

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 14.

LETTER from Mr. PICKERING, Secretary of State, to the Chevalier DE TRUFO, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of his Catholic Majesty to the United States of America.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Philadelphia, August 8th, 1797. In the 9th paragraph of your letter, you say that "after having discussed the history of these transactions, with all the force and accuracy which result from these observations, I assure, with a very ill-grounded confidence, that upon a view of the whole it appears, that his majesty's governors on the Mississippi have on various pretences, postponed the running of the boundary line and the evacuation of the posts."

Governor Gayoso being informed of Mr. Ellicott's descending the Mississippi, wrote to him on the 27th of February, desiring him to leave his escort at Bayou Pierre, 60 miles above the Natchez. Yet the treaty prescribed a military escort on each side to attend the commissioners in running the boundary line; and the Natchez as the place of their first meeting.

On the 9th of March governor Gayoso informed Mr. Ellicott that the baron de Carondelet could not attend the running of the line in person, and that the whole business had devolved on him, the governor; but he feared he should not be ready on the 19th. And then he endeavored to draw Mr. Ellicott from his proper station at the Natchez, by proposing a visit to the baron at New-Orleans.

March 12th, the governor again endeavored to draw Mr. Ellicott from the Natchez, and recommended Loftus' Cliffs near Clarksville as the point of re-uniting; and by way of inducement, said that the Geometer and other officers to be employed on the boundary line would stop at Clarksville.

On the 15th of March, the principal part of the artillery was taken out of the fort, and every appearance made of a speedy evacuation: but on the 22d they were carried back to the fort and immediately remounted. A similar movement took place at the latter end of April, after the arrival of lieutenant Pope and his troops at the Natchez. "The evacuation (says he) appeared to be going on with great life; when all at once the military stores were ordered back, their troops busily engaged all night taking back and remounting the cannon."

March 23d, the governor mentions that orders had been given by the general in chief of the province, to demolish the post at the Walnut Hills—because their treaty with the Indians required it: but as he (Gayoso) had since been informed of their unsettled dispositions, he had sent counter-orders, to prevent the fortifications being injured; suggesting at the same time that the moving of the stores, &c. was suspended only until the arrival of the American troops to take possession of the post.

In this letter the governor informs Mr. Ellicott that lieutenant colonel Guillemerd was far on his way up; and, on his arrival, the running of the boundary line should begin. The governor adds this assurance "that there is nothing that can prevent the religious compliance with the treaty."

On the 28th and 29th of March, governor Gayoso issued two proclamations, both bearing date the 29th, taking new ground for retaining the posts, viz. Until the right of the inhabitants to the real property is ascertained. The governor is pleased to say that a negotiation was then carrying on between the king of Spain and the United States, to secure to the inhabitants of the Natchez the right to their real property: that that right could not be secured but by an additional article to the late treaty; and that he should keep possession of the country until that article should be officially communicated to him; and until they were sure that the Indians would be pacific.

I believe there can be no difficulty in deciding whether this is a reason or a pretence. Besides, the negotiation mentioned by the governor about the real property of the inhabitants, has never existed; nor even been proposed or hinted, either to or by the government of the United States. I hope, therefore, it will not be deemed harsh, or unbecoming in a letter of this kind, to say, that this motive for suspending the evacuation of the posts—that a negotiation was then on foot to secure the real property of the inhabitants—does not merit the title even of a pretence.

So soon as the governor discovered that his proclamations, instead of quieting the minds of the inhabitants, produced a contrary effect, he sent two gentlemen of the settlement to inform Mr. Ellicott that he, the governor, had received directions from the Baron de Carondelet to have the artillery and military stores expeditiously removed from the forts, which were to be given up to the troops of the United States immediately on their arrival. As this information did not remove suspicions, Mr. Ellicott wrote the governor on the 31st of March, stating divers circumstances which still kept those suspicions alive. The governor answered on the same day in direct contradiction to the information given by the gentlemen, his agents, to Mr. Ellicott, and confirming the declarations made in his proclamations. He added also a new motive for retaining the posts, viz. That the treaty left it doubtful whether, when the posts should be evacuated, the works were to be left standing, or to be demolished; concerning which the governor general found himself obliged to consult his Catholic Majesty; and had given the governor positive orders to suspend the evacuations of the posts until the matter should be amicably settled between the two governments.

