

A morning paper informs that authentic advices have been received from Capt. O'Brien of the United States brig Sophia, who was dispatched last summer with money consigned by our government to the Dey of Algiers, informing that his vessel had been captured by a Tunisian corsair, and carried into one of the ports of that state—that representations had been made to the Dey of Algiers on the subject who had sent to demand restitution of the money, and the head of the corsair who had committed the hostility.

Extract of a letter from Mr. John M. Irwin, dated Savannah, 28th December, 1796.

"I am happy to find that the Governor will not permit the ship Golden Age, nor her cargo, to be condemned here. The captors mean to write to His Majesty for condemnation. The prize-master has returned me five dollars which were taken from me when I was captured."

The following petition is now circulating for signatures: To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Freemen of the State of Pennsylvania.

The Petition of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, respectfully sheweth; THAT the practice of discounting negotiable notes of hand and inland bills of exchange, at greater interest than allowed by law, through the agency of a broker, or third person, hath become too prevalent in this city and its vicinity, to the great detriment of mechanics and the industrious and honest trader.

That this practice is destructive to the morals of the people of capital, as it induces them to decline the fair pursuits of honourable trade for the immediate and great gain of usury—it introduces dissipation, and denial of all honest loans at legal interest on bond and mortgage, and thereby compels the necessitated to resort to their destructive avarice for a temporary relief, which too frequently terminates not only in the ruin of the borrower, but also to the great detriment of the community in general.

That the present existing law against usury hath been found ineffectual, in as much as through a third person in the negotiation it has been eluded; and although this practice would appear to be "indirectly" and within the meaning of the law, yet the judges of the supreme court have considered it usury only in the instances of buyer and drawer or indorser, and not in the third person, and that notes thus sold by the third person were not within the law.

Your petitioners therefore pray that a general law may be passed to remedy the evils complained of.

From the Aurora it appears that the party are spelling very hard to get Mr. Madison appointed envoy extraordinary to Paris. This would be legging with a vengeance; before we have heard of the reception of one envoy to send another, would look indeed like "humble supplications to the terrible republic."

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES. MR FENNO,

The old laws of Pacificus, on party-spirit, which appeared in the Gazette of Friday, would not merit a comment, if their evident hypocrisy did not provoke one. He thinks the hints and communications of the newspapers disgusting; and advises, that writers should proceed with "moderation," and abstain "from all UNNECESSARY satire." The flat insipidity of these remarks, would seem them from reply, if it were not the experienced artifice of the Jacobins, to preach moderation and candor, whenever their attempts to enflame the popular mind have miscarried, and the public indignation has turned, as it has always done when matters are brought to a crisis, against themselves. After every attempt to produce an insurrection against the treaty that could be made by lies, expressions to Boston, and other cities, midnight clubs, and conspiracies, and foreign emissaries by thousands, at last the people, the real people, who are probably the worst to make fools of in the whole world, spoke their solemn voice in favor of it—then they cried moderation, candor, error of judgment, recommended harmony, and rung all the changes upon their ten or twenty deceiving words. When the house passed their ever memorable unconstitutional vote about the treaty power, the Jacobin-writers extolled the house, no doubt, for that very reason, and stood forth the preachers of respect for some of the constituted authorities. It was, to be sure, rather an awkward situation for them, as they abused the others almost in the same breath. In a few days the house voted in favor of the treaty, and then the love of decency turned again into rage and reproach.

There is something ridiculously proud in some men's notions, or at least their talk about parties; as if it could be that they exist, or, as if a man ought to shut his eyes when they do, and swear that they do not. In free countries, they ever did exist, and ever will. We have found some fools, indeed, who think that nature is human on the other side the Atlantic, and angelic on this. There are fools beyond these, who will have it, that the people are more than men, and the constituted authorities worse than devils, and for this cause, they try their utmost to persuade the public to dispossess these devils of their power, and place it in the hands of the angels. Nay, there are some who go very far beyond this railing; and maintain, that all this angelic chapter of their nonsense is proved by the example of France. How much satire Pacificus would employ against this conceited race, without exceeding the "necessary" measure of moderation, I know not. Pacificus may, if he likes, renounce wine, and say, there is intoxicating spirit enough in milk and water.

