

The Swedish ambassador, M. Muradega d'Offon has among other things declared, that whatever engagements his court may enter into with other powers, the harmony between the Porte and Sweden shall be supported as heretofore.

PHILADELPHIA,

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 11, 1797.

Philadelphia SELECT AND COMMON COUNCILS.

Resolved by the select and common councils, That the city commissioners be and they are hereby directed to appoint twelve suitable persons, with the consent and approbation of the mayor, as assistants to the superintendent of the nightly watch, at such wages or compensation as may be reasonable and proper, to continue until the first day of April next; and the said commissioners shall divide the persons so appointed into six classes, and the city into six districts, and assign to each class the superintendance of such district as they may think proper. And it shall be the particular duty of the said assistants appointed by virtue of this resolution to take care that the watchmen within the district respectively assigned to them are vigilant and attentive in the performance of their duties: and also to apprehend and arrest all persons whom they shall have cause to suspect of any unlawful design; and shall take the persons so apprehended as soon as conveniently may be, before the mayor or some one of the aldermen, to be dealt with according to law.

Resolved, That the resolution of the select and common councils for the appointment of twelve assistants to the superintendent of the nightly watch be published for the information of the citizens.

WILLIAM H. TOD, Clk. S. C.
EDWD. J. COALE, Clk. C. C.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A writer in the New-York Argus, denies (and his publication is copied into the Aurora) that men without talents or principles bear away the palm of public honors, which had been asserted in the *Minerva* of Mr. Webster. Where such men get the palm, let others tell. Neither in Philadelphia, nor in the County, will Mr. Webster look for or find instances to illustrate his assertion. Men of talents, principle, and unpolluted mercantile honor are elected for the City and County, as every one knows. The writer is also angry with Mr. Webster for defaming our country and its public men; What a joke! Greenleaf and Bashe are shocked at scurrility,—at opinions discrediting our nation; at slander on public men!!! Yet that very paper charges the government with fomenting the whistly rebellion. Is this no slander? Abuse of the Pennsylvania assembly, and of the President, is nothing—it is nothing for the Aurora to insult the House of Representatives of the United States when they were in procession with the answer to the President's speech. This and much more of the kind, in the Aurora, indeed goes for nothing. It makes a very sorry and mean figure everywhere, except possibly in the account of secret service-money, where Tom Paine's salary for writing against the President may be charged with that to the Printer for calumniating him.

The governor of Massachusetts, in his thanksgiving proclamation, suggests a solemn prayer to God for the success of the nations who are contending for liberty. This sentiment was published in all the gazettes without a comment, and I could not but be struck with its appearance even in a Knoxville gazette (late of Tennessee).

Foreigners, on reading this article, could not fail to understand that the people of Massachusetts are praying heartily, with their governor, for the poor pope, the Venetians, the king of Sardinia, and for the duke of Tuscany, whose independent sovereignty was trampled upon, and his sea-port town, Leghorn, seized—his commandant arrested, and the whole injury aggravated by the insult of a letter from the general. The people of Massachusetts, who have lately gained independence, will set a proper value upon that of other countries, and therefore every Italian reader would say, this is very kind to pray for us. The Italian states, he would add, are groaning under the yoke of a conqueror, and any attempt to defend themselves is threatened with death, the cities to be burned and the people killed.

But he would be astonished if he was told, the governor probably meant the French, and not their enemies. They contend for liberty! he would exclaim, that opinion is given up every where. Does French liberty require that they should conquer their neighbours, burn their towns, and ravage and despoil the fairest regions of the earth. America is the country of morals, of equitable and benevolent sentiments towards all nations; if your own independence is dear to you, Americans, you cannot wish others may lose that jewel.

If it is answered that liberty within France is the matter contended for, it may be retorted why do not the French enjoy it then. Becoming conquerors is not the way to become free—it sets up a military despotism. A nation of soldiers is a nation of slaves.

French liberty and their cause of liberty are words of imposition and deceit, which are now exploded. Even here, where multitudes yielded willingly to their feelings, it is too late to revive them even in party publications. But to introduce them solemnly into an address to the Almighty, is too much. What sort of liberty that is we are to pray may be continued to the French, their own governors have told us. Brissot represents it as the wildest, wickedest, and most dreadful despotism that ever scourged mankind. Gregoire tells the convention, "the greatest enemy of France could not wish the country to be going faster to destruction than it seems to be by crimes, cruelties and follies." The debates of the convention afford volumes of confirmation.

