

IN your Note to the Editor of the Gazette of the United States, of the 11th inst. you have attempted two things, viz. To deny the facts stated in my certificate, dated at Elkton, 13th August, 1798, and to vilify my character. As to the first, it is not my intention to say one word at present, only assuring you that it will be noticed in due time; and as to the latter, permit me to observe that it is too well known to be falsified by any thing from the mouth or pen of the infamous and contemptible Christie. Having however asserted that the "notoriety" of my "character in Cecil County, shielded me from personal chastisement," you will pardon my taking some notice of the "notoriety" of your "character" in Philadelphia, which "shielded" you from a chastisement from me. To have exposed you, sir, to public infamy and contempt was not my wish; and it is with some difficulty that I can consent to do it now, on account of an injured and insulted wife and children; but the waiston and unjustifiable attack made on my character by you, will not permit me in justice to myself to hesitate a moment in exposing that character to public indignation and abhorrence, which dares so boldly to arraign that of another.

Had you Sir, contented yourself with a simple denial of the facts of my certificate, I should in like manner have contented myself with simply having proved them—You, however, chose a different course, by which you must abide; and remember Sir, that that choice was your own. It is true, no doubt, that you had no expectation that I should be able to assail you with any thing that you could not call an "impudent fabrication" but unfortunately for you, I have your signature; yes, Sir, the signature of the Honourable G. Christie, Member of Congress. &c. &c. which I am sure you would not suffer any Plebeian citizen of Philadelphia, to deny, without a "personal chastisement."

The signature alluded to Sir, is a letter from you to a certain lady in this city, at whose house your enamored wife, and where you had kept her for some time prior to her tour to the Springs for her health. I shall however insert the letter at full length, for fear you should have forgotten its contents, or that you should assert it to be an "impudent fabrication." To prevent the latter however, I have left it with the Printer, where it will remain till Friday afternoon for the inspection of those who may have their doubts. Here it is

"MADAM,  
"Miss \_\_\_\_\_ has given me directions in what manner she wished her property, which is in your possession disposed of; you will therefore take an inventory in the presence of Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ of every thing which she left in your House— Her clothes she has requested me to deliver to one of her Relations, and the other things are mine; therefore you will be so good as to take care that they shall be all forthcoming to me against I come to Philadelphia, which will be the last of November. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ will forward to me the inventory, and I will satisfy you for whatever just demand you may have against her."

G. CHRISTIE."

October 18, 1799.

I shall, Sir, forbear to make any further remarks on a character, which I deem too insignificant and base to be worthy of further attention from me, with assurance only that the Certificate business shall be attended to in due time, by

WM. DAWSON, 3d.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, February 13.

An engrossed bill intitled "An act to extend the time of payment of bonds given for duties of import in certain cases," was read a third time and passed 54 members voting in favour of it.

Mr. Claiborne presented a petition of Thomas Johnson, of the State of Tennessee, praying compensation for service rendered the United States as Commandant of the Militia of Mero District, while in actual service.

Referred to the Committee of Claims.

Mr. Marshall, from the Select Committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill for removing any Military force of the United States, from any place of holding Elections, which was read and committed to a committee of the whole House for Thursday.

Mr. Harrison, from the Select Committee to whom were referred sundry petitions of the inhabitants of the N. W. Territory, praying a modification of the existing laws authorizing the sale of public lands, made report, recommending the adoption of certain resolutions therewith submitted. The report was committed to a Committee of the whole House, and made the order of the day for Thursday.

Mr. Bruce said, during the last session of Congress, a bill passed the Senate accepting the cession of the State of Connecticut of the Western Reserve of that State in the State of Pennsylvania—with a view to bring this subject again into consideration, he would move the following resolution.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the expediency of accepting from the State of Connecticut, the cession of the jurisdiction of the western reserve lands in the State of Pennsylvania, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Stone presented a petition of Thomas Pitts, mariner, of the port of Edenton, N.

