

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 25.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Table with columns for names, amounts in Dols, and Cts. Includes subscribers like John Rediger, Matthew Clarkson, and Thomas Leacock.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

Seeing in your paper of Friday last, an extract from the Columbian Centinel, containing strictures on a sermon preached by the Bishop of Norwich at the church of Saint Mary le Bow in London, on the 17th February last, before the society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts; and conceiving that the author (who signs himself "an American") has fallen full as short in candour, evinced as much partiality, and deviated as widely from rectitude as the English bishop, I, as an Englishman think myself entitled to animadvert upon him with the most unreserved freedom, not with personal invective, nor with any intention to undervalue the state of this country, but to prevent any one from strutting in borrowed plumage, and assuming that as exclusively their own, which more rightfully belongs to another.

The love of our country as well as the love of ourselves individually, is not only allowed as a privilege, but enforced as a duty, while it exceeds not those boundaries which the general consent and welfare of mankind have established: but nations encroaching on the rights and reputation of nations, are as criminal as individuals defrauding each other; and it is necessary for the preservation of moral justice in the world that every such attempt be checked before it has time to operate.

To open the avenues and facilitate the progress of knowledge, to promote the discovery and display the beauties of truth, to dissipate the fogs of prejudice and obstruct the progress of error, ought to be the chief object of him who suffers his sentiments to appear before the public: but I fear these purposes have been but little attended to by the American.

That "we have led the Americans from the lowest state of barbarity, from the darkest stages of ignorance, to the highest stages of civilization and mental improvements," is certainly a very unwarrantable assertion of the bishop's; but the attempt to controvert one false position by setting up another equally unfounded, is a mode not the most likely to produce conviction. I can by no means acquiesce in opinion with him who asserts—"when in the early date of this country, we produced a Locke, a Newton, a Pope and others of great reputation in the literary world, there never was a day from the first emigration to this country from Europe, that the body of the people on our island possessed more light and information in proportion to their numbers than the people of these states collectively." A proportionate number of the people of this country have never had the same leisure and opportunity to make equal advances; their time has been too busily employed in establishing and securing themselves in their possessions, and in the pursuits of trade and agriculture to pay a proportioned degree of attention to science and literature; and even now it is by no means a principal concern among you; few are able to boast of a regular academical education—the soldier thinks it not very essential—the wealthy farmer can bring up his sons to the plough without it, and your merchants are perfectly satisfied if their children are qualified for a counting-house; they think time spent in the acquisition of farther knowledge as lost to trade and therefore ill employed. Whereas in England, not only the children of a very numerous nobility, and still more numerous country gentlemen, but even of many merchants are allowed sufficient time to complete their collegiate studies, besides a vast number more of whom it may be said learning is their trade, who are brought up to no other profession, and who depend solely upon their genius and their learning. There are also more advantages arising from the many large depositaries of antient wisdom; there are stronger inducements from fame, and better prospects of reward; for notwithstanding what some shallow hot brained demagogues may say of an English aristocracy, it may be justly affirmed, that they have ever been proud to be the patrons of genius, the promoters of science, the supporters of every mental exertion, and among whom may be found many names who rank

foremost in every walk of literature. But in what part of this country shall we look for the patrons of genius, who bring forward humble merit, cherish the infant blossoms of taste, and produce the fruit of maturity? I know not where they are to be found; those characters who have adorned you, are not indebted for much encouragement—they forced their way to eminence by their own native strength. Where is the disposition to promote arts and sciences? Shall we seek it among those who know not their value, who deem nothing of importance but the pursuit of gain, and before whom the sublimest flights of imagination and the noblest labours of intellect are trivial matters compared with the news upon change. The Americans are yet too young, they are still "but in the gristle of manhood," and till they shall have acquired some stronger marks of national character, it will be vain to expect many instances of vigorous genius, or delicate refinement.

His account of the state of literature in England at the time when colonies were established here, is as erroneous as his character of the first settlers is exaggerated. Scholastic jargon and the perplexing rules of pedantry in which learning was enveloped when it first feebly dawned in Europe, began gradually to be diffused from the days of Roger Bacon in the thirteenth century, and continued wearing away with accelerated rapidity as it approached the time of Locke, Newton, Boyle, Addison, Pope, Swift, &c. &c. when learning having overpowered the clouds that obscured it, shone forth in meridian splendour; when so many illustrious names adorned the literary horizon, that it has been emphatically styled the "Augustan age of England": yet says the American, "it was not till about the year 1720 that a laudable liberality prevailed in our country, and only from then have we been considered as an enlightened people."

With respect to those who first projected the forming of settlements in this country, and who obtained patents, and grants of land, it must be acknowledged "they were men of learning and philosophy, and were urged by a noble spirit of enterprise, to effect great and marvellous deeds." But very few of those ever left England; the real emigrants were principally composed of the poor and the illiterate; and a considerable number of that puritanical race, who were not suffered to propagate at home those peculiar religious tenets of which they were so bigottedly tenacious, and who, when they became sufficiently powerful, proved themselves the furious and intolerant persecutors of others. These were they "whose learning was nothing but scholastic stuff, arranged and improved to the support of bigotry and superstition, in strong derogation of philosophy, and sound reasoning."

It cannot be denied that this system has given place to more enlightened views, and that a more general liberality of sentiment is becoming prevalent; but you began too late, upon too confined a scale, and have met with too many obstructions, to have made a proportionate progress with the English. Some few names, indeed, you have produced, of whom you can never be blamed for thinking too highly, of whom, with a small number more selected from the ages that are past, this world may exultingly cry among her sister orbs, they were my inhabitants! But I cannot admit that the generality of those whom you hold up, are such as could claim much attention in the world of literature; they are certainly distinguished here, on account of the paucity of eminent proficient, and of that prudential principle which always tries to make the most of a moderate stock. But where few think it necessary to devote their lives to study, still fewer can possibly approach perfection; where great learning is not often attained, acquisitions not above mediocrity may be thought profound. When stillness prevails, mounds may be heard distinctly at a distance, and twilight may seem like radiance to those who have been in darkness. Who has struck out new and untrodden paths of knowledge? and who has raised a superstructure whose foundation was not laid in England?

I would not be understood to insinuate that you have nothing of your own, or that all you possess is immediately derived from us. The world contains not another Washington! a man whose every virtue is immediately recognized in Europe, by the mere mention of his name, and whose character, no man, till he came to this country, could believe that calumny would dare to point her shafts at. But, that "a prophet has not the honor he deserves, in his native land," is in no part of the globe more strikingly verified than here. You have those serpents amongst you, who would ungratefully sting their favours; who have heaped epithets of reproach on those whose services might command the highest honors; who have, by broken quotations, and distorted inferences, from his work, basely accused him, of holding principles hostile to your most excellent constitution, who of all others, has most ably defended it; in whose work, as the American justly says "are completely investigated all the forms and principles of all the governments which have been in the world." A book in which is discovered the most laborious research; in which the comparisons are most impartially drawn; which displays such an extent of erudition, as is seldom concentrated in one mind, however diligent and retentive, and which is the only one I know of, of which it may be truly said, that, from the serious study of it alone, the mind may be informed with complete and accurate principles of the science of civil government. I have ventured to speak my opinion on this subject, without presuming that I can give any addition to its celebrity. The broad effulgence of day is not to be augmented by the glimmering of a taper. Yet this work, which is in so many Americans' mouths, either to criticize or condemn, how very few have done its author the justice, or themselves the service, to give it a candid and attentive perusal.