Now, if they chuse to call this liberty—if this be what they are contending for, it is really a pity they should have to contend for it, because I cannot see why the poor Italians should object to the French enjoying the transcendent happiness of their liberty. The liberty of putting all property into requisition, so that no man was the owner of anything but a commissary or a committee man wished

to own, may hurt others. Americans do not like such a principle for protecting property. To drag every young man into the war in order to extend the terrible republic to the Rhine, or to set up sub-states beyond the Alps, is a very different thing from forcing the people to defend their own country against the duke of Brunswick. This may be called liberty by those who incline to be odd—it is however the liberty of a camp—such as the slaves of conquering despots everywhere enjoy.

Justice is one of our rights and privileges. In France a man's head was secured on his shoulders by no legal protection. Juries might stop the trial of a person accused at any stage. Justice there has proved an assasin, and waited more than ten pellencies.

If, in a word, this is liberty, much good may it do them. But do not let us presume to address our prayers to the deity in terms that are repugnant to truth, and to—
PLAIN TRUTH.

Much has been said by our exclusive patriots against speculation, but no reason has been assigned why a number of them gave a violent opposition to an amendment offered in the House of Representatives, to the answer to that part of the governor's address. On that subject, the amendment proposed was in the words following—viz: "It is sincerely to be lamented that a spirit of speculation should be progressing with such rapidity in the Commonwealth as to threaten danger to the morals of the citizens, as well as the credit of the State, but we doubt not that if the officers of the government would by example as well as precept discourage the practice alluded to, the ill consequences so fearfully to be apprehended would be very much diminished." It is much to be wished that a question had been taken on the amendment as the egregiously inconfident of our patriots would have manifested.—It has been also said that a want of respect to a chief magistrate who declared the real, instead of the superstitious will of the people on a late occasion has been discovered in the House of Representatives of this State. That declaration may be true, but if it is, the people ought to know it, and it is possible that the House on a full investigation of that business may justify the measure, but no reasonable man could wish them to make any declaration on that subject before they are convinced of the propriety of it.

As to the odium attempted to be thrown on the House respecting the notice they have taken of the President of the United States it flies (like all similar observations) as chaff before the wind.

A SPECTATOR.

When good christian captains run-away from Spain and turn Mahomedans—trample on the sacred cross, and become Renegades, at Algiers, they sometimes return to their native country, after having plundered her subjects at Sea—yes, they do return sometimes voluntarily after a life of villainy—so strong are the natural affections to one's native land. But then these gentlemen lead a life of severe penance, discipline and mortification.—In Gil Blas is a character (*Don Raphael*) that proves an exception: he returned, became a land-robber, and used to delight his rogue audience with bravados and the tales of all his plundering. Poetical justice however is done him at last—he fishes the cash of a monastery, and is burned at the stake. It is lucky for some folks that there is no Inquisition in this country.

For the Gazette of the United States.

NO subject which has been agitated since the establishment of the National Government, has been of a more delicate nature, than that now under discussion in the House of Representatives, relative to the payment of the balances due from certain of the States to the United States. It has occasioned some warmth, but the resolution for calling on the Debtor States for payment, has passed by a large majority.

The Representatives from the State of New-York, the largest Debtor, urge that the mode and principles of settlement, adopted by the Commissioners, were improper, and that, if justice was done, no balance would be found against that State.

The advocates of the resolution contend that the accounts have been fairly adjusted—that a long time and full investigation preclude the supposition of an improper settlement—that no objections have been made to the settlement—but that the balances due to the creditor States have been funded, in pursuance of that adjustment—and that it is unreasonable to call on the States for taxes, while the debts of certain States remain unpaid.

It may be proper to observe, that *antifederalism* originated in New-York and Rhode-Island, on the subject of an impost of five per cent. on imports, proposed by the old Congress, and acceded to by all the other States. New-York and Rhode-Island, being importing States, were unwilling to relinquish the advantage of drawing a revenue each to the State from imports. Their opposition came near to involving the country in a civil war.