But to the point: Parties we have, and as it happens in all countries, the division of classes and characters is made exactly according to the nature of the government. The better and freer that is, the more surely are the wicked, the immoderately ambitious and the hot spirited dupes arrayed in close phalanx against it. The foul and bitter dregs of our society are the parts that have kept it fermenting ever since it was made; and these dregs, including the scum as well as bottom of the great European cask, are shaken and stirred up by the ambitious demagogues in our cities, as often as they see fit. No wonder if the sweetest liquor turns sour by such overworking—no wonder Pacificus tastes a little sharp vinegar in the "hints" and "communications."

The truth of this division is undeniably obvious. The men of virtue, property, learning, and character are on one side—on the side of Washington, and the Constitution. Their moral and political antipodes are the same.

This is not all: Foreign influence has leagued itself with the disorganizing party. How happens this? The reason is plain—there was a common interest. The government stands in the way of both. It is the government that compels the payment of debts, and therefore the "persecuted patriots," as they have been impudently called, would get it into their own hands, or cripple it in the hands of its real friends. It was the government that prevented the nation from being dragged into a war with Britain, and therefore our

disappointed foreign "friends and allies" would wish to see its offices in the custody of their creatures and dependents. Then the republic, as Fanchet says, could, even without a few thousands of dollars, decide on war or peace.

To promote these mutual views, much has been done at home and abroad. Bafe Americans, at Paris, have intrigued against their country! Bafe associates here have assisted in the work! Here they have tried to weaken and to discredit the government, to stir up the people, and to turn their affections from America to France. In France, they have no doubt, made it be believed, that a certain course of measures, first by threats, and then by depredations on our trade, would raise up their party here, and overthrow the federal cause and its supporters. This very system is now going on, and every newspaper has a list of vessels captured in consequence of the connection between our Democrats and the French. It is owing to their intrigues, to their encouragement of the French, to their assurances ten thousand times printed and reprinted, that we have wrong'd them and expect their resentment, that we curse our own government, and bless the rod of chastisement while they shake it over our heads: it is owing to this, as well as to the urgent need the French have to plunder the ocean as well as the land, that our trade now suffers.

If Pacificus is no Democrat, he will see that their fanatical and stupid party-spirit about the French cause, and our love for it, &c. &c. (more than five hundred folios would contain) has produced all this embarrassment. The Democrats have succeeded to make the French believe that they were as strong here as our government, and much stronger in the affections of the people. Government has no armies, nor treasures, nor clubs, nor hiring writers, nor pensioned newspapers; and shall not its friends and the friends of virtue attempt to engage the warm and honest public feelings in its support? If Pacificus is no Democrat, will he not allow that something more than calm insipidity is becoming, when these French outrages are justified after having been invited? When one newspaper, known to be hired, speaks of our LOYALTY to France, another censures our REBELLIOUS spirit towards that nation; when we daily read that these captures are good enough for us, that we have "provoked" and extorted it from the mild, humans, just and terrible republic; that the first gun fired against France will be our ruin. Infamies of this sort have been multiplied and aggravated beyond credibility, and almost beyond patience. Probably in any other country, and most certainly in France, the printers of these abominations would be kicked, if not bastinadoed.

Neither of these chastisements is approved or recommended. The liberty of the press, thus outrageously abused, affords antidotes as well as poisons. The acrimonious and virulent paragraphs, as Pacificus calls them, are the inevitable and salutary effusions of the general indignation. There is occasion for more than a tame "display of principles" which Pacificus thinks the only proper use of the press. These are already known and respected by our country, and despised and trampled on by France and the Democrats. The breach of the Treaty is even avowed by her minister, and its disadvantages are pleaded in excuse for the perfidy. How long will Pacificus say it is proper for a man to "stand reasoning on "principles," after he has been cudgelled? The proper appeal is to the spirit and insulted honour of the Americans, to the men who defend its independence and constituted authorities. Those who give seals to the patriotic Democrats in foreign uniform, who reverse our flag, and who bear the orders to make war upon it, will become, through the newspapers, the public scorn. They will be gibbeted in print. They will know that they are no less despised than contemptible, and if they should not reform their principles, which no one will expect, they will be deterred by the public sentiment from a traitorous perseverance in their schemes.