On the 1st of May, another motive is assigned for retaining the posts—The envoy of his Catholic Majesty in the United States, had informed the governor general of an attack proposed against the Spanish part of Illinois (the upper part of Louisiana) by the British from Canada, and, therefore, the posts at the Walnut Hills and the Natchez must be kept for the defence of lower Louisiana.

This last motive is also offered as a reason why the running of the boundary line is postponed; as all their attention was drawn towards the defence of the province, against an invasion which, as I have already shown, was never contemplated.

To all these facts, I have to add the declaration of General Wilkinson, in his letter of June 2d, to the Secretary of War—"I have (says he) information through a confidential channel, that it was determined as early as September last, not to give up the posts on the Mississippi." If this information be correct, no other proof is necessary to show that all the reasons from time to time suggested for not evacuating the posts were mere pretences.

I have here brought into one view the most material facts relating to the question between us, which are scattered throughout the reports made by me to the President of the United States on the 10th of June and 3d July, and by the Secretary of War on the 30th of June, and the documents accompanying them, as they have been published. And from this brief recital it evidently appears, as I have said in my report, "That the Governors of his Catholic Majesty, on the Mississippi, have, on various pretences, postponed the running of the boundary line, and the withdrawing of his troops from the posts they occupied within the territory of the United States: And that after repeated overtures, promises, and appearances of commencing the execution of the treaty between the two nations, in both these respects, their conduct demonstrates, that for an indefinite period they meant to avoid doing either."

You controvert this conclusion only on one ground—You say that the treaty stipulated merely that the Spanish garrisons should be withdrawn, not that fortifications which might one day be prejudicial to the King's subjects, should be demolished: and hence you infer that the necessity urged by the two governments of delaying to withdraw the garrisons until this question is decided between the two Governments, is not a pretence, but a substantial reason. Here I must observe that the governors had already demolished the post at the Chickasaw Bluff: And it appears in the foregoing recital that they were going to demolish the post at the Walnut Hills: and the reason assigned is that the treaties with the Indians required the demolition; and governor Gayoso affirms but one motive for suspending that operation—that he had been informed of the unsettled disposition of the Indians; yet afterwards this reason (that their treaties with the Indians required the demolition of the posts) is forgotten, and their destruction, or their delivery with all the fortifications and other works standing, is by the governors made to depend entirely on the issue of a negotiation between the governments of Spain and the United States! Can any farther proof be wanting to justify me in calling this a pretence? But you seem to rely on this your construction of the treaty relative to the posts: You have urged it in your letter to me of the 24th of June; and therefore I will consider it.

The 2d article of the Treaty having described the boundaries between the territories of the United States and Spain, thus proceeds—"And it is agreed that if there should be any troops, garrisons or settlements of either party, in the territory of the other, according to the above mentioned boundaries, they shall be withdrawn from the said territories within the term of six months after the ratification of this treaty, or sooner if it be possible: and that they shall be permitted to take with them all the goods and effects which they possess." But to justify your retention of the posts, you say that the demarcation of the boundary line should precede the withdrawing of the

garrisons: Yet you suppose it probable and his Catholic Majesty's governors well know, that the Chickasaw Bluff—the Walnut hills—and the Natchez are within the territory of the United States.

Governor Gayoso speaks of the boundary line as being near Clarksville, a place many miles below the Natchez; and he also knew the result of Mr. Ellicott's astronomical observations on the spot, which ascertained the Natchez to be about thirty nine miles north of the fourth boundary of the United States.

There being then not a shadow of doubt with respect to the position of these posts—that they are all within the territory of the United States, there was no necessity previously to run and mark the boundary line: which besides, if set about in good earnest, it would take at least a year to accomplish, through a wilderness of many hundred miles in extent; and therefore it never could have been contemplated as necessary to precede the evacuation of the posts, which was to be effected in six months, or sooner if possible. Yet fifteen months have elapsed, and you still keep possession.

