

# Gazette of the United States.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS BY JOHN FENNO, No. 9, MAIDEN-LANE, NEW-YORK.

[No. XCV.]

WEDNESDAY, MARCH, 10, 1790.

PRICE THREE DOLLARS PR. ANN.

## THE TABLET.

No. XCV.

"There is a certain frivolous fallshood that people indulge themselves in, which ought to be had in greater detestation than it commonly meets with."

IT is no small inconvenience for a man to be doubted as to the truth of any thing he asserts. Many people acquire a habit of speaking at random on indifferent matters, and without being aware of it, most of the information they communicate is either false or incorrect. The consequence of this negligent mode of speaking is, that a person cannot be believed when he really speaks the truth.

People of a warm imagination are apt to exaggerate facts to such a degree, that whenever they make an assertion, the hearer at once supposes great allowance is to be made, as the representation is so far beyond the reality. There is another sort of men, whom one should believe with great restrictions. I mean those indolent persons, who never enquire into the circumstances of an affair, but take up and circulate every report that comes in their way.

Whatever may be the cause that leads a person aside from the truth, he will find a great inconvenience, in having his word scrupled. Nothing will secure to a man the reputation of veracity but a most rigid attention to the propriety of what he communicates. It is true that a man may be disbelieved in all he says, and yet no person will be so uncivil as to charge him with uttering fallshoods. There is a genteel way of evading any direct charge in the matter. A man prone to an extravagant manner of conversation gains little belief. His acquaintance modestly say of him, that they cannot strictly rely on what he asserts, because he is accustomed to exaggerate. He supposes such a charge conveys no reproach, and he bears it with good humour. But it would be well for him to trace the effects of such a character. He soon forfeits the confidence of his friends; and his veracity, though not explicitly called in question, can give no currency to his words. A careless man likewise, who is too indolent to investigate the truth of any matter, gets into an habit of mistaking things, and rendering suspicious whatever he alleges. Such a man, to be sure, is not called a liar, but still he never can be believed. When a person derives every disadvantage that could result from being called a liar, it is of no great importance simply to avoid the character.

Few men sufficiently estimate the advantages of a reputation for truth and sincerity. It saves a person much trouble in his common intercourse with the world. For if any one has often been known to misrepresent a state of facts, whatever may have been his motive, he must, in order to gain belief, produce something more valid than his own assertions. On the contrary, a man who has never been discovered in misrepresentations, will find no difficulty in having his word received for truth.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.  
LETTER.—No. VI.

MR. FENNO,

As the plan I am to unfold grounds itself, and depends entirely on the generosity of the nation for its execution; it inspires me with the greatest confidence that it will be crowned with success: Able heads than mine may propose better means for the gradual abolition of slavery, and the happiness of the African free negroes, living now among us; but no one can fix his plan on a more solid dependence—I would propose:

That Congress be requested to grant to every free negro man, or family, a tract of land in the district hereafter mentioned, proportioned to what they can cultivate, but of no value in trade till occupied by him, his heirs, or those to whom it was granted. That when a certain number of applications has been made for obtaining that favor, that a strong situation be chosen, such appears to be the Peninsula formed by lake Huron, lake Michigan, and lake Superior, south St. Mary's strait and falls, on Pouchitanui river, west of the said lands of the Peninsula, for a colonial town. That at first these free negroes be provided with the most necessary tools, and transplanted there at the expence of the Commonwealth; that a governor, judges, white citizens, be appointed, and such other measures as the wisdom of government shall direct be adopted to direct the colony in its infant state: That in future when any gentleman manumits his slave, he is to apply for the free grant of a land certificate, and pay the costs of necessary tools and transportation to government: That government may be requested to lay heavy fines on the importation of slaves, but that it may be lawful for the freemen to sell their slaves for misbehavior, under warrant of a Judge, in the West-India islands: That it may be lawful to have, near, or in the next parish church, Sunday Schools, to teach the young Negro slave, reading, religion, and morals.

The benefits of such measures would be, that as reward, punishment, and instruction, go hand in hand, the slave will become trusty, less troublesome, and more profitable to his master; the fear of being sent to the Islands will mend his conduct; the hopes of freedom and wealth will excite him to deserve them; the Augean stable will be cleaned without loss of property; the general mass of slaves will become ripe for freedom; their great number unnecessary to agriculture; and as the resources of the nation appear to me matchless by any now on the globe, it may in future be coinciding with the wisdom of our rulers to offer a generous price for the slave thus become fit for freedom and colonization.

But as colonization has lost much of its credit, I will take a slight survey of this matter. Where there is uncultivated land, colonization is prejudicial; it lessens the progress of agriculture, and the increase of population in the mother country: In modern Europe, Portugal, Spain, and even England are the examples of this; Holland is an exception, because there is almost no land, except in Guelderland, the rest of the Dutch inhabit chiefly marshes, diked and dammed; trade is the field they have to cultivate—this draws foreigners, who replenish what colonization exhausts.

