

House would be ready to agree to such a system. He only rose, however, then to notice what had fallen from the gentlemen from N. York and S. Carolina (Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Harper) who had wished to have the detail upon which the principle before them was to be carried into effect. He thought they should first decide upon the principle, whether they should refer to a power, which had never yet been referred to, of raising revenue; in fact, whether a plan of direct or indirect taxes should be pursued. The decision upon this question, he said should have no allusion to the manner of effecting it; because, if the committee of the whole did not think it necessary at this time to go into a system of direct taxation at all, they would determine, and a plan of indirect taxation ought immediately to be considered. He was therefore far from wishing the resolution to be sent back to the committee of ways and means to have the business detailed; he would have the abstract principle first decided upon. Mr. D. hoped the sentiments of gentlemen would be fully given upon this subject; for his own part, if he heard no stronger arguments in favour of the plan than had been offered, he should certainly be opposed to it.

Mr. W. Smith thought the gentleman last up had placed the subject on its proper ground. The principle ought certainly to be first decided upon. It was acknowledged on all hands, Mr. S. said, that there was a deficiency of revenue; gentlemen who were opposed to this plan, should therefore substitute some other; in its place, since revenue must be had. It was a good parliamentary rule, that when a member proposed an object proposed for revenue, he should propose a substitute. It was easy, he said, to object to a thing. He disliked direct taxation himself, but since there appeared no other way of raising sufficiently ample funds, he saw the necessity of fixing upon this. If gentlemen would propose any other mode of raising the money wanted, he should be glad to consider it. He thought at any rate, they should then determine upon the principle before any further steps were taken in preparing any plan; and, if it should appear to be the opinion of a majority of the House that, under no consideration whatever, a system of direct taxation should be adopted, there would be an end of the business & they must immediately turn their attention to some other way of raising the money required; for his part, he was afraid if they passed over from direct to indirect taxes they should not come to anything effectual.

Mr. Williams was of opinion with the gentleman from New-Jersey, (the Speaker) that the principle should then be determined upon; because to send the resolution back, in order to have a plan digested, if it should eventually be rejected, would be an unnecessary waste of time. He wished gentlemen from every State would make their observations upon the subject, in order that they might determine whether some better plan could not be adopted. He thought every means of indirect taxation should be exhausted, before direct taxes should be referred to.

Mr. W. said he did not think with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Swanwick) that the landed interest did not pay their proportion of the present taxes. The consumers, it was allowed, were the payers of taxes; and until that gentleman proved that farmers did not consume taxable articles, he must not say they did not bear their proportion of the public burdens.

It was well observed that our present revenue system was liable to be deranged by other nations; but perhaps it might be possible to adopt some other system, which should be more certain, without having reference to direct taxes. He could with mercantile gentlemen would forbear showing out insinuations that the landed interest did not pay their quota of the public expenses; he believed they were unouuded, and he was certain they could have no good effect. For the present, he should wish the committee to rise, and hoped gentlemen would come forward another day, with their observations on this subject, that they might see if they could not hit upon some plan of raising the necessary supplies, without going into the plan of direct taxation. The committee rose and had leave to sit again.

REFLECTIONS ON AN INVASION.

[Extracted from the Amides Lois and the Redacteur.]

Marshal Saxe, who never lost sight of the example of Carthage, remarked one day to Louis XV. and his minister, "that England was only to be conquered in London;" and it must be acknowledged that the marshal's opinion on political and military subjects was of great weight and authority.

The most effectual mode of unmasking the perfidious, and convincing the sceptical, is to present them with acknowledged facts. From a reference to the annals of history, it appears that in the interval from the reign of Edgar in the tenth century to prince Edward, eldest son of the Pretender, 25 invasions have been attempted at different periods on England, of which ten have been completely successful; and though the other debarkations were not attended with ultimate success, yet the major part of them were productive of advantages. It is to be remarked, that the greater part of these enterprises were partial and negative; that several of the princes and sovereigns, under whose auspices they were undertaken, were definite of ships and troops; and that circumstances, on the other hand, since the union of Belgium and the emancipation of Holland, furnish France alone with such formidable means of attack and defence, that the power of England must be annihilated on the event of an invasion.

