

## TO THE People of Northampton County.

Friends and Fellow Citizens,

AFTER having served you nearly 23 years in the office of Register for the Probate of Wills, and Recorder of Deeds, as also a great part of that time as Clerk of the Orphan's Court; I am now dismissed from those appointments, by the Governor you have lately elected, for reasons best known to himself. If for any partiality or misconduct in office, the fact must be known to you, and upon that ground he has acted perfectly right and justifiably: If upon any other ground, it becomes you to judge whether he acted like the father of a free people towards me, and whether he is really that great, good, and just man, that his advocates held him up to you to be, previous to the last election.

I hope you will pardon the intrusion of this address, when I remind you of the whole tenor of my public life, of which the senior part of you have been witnesses, and a number of you my companions in toil and danger. Early in the contest between this country and Great Britain, I took an active and decided part, with those who stood up to defend the rights and liberties of our country. For a short time I entered into the military service, and on the 27th day of August 1776, in that memorable battle on Long-Island, was by a cannon ball wounded in my left arm, which would have disabled me, that I could not obtain a livelihood by a laborious life, to which from my infancy I had been brought up: Thus situated, my prospects in life were gloomy, and the fate of our country undecided; at the same time hoping, that under the protection of Divine Providence, we should in the end prevail, and establish the Freedom and Independence of America, and I should never suffer want, from a generous people and government.

The first dawn of fair prospects for me seemed to justify that opinion, when in March 1777, the Legislature of this State appointed me to the office I lately held; by accepting thereof, out of gratitude I suspended my just claim to solicit a pension on account of my disability. You ought to remember, that in those times which "tried men's souls" very many of those who are now so avaricious for offices, were either children, or did not then deem it prudent to step forward and accept of any appointment, left their lives and fortunes should be forfeited, if (according to their tormented expectations) the British should prevail in the contest; and that during the war, whilst paper money was in circulation, and all office fees payable in that depreciated currency, my emoluments in office amounted to very little more than the expense of books and paper. During all those times of "toil and danger," I cannot doubt that I possessed your confidence in a very flattering degree. You did not then believe me to be one of the "Traitors, Refugees, Tories, French Aristocrats, British Agents, or Apostate Whigs"; for if you did believe so, why did you elect me first into the Council of Censors; next into the Convention to consider and ratify the Federal Constitution; and again to be one of your Electors for a President and Vice President of the United States; and lastly, into the Convention when the present Constitution of our State was framed and adopted. Thus honoured with your fullest confidence, I had opportunities of hearing the opinions of your best and wisest patriots on the nature of government, which enabled me to form my own conclusions, on the tendency and expediency of public measures, adopted and pursued by our government, without having recourse to ignorant and designing demagogues, who instead of informing, only attempt to mislead the honest and uninformed part of the citizens. Thus have I been firm and uniform in those political opinions, and in the pursuit of such measures, which in confidence I believed would best promote and secure the peace, liberty and independence of that country in whose cause I had bled.

This line of conduct, when the spirit of revolution, as well in religion as in government, began to pervade various parts of the earth, soon made me the object of hatred to those who were hostile to the peace and prosperity of their country, and the government of their own choice. It is known to you, that of late a great part of the office hunters who courted your favours and popularity, directed most of their darts of venom and malice against my character and reputation, with the intention of making me appear odious to you.

Thus situated, previous to the last election, the present Governor, and Mr. James Rofs, were put in nomination for the high and important office of Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, with both of whom I had acquired a personal acquaintance, in those public bodies to which you had elected men, and learnt to know their respective worth and abilities. Under these circumstances I did not hesitate to exercise that freedom of choice, which ought ever to be dear to a Freeman, who loves and supports liberty, and declared myself to be in favor of the election of Mr. James Rofs, as the most worthy candidate of the two. In this opinion, for want of better information, a large majority of you differed from me, and preferred the other as the most worthy, who eventually was successful in his election.

As soon as this event was known, conscious of having done no wrong in exercising my own opinion, I cheerfully submitted to the choice of the majority—and understanding that my offices were in jeopardy, I thought proper to wait on the Governor elect, to learn my fate, and solicit a continuance of my appointments. When I came to the city, to avoid abruptness, I requested a worthy and respectable friend to accompany me to Mr. M'Kean's house, to step in first, to

announce my being so waiting, and request permission to see him. My friend cheerfully complied with my request; but imagine how I was amazed with the treatment of the man, who was held up to you as the Palladium of Liberty, the Patron of Equality, the plain Republican, easy of access, when he behaved like a man void of feeling, or common civility, by denying me admission to his presence. From that time I considered myself to be marked out as a victim of his power and party vengeance, and confidently assert for no other reason, than that of not voting for his honor.—If any other reason exists, I challenge not only his excellency the governor, but the worst of my foes to the proof of it.

Now my fellow citizens, make a contrast between the conduct of our late Governor Mifflin, and that of your late choice.—Was there not also an opposition to the election of the former; do you remember an instance of his official vengeance against his opponents?—No! he indulged no such paltry passions, he acted like a kind father to all, and not like the enraged leader of a party.

Now look to the conduct of Mr. M'Kean.—His first public declaration that we have heard was his answer to an address presented to him on his election. Therein, among many ungenerous, false, and unmanly epithets, he calls his opponents "traitors, Tories, refugees," &c. &c. If he knew of any that were really such, was it not his sworn duty as Chief Justice to bring them to trial and punishment?—No, he reserves his vengeance against them for the Governor, from whom there is no appeal, and to this vindictive, malicious spirit I have had the honor of being marked out as one of the first victims, for whom there was no salvation in my past services, in my official integrity, in my age, or numerous family.

Thus we see a system introduced, which in my humble opinion gives a mortal wound to that liberty which is so dear to us all, I mean the freedom of election. For if the Governor is right, all minorities however respectable for number or character, must be wrong and punishable. Will any of you dare to oppose his will and pleasure, at any election, during his administration? If you do, remember my fate, which, let me repeat, neither old wounds, services, age, nor a large family could avert. Nothing would do—I had committed an unpardonable crime, because as a freeman I had given my vote to him whom I believed the most worthy. O Liberty! what a phantom thou art in the hands of such men.

To bring the matter nearer home: Suppose there are two or more candidates for the office of sheriff amongst us, who stand nearly equal in public esteem, the success of either may appear dubious before the election, what would you think of him who gets the office, if he would like our republican governor or call the minority "traitors, refugees, Tories, French aristocrats, British agents, or apostate whigs," and exert all his official authority for their destruction? What would you think of such a case? Would you not look upon him as a most cruel tyrant, and form the most solemn resolution never to vote for him again?

An inevitable consequence follows this system of extermination: every man holding an office in the State dependant on the will of the executive (of whom there are a great many, and who generally are, or ought to be men of good information and character) is at once cut off, not only from dispersing his influence and diffusing his information, for the benefit and light of his fellow citizens, but even from his own vote. The event of an election is always uncertain, and he will hazard his bread by any interference. Thus to hold a commission in Pennsylvania, so far from being a mark of honor and confidence, is a badge of the most base and servile slavery, depriving the possessor of his most invaluable rights, and sinking him to a humble vassal, afraid to act, afraid to speak, afraid to think, lest some watchful enemy catch his words or his thoughts, and send them to the successful governor in the forms of affidavits and certificates. That your present governor has been fond of information in this way, and on the authority of such interested and partial testimony, has been taking and giving away your offices of trust, is known to all of you.

Now my friends, fellow citizens and countrymen, I bid you an official and affectionate adieu. If during any part of my official conduct I have unknowingly and unintentionally given any of you just cause of offence, I then ask your pardon. If any man entertains a suspicion that I have extorted unlawful fees from him, I pray him to call on me, and convince me of the fact, and I will do him justice. Ye widows and orphans for whom I have done official business do me the kindness to remember, that I never turned any of you off for want of money, gave less attention to your business, or less satisfaction to your enquiries. Remember that poverty received the same attention from me as opulence. Your satisfaction always appeared a most valuable compensation to me. Such services I cannot for the future render you. It is most probable I leave public life forever, but let me earnestly beg that regard from you all, as a private citizen, which I am proud to say, I always enjoyed as a public officer.

My German brethren, Let me particularly address myself to you on this occasion, a serious and distressing one to me. United to you by the ties of our common ancestor—the remembrance of their common country—by the force of a common language, I fondly look for a peculiar sympathy from you in my sufferings. I have not deprived myself, I have never wished to deprive myself of my affectionate prejudice for my German brethren; I look for the same regard from them, and I trust they never intended or wished, that the man

who obtained too many suffrages from them should make a victim of your old friend, and always diligent servant.