A foreign nation may also then learn that their plan has failed, and instead of dividing our citizens by their intrigues, that they are united to one another and to their own government by a common sentiment of duty and indignation. This is better than a war, from which God preserve us. Nothing however is so likely to involve us in its horrors as the success of the Democrats to convince their allies, that they may go on capturing our vessels, not only without provoking resentment or reprisal, but with the joyful approbation of the mass of our people.

From the Baltimore Telegraph.

Messrs. Clayland, Dobbin & Co. I have just been presented with the enclosed letters, and send you a copy, (the originals are in the hands of Mr. James Calhoun.) in order to make it known, that, however faithfully I may execute the orders of the government of France whose ships I have the honor to command; yet my private interest has not the least weight in my conduct. Captain L'Veille has the same right and permission to take American vessels coming from a British port, as any other vessel of war, yet he confines himself to stopping and seizing only the enemies of his nation. Much has been said lately, in certain New-York and Philadelphia papers of insults, piracies, robberies, &c. &c. &c.—the whole of which I regard as the venom of a party in this country, who never dared to show their faces in the glorious revolution of 1776, the greatest part of whom were actually fighting against America—burning their towns, poisoning their citizens in the prison of New-York, suffocating 11,000 seamen, on board the Jersey, and other prison ships, employing the savage Indians to scalp their wives and children, and burn their property—who afterwards, had the impudence to return to America, and to bring with them the hords which we see daily in all public places—who have speculated and deprived the poor officers and soldiers of the only property which was in the power of government to give them. These men, or rather the true robbers and pirates, now wish to dictate and make laws to govern the freemen, who gave liberty and independence to America; they are truly beneath the notice of a Republican—I can only observe, that time will shortly prove, "that, like the drowning man, they are catching at straws."

Your's &c. JOSHUA BARNEY, Brigadier-General in the service of France.

Baltimore, Jan. 20. Charleston, Jan. 3, 1797.

James Calhoun, Esq. Sir, A French armed vessel, called the Vengeance, took from on board a vessel of our's, coming from Jamaica, a hoghead of Jamaica rum, and gave the captain an order upon a Mr. —, of your place to pay the amount, (on account of capt. Barney) to whom he likewise addressed the within letter upon that subject. You will particularly oblige us by receiving the same, and remitting it to us by any opportunity that may offer, &c. (Signed) W. & E. CRAFTS. At Sea, 12th December 1796.

Sir, Having met the schooner Sally, bound to Charleston, captain John Leich, who had on board several hogheads of rum, and finding myself in want, I took with the consent of the captain, one hoghead containing 109 gallons, which I pray you to pay for, at the price of the market, and place it to the account of capt. Barney, my owner. I have the honor to be Your humble servant, (Signed) L'VEILLE. Mr. —, Merchant, Baltimore

By this day's Mail.

NORFOLK, January 14.

Thursday arrived here the ship Martin, captain Nath. Colley, from London via Lymington, 75 days. By this vessel we learn, that the dreadful weather on our coast must have caused the destruction of some vessels, as they have fallen in with different pieces of wrecks during the six weeks the above vessel has been on the coast.

Dec. 10, in lat. 36, 18, long. 61, spoke the ship Fidelity, capt. Whicoms, 11 weeks out from Hamburg bound to Baltimore. Capt. W. had met with many heavy gales of wind, in which he had lost his boats and every thing off the deck, his beams all broke, and one hand washed overboard, he was obliged to bear away for the West-Indies, being in want of water and provisions.

Dec. 21, in lat. 33, 57, long. 66, spoke the ship Criterion, capt. Johnson, from Amsterdam to Philadelphia, out seven weeks, with 200 passengers on board.

Dec. 23, in lat. 34, 32, long. 68, spoke the ship Lydia, capt. Todd, out 27 days from Charleston bound to Baltimore; had lost their boats, and were in want of every kind of provisions; he was bearing away for Charleston or the West-Indies. Capt. Colley supplied him with cheese and porter.

Jan. 2, in lat. 34, 40, long. 70, spoke the brig Industry, capt. Russell, of Philadelphia, 94 days out from St. Ubes, in great distress, having neither water nor provisions on board; had buried one man and had two more likely to die through fatigue and hunger; had one pump continually going; he was bearing away for Bermuda. Capt. Colley supplied him with cheese and porter.

