

"To rail at the times at large, can serve no good purpose: and generally ariseth from a want of knowledge, or a want of honesty."

IT is usually expected that writers, who enter upon a course of publications, should exhibit some outlines of a plan. This, in the present instance, is not practicable, with any degree of precision. With respect to this undertaking, the writer can better inform the publick, what he intends to avoid, than what he expects to perform. His attention will be entirely withdrawn from every subject or occurrence that is calculated to excite party spirit.—How far the intrigues of clubs or the jars of faction may eventually have a good or bad effect on society, enters not into the views of this publication. It can be of no importance to an author to ascertain the relative character of sects or parties; when his plan only requires him to establish such maxims, and to recommend such institutions and habits, as will not counteract the honest purposes of any man, whatever may be his ideas respecting forms of government or religion. A writer, who professes truth for his aim, and adopts reason for his guide, will not have occasion implicitly to follow the tracks of any avowed partizan. It is not presumed, however, that this performance will not participate of prejudices and mistakes. It is only declared that the topics shall generally be of such a nature, as offer the least temptation to error.

The common interest and happiness of communities, as well as individuals, leads in many essential respects, to a determinate point. There are many political subjects that are so doubtful and perplexed, that the mind, after the most impartial investigation, does not find complete satisfaction. It is however, a consolation, that truths are generally useless in proportion as they are enveloped in darkness. The most important principles are so obvious, that the natural reason of man can discern their propriety: When they are fairly explained, they will seldom be disputed. The most useful qualities and actions accord so well with the common sense and feelings of people, that we are less apt to disown than to imitate them. Why then does it happen that men have errors in opinions or practice? Perhaps one leading cause may be, that the mind is so much occupied in vain or impracticable researches, that the reason gets perverted or obscured. By this means it loses its natural clearness in the management of things, which otherwise would easily come within its reach. It shall be the object of this run of papers, to touch upon such subjects as are calculated to afford amusement or instruction, without disturbing society with calumny and petulance.

NEW-YORK, April, 1789.

DESCRIPTION.

The following extract from a letter handed to the publisher, may be amusing, if not instructive.

IT REFERS TO FACTS.

"AGREEABLY to my engagement, I now propose giving you some account of my visit to the Hon. Mr. —, of —, in the county of —. This gentleman you have often heard is an extensive Landholder, a great Farmer, and very affluent in other property.—His mansion-house in P—, is a very handsome, capacious and convenient Edifice, pleasantly situated on the declivity of a hill fronting the South, and commands a very extensive prospect.—There are at proper distances, every necessary building, both for the farming business, and for pleasurable accommodation—coach-house, barns, mills, granaries, poultry-yards, &c. &c. The last are constantly receiving the produce of 500 acres of land highly cultivated; so that there is a perpetual supply for the family, and domesticks, of every species of provision that fancy could imagine, or luxury desire.

Mr. —, the truly benevolent owner of this delightful retreat, supports in his stile of living, that old fashioned hospitality, which we sometimes see extolled in books, but have seldom known to be realized: His house is the seat of ease and elegance, and his happiness is evidently encreased by the presence of his guests, and the tokens of pleasure which they discover: To the poor of the town he is a daily benefactor: Constant provision is made for them as if they were part of his family. He takes the lead in every project that has publick utility for its basis—hence the roads, bridges, &c. of the town are improved and repaired—hence his name is at the head of every subscription for just and charitable designs, supporting with decency the minister of the parish, keeping the place of publick worship in repair, encouraging manufactures and experiments in agriculture, &c. In addition to these, he is not ashamed to set the best example to his neighbours, by constantly and regularly attending divine service with all his numerous family and domesticks.—Such a character is a blessing to the community in which he resides—he is the steward of the favours of Providence—beloved and happy in life, he sees the influence of his benevolent example extending far and wide—and views the approach of the King of Terrors with calmness and serenity.

MASSACHUSETTS, 1789.

Extract from the minutes of the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society for the Encouragement of Manufactures, &c.

ANTHONY MORRIS, Sec'y.