In Asia it is advantageous to the Chinese, because almost every inch of land is cultivated, or usefully employed, and its consequence, population, raised to such a pitch, that the southern borders of the sea are lined with barges, justly compared to permanent floating towns and villages, as the law forbids an individual born thereon to sleep on shore. Colonization is also beneficial there, because the colonies are trading ones, established in the Asiatic islands, and on India's continental shore, and because the Chinese is so attached to his native soil, that when industry has gained him a maintenance he returns home.

To the United States, colonization will be a triumph; it will be performed within their own territory; it will be a strong frontier establishment, commanding three lakes, besides other advantages for time to ripen, and the government bestowed on the African men, will attach a permanent and inestimable jewel to the brilliancy of the national character.

And now Sir, I thank you for the place you have given to my letters in your elegant, useful, and philosophical paper: Farewell, you will hear no more from me, as in obedience to the first law of nature relative to man, I take the plough in hand, to scratch my mother's pate.

RUSTICUS.

## CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

At the SECOND Session, begun and held at the City of New-York, on Monday the Fourth of January, 1790.

### An ACT providing for the enumeration of the Inhabitants of the United States.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Marshals of the several districts of the United States, shall be, and they are hereby authorized and required to cause the number of the inhabitants within their respective districts to be taken; omitting in such enumeration Indians not taxed, and distinguishing free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, from all others, distinguishing also the sexes and colours of free persons, and the free males of sixteen years and upwards from those under that age; for effecting which purpose, the Marshals shall have power to appoint as many Assistants within their respective districts, as to them shall appear necessary; assigning to each Assistant a certain division of his district, which division shall consist of one or more counties, cities, towns, townships, hundreds or parishes, or of a territory plainly and distinctly bounded by water courses, mountains, or public roads. The Marshals and their Assistants shall respectively take an oath or affirmation, before some judge or justice of the peace, resident within their respective districts, previous to their entering on the discharge of the duties by this act required. The oath or affirmation of the Marshal shall be, "I, A. B. Marshal of the district of do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will well, and truly cause to be made, a just and perfect enumeration and description of all persons resident within my district, and return the same to the President of the United States, agreeably to the directions of an act of Congress, entitled, 'An act providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States,' according to the best of my ability." The oath or affirmation of an Assistant shall be, "I, A. B. do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will make a just and perfect enumeration and description of all persons resident within the division assigned to me, by the Marshal of the district of and make due return thereof to the said Marshal, agreeably to the directions of an act of Congress, entitled, 'An act providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States,' according to the best of my ability. The enumeration shall commence on the first Monday in August next, and shall close within nine calendar months thereafter: the several Assistants shall, within the said nine months, transmit to the Marshals by whom they shall be respectively appointed, accurate returns of all persons, except Indians not taxed, within their respective divisions, which returns shall be made in a schedule, distinguishing the several families by the names of their master, mistress, steward, overseer, or other principal person therein, in manner following, that is to say:

The number of persons within my division, consisting of appears in a schedule hereunto annexed, subscribed by me, this day of one thousand seven hundred and ninety A. B. Assistant to the Marshal of

Schedule of the whole Number of Persons within the Division allotted to A. B.

Names of heads of families.	Free White Males of sixteen years, and upwards, including Heads of Families.	Free White Males under sixteen years.	Free White Females, including Heads of Families.	All other Free Persons.	Slaves.

And be it further enacted, That every Assistant failing to make return, or making a false return of the enumeration to the Marshal, within the time by this act limited, shall forfeit the sum of two hundred dollars.

And be it further enacted, that the Marshals shall file the several returns aforesaid, with the clerks of their respective district courts, who are hereby directed to receive and carefully preserve the same: And the Marshals respectively shall, on or before the first day of September, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, transmit to the President of the United States, the aggregate amount of each description of persons within their respective districts. And every Marshal failing to file the returns of his Assistant, or any of them, with the clerks of their respective district courts, or failing to return the aggregate amount of each description of persons in their respective districts, as the same shall appear from said returns, to the President of the United States, within the time limited by this act, shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of eight hundred dollars; all which forfeitures shall be recoverable in the courts of the districts, where the offences shall be committed, or in the circuit courts to be held within the

same, by action of debt, information or indictment; the one half thereof to the use of the United States, and the other half to the informer; but where the prosecution shall be first instituted on behalf of the United States, the whole shall accrue to their use. And for the more effectual discovery of offences, the Judges of the several District Courts, at their next sessions, to be held after the expiration of the time allowed for making the returns of the enumeration hereby directed, to the President of the United States, shall give this act in charge to the Grand Juries, in their respective courts, and shall cause the returns of the several Assistants to be laid before them, for their inspection.