The same principle was the main-spring of *antifederalism* in New-York, in the year 1788, when the propriety of adopting the present constitution was under discussion. It was made, tho' secretly, a main objection to the State's acceding to that Constitution, "That it would be a relinquishment of the superior advantages of the State, which resulted from her favorable position for trade." During the melancholy interval between the peace of 1783 and the New Constitution in 1788, that State indeed paid her requisitions in specie, which few States did, (and doubtless these are all carried to her credit) but at the same time, the State laid an impost of 5 per cent. on imported goods; one half or two thirds of which were consumed in other States. She thus drew a large portion of her revenue from her sister States—the surplus of which was employed in purchasing up the army Certificates at a very low value, and the proceeds of these now constitute the wealth of the Treasury of the State. The immense confiscations of land aided this project. What proportion of the stocks of that State was purchased by the proceeds of confiscations, and what, by the proceeds of the Impost, is not known. Suffice it to say, that little or no part of it was acquired by the industry of the people, as stated by Mr. Williams in Congress. The present wealth of the Treasury, was derived mostly from two sources—*Confiscations and State Imposts*. The first were the fruits of the war—the second, the fruits of *Antifederalism*. Peace be to the shades of the administration under which that State derived such immense wealth, from the weakness of the Confederation. That administration has been omitted and its policy condemned—its hostility to the Union is not forgotten by the neighboring States. The subject is

delicate, and it is for the citizens of that State to manage this question, as not to awaken the smothered fire. The propositions for seizing the Stocks of the State, and for prohibiting transfers were violent and are generally reprobated. On the other hand, a frigid sense of justice in making the demand on the State, is so visible in the other States, that great moderation and temper will be useful on the part of New-York, towards the preservation of federal harmony.
T U L L Y.

The following Intelligence is extracted from Papers received by the schooner *Fame*, Capt. Webb, arrived here yesterday, in 18 days from St. Kitt's.

BASSETTERRE, December 2.
By a letter from Martinique we learn, that his Majesty's ship *Regulus* of 44 guns, has arrived at Barbadoes; she was sent out with dispatches for the Commander in chief on this and the St. Domingo station: on her passage out she was fired into, in the night time, by a Spanish frigate, who took her to be a transport; the *Regulus* answered with two broadsides, by which 14 Spaniards were killed. The Don then struck his colours, and confessed that war had been declared at Cadix two days before he failed. The *Regulus* has conducted her prize safe into Barbadoes. The truth of the above intelligence may be depended on.

December 6.
On the 23d ultimo, a dispatch boat arrived here from Anguilla, giving an account of an attack having been made on that Island by a French frigate and a brig, on board which were a number of troops. At the time of the arrival of the boat, none of his Majesty's ships were at the Island: on the 25th his Majesty's frigate *Lapwing* captain Barton, arrived and sailed the same evening for Anguilla, taking on board the master of the boat as a Pilot.—The winds being far to the northward, she did not reach Anguilla till late at night on the 26th—Signal having been made at St. Martin's of the *Lapwing's* approach, the troops were all embarked, after having burnt the town, murdered numbers of the inhabitants, and loaded their vessels with the plunder. At 1 in the morning of the 27th: the *Lapwing* ran within pistol shot of the frigate and brig, which were endeavouring to make their escape at the mouth of the harbour, when an action commenced, which continued one hour and twenty-five minutes. Favoured by the darkness of the night the French frigate made her escape through a narrow channel, between a small Island and Anguilla—the *Lapwing* having had her pilot killed on the first broadside would not venture through. At day break both vessels were seen at anchor near St. Martin's—on the *Lapwing's* approach, the brig attempting to warp to the frigate which had her rigging much cut, was fired on so heavily by the *Lapwing* that she was destroyed and most of the sailors and soldiers drowned: the frigate, after one broadside from the *Lapwing* struck her colours, and proved to be the *Decius* of 26 guns. The brig mounted three 24 pounders. There were 128 soldiers killed and wounded on board the *Decius*; 189 made prisoners. She was so much damaged in the action, having nine shot holes through the bottom, that after keeping possession of her for two days, captain Barton finding it impossible to get her into port from her leaky condition; and two French frigates of 44 guns each, being in chase, of him about eight miles to leeward, after taking out all the prisoners, the *Decius* was blown up, and all the plunder consigned to the deep. The *Lapwing* arrived in this Road the night after, having no other man killed in the action but the pilot.