PHILADELPHIA, March 24, 1789.

PREMIUM, No. 15,

OFFERED by the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society for the Encouragement of Manufactures, to the person who shall discover and produce to this Society the greatest variety of specimens, with certificates of the greatest quantity of painters colours, drawn from the fossils and earths of the United States, on or before the 31st day of December 1788; a plate of gold, &c. of the value of 50 dollars.

THE committee, to whom were referred the specimens of painters colours presented by Mr. SYLVANUS BISHOP, of the city of New-Haven, and state of Connecticut, report, that after consulting several painters and dealers in painters colours, respecting the quality of the specimens, and subjecting them to chymical analysis, they are induced to believe, that some of the yellow specimens are nearly equal to the imported ochres of the same colour, and that they are composed of the ingredients which constitute ochres, although, perhaps, not so well freed from foreign substances, as those which are imported; they are therefore of opinion, that Mr. BISHOP is entitled to the premium offered by this Board, and that he is deserving of the attention of the friends of the Manufactures of America.

AT a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society, for the Encouragement of Manufactures and the useful arts, held March 23d, A. D. 1789, the report of the committee, on the application of Mr. SYLVANUS BISHOP, of the city of New-Haven, and state of Connecticut, for the premium No. 15, offered by the Board, was read and unanimously adopted; Whereupon resolved, that the Secretary be requested to communicate the report of the committee, and its adoption by the Board, by letter to Mr. BISHOP.

Extract from the Minutes of the Board,

ANTHONY MORRIS, Sec'y.

PHILADELPHIA, March 23, 1789.

AGRICULTURAL EXTRACT.

From the GENTLEMEN'S MAGAZINE for December, 1788.

"IT was observed in a late paper, that one farmer collected 14000 bushels apples: According to the usual quantity of 20 bushels to a hoghead, he made 700 hogheads of Cyder. And that is nothing singular in the county of Hereford; there is a farmer there who will make from 300 to 500 this year.

ANECDOTE.

A Gentleman who used indecent language in presence of his son, a fine likely lad—was very delicately reproved by a friend, who lamented that the young gentleman should be so unfortunate as to be deaf,—'deaf,' said the gentleman with surprize! yes Sir, replied his friend, or you surely would not have given your self such a latitude in speaking before him.

OBSERVATIONS.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

A FREE PRESS has been justly considered as the palladium of liberty—the scourge of tyrants—the terror of Sycophants—and the detector and dread of mock patriots and demagogues;—it is likewise a developer of daring machinations against the peace of society—the schemes of ambition, avarice and speculation.

It is a most powerful engine to counteract the plans of policy which may be laid by aristocratical jntos, for their own aggrandizement, and the depression of the people; as also to stem the torrent and expose the injustice of the majority of an overbearing and arbitrary Democracy. In short its effects on publick men, and publick measures, are such, that the degrees of freedom and safety, which any community enjoys, may generally be calculated by the independency and free state of the press in such community.

How highly then to be valued, and how sacredly to be preserved, is this sublime privilege! The citizens of America are justly tenacious of this darling birthright. They are nurtured in the ennobling idea—that to think what they please, and to speak, write and publish their sentiments with decency on every subject, constitute the dignified character of Americans. Having derived the most permanent advantages from this source, viz. superior light and knowledge upon the great subjects of liberty, laws and government; and having been inspired by sentiments of heroism and sound policy derived from this origin, to establish an independent empire, and adopt a glorious federal constitution; they are enthusiastick to preserve and perpetuate this inestimable jewel.

Our children, the rising generation from the copious streams which continually issue from this fountain, early imbibe the same independent principles, and by this medium we may anticipate the transmission of political knowledge, virtue and patriotism, thro' a long lapse of years, producing a race of heroes, freemen and statesmen, till time, the invincible leveller of states and empires, shall stop the revolutions of nature.

The adoption of the Federal Constitution by this great and various people, may be ascribed to the Freedom of the Press; this is an event unparalleled in the annals of mankind; and the more it is contemplated, the greater is the admiration of the philosopher, and the citizen of the world.—While the bosoms of the patriot and philanthropist exult in anticipating the complete triumph of reason in a firm establishment of this System. C.