C.—which was referred to the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

Mr. Smith, from the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures, reported a bill for the relief of Thomas Armat, which was read a first and second time, and committed for Friday.

Mr. Fowler presented a petition of John Mountjoy, an officer during the revolutionary war, praying for donation lands—which was read and referred to the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the expediency of preventing the issuing of caveats.

Mr. Claiborne, from the Select Committee to whom were referred the petition of Cato West and others, of the Mississippi Territory, made report, submitting sundry resolutions for the sanction of the House, favourable to the prayer of the petitioners—which were read and committed for Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Rutledge, the order of the day for a third reading of the Bankrupt Bill, was further postponed till to-morrow.

The House then went into committee of the whole on the bill further to suspend the commercial intercourse between the United States and France—Mr. Morris in the chair—and after amending the bill—the committee rose and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Adjourned.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, Jan. 23.

The committee on that part of the governor's address which relates to the election law of this commonwealth, made report, which was read as follows, viz.

That every act of the legislature ought to be directed by the constitution of this commonwealth, as the only proper legislative guide; and as the constitution declares "that every freeman of the age of twenty one years having resided in the state two years next before the election, and within that time paid a state or county tax, which shall have been assessed at least six months before the election, shall enjoy the rights of an elector: provided that the sons of persons qualified as aforesaid, between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-two years, shall be entitled to vote although they shall not have paid taxes."

The committee are of opinion, that the legislature have no power to admit any to the enjoyment of the elective franchise, who do not come within the description of that article of the constitution above cited, nor to exclude any from that privilege who are included within that article; that as the constitution distinguishes between the right of an elector and that of being elected into office (which in some of the other state constitutions is reciprocal) this distinction, we conceive, leads to the true construction of that article of the constitution before recited.

The committee find in the Declaration of Rights, section V. "that elections shall be free and equal." They apprehend the true meaning attached to these expressions is, that at all times to come, election, should be as free as they were at the time when this article was adopted.

The committee are of opinion, that by giving the courts the power of appointing agents to superintend the election, the freedom thereof is endangered, by the influence and interference of men not chosen by, nor responsible to the people.

It further appears to the committee, that as the constitution confines the elective franchise to "freemen" or "citizens" only, regularly enlisted soldiers being more absolutely under the arbitrary direction of their officers, than the most abject slave is under the influence of his master, ought not to be allowed the right of an elector.

The committee are further of opinion that, one of the most essential rights of a citizen, the right of suffrage, under the existing election law, is too much in the power of township assessors and county commissioners, by whose neglect or inadvertency, many may be deprived of their rights of election.

It further appears to the committee, that the districts of the Northern Liberties and Southwark, in the county of Philadelphia, ought to be allowed an additional number of inspectors: they therefore submit the following resolution, viz.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to alter and amend the act entitled "an act to regulate the general elections within this commonwealth, on the following principles, viz.

- 1. To bring back the elective franchise to that ground on which it is placed by the constitution of this commonwealth, as defined by the first section of the third article.
2. To repeal that part of the law which authorizes the court to appoint agents to superintend the elections.
3. To prevent regularly enlisted soldiers from exercising the right of suffrage, and if in the power of the legislature to remove them at a distance from the place where elections are held.
4. To provide against citizens being deprived of their elective franchise, by the willful or unintentional neglect of the township assessors or county commissioners.
5. To allow an additional number of inspectors in the districts of the Northern Liberties and Southwark, in the county of Philadelphia.

Ordered to lie on the table. The committee on that part of the Governor's address which relates to the establishment of schools, having obtained leave, reported a bill, entitled "an act establishing schools throughout the state, in such manner that the poor may be taught gratis," which was read the first time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Whereupon, on motion, Ordered, That Monday, February 3d next, be assigned for the second reading of

the said bill, and that it be the order for that day.

The committee to whom was referred the 3d inst. the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia, and the counties of Philadelphia and Montgomery, in favor of Peter Lagaux, made report, which was read as follows, viz.