Capt. Makins, of the ship Andrew of Philadelphia, was passenger in the above brig, having left his ship at St. Ubes. Capt. M. informs that 14 days before, they had fallen in with the ship Elizabeth of York, capt. Wilson, 45 days out from Jamaica for Norfolk; had lost all sails, was then under reef foresail and mizen. Had spoke also three other vessels, bearing away for the West-Indies.

Jan. 4, in lat. 34, 20, long. 70, spoke the schooner Harriet, capt. Godwin, of and for Boston from St. Croix, out 28 days.

Jan. 7, in lat. 35, long. 70, spoke the schooner Atlantic, of and bound to New-York, out 42 days from the Bay of Honduras, in great distress for provisions; supplied him with cheese and porter.

Same day spoke the schooner Minerva, captain Perkins, out 24 days from Antigua for Norfolk.

War with Spain was declared at Lymington the day the Martin sailed.

Captain Colley, and passengers in the Martin, would deem it highly ungrateful were they not thus publicly to acknowledge the extreme politeness and assistance they received from Capt. Johnson of the ship Criterion of Philadelphia; he having laid too in a heavy gale for two days and a night, to render any assistance in his power, and furnished them with provisions of various kinds, of which they stood most in need. This obligation is the more felt, from the consideration of great number of passengers on board.

Thursday arrived the ship Fortitude, captain Dyer, 87 days from Cadix, in distress. A list of Americans left there shall be given in our next.

Captain Fairchild, of the brig Diana, arrived here on Thursday, 18 days from Bermuda, spoke (going there) the Frederickburg packet, captain Richardson, of Philadelphia, from Malaga to Baltimore, blown off the coast; had lost her sails and damaged part of her cargo.

Captain William Lovell, of the ship Felicity, of Boston (new in the Roads) on December 24, in lat. 37, 51, long. 68, 30, spoke the ship Sally of Norwich, captain J. Smith, from Anguilla to New London, out 50 days, with only six days provision on board, and was running for the West-Indies; it blowing so heavy and so much sea, could not render him any assistance.

Thursday arrived the schooner Phoebe, captain Webb, 37 days from the Mole. Captain Webb was taken on his passage from New-London to Jeremie, and carried to Petit Guave, where he was detained 90 days, the greatest part of his cargo taken without trial: they even refused giving a receipt for what property they took, and the commissaries refused provisions to subsist his sick people. Four Spanish prizes were carried into the Mole before the Phoebe sailed.

Vessels arrived at Petit Guave to purchase cargoes. Sloop Delight, Warner, of New-York; schooner Sally, Couriel, of Baltimore; schooner —, Pool, of Philadelphia; schooner Angelica, Howard, do.

Vessels carried in there as prizes.

Brig Nancy, Webb, of New-London; schooner Hope, Jacobs (dead) of Philadelphia; brig Polly, Watson (abandoned) of ditto; brig Nymph, Sullivan (dead) of ditto; brig Clio, Ball, of Baltimore; sloop Lead, Warner, of Cape Ann; schooner —, Cockrin, of Boston.

Thursday arrived the sloop Polly, captain Willis, 37 days from the Mole; captain Willis was taken by the brigands, but a breeze of wind favored his escape in the Mole, where he purchased two 4 pounders to protect himself.

Sailed in company with the sloop Thomas and Sally, Allen, for Norfolk; the schooner Zephyr, Hansford, for ditto; (afterwards taken, carried into Jean Rebel, and condemned.) Schooner Lark, Hand, for Charleston, (taken and condemned at same time and place.)

December 26, in lat. 29, long. 73, spoke the brig Clinton, Norris, of Providence, R. I. 16 days out from Surinam to Charleston.

NORWICH, Jan. 19.

VIOLENT THUNDER STORM.

From Nantucket.

We learn that one of the most severe thunder-storms attended with very sharp lightning, was experienced at that place, than was ever known there before, on the night of the 1st instant; two barns were set on fire by the lightning and entirely consumed, together with 14 head of cattle and a quantity of hay, grain, &c. which was in the barns; considerable other damage was done.

College-Hall.

READINGS and RECITATIONS,

Moral, Critical, and Entertaining.

