

any lands, within the limits of this State—or for the purpose of laying out any townships, are considered highly criminal; and the persons concerned therein as principals, or accessories, are liable on conviction, to heavy fines and imprisonment.

This law may be said to owe its existence to the high court of commissioners which sat under the constitution of the United States, at Trenton, in the year 1782, and which, on a hearing between Pennsylvania and Connecticut, touching the question of boundary, solemnly decided in favor of the former state. In pursuance of powers vested in Congress by the old confederation, they were declared to be "the last resort in all disputes between States concerning boundary or jurisdiction." Under this clause, the appeal was regularly made to that body, and judges appointed agreeably to the directions of the constitution, who after a full hearing, finally pronounced an unanimous judgment, in behalf of the Pennsylvania claim. The right, therefore, of the State of Pennsylvania, to the land in question, is confirmed and ascertained by the decision then given, and which it is utterly impossible Pennsylvania should ever relinquish.

Some persons have indeed entertained an idea, that the individuals whose interest was affected by the decree at Trenton, have a right to a second trial before Congress, on the question of soil, or private title between citizen and citizen. To my apprehension it does not appear, that the genuine construction of the clause, will warrant any such inference. It contemplates merely a special law, viz. that where any two States may have adjudged the question of jurisdiction, as far as respects the lands claimed by them, and the grants to the lands are claimed to have originated previous to the settlement of the question of jurisdiction between them—that in this case, there may be a trial before Congress, concerning the private right of soil, on the petition of either party (or state) which shall be determined in the same manner, they might have had the question of boundary decided on appeal to Congress.

Other persons, I well know, are propagating a still more visionary scheme, of a second trial, on the merits of the original controversy. In the ordinary cases of private property, the laws recognize a right to a second trial, under certain circumstances, and therefore it may be had. But in the case of a great national question, it is both trifling and ridiculous to talk of it; more especially as the constitution, in conformity to which the trial had been had, explicitly declares the judgment of the commissioners shall be final and conclusive.

But perhaps you will say, why are these observations made now, and why are we at this time called upon to execute the act against intruders?

I answer you candidly, gentlemen. Very alarming reports are every where spread, and have reached the government, of surveys made by men in arms—of whole townships being laid off under an assumed authority—and that a land office has been opened in the county, for the avowed purpose of granting warrants and disposing of lands, in direct opposition to the laws and government of Pennsylvania.

These are high charges, and of very serious import; and there is too much reason to believe that there are those amongst us, of desperate character and views, who are fatally bent upon the mad scheme of a separate state: and to attain their object, scruple not the use of means which invariably lead to war and bloodshed.

I beseech you, gentlemen, to consider coolly, whether these measures tend. We will venture to calculate, without the spirit of prophecy, what will be the result, in spite of the sanguine projects of a few deluded State speculators.

It is impossible to believe, for a moment, that there is so little sense and wisdom in Congress, as to suffer an enterprise like this to succeed. Every member of that body, cannot but see, that what happens here to-day, may happen elsewhere to-morrow; and therefore we may be confident, they will unanimously set their faces against the present lawless attempt to form a separate state. Should they quietly give way to violence and usurpation here, similar schemes will doubtless be pursued in other places, and our country swarm with projectors, who will soon trite it into as many divisions and sub-divisions as ambition or avarice may devise. A common sense of danger will therefore unite all parts of the union against you. If the western insurrection was subdued a few years ago, by the spirited exertions of the people in support of law and liberty, how can others flatter themselves with hopes of success, and between whom there is this difference? They had risen in opposition to a law, by many esteemed odious, and dangerous to freedom. But you are forming a project to seize the property of other persons; an enterprise infinitely mischievous, and which can have no advocates, except the partisans of anarchy and plunder.

