

Mr. THOMAS,

It was the answer of a certain eminent Jew, when asked by what means he acquired the large fortune he was supposed to be possessed of, that he had more difficulty in accumulating the first three thousand pounds, than all the rest of his immoderate wealth.

This may be said to comprise the whole secret of rising in the world; and although none of the adepts in the science have yet discovered the secret art of putting this rule in practice, the indigent or unbefriended will find as many difficulties as ever, to retard their progress, and hinder them from emerging out of their embarrassments; for it has been observed, that the most exalted virtues, and the brightest accomplishments, do not find it easy to extricate themselves out of difficulties; this the course of human contingencies has proved true, and daily observation stamps a sanction on the assertion.

Perhaps in all our towns, there is scarcely a man who cannot in the circle of his acquaintance point out some one, possessed of extensive capacities, strong, natural and quick parts, and a delicate sensibility and feeling of honor, who are not however able to raise themselves to any conspicuous point of eminence, merely because their talents have not been called forth by opportunity, or their indigence and straitened circumstances [which ever are noticed by the world] have prevented an animation of their abilities by success.

To prevent genius from languishment and decay, it must be warmed, nurtured and cherished; the fine sensations which commonly attend an enlightened understanding, will occasion a delicate way of thinking, which will render the possessor liable to a great dejection of spirits. Genius should be tenderly encouraged, or the cold blasts of adversity and disappointment may chill it, like fruits, which if not carefully assisted in their vegetation by the use of hot beds, would wither unripened.

I was lately reading the life of that great and good man, Lord Somers; and I could not but think, that the circumstance of the encouragement he afforded Mr. Addison, who would have remained in a less conspicuous point of view, without the assistance of such a friend and patron, reflected the greatest lustre on his character.

That vein of humour which ever was the most genteel, would, or at least might, have been tinctured by low life; coarse and vulgar railing might have been indulged, instead of that delicate railery he was possessed of; and his taste, finished and refined by travel and every other advantage, might have grown callous and indelicate—Ridicule might have been substituted for those sentiments of morality which served to awaken the blush of confusion in the female face, and which he endeavoured to set off in the smiles of native innocence and unaffected beauty; and his pen which entertained the world with the most elegant specimens of human wit, might have been the political tool of party rage, or employed in personal invective.

His protection prevented his sinking into obscurity, and from being necessarily compelled to fully that fame which is now the reward of his performances.

It has been and still is the fate of many, endowed with parts but little inferior to his, to droop in indigence; and there are many who might become shining characters, in any profession, were there any incitement to spur "their steed"—

Wit is generally esteemed an object of ridicule; and a narrowness of fortune affords matter of merriment to those to whom fortune has been more propitious.

Is a man qualified to act well his part in any particular profession, if not befriended by a full purse, or his situation is in the least degree embarrassed he is sure to be kept in a state of depression, and not permitted an effort to rise in life.

There is scarce any thing in life, to a feeling mind more affecting, than to find that the insolence of pride is so prevalent, as to occasion scorn to be bestowed on indigence; people who are possessed of affluent fortunes, who have arrived at the summit of reputation and wealth, by a fortunate series of successful efforts, ought to consider, that they betray an unmanly triumph over those who have still their fortune to make, when they attempt, from trivial causes or matter of resentment, to disappoint others, or depreciate their abilities—it has been observed by the immortal Pope, that the world is apt to form an idea of a man at a time when he is least capable of judging rightly for himself—thence we find, many are ruined by slight errors, trivial indiscretions, and petty inadvertencies, while others owe their elevation to vices, passions, and a series of selfish views, which are generally more successful than, modesty, a plain understanding, and a spirit above flattery or mean submission.

Those who sit smiling at the goal of fortune, elevated above the frowns or fortunes of life while others are running the hardy course [or wish to be] might reflect, that perseverance and unremitting application may reach the point in which they take such pride.

The consequences then will be obvious, a well meant spirited disposition, with the advantages of a genteel education and a competent knowledge of the world, must receive an additional lustre from wealth; and such an one's accomplishments will, in their turn, adorn and embellish affluence.—And, consequently, sinister views ought never to influence the breasts of any, who have it in their power to depress the necessitous, to add to the difficulties which naturally present, by withholding favours which true benevolence would induce them to bestow, and the bestowal of which perhaps might add to the number of happy as well as valuable citizens, without doing the least injury to themselves.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Sept. 28, 1790.

NOTICE is hereby given, that proposals will be received at the Office of the Secretary of the Treasury, until the 31st day of December next inclusive, for the building of a LIGHT HOUSE, nearly of the dimensions proposed by the late Commissioners of Virginia and Maryland, upon the lot of land on Cape Henry, in the County of Princess Ