

Justum et tenacem propositi virum, Non civium ardor prava jubentium, Non vultus instanti tyranni, Mente quatit solida.

TO A GREAT MAN.

SIR, Would it derogate from your high character to listen to the complaint of one of the people? And if I can point out to you grievances which you deign to redress them?

Has the voice of justice been drowned in the clamour of your supplicating friends, or has not the constitution an inherent right and power to screen the nation from indignity and itself from violation?

Since you have filled the popular chair heavy has been the weight of oppression, innumerable the victims of malicious hatred; every quarter of the state groans under its miseries, and every good citizen acknowledges with a blush his ignominy. If these truths have not yet reached your ears, they will soon be heard in the thunder of repentment.—The people indignant at such wrongs, will rise in the anger of insulted majesty, and strike a blow commensurate with the offence.

I have made, sir, two interrogations, and I do not yet despair but that there is sense and virtue enough in your nature to acknowledge their justness and importance, and with a blush answer in the affirmative. If you hesitate how to answer do cast your eyes on the wretched scenes which surround you,—ask virtuous indigents, who caused their misery; and affluent criminals, who raised them to power—enter the habitations of the ejected county officers, and if their infants would lip to you their father's wrongs, stop not your ears to their just complaints, for it is in scenes like these you will read the history of your crimes, and learn a lesson worthy of a governor. Have you ever asked yourself the question, sir, for what you were placed at the head of affairs? Whether to administer justice and make a people happy, or choke its fountain and gratify a vindictive spirit, by persecuting every man who in the freedom of suffrage opposed your election? Are these latter objects fit employment for an officer? No, sir, and you have abused the trust reposed in you. The people asked of you happiness, and you have given them misery—they asked of you contentment, and you have disquieted every corner of the state. Attend for a moment to a recital of your conduct.—You commenced your glorious career by denouncing one half the people as Tories and traitors, and the other you proclaim as Patriots or your friends. This was at once declaring yourself Dictator of a faction, and whetting the edge of party spirit. True to this principle, you then dismissed from their employment, a long list of honest, upright and patriotic men who supported their families by the salaries of their offices; the majority of whom fought during the revolutionary war, and whose only crime was opposition to your designs. These offices you disposed of to traitors, to men who had conducted the British army into our capital, to men who had been indicted of forgery, to men the most abandoned in the community.

It would be needless to recapitulate all the crimes of your administration: the above are sufficient to excite abhorrence in the breast of every good man.

I have asked you, sir, has not the constitution a power to protect the nation from indignity and itself from violation?—You who are its chief magistrate, should feel the force and know the extent of this question: you should be the shield of the country.—But was ever a people so abused as we? Our representatives are not free from insult even when sitting in their chamber. That faction of which you have avowed yourself its chief, through its worthy agent Bryan, has grossly abused our legislature: acquiring fresh insolence from your patronage he has violated the privileges of the house of representatives. Is there no punishment for this crime? Yes, sir, there is:—and a good magistrate would know what punishment to inflict; how to repair the breach, and preserve the freedom of the legislature.

These are grievances which as one of the people I complain of; and believe me, sir, that I speak the minds of thousands, when I tell you that—their patience is worn out.

FABIUS.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

At the Annual meeting of the stockholders in the Providence Insurance Company, at the Coffee-House, on Monday the 6th inst. the following gentlemen, who served as Directors for the last year, were unanimously re-elected, viz.

JOHN MASON, Esq. President.

Charles Lipp, Moses Lippitt, Zephaniah Brown, Samuel Butler, jun. John L. Clark, Thomas L. Halsey, Thomas P. Ives, James Burrill, jun. and John Corlis, Young Seaman, Directors.

Zeebariah Allen, John Rogers, Mr. William H. Mason Secretary.

The Company were well pleased with the management of their concerns since the establishment of the office, and with the judicious appropriation of their funds.

The frigate United States, Commodore Barry (with the Commissioners to treat with the French Republic) was spoken the 24th November within two days fail of Cadiz— all well. [N. Y. Mer. Ad.]

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, January 30.

A petition of Elnathan Taylor, and a petition of John Lowry, were read and referred to the committee of claims.

Mr. Hanna presented a petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, in the state of Pennsylvania, praying the establishment of post offices in certain places therein mentioned; which was referred to the committee appointed on the subject of post office and post roads.