It is true, gentlemen, we possess very enlightened ideas of government, and boast much of our republican virtue, and we are not sparing in our abuse and contempt of monarchical constitutions. But what signify these things, if they are not sufficient to induce us to submit to governments of our own making, and rulers of our own choosing? Republicans who openly oppose themselves to the decrees of the supreme authority of the nation, are a disgrace to the name and character. The king of Great Britain, in his first speech to Parliament, after acknowledging our independence, dared to prophecy, that our republican government would be of short duration, and that we should soon be glad to exchange it for a limited monarchy. Take care, gentlemen, that by your conduct you do not render yourselves the undesigning instruments of accomplishing, in part, this prediction. For rest assured, no position in the history of politics is more unquestionably true, than that if mankind cannot find their property protected under one form of government, they will have recourse to some other that possesses more energy and vigor.

Finally, gentlemen, your own immediate concern, and the interest you have in common, with the other parts of the State, call loudly on you at this important moment, to discharge your duty as grand jurors, with firmness and integrity. You are under the sacred obligations of an oath, that you will diligently enquire and true presentment make of all such matters which shall be given you in charge. And in order that your attention may be the more pointedly turned to the subject, the court does in this public and solemn manner, give the act against intrusion in charge to you; and we expect, as you value your own happiness, and the property of our country, you will strictly and honestly present every violation of this law, that may have fallen within the compass of your knowledge.

ON FRIDAY,

The third inst. at half past one o'clock P. M. the Annual Oration of the Philadelphia Medical Society, will be delivered at the City Tavern—where all the honorary members are requested to attend.

By order of the Society.

PHILADELPHIA,

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 1, 1797.

The piece signed "X. X." came too late for this day's paper—it will be published to-morrow.

Died, yesterday in the Pennsylvania Hospital, (having resided therein upwards of twelve years,) JAMES FRISBY, Jun. Plaster, of the Eastern-shore of Maryland. Also yesterday, Capt. DANIEL WOODBURY.

The fire in Moravian Alley, mentioned in our paper of Monday, was not in the buildings of Mr. Morris; it was the Brew House adjoining—

THEATRICAL.

We are happy to hear, says a correspondent, that the play of "COLUMBUS, OR, A WORLD DISCOVERED," is to be represented for the second time, this Evening. So great was the crowd on Monday evening, that many persons had but a very imperfect view of the superb scenery; and numbers returned from the House without attempting to enter. The display of decorations and pageantry in this play, undoubtedly exceeds any theatrical exhibition before seen in America.

The Snow Industry, Timothy Russell, from St. Ubes, and the sloop Betsey, Dawkins, from Port-au-Prince, to this port put into Bermuda in distress, on the 14th, January.

The Resolution of 74 guns, La Raison frigate, and the Lynx sloop of war, were at Bermuda at the above date.

The brig America, Tour, was at Guadeloupe, Jan. 1—to sail in 3 weeks for this port.

The schr. Morning Star, Hart, from this port to Trinidad, was spoke Dec. 3, by a vessel arrived at Boston from Surinam.

The schr. Betsey, Norris, from Teneriffe, to this port, after being on the coast a considerable time, was obliged to bear away for the West Indies and arrived at St. Croix, Jan. 3.

Arrived at Marcus Hook, Brig Sally, Collady, 22 days from Port-au-Prince. Left there brig Amelia, B. Houston.

Sloop Favorite, Lege, from this port to Newbern, was cast away in a gale, Nov. 25, on Bodies Island—Captain, Crew, and part of the cargo saved.

A letter from Baltimore, of 28th inst. informs, that a large ship from Batavia, belonging to Clark & Nightingale, of Providence, R. I. was sent into St. Martin's, by a French privateer.

By this day's Mail.

BOSTON, January 24.

Captain Stover, from Surinam, informs, that the English were about to blockade that place—vessels of war for this purpose had arrived in the river. The inhabitants expected an attempt would be made to get possession of the colony. A number of vessels were sunk in the river to obstruct the passage to the town. Provisions were scarce—land produce high.