THE Publick approbation alone can give stability and success to any undertaking which must ultimately depend upon public opinion: This idea has generally induced the Editors of new publications to attempt anticipating that approbation through the medium of professions, which, to say the least, are, too seldom realized: The Editor of the GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES would avoid, as far as possible, the imputation that has been frequently and justly incurred upon account of professions never substantiated.

Should the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES prove a faithful register of publick transactions, especially those of the great council of the nation, the FEDERAL LEGISLATURE; he HOPES it will be patronized by those who feel interested in the welfare of the union; the patriots and independent freemen of our country.

Should it contain a competent detail of foreign and domestic intelligence; revolutions in commerce; discoveries in various parts of the globe, opening new sources of wealth to enterprising adventurers; rise and fall of stocks; prices current, &c. he HOPES it will receive the support of mercantile characters.

Should the great body of mechanics find that their important interests are attended to; that improvements and discoveries in their several branches claim an early and constant insertion.

Should this Gazette be the happy instrument of pointing out various plans, by which the music of the AX and HAMMER may again be heard in our cities, the Editor cannot but HOPE for their generous encouragement.

Should something worthy the notice of the great farming interest of our country (the bulwark of freedom and equal laws) be exhibited from time to time, the editor HOPES for their patronage. Improvements in agriculture are of the first consequence to our young, our rising country; and the labours that tend to affect this desirable object, are the result of the purest patriotism, and should demand the constant attention of the Editors of periodical publication.

The Editor HOPES that the wealthy part of the community will become patrons of this publication, as it is but just to say, that every project, which has been obviously calculated for publick utility, has met with prompt and generous encouragement from those whom Providence has blessed with affluence; without their assistance, the noble plans now on foot for the promotion of MANUFACTURES, ARTS and SCIENCES, must have proved abortive; their liberal efforts on many recent occasions, have given a spring to the publick mind. Should the Gazette of the United States suggest improvable hints, or feasible projects, which must depend upon the PURSE for their maturity, it cannot fail of being countenanced by the RICH and public spirited.

The great and momentous subject of Education is hourly appreciating in its importance: That part of the NEW CONSTITUTION, which opens the door to every man of every rank, possessing VIRTUE and ABILITIES, to the highest honours in the great American Republick, has expanded the views of every American.

This idea, places the business of Education in a point of light, in which it never has before been viewed; a point in which it cannot be considered in any other country upon the face of the earth. The MIDDLING and LOWER CLASS of CITIZENS will therefore find their account in becoming subscribers for this Gazette, should it pay a particular regard to this great subject. Full justice cannot perhaps be done to it; but every attempt to illustrate and enforce its importance, must insure the applause of every person who feels the dignity of a rational being, or who prizes the birthright of an American.

Ignorance is the parent of all human degradation; every attempt therefore to disseminate the rays of knowledge will receive the applause of the truly benevolent. The happiness of mankind being inseparably connected with the practice of religious, moral and social duties, it becomes obligatory upon the Editors of publick papers, to pay a distinguished regard to every idea that may be suggested upon these important points, upon general principles, avoiding tedious dissertations upon abstruse and metaphysical subjects; Those essays that have a natural tendency to refine our manners, humanize the heart, and exalt our natures, should claim a distinguished attention. So far as the Gazette of the United States shall be instrumental in diffusing sentiments of justice, humanity and benevolence—those great moral virtues, it will doubtless receive the support of the Reverend Clergy.

In short, should this Gazette support the character of a NATIONAL, IMPARTIAL and INDEPENDENT CONVEYANCER to all parts of the Union, of News, Politics, and Miscellanies, the approbation and patronage of a generous publick will doubtless reward the exertions of

The EDITOR.

APRIL,	H.W.	S.r.&f.	REMARKS.
15 Wed.	0 50	5 26 7	Sun dec. 10 deg. N.
16 Thur.	1 36	5 25 7	
17 Fri.	2 22	5 24 7	

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