Mr. L. Williams presented a petition of the merchants and others, citizens of the town of New Bedford, in the state of Massachusetts—which was read and referred to the committee of commerce and manufactures.

Mr. Harrison called up for consideration the resolution which he laid on the table on the 24th inst. when the same was again read and agreed to, with the amendment that the committee report their opinion only, on the expediency of the measures referred to them.

The clerk then proceeded to the third reading of the bill intitled "an Act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States," when

Mr. Marshall moved that it be committed to a committee of the whole house; which was carried, ayes 51, noes 34—and the house immediately resolved itself into a committee of the whole on said bill, Mr. Morris in the chair.

After adding three new sections to the bill, proposed by Mr. Marshall, Mr. Nicholas moved the following:

And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue in force during the term of two years, and from thence to the end of the next session of Congress thereafter, and no longer.

Mr. Harper moved to strike out the word "two" which was carried, 55 members rising in the affirmative.

Mr. Smith then moved to fill the blank with the word "ten," ayes 44, noes 56.

It was then moved to insert "seven," which was also lost, ayes 43, noes 52.

Mr. Harper then moved to fill the blank with the word "five," which was agreed to, 63 members rising in favour of it.

Mr. Bayard moved the following amendment to the section, which was agreed to, viz. "Provided that the expiration of this act shall not prevent the complete execution of any commission which may have been previously thereto issued."

The question upon the section as amended was then put and carried, 58 members rising in favor of it.

On motion of Mr. Macon, all that part of the tenth section, which gave the assignee the power of recovering property sold by the bankrupt, within a certain period, upon refunding the purchase money, was struck out.

After making an amendment proposed by Mr. Livingston, to fix a day certain, on which the act should go into execution, the committee rose, and the house adjourned.

JANUARY 23, 1800.

The committee appointed to wait on the Governor, with the Senate's answer to his address, presented the following reply:

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

To the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

GENTLEMEN,

The extraordinary nature of your first communication to me, as an executive magistrate, the slight reference that it contains to the address which it pretends to answer, and the distant period at which it is presented, are indications of premeditated insults, that affect me infinitely more on account of the apparent departure from the dignity of a Legislative Body, than on account of the injustice done to my Political Principles, or of the outrage offered to my personal feelings. Regarding you, indeed only in your representative character, I have thought it, in some degree, an official duty to suffer you to speak to me in terms which as a private gentleman, I would not have consented to hear; and which as private gentlemen, individually responsible, I still hope you would not have condescended to employ.

Thus, an address, closing the solemn act of my introduction into office, with a declaration of my solicitude to promote the happiness of our constituents, and to preserve an harmonious intercourse between the departments of the government, you have been pleased to convert into an opportunity to assume a censorship, which the constitution does not recognize; to exhibit accusations which my conduct has not deserved; and to indulge a spirit of animosity which presents much to compassionate and deplore, but nothing to convince or to terrify.

It is obvious, I must repeat Gentlemen, that your proceedings on this occasion, are not founded on any legislative duty, and cannot, I think, produce any public advantage. As the Senate is the tribunal established to decide upon any charge of official misconduct, it would seem in such cases to be peculiarly incumbent on that body to abstain from effusions of passion, from asperity of animadversion, from the bias of prejudication.—Even, therefore, if the transactions which you have denounced, were of a criminal nature, you who would eventually be the judges, ought not to become the accusers; and if they were not of a criminal nature it will be difficult to trace the political moral or intellectual pre-eminence that authorizes you to arraign and condemn them.

Let us, with this view for a moment consider the topics of your complaint. In a reply to the congratulations of my republican friends upon the result of the late election, I candidly stated an opinion, that a combination

was employed in support of the adverse candidate, consisting of the enemies to the principles of the American revolution, the enemies of foreign governments, and the dependants, or expectants of office, under the Federal administration.—Whether I review the circumstances to which I then referred, or contemplate the many other proofs of the existence of such a combination, in relation to more important objects, I find no reason to change, or to retract the opinion that was then delivered. Yet, let me not again be misrepresented. Though my election was opposed by all those descriptions of persons, I never said, I never thought that there was not likewise a numerous description of opponents, whose minds were actuated by the purest motives, and whose conduct had been equally decorous and independent. Free, therefore, from the perversion of party (a perversion which I did not expect the enlightened Senate of Pennsylvania would countenance or adopt) what is there in my sentiments, or language, that your generosity should be exercised to forgive, or that my sense of justice should be anxious to obliterate?