And be it further enacted, That every Assistant shall receive at the rate of one dollar for every one hundred and fifty persons by him returned, where such persons reside in the country; and where such persons reside in a city, or town, containing more than five thousand persons, such Assistant shall receive at the rate of one dollar, for every three hundred persons; but where, from the dispersed situation of the inhabitants in some divisions, one dollar for every one hundred and fifty persons shall be insufficient, the Marshals, with the approbation of the Judges of their respective districts, may make such further allowance to the Assistants in such divisions, as shall be deemed an adequate compensation, provided the same does not exceed one dollar for every fifty persons by them returned. The several marshals shall receive as follows: the Marshal of the district of Maine, two hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of New-Hampshire, two hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Massachusetts, three hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Connecticut, two hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of New-York, three hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of New-Jersey, two hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Pennsylvania, three hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Delaware, one hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Maryland, three hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Virginia, five hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Kentucky, two hundred and fifty dollars; the marshal of the district of North-Carolina, three hundred and fifty dollars; the marshal of the district of South-Carolina, three hundred dollars; the marshal of the district of Georgia, two hundred and fifty dollars. And to obviate all doubts which may arise respecting the persons to be returned and the manner of making returns.

Be it enacted, that every person whose usual place of abode shall be in any family on the aforesaid 1st Monday in August next, shall be returned as of such family; and the name of every person, who shall be an inhabitant of any district, but without a settled place of residence, shall be inserted in the column of the aforesaid schedule, which is allotted for the heads of families, in that division where he or she shall be on the said 1st Monday in August next—and every person occasionally absent at the time of the enumeration, as belonging to that place in which he usually resides in the United States.

And be it further enacted, That each and every person more than sixteen years of age, whether heads of families or not, belonging to any family within any division of a district made or established within the United States, shall be, and hereby is obliged to render to such Assistant of the division, a true account if required, to the best of his or her knowledge, of all and every person belonging to such family respectively, according to the several descriptions aforesaid, on pain of forfeiting twenty dollars, to be sued for and recovered by such Assistant, the one half for his own use, and the other half for the use of the United States.

And be it further enacted, That each Assistant shall, previous to making his return to the Marshal, cause a correct copy, signed by himself, of the schedule, containing the number of inhabitants within his division, to be set up at two of the most public places within the same, there to remain for the inspection of all concerned; for each of which copies the said Assistant shall be entitled to receive two dollars, provided proof of a copy of the schedule having been so set up and suffered to remain, shall be transmitted to the Marshal, with the return of the number of persons; and in case any Assistant shall fail to make such proof to the Marshal, he shall forfeit the compensation by this act allowed him.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States.

and President of the Senate.

APPROVED, MARCH THE 1st, 1790.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

### ANECDOTE OF GEORGE II.

ONE of the finest instances of the sublime we ever heard of, is not as we imagine, any where recorded:—George the Second was at Drury-lane Theatre, when the Culloden dispatches were presented to him, from the Duke of Cumberland, his darling son. All was anxiety and apprehension. The infant his Majesty had opened them, he started up while the tears streamed from his eyes, and in some glorious ejaculation, thanked his God and announced the victory. Garrick in a moment caught the transporting sound. The Orchestra, by his orders, struck up "GOD SAVE GREAT GEORGE OUR KING!" and the whole audience in a wild enthusiasm, joined the chorus.

AN old soldier, one JEAN CHEVAUCH: otherwise Dupont, aged near 100 years, has enrolled himself in the second company of the Burgeois militia at Bonetable, and has mounted guard several times since, in a manner which proves he has not forgot the trade he had left near 70 years. He served at the defence of Lisle, in 1708, and was at the battle of Malplaquet, in 1709. He has been married twice, had 27 children, and appears to be yet very distant from terminating his earthly career.

### BON MOT.

MAJOR Pigget, who is not only one of the liveliest wits, but one of the pleasantest Puffers in Ireland,—being on a visit to the late Duke of Leinster, at Carton, paid a morning's attendance to Mr. Conolly, at Castletown, who was then very deep on the turf, and the morning was principally spent in examining and admiring the stud of his sporting host.

On his return to Carton, the Duke, after pleasantly interrogating the Major on his morning's amusement, proposed shewing him his stud, which consisted of about 50 monstrous bullocks, stall-feeding for market.

"Well Major," says the Duke, "which do you like better my stud or my friend Conolly's?" "Your Grace's" replied the Major "and I am sure they will all come in for steaks and plates before any of his."

To be LET,

And possession given the 1st of April, for one or more years, (two miles and half from this city, on the Greenwich road.)

THAT NEW TWO STORY HOUSE—four Rooms on a floor; with six fire places; a new Barn, and Well of excellent Water; a young Orchard of Fruit Trees, with 7½ acres of Land, the most part Meadow. For particulars enquire at No. 7, Maiden-Lane. New-York, February 20.