All that Americans can justly claim, none

would more willingly allow than myself, but it is against your interest to entertain false notions of yourselves, and to admit an overweening pride, which will effectually retard the progress it ostentatiously affects to make; if you possess some illustrious examples, let not the effect be exaggerated by boasting; but rather a stimulus to more frequent imitation, to more ardent, more liberal, and more general endeavours to promote every means that can contribute to the encouragement of genius and the exaltation of virtue; but let not an American presume to repress the arrogance of Englishmen, till he can speak of his country in other language than that of hyperbole; for what else is it, to affirm in the face of Europe, "Do you not know that the arts have been encouraged in America, and as many extraordinary examples of genius found here as in any part of the earth? Where did the principal painters now in Europe receive their birth and education?" Are not the useful and mechanic arts depressed as much as possible by that commercial spirit which predominates and pervades all ranks of people, whose peculiar and immediate interest it is to discourage every attempt towards improvements in manufactures, who have not mind enough to relish the elegant arts, and to whom a coarser luxury is much more palatable.—Concerning natural and experimental philosophy, none can say you have not made considerable advances when they read the names of Godfrey, Franklin and Rittenhouse. In naval architecture also, and in skillful navigators you need not yield the palm to any; but where throughout the continent can you produce classic taste and knowledge in building, except that single specimen, the new Bank of the United States? where are your Sculptors, your Painters, your Engravers? Some few first rate painters were indeed born here, but they were educated in England where they could study the best masters, receive the best instruction and meet with more encouragement. I should not have mentioned these things had not there been one weak enough to make such ridiculous boasts, and perhaps many not unwilling to believe them. Who has ever expected that you should have much encouraged arts and sciences, or that they should have much flourished among you hitherto? A high degree of perfection in things is amongst the last effects of national opulence and power: yet it is not too soon to have made a beginning, and to have shewn a stronger disposition than has hitherto appeared. The real grandeur of a nation is only to be estimated by the number of illustrious names it can deliver to posterity, and these are not to be found amongst speculators and party scribblers, but only in the list of those who have contributed to embellish and harmonize society, whose labours have extended beyond themselves to the general benefit of mankind, whose excellent precepts and exemplary conduct has shewn to what degree of refinement and exaltation the human mind is capable of arriving.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, September 22.

From our CORRESPONDENT at LISLE. The following is said to be the Ultimatum delivered by the French Commissioner Treillard to Lord Malmesbury. The French Republic, ever desirous and willing to conclude a Peace with its Enemies and that all Europe may judge of its sincerity, justice, and moderation, has directed M. Treillard to deliver in the following Ultimatum of the terms of Peace between Great Britain and France.

That Great Britain do restore to France all the Conquests she has made during the present war, and refund all the expences of the French Republic in carrying it on. That Spain and Holland, the Allies of the French Republic, be reinstated in all their possessions taken from them by England.

England to restore to France all the ships taken from her on the 1st of June, as well as at Toulon; and such as were burnt to be paid for.

Gibraltar to be restored to Spain, agreeable to a secret article in her Treaty with that nation.

All the ships of War, Merchantmen, &c. belonging to the Batavian Republic, detained in the ports of Great Britain, to be restored or compensation made.

The Tree of Liberty to be planted in Ireland.

The King of England to discontinue the Title of the King of France.

England to change name of that District in Westminster called Petty France, the Republic having done so by that province formerly called Britannia.

The Alien bill to be repealed. French Citizens to be allowed to meet in London, or in any other part of Great Britain to discuss political or other subjects. No interruption to be given on account of any number of persons assembled, whether French Citizens or others.

Free liberty to be given to French Citizens to write and publish their sentiments in any language.

The National Cockade of France to be worn by French Citizens; and they are to be permitted to celebrate the festivals of the 14th of July, 1789; 10th of August, 1792; 21st of January, 1793; and 4th of September 1797.

The Minister of the French Republic to have the precedence of all the Foreign Envoys.

Audience of the King or any of his Ministers, to be granted on the day that the Minister of the Republic shall appoint.

The French Minister shall have a right to demand, whether any Communications made from Foreign powers to Great Britain are hostile to the Republic.

Great Britain is not to continue in any alliance, or form any other, that may be hostile to France or her Allies.

France to have choice of fire out of the

seven Paintings, called Cartoons in the possession of the King of England, and 100 others, to be selected by Commissioners of the Republic.

The French Republic, in return, will present to the English nation a superb collection of the most magnificent Paintings, executed by the first Artists in France, of the splendid Victories obtained by the 14 Armies of the French Republic.

The Bank of England to furnish France with a Loan of 500 millions of livres, in specie, to be repaid in 15 years, with interest, to be secured on the National Domains.

As a security on the part of Great-Britain, for the performance of the foregoing Articles, France is to be put in possession of the Fortresses at Portsmouth and Plymouth, with the Dockyards, Arsenal, &c. which shall be returned upon the ratification of the Peace, in the same state as when delivered to the French Commissioners; but the Republic will not be answerable for the accident of Fire, or otherwise.

Fifth year of the French Republic one and indivisible. (Signed) LA REVELLIERE LEPEAUX, President. LAGRADE, Secretary. 28th Fructidor.

PARIS, September 17.

