

to the support of one wellfed draft horse, which, if cultivated by the spade, would maintain twelve of the human species. Admitting his calculation on a much lower scale, it is as easy to conceive how beneficially inland communication by water must operate in the reduction of animals, and what has been proved before a committee of the English House of commons in the year 1774, will give a pretty clear idea thereof. In that year it was demonstrated, that the heavy goods which passed in one year through Stamford-hill, Hackney and Mile-end gates, amounted to 304,278 tons, the carriage of which would employ upwards of 608,556 horses; whereas in barges, the same may be drawn by 7,608; a saving in the maintainance of 600,248 horses.

Died WILLIAM EDWARD, architect and bridge-builder; or the Rev. Wm. Edward; for he sustained both characters with equal assiduity and ability: The celebrated bridge on the river Taaff, called *Pont y tu Pridd* (by the English New Bridge) was constructed by him: It is the segment of a circle, whose chord at the surface of the water is 147 feet, and is the boldest and largest arch in Europe: He was then a common mason, and methodist preacher: His fame was diffused thro' England, and his assistance sought where ever difficulties occurred in constructing bridges: He retained his passion for religious exercises; and conducted a large and mingled congregation of methodists and independents, and built bridges, to the age of 71; at which he died, venerated even among contending sects for his exemplary piety, and, for his inventive genius and talents, ranked among the real benefactors of mankind.

UNITED STATES.

NEW-YORK, DECEMBER 5.

Yesterday His Excellency WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, and the Hon. JOHN BEATTY, Esq. presented the following Address to THE PRESIDENT, in behalf of the State of New-Jersey.

To THE PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

THE Legislature of New-Jersey, altho fully sensible of the trouble and interruption occasioned by the numerous addresses of congratulation, on your acceptance of the highest office in the Commonwealth, would neither forgive themselves, nor expect the pardon of their constituents, should they neglect in this their first meeting, after the organization of the Federal Government, to express their joy, on seeing you at the head of the United States.

New-Jersey having been the central theatre of the late war, and the scene of some of the most important military operations, which distinguished the American armies, and added new honors to their illustrious Commander, we are particularly induced to commemorate those brilliant exploits, which, while they immortalized your name, afforded peace and security to the inhabitants of the State.

Adulation, Sir, we are as much indisposed to offer, as you can be disinclined to receive; but while we add our voice to that of the world, in celebrating your military achievements, we cannot refrain from acknowledging the attention, which you have always paid to the laws of the State, and your inflexible perseverance, amidst all the dire necessities of war, in preferring the rights of the citizen, to the convenience of the soldier; thus while equal to the most renowned warriors as a Hero, you have proved yourself superior to them as a Citizen.

As New-Jersey was early and unanimous in adopting the Constitution, under which you rule—As every voice called you forth to the office of Chief Magistrate, and every person looks up to it and you for protection, prosperity, and good government, we may, we trust, assure you, that the citizens of this State will, to the utmost of their abilities, ever strengthen and support you in the discharge of your high and momentous trust.

We have reason to adore the divine Providence, in raising up for us a Leader and Ruler, so perfectly suited to our situation and circumstances, and sincerely believe, that great and important as your services have been, you will not derive more honor therefrom, than from your humility and self-denial, in modestly ascribing all, as you constantly have done, to the power and wisdom of the Most High.

We earnestly pray, that the same kind Providence which has conducted you with so much honor to yourself, and such unspeakable felicity to the public, may long continue you a blessing to the United States, in your present important office, and at last crown you with that palm of victory, which is promised to those, who by Divine assistance shall finally prove to be more than conquerors.

House of Assembly, November 30, 1789.
Signed in and by order of the House,
JOHN BEATTY, Speaker.
Council-Chamber, December 1, 1789.
Signed in and by order of Council,
WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, President.

THE ANSWER.

To the Honorable the LEGISLATURE of the State of NEW-JERSEY.

GENTLEMEN,
IN replying to the flattering and affectionate address, with which you are pleased to honor me, I confess a want of expression to convey the grateful sentiments which it inspires. You will do justice to those sentiments, by believing that they are founded in sincere regard, and respectful esteem.

The opportunities which were afforded me, in the trying vicissitudes of our arduous struggle, to remark the generous spirit which animated the exertions of your citizens, have impressed a remembrance of their worth, which no length of time, or change of circumstance can efface.

To the gallantry and firmness of their efforts in the field, they have added the wisdom and liberality of distinguished patriotism in Council: Appreciating, with judicious discernment, the blessings of that independence, which their efforts contributed to establish, they were unanimously agreed to secure and perpetuate them, by adopting a Constitution, which promised equal and efficient protection to the privileges of confederated America.

The assurance now given by your honorable body, to support the federal system, is a renewed proof of the estimation in which it is held, and a happy indication of the beneficial effects already experienced, and hereafter expected to flow, from its operations.—As such it is to me peculiarly grateful, and must be so to every citizen of the Union, whose wish is private prosperity and public honor.

Allow me, Gentlemen, to assure you of every endeavor on my part, to promote these desirable objects.

In making my acknowledgments for the favorable opinions you express of my military conduct, as it respected the observance of civil-rights, it is justice to assign great merit to the temper of those citizens, whose estates were more immediately the scene of warfare. Their personal services were rendered without constraint, and the derangement of their affairs submitted to, without dis-

satisfaction: It was the triumph of patriotism over personal consideration, and our present enjoyments of peace and freedom reward the sacrifice.

Imploping a continuance of these enjoyments to our Country, and individual happiness to the citizens, who procured them, I offer up a sincere prayer for you Gentlemen, and your Constituents.
G. WASHINGTON.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PROGRESS of LIFE, OR THE PRODIGAL SON.

WITH anxious care, nurs'd in our tender years,
Till life's full bloom a parent's love appears;
But, when to manly vigour we attain,
The bonds are loos'd, and we assume the reign;
Impatient of control, our souls on fire,
Mount on the wings of hope, and strong desire:
Ten thousand pleasures tempt our minds to roam,
Till truth and virtue guide us wand'ers home.
The Prodigal in sacred story known,
Is but the picture of each giddy son;
In foreign climes, his patrimony spends,
Till want in ev'ry dismal form attends;
Dear-bought experience taught him to be wise;
The hulks of vice and folly to despise.
Shame and contrition in his bosom burn,
And joy and feasting hail'd his bliss return!
Paternal love pervades the mansion round—
My Son was dead, was lost—he lives! is found!

PHILADELPHIA, November 28.

Thursday morning, about half past two, a fire broke out at a house in Third-street, next door to the Bunch of Grapes Tavern, which had arrived at such a height before it was discovered, either by those within, or by the watchmen, that the whole was involved in a vivid flame, and entirely consumed. A poor woman, with her two sons perished.

SPRINGFIELD, NOVEMBER 25.

We are informed that the Hon. Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College, at a late meeting, conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on his Excellency JOHN SULLIVAN, Esq. President of the State of New-Hampshire, and the Hon. PAUL WENTWORTH, Esq. of London.

NEW-YORK, DECEMBER 5.

IMPORTANT NEWS!

By the arrival of a Packet, in five days from Wilmington, North-Carolina, we have received the agreeable intelligence that the Convention of that State ADOPTED THE NEW CONSTITUTION, on the 20th ult.

For the adoption, 193
Against it, 75

Majority, 118

The Ratification of the Constitution by the State of North-Carolina is an event of the highest political consequence to the Union, as it leaves but the shadow of a schism in the Bond that unites the great Federal Republic. This is an additional ray to the fame and glory of our Country, and there is no doubt but Rhode-Island will be illuminated by it, to see wherein her real interest lies.

Letters from *Post-Vincennes*, inform that that situation has been very sickly the season past—that the Indians have been troublesome and several murders have been committed by them in the neighborhood of that place.

Rousseau, Chesterfield, and Voltaire, according to the English paragraphs, severally predicted the revolution of France! It is really laughable that those should be dubbed prophets after their death, who spent their whole lives in ridiculing every kind of pre-cognition; but there is no doubt that some persons can more easily discover the origin of Gallic Freedom, in the fabricated predictions of sceptic philosophers, than in the spark which was struck from the Altar of American Liberty!

So far as our Information extends, the late FEDERAL THANKSGIVING has been attended in the several States with that solemnity which became the important occasion. One advantage which has resulted from the Supreme Executives' of the individual States having republished the proclamation of THE PRESIDENT, has been, that the people have thereby been more fully acquainted with this truly federal and devout recommendation of testifying our gratitude as a people, to the SOVEREIGN LORD OF ALL, for his innumerable favors conferred upon the United States—and the only possible disadvantage that can arise from the non-interference of any particular State is, that some parts of the Union, or of some particular States, not possessing, so fully as others, the means of information, may have been led, through ignorance, to a neglect of the duties enjoined.

If, while the community at large has been solemnly engaged in acts of public thanksgiving and praise, any individuals have availed themselves of the opportunity to pursue their common business, we may compliment their shrewdness, and keen relish for gain; but it will be at the expense of their patriotism, complaisance, and good citizenship.

ARRIVALS.—NEW-YORK.

Wednesday, Sloop Union, Watson, Philadelphia, 8 days.
Thursday, Schooner Betty, Billings, Washington, 9 days.
Schooner Neptune, Jones, Curacao, 31 days.
Schooner Sincerity, White, Baltimore, 21 days.
Schooner Sydney, Todd, Wilmington, N. C. 4 days.
Sloop Cato, Mills, Baltimore, 8 days.
Sloop Wilmington Packet, Bramby, Wilmington, 8 days.
Schooner Nancy, Lewis, Richmond, Virginia, 9 days.
Friday, Sloop Hunter, Foreman, Edenton, N. C. 4 days.
Sloop Exchange, Biggs, Richmond, Vir. 6 days.

