

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

THE patriots of America were little more weary of the dangers and efforts of a state of war, than of the confusions, disgraces and gloomy forebodings which succeeded it. That liberty which cost such efforts, and was worth more than it cost, seemed ready to expire; property was deemed insecure; the union had nothing but opinion to support it; a charm which was losing its force by time, and the accumulated causes of internal hostility.—While New-York was taxing Connecticut and New-Jersey, and part of Massachusetts, and Massachusetts, was taxing a part of Connecticut, and almost all New-Hampshire; while each accused the other of delinquency during the war, and of injustice since the peace, all men of discernment saw with grief and terror the rapid progress of things towards a state of civil war. Thank Heaven! it is only a matter of opinion; but that opinion is little short of plenary evidence, that before this day the flames of civil war would have been kindled. The high spirit of Connecticut could ill brook the being tributary to New-York. It is said that more than one hundred thousand dollars were drawn yearly by this latter state from its neighbours. Trade suffered under rival regulations—mutual intercourse was shackled, and would soon have been interdicted. Navigation and manufactures sunk under the weight of foreign oppression; all this time property was unsafe; we blushed for our country, while we trembled for its safety. When we adopted the Constitution, we justly relied upon the wisdom of its principles, and, perhaps still more, upon the zeal of its advocates for an efficient and stable administration. What were the defects of the old form of government? It was well enough on paper; but in practice it was a piece of mockery. Congress had the sword, it is true; but a sword that must be kept in the scabbard till the rust had consumed its edge. The States had each a sword too, and what was better, a purse, and in that purse some of the States kept their own and their neighbour's money: It was a house divided against itself; it was a constitutional mob; a chaos made more confused by attempting to arrange it into order; a perpetual conflict between constitution and administration; it was worse than a state of nature in which each man is against his fellow; for here petty societies were ranged against one another; it was order against order; government against government; it was a kind of feudal anarchy in which the social principle was perverted to make the mischief of individual passions more permanent and deadly.

Those who believe in providence ought to thank heaven upon their knees that we have escaped from a condition which afforded no hope but in the extremity of the evil; that extremity produced the constitution; while it was in discussion, it was admitted that without the complete power of the purse, the government would be a shadow; it would cheat the hopes of those who expected protection from it.—For let it be remembered, a feeble government is a curse to a country; for the passions of men are constantly struggling to escape the restraint of laws; a government too weak to restrain these passions becomes the instrument of them.

Government is to society what reason is to the soul; when the authority of either is impaired, vice and ruin will ensue; it is too often said government is an evil: good government makes men better than it finds them.—By imposing an habitual restraint upon the passions, they lose much of their ferocity, and reason becomes superior; under good government man is a taught animal, and gains more than all others by discipline.

Every feeble government on earth is a government of men, and of bad men too, and not of laws; the worst passions are the most active, and will gain the ascendancy; liberty if it can be called such is then the most insecure. Those who possess, are made weary of it; its champions renounce its defence for its spoil. We form societies for the sake of security; a government too weak to give it, is not worth preserving, and yet it must be preserved, if at all, by the painful watching, and at the constant peril of its advocates.

We have gathered the ripe fruits of experience; we have seen the union prostrate; Congress with no more power and little more dignity than the trustees of a charity school; we have supported a government without having one; allegiance and protection said to be reciprocal were reversed; the government was protected, and paid homage to the States.

The question on the assumption involves all these considerations; if the State debts are not to be paid, it is a measure of violence and wickedness that Algiers would abhor. If they are to be paid at 20c. in the pound, and the States are to tax as they think fit to do it, they must occupy the principal sources of revenue; these partial taxes will be difficult to manage—they will be various in the States—system will oppose system—confusion will ensue. The people will pay much and the States get little. Besides the loss of money, it is bringing our government back to the confederation. It is in practice what that was in theory.

