

From the FARMER'S WEEKLY MUSEUM.

"Study to be quiet, and to do your own business."
THE Thessalonians, to whom this rule was given, were probably an inquisitive race, and, like the men of Athens, spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. We must frame some such supposition, to excuse St. Paul from the charge of impertinence: for nothing can appear more a work of supererogation, than to tell men, selfish by nature, to live in peace, and to pursue his own advantage. Nature, and the primary laws of being, have told him so already.—But this epistle, written at Athens, and sent to Thessalonica, that is, from one tattling, idle city to another, was seasonable and proper, notwithstanding all the fine reasoning to the contrary. For myself, I can affirm confidently, that I need not turn over the archives of the Thessalonians to discover a million of cases, where men study to be restless, and to pry into other people's business.

Impertinent curiosity is, however, a vice of the village, rather than of the city. I am surprised that Paul did not give the direction in my text, expressly to the country people. For, though impertinence is not so local as never to be found except in cottages, still it is a fact, that the alders of *villages* and *wherefore* are generally villagers, and not city. In town, strange fights are so common, and the tongues of fame so numerous, that each inhabitant, distracted with endless variety, thinks it better to mind his own business, than to inspect the concerns of a thousand neighbours. In the country, external circumstances begin essentially different; hence the manners of the people assume a different colour. There the incidents are so few on which glutton curiosity can feed, that even *marvel* novelties are seized upon with avidity. A farmer's purchase of a silk gown for his wife, or the irregular pregnancy of his daughter, I have known to engross, for weeks, the thoughts and chat of those vacant and meddling neighbourhoods, which disobey the precept of Paul.

A certain elegant fabulist among the Latins, describes a race of the busy-bodies, sunning wildly about out of breath with inquiring, prying into every nook, and by their restless indolence, wearying themselves and tormenting others. This is a strong picture, and some might say overcharged—a DARBY's caricature of manners, rather than the natural strokes of an Italian. But I will engage to find the originals of this portrait in every village I visit. Men in the country, no less than in town, have various schemes to execute, and duties which ought to be discharged. But, negligent of these, and with the beam in their own eyes, they go groping about, to discover a mote in their neighbour's. It is a *mote*, in general, that they gaze for most earnestly, and it is a mote that they magnify into a mountain.

This weak, if not criminal conduct, is generally the first begotten of jealousy and rivalry. The malignant inquisitions that are then made of a neighbour's fortune or fame, are veiled by an affectation of impartiality and candour. But all may discern, that such invidious queries, are like arrows discharged from a covert, meant to deeply wound, and yet, by their course, not to betray their archer.

What is it to thee, censorious woman, if thy frail sister has lapsed by the way side? Dost her fall shake thy foundation? and hast thou to bear the burden of her suckling? Gaze not at her infirmity, nor circulate her reproach. Con over the catalogue of thy own galantries, and trust me, thou wilt not have a moment left to read, or to compile a scandalous chronicle.

What is it to thee, meddling man, if thy neighbour's goods be attached? hast thou to pay the fee, of the officer? Keep thy ledger accurately, and peep not into his day-book. Ask not of his apprentices how they fare at their master's board, nor how many dollars he takes in a year. Study to be quiet, and to mind thy own business, and thou wilt find that thou hast little leisure to take an inventory of another man's wealth.

THE LAY PREACHER.

From the NEW-YORK HERALD.

NO speculation at present gives so much satisfaction to the French nation and their fraternity in this country, as the expected bankruptcy of England. Thomas Paine has published a sixpenny pamphlet to prove, that Great-Britain is "on the verge, nay, even in the gulph of bankruptcy," and all the boyish disciples of Tom Paine are gaping with admiration at his wisdom. Indeed, Paine's talents for writing for illiterate minds, has never been exceeded; and his peculiar expressions and comparisons, which are adapted to ordinary capacities, and the only merit of his writings, are substituted for good sense and sound wisdom. Paine is a man of little reading and erudition; but he makes that little go farther than any man living. In theological matters, he has collected ideas about the bible, that have been current among unbelievers for centuries; and his objections to its authenticity, have all been considered, by multitudes of philosophical men, ages ago. Paine, so far from being original, has not even the merit of accuracy; for he has made some gross blunders in point of historical fact.