**JOHN ARNDT**, late Register, Recorder, and Clerk of the Orphan's Court, for Northampton County.

Easton, February 6, 1800.

## CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, February 19.

Mr. Varnum presented a petition of Thomas Frothingham, of Charlestown, Mass. praying compensation for property destroyed during the Revolutionary War.

Referred to the Committee of Claims.

On motion of Mr. Gallatin, the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the four Western Counties of Pennsylvania, heretofore presented, and the report of the Secretary of War, and Committee of Claims thereon made the second session of the fifth Congress—were referred to the Committee of Claims.

Mr. D. Foster, from the Committee of Claims, to whom were referred the petition of Moses Gill, Esq. who prayed for the payment of \$4,400 dollars of loan office certificates, and interest thereon, issued by the State of Georgia, which had been rejected at the Treasury as not constituting a claim against the United States—A report from the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject, is submitted to the consideration of the House, with which the committee express an opinion, it would be proper for the House to concur and that it would not be expedient for the United States to assume the payment of said Certificates.

The report of the Committee, and of the Secretary of the Treasury were committed to a Committee of the whole House for Monday next.

The third reading of the Bankrupt Bill was further postponed till to-morrow—and

The House took into consideration the report of the Committee of the whole on the Bill further to suspend the Commercial Intercourse between the U. States and France and the dependencies thereof.

The following section was reported to be struck out by the Committee, viz.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the whole of the island of Hispaniola, shall, for the purposes of this act, be considered as a dependency of the French Republic. Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to repeal or annul in any part, the order or proclamation of the President of the United States, heretofore issued for permitting Commercial Intercourse with certain ports of that island.

This section was opposed yesterday by Messrs. Nicholas, Livingston, and Harper on the ground that we had no right to determine, to whom the jurisdiction belonged—that altho it had been ceded by Spain to France, yet the latter had never taken possession—and it might possibly be, by some secret article, re-conveyed to Spain; and therefore France would never have possession of the whole of this Island.—Mr. Harper also objected to it, because it went to establish a new principle, to wit, the restriction of intercourse with Spain—and that it might give offence to that nation.

It was answered by Messrs. Smith and Sewall, that no possible offence could be taken at the expressions used in the section, since they were only intended to operate as to the provisions of this act.—That Spain often prohibited our intercourse with the Colonies, without a supposition of giving offence to us, and we of course had an equal right of prohibiting our citizens from going to these Colonies, whenever it was good policy to do so.—that although Spain had not actually given up the Government of Hispaniola to France, yet their influence there was very great, and they had equally as much command as though no Spanish Government existed—and that it might be in the power of France to take possession of the whole of the island at any time, which, for political purposes, they probably now declined to do.

Upon the question for concurring with the committee in striking out the section, there were ayes 42, noes 48—and the section, consequently, retained.

The question upon the salary to be allowed the consul or public agent of the United States, residing in any such port, who is restricted from trade, was then taken, and 3000 dollars agreed to, 50 members rising in favor of it.

Mr. Harper moved to amend the first part of the following section, by striking out the words in italics, viz.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That "excepting for foreign ships or vessels, owned, hired, and employed by persons permanently residing in [foreign countries, and without the limits of the United States,] and commanded and wholly navigated by foreigners," no clearance for a foreign voyage shall be granted, unless bonds be given the shall not proceed to a French port, &c.

Messrs. Harper, Wals, J. Brown, and Champlin, spoke in favour of the motion; and Messrs. Smith, Eggleston, Varnum, Randolph, H. Lee and Gallatin, against it—when the question was taken by Yeas and Nays, as follows:

## T E A S.

Messrs. Bartlett, Brace, J. Brown, Champlin, Cooper, Craik, Dana, J. Davenport, F. Davenport, Edmond, Evans, A. Foster, D. Foster, Freeman, Glen, C. Goodrich, E. Goodrich, Gray, Griswold, Harper, Henderfer, Jmay, Kittera, S. Lee, Lyman, Otis, Page, Pinckney, Powell, Reed, Rutledge, Sewall, Shepherd, Thatcher, R. Thomas, Wadsworth, Wals, L. Williams, Woods.—39.

