon reasonable terms. Particulars may be known by applying to the subscriber.

JOHN MOORE WHITE.

Bridgeton, Jan. 26th, 1796.

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber, on vendue accounts, are requested to make payment immediately.

EBENEZER SEELEY.

Blank Bonds and Judgments for sale at this office.

The Highest price
Given for
clean linen and cotton
RAGS
By the Printers hereof.

A few tons of good
CLOVER HAY,

for sale by
AULAY McALLA.
Roadstown, March 22d.