But you suggest that it is at least doubtful whether by the treaty it was intended to leave the fortifications standing, when the garrisons should be withdrawn: You say "It is not to be presumed that it could ever have been the intention of his catholic majesty to deliver up fortifications, which, besides that they have cost him considerable sums of money, may, by the effect of political vicissitudes, be one day prejudicial to his subjects." I feel much reluctance to attempt the refutation of a construction so obviously erroneous. It is probably the first time that to "withdraw" or "reire" from a place has been imagined to intend its destruction. If at the formation of the treaty the demolition of the posts had been intended, it would assuredly have been expressed. But doubtless the idea never occurred, until it was found convenient to make it a pretence for holding the posts. The phrases "to withdraw a garrison," "to evacuate a post or country," have as determinate a meaning as any in the English language; and their meaning is ascertained by frequent use in treaties; and to destroy a country or a fortified place, from which it was stipulated to "withdraw" an army or a garrison, would be such an act of barbarism as ought never to take place among civilized nations. One of the latest treaties made by the United States (that with Great Britain) has the same phrase—"His majesty will withdraw all his troops and garrisons from all posts and places within the boundary lines assigned by the treaty of peace to the United States. This evacuation shall take place on or before the first day of June, 1796." And these expressions are used in the same treaty as equivalent to "the delivery of the said posts." The British treaty was in this manner accordingly carried into effect—the British troops were withdrawn, and the works left standing. The British officers were even careful not to expose the works to accidental destruction: for as the American troops did not reach the posts by the first of June, small British guards were left to preserve the works from injury until the American troops arrived.

By the treaty concluded at Versailles the 3d of September, 1783, between Great Britain and Spain, it was agreed, "That the king of Great Britain should cause East Florida to be evacuated three months after the ratification of that treaty, or sooner, if it could be done." The evacuation took place, but no demolition of fortifications.

In the preliminary articles of peace between England, France and Spain, signed the 3d of November, 1762, it was stipulated "That as soon as possible after the ratification of these preliminaries, France should evacuate Cleves, Wesel, and Guel-ders, and generally all the countries belonging to the king of Prussia: Were those places demolished, or the country laid waste, when the troops withdrew? Or were there any subsequent negotiations to remove any doubts on the subject?"

But I have dwelt too long on a point that really required no elucidation. (To be continued.)

A POLITICAL REFLECTION.

Every country has certain peculiar advantages, which, like remarkable features, distinguish it from others. In the earlier states of society, these were entirely natural or local, as the fitness of the soil for particular productions, or the convenience of situation for certain pursuits: afterwards fabulous advantages were added, the result of accident or application; commerce, manufactures, modes of government, and various other effects of human exertion or providential disposal, contributed to diversify national character nearly in the same proportion with the complexions and manners of the human race.

From an early acquired habit of contemplating with pleasure those objects in which his own country is superior to others, the native imbibes the amor patrie, the spirit of patriotism, which attaches him so strongly to his native soil that something extraordinary must occur to induce him to leave it without reluctance, and something still more extraordinary if he can entirely withdraw his affections from it.

"Nor cast one longing, lingering look behind." It is this which induces a man to hazard his all for that country which early pleasures and long habit have endeared to him.

To discover these advantages, and properly to estimate and apply them, is the noblest pursuit of the politician: and with us it is unnecessary to dispute whether such and such facts or opinions are British or French, Chinese or Tartarian; but whether they may be made useful to America?

The characteristic advantages of America are, its wide distance from Europe, its independence so remarkably acquired, and its early political experience. Divided by the width of the Atlantic from the rest of the civilized world, we have little to fear from their open force or secret intrigues, if

we take care not to betray ourselves. So much trouble and expense would attend an European invasion, so little hope would there be of success by force, and so much time would be necessary for carrying on a system of intrigue, that America can be ruined by such means but with her own consent.

The history of our revolution, and the canes which produced it, and the glory which crowned it, are a source of exultation to the American, and have received the admiration of the old world, who estimated our character by our successful exertions at that important period.

As a nation, we have the unparalleled advantage of beginning with a fund of knowledge, which others have purchased at the expense of centuries of blood and troubles. We have the experience of age without its infirmities—we have the freshness of youth without its inexperience.

In these respects we may justly prefer our country to the rest of the world: there are the circumstances which justify the patriotism of America.

To the EDITOR of the VIRGINIA ARGUS. Richmond, October 4, 1797.