“It may be questioned, whether it is a greater point of wisdom to discover knowledge, than to hide ignorance.”

ONE of the most respectable men of my acquaintance is a person who speaks very little. People in general believe him to be sensible, though no smart thing, he ever said, can be quoted; nor can any other reason be given, why he is reputed a man of sense, but because he never betrays any weakness in conversation. There is however a still better reason, why he is on such good terms with mankind: He not only has prudence to conceal his own defects; but he has not penetration to discern those of other people. This want of discernment is called candor and politeness; while his ignorance is so covered, as to acquire the dignified appellations of reflection and gravity. When he is silent he is supposed to be in deep contemplation; and when he speaks, though he discovers neither spirit or sentiment, he is still thought to shew wonderful sagacity. His remarks are not of importance enough to meet with opposition, and they are delivered with so much formality as to lull all suspicion of their being dull or uninteresting.

The secret of hiding one's ignorance is a very useful acquisition. It spares the trouble of acquiring knowledge, and escapes the disadvantages that result from such a deficiency. Indeed a man who has learned to put on a solemn air of mystery, when a subject is discussed, which he does not understand, will often be appealed to, in settling any points in dispute that rise out of the discussion. He has only to evade giving any answer at all, and his wisdom will be applauded. It is certain he gives no specimen of folly, which can seldom be said of a man who is prone to much conversation. Too much stress is apt to be laid on a ceremonious kind of reserve. Men of this stamp pass themselves off for much more than they are worth. When they are employed in public life their measures are slow and inefficacious, and none of their plans are attended with vigour and utility. And yet it is almost impossible to dislodge them from any respectable post, they have once taken. They excite no active envy, and a man of a noble, generous spirit is ashamed to be found as their competitor. As they do no positive harm, they meet with no ill-will; and it is rather difficult to prove that a man, who does and says nothing, is destitute of capacity. I will conclude this short essay with the reply of a philosopher, who was once asked what he thought of a person who had been sitting a considerable time in the company, without speaking a word.—“If,” said the philosopher, “he is a fool, he acts the part of a wife man; and if he is a wife man, he acts the part of a fool.”

NATIONAL MONITOR.—No. XXIX.

Ours is the present—let us then be blest,
Since pleasing prospects on the future rest.

THE lot of mankind is uncertainty, fear and inquietude:—the whole force of our faculties is exerted through life, to abate the effects of these invariable attendants on human existence.—To this point our views are directed in all the enterprises and hazards in which we engage—when we form connections, increase our cares, and add to our labors: Societies and communities owe their origin to the same cause—and in forming systems of government for extensive operation, certainty, security, and tranquility, are the great impelling principles: But, from the imperfection of human wisdom, the best concerted plans often miscarry, and totally disappoint our expectations. After all our endeavors to guard against adverse contingencies, we leave the same, or a similar course of labors, to our successors: For though one generation may be wiser than another, yet every generation has much to learn.

From these considerations, candor should regulate our judgments, and modesty restrain our censures, in considering those institutions which require time to ascertain their intrinsic excellence, or appositeness to the object they are designed to obtain. Systems of government, founded upon a freedom of choice, must be viewed in the light of experiments—for to suppose them unalterable, involves the greatest absurdities. It has been observed, however, that those who have arrogated to themselves a more tender feeling for the liberties of the people than their neighbors, have objected to the New Constitution, because it has been called by some of its friends an Experiment: But the question is, Whether there is not greater danger to the liberties of the people in rendering that unalterable, which from the imperfection of human nature, cannot be supposed perfect, than there is, in trusting to experience to point out its defects, and leaving the people at liberty to mend them, as prudence shall dictate? The perfection of government is, necessarily, a progressive work—Upon this principle, the good sense of the free citizens of America, has led them to adopt that System which is now happily brought into operation—for perfection, antecedent to trial, is an idea that never entered into the heart of any man, honestly disposed to any government at all.

The effects of System are gradually to be observed: They should not be partially considered—a comprehensive view must be taken. Revolutions in government, founded on general principles, produce no local, or temporary consequences, by which their utility is to be determined: It is to the common, combined, and essential interests of the whole community, we must extend our views.—If we perceive that the great body of the people are tranquil, industrious and enterprising, we cannot fairly trace these circumstances to any other source, than their confidence in the government:—If we observe that the Commerce, Arts, Agriculture, and Manufactures of the States, are emerging from depression, extending and flourishing, it is from an anticipation of security and protection under the administration of Law and Justice:—If we find the general sentiment is hostile to temporizing schemes, tender laws, and paper money, it is because the people recognize the spirit of that Constitution, which has forever shut the door against such iniquitous and ruinous expedients:—If universal and unbounded respect is shewn to the Supreme Executive of the United States, and the public expectation is drawn to the administration of the general Government, as to the common centre of Hope and Happiness—it is evident that Union and Harmony reign triumphant through the States, and that the universal desire is, that the Constitution should have a fair trial.