With respect to his ideas of the British debt, he is nothing new, unless it be his rate of progression in its increase. The reason why the expenses of every succeeding war are increased and must increase, is an obvious one, and a subject of common remark. The evils of carrying on war by anticipating the revenues of a nation, are well known and universally acknowledged. This subject has been well understood and discussed by many writers on political economy, particularly by Mr. Hume, in his chapter on public credit, Essays, vol. 1. where Mr. Paine may find these evils more strongly marked and elegantly described, than he is capable of doing.

He may also find arguments in that philosophical Essay, to correct his own opinions relative to the effect which bankruptcy would have on the English nation. That writer was decidedly of opinion forty years ago, that the nation was hastening to bankruptcy, and that the event was unavoidable; but instead of believing this event would ruin Great-Britain, by destroying her credit, he is confident that it would rather augment her credit.

In this opinion Mr. Hume is unquestionably well founded. The annihilation of the national debt would ruin thousands, but would save millions. It would relieve the nation of an intolerable burden, which now oppresses her, and enfeebles all her measures. It would give new life and vigour to all her national operations. It would be like bleeding in certain paralytic cases of the human body; the discharge would relieve the vessels from their stricture and restore them to action.

It may be supposed at first reflection, that after national bankruptcy, no body would trust the public. This is all a fallacy, and the foundation of all the mistaken exultation of the French, at the approaching fate of England. Facts prove the reverse.

One of the most remarkable and distressing bankruptcies that ever happened, was that of the French in the regency of the Duke of Orleans, when John Law's bubble burst. Yet the next king borrowed money at lower interest than his predecessors, before that event.

The destruction of the credit of continental money in America and of assignats in France, was national bankruptcy in both cases; yet in neither case has the credit of these nations been destroyed. I go farther, and aver that a nation may become insolvent and annihilate its public debt every ten years and never want credit. On the other hand, that nation shall always be able to borrow money enough. And this truth is so obvious, in these times of speculation, that it is surprizing it should not be well understood. Nothing marks the want of discernment in Mr. Paine more strongly than the conclusions he draws, respecting the downfall of credit and resources, from national bankruptcy.

The business of lending money to a nation, is very different from that of lending to an individual. In the latter case, the lender calculates upon the borrower's ability to pay, and takes security for principal and interest. But loans to nations are all a game of speculation; the ability to pay is not considered. The only question with those who lend to a nation is, can we make any thing by the speculation? Government has nothing to do but to make advantageous offers; that is, offers of some small premiums, or promise of high interest. There are a multitude of ways by which the monied men may be tempted to trust government, by a certainty of a present benefit. The idea of ultimate payment of the capital never enters the head of the lender. If the offer is such that the speculator thinks that he can sell out to a small profit, he never hesitates a moment—he can sell out, and that's enough for him.

This farce has been played often, and may be repeated, times without number. When the government of England offered to pay off its debts, in order to compel the holders of stock to take a lower interest, did this affect national credit? This was an act of a very arbitrary kind; for the offer of paying off the stock, was all a pretext—and was to be understood. The offer was an arbitrary act to oblige the public creditors to take a less interest than the public had promised. Yet this did not affect public credit. The same trick may be played again, and the interest of the British debt reduced from 585 per cent. without the least injury to credit. The nation shall the very next day borrow as much money as they do now. The speculator can just as well calculate his profits, when stock is at 3 per cent. as when it is at 4.

All the democratic joys therefore in anticipating the downfall of British greatness, from loss of credit, are derived from fictions of their own creating. In truth, bankruptcy would be an immense blessing to the nation. It is perhaps the only thing that can save it from ruin. Till that enormous debt is wiped away with a sponge, Great-Britain will be an impotent, inefficient nation. The resources of ten millions of people are now exhausted upon a few thousand idle drones, and luxuries and vices of a great commercial city. Transfer these resources to an augmentation of the naval strength of that nation and Great-Britain would remain invulnerable. An annihilation of the public debt would double and treble her resources. Instead, therefore, of exulting with Mr. Paine at the approaching destruction of the debt, the enemies of Great-Britain should dread that event, as the certain means of continuing her greatness. To wish ill to Great-Britain, is to wish her forever to remain loaded with debt, and tributary to her stock-jobbers.

HANOVER, (N. H.) Aug. 25.

