

PRICES CURRENT.

Philadelphia, Nov. 25.

PER QUANTITY—DOLLARS AT 100 CENTS.

Table of prices for various goods including anchors, alum, oil, sugar, and other commodities. Columns include item names and prices in dollars and cents.

STOCKS.

Table of stock prices for various companies and currencies, including Bank of the United States and Pennsylvania.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Table of exchange rates for London, Amsterdam, and other locations, showing rates for different terms.

For the Gazette of the United States.

No. VIII.

[Concluded from yesterday's Gazette.]

To the Electors of the President of the United States.

In the ancient limited monarchies, the whole mass of the unenfranchised people, were gathered as upon an American election day to co-operate in legislation with the hereditary orders. The demarcations of power among the three branches were loose, imperfect and incorrect. The awful and important judiciary powers were not fixed. In America the principles are much better known, the practice is far superior and the effects correspondingly happy and favorable. The judiciary power, under the general government, is more completely separated and independent than in any former instance, much more so than in England—an invaluable blessing. For truly and most emphatically may it be said, that the judiciary power, under a free written constitution, is the sheet anchor of the political vessel. The hereditary court of appeals blended with the legislative power and including the impediments to justice towards those, who are not rich, from the immense expence, and to all suitors, from delay, as established in the house of lords, is far indeed from satisfactory—and the tenure of the very important station of the lord high chancellor, at the pleasure of the crown, is a far more dangerous departure from the dryness and balance of political powers than is to be found in the American constitution.

But are the sober and selected objections to the hereditary powers of kings and nobles resolvable into a "mechanical" horror against names, having no reasonable foundation? Are they a more extravagant, passionate feeling into which mankind have worked themselves up? Are the objections to orders or ranks, exalting a few to the depression of the rest of a nation no better grounded, than a natural antipathy to an unpleasant sound? Or are those objections, as extravagant and ridiculous as the fanciful emotions of a man would be, who should conceive himself to have been born with a natural or physical antipathy to a pretty innocent ribband of red, blue, or green? But what shall be thought of the republicanism of the implication, that the disfranchised inhabitants of any kingdom, have little more ground of complaint against the constitution, than a certain mechanical, extravagant feeling or natural antipathy to words and ribbands.

Observations, addressed to the people of America upon the subject of a government opposite in its principles and construction to ours, are an ill proof of federalism. They cannot be so well tested, as by shewing a contraited case. If one were to propose to change our single executive, chosen by the boards of electors, into an executive council of seven, chosen yearly by the joint votes of the members of the federal senate and house of representatives—If he were to propose annual senators, instead of the present term—If the same person were to urge the vesting of the powers of a court of chancery in a sole judge, to be annually appointed by the executive council, he would be justly considered as unfriendly to the efficiency and stability of our government, or, in other words, as an enemy to the federal constitution. If, instead of an executive council, chosen by the legislature, the deviation from the happy mode of electing our single magistrate were in the opposite extreme, and an hereditary king be indicated, foretold, represented as inevitable and insinuated; and if instead of annual senators, the deviation from our present mode of appointing senators, were also in the opposite extreme, and a corps of hereditary nobles, with high judicial powers over life, liberty and property, were commended as of unexampled excellence, do not such persons insensibly betray themselves into the like situation of hostility to the constitution of the United States, and to our present tranquility?

If this matter became a step further, and it be impliedly recommended by an example of a very alarming nature, and by the approbation of that example, in terms of the most plain and decided force, to vary our constitution as to the great and all-important alternative, power, the matter is rendered still more serious. This observation is made in reference to the following extract from the 34th page of the pamphlet in reply to Mr. Paine, which is now under consideration. "The very act (says the writer) by which septennial parliaments were established in England, affords sufficient proof, that the power of altering the constitution itself ought to be delegated, and even exercised by the government, upon certain critical occasions." Is not this observation to the Americans, taken with the former quotation, an evidence of a desire to assimilate our federal constitution to that of England? And if a President be prepared for any other change, might not a bare majority of a future senate and house of representatives, in some moment of real danger, but exaggerated and factitious alarm, give us also, a septennial house of commons, and hereditary rulers? Not only a President and senate, but all their families, would have a clear and strong interest to induce them to the measure. The house of representatives would have some personal interest to prolong their existence; and party passions, factitious alarms, and secret addresses to their local, personal or family interests, might bring us to that, which we are told, that "Masking have universally discovered and preferred,"—chance to a bad choice, and rulers given by providence, rather than such as we might choose ourselves.

A FEDERALIST.

For the Gazette of the United States.