SIR, The useful and interesting matter which your paper is always filled, makes it improper, perhaps, to expect or ask of you, the re-publication of any essays which may have appeared in other papers of your own state, much less those of your own city. Yet, the anxiety which I have heard a number of your subscribers, who do not take The Virginia Gazette and General Advertiser express, to see the papers published in that Gazette under the signature which I now write, induces me to acquit myself of the charge of partiality for the subscribers or friends to any particular newspaper, by publishing in yours, some of the leading features of the NINE numbers of the Development of the causes of the disturbances between the American and French Republics.

This I am impelled the more strongly to, by another consideration in addition to the one already stated. Besides the equal attention I wish to shew to your subscribers at large, with those of every other paper in America, there is one person in particular, whose name has been frequently mentioned in those papers, and who, I am credibly informed, declared (tho' with a blush, I am told, of modest innocence, I presume, on his cheek) to a citizen of his own county, after the publication of the 7th No. that "he had never seen one of those publications;" who, if there was no other entitled to be gratified, certainly of himself is. That person alluded to, may no longer be without a fight of what I have already said and tho't of him (as he is the last of all men I would conceal those sentiments and opinions from) I shall therefore now draw up a summary of the principal things I have there said of him, with the addition of a few more which yet remain to be touched upon, and which in my opinion, it behoves that person to explain: And this I shall do, for the most part, by the way of interrogation, as that appears to be the favorite way of arriving at truth, with some of that person's advocates and friends.

By the ingenious invention of the Aurora, which may justly be styled the enemies of Jacobinism put to the rack, we are taught to propound a few useful queries on the other side; a few candid answers to which will very much aid the quest and Editor of that useful paper in arriving at truth on the subject of his enquiries. By as ready and as satisfactory answers being made, as were afforded on that occasion, it may be seen, who, and what party, are best prepared to pass the fiery ordeal of such a torturous examination as has been there set on foot.

In the first place then, Mr. Pleasants, to pursue and be consistent with my original plan, who, give me leave to ask, was our ambassador in France, when their revolution broke out, and our general government was sacred?

2d Q. Did not that ambassador write to America, while our government was under consideration for adoption or rejection, recommending certain things to be done which were not done, or paid any very great attention to?

3d Q. Had that neglect and the presumption of the people of America to form a government for themselves, in his absence, and in contempt of his advice, any, and what effect, on his secret opinions and dispositions towards that government?

4th Q. How did it happen that an attachment to the cause of France (of which that character was well known to be a warm admirer) became connected with, and understood to be inseparable from, an enmity to our government; and that the person who had been the chief cause of the adoption of the government, and was well known to be under the influence of the ambassador, became immediately on his return to America, so strangely changed, as to become among the foremost in those bitter principles of a friendship for the cause of France and enmity to the American government?

5th Q. Who was it that recommended the writings of Mr. Paine here as the "standard of Common Sense," and whether was the same person then acquainted with Mr. Paine's whole system, or if he was not, when he became acquainted with it, whether did he with the influence of that recommendation, to extend to the whole of his wife's writings?

6th Q. Who were the two influential characters who introduced Mr. France into the department of state and set him up as a patriot; who introduced his subscription papers into Albemarle, Orange, &c. recommended him as the republican priest, and acted as agents even between him and his subscribers in that quarter; and why all this industry, trouble and pains, and what the object and complexion of that party?

7th Q. Why were the professions of Albemarle on the subject of the proclamation of neutrality (formed and warmly advocated by young gentlemen immediately from under the private roof and influence of the secretary of state) so materially different from the communications from the public office of state upon the same subject?

8th Q. Why were the sentiments of those of the same complexion and immediately under the same influence, always and uniformly warm, bitter and loud against principles, men and measures, which the party holding that influence over them pretended to view in a very different light?

9th Q. Why was the same inconsistency of sentiment which this prevailed between this man of influence and his admirers, even maintained in the same character at once, by holding up to different people of different sentiments, almost in

Philadelphia, Oct. 13. THE subscribers inform their friends and customers in town and country, that their papers are now on in the city, and others are daily opening, and their from the present appearance of the prevailing disorder I have reason to hope, their friends may see it come to the city with perfect safety. By several late arrivals, numbers have received fresh supplies of GOODS.

A Meeting of the Select and Common Councils WILL be held, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon on Tuesday next, at the State-house, in the city of Philadelphia, for the purpose of electing a MAYOR, &c. as the election can be held on no other day, the attendance of all the Members is particularly requested.