Yesterday being the Anniversary Commencement at Dartmouth College, at 10 o'clock A. M. the procession moved from the President's to the Meeting-house, where, after a well adapted prayer by the President, the Candidates for the first degree entertained a numerous and respectable audience, with the following exercises:—

1. A Salutatory Oration in Latin, by Moses Dow.—2. An English dialogue on the origin and progress of government, by Tilton Eastman and Caleb Tomson.—3. A Syllogistic disputation by Abraham Butterfield, respondent, and Walter Little and Barrett Potter, opponents, was omitted.—4. A Dramatic dialogue, by Josiah Batchelder, Abner Cheney, and Daniel Gilbert.—5. A dialogue on the state of Venice, by Foster Alexander, Peter Fossum and John T. Gilman.—6. A forensic disputation on this question, is taste the standard of beauty? By Seth Currier, Proctor Pearce, John M. Tiltonson and Tower Whiton.—7. A Poem, by Wm. G. Bradley.

AFTERNOON.

1. A philosophical oration, on vegetation, by Theophilus Packard.—2. An English dialogue, on the effects produced on the state of the Atmosphere, by cultivating the earth, by Benjamin Church and Randolph Freeman.—3. A forensic disputation on this question—Are all animals and vegetables produced by transduction? by Richard Burroughs, Parker Noyes, Nathaniel Storrs, Levi White.—4. A French dialogue, by Ebenezer G. Bradford, and Benjamin Stowel.—5. Political fermentation, a dialogue, by Philander Chase, Lincoln Ripley, and Henry True.—6. A Greek oration, by Parke Noyes.

The Degree of Bachelor of Arts, was then conferred on Isaac Adams, Foster Alexander, Josiah Batchelder, Eben. G. Bradford, Wm. L. Bradley, Richard Burroughs, Abraham Butterfield, Philander Chase, Abner Cheney, Benjamin Church, Seth Currier, Moses Dow, Tilton Eastman, Thomas G. Fessenden, Porter Fossum, Randolph Freeman, Daniel Gilbert, John T. Gilman, Samuel Hale, Walter Little, William Niles, Parker Noyes, Nathaniel Noyes, Theophilus Packard, Proctor Pearce, Barrett Potter, Lincoln Ripley, John S. Sparhawk, Nathaniel Storrs, Benjamin Stowel, John M. Tiltonson, Caleb Tomson, Henry True, Levi White, Tower Whiton.

The Degree of Master of Arts, was conferred on Hiram Payne, 1787; Rufus Anderson, Nathan Broadstreet, David Hale, 1791; Afa Bolard, Samuel Gerrih, Afa M'Farland, Henry Moore, Zephariah S. Moore, Richard E. Newcomb, Moses P. Payson, Warner Rogers, George Woodward, Alumni of this College.

A Valedictory oration, T. G. Fessenden.—The whole concluded with order and decency.

NEW YORK, September 16. UNHAPPY ACCIDENT.

Last evening, as Mr. McGowan, grocer, in Liberty-street, was drawing spirits from a hoghead, a spark accidentally fell into the spirits and set it on fire. Alarmed at this, he ran to get water, forgetting in his fright to turn the cock, when the flowing spirits communicated the fire to the hoghead. Mr. McGowan, with his father-in-law, Mr. Welden, being anxious to extinguish the fire, persisted in going down, and attempting to turn the cock, when the hoghead burst, and set these unfortunate men in flames, in which situation they continued several minutes before any one dared to strip them. On having their clothes taken off they were found to be shockingly burnt. By great exertions the building was saved.

Such accidents as these should operate as a caution to grocers not to draw ardent spirits by candle-light.

The following is taken from a PARIS PAPER of the 8th of July, which was received by the ship Amity, Capt. Henderson from Bourdeaux.

[Am. D. Ad.]

Army of the Rhine and Moselle.

The Commander in Chief to the Executive Directory.

Head-Quarters at Offenbourg, 10th Messidor 4th year, June 29, 1796.

Citizen Directors,

I have to give you an account of the new successes, which the army of the Rhine and Moselle has obtained upon the enemy since the passage of the Rhine.

The establishment of the bridge, which was completed on the 17th enabled us, to make the artillery and cavalry pass. Gen. Feriot went immediately to reconnoitre towards Maelen and Goldsfeher, in order to ascertain the march of the corps of Conde, which after our passing the Rhine pushed very hard towards Offenbourg. General Defaix attacked Vleanuhl; which he carried with the greatest bravery: The loss of the enemy consisted in 200 prisoners; and the loss in killed and wounded was at least equal to that number.