U. S. Messrs. Alston, Baer, Bailey, Bird, Bishop, R. Brown, Cabell, Christie, Clay, Claiborne, Condit, Davis, Dawson, Dent, Dickson, Eggleston, Elmendorf, Fowler, Gallatin, Goode, Gregg, Grove, Hanna, Hartley, Heider, Hill, Holmes, Jones, Kitchell, H. Lee, Leib, Lyon, Lynn, Livingston, Macon, Marshall, Morris, Muhlenberg, New, Nicholas, Nott, Randolph, Smilie, Smith, Spaight, Stanford, Stone, Sumpter, Taliaferro, J. Thomas, Thompson, A. Trigg, J. Trigg, Van Cortlandt, Varnum, R. Williams.—56.

Mr. Wals then moved to amend the section by striking out the words within crotchets and inserting "Europe," in order to prevent fraud by our citizens being made burghers of St. Thomas in the West-Indies, and being thereby enabled to transfer their right of property as well as citizenship, to carry on a direct intercourse with the French islands.

Mr. Gallatin opposed this amendment, and contended it would not answer the purposes intended.

The question was decided by yeas and nays.

Yeas 56—Nays 46. The bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow—58 members voting in favour of it.

Mr. Harrison from the committee appointed to enquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary to be made in the law authorizing the sale of lands N. W. of the river Ohio, made a report, recommending the adoption of a resolution for leasing all the salt springs and licks, the property of the United States, in that territory, which springs are now worked to advantage by sundry adventurers.

The report was committed to a committee of the whole House and made the order of the day for Thursday—djourned.

Baltimore, Feb. 17.

Arrived schooner Scorpion, captain Sorenson; sailed from Port Republican, 24th January, 1800, in company with 12 sail under convoy of the U. S. schooner Experiment; parted with the fleet and convoy a little below the point of St. Marks, in the bite of Leogane; on the 28th was boarded by the United States frigate Constitution, commodore Talbot and detained six hours, and received dispatches for government and dismissed.

Captain Sorenson gives the following list of Baltimore vessels arrived at Port Republican

Brig Betsey, Chatfield, master, Schr. Bucklin, Capt. James, Phillips, Reynolds, Eagle, Carlow, Stanley,

Brig Mary, Hall, Jane, of Philadelphia, Peggy, of do. Macksford.

Sailed in company with the Scorpion for Baltimore, Brig Charlotte, of Baltimore, Milford, of do. captain Waters.

The brig Betsey, Capt. Blackwell, was boarded off Cape Maize, by the United States frigate Constitution, Capt. Talbot. The frigate was cruising for a French ship of war expected from the windward bound to Havanna.

Arrived at Annapolis on Friday evening, ship Carlisle, Capt. Bryden, from Liverpool, which place she left on the 7th December.

From the Carlisle's log book.

October 25, on our passage to Liverpool, fell in with a British man of war, of 74 guns with a fleet under her convoy, consisting of 30 sail; we went under the lee of the man of war and hailed him; saw the English and French coasts the next day, about seven o'clock, P. M. and a number of vessels in sight.

January 10, about 7 o'clock, P. M. saw an English sloop of war of 19 eighteen pounders; at 7 A. M. he came up with us and fired two guns at us, which we returned with our stern chasers, and then we hailed him, asked where bound, answered to Jamaica; but he was bound to Newfoundland; he came on board of us with his boat, looked at our papers, and let us proceed.

January 28, at 2 A. M. saw a sail about one quarter of a mile distant; which kept on her course till she got right astern of us, then tacked about and gave chase to us, and came up with us; but squalls commencing at the time, she was obliged to heave to astern, and when she was coming the third time, we hoisted our colours and gave her a shot, then she came a little closer, hoisted French colors and gave us a shot; and at ten minutes past 4 A. M. commenced a hot action on both sides till half past 5 A. M. when the bore away from along side of us, but chased us till dark, and then altered her course; she had upwards of 60 or 70 men, on board, had three guns, and a great number of small arms; we only had one man wounded, though the shot flew like hail about our ears, and every broadside we gave her, we could perceive did great execution; we saw the world not venture again and we made sail.