Citizens of America—you have not expected another confederation—you have cheerfully adopted the constitution—you have freely aided the government—you have prospered beyond example under it—your industry, if not obstructed, will lead you to wealth.—Are you willing then by dividing the exercise of indirect taxation between Congress and the States, to endanger all your hopes? Revenue is power, and will not bear a partnership. You will see revived the deadly animosities which rival trade-laws engendered in the States; the arts will languish—the union will be relaxed—the graves of your heroes will be moistened with the blood of their brethren.—Is there in the world a government where the powers in question are exercised in partnership?—If there is, it is a bad government, and not worth what it costs.

UNION.

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 20, 1790.

Died on Saturday night, in the 85th year of his age, the illustrious BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, of this city. His remains will be interred to-morrow afternoon, at four o'clock, in Christ Church burial ground.

We are favored with the following short account of Doctor Franklin's last illness, by his attending Physician.

THE stone, with which he had been afflicted for several years, had for the last twelve months confined him chiefly to his bed; and during the extreme painful paroxysms, he was obliged to take large doses of laudanum to mitigate his torments—still, in the intervals of pain, he not only amused himself with reading and conversing cheerfully with his family and a few friends, who visited him, but was often employed in doing business of a public as well as a private nature, with various persons, who waited on him for that purpose; and in every instance displayed, not only that readiness and disposition of doing good, which was the distinguishing characteristic of his life, but the fullest and clearest possession of his uncommon mental abilities; and not frequently indulged himself in those jeux d'esprits and entertaining anecdotes, which were the delight of all who heard him.

About sixteen days before his death, he was seized with a feverish indisposition, without any particular illness attending it till the third or fourth day, when he complained of a pain in his left breast, which increased till it became extremely acute, attended with a cough and laborious breathing. During this state, when the severity of his pains sometimes drew forth a groan of complaint, he would observe—that he was afraid he did not bear them as he ought—acknowledged his grateful sense of the many blessings he had received from that Supreme Being, who had raised him from small and low beginnings, to such high rank and consideration among men—and made no doubt his present afflictions were kindly intended to wean him from a world, in which he was no longer fit to act the part assigned him.

In this frame of body and mind he continued till five days before his death, when his pain and difficulty of breathing entirely left him, and his family were flattering themselves with the hopes of his recovery, when an imposthume, which had formed itself in his lungs, suddenly burst, and discharged a great quantity of matter, which he continued to throw up while he had sufficient strength to do it, but, as that failed the organs

of respiration became gradually oppressed—a calm lethargic state succeeded—and on the 17th, about 11 o'clock at night he quietly expired, closing a long and useful life of 84 years and 3 months.

It may not be amiss to add to the above account that Dr. Franklin, in the year 1735, had a severe pleurisy, which determined in an abscess of the left lobe of his lungs, and he was then almost suffocated with the quantity and suddenness of the discharge. A second attack of a similar nature happened some years after this, from which he soon recovered, and did not appear to suffer any inconvenience in his respiration from these discharges.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

PARIS, FEBRUARY 12.

SUPPRESSION OF MONACHISM!

At length the mighty exploit of civil prowess is achieved—the national assembly of France, after a debate of two days, in which reason and eloquence combated against bigotry and clamor, have adopted the following memorable decree:

“The National Assembly decrees, as a constitutional article, that the law shall not authorize monastic vows from persons of either sex; declares in consequence, that all religious orders which exact such vows, are and shall for ever continue suppressed in France, to the exclusion of any similar establishments in future.

“All the religious of either sex may, on making a declaration to their municipality, quit their cloister, and proper pensions shall be without delay provided for their support, as well as houses of retreat for those who do not desire to avail themselves of the liberty granted.

“The Assembly excepts houses charged with education or charity, until it shall finally decide concerning these objects. The nuns may remain in their own convents, the National Assembly expressly excepting them from the operation of that decree which enjoins the union of several houses into one.

M. L'Abbe Montesquieu was the author of the decree we have reported above, which was carried by a great majority.

Thus, in the first Catholic country of the world, is the axe at length laid to the root of that tree which in its baneful shade nourished so many noisome reptiles, while it withered the blossoms of humanity—which has so long impoverished the nutriment of industry by its growth, and so widely darkened the views of intellect by its luxuriance.