WILLIAM H. TOD, Clerk of the Select Council. EDWARD J. COALE, Clerk of the Common Council.

October 13. The printers of the city are requested to publish the foregoing in their several gazettes.

TENERIFFE WINE. LANDING at Walnut-street wharf, TENERIFFE WINE, of excellent quality, in pipes and half pipes, for sale by JAMES YARD.

The Health-Office is removed to the City-Hall, and is kept open night and day, where persons having business may apply. Wm. ALLEN, Health-Officer.

NOTICE. THE Offices of the Department of War are for the present removed near to the Falls of the Schuylkill, on the Ridge Road.

From Marseilles. THE CARGO Of the Swedish barque Gustavus Adolphus, from Marseilles, consisting of the following articles, is discharging at Mr. Latimer's wharf, and for sale by the subscribers.

BRANDY, well flavored, of 2, 3 & 4th proof Claret, in hogheads Ditto, in cases Frontignac Wine, in cases of 30 bottles Olive Oil, of a superior quality, in baskets of 6 and 12 bottles Capers Olives Almonds Dry Verdigrise Writing Paper Umbrellas (Silk) of 28, 30 and 32 inches Taffeties Long and short white Kid Gloves for Women Silk Stockings Handkerchiefs, in imitation of Madras Artificial Flowers and Garlands Office Feathers Ribbons Perfumery Scented Hair-Powder and Pomatum Manna in forts Cream Tartar.

BENJAMIN MORGAN & ROBERT ANDREWS.

At a Meeting of the Board of Property, June 6, 1797.

Present John Hall, Sec'y Francis Johnston, R. G. of land office Dan. Brodhead, S. G. Nicholas Bettinger, Verfus Samuel Cunningham.

In this case the proof of service of notice being insufficient, it is ordered that notice be given in one of the Philadelphia and York newspapers weekly, for at least eight weeks to the heirs or assignees of Samuel Cunningham deceased, to attend the board on the first Monday in November next, to shew cause why a patent should not issue to Nicholas Bettinger for the land in question.

(A true Copy.) JOHN HALL, Secretary of the Land Office.

Boston Glass Manufactory.

THE citizens of the United States are hereby informed, that the manufacture of Window Glass is now commenced at the Glass House in Boston.

It is needless to say any thing of the excellent quality of the Boston Glass, as it is so well known throughout the United States to be in every respect greatly superior to any ever imported from Europe. It will be cut to any size commonly used; and may be constantly had by applying to CHARLES T. KUPFER, at the Glass House.

Orders from the distant States to be addressed to Mr. SAMUEL GORE, Court-street, Boston. Boston, Sept. 30, 1797. O A—2aw5w Messrs. Timothy and Mason, Charleston; Messrs. Hodge and Boylan, Halifax, N. C. Messrs. Willett and O'Connor, Norfolk; Mr. Ellis Price, Alexandria; Messrs. Yundt and Brown, Baltimore; Mr. Hopkins, New-York; and Messrs. Hudson & Goodwin, Hartford; Mr. Seymour, Savannah; are requested to insert the above once a week 6 weeks. The accounts to be forwarded to the Editor.

PEALE'S MUSEUM.

THIS valuable repository of the works of Nature, so well calculated to delight the mind and enlarge the understanding, is opened daily, as usual. It stands in an airy and healthy situation, and free from the epidemic that at present afflicts the city; it may, therefore, be frequented with the greatest safety.

As an Amusement, the study of Nature is the most rational and pleasing; as a Science, the most sublime and instructive. It elevates the mind and expands the heart. They "Whom Nature's works can charm, with God himself hold converse."

Many interesting additions have lately been made to this Museum: and the feathered tribe, containing a variety of the most rare and beautiful subjects, is now very advantageously arranged. Waxen Figures, of Men large as life (some of them calls from nature) are here dressed in their proper habits, and placed in attitudes characteristic of their respective nations. Here may be seen the North-American Savage, and the Savage of South-America—a laboring Chinese, and the Chinese Gentleman—the foxy African, and the Kamtichadale—with some Natives of the South Sea Islands. The immense variety and interesting diversity which cannot be described with full effect.

Price only 1-4th of a dollar. Sept. 28.