MR. FENNO,

I HAVE been reading the French minister (citizen Adet's) note, as he calls it, to the President, and believe his object to be as follows:—Finding himself recalled he takes the last and only opportunity of furnishing the enemies to peace and order in this country, with what will be called an official ground of complaint against our happy government; and if the directory is about to take possession of Louisiana, which it is supposed has been lately ceded to France by the Spaniards; his note may be intended as a justification for any new regulations which they may attempt to impose with

regard to the Mississippi, or the fraternization of our citizens on the western waters, or any other plan that the Jacobin parties in the two countries suppose will tend to divide the people from the government. This I observe has been hinted by an individual in France.

If Mr. Adet's instructions from the directory are as set forth in his note, the recent change that has taken place in the mind of that body must be owing to some plan and advice originating with, or at least approved of by a party in the United States. This man, without the same passionate talents, has improved upon the plan laid down by Genet. As in the revolution, Great-Britain would not have persisted in the war but for a party among ourselves, so it is in the present case; at the same time it must be allowed, that the French are at least on a footing with any other nation on earth, in the business of intrigue.

If the Americans will suffer themselves to be menaced by the dictatorial and threatening stile of the note, they can no longer be considered in the eyes of the world as a free people. Although falsehood and unmerited abuse will always fail of their intended effect, it must wound the feelings of every real American who had any thing to do in favour of the late revolution, to be told by a foreign minister, that we owe our independence, nay, our very existence as a nation, to the people whom he represents. To the treaty they made with us in 1778, and to their armies who fought our battles! A few words in answer to this will be sufficient. It must be acknowledged by every sober and unprejudiced mind, that the people of France as such, had no more to do with making the treaty or sending an army to America, than the people of China. It was done by the king, and his ministers, without the advice, and believe I might say without the knowledge of the people; and what was the object? To humble the pride and weaken the power of a nation, that was considered a natural enemy. It is also well known that the French court delayed the ratification of the treaty until after they heard of the reduction of Burgoyne's army; and before the French troops arrived in America, there was every prospect that the issue of the war would be favourable. The fact is, the American people taught the French how to procure their liberty, and sincerely wish they may have virtue enough to maintain it.

AN AMERICAN.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

The late unwarrantable usurpation of power by the executive of this commonwealth, has created a considerable degree of alarm among those citizens, who regard their legislature as the proper source of authority; who regard their laws as sacred, and who wish to see the executive, without favor or partiality, implicitly subject to the letter of the law.

The limitation contained in the law for the election of electors of a President and Vice-President of the United States, is as explicit as words can convey in making it. It was to be expected that a governor of Pennsylvania might be able to ascertain, when twelve days after a fixed time would expire, without asking the opinion of the judiciary: it was to be supposed that the judiciary would, before they gave the opinion required, examine the law, which was within their reach, and not suffer it to be said of them, that a designing secretary had deceived them, in offering them the law deprived of its limitation.

But those who supposed that the laws of Pennsylvania were a sacred thing; that they were equally binding on the private citizen and the executive; have been most cruelly deceived: they have seen their executive incapable of counting twelve, refer the calculation to the judiciary in a most mutilated state, and to crown the whole they have seen their judiciary, without examining the law, pass judgment on the mutilated extract thereof, so presented to them for purposes at present unknown.

The law for regulating the election of electors, passed at the last session of our legislature; appoints officers who shall transmit the returns of the same to the governor, "so that the same may be delivered within fourteen days after the said election, and the governor shall enumerate and ascertain the number of votes given for each and every person, so as aforesaid voted for, and shall thereupon declare by proclamation the names of the persons duly elected and chosen, and shall cause a notification of their election to be delivered to the persons so chosen, on or before the last Wednesday in the said month."

The Pennsylvanian who acknowledges the supreme authority of the legislature, finds no equivocal, no dubious point in this passage of the law: he needs not run to his neighbor for an opinion on it. That law does not exist which is more explicit in mentioning the duty of the executive.

Put our governor (whether of his own proper motion, or biased, as some pretend to say he is, by one who is called the governor's governor) fees "shadows, clouds and darkness" resting upon it; and he alone, of all men, cannot see clearly through it.

We will say nothing of his having pledged his honor, that he would declare the result of the election at the expiration of the limitation contained in the law. Little is the honor of the man to be regarded; little is the confidence to be placed in him, who, appointed by the people the head of the commonwealth, and whose duty it is to see the laws thereof faithfully administered, seeks the most pitiful subterfuge to evade doing his duty, when the execution would tend to the dishonoring the views of a party.