Left Liverpool the 7th of December in company with the ship Fabius, of Norfolk, captain Black; when we made Fayal, (one of the Western Islands) we left him. In lat 24, 00, long 66, 00, fell in with a French privateer, who engaged us an hour and 25 minutes, within pistol shot the whole time, and sometimes closer; I supposed her to be just come out, as she was quite clean and had not less than 60 men on board; she kept a constant firing on us with small arms under our quarter, so that we could only get our stern chasers to bear on her, until she came up with an intention to board us; but she met with too warm a re-

ception, and thought proper to sheer off with the loss of about 20 or 30 of his men, and her fore-gaft and rigging about their ears; I am happy to say that our officers and men behaved like brave Americans during the whole action, and I have only to lament the loss of one man who died of his wounds next day.

## NEW THEATRE.

For the second time in America.

To-morrow Evening, February 21,

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. Wignall—Henry, Mr. Cain—Chevalier Von Hallwyl, Mr. Warren—Count Huga, Mr. Darley—Chevalier Walter Von Blonay, Mr. Bernard—Bruno, Mr. Wood—Benedick, Mr. Francis—Nicholas, Mr. Blisset—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 Solomons—Maid, (Countess Dowager of Burgundy) Mrs. Morris.

To which will be added, a Comic Opera, called

## THE SPANISH BARBER;

Or, Fruitless Precaution.

\* \* \* The Theatre will be opened on Saturday, and the performances appropriate to the ceremonies of the day—They will commence with an ELEGIAC ODE, accompanied by Vocal and Instrumental Music, dedicated to the memory of the late illustrious GEN. IN CHIEF of the Armies of the United States—After which the Tragedy of GUSTAVAS VASA.

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.

## SAMUEL ANDERSON,

STOCK BROKER.

Has removed his Office from S. Second street, to No. 134 Arch street, near Sixth st.

All orders will be punctually attended to. February 20. eozw

## JUST PUBLISHED,

And for sale by the principal Booksellers, A NEW TRANSLATION OF

## THE RUINS OF EMPIRES.

Price Two Dollars.

MR VOLNEY the author, when residing in the United States, examined the former translation and found it extremely erroneous—his meaning in many places perverted, and the style inelegant. In order to remove the false impressions made by this imperfect translation, he procured a friend, a gentleman of great learning, and well versed in the French language, with whose assistance the present translation was made under the eye of the author. The paper is of an excellent quality, and the typographical part correct and beautiful. February 20. st

## NOW IN THE PRESS,

And will be ready for sale in Boston, New York and in many other parts of the country, By the twenty second day of February,

## A POEM,

Sacred to the memory of GENERAL WASHINGTON.

By RICHARD ALSOP.

AMONG the excellent Eulogies on the character of this illustrious man, we presume it will be highly gratifying to the people of the United States to learn, that the task has been undertaken in verse, by a Poet of such distinguished genius as Mr. Alsop.

Why on this day, when erst in smiles array'd, Each cheerful man the signs of joy display'd, Why sounds you passing knell in accents slow, And rings each heart in unison of woe, Why drops you veteran soldier's hoary head, His hoar'd pride, his wonted ardent tread? These marks of woe no private loss the cause, No private grief the fear: from millions draws; But all a guardian friend, and fire deplore— THE GREAT THE IMMORTAL WASHINGTON'S NO MORE.

The above Poetical Eulogy will be for sale, on Saturday the 23d of this month, at the Bookstore of William Young, corner of Chestnut and Second Streets, Philadelphia. Feb. 20. st

## PLASTERING.

THE Subscriber having undertaken the plastering of the President's house in the city of Washington, wishes to engage twenty good hands, to whom he will give generous wages. To commence from the 1st of March. HUGH DENSLEY. February 20.

## Military Land Warrants.

### THE UNDERSIGNED

OFFERS his services to the holders of Military Land Warrants, to make Locations on the 17th instant; he will receive a less quantity than 4000 acres, and arrange them with others, so as to make a Quarter Township.

Having surveyed a district of the military tract, and since the completion of the survey, taken great pains to explore the interior parts of the townships and sections so as to be able, with precision, to designate the most valuable entries throughout the whole survey;

He flatters himself his information will be satisfactory to Gentlemen wishing to employ him—the tenth acre will be demanded for any less quantity than 1000 acres, furnished by one person—from one to four thousand acres, the twelfth—and for any greater quantity, the fifteenth.

For further information apply at No. 67 north Second Street.

### JOHN G. JACKSON.

N. B. He will also act as agent for any person holding lands in the western part of Virginia, and give good security (if required) for his integrity and attendance. February 6. 41f