Captain Hollis, from Guadeloupe, says, the French at that island are also depredate on American commerce. They have equipped a number of privateers, and capture all vessels belonging to the United States, going to or coming from British ports.

The orders for capture of American vessels received at Guadeloupe, were from the minister in America. They were not sufficiently explicit, and captain Very, who arrived on Saturday, informs, that he brought dispatches from Victor Hughes to citizen Adet, on that subject.

Captain Cole, who arrived last evening from Aux Cayes, states, that American produce is very high and scarce at that place—but that the nefarious conduct of the administration of that place, towards Americans, continued, and deterred many from entering the port.

Fortune's Favourites.

No. 11,000, the fortunate number which drew 20,000 dollars, is owned by Messrs. Reed, and Green, of Keene, N. H. They had been confined in prison for some time for debt; and one of them, in custody of an officer, arrived in town on Saturday, to claim this boon of fortune. It is said that 35,000 dollars have been drawn in the last Harvard Lottery, by three tickets owned within 8 miles of their residence.

NEW YORK, January 31.

Bermuda papers containing the news which follows, were put into our hands yesterday.

BERMUDA, Dec. 17.

We have had for a length of time very heavy gales of wind from the north-west. Many vessels have been seen to pass by, some apparently in distress, particularly a large armed ship on Sunday evening last on the north side, but too leaky for any pilot to attempt to board her—she has not been seen since. The next morning the schooner Dispatch, Bates, from Boston for Baltimore, blown off the coast, with lumber, &c. run on the rocks but got off and brought safe into harbour—lost her deck load in the gale.

Tuesday arrived brig Juno, Bertram, from Liverpool, England bound to New-York, after about 60 days passage, with horses, &c.

And this day came in a sloop from New-York, bound for Charleston, with rum.

Entered at the Custom House, schooner Industry, Hue, from Baltimore, with loss of one man, and leaky.

December 25.

This week the Spanish brig Nostra Señora del Carman, prize to the privateer Fortune of War, was condemned in the Court of Vice Admiralty as lawful prize to the captors (being the first tried this war with Spain). Her cargo is very valuable.

The schooner Tabula, which arrived Wednesday last from Madeira, spoke his Majesty's ship Spencer, Capt. Evans, on Monday last: the Spencer had taken a valuable Spanish prize, and sent her for these islands.

Thursday arrived the privateer Harlequin, Captain Parker, which has taken a Spanish brig.

January 7.

This day arrived his Majesty's ship La Raison, Capt. Beresford, from a cruise: she took a valuable Spanish prize, and sent her for these islands.

Arrived the Spanish ship Beatrice, from the Havannah, bound to Cadiz, prize to his Majesty's ships Resolution, Lynx, L'Esperance & Spencer. And Thursday arrived the Spanish brig —, prize to the Harlequin privateer, with above 900 boxes of sugar, &c.

Strong north west gales have drove a number of vessels in here in distress, from the coast of America. The hard winter has proved very destructive to the cattle and horses of the islands.

There is a great scarcity of corn here now; a few cargoes would sell at high prices, as the consumption of that necessary article is very great in these islands.

Came in here in distress, schooner Thetis, La-truite, from Barbadoes for Baltimore, with loss of foremast and bowsprit—Schooner William, Nichols, from St. Bartholomew's for New-York—Schooner Fortune, Lindlay, from Grenada, for Wells in Massachusetts.

January 14.

Yesterday arrived his Majesty's ships the Resolution, captain Pender, of 74 guns; and Lynx, Capt. Hall, of 16 guns, from a cruise of about two months.

Notwithstanding the severity of the weather this winter on the continent, all the ships of admiral Murray's squadron have been continually cruising, scarcely allowing themselves time to victual and water, while the fleets in the West-Indies are lying snug in harbour, to the manifest injury of the British commerce.