MR. FENNEL

Respectfully informs the Public, that

THIS EVENING, Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 7 o'clock, Will be delivered,

(FIRST PART) Beauty and other pleasures of Taste: On the Means of Improvement in Taste, including selections from Dr. Blair.

(SECOND PART) The Choice of Hercules, or The Triumph of Virtue, (Louth)

(THIRD PART) Ode to Truth, (Mason) Satan's Address to the Sun, (Milton) Ode to Madnets, (Pensley)

Tickets to be had of Mr. Poulson, jun. at the Library; at Mr. M'Elwee's looking-glass-store, No. 70, S. Fourth-street; and at Mr. Carey's, Bookseller, Market-Street—Half a dollar each.

Admission tickets for Children (a quarter of a dollar each) to be had at either of the above places.

New-Theatre.

The Managers respectfully inform the public, that on account of the extensive preparations for the Historical Play of COLUMBUS, or A WORLD DISCOVERED, there will be no performance at the New Theatre until Monday the 30th inst. when the above piece will be produced, with new Scenery, Machinery, Dresses and Decorations. January 24. d

All Persons having Demands

Against the Estate of the late Thomas Franklin, deceased, are desired to bring in their accounts for settlement; and those indebted to make immediate payment, to ISRAEL PLEASANTS, WALTER FRANKLIN, or SAMUEL R. FRANKLIN, Executors. January 24th, 1796. c02w

This Day is Published,

By BIORÉN and MADAN, And to be Sold at their Printing-Office, in Dock-street; by M. Carey, No. 118, Market-Street; Thomas Bradford, No. 2, South Front-street, and George Douglass, No. 2, South Third-street. (Price, nearly bound, two dollars.) AN ENQUIRY

Concerning POLITICAL JUSTICE, And its Influence on Morals and Happiness, By WILLIAM GODWIN.

THE reputation of this work is already well established in Europe—it is hardly necessary for an American editor to say more than barely to mention, that the Enquiry concerning Political Justice has ever since its publication been a favorite performance with the friends of republican government. The style is pure, nervous, and classical; the ideas are strongly marked by an original vein of thinking; and, amongst a multitude of other just and striking passages, the author's delineation of the peculiar infelicities inseparable from the condition of a King, may be pointed out as a most masterly specimen of philosophical disquisition. The latest London edition of this work sells in this city at four dollars and an half. January 24 d3taww

This Day is Published,

PORCUPINE'S POLITICAL CENSOR, FOR DECEMBER, 1796. CONTAINING Remarks on the Debates in Congress, particularly on the timidity discovered by the House of Representatives in their language towards the insolent French. ALSO, A LETTER to the infamous TOM PAINE, In answer to his brutal attack on the character and conduct of General Washington. January 24.

Hibernian Society.

Such of the Members of this Society as are entitled to Diplomas, are requested to apply for them to Mr. Hugh Holmes, Vice-President; Mr. David M' Cormick, Treasurer; Mr. Robert H. Drinker, Counsellor; Mr. Joseph Brown; Mr. Edward Fox; Or to MATHEW CAREY, Sec. Philad. Jan. 21, 1797. taw6t

Particular Teneriffe Wine.

50 Quarter-casks Particular Teneriffe WINE, Of a superior quality, For Sale by A. Marple & Israel W. Morris, No. 60, Dock-street. t186

FOR SALE,

At Whitesides' Tea Ware-House, No. 99, North Second Street. Imperial } Hyfon Skin, Hyfon, } Fresh Teas. } Soucheng, Young Hyfon, } Bohca Dec. 9. 3taw3m.

FOR SALE,

About 1,600 acres of Land, WELL situated, laying on and between Marsh and Beech Creeks, Millin county, Pennsylvania, in four separate Patents. For terms of sale apply to Wm. Blackburn, No. 64, South Second-street mwtff

James M'Alpin, Taylor,

No. 3, South Fourth-street, RETURNS his grateful acknowledgments to his Friends and the Public for their liberal encouragements, and begs leave to solicit a continuance of their favors. He has on hand an extensive assortment of the Most Fashionable GOODS, And of the best quality, suitable for the season. At this shop Gentlemen can be furnished with the best materials, and have them made up in the neatest and most fashionable manner, and on the shortest notice. He will thankfully receive any orders, and pay a prompt and punctual attention to them. November 18. w3