If admiral d'Orville's in 1781, with 66 ships of the line, acquired the dominion of the ocean, and obliged the English fleet shamefully to retire to their ports, which would have been bombarded and destroyed, together with the ships, but for the perfidy of the court, and the known treason of certain individuals who speculated at that epoch upon a future revolution; what cannot be done by a French admiral when he shall have assembled in the different ports of France and Holland 125 ships of the line, flat-bottomed boats and transports; when there shall be besides an army of 80,000 men in Britanny and 40,000 in Holland to second such an enterprise? To this must be added the number of malcontents, innovators, strangers, and emissaries from certain foreign powers, as well as the hope of a convulsion in Ireland. Yes, fellow-citizens, I say and repeat it, peace is in your hands, if you know how to profit of the moment, to unite all your force, and to attack the English at all points. I will say more, if *monseigneur Pitt* fees the reality of your preparations, he will not certainly expose himself to the fatal lot which is reserved for him, and he will hasten to demand peace from you at any price. The eloquent speech of the honorable Fox proves both the fears and the feebleness of the English minister.

Several defections on England have formerly been successful, although attempted with feeble means; the failure of some others is to be accounted for rather by the badness of the manoeuvres and the weakness of the assailants, than by any other cause, which might inspire fears for the success of an enterprise, which might be supported by the whole force of all the maritime powers, and by 80 or 100,000 men.

It must be remarked besides, that there is a great difference between the present war of liberty and former party wars. The embassy of the English minister, whose real object is known, ought not to suspend the labors of the government on this head—prudence does not permit us to give, at this moment, other details; but we invite the Directory to inspect the charts and sublime plan of the late Count de Broglie, who died 15 years ago at Rochelle; the wisdom of the government will enable them to make such alterations as the circumstances of the times render necessary. [Lon. Courier.]

PHILADELPHIA,

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 3, 1797.

STOCKS.

Six per Cent.	16 3/4
Three per Cent.	9 3/8
4 1/2 per Cent.	
5 1/2 per Cent.	
Deferred Six per Cent.	12 1/4
BANK United States.	11 per ct
— Pennsylvania.	13 do.
— North America.	40 do.
Insurance Comp. N. A. shares.	25 per ct.
— Pennsylv.	par.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

On London, at 30 days.	62 1/2
— at 60 days.	60
— at 90 days.	57 1/2
Amsterdam, 60 days, per guilders.	40
— 90 days.	42

In the afternoon of Sunday next, a discourse will be delivered in St. Paul's Church, referring to the late melancholy events by fire at Mr. Andrew Brown's.

A stated meeting of the Philosophical Society will be held at their Hall at 6 o'clock this evening.

The night before last a young man by the name of Joseph Lowrey, fell from the upper part of a Howle in South Second-Street, and broke one of his legs and one of his arms. He was carried to the hospital, and appears to be in a fair way of recovery.

For the GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NEW THEATRE.

ON WEDNESDAY the historical play of *Columbus*, or a *World Discover'd*, was performed for the second time, to a most crowded audience.

The managers are entitled to great praise for bringing forward this play in such a grand style as they have done. The scenery, &c. does high honor to the respective artists who executed them: no expense, or exertion, seems to have been wanting to make the processions pageants, &c. worthy of observation; and we doubt not but the trouble of the managers will be amply repaid by having a crowded house every night it is performed.

Mr. Cooper's *Columbus* was a very chaste piece of acting; he has been censured for over acting; but we observe that his performance is considerably improved in this particular, and we doubt not, but in a short time, he will be considered as an actor of the first reputation, at least his performances fairly promise it.

Mr. Moreton played the feeling, gallant Alonzo with great sensibility. The admirers of this gentleman (and we confess ourselves to be of that number) have observed with pleasure the rapid improvements that he has made within these two years, and we are of opinion that his performance this season, surpasses all his former exhibitions: the exquisite acting of Mrs. Merry probably has called forth some of that dormant genius that before had slept. We notice that he is to play Jaffier, to Mrs. Merry's Belvidera, and we doubt not but his performance will be excellent. It was generally acknowledged, that he failed in that character two years ago; but those who censured his performance ought to have been informed, that his failure was not owing to his want of genius, but want of study, as the tragedy never was rehearsed: this was a sufficient apology for him.