It is to be regretted that the *Lapwing* did not arrive at Anguilla in time to frustrate the designs of the French, and prevent the depredations committed: but we believe there never was a case where an expedition was so completely destroyed, and the hopes of an hostile pillager so entirely blasted, as in this. The gallantry and good conduct of captain Barton, and his brave crew are so manifest, that the bare narrative of facts do them so much honour as to render unnecessary any encomiums.

The Society for alleviating the miseries of public prisons, elected on the 9th inst. the following persons, their officers for the present year.

President.
Dr. William White.
Vice-Presidents.
Dr. Samuel Magaw,
Dr. William Rogers.
Treasurer.
Benjamin W. Morris.
Secretaries.
Caleb Lowmear,
Dr. Saml. P. Griffiths.
Aiding Committee.
Charles Marshall, Joseph Budd,
Christopher Marshall, Ebenezer Large,
Thomas Harrison, Benj. Thaw,
Thomas Morris, Wm. Mc. Ihenny,
Isaac Parrish, Wm. Garrigues.

On Monday last the following officers were elected for the Philadelphia and Lancaster turnpike road.

President.
Elliott Perot.
Managers.
Edward Hand,
Abraham Wimer,
Richard Downing, jun.
Richard Thomas,
William Sansom,
Thomas M. Willing,
James C. Fisher,
Josiah Hewes,
Jacob Downing,
Godfrey Hugo,
David Lewis,
John Curwain.
Treasurer.
Tench Francis.
Secretary.
William Geesht.

BOSTON, January 4.

Capt. Pease, in the *Alliance*, whaleship, arrived at Nantucket, brought to 1,100 barrels.—Parted company with the ship *Janus*, Capt. Folger, of New-Bedford, in lat. 2, 8, long. 28, W. 1,200 barrels.
The *Betsey*, Bosworth, of Providence, for the West-Indies, in the last snow storm, was bilged on Conanicut—vessel lost, cargo damaged.
At St. Thomas' 48 days since—Schooner *Cynthia*, Flint, of Salem.

A number of Boston and other eastern vessels were at Demarara October 25.

The *Four Sisters*, Williams, in 17 days from Salem, and *Young Eagle*, Burr, in 18 days from hence, arrived at New-London for New York, the 17th ult.

The New-London paper of the 28th says, Sunday 25th failed, the West-India fleet, under convoy of the ship *Independence*, with 74 oxen and mules, commodore Goodrich, commander, consisting of a brig and three schooners.

A quarterly meeting of "the society for the institution and support of First day Sunday schools in the City of Philadelphia, and the districts of South-west and the Northern Liberties," will be held at John Ely's school room in Third near Mulberry street, at 6 o'clock this evening.

GEORGE WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Office of the Insurance Company of North-America
January 9th, 1797.

The Dividend declared by the Directors, for the last six months, is two dollars, for each share of stock in this company, which will be paid to the Stockholders or their attorneys duly authorized, at any time after the 19th inst. By order of the Board,
JANUARY 10th
EBENEZER HAZARD, Secy.

A Printing-Office for Sale;
Situate in the city of Burlington, on the river Delaware, about 20 miles from Philadelphia.

Consisting of
French Cannon, Roman and Italic
Double Pica, ditto ditto
English, ditto ditto
Small Pica, ditto ditto
Do. on Pie body, ditto ditto
Two-line Letters—Flowers
A good Manogany Press—Imposing Stone
Alfo, Chales, Gallies, Composing-slicks, Racks, Furniture, &c. complete.
The situation is eligible for business, and the office calculated to execute any kind of work. The terms are reasonable. Apply to H. Kammerer, jr. Crown-street, near Race-street, at No. 43, Race-street, or of Mr. John Neale, Burlington.

