

NEW THEATRE.

ON MONDAY EVENING, January 2, Will be presented, An HISTORICAL TRAGEDY, (Written by Shakespeare) called

RICHARD III.

- Henry IV, Prince Edward, Duke of York, Duke of Gloster, Duke of Buckingham, Earl of Richmond, Duke of Norfolk, Ratcliffe, Catesby, Tressel, Earl of Oxford, Lieut. of the Tower, Lord Stanley, Lord Mayor, Tyrrel, Queen Elizabeth, Lady Ann, Duchefs of York, Mr. Warren, Miss L'Estrange, Master L'Estrange, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Wignall, Mr. Moreton, Mr. Francis, Mr. Morris, Mr. Barley, jun., Mr. Fox, Mr. Blissett, Mr. Warrell, jun., Mr. L'Estrange, Mr. Warrell, Mr. Morgan, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. L'Estrange

End of the Tragedy,

A Scotch Pantomimical Ballet, (composed by Mr. Byrn) called,

The New-Year's Gift;

Or, Highland Frolics.

- Sandy, Jamie, Young Fedlar, Father Gibby, Mether Gibby, Poggie, Annie, Mr. Byrn, Mr. Warrell, jun., Master Bates, Mr. Blissett, Mr. Francis, Miss Milbourne, Mrs. Byrn

Highland Laes and Lasses—messrs. Doctor, J. Darley, Mitchell, T. Warrell, Maedonald, Morgan, M. Poignant, M. Lavancy—Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Mechtler, Mrs. Doctor, Miss Oldfield, Miss Anderson, Miss Sophie, and Miss L'Estrange.

To which will be added a FARCE called

Animal Magnetism.

- Marquis De Lancy, La Fleur, Doctor, Picard, Francois, Jeffery, Constance, Lisette, Mr. Moreton, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Francis, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Warrell, jun., Mr. Blissett, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Francis

Box, One Dollar twenty-five cents. Pit one Dollar. And Gallery, half a dollar.

Tickets to be had at H. & P. Rice's Book-store, No. 30 High-street, and at the Office adjoining the Theatre.

Places for the Boxes to be taken at the Office in the front of the theatre, from 10 o'clock, and from 10 till 4 on the days of performance.

The Doors of the Theatre will open at 5, and the Curtain rise precisely at 6 o'clock.

Ladies and Gentlemen are requested to send their servants to keep places a quarter before 5 o'clock, and to order them, as soon as the company are seated, to withdraw, as they cannot on any account be permitted to remain.

VIVAT RESPUBLICA!

College-Hall.

READINGS and RECITATIONS, Moral, Critical, and Entertaining.

MR. FENNELL

Respectfully informs the Public, that On SATURDAY EVENING, December 31, at 7 o'clock, (by particular desire, and for the last time) will be repeated

An EXPLANATORY ADDRESS.

After which will be recited an Allegorical Poem, in three parts, called

The CAVE OF NATURE;

Or, A Picture of the Virtues, Vices, and Passions, of the Human Mind.

The next Reading will be on Tuesday the 3d of January, 1797.—The course will be continued regularly every Tuesday and Thursday evening.

No repetition (if any should hereafter take place) will be given on the evening of either of the above days. Subscribers' tickets (not transferrable) admit to all repetitions.

Subscriptions are received by Mr. Zachariah Poulson, jun. at the Library, where the Ladies and Gentlemen who may be inclined to honor the undertaking with their patronage, are respectfully requested to send their names and receive their tickets.

Occasional admission tickets to be had of Mr. Poulson, jun. at the Library; at Mr. McElwee's looking-glass-store, No. 70, South Fourth-street; and at Mr. Carey's, Book-seller, Market-street.

MRS. GRATTAN

Respectfully informs the Ladies and Gentlemen of the City, that the second

LADIES' CONCERT

Will be on TUESDAY NEXT, the 3d of January at Mr. Oellers's Hotel,

Act I.

- Grand Sinfonia, Holy Lord, Mrs. Grattan, Concerto Violin, Mr. Gillingham, Trio and Chorus, Siege of Belgrade, Haydn, Handel, Storace.

Act II.

- Concerto in Bb, Mrs. Grattan, Ah non sai, Mrs. Grattan, Quartett, Grand Chorus Pirate, Dessik, Sarti, Pleyel, Storace.

The Concert to begin at half past six; and at half past eight, the music will attend for the Ball.

Mrs. Grattan begs leave to inform the Ladies and Gentlemen, that the subscription-book is at her house No. 39, North Sixth-street, for the reception of those names who wish to honor her with their commands.—A subscription for eight nights 16 dollars, including a Gentleman and Lady's ticket, both transferrable.—Half-subscriptions 8 dollars, including one ticket.—Single ticket 2 dollars.