Between 10 and 11 in the night from the 3d to the 4th September, a band of cutthroats attempted to surprize the guard of the directory, and make themselves masters of the directorial palace, by a coup de main, but the sentinels were upon their guard, and bravely defended the entrance; upon the first noise, the horse guard rushed out of the court of the palace, and pursued the banditti who had betaken themselves to their heels, and dispersed in the different streets at the approach of the cavalry. Barras, Reubel and Revellere Lepaux assembled afterwards to deliberate on the measures best calculated to prevent a new, and perhaps better combined attack. The deliberation took place in Reubel's Closet, and there the order to arrest the inspectors of the hall of both councils was expedited. An officer among those charged to execute the order, observed, that he knew the inspectors to be prepared for such an attempt, and asked, whether it would not be more advisable to delay the arrestations of the conspirators to the next day? Upon this, Reubel addressed his colleagues and said: "You may tarry still longer: as for me, I am unwilling to hazard my life and the liberty of the Republic any longer. If you refuse to proceed immediately to the necessary measures of safety; I am determined to mount my horse and leave the theatre of civil war." Barras and Revellere applauded, and it was agreed that, that very night, the conspirators should be attacked. They commenced with arresting Barthelemy. The adjutant general, who was ordered to arrest Carnot, did not find him in his room, but Carnot ex-member of the legislative assembly, told him that his brother was in the upper story. The Adjutant went immediately up stairs but could not find him. When he returned to the lower room he found nobody in it; the windows of the closet which opens upon the Directorial palace, were open; there was a brace of pistols and a light upon the table. The two Carnots, one of whom was concealed in the room when the Adjutant enquired after him, had meanwhile made their escape through the garden.

Sept. 23.

Resolution dated 2nd Vendemiaire.

The Executive Directory resolves that the General of Division, Angereau, is appointed Commander in Chief of the armies of the Rhine and Moselle, and Sambre and Meuse.

The Minister of war is charged with the execution of the present Resolution, which shall be printed.

(Signed)

REVELLIERE LEPEAUX, Pres. LEGARDE, Sec. Gen."

General Sahuguet, commandant at Marseilles, has been dismissed by the Directory.

Letters from the Lower Rhine, say the same papers, state that the town of Rheinbach had declared in favor of independence.

The Tree of Liberty was planted on the 5th of Sept. in presence of forty deputies from the other communes in the neighborhood, who declared in favor of the same principles.

We can venture to assert, without fearing that the enemy will profit by the information, that Buonaparte has caused the Imperial troops beyond Udina to be surrounded, and that within ten days at farthest he will be at the gates of Vienna, if the most honorable and satisfactory peace as well for us as the Italians, is not agreed to by his Imperial Majesty.

In the sitting of the council of 500 of the 5th Complementary day, 21st Sept. the president addressed the council.

He began with the epoch of the 10th of August, when the Convention decreed the Republic, he pronounced an eulogium on the constitution, the happy distribution of the powers of which secured its permanence. He then came to the 18th Fructidor. Disaffection began to agitate, and raised a cry that the Constitution was violated.

"The event of the 18th Fructidor, far from being a revolutionary day, was an act performed for the preservation of the constitution. There was not a drop of blood shed: No, the constitution was not violated. It will not be violated, and if we shew the people the deposit in all its perfection, when we are ready to die in its defence, we shall have deserved well of our country. There is a report which malignity labours to propagate; that the Legislative body is about to adjourn.

"Who is the man, who in the circumstances in which we are placed, could entertain the idea of suspending our labours? It is the moment in which we ought to prosecute them with more activity than ever. It is when a Republican majority agree in

sentiment that good laws can be made. Let us then continue our labours. The representatives of the people will change at the appointed era, but the representation shall be permanent."

Sept. 18.

REVIVAL OF THE CLUBS.

Garat, in the Conservator, a journal of which he, Chenier and Darnou are the editors, accuses the legislative body of having done too much and too little to crush the royal conspiracy: too much, because some men, who do not properly belong to the class of conspirators, have been included in the decree of transportation. Too little, because many who were known to be chiefs, as the most active promoters of the conspiracy are still suffered to defile the Republican territory. It is certain that the storm has not extended beyond the horizon of Paris; and the traitors dispersed like weeds over the departments, and the royal clubs, particularly the society of philanthropists and legitimate sons have opened unhurt. To counteract these numerous royal clubs, who shun the light and deliberate in secrecy, there can be no measure more effectual than the re-establishment of the constitutional societies in every part of the Republic. The directing society of the capital, called the constitutional circle, celebrated solemnly its restoration on Saturday, in the garden of the Hotel Montmorency, which the society has rented. Benjamin Constant pronounced on that occasion, a speech well adapted to the solemnity of the day. In the evening the front of the large building towards the Seine, was beautifully illuminated. The day of restoration was likewise celebrated by the other Republican societies of the capital, at Versailles, Soissons, Meaux, Rouen, &c. and the same will be done in every commune of the Republic.