LONDON, February 10.

POPULATION.—In a late calculation it appears that there are in—

England	8,100,000 people
Scotland	1,500,000
Ireland	3,040,000
Total	12,640,000

A few days ago a young couple went to be married at Ashton-under-Line; when the ceremony was about to commence, the lady walked out of the church; the gentleman, with much apparent eagerness, followed her; in the most tender manner, intreated her to return and make him happy, to which she at length consented. When again in the church, and at the altar, the intended bridegroom made a most obsequious bow, wished her a good day, and left her.

A fellow at Windsor, who lately ate a cat, has given another proof of the brutality of his disposition—an instance too ferocious and sanguinary almost, to admit of public repentation.

He was at a public house at Old Windsor, one day in the course of last week, and, without apparent cause, walked out of the house, and with a bill-hook severed his hand from his arm. His brutal courage was strongly marked in this transaction; for the inhuman monster made 3 strokes with the instrument before he could effect his purpose, and at last actually made a complete amputation. He assigns no other reason for this terrible self attack, than his total disinclination to work, and that this step will compel the overseers of his parish to provide for him during the remainder of his life.

The STARLING.—A SONG.

(From the Concord Gazette.)

A BEAUTEOUS Starling late I saw
On lovely Sylvia's hand;
To check his flight, around his leg
She ty'd a silken band:
In vain he flutters to be gone;
Confinement is his lot:
In vain he strives to break the band—
And can't untie the knot.
Cease! cease! he cried—here you shall feed;
And in my bosom rest:
No bird that ever wing'd the air,
Was half so much care's'd.
If from my hand you should escape,
You may per chance be shot:
Then cease to peck—'tis all in vain—
You can't untie the knot.
The Bird contented grows, at length,
While Sylvia strokes his plumes;
Ereft his little crest—and soon
His former notes resumes.
From what he'd heard the fair one say,
These words by rote he got;
And oft repeated every day,
You can't untie the knot.
One ev'ning youthful Damon sat,
With Sylvia by his side;
Reward my love at last, said he,
To-morrow be my bride.
Her blushes in his favor rose;
Yet she consented not;
For ere she spake, the Starling cried—
You can't untie the knot.

PROPOSALS,

BY JOHN TRUMBULL,

For publishing by subscription,

TWO PRINTS,

From ORIGINAL PICTURES painted by himself:

REPRESENTING

The DEATH of General WARREN,

At the Battle of Bunker's-Hill; and

The DEATH of General MONTGOMERY,

In the Attack of Quebec.

IN the Battle of Bunker's Hill, the following Portraits are introduced,

AMERICAN. Major General Warren, Putnam,
BRITISH. General Sir William Howe, Sir Henry Clinton, Lieut. Col. John Small, Major Pitcairn, and Lieut. Pitcairn.

In the Attack of Quebec, are seen, General Montgomery, Colonel Thompson, Major Macpherfon, Captain Cheesman.

CONDITIONS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

THE Prints will be engraved by two of the most eminent Artists in Europe. The size will be 30 inches by 20. The price to subscribers, three guineas for each print, one half to be paid at the time of subscribing, the remainder on the delivery of the Prints, which will be as soon as the work (which is already considerably advanced) can possibly be completed.

Subscriptions are received in America, only by Mr. Trumbull. All subscription receipts will be signed by him, as well as by Mr. Poggi, of London; under whose direction the prints are engraving, and will be published.

These Prints are the first of a series, in which it is proposed to represent the most important events of the American revolution.

No period of the history of man is more interesting than that in which we have lived.—The memory of scenes in which were laid the foundations of that free government, which secures our national and individual happiness, must remain ever dear to us, and to posterity; and if national pride be in any case justifiable, Americans have a right to glory in having given to the world an example, whose influence is rapidly spreading the love of freedom through other nations, and every where ameliorating the condition of men.