Mrs. Grattan takes the liberty of requesting the subscribers to send for their tickets any day after Thursday, the 15th of December, at No. 39, North Sixth-street.

Single tickets to be had the day of the Concert only, at the Bar of Mr. Oellers's Hotel, December 30.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, December 27.

[CONTINUED.]

Mr. Craik said, he was equally surprised and astonished with his colleague at the decision which had just taken place. It was conceived by gentlemen who opposed this report, that it contained some secret poison—some dangerous principles which did not appear upon the face of it: they referred to the speech of the President and to the memorial of the commissioners, and charged the report with intending to carry into effect the most extensive plan there contemplated. For his own part, Mr. C. said, he was free to confess, he should have been ready to have shown the wisdom and policy of establishing a national university. It had been said that the President had taken the opportunity of recommending this measure, as it was the last time he would have to address them—This recommendation, Mr. C. said, was another proof, in his opinion, of the wisdom of that man. But, added he, neither the speech of the President, nor the memorial of the commissioners after the report. He thought the commissioners seemed to have anticipated the objections which would be made to a national university. They had had the same ideas which he entertained of the eligibility of such an institution; but, foreseeing that the plan would be objected to, they relinquished that idea, and requested only an incorporation for the purpose of receiving donations. They did not, he said, call upon this house to put their hand in the public treasury on their account. He thought the commissioners were entitled to some credit for this foresight. They called merely for an act, which no other power could grant them (as had been shown by his colleague Mr. Sprigg) to enable them to receive what might be given to them for this institution—to refuse which was an act of the highest injustice, since it was a request which they would have had no difficulty in obtaining from the state government, before the cession of the territory of the United States. Truly lamentable, he said, would be the situation of the people of that district, if they were to be thus treated.

Nothing could be more extraordinary, Mr. C. said, than the doctrine asserted by gentlemen who opposed this measure, viz. that if the house entered at all into the business, they would be obliged to go through with it. As well might it be said, when Congress removes to that district, if they are applied to for a law to build a bridge, or make a road, they will bind themselves to go thro' with the expence. The two cases, he said, were perfectly similar: and if the people who were settled there could not receive the privileges to which other citizens were entitled they might be looked upon as outcasts of society.

The objections of gentlemen, Mr. C. said, did not go so much against the expediency of the measure, and the convenience of the people who ask for the institution, as against the danger of legislating at all in this business. He would again say, he was surprised to hear the opposition come from the quarter whence it did come; for he would say, there was a great want of public seminaries in that country. Was there any man, he asked, who took a view on the south side of the Potomac, and considered the probable increase of population which was likely to take place there, who would not say that such an institution was a desirable object? Or that would say that the period of that population ought to be waited for before such an institution was set about? It was his opinion that such objects should grow up with the growth of a settlement, and strengthen with its strength. Tho' such a seminary could not be established now as might be established fifty years hence, should they refuse the power to persons to receive donations for the erection of such an one as they could find resources to complete? If there were strong claims for this interposition, they had nothing to do with the funds which were to carry the scheme into effect. It was well known there was a fund in the hands of the President of the United States, which he wished to have employed in something of this kind, and he wondered gentlemen from that quarter should be opposed to its having an opportunity of being employed in this district.

If gentlemen did not wish the growth and improvement of the district which they have taken under their direction, and would say so, he should not be at a loss to account for their conduct. If they were determined to shew the people of this district, that they were denied common justice, every man would avoid this spot, as enjoying fewer privileges than any other.

He hoped, therefore, that when it was seen that the report did not contain more than appeared on the face of it, nor than would be granted to any other part of the union, that the opposition which had been raised against it would be withdrawn. He hoped the subject would be permitted, therefore, to lie over for further consideration.

It was moved that the business should lie over until the second Monday in January.

Mr. Sprigg wished the report to be re-committed.

Mr. Coit was against a postponement.—The subject, he said, had undergone considerable discussion, and he doubted not the house was as ripe for a decision then as they would be hereafter. To postpone was to protract the dispatch of business, and consumed double and treble the time that would otherwise be occupied on any subject.

Mr. Harper hoped the postponement would take place, because it would give gentlemen an opportunity of putting the business into such a form as to be more acceptable to the house. Since the principal objection made to the report was founded on an apprehension that the house would be implicated in future expence by agreeing to it, if some method of introducing the subject could be hit upon, which could obviate that objection, it was desirable it should be done. He therefore wished gentlemen to have time to do this.