Saturday last the brig Three Brothers, Geo. Brown, master, of and from New-Haven in Connecticut, run on the Rocks off the West End, and knocked her rudder off; she afterwards came to an anchor, but in getting under weigh again on Sunday, to endeavour to get in, was obliged to cut the anchors away, and the vessel making a great quantity of water, after fruitless attempts, the crew was obliged to abandon her: and she is totally lost, with all her valuable cargo of cattle, live stock, beef, pork, corn, &c. not the least part of which was insured, to the great loss and ruin of the captain, whose whole property was in the brig, as it has reduced him from a state of the greatest affluence to the greatest misery at one fatal stroke—we hear a subscription is setting on foot for the purpose of relieving so worthy and respectable a character, whose best endeavours were used to bring a supply of provisions for the inhabitants which would have relieved the country much at this juncture, had not the misfortune happened, as there is not a bushel of corn, any pork or beef for sale. To set such a person once more afloat, would redound to the honor of the country, and can be done with the greatest ease by its wealthy and affluent inhabitants.

Monday came on a violent gale of wind here, which continued all the day and following night, but we do not yet hear of any mischief being done at sea. It came on with the wind at East, but at last got to the N. W.

Within the last fourteen days past several parts of wrecks have come on shore on the North side of these islands, supposed to belong to some ship or brig cast away on the rocks, and we fear the crew were all lost. Reported inwards and outwards, blown off the American coast, in distress.

Sloop Betsey, John Dawkins, from Port-au-Prince, bound for Philadelphia.

Snow Industry, Timothy Russell, from St. Ubes, for Philadelphia.

NEW-YORK, January 31

ARRIVED.

Ship	Toby	St. Thomas
Schooner Two Brothers,	O'Zuill	Bermuda 9
Sloop Polly and Phebe,	McCaye	Savannah 9
Hannah, Smith		St. Croix 13

CLEARED.

Ship	Hope, Pierce	Madeira
Letitia, Rolette		Bourdeaux
Schooner George-Town, Tackell		George-Town

Arrived yesterday morning the ship Tryal, Captain Toby, 21 days from St. Thomas'. Sailed in company with the ship Hope, Capt. Sewall, of Boston, who was captured about four hours after leaving St. Thomas' by a French privateer row boat, mounting one or two guns, and sent down to leeward.

The schooner Two Brothers, Capt. Zuill, arrived yesterday morning, 9 days from Bermuda. The captain informs, that the Resolution 74, a frigate and the sloop of war Lynx, lay there, and that the schooner William, and sloop Polly, of this port, put in there in distress—the former of which was 40 days from St. Bartholomew's—Several other vessels belonging to different ports of the United States were blown off the coast and put in there.

Sloop Hannah, Capt. Smith, arrived yesterday in 13 days from St. Croix, was chased on her passage from Antigua to St. Croix, into St. Bartholomew's by a French privateer.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, January 9, concluded.

On motion of Mr. Madison, the House went into a committee of the whole, on the report of the secretary of war, on the petition of M. Poiré, secretary and aid-de-camp to major-general La Fayette. The report was in his favor.

It appears that M. Poiré followed the example of general Fayette, in declining to receive any pay for his services in the course of the late war; but, like his master, having been overtaken by misfortune, he calls upon the equity and generosity of the American nation to afford him relief, in the same manner as they had, unasked, required the services of general La Fayette.

Messrs. Coit, Thatcher, and Kitchell, were opposed to the allowing of compensation to this gentleman, alleging that his claim stood upon the same ground with the claims of many other deserving men, whose demands had been barred by the statute of limitation.

Messrs. Madison, W. Lyman, Swanwick, Dayton and Murray, supported the cause of M. Poiré.

They urged it is a singular case. It was asserted that M. La Fayette, and his family, were the only persons who had served in the war, with a previous profession that they would receive no pay. They denied that it was a claim of justice; in that case they allowed the statute of limitation would have barred it: It was a claim upon the equity and generosity of the nation. This gentleman, like his master, they said, had been overtaken by misfortune, and to refuse to afford him that relief which justice must have paid him, had he asked it at an earlier day, would be derogatory to the honor of the nation. It was remarked, by Mr. Swanwick, that such conduct was also impolitic, since it would discourage any foreigner from entering into our service in future, and we did not know how soon such assistance might be valuable.