Mr. Fox is entitled to praise for his performance of Roldan. We are happy to observe that he did not this evening pay more attention to the audience than to his part, as he sometimes does. An actor ought not to appear conscious of the company of the audience, much less to keep his eyes upon them during the performance: 'tis an odious habit, and we flatter ourselves he has seen it so, and will practise it no more.

Mr. Wignell was indeed the vociferous, brave, good hearted Englishman, in Harry Herbert: we have never seen him play more naturally.

All those who have seen Mr. Harwood perform Dr. Lentive, &c. will give us credit when we assure them that in Dr. Dolores he was excellent. His performance, in company with that factious actor Mr. Francis, in the character of Bribon, set the whole house in a roar.

Mr. Warren was very respectable in Orozimbo, as was also Mr. L'Esrange in Solafio.

We are confident that the deep attention that was paid to the performance of the charming Mrs. Merry, must have been more flattering to her than the loudest plaudits that could have been bestowed; for our own part we must confess, that while she was playing Cora we forgot we were in a theatre; we forgot the accomplished actress, and beheld only the charming Indian maid that was to be devoted to the sacrifice. In short, her acting was so truly excellent, that it could defy the severest criticism.

Mrs. Francis was very lively and spirited in Nelti; we have seldom seen her perform with greater ease than she did on Wednesday. Her coquetry as imitated from the description given her by Harry Herbert was truly diverting, and seemed to give the audience entire satisfaction.

We ourselves confess that it is more gratifying to view ladies as fair as the graces, than Indian women without any of the feminine graces that adorn the European beauties; but we would ask if it is natural? Ought not the ladies to have exhibited at least in their dress some affinity to the Indian customs? 'Tis true the dress of Mrs. Francis was characteristic, but if Mrs. Merry had left out the golden star that adorned her bosom, she might have acted Sophia in the "Road to Ruin," &c. &c. and the dress would have been more adapted for their representation than that of Cora.

The only apology we have to offer for the length of this criticism is; that the performance of so celebrated a play as *Columbus* ought to be entitled to some notice, and more particularly so, when at the same

we endeavor to express our approbation of the liberality and taste of the managers, together with the meritorious exertions of the performers in its representation.

OCCASIONAL PROLOGUE.

To the Play of *COLUMBUS*.

Spoken by Mr. Wignell at the New-Theatre.

To night our scenic fiction shall display
The earliest dawn of that eventful day,
When first the bold Columbus hither brought
The sparks of reason and the germ of thought.
True to his purpose, emulous to bless,
He form'd a chart of human happiness;
And in obedience to what heaven design'd,
Gave a new world in mercy to mankind.
Then Europe's worthiest sons in clans appear'd,
And shared the bounties of his land rever'd:
Rescued from pride, severity and strife,
At once a nation started into life;
Admiring nature triumph'd to behold
An infant Phoenix rising from the old.
Yet lingering evil still their peace destroy'd,
And every foil was but half enjoy'd,
For in those ages, superstition dire,
Shook her red torch with unrelenting ire,
Wielded her horrid axe, and at each blow,
Laid in the dust some struggling virtue low;
Till liberty, majestic angel I came,
To charm, to rouse, to soften, and reclaim;
She chas'd the dreadful demon from her sight,
And pour'd on all a vivifying light;
Raised her celestial standard high and swore
Here she would live, till time should be no more.
"The rigid law of unities—the bard,
"In this night's drama ventures to discard;
"If here he errs—he errs with him, whose name,
"Stands without rival in the roll of fame;
"Him—whom the passions own with one accord
"Their great dictator—and despotic lord!
"Who plac'd aloft on inspiration's throne
"Made fancy's magic kingdom—all his own,
"Burst from the trammels which his muse confin'd
"And pour'd the wealth of his exhaustless mind.
"I though Shakespeare's flight no mortal may pursue,
"Yet shall our theme, when patronized by you,
"To great Columbus' fame—his time be just,
"And his own world, yield laurels for his bust.
"The lines marked by inverted commas are from the original prologue, spoken in London.

