

By an arrival at Boston from Lisbon, we learn, that Admiral Jarvis failed for the Mediterranean, with considerable reinforcements, in the beginning of April.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. DENNIS, from Maryland, (a new member) in a speech of considerable length, opened the debate, against the amendment proposed by Mr. Nicholas to the reported answer to the President's speech: he was succeeded by Mr. Sewall, from Massachusetts, who spoke nearly two hours on the same side of the question. Mr. Findley followed in favor of the amendment: some additional observations were made by Mr. Otis, and some remarks upon them by Mr. Nicholas. No vote was taken. Adjourned to this day.

A SUPPLEMENT

To the Ordinance entitled an Ordinance providing for the appointment of a Collector of Tolls at the Ferry on Schuylkill, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

It is ordained and enacted by the Citizens of Philadelphia in 5th and Common Councils assembled; That from and after the passing of this Ordinance, the Collector of Tolls shall demand and receive for each Cart passing over the bridge on Schuylkill, at the West end of High-street, one sixteenth of a dollar and no more, and shall from time to time conform himself in collecting the rate of tolls agreeable to such orders and resolutions of the Select and Common Councils as they may from time to time adopt for the regulation of said bridge and ferry.

Enacted into an Ordinance at Philadelphia, 1. 3 c. the twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

SAMUEL HODGSON, President of the Common Council.

FRANCIS GURNEY, President of the Select Council.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The republicanism of our exclusive patriots has often been displayed in their denunciations of the proceedings of our government.—They profess to be friends to a representative government—to the rights of election—and on particular occasions cry up the infallibility of the majority, and represent it as a damnable political heresy to resist their decisions. But, not content with giving the lie to their professions by general abuse of the proceedings of government for years together, whenever they are defeated in a particular object, by either of the branches of the legislature, they are so incautious as immediately to show their cloven foot, and all their reverence for the majority of the democratical branch is converted into billingsgate.

Thus, "a majority of the House of Representatives were stigmatized as a rancorous faction merely because they" exercised their own judgment in the choice of a clerk.—Very few of the ideas suggested by this detestable faction were ever adopted by a majority of either branch of the government, and they may safely be challenged to point out a single article that has received the legislative sanction, which they have not repudiated. These reflections are founded on facts, and ought to be held in constant remembrance by the people; they irresistibly demonstrate the truth of an old couplet:—

The public good men oft pretend, Whilst private interest is their end.

The President of the United States is assailed by the harpies of faction on the subject of appointments; but here the friends of our country have nothing to fear, and its enemies nothing to hope. Appointments will be made with a supreme regard to the public good. Integrity and talents will be brought forward with independent firmness—for it would be a misfortune indeed if the public interests were to be sacrificed, because those who possess pre-eminent abilities to promote those interests, are allied to the President of the United States.

However great the independence and fortitude of mind requisite on the occasion—he, who has supported his country's honor and interest in the face of all Europe, will not be diverted from the steady support of the same objects, by the tools of dissension which he has successfully combated for so many years.

The good sense of the people saved the Constitution of the United States, and with it their liberties, when the treaty with Great-Britain was under consideration.

A party in the House of Representatives attempted at that time to melt down and reduce the government into a single branch.—What fort of freedom we should then have enjoyed, may be learned from the convention of Robespierre.

At the present moment there appears to be a similar design on foot—but it will not succeed. A second time the people have stepped forward—and by their elections a majority is formed in the House of Representatives which will have the Constitution. The assumption and exercise of all power by one branch is known to be the doctrine of those who, from the beginning, have opposed the Federal Government.

The Executive Directory of France have issued a proclamation respecting the primary assemblies for the elections. The rabble of the kingdom are here exhorted to be wife and temperate in their choice of rulers. Such admonitions to such pupils is like a precept to an oyster-wench to avoid swearing and bawdry.—ATHEISM, DEBACCHERY, FASHION, RESTLESSNESS, and the SOLDIER, are now the five kings of France. The nakedness of the Sansculotte compares with the name, and Madame Tallien, with her fillet profligates have instituted a revolutionary morality—near their porticoes as high as their knees—and have abolished thine as destructive of the proprieties of nature! In the Provinces, the ancient French gentlemen, and the disappointed peasant, are both inquiring, "Who will show us any Good in the new order of things?" Weary of requisitions, and of their blood-stained Rebels, they hum the tune of Liberty; and "The King shall have his own again", is believed and wished.

A Letter, purporting to be translated from the Paris Monitor, published in the production of Mr. JEFFERSON, and signed with his name, contains such an imprudent avowal of seditions, and even treasonable designs, that we cannot suspect that the second officer in our government its author. The probability is, that it is a French fabrication, calculated to sow jealousy, and rouse the fierce hatred of parties.

Farmer's Weekly Museum.

The doctrine advanced by the President in his speech, will be found, on examination, to be the

profusion of political orthodoxy;—but they will not suit the prejudices of opinions, and mistaken prejudices of a particular class, who are resolved at all hazards to oppose whatever is said or done by chosen power. There is a ridiculous and base idea harbored by some persons in this country who have either brought it from Europe, or adopted it from such as are come from thence, that a systematic opposition to the measures of government, is meritorious, and stamps their character with the mark of Patriotism. The extreme ignorance of some of these people, and the malignity of others, have so blinded and benighted their intellects as to disable them from seeing that a conduct so perverse must render them objects of contempt instead of patterns of imitation. Can it be supposed that Americans, who have struggled for independence, and who, after the experience of a feeble government, have deliberately given themselves a better and a stronger, should, the moment it is established, endeavor to subvert it? No—Those who are chargeable with such views are not Americans, either in principle or practice.—They are Foreigners, the partisans of other nations who seek to ruin us: to divide and weaken is the direct way to destroy.—It is a maxim as old as the past historical records—it is the dictate of wickedness and intrigue combined with some degree of apprehension for the people against whom it is played off.—The Romans used it successfully.—By their continual exertions to divide the people from their government, both fell an easy prey, and the Roman Eagle soared triumphantly over every land to which his flight was directed.—Our strength consists in Union.—That object should therefore be sedulously cultivated; and whoever tries to sow dissension and discord when it is so obvious that Union alone is the anchor of Hope, deserves, and should receive the execration of Americans. The President says:— "While other States are debilitated with foreign wars, or convulsed with intestine divisions, the United States present the pleasing prospect of a nation governed by mild and equal laws; generally satisfied with the possession of their rights; neither envying the advantages nor fearing the power of other nations; solicitous only for the maintenance of order and justice, and the preservation of liberty." The introduction of the term generally in this paragraph was judicious; for although very few native Americans are dissatisfied with the administration of government, yet there are some among us who are so.—What they want in numbers, is made up by clamor and impudence—and what they want of the means to fulfill, is probably supplied from the conquered countries in Europe.—It is next to impossible that men born here, or who from choice, adopt this country for their home—who have every thing to lose, and nothing to gain in times of trouble, should labor, without the prospect or the hope of recompense, to render it miserable. Much has been said and infamously against the virtue of Washington, Hamilton, and other uncorrupted patriots, by the partisans of foreign influence and domination; but, as they stand too firm on the broad ground of integrity to be affected by the efforts of a declining faction, their fame will forever remain unsullied; while their calumniators sink into oblivion; or if by some miracle, these are known in future times, it will only be to receive the blessings due to the Catalines of America.

New-York Daily Gazette.

From the FARMER'S WEEKLY MUSEUM.

"They went Sampson to Gaza, and saw there an harlot."

STRONG as he was, such a journey debilitated him. It was not the length of the way from Timnah; it was not the rugged road, nor the irksomeness of a hard trotting mule; it was not a stroke of the sun, nor a bleak air that hook the nerves, and protracted the life of Sampson; for not one of these circumstances is ever glanced at by the historian; no, he saw, in one of the stews of Gaza, a venal beauty and was undone. His wit evaporated, his wisdom turned babbler, he lost his vigilance, his eyes, and his life. One licentious indulgence excites to another. The blandishments of this courtizan allured to the cells of the whole sisterhood. He lays his head in the lap of voluptuousness, and gives full scope to criminal desire. For it came to pass afterwards, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, who named was Delilah.

Let us ponder a little the history of these unlucky amours. A sketch of the wars and vicissitudes of passion is of more interest than the narrative of a battle or siege, or the annals of an empire.

To display a striking, as well as useful contrast, it may be correct to view Sampson, before he entered the gates of Gaza, and after his acquaintance with two bad women. His first was by no means a love adventure. It was in the style of chivalry without a damsel. Lurking in the vines of rude territory, a lion roared against our juvenile hero, who, as it is in a lively manner expressed, rent his ferocious adversary, as he would have rent a kid. A bold encounter, but not half so dangerous as the smiles of the lady in the valley of Sorek. Mere brute force, however, was not the sole attribute of Sampson. For seven days he tortures the ingenuity of thirty friends to resolve an enigma. He had the palm of wit and the chaplets of victory; by his art he destroys the property, and by his arm the life of his enemies. Not only the family of his father, Manoah, but the whole circumambient region must have rung with the praises of this youth of promise; and even indifferent men, and abstract reasoners would alerly from such imposing premises draw the happiest conclusion.

But behold how, in one hour, so great riches come to nought. 'Tis so far, what a tiff of brilliant achievements do we admire! The next scene is madly mortifying. In the very summer of the ensuing page of his story what are the humiliating particulars of his downfall? Sampson, the valiant, the witty, and the wife, is the dupe of female jugglers; is enticed; is overcome. In the arms of a "twining Lais" of the Philistines, his supernatural strength melts away. He awakes out of his lethargy of pleasure, and hopes to go out, as at other times, rejoicing in his might. But the energy of the soul is no more. He, whom once nothing could restrain, is bound. He grinds in the prison house, and, dwindled into a buffoon, is invested with his motley to amuse the rabble.

In the life of this extraordinary personage it is a matter of regretful speculation that the field of honor should be changed for the valley of Sorek. Hence an abundant crop of evil. It was not the Philistines, it was impure passion that extinguished the discernment of Sampson. He never saw any object clearly, after he went to Gaza, and saw an harlot. It is true, he saw Delilah, but, probably, through the obscurity of nocturnal hours. Of her arts, of her perils, he surely had but an imperfect vision. Heed-

led by pleasure, he could not see the seven locks of his head, scattered on the toilet of a woman. The fellows of a gypsey proved sharper than the sword of enemies; and the flowing hair of the hero, once covered with laurel, is now tortured into metrecrick rings, or periwigs some pimp in Delilah's antichamber.

Genius, said the amiable clergyman, with whom I studied divinity, is invariably connected with strong passions. When men, exquisitely organized, indulge pleasure, it is with that species of fervour, noted in the oriental page—it is with all their hearts, and with all their soul, and with all their strength, and with all their mind. The insensible longer, the self engrossed coxcomb, may sleep upon the knees of Delilah, and wake again to puny life. But of that opiate of joy, of that golden cup of abomination, which the harlot presents, if you sip, man, of feeling, you will "drain the chalice to the lowest and foulest dregs." Keep the high and safe ground;—beware of sliding down the slope of pleasure. It conducts you to some vale of Sorek, beneath whose roses are the serpent and the dagger. Go up to Paradise and see the muse.—An excursion to Gaza to see a mortal beauty, is not half so exhilarating.

THE LAY PREACHER.

From the COLUMBIAN CENTINEL.

FRENCH INFLUENCE—No. V.

MR. RUSSELL,

THERE has been a period, when Gallic influence and Gallic principles were at the summit of their glory in this country; a period, when the voice of the genius of America was scarcely heard, and when the suggestions of true patriotism, and national dignity were either not listened to, or despised. At that awful crisis, the scales of empire were suspended, and to the eye of philoprophe prophacy; it was not even problematical, it was highly probable, that America would be reduced into the scale of France, and become the humble supplicant, the willing slave of the despots who rule that nation with an iron rod. That period so interesting to the fortunes of America, and which posterity will look back to with horror, was during the mad career of the feditious, inflammatory Genet. In vain would Genet have continued to dispense with a liberal and judicious hand, the Louis d'ore and the crowns of France, (unless his resources had been as exhaustless as the mines of Peru) in vain would he have secured by caresses and flattery, the vain and the ambitious of our nation; in vain would he have dispersed his inflammatory and feditious writings through the medium of vernal and prostituted presses, the great body of the yeomanry like a firm phalanx, would have stood in battle array, ready to meet, and determined to check the progress of any daring invaders of our internal or external repose.—Genet, eagle eyed to discover the barriers which opposed his success, and resolved to accomplish his object, even if the road to it led to civil war, and insurrection, introduced into the peaceful city of Philadelphia, his bittero famed for its order, that bane of all regular government, a jacobin club.

In what manner the first promoters of this pious, constitutional and patriotic society, were induced to encourage, to foster, and to support it; whether by gold, or purchase of flour, will probably remain a secret. We cannot extend to them, the censure which we would exercise towards their less informed followers, that they were not aware of the wrongs and injuries they were committing upon their country.

Though Mr. Swanwick, Mr. Ctenagain, Bache, and a long list of miserable tools may plead that they were duped, yet this excuse will not preserve the memory of the scientific Ritenhouse, the amiable Hutchinson, and the learned Sergeant, from merited contempt.

As to Mr. secretary Dallas, I presume he wishes for no apology, he glories in the honor of having been foremost in the cause of insurrection, and ardently wishes for another opportunity of exercising his talents. The establishment of the parent club at Philadelphia paved the way for the creation of them in other populous towns in the United States. Charleston, Baltimore, Pittsburg, New-York, Bennington, Boston, Portland and Portland, soon followed the patriotic example.

Four or five leading characters in each place, men of characters and principles well adapted for the cause of sedition, were all of whom Mr. Genet had occasion to secure, and barren indeed must be that soil which will not yield a few Arnolds, a few Dallases, and a few Livingstons. The society once established, no great pains are necessary to create members or to excite them to violent measures. Novelty, fondness for change, vanity, discontent, ambition all operate as powerful recruiting-officers, to fill up the ranks of afflicting clubs. "To day, I am nothing, I am only one of the people; to-morrow I shall be something, I shall be a member of a club, a club too to govern, watch, and control my servants, the public agents," is very natural, very powerful, and we have seen, in this country, irresistible language.

The avowed objects of these associations were to promote the circulation of useful information, to guard the cause of liberty which was endangered by the European combination, and to watch the conduct of our own administration, in which they pretended to have observed certain departures, from the spirit of the constitution, and around which they esteemed it the duty of all "good citizens to rally." The real objects of these clubs, were, to accustom our citizens to the new-fangled doctrines of the French jacobins; to familiarize them to the jargon of unmeaning words uttered with holy zeal, and the disorganizing principles of the republicans of France; to call up all the old resentments against Great Britain, and stimulate us to take an active part in the war with France.

They accordingly published their constitutions and regulations, written in a cool, crafty and artful style, calculated to entrap the unwary and honest citizen. But soon after they were organized, they threw off the mask and came forth as the bold champions of French principles, and of open insurrection. They published their votes and anathemas, as dogmatical and as ridiculous as papal bulls, against every important measure of the federal government. They reproached in explicit terms, acts of congress which had been solemnly past, and had been in operation for years. The funding system, the revenue laws, the excise acts, the President's proclamation for neutrality, the appointment of Mr. Jay by the President and Senate, all met with severe and unwarrantable censure. The people were excited to interest themselves against these measures, and to execrate the men who had promoted them.—In short from one degree of violence, they proceeded to another, until they received, what to every ingenious mind would be the severest punishment, the open and avowed reprimand of the candid, prudent, enlightened, good and immoral WASHINGTON. In any other country, the leaders would have received the punishment of traitors. The event will be hereafter detailed. LEONIDAS.

PETERSBURG, May 19. At a meeting of major Harwell's battalion of militia, at Delany's ordinary, and of major Taylor's battalion at Gregory's mill, in the county of Mecklenburg, on Saturday the 6th of May, 1799, the following declaration was proposed, deliberated on, and agreed unanimously to.

To THOMAS CLAIRBORNE, Esq. Representative for the District of Brunswick, &c.

SIR, WE, the officers and soldiers and other freeholders residing within the limits of major Harwell's and major Taylor's battalions, deeply impressed with the importance of the existing crisis—conceiving that it would be agreeable to you, their representative, to be armed with their opinions on the interesting occasion, and not from any want of confidence in your fidelity to us, or attachment to our common country; take the liberty to declare, that the convening of Congress at this unusual time, has a tendency to increase in our minds that solicitude which the unprovoked depredations committed by the republic of France on our commerce, and the disposition manifested by them to complain of the American government had before excited. We consider it as pertaining an interruption to that tranquility which the justice and wisdom of the American councils seemed calculated to perpetuate, and indicative of war with that nation, which it hath been among our chief glories to consider our ally; not upon the fordid principles which too commonly unite nations, but upon those alike honorable and beneficial to both republics, having for their object no less than the happiness of the human race. A continuation of these sentiments, it is fill our anxious wish to maintain and preserve, and when we reflect upon the avowed principles of the French nation, we cannot entirely abandon the pleasing thought of a return of that confidence and harmony which may have been interrupted by the machinations of some, who under the specious garb of excessive zeal, are alike inimical to both.

To attain this most desirable end, our love of peace, of country, and of mankind, dictates a wish that every just expedient should be resorted to, for removing every prejudice, real or imaginary, which may have obtained.—This, we conceive, would be the best effected by an envoy extraordinary, who could not upon this occasion use language more expressive of our wishes to cultivate friendship with that republic, than the fact will justify.

Here, Sir, let us pause before we come to the dread alternative—the thought of which we would wish to obliterate, if self government and property were not deposits too precious and too sacred to be rudely approached by any nation, even the most favored.

Under these impressions you will readily perceive, that if France can possibly have abandoned her pledged faith, and so often avowed affections, and insidiously calculates upon our generous partiality, as the means of tolerating any intermeddling with our privileges, property, or engagements with other nations, we cannot hesitate to declare, that we are decidedly and unalterably determined to support, to the utmost of our ability, all the constitutional measures of the American government, to redress its wrongs, and defend its rights, against the encroachments of every nation on earth; as it is the one of our choice, and is endeared to us by the blessings it has hitherto afforded.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Tuesday, May 23.

In a committee of the whole, Mr. Dent in the chair, on the answer reported to the President's Speech, Mr. Nicholas's proposition being under consideration.

Mr. Rutledge said, when the report of the committee should be before them, he should have some remarks to make upon it; but at present he should offer only a few observations upon the proposed amendment.

He said he had several strong objections to the amendment; but one so strong that he need not urge any other; it was, that in agreeing to it they should dictate to the Executive, which he believed would be infringing upon the Executive Power. As it was his peculiar duty to give instructions to Ministers, it would be improper in them to say what should be the instructions given to a minister; but if it were not so, he should not vote for those of the gentleman from Virginia.

In the instructions of a minister, it was usual to compile a variety of propositions. Certain things were first to be proposed; if these could not be obtained, he was instructed to come forward with something else, and if this could not be got, he went on to his ultimatum. But, if the proposition of the gentleman from Virginia, were obtained, his instructions would be publicly known. In vain would it be for him to offer this or that, they will say the House of Representatives has directed you what to do, and we will not agree to any thing else. This would be contrary to all diplomatic proceedings; for that reason, he should be opposed to the house saying what should be his instructions. Indeed if it were usual, he should be against it in this instance, as he believed it would encourage an extravagant demand. What, said he, have they said to our minister (or rather to the person who was formerly our minister, but who they had no power?) They told him to go away, they had nothing to say to him, they would receive no more ministers from the United States until their grievances were redressed. This country is charged with countenancing an inequality of treaties. The French have said, redress our grievances in a certain way. But, said Mr. Rutledge, if we do this, we shall put ourselves under the dominion of a foreign power, and shall have to ask a foreign country, what we shall do. This was a situation into which we must not fall without a struggle.

Though he were upon the committee, he had contributed very little to the composition of the answer reported. He thought it, however, a proper address; but he was willing that it might undergo any modification which should not alter the substance of it.

Mr. Sitgreaves said, though he had wished to have taken a little more time before he had troubled the committee with his observations; yet as there now appeared an interval, he should take the opportunity of occupying it, for a few minutes.

He should not answer the observations of the gentleman from Georgia, with respect to the style of the answer reported; but he believed that those gentlemen who would look at it without a perverted vision, would not discover the faults in it which that gentleman had discovered.—He thought it rather

remarkable for the simplicity of its style, than for a redundancy of epithet. He discovered more of the latter in the amendment than in the original report. There are, indeed, superlatives in both; but they are attached to opposite sentiments, and in the original report they are used where they ought to be. He would not, however, detain the committee with matter so immaterial, but would proceed to what appeared to him of some consequence.

A stranger who had come into the house during this debate, and heard what had fallen from the mover of the proposed amendment, and from members who had followed him, would have supposed that, instead of an act of ordinary intercourse being under discussion, they had been debating the question of a Declaration of War against France.

He would declare, for himself at least, on the subject of war, that he agreed in certain of the sentiments of gentlemen on the other side of the house. A state of war was certainly a curse to any nation—to America it would be peculiarly a curse. It ought to be avoided by all possible means. It was not only impolitic, but mad, to rush wantonly into a war. But he thought there were two sides of the subject. He thought that peace was not the greatest of all possible blessings; he thought that peace might be purchased too dear, and war avoided at too great an expence. He thought that peace might cost what is of greater value than money—our Independence.

This was no new sentiment in this country. It was thought that peace might be bought too dearly in the revolutionary war; they then thought it better to be at war than to submit to the alternative evils. France also shews that she prefers a state of war—a war carried on at an unexampled expence of blood and treasure—to a state of peace with despotism. He thought therefore that we should adopt language of a firm and manly tone. To prefer peace by all honourable means, but not by dishonourable means. As he observed last session, on a similar occasion, we should cultivate peace with zeal and sincerity; but whenever our intention for doing so was publicly expressed, it ought to be accompanied with an opposite assertion, of a determination, if our endeavours to maintain peace fail, that then every resource of the nation shall be called into existence in support of all that is dear to us. Such a declaration, at this time, was extremely proper. At present, he said, all the observations which had been made relative to war, were very premature. They might be brought into consideration, when any measure should be discussed which might lead to a war with France. Then would be the time to count the cost and calculate the benefit. At present, he conceived, our only object was, to enquire what were the feelings which the conduct of France had created in our minds, and whether we were prepared to express those feelings.

Should we, said he, from a fear of irritating the French Republic, in a communication with our own executive, suppress our feelings, or what is worse, suppress the truth? For his own part, he saw nothing in the present business, but an expression of feelings naturally excited by the occasion; nothing but a declaration of facts. This being the case, the question was, whether, from fear of irritating the French Government, they should suppress these feelings and these facts.

It would be well to consider what would be the consequence of this concession.—He did not think they were warranted in believing that they should put France in a better honour with us by this means. He was sure that gentlemen who were in the last Congress would recollect that the answer to the address was reported in very mild terms, from a spirit of accommodation in the committee who formed it, and that it was afterwards pruned in the house with care, yet there had been no amelioration of the disposition of the French towards this country. Instead of inducing them to behave better to us, had it not been with a knowledge of this that they have offered us fresh insult and indignity?—Indeed, Mr. Pinckney suggests an idea that this moderation of ours may have been one of the operating causes of sending our minister from their country.

Besides, gentlemen have not pointed out the particular expressions which they consider as irritating in the report. For his own part he thought the amendment might be considered as more irritating than the draft of the committee. What was the language of the amendment? [He read it.] He gave it as his opinion, that there was more of war and bullying in it than in the original report. It was true the threat it contained was accompanied by an if. Now all the difference between the draft and the amendment was, that in the former, instead of using the if, they had at once expellid indignation at the insults offered to this country by the French republic, and given assurances to the Executive that they would repel indignity with indignation.

But if this subject was to be considered, he would turn to a part of the gentleman's proposition, not indeed immediately before them, but which he had declared his intention to bring forward, where he says, "we will repel all unjust demands upon the United States by foreign countries; that we will ever consider the humiliation of the government as the greatest personal disgrace." He was willing to act upon the gentleman's own principles. If we think there have been any unjust demands upon the United States by foreign nations, it is then our duty to repel them. The question was therefore narrowed, and they had only to say, whether the demands made by the French government were just or unjust.

The gentleman from Virginia thought also proper to tell the committee, that majorities had pushed the House too far, and had expected minorities to sacrifice their opinions. The gentleman was very tenacious of his own opinion, and he trusted he would suffer others to be equally so of theirs. If that gentleman, said Mr. S. thinks the demands of France are not unjust, I think they are. They had been declared to be unjust in the most solemn manner, by former Congresses, and on some