Besides, it will be recollected, that the transaction, particularly alluded to, occurred before I was in office, and was unconnected with any object of the executive, or legislative trust. If then the censorship of the Senate is warrantable, as applied to that act, it may with equal reason and authority, be applied to every other act of my life; and if the Senate may publish strictures upon the private conduct of the Executive Magistrate, what claim of privilege can shelter the members of that body from retort and recrimination, but the claim (which I shall always promptly anticipate and allow) to pardon and oblivion.

You have chosen, however, gentlemen, another topic for censure; and pursuing the very course, which you have yourselves reproached, you lament that the same spirit which dictated the answer to my Republican friends, has marked my official conduct; you bestow the most opprobrious epithets on my arrangement of the subordinate offices of the state; and you ascribe to me the most wicked designs. But the constitution has conferred on the Governor the exclusive power of appointing, or removing, public officers; and although it is admitted, that, for the legal exercise of that power he is responsible to the Legislature through the medium of impeachment, as for the discreet exercise of the power he is responsible to his constituents through the medium of elections; I can no where discover the authority of the Senate in the present form to controul, regulate or interpose. The radical principal of the constitution, indeed, provides for the separation and independence of the principal departments of governments; and it can be of little importance whether that principle is subverted by direct usurpation, or by successful efforts of one department to overawe and influence another. If likewise, the Senate may, on any pretence, by an extra judicial process, investigate and arraign, disapprove and censure the manner of discharging the executive functions; may not the executive magistrate, with as much right and propriety, invade the sanctuary of the Senate, deprecate the rage and acrimony of its parties, denounce the personal misconduct of its members, question their title to their seats, and brand them with corruption or imbecility? No, gentlemen, I will never encroach upon your jurisdiction, but I shall deem it equally a duty, with firmness and decency, to resist any attempts to encroach upon mine.

But it is not on this ground alone that your proceedings appear to be erroneous; you have alluded in the unqualified assertion, that "a great number of respectable characters have been removed from office, against whom no other blame rests, than the exercise of their right, as freemen, in opposition to my wishes."—Before you gross an imputation was cast upon my conduct, you should surely possess (what you cannot have possessed) a perfect knowledge of the information and principles by which it is regulated. It is true that various changes in public officers have been made, and that others are contemplated; but was it not within the scope of candid construction, to assign a less odious cause for the measures I have pursued?

In a popular government, the principles of rotation in offices of honor and profit might fairly have been suggested. A conviction of the usefulness of an officer for his particular station, would be a reasonable ground for the exercise of executive discretion; and such as I venerate the military merit of the revolution, I may be allowed to remark, that such merit does not necessarily imply a superior capacity for civil office.

The department of officers not in the exercise of the rights of freemen, but in the prostitution of official influence to party purposes; not in the maintenance of their own independence, but in the defamation of the executive magistrate; may also afford a proper cause of removal; for the confidence and cordiality which ought to subsist between the principal and subordinate officers of the state, being thus destroyed, the public interest alone would demand a separation. In short, gentlemen, let my appointments be judged by an impartial test, and I flatter myself, that I am rather entitled to the approbation with which the house of representatives has honored me in an answer to the same address, than to the denunciation of a small majority of the senate. You would then perceive, that many of the commissions issued by my predecessor, have been renewed; that if any veteran of the American war has been displaced, after a long enjoyment of office, others, of at least equal patriotism and talents, have been brought from retirement into the public service; that so far from acting on the impulse of an indiscriminate resentment, many of my most decisive and influential opponents have been re-appointed; and that without any regard to

any personal feeling, I have selected, and shall always deem it a duty to select, for public stations, men who are tried and faithful friends to the genuine principles of our republican institutions.

Having now, gentlemen, endeavored to evince the impropriety and injustice of the aspersions with which I have been assailed, permit me again to invite your co-operation in establishing the harmony of the government. To the honor of the state, to the interest of our constituents, and to our own happiness, it is essential that the spirit of political distrust and party feud, should be effectually subdued. For a purpose so important and beneficent, an example may justly be expected, from those who are elevated to public stations; and I repeat, that with the prosperity of the people as our sole object, with the constitution and laws as our constant guide, we may reasonably hope for success. For my part, be assured that (notwithstanding every past unpleasant occurrence) I shall embrace every opportunity to manifest a profound respect for the legislature and to reciprocate marks of confidence and esteem with the individuals who compose it.

THOMAS M'KEAN.

Lancaster, January 23, 1800.

Extract of a letter from Lancaster dated January 22d 1800.

Knowing how interested you have always been in the fate of the Wyoming business, I have a pleasure in advising you that returns of acceptance, have come in from the Connecticut claimants which will secure the adoption of the plan proposed by the Legislature last year in favour of the Pennsylvania Claimants.

The President has been pleased to appoint John Lamson, Esq. of Massachusetts, Consul of the United States, for the port of Trieste.

Married on Thursday evening by the Rev. Doctor Athel Green, Mr. John Saulnier of this city, to Miss Mary Wilson daughter of the late Thomas Wilson of Southwark.

NEW YORK, January 29.

The recent revolution in France, does not appear to have been accompanied with those violent commotions, which might have been expected from the nature of the event. But the passive conduct of the Parisians on this occasion, can be accounted for only in the glittering allurements of a peace, delusively promised them. We see in it, a revolutionary operation, supported by revolutionary means—an usurpation—a change—a change of tyrants only.

The very spectacle of a government, peevish by the hands of those who fought and bled in its defence, precludes all reliance upon the stability of that which may succeed, under similar auspices: for any one who may have the power, will have the right, in ten days, or in as many hours, to dismiss the present usurpers, and seize for himself the sovereign power.

How this change in France will operate upon the interests of the United States, is merely conjectural. It is believed, however, that it can, in no point, very materially affect us. The reception, or non-reception of our Commissioners for Peace, must be immaterial; since no reliance can be placed in any treaty made with the persons now in power, who exercise no authority emanating from the people;—another gust of ambition, at a breath, may sweep away this fabric of a day, and erect another as mutable as the first.—The government of the United States will be safe, in keeping a steady hand and piercing eye, upon French licentiousness—chaffing, where chastisement is necessary.

We discover no features of royalism in this revolution, as was stated in our first accounts. Though we confess we should not be surprised, if, at no distant period, as system of royalty, with all its features, were to rise from this scene of anarchy.

POST-OFFICE.

Philadelphia, Jan. 30.

LETTERS for the British Packet Charlotte, will be received at this Office until Tuesday the 4th February, at 12 o'clock noon.

N. B.—The inland postage to New-York must be paid. January 31.

FIRE BUCKETS.

The great inattention shewn by a number of Citizens, by suffering their Fire Buckets to remain for days and sometimes for weeks in the streets and alleys, adjacent to where they have been used at fires, has induced the Mayor to direct the High Constable, at the expiration of four days from the time that a fire shall happen in the City, to have collected and removed to the City Hall, the Fire Buckets which he may find in the Streets after that period. The owner will thereby have an opportunity of recovering their Buckets, which perhaps, otherwise would have been lost by their neglect. A number is now at the City Hall. January 7, 1800.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER 28.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name and Price. Includes Six per Cent. (17), Three per Cent. (9/9), Delaware 6 per Cent. (15), 8 per Cent Stock—2 per Cent. advance. BANK United States (24), Pennsylvania (20), North America (50), Insurance comp N. A. shares (5), Pennsylvania shares (22), East-India Company of N. A. par. Land Warrants, 32 cts. per 100 acres.

NEW THEATRE.

This Evening, January 31. Will be presented, (for the fourth time in America) a much-admired New Comedy, called RECONCILIATION;

Or, The Birth Day. To which will be added, (for the 4th time this season) a Grand Dramatic Romance called BLUE BEARD;

Or, FEMALE CURIOSITY. With additional Scenery, Machinery and Decorations, entirely new.

Books of the Songs to be had at the Theatre.

On account of several new pieces in preparation, the above Entertainments will, after this Evening, be laid aside for a considerable time.

Box: one Dollar, Pit, three quarters of a dollar, and Gallery half a dollar.

The doors of the Theatre will open at a quarter past 5, and the curtain rise at a quarter past 6 o'clock precisely.

VIVAT REPUBLICA.

DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA,

TO WIT.

BE REMEMBERED, That on the 31st day of January, in the 24th year of the Independence of the United States of America, John Rowlett of the said district hath deposited in this Office the Title of a Book, the right whereof he claims as Proprietor, in the words following, to wit.

ROWLETT'S

TABLES OF DISCOUNT, OR INTEREST, ON EVERY DOLLAR.

FROM one to two thousand; on every ten dollars, from two thousand to two thousand five hundred; on every fifty, from two thousand five hundred to three thousand, and on every five hundred, from three thousand to five thousand—from one day to sixty-four days inclusive, AT SIX PER CENT. Comprising, in the whole, upwards of one hundred and thirty two thousand one hundred and fifty calculations of Discount; all performed according to the equitable principles of the Banks, and as practised between Individuals throughout the United States.

WITH NOTES

Preceding the work, shewing how, by means of the Tables, to ascertain the Discount, AT SEVEN and AT EIGHT PER CENT, reckoning either 360 or 365 days to the year—explained by examples.

ALSO,

Another Note, under the first page of the Work, shewing the mode of calculation on CENTS.

LIKEWISE,

The ready way to use the Tables for any number of Days exceeding sixty four.

To all which is added, the principles of computation of the various exchanges between each state respectively, and between all these and London and Paris at different rates of Exchange.

By JOHN ROWLETT,

Accountant, Bank of North-America.

January 31. 1794w.

LOCATION OF Military Land Warrants.

IN order to render the information relative to the Military Lands completely satisfactory, the subscribers have agreed to connect their knowledge—and from all their observations to direct a scale of preference in the Locations, which they venture to assert will be accurate. Those who wish to employ them to make the locations, may receive further information by applying to William C. S. Senck at Dunwoody's Tavern, Market Street, or to John Matthews, No. 9, South Fifth Street.

John Matthews, Zeebariah Biggs, Martin Baum, William C. Senck.

January 31. 1794w.

NOTICE.

THE CREDITORS OF

WILLIAM LAPSLEY late of Hanover township, Dauphin county, Store-keeper, are desired to take notice that he has applied to the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Dauphin County for the benefit of the act of Assembly of this state, made for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, and that the Court have appointed the second Monday of March next, to hear his creditors and him at the Court House in Harrisburgh.

January 23—31. 1794w.

VALUABLE LOTS

FOR SALE, NEAR THE CITY.

On Wednesday the fifth day of March next, at six o'clock in the evening, at the Merchants Coffee House, will be sold by public auction, the following described valuable Lots of Ground, eligibly situated for SUMMER RETREATS.

No. 1. A CERTAIN LOT or PIECE of LAND, situate on the east side of Germantown road, about two miles and a half from the city of Philadelphia, bounded on the north by land of Mr. Thomas Greaves, whereon he is now erecting a house and making improvements for his summer residence, on the east by land of Joseph Norris, and well by the said road, containing by computation 14 acres and a half.

No. 2. A certain lot or piece of land, part of a tract commonly called the Vineyard, situate on the west side of the Washickon or Ridge road, nearly opposite to Turner's lane, in the neighbourhood of the Country Seats of Jeremiah Parker, John Nixon, James Crawford and Jasper Morlan, Esqrs. being marked and numbered in a plan or map of the said large tract called the Vineyard, No. 31, containing seven acres and ten perches.

No. 3. One other lot or piece of land adjoining the last described lot to the northward, containing 11 acres and one hundred and three perches. The very valuable property now offered for sale must be too well known to require a further description. It is well worth the attention of those who wish to secure to themselves pleasant and healthy situations in the vicinity of the city.

The terms of sale are, one third part of the purchase money to be paid in ten days after the sale; one third in ninety days, and the remaining third in six months; for the two last payments (including interest) approved indorsed notes to be given. The title is unexceptionable. Sold by order of Messrs. Isaac Wharton, Thomas Fitzsimons, Philip Nicklin, William M. Murrie, Samuel W. Fisher, Trustees for the creditors of Blair M'Clelland.

JOHN CONNELLY, Auctioneer.

January 29. 1794w.