There is not, said Mr. Murray, a farmer in the United States, who would not approve the affording of relief in this case; for, said he, who among them of a young man, fond of agriculture, should serve him faithfully for a year, and at the end of that period, wishing to pursue his enquiries into distant lands, should leave him, and decline to be paid for his services because he did not want the money, would, if that same young man should return in the course of a few years in distress and ask of his equity and generosity, what, before he could have claimed of his justice, turn a deaf ear to him, and say, "I owe you nothing; since you did not receive your due when you might have had it, I cannot listen to your distress." He believed no one would be found to do this.

After considerable debate, the question was carried for making provision, by law, to settle the claim; the committee rose, the house confirmed the resolution; and a committee was appointed to bring in a bill.

Adjourned

Tuesday, January 10.

Mr. Dwight Foster, from the committee of claims, made reports on the petitions of George Lucas and John Wood, which were against them; they were read twice and concurred in by the House.

Mr. Thatcher, from the Committee appointed to enquire if any or what alterations were necessary in the establishment of Post Offices and Post-Roads, reported a bill, which was twice read, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole on Monday.

On motion of Mr. Milledge, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the report of the committee of claims on the petition of John Gibbons, treasurer of Georgia. This report was against the petitioner.

After a long debate, the committee rose and had leave to sit again.

Mr. Madison, from the committee to whom it was referred to bring in a bill for making provision for the satisfaction of the claim of M. Poiré, secretary and aid-de-camp of general La Fayette, reported a bill, which was twice read, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Mr. Livingston said he had a proposition to make relative to the communication yesterday received from the President of the United States, and therefore moved that the house and galleries might be cleared.

They were cleared accordingly; and it being then half past two o'clock, it is supposed the house after deciding on Mr. Livingston's proposition, adjourned.

College-Hall.

READINGS and RECITATIONS, Moral, Critical, and Entertaining.

On THURSDAY EVENING, Feb. 2, at 7 o'clock,

By desire, will be repeated,
THE EFFECTS OF AMBITION AND GUILT,
Considered, traced and exemplified in the character of
Macbeth.

With recitations of the most striking scenes, and moral and critical observations on the character, and on the author.

Warranted Likenesses,

Taken by WILLIAM WILLIAMS'S.

Prices from 10 to 100 Dollars.
A few young Ladies may be instructed in the elegant Arts of Drawing and Painting, by applying to the above artist at his house, the North East Corner of Fourth and Pine Streets; where specimens of his performance may be seen.
Feb. 1. '97.

No. 170.

District of Pennsylvania, to wit.

BE it remembered, that on the 24th day of January in the twenty-fifth year of the independence of the United States of America, John Thompson of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a Book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor, in the words following to wit—

"A Comparative View of the Constitutions of the several States with each other, and with that of the United States, exhibiting in tables the prominent features of each Constitution, and classing together their most important provisions under the several heads of administration: with notes and observations. By William Smith of South-Carolina, LL. B. and member of the Congress of the United States."

In conformity to the act of the Congress of the United States, intitled "An Act for the encouragement of learning by securing the copies of maps, charts and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned."

SAMUEL CALDWELL,

Clerk of the District of Pennsylvania

Feb. 1.

Red Clover Seed.

Fresh red Clover Seed of the best quality, in bags of 5 bushels each
Madeira wine in pipes, fit for immediate use
Teneriffe wine in pipes, hogheads and quarter casks
Ditto do. of first quality, for the use of private families
Coffee in hogheads
Jamaica spirits
Connecticut soap in small boxes
Window glass and Spanish segars, and
Two trunks of best patent, plain and ribbed silk and cotton hosiery, for sale by

JOHN CRAIG.

February 1

williams