On the 8th, the division of General Feriot pursued his march against the corps of Conde; he crossed the Shutter and marched towards Houghorst and Langschiaft.

On the same day General Beauvais began his march on the right bank of the Kintzig in order to attack the camp at Wildstet: we met the enemy at Gorish, and obliged them to fall back with precipitation to their camp; but when we came out of this village, the regiment of Cuirassiers of Anspach attacked the column in front with such fury, that they overthrew all what had passed the defiles, and who had not time yet to form, notwithstanding all the efforts made to effect it.

The general of division, Beauvais, received 7 or 8 grievous wounds with the broad-sword, as like-wise citizen Drouault, aid-de-camp to general Defaix. Two battalions of the 10th half brigade of light infantry, placed in the head of the village, by a well directed fire, soon put a stop to this attack. Our cavalry soon recovered the moment of disorder they had been thrown into; they in their turn attacked the Cuirassiers with the greatest bravery, drove them into the camp at Wildstet, and bro't back 150 prisoners, and 60 horses. They marched immediately against the camp, from whence the enemy was dislodged, with the loss of one cannon and several caissons.

The brigade of general Sainte Suzanne marched this day towards Heltzheim and Lingt, the troops behaved with their usual bravery. Enough cannot be said in praise of generals Lafaix and Beauvais, and the adjutant-general Decamp. The latter, in crossing the Kintzig, seeing a grenadier ready to drown, threw himself into the river, and swimming preserved to the Republic, the life of one of her defenders. The chief of brigade, Foutonnet, who was wounded in this affair, has distinguished himself in a particular manner. Two pieces of light artillery, got between the enemy at the time the Cuirassiers made the attack, but not a single gunner quitted his piece. The drivers distinguished themselves by the coolness wherewith they remained on their horses, where without the least means of defence, they were exposed to the swords of the enemy, who wounded several of them.

On the 9th, the division of Feriot marched along the left bank of the Kintzig to get into the road from Offenbourg to Friburg, in order to threaten the enemy to cut off their retreat in this point, and to harass them on the left by threatening Offenbourg with an attack.

The rest of the army marched in 3 columns for the purpose of attacking the camp at Bihel, before Offenbourg. The first commanded by general Le-combe marched by the road of Wildstet, and was to attack the left of the position in front. Adjutant-general Decamp was to gain the foot of the mountains, in order to turn the right, but before he began to act he was to reconnoitre well on his left, in order to be sure that general Wurmer's army, which was known to be on its march, might not in-

terrupt the march. General Sainte Suzanne marched with the third against Urtaffen and Zitzem, in order to oppose the troops that came from the Lower Rhine: these three corps were under the command of General Defaix.

The first displayed behind the village of Griefsen within cannon shot of the camp of Bihel, which was about fifteen thousand men strong, composed of part of the corps of Conde, of the troops of the Circle and of some Austrian corps, which formed the Cordon of the Rhine.

The second directed its march to Appenwix and was to have established itself behind the right of the camp, after having secured their back: but arriving in the village they found there the van of one of the columns of the army of Wurmer which came on in the greatest hurry in order to form a junction at Offenbourg with the corps of the Upper Rhine. Adjutant-General Decamp attacked them with the greatest audacity, and at last repulsed them by a charge of the cavalry made by the sixth regiment of dragoons, and part of the eighth of Chassiers. The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded, was very considerable; we took from them about 100 horses and 150 prisoners. Night coming on, we were obliged to postpone the attack till next morning.

The corps of General Sainte Suzanne fell in likewise with the enemy at Urtaffen, drove them off with the greatest vigor, and took about one hundred prisoners. Night prevented him likewise from pursuing his success, and the army remained on the field of battle during the most dreadful weather; the enemy evacuated the camp at Bihel during the night. Seeing that it was impossible for the enemy to form a junction with the corps of Wurmer, General Feriot at day break took possession of Offenbourg, and pursued the enemy, who left him two pieces of cannon and some caissons. Adjutant-General Billevenne pursued them in the valley of the Kintzig with the light troops; and the rest of the army under the command of Defaix is marching towards Appenwix and Nilsaff, where there will certainly be a serious engagement with the reinforcements coming from the Lower Rhine.