To assist in preserving the memory of the illustrious events which have marked this period of our country's glory, as well as of the men who have been the most important actors in them, is the object of this undertaking. Historians will do justice to an era so important; but to be read, the language in which they write, must be understood—the language of Painting is universal, and intelligible in all nations, and every age.

As several years of his time, and a very considerable expence, are necessary to accomplish this undertaking, it would be an imprudent sacrifice to the mere hope of reputation, to go more deeply into it, without a probability of ultimate success. That he may judge of the degree of this probability, Mr. Trumbull, by the advice of his friends, proposes this subscription, and flatters himself with the hope of meeting that patronage from his countrymen, which will justify his pursuing the object with ardor, and without which it is impossible that so expensive a work should be continued.

The subjects proposed to be represented, in addition to the two foregoing, of Bunker's-Hill and Quebec, are

- * The DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE,
- * BATTLE at TRENTON,
- * BATTLE of PRINCETON,
- SURRENDER of General BURGOYNE,
- TREATY with FRANCE,
- BATTLE of EUTAW SPRINGS,
- * SURRENDER of YORK-TOWN,
- TREATY of PEACE,
- EVACUATION of NEW-YORK,
- RESIGNATION of General WASHINGTON,
- The ARCH at TRENTON:
- INAUGURATION of the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

Each picture will contain Portraits of the principal characters, who were present at the scene represented. Those marked with Stars, are considerably advanced—and the Prints from the whole will be executed of the same size, and by the most eminent engravers.
New-York, April 2, 1790.

ADVERTISEMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given to all the creditors of PHILIP DENMAN, now confined in the common goal of Newark, in the county of Essex, That the Honorable Court of Common Pleas, in and for said county, have appointed Tuesday the 25th day of May next, for the creditors of said Philip Denman, to meet at the Court house in Newark, at nine o'clock of the day aforesaid, and shew cause to the judge of the said Court if any they have, why an assignment of the said insolvent debtors estate should not be made, and he discharged according to the act of the Legislature of New-Jersey in such case made and provided.

PHILIP DENMAN.

Newark, April 14, 1790.

To be SOLD,

For CERTIFICATES, Or exchanged for LAND, TWENTY-Two acres of ground in the City of New-York, fronting Great George-Street, Bowry-Lane, and Greenwich-Lane. On the premises is a brick dwelling house containing ten rooms; a smaller brick house with four rooms; a house with a brick front with two rooms: In each house is a Kitchen, and under the whole four cellars; a never failing spring is near one of the kitchens; a frame stable and a coach-house with stables. From the dwelling house both the North and the East rivers are plain to the view. Additional improvements have been made this Spring, the ground has been laid out for pleasure as well as for utility; it is provided with variety of orchard and other fruit; part of the land has also been sown with timothy and clover. To be sold for certificates of the national debt, which will be received at the nominal value, Dollars at 8s. Or for good upland, even if covered with wood, provided it is situated on the following rivers, or on creeks as far as navigable, communicating with the same, viz. At the Potowmac above Alexandria, at James River above Richmond, in South-Carolina, about one hundred miles from the sea shore, on Santee Edisto or Poppon river, or on Savannah river. If not sold at private sale before the 15th of May, it will then on the above terms be disposed of by Public Vendue at the Merchants Coffee-House.—For further particulars enquire of Mr. POELLNITZ on the Premises. New-York April 10, 1790.

CASH, and a generous price given for Continental, New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode-Island securities, of every denomination, by EBENEZER THAYER, jun. No. 59, Water-Street. New-York, April 17, 1790.

William Taylor,

Has for Sale, at his EAST-INDIA GOODS STORE,

No. 4, BURLING-SLIP,

A General Assortment of EAST-INDIA GOODS.

Among which are the following Articles:

- BOOK Muslins 8-4 6-4 5-4
- Jacket do.
- Hankerchiefs, of various kinds,
- Chintzes,
- Ginghams,
- HUMHUMS,
- Long Cloths,
- Calicos,
- Scerfucers,
- Boglapores.

A Variety of handsome painted MUSLINS.

With many other Articles, which will be sold by the Piece or Package, low for cash.