That they have taken the same into consideration, and are of opinion that however desirable an object it might be to encourage this branch of agriculture in the State of Pennsylvania, yet the present embarrassed state of our finances will not justify the pecuniary aid prayed for in said petition:—They therefore submit the following resolution, viz.

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Friday, January 24.

A motion was made by Mr. Preston, seconded by Mr. Fox, and read as follows, viz.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to join a committee of the Senate (if the Senate shall appoint such committee) to consider and report at what time it will be proper and convenient for the legislature to adjourn, and also what business ought exclusively to be taken up and decided upon during the present session.

On the question,—"Will the House agree to the same?" It was determined in the negative.

The clerk reported that he had presented to the Senate for concurrence the bill, entitled an act to prolong the time for commencing and completing the permanent bridge proposed to be erected over the river Schuylkill, at or near Philadelphia, and informed the Senate that this house had non-concurred the amendments by the Senate on the bill, entitled "an act to provide for the choice of electors of a President and Vice-President of the United States."

Monday, January 27.

The bill, entitled "an act to provide for the enumeration of the taxable inhabitants of this commonwealth," was read as reported by the committee of the whole house.

The bill is now under consideration. A motion was made by Mr. Boileau and seconded by Mr. Snyder to amend the same, by inserting next after the word "taken" in line 9, these words, viz. "and it shall also be the duty of the said commissioners to cause the number of all negroes, mulattoes, or people of colour, held as slaves, within their respective counties, to be carefully and accurately taken, distinguishing their sexes, and as near as may be, their several ages."

On the question,—"Will the House agree to the proposed amendment?"

It was determined in the affirmative, and the section as amended, adopted.

Wednesday, January 29.

The committee appointed the 21st instant, to enquire whether any, and (if any) what alteration is necessary in the judiciary system, made report, which was read as follows, viz.

That they have had the subject under consideration, and after mature deliberation, and the most industrious enquiry, they are of opinion, that although there appears to be some defects in the present establishment of the courts of common pleas and quarter sessions, yet the subject being of great importance, the committee do not think it advisable to recommend any alteration, unless they could suggest a complete and systematic arrangement. But as it appears from the multiplicity of petitions on this subject, now before the legislature, that the people are desirous of some alteration, and as the plan to be substituted, is not yet devised, nor fully understood, and the session being now too far advanced to take up the subject, with a view of effecting the object desired, the committee submit the following resolution, viz.

Resolved, That the subject of a new arrangement of the judiciary system, be recommended to the early consideration of the next legislature.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Friday, January 31.

The committee appointed 20th December last, to report a plan for keeping in repair the public roads within this commonwealth, made report, which was read as follows, viz.

That they have had the important subject referred to them under consideration, and are of opinion that however proper the existing law for keeping in repair the public roads may be, as far as it concerns the final county or township roads, it is found totally inadequate to keep in repair the great national roads communicating with the extremities of the State: To remedy this defect, the committee beg leave to suggest the following plan, viz.

That the roads hereafter mentioned shall be declared State roads, and placed under the care of the commissioners of the several counties through which the said roads may pass, to be supported at the joint expense of this commonwealth and of the said counties, and that the judge of the court of common pleas shall have power to appoint an inspector, if they think it necessary, to examine and report to them when the road or any part of it be properly made; and upon report of such inspector, the said judge, shall have power to draw upon the State Treasury for one half of the expense of making and keeping in repair such roads the care of making the roads and keeping them in repair, to rest upon the respective county commissioners.

- 1. The road from Philadelphia to Easton on the river Delaware.
2. The road from Lancaster thro' York, Gettysburgh, Black's Gap, Chamberburgh, Badford, Greensburgh to Pittsburg.

3. The road from Philadelphia through Reading, Northumberland, Aaronsburgh, Millsburgh, thence to Pefuquille, by the road now improving at the expense of the State.