Boisy d'Anglas, who had concealed himself since the 4th inst. has been detected, and is now on his way to Rochefort.

The actress Rancour commonly called Queen Rancour, has been arrested with her whole suite, and the theatre of Louvois where she used to exercise her royal authority is now shut.

September 27.

The following is an extract of a letter written by the Executive Directory, to each of the seven ministers.

"The Executive Directory, citizen minister, charges you to render an exact account of the morality and civism of all those employed under you, to expel with inflexible severity, every one who in this twofold view, cannot sustain a rigorous examination, and to replace them by citizens, who to their talents, join honesty and irreproachable patriotism.

"The Directory recommends to you more especially to exact from all employed in your offices, that they neither give nor receive any appellation, except that of CITIZEN.

The qualifications, with which the representatives of the people and the first magistrats are honored, is forbidden in some offices, with such impudence, that some have refused to listen to it, and others feigned not to hear the republicans petitioners, who have introduced it in their requests. The Executive Directory are possessed of certain information relative to this fact, and it is an important point to which it is their duty to call your attention; citizen minister, order that the title of CITIZEN, shall be exclusively used in your office and regard as unworthy to transact business with you, all those Messieurs, who disdain to make use of it.

The republic ought not to have any but friends in France, much less ought she to reward her enemies by office.

In another letter of the 1st Vendemiaire, the directory writes to the minister of police, thus, "The directory charges you expressly to shut up all the theatres, throughout the republic, where pieces may be represented, tending to deprave the republican spirit, and to revive the love of royalty; it charges you instantly to arrest and bring before the tribunals, the managers of such theatres, and to suspend the representation of pieces calculated to disturb the public tranquility; you will announce these orders, in the most precise manner, to the members of the central offices, and municipal administrations, you will make yourself accountable for their execution, and you will inform them, that in case of negligence or refusal to comply with these orders, the directory is resolved to deprive them of their offices, and that they shall be still amenable to the laws in case it shall appear that they have been accomplices.

The Executive Directory, citizen minister, relies on your zeal, and devoted attachment to the republic, and hopes that you will concur with it, by every method to raise the public spirit, attacked in its source, and even in the institutions which ought to nourish it."

September 28.

The following is the list of the brave and respectable soldiers, who have received the civic garland, the 1st of this month, in the name of the republic.

Brienne Baron, captain, aged 30 years, having lost his two arms by a cannon ball, at the siege of Huninguen, in the army of the Rhine and Moselle.

Francis Marten, captain, aged 32 years, having lost his two legs and thighs in a naval combat, which took place, the 13th Prairial, 2d year, on board the Northumberland man of war, in the fleet commanded by Villaret Joyeuse.

John Baptiste Gauthier, captain, aged 36 years, having lost his eyes and his cheek, and also his upper jaw broken in the lines of Wissembourg, at the siege of Haguenau, the 17th of Frimaire, 2d year, in the army of the Rhine. Sept-mber 29.

It will be recollected that a quaker being present at one of the sittings of the council of ancients, kept his hat on; in consequence of this, a debate arose whether he should be permitted to remain there, as he persisted in not uncovering his head; it was determined in the negative and he was obliged to withdraw. This person, whose name is John Walker, has written the following curious letter to the President of the council.

"Thou canst not be ignorant that there is a people who look upon the reverend or striking off the hat, in the same light as other denominations of christians view the heading of the knee that is to say, as an homage due only to our creator. I cannot render such homage to my equals, whosoever they be; nor can I request of them, as to favor, to dispense with it; since that would be acknowledging that they have a right to exact a mark of homage which, according to my belief, is similar to adoration. I hope, therefore, that my persevering to attend your sittings, without taking off my hat will not be construed as a mark of disrespect."