January 10

FOR SALE

By private contract, a very valuable Estate, known by the name of

CHATHAM,

MOST delightfully situated on the north bank of Rappahannock river, opposite the town of Fredericksburg, in the State of Virginia, consisting of eleven or fifteen hundred acres, as may best suit the purchaser. There is on this estate, a large and well built brick house, containing nine commodious rooms, exclusive of a spacious hall or entry, 21 feet square, two pair of stairs, fire-stairs and convenient passages, and excellent dry cellars. It is placed on a fine healthy eminence, commanding beautiful views in every direction over the towns of Fredericksburg and Falmouth, and an extensive cultivated country.—The grounds adjoining the house are neatly laid out in pleasure and kitchen gardens interperfed with a variety of scarce trees, a choice collection of flowers and flowering shrubs, and enriched by various sorts of the following fruits, viz apples, pears, walnuts, chestnuts, cherries, peaches, plums, nectarines, apricots, grapes, figs, raspberries, gooseberries, strawberries, and currants; the whole admirably varied by turfed slopes which have been formed by great labour and expense. Bordering upon these improvements are several lots, in a high state of cultivation, and well fit with red clover and orchard grass, from which three heavy crops of hay are taken every year. Adjoining thereto are two large and flourishing orchards; one of well chosen peach trees, the other of apple and pear trees, selected from the best nurseries in the State. Properly detached from the mansion house are extensive roomy offices of every denomination, viz a Kitchen and Larder, house-keeper's room and Laundry, with a cellar underneath for a variety of purposes, a horse-stable and smoke house all of brick, a dairy and spring house of stone, stables for thirty horses, and coach houses for four carriages. Also a large and well planned farm yard, with barn and granary, a cow house, with separate stalls for thirty-six grown cattle; apartments for fattening veals, mutton and lambs; extensive sheds for sheep, and other arrangements for stock of every description, with a large and convenient receptacle for provender, iron which they can be furnished without being exposed to the inclemency of the weather. An over-seer's house, blacksmith's shop, and quarters sufficient to accommodate in the best manner more than fifty labourers.

The arable lands are so advantageously divided as to afford an opportunity of making a large quantity of Indian corn annually, without bringing the field into similar culture other than once in four years; consequently the lands may be improved by keeping up the inclosures during the intermediate years, or may be beneficially sowed for wheat and other grain at the option of the proprietor.

On the premises there is also a merchant mill with one pair of best French burr stones, and one pair of Cologne; furnished with modern machinery, and now leased for the unexpired term of four years, at 150l per annum, and all grain for the use of the farm, hopper free, which is nearly 100l. more. The mill and miller's house are built of free stone, within a very small distance of navigation, near to which are two or more valuable fisheries, and a well accustomed ferry over the Rappahannock to the town of Fredericksburg. The land contains inexhaustible quarries of free stone near to the river, is plentifully supplied with remarkable fine water and possesses a due proportion of meadow, which by having the command of water may be considerably increased. The roads are good, and the neighbourhood genteel and fecund. In fact, exclusive of an improveable and well conditioned farm, the value and emolument inseparably connected with a mill, ferries, fisheries and quarries slightly situated; the profits arising from an ice-house inferior to none in the State, and a garden of four acres so abundantly stocked with vegetables of all sorts as to be fully equal to the demand in market, there might be detailed many other advantages, appertaining to the fertility of these lands, which the subscriber conceives it unnecessary to mention, being fully convinced that when examined, it will be found to be a complete, pleasant and healthy residence, possessing beauties and conveniences sufficient to attract the attention of any person desirous of becoming a purchaser.

The motive which induces the subscriber to offer for sale an estate so singularly beautiful and advantageous, is a desire to become an inhabitant of Alexandria, where he can with more ease attend to his interests in the neighbourhood of that city.

The purchaser may be accommodated with a few slaves in families, either for plantation or domestic use. A part of the purchase money will be required and the balance made easy, the debt being properly secured.

WILLIAM FITZHUGH,
Chatham, (Virg.) Dec. 19, 1796. 11th—2aw2m.

WM. HAYDON,

Drawing-Master, from London,
Where he has studied several years under one of the most eminent masters in that science, attends young Ladies and Gentlemen at their respective homes. His terms are 6 dollars per month for attendance three times per week. Likewise all kinds of ornamental Painting, Flowers, Fruit, &c. taught on the above terms. A line directed to W. H. left with the Editor of this Gazette, will be immediately attended to.
January 9.