4. The road from Philadelphia through Bethlehem, Wildelkarre, to Tioga Point. The committee therefore submit the following resolutions, viz.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report a bill agreeably to the foregoing principles.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Port of Philadelphia.

Brig Paragon, Houston, of and for this port sailed from Port Republican the 15th Jan. Schrs. Mille, Read, and schr. Dick, Richards, from hence, have arrived at Port Republican.

Sloop Abigail, —, from hence, is cast away 20 miles to the southward of Cape Henry.

Ship Neptune, Hacquin, from hence to the Havana, has put into Nassau in distress.

Philadelphia, Feb. 15, 1800.

DEAR SIR,

By order of the committee of arrangement, I do myself the pleasure to send you an extract from the minutes of the standing committee of the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati, in order that you may take such measures in consequence thereof as you shall deem proper.

"Resolved, That Macpherson's Legion be requested to precede the society in the procession from the State House to the church in Race street on Saturday the 22d of February. The request to be made through the commanding officer of the corps, and that seats be set apart for them in the church."

I beg leave to mention that it is the wish of the committee that the procession should move from the State House precisely at 12 o'clock, and return in the same order in which it proceeds to the church.

I am with much respect and esteem, Dear Sir, your obedient servant, M. M'CONNEL, Adj. Sec'y.

Brigadier Gen. Macpherson.

Brigadier general MACPHERSON, in consequence of the above communication, directs that the BLUES parade at the State House on Saturday the 22d at 11 o'clock A. M. in uniform, with their side arms only. By order of Brigadier General Macpherson. JOHN M'CAULEY, Adjt.

CARD.

IN pursuance of a resolution of the Standing Committee of the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati, the members of the Cincinnati, not belonging to this State, who may be in the city on Saturday the 22d inst. the officers of the late revolutionary army, not members of the society, the officers of the army, navy, and militia, are respectfully invited to join in procession to be formed at the State House, precisely at 12 o'clock of said day by the Pennsylvania Society of Cincinnati, and proceed from thence to the Reformed Church in Race st. where an Eulogium on the character of Gen. WASHINGTON will be delivered before the Society by one of its members. The procession will return in the same order in which it proceeds to the church.

James Moore, Charles Biddle, M. McConnell, Robert Patton, Committee of Arrangement. Philadelphia, Feb. 15, 1800. dt.

CINCINNATI.

At a meeting of the Pennsylvania State Society of the Cincinnati, held at the State House, in Philadelphia, on the 21st of December, 1799,

BRIGADIER GEN. MACPHERSON IS THE CHAIR.

The following Resolutions were moved by Major JACKSON, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That, in veneration of the exalted virtues, patriotism, and public services of our late most excellent, beloved, and ever to be lamented President General, George Washington, and as a tribute of the deepest sorrow, and most affectionate attachment to his endeared and illustrious memory, the Members of this Society will wear mourning, connected with the Badge of the Society, during six months.

Resolved, That a strip of black Ribband passing along the centre of the Ribband of the Order, be added on this occasion.

The following resolutions were moved by Gen. Macpherson and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That Major Jackson be requested to prepare and pronounce an Eulogium on the character of General Washington, embracing a summary review of his Civil and Military services; and that the same be delivered before this Society on Saturday the 22d day of February next, at one o'clock, P. M. at such place as the Standing Committee to whom the arrangements of the day are referred, shall determine.

Resolved, That the President of the United States and his family—the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Members of both Houses of Congress, the Heads of Departments, the Judiciary, and such other officers of the General and State Governments as may then be in Philadelphia, be respectfully invited to honor the Society with their presence on the occasion.

December 21. 2aw3w&ctf

NEW THEATRE.

NEVER ACTED IN AMERICA. This Evening, February 19, 1800. Will be presented, a Play, in four acts, called THE COUNT OF BURGUNDY. Written by Augustus Von Kotzebue. Adapted to the American Stage by a Citizen of the United States.