Mr. Nicholas thought it unnecessary to postpone the business. The objection in his mind did not arise from any implied promise, but from the in-

stant that house gave the authority asked for, he believed they should be considered as having given a sanction to the proceeding; and then consistency of conduct, dignity of government, and other considerations, would oblige them to support the institution. Any determination now made to the contrary, he said, would avail nothing. If the business was entered upon at all, it would end in a national university.

Mr. Nicholas denied that he had any intention of disregarding the wishes of the people of that district. If an opinion of that sort went forth, the gentleman (Mr. Craik) must attribute it to himself. When he was up yesterday, he had said, that when the people of that district wanted a public seminary, he would be ready to afford them every assistance. But, said he, your officers, and they alone, are the projectors of this business. Men who went there to execute public business. Was refusing their request, then, refusing the request of the people of that district? He thought not. He thought it had been well, therefore, if these expressions had been spared. He never either made or felt them.

Mr. Nicholas asked with what view donations would be given to this institution?—Would it be for a seminary of learning for a district of country ten miles square? He believed not; but that every donation made to this institution, would be made to it as a national university. If gentlemen viewed it in any other light, they were deceiving the public. He hoped, therefore, they should negative the present question, and disagree to the report of the select committee.

Mr. Brent said, he was at a loss to know how gentlemen could raise the objections which they had made to the report in question. He was sure they could not arise from the report itself. This did not recognize the university as a national university. The matter appeared to him to be simply this, that several individuals in the federal city, who were greatly interested in its prosperity, were of opinion, than an institution of this kind would not only advance the interests of the city, but be a mean of disseminating learning; they had therefore prayed an incorporation for the purpose. Why his colleague should call this a national university, and that by a mere act of incorporation, they should pledge themselves to support it, was to him astonishing and incomprehensible. If any particular body of men should apply for an act of incorporation, by granting it, should they pledge themselves to carry their scheme into effect? The thing was too unreasonable to be supposed.

Mr. B. said, if he was of opinion that the incorporating persons to receive donations for this university would oblige them to foster this establishment, he should be one of the first to object to it. He should object to it on constitutional principles; because, whatever had been the practice of that house, he was of opinion, that imposing a revenue for such a purpose, would be unconstitutional, and arrogating a right which they did not possess.

Under the aspect which the subject before them bore, he trusted all objections to it would be withdrawn. A free government, he said, had its foundations in wisdom, and the legislature of such a government ought to encourage every institution which tended to inform and enlighten the people—a contrary procedure were to stifle knowledge, and introduce barbarism.

The speaker reminded the house, that the question of postponement was before them.

Mr. Swanwick was against a postponement, because he thought the question could as well be decided then as at a future day. As the application now stood, he was ready to give it his negative, because he did not think it was proper to allow any charter to the commissioners. He should therefore vote against the report. He should have wished to have made some further observations on the subject; but in this stage of the business, he was doubtful whether they would be in order, and therefore he should withhold them.

Mr. Giles was in favour of a postponement, not that he wanted time to consider the subject—He was ready to vote against it, but because the advocates of the measure wished it. He himself was opposed to all kinds of corporations; but he did think the present subject had not been fully discussed, & wished more time to be allowed for gentlemen to bring forward the question in any other way which they might think would be more acceptable to the house.

Mr. Venable said he was opposed to a postponement. It had been repeatedly said that there was nothing alarming or under cover in this report.—For his part, he believed it to be connected with a National University, and that it was introduced in this shape because it was apprehended it would not pass if brought into the House without disguise.

Mr. V. wished the business not to be postponed, because the Maryland legislature was then sitting, and the commissioners might apply to it and get their business done; for whatever might have been said to the contrary, he believed they could as well incorporate them, as foreigners to hold lands, a navigation company, Columbian bank company, &c. and if they could do this, he believed it would not be said, that when the federal government took possession of that district that corporation would not be valid. If a local seminary was only intended, he thought this the best way of proceeding.

Mr. Craik believed the period for which the act was passed which had been mentioned, would expire before the year 1800.

Mr. Murray said, it would be no indulgence to the friends of the present measure to dispose of the business then, that they might apply to the Maryland Legislature; because he believed that Legislature was now risen. He hoped the House would therefore agree to a postponement.

The question for a postponement was put and carried 37 to 36.

Mr. W. Smith moved to call up the resolution he yesterday laid on the table respecting an allowance to the sufferers by the late fire at Savannah; when, on the sense of the house being taken whether it should be taken into consideration or not, there appeared only 16 votes in favour of it.

Mr. W. Smith gave notice he should to-morrow again move to have it taken into consideration.

The house went into a committee of the whole on the bill for relief of John Sears, which was agreed to without amendment, taken up in the house, read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

Mr. D. Foster moved that the report of the Committee of claims on the petition of William Parsons be

committed to a Committee of the whole. Agreed and made the order for to-morrow. Adjourned.