ABSALOM.

The character of this young man, notwithstanding his affability, is as disagreeable to me as it was to Joab. I hate a disorganizer, if his person be ever so goodly, or his hair ever so long. But if Absalom had been a Frenchman and polled his luxuriant locks, it would not have saved him; there would have been his head left for a clip of the guillotine. After the flush of popularity is over, a Jacobin Jew and a Jacobin Marat suffer alike, and prove the madness of revolution. Absalom was a man of the people; and it may be easily imagined that the fifty men, who ran before him, were all good Patriots. (Eastern paper.)

From the FARMER'S WEEKLY MUSEUM.

"For the workman is worthy of his meat."

IF there be such a personage as Truth, this assertion certainly belongs to her family, for what can be more just, than that a vintager should eat some at least of those grapes, which he had planted and watered.

But, judging from the practice of the world, at the present time, one would think my text was grown obsolete and that its principle was unrecognized. In the shambles there is always meat enough, but how little is bestowed upon workmen? Parasites, buffoons, fiddlers, equestrians, French philosophers and speculators gormandize; but I see Merit, that excellent workman that needeth not to be ashamed, as lauk and as lean, as my old tabby cat, who has had nothing to eat but church mice for a year.

Though I am not saluted a brother, by any legitimate parson, and belong to no ministerial association on earth, yet I cherish great respect, and feel a cordial regard for the established clergy. I consider them, with few exceptions, as faithful workmen; they make us moral, they instruct our youth, they lead sober and peaceable lives.

"Along the cool, sequestered vale of life,
"They keep the noiseless tenor of their way."

They are wise, they are amiable men. I wish I could speak half so fervently in praise of another learned profession. But, though they are ignorant of foolish questions and "trivings about the law," they understand perfectly the great rules of life. Such men, therefore, are worthy of their meat, and should be liberally provided. They labour much, few men labour more; they are compelled to exercise not only the head, but the hands. The private farm as well as the gospel vineyard claims their care. When the drudgery of the year is done; when numerous sermons have been composed, and numerous sick chambers visited, when they have been in watchings and weariness often, what meat will the benevolence of a parish bestow? Verily a morsel. A beggarly pittance called a salary, and that pittance scantily and grudgingly paid.—When I visit a village covered with stores and shops, and cultivated by opulent farmers when I hear the inhabitants boast of their flourishing circumstances, and recount how many bushels of wheat they threshed last year, and how well it sold, if I should be informed that their parson's annual stipend is but sixty pounds, in despite of all their boasted riches and ostentation I should think them unworthy to enter a church.

If I should repair to any place, where men congregate and describe to them one, who, in an hour of jeopardy had quitted his hearth, travelled many wearisome miles, been exposed to sickly air, been shot at for hours, and frequently without a crust or a draught to supply the waste of nature: If I should add that all this peril was sustained that we at home might live in security, not one of my audience, provided speculators and blood-suckers were not of the number, would deny that the *old Soldier* was a worthy workman. But where is his meat? Oh, my good Sir, do not propose that question in a Republic; you know that a Republic is never bounteous. Belisarius *ask* for their obolus here, as well as at Rome. But here the business ends. They receive in Great Britain and elsewhere. You might as soon expect moderation in a Frenchman, or knowledge of the Belles Lettres in a country attorney, as that a commonwealth should be grateful.

The LAY PREACHER.

From a late English paper.

Mr. Burke, still retaining his hatred to the new order of things in France, has determined to publish immediately his letters on a *regicide peace*, which are now advertised.

As soon as the advertisement appeared of our modern Don Quixote's new pamphlet, an express was sent off to Dr. Willis. The answer was, that he does not undertake any case which holds out no prospect of a cure!

We are informed that the most noble duke of Northumberland, in all the new leases he now grants to his tenants on large farms, makes a reserve of the cottages, which he now lets to the industrious labourers, and to each of them adds sufficient ground for the support of a cow, and the growth of a necessary quantity of potatoes for the support of their families; thereby rendering the labourer independent of the opulent farmer, and affording them an opportunity of bringing the fruits of his labour to a fair market. It has been too much the custom of this country to include the cottages in the general lease of the farm, and thereby keep the industrious labourer perfectly independent on the farmer. We cannot help recommending to the consideration, and consequent imitation, of all great landholders, the illustrious example of that truly patriotic nobleman, of whose very liberal and philanthropic principles we are frequently supplied with new and abundant proofs.