Father Peter, Mr. Wipnell—Henry, Mr. Cain—Chevalier Von Hallwyl, Mr. Warren—Count Huger, Mr. Darley—Chevalier Walter Von Blonay, Mr. Bernard—Baino, Mr. Wood—Benedick, Mr. Francis—Nicholas, Mr. Bliffet—Martin, Mr. Warrell jun.—Block, Mr. Warrell—Old Man, Mr. Morris. Elizabeth Von Hallwyl, Mrs. Merry—Gertrude, Mrs. Francis—Young Woman, Mrs. Snowden—Little Girl, Miss Solomon—Maid, (Countess Dowager of Burgundy) Mrs. Morris.

To which will be added, a Musical Farce, (not acted this season) called

THE WATERMAN; Or, The First of August.

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.

Bank of the United States.

February 19, 1800.

NOTICE.

THE public are informed, that no business will be done at this Bank on Saturday the 22d instant, being the day set apart by authority for paying respect to the memory of Gen. Washington.

G SIMPSON, Cashier. February 19. dt.

Bank of North America.

February 19, 1800.

NOTICE.

SATURDAY next the 22d instant, being set apart by authority, for paying respect to the memory of General George Washington, the public are informed no business will be done at this Bank on that day.

H DRINKER, Jun. Cashier. February 19. dt.

Bank of Pennsylvania.

February 19, 1800.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

THAT no business will be done at the Bank of Pennsylvania, on Saturday the 22d inst. being the day appointed by authority for paying respect to the memory of the late General Washington. Notes must be offered on Thursday for discount, as the Board of Directors will meet on Friday for that purpose; and all payments due on Saturday at this Bank, must be made on the day preceding.

By order of the Board, JONATHAN SMITH, Cashier. February 19. dt.

WANTED,

A PERSON to superintend a small Farm, about five miles from the city. He will be accommodated with a good house and other conveniences. None need apply who cannot be well recommended. Enquire at 109 Spruce Street. February 19. dtw

Thirty Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from the quarters of the subscriber, on Saturday the 18th inst. an enlisted soldier, named JAMES BULLER, a Carter by occupation, born in the State of New Jersey, aged thirty five years, five feet nine inches high, sandy complexion, hazel eyes, and short sandy hair, has been some time a resident of this city. It is thought he is now in Mount Holly in New Jersey, or its vicinity, as his friends chide by reside there.

On Thursday the 17th instant, an enlisted soldier, named JOHN BARKS, born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, his occupation that of a labourer, thirty nine years of age, five feet nine inches high, dark eyes, black hair, which he wore parted, of a dark complexion, his face bloated by the immoderate use of spiritous liquors; his acquaintance being in Wilmington or its vicinity, where he formerly lived, 'tis possible he may take that rout.

Whoever shall take up said deserters and lodge them in jail, or shall deliver them to the subscriber, at his quarters in Filbert, between Ninth and Tenth streets, Philadelphia, or to any officer of the army of the United States, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges; or for either of them a proportionate compensation.

BENJAMIN GIBBS, Jun. Captain 10th regt. U. S. February 19. dtf

A FEW HOGSHEADS FIRST QUALITY SUGAR FOR SALE,

By ROBINETT and KISSELMAN, No. 105 South Water Street. February 12. dt.

FOR SALE, A good three story Brick House,

AND LOT OF GROUND, SITUATED at the north east corner of Water and Market street, thirty feet front on Water Street, and fifty on Market Street, having four rooms on each floor, two good vaults under Water Street, which may contain ten cord of wood; is one of the best stands in this city for business. For terms enquire of

JOSEPH DONALDSON. Who will let on lease the house he now lives in for two or three years. February 17. mwf3w

LOST, A RED MOROCCO

POCKET-BOOK, CONTAINING sundry papers, of no value to any person but the owner—also, three Five Dollar Notes. Any person who may find the same, and will return it to the owner, at Mr. F. G. O'Sullivan's Office, shall be generously rewarded. February 7.