We will say nothing of his having sent expresses, (at whose charge we know not) to hasten the returns, which were expected to be on the road. We will only say, that it is our firm opinion that by the most sacred oath the governor of Pennsylvania was, and is bound to see the laws faithfully administered without favor or affection.

We boast of a constitution that carefully draws the line between the executive, judiciary and legislative departments. A stately fabric, goodly to look upon, and which we may be allowed to think highly of. In proportion to the justice of our estimation thereof, we should discountenance every attempt made by any of those powers to cross the di-

vision line and usurp the least iota of the functions of the others.

The manner in which the governor lately demanded the opinion of the judiciary on the law, is strikingly characteristic—their answer is of a piece. They say, "applying the principle of the decision of 1793 to the present case, we are of opinion, &c."—Applying the principle of the decision in 1793, which was obtained by the fraudulent means above referred to, viz. Omitting in the statement of the subject part of the law the limiting word within! Heavens, what a pass! When man once oversteps the narrow line of duty, where will the mischief end? Where will he stop? Where is the mound that will prevent him from plunging into three threefold absurdities?

The present appearance of the affairs of this commonwealth, almost justifies the distressing fear that Pennsylvania will be deprived of a vote in the election of the supreme executive of the union—but as we have thus far shown our moderation or rather apathy, it will not be astonishing if we should suffer that inestimable right, that tenfold duty to be wrested from us, without daring to come forward as freemen.

PENNSYLVANIENSIS.

November 23.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

WHILE the election of a successor to the chief magistracy of the United States has engaged general attention and even called forth the undivided interposition of a foreign minister, I have been allowed to take a view of this matter as it now stands; and in doing this his conduct could not pass unnoticed.

Table showing the number of electors of president who can be appointed in various states, including Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.

Thus it appears that independent of any votes in Pennsylvania his election is certain. But to this number may be added in North Carolina perhaps more but certainly in South Carolina are expected at least and in Georgia

While this prospect must be highly satisfactory to the virtuous and independent citizens of America, by assuring to them that the wife and just system will be continued, which has for nearly eight years prevailed, and so eminently promoted their common prosperity and happiness, the choice of Mr. John Adams as successor to the present president, between whom there has been at all times an uninterrupted harmony of political sentiments, will impart Europe with a profound respect for our national character as a discerning, steady and upright people. To remote nations it will afford the strongest recommendation of republican government, by shewing to them its excellence when applied to a well informed society and prescribed by the rules of reason.

It will prove that a community may be perfectly free, and at the same time discreet, preferring certain good to every uncertainty whatever, averse from change however artfully recommended, superior to the vile calumnies of a daring faction, and paramount to the diabolical machinations of a foreign power, who ought to have been the last to interfere in the election of our chief magistrate.

The directory of France knew as well as we know the time of exercising the elective power under our constitution, and their minister must be believed to have obeyed their orders in substance however he may have transgressed in form the obvious rules of civility. It was here a common opinion that the choice of electors in this state would be decisive of that of the President; therefore on the 27th of October, eight days prior to the day of election throughout the state, when the President was put in the city, when there was time enough to distribute the note at all the places of election but unaccompanied with any reply, for none could be immediately expected in consequence of his absence, and these remarkable circumstances the minister sent his alarming note of that date to secretary Pickens; and contrary to all rules of decency, sent a copy to the press of Mr. Bache, the reputed if not avowed printer of the French republic. Barefaced and detestable intrusion on the sovereignty of the citizens of Pennsylvania! What effect it had, let the votes in the city and county of Philadelphia attest.

It is afterwards discovered, that though Pennsylvania should be obtained, yet, that a disappointment might happen; and therefore the minister, exercising his discretion of suspending himself whenever he pleased, on the 15th instant, while the electors are resolving in their own minds the choice to be made, announces a suspension of his ministerial functions; but to be resumed, "whenever the government of the United States returns to sentiments and to measures more conformable to the interests of the alliance," of which it is understood he alone is to judge. In this address to the people of the United States, for it can be called nothing else, an address not to their understanding, but to their passions, an address not less replete with violence than with error, the minister is so inconsiderate as to disjoin the people from their governments, and audaciously summons the former to a change of the latter; promising, in this event, that Frenchmen shall be found "faithful friends and generous allies;" and this libellous instrument he is not ashamed to furnish to his printer. How little is the temper of my fellow-citizens known, and how soon has the fate of Genet, and his impudent measures, been forgot! How, too, has he mistaken our electors! They are citizens, not to be frightened or seduced to betray their own country, by conforming to the will and pleasure of any nation, however terrible to its enemies, or generous to its allies; they know, the