The hydrophobia some time since appeared amongst the hounds of Colonel Rolleston near Rochester; one of them bit an ass, which almost immediately became mad, and after biting a very fine mare, dashed itself against a wall, by which it was destroyed. The infection communicated to the mare, was not less rapid in its progress; the animal became universally convulsed, bit at every thing, and after running furiously about, sprung into a river covered with sedge, where several persons, ignorant of the cause, ran to assist her, but from whence she got out without biting any of the people, and with a madness scarce conceivable, plunged into a pit, where she was dashed to pieces. Soon as the infection became visible amongst the hounds, Colonel Rolleston had them tied up separately, where those diseased refused food, and at first appeared wholly occupied in catching flies. In a few days the disorder carried off 22 of the dogs, when it was intimated that ribwort, or rib-grass, would prevent and cure the disease. A table spoonful of the juice was immediately administered to each dog and repeated mornings and evenings, besides a good deal chopped in their food; and though some of them appeared to be infected, five weeks had elapsed without the loss of a single dog, all of whom appear to be perfectly re-established.

WILMINGTON, (N. C.) Jan. 12.

On Friday last the Court for the trial of three of the crew of the French privateer *La Bellone*, for the murder of an American sailor, adjourned; the jury having on Thursday brought in their verdict—Not guilty.

Capt. Stephen Cornick, in the schooner *Mark Anthony*, arrived here on Friday last, in 8 days from New Providence, informs that while he lay there the British cruisers brought in from 12 to 14 valuable Spanish prizes, which were condemned and sold.

GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE LIST.

Philadelphia, February 3.

The ships *Samson*, and *Hare* from London, are hourly expected at New-York—they were to sail about 1st December.

The schr. Expedition from this port to Falmouth put into Martinique in distress, 21st December.—Ship *Fidelity*, of Baltimore from Hamburg, is also arrived at Martinique in distress.

The ship *Ganges* of Boston is captured and sent into Fort Royal, Martinique.—The Grand Turk of New-York is also taken and sent into St. Kitt's, Dec. 28th, both from the Isle of France. Capt. Crane arrived some days since, brings the above account.

A large ship and schooner were seen at Reedy Island, yesterday morning, coming up the bay.

Ten sail of inward bound vessels were at the island, among them the *Columbia*, *Mason*, from Amsterdam.

* The Eastern Mail is not arrived.

50 Dollars Reward.

LOST, last evening, between eight and nine o'clock, as the subscriber was going to his house at the Falls of Schuylkill, from the house of his father-in-law, Mr. Francis Stewart, in Sugar-alley, between Sixth and Seventh-streets, a black POCKET-BOOK,

Containing 1190 Dollars, in Bank-Notes From 5 to 100 Dollars each.

One of which was of the Branch-Bank of New-York, and several papers, such as receipts and orders.—The road the subscriber took, was the Falls road, crossing at the Upper Ferry.

Whoever finds the above Pocket-Book, and returns it to the subscriber at the Falls, or to his father-in-law, Mr. Stewart, living in Sugar Alley, shall be entitled to the above reward, paid by

JAMES HAFFY.

Feb. 3.

Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Company.

January 6, 1797.

At a meeting of the President and Managers, a dividend of five dollars per share, was declared for the last half year, which will be paid to the Stockholders, or their representatives any time after the 21st of this month.

TENCH FRANCIS, Treasurer.

Jan. 6.

1294W

THE SUBSCRIBER

WISHES to ascertain, whether a certain EDWARD NEVILL, by trade a Stone-Cutter, or Brick-Layer, who quitted Ireland in 1783, or 1784, and came into this Country, ('tis supposed to Philadelphia) about four years since, be living or dead. As this intelligence is of the highest importance, it will be thankfully received, by

GEO. DAVIS,

No. 312, High-street
w & f 121

December 31.