I cannot, citizen Directors, sufficiently praise the bravery of the troops and the general officers who commanded them in all these attacks made one after the other with troops not yet organized, but who were nothing but detachments, joined by forced marches from the different divisions of the army, who were next to fend them for the passage of the Rhine.

The rapidity of this march and the several attacks as the necessary consequences thereof, have prevented the junction of the two armies which the enemy had on the Upper and Lower Rhine; and the want of uniformity, which this must occasion for some days in their operations, promises us new successes. MOREAU.

For Sale,

(In an excellent situation for business.)

A three-story brick Houfe and Lot of Ground,

Eighteen feet front and twenty-five feet in depth, on the South side of Market near Front-street, now in possession of Samuel Read.

Apply to

Israel Pleafants, or Charles & Joseph Pleafants.

Sept. 13.

FOR SALE.

A PLANTATION,

ABOUT 12 miles from this City, situate in Abington Township, Montgomery County; containing 70 acres, a new stone house, two stories high, a room on a floor, five places in each, a horse kitchen and stone frying house, over an excellent spring of water, a barn, stables, sheds, barack, &c. A large apple orchard, and a variety of other fruit, about 12 acres of good meadow well watered, and wood sufficient for fire, and fencing the place. Possession may be had the 1st of April next. Property in this city will be taken in exchange, or MORRIS and NICHOLSONS Notes in payment. Enquire at No. 37, Arch-Street. Philadelphia, September 13, 1796. cod if

A Manufactory FOR SALE.

A Valuable SOAP and CANDLE Manufactory, situate in a convenient part of the city; the works almost new, on an entirely original construction, and built of the best materials, and may be set to work immediately. Persons who wish to purchase, are requested to apply at No. 273 South Second Street. September 13.

MAILS,

For the following Post Offices, will be closed AT Philadelphia on Friday afternoon at Sun-set:— Mails from the same Post-Offices will arrive on Friday morning—

Abington, P.	Hanover, P.	PITTSBURG, P.
Bardonia, K.	Hagerstown, Md.	Rockingham c. h. v
Bedford, P.	Harrodsburg, K.	Sharpsburg, Md.
Bath c. h. v.	Hancock, Md.	Sherpherdstown, Va
Bourbon, K.	Jonesboro', Ten.	Springfield, K.
Brownville, P.	Knoxville, Ten.	Stevensburg, Va.
Carlisle, P.	Lancaster, P.	Strafsburg, Va.
Chamberburg, P.	Leeburg, Va.	Stanton, Va.
Cincinnati, n. w. t.	Lexington, K.	Sweet Springs, Va.
Cumberland, Md.	Leuville, K.	Taney-Town, Md.
Danville, K.	Marietta, n. w. t.	Union, P.
Downingtown, P.	Millertown, P.	Washington, P.
Frankfort, K.	Martinburg, Va.	Washington, K.
Fredricksburg, Md.	Montgomery, c. v.	Williamsport, Md.
Gallipolis, n. w. t.	Morgantown, Va.	Winchester, Va.
Greensburg, P.	Nashville, K.	Wells Liberty, Va.
Gettysburg, P.	New-Market, Va.	Wheeling, Va.
Greenville, c. h. v.	Oldtown, N. d.	Woodstock, Va.
Greenville, Ten.	Petersburgh, P.	Wythe c. h. Va.
		York P.

The MAIL from Lancaster, P. arrives at Philadelphia, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 6 P. M. and closes at Philadelphia the same days, at 7 P. M.

The MAIL for Postgrove, Reading, Lebanon, and Harrisburg, will close at Philadelphia, every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 2 P. M.

General Post-Office, September 13, 1796. d. 4.

For Norfolk and Baltimore,

The Sloop NONPAREIL, JOHN HAMLYN, Master, Will sail in all this week. Freight and passage; apply to the Capt. on board, North-side of JESSE and ROBERT, Walls wharf, or to the Subscribers.

Who have now landing from said Sloop, A few Hds. of high proof Antigua RUM. The NONPAREIL is intended as a constant trader, between Baltimore and Philadelphia, if suitable encouragement is received.

LEVI HOLLINGSWORTH, & SON.

September 13, 1796.

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