Wednesday, December 28.

Mr. W. Smith wished the house to resolve itself into a committee of the whole on the resolution, which he had the other day laid upon the table, proposing to afford some relief to the sufferers by the late fire at Savannah. For his part, he said, he could see no reasonable objection which could be made to so benevolent a proposition. A gentleman in the house had got a plan of the ruins of the city, it was indeed a most distressful scene. There had never occurred so calamitous an event of the kind in the United States, or which had so strong a claim upon the general government for relief. He said they had granted assistance to the sufferers by fire at St. Domingo; and surely if it were justifiable to grant relief to foreigners in distress, it was at least equally so when the objects were our own citizens. If gentlemen had objections to the measure he wished they would state them. The sum with which he should think of filling up the blank, would not be such as to materially affect our finances.

Mr. Milledge said, if the unfortunate had any claim upon government for relief, none could have greater than the citizens of Savannah. Few houses, he said, were remaining of that city, and those few were the least valuable. Not a public building; not a place of public worship, or of public justice; all was a wide waste of ruin and desolation, such as scarcely could be conceived, and such as it were impossible to describe. He hoped some relief would be afforded to distress so unexampled.

Mr. Cooper said, it was a very unpleasant thing to come forward to oppose a measure of this sort; but when they looked into different parts of the union and saw the losses which had been sustained at New-York, Charleston, &c. it would appear only reasonable, that if relief was afforded in one case, it ought to be extended to another; and if this resolution were agreed to, he should certainly move to have some relief afforded to New-York. He hoped, however, the business would not be proceeded with. If the principle were a good one, it would bear going through with; but it would be seen, this would, on the contrary, prove a dangerous one. What they did to day, he said, would require repeating to-morrow. If they were to make good losses by fire, there would be no occasion for Insurance Companies, nor any inducement to build with brick in preference to wood. He felt as much as others for the distresses of the people of Savannah, but was of opinion it was not a proper business for the interference of that house.

Mr. W. Smith thought with the gentleman from New-York, that they ought to attend to the principles upon which they acted, and not do a thing to-day which they ought not to do to-morrow. He trusted the house would not be often called upon to relieve a calamity like the present; nor need they be alarmed at the gentleman's intention of bringing forward New-York for relief. Charleston, he said, had experienced great distress by fire, yet he had not moved that house for any relief. The question was, whether this was not a peculiar case of distress; and if so, whether they had not the power of affording relief? And as to this being brought forward as a precedent, it was improbable, as he hoped they should not again soon hear of four-fifths of a whole city being burnt to ashes; but if such an instance should occur, he should vote for affording the sufferers relief. He thought the objections did not apply.

On the question being taken whether the house would then resolve itself into a committee of the whole on the subject, there appeared 38 for it, and 39 against it.

A motion was then made to discharge the committee of the whole from any farther consideration of the subject.

Mr. W. Lyman hoped the business would not be disposed of without going into a committee of the whole. He thought more respect was due to the feelings of the sufferers than to dispose of the subject without discussion. He hoped the committee would not, therefore, be discharged.

Mr. Hartley trusted the committee would not be discharged. He believed the destruction of Lisbon by an earthquake did not occasion greater mischiefs than the late fire had done at Charleston. The legislature of Pennsylvania, which had no greater power than the general government to afford relief to these sufferers, had given 15,000 dollars. Indeed he thought it more the province of the general government than of state governments, to afford relief in such cases. He referred to what had been given to the sufferers at St. Domingo, and to the parliament of England having given 1,000,000 to the people of Lisbon, after the earthquake there, though connected with them only commercially.

Mr. Kitchell was in favor of the committee of the whole being discharged, because, if the subject lay over, the legislatures would be at a loss to know whether any thing would be done by the general government, and would keep back their donations. If it came within their power to relieve them, he should wish to do it, but not otherwise. At any rate, he thought it had better be determined at present whether any thing would be done in their behalf or not.

Mr. Sprigg, jun. hoped the committee would not be discharged, but that they would go into the business at an early day. He said he had not made up his mind how far they had a power to afford relief in a case like the present. There was an instance, he said, in the relief afforded the sufferers of the count de Grassie, as well as that given to the sufferers at St. Domingo. He wished for further time to make enquiry on the subject. If there were not insuperable objections to the measure, he hoped relief would be afforded.

[To be continued.]

Delaware and Schuylkill Canal.

The Stockholders are hereby notified, that the annual Election for Officers for the ensuing year, will be held at the Company's office, near the Bank of the United States, on the first Monday in January next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

By the Board of Managers.

WM. MOORE SMITH, Sec'y. Philadelphia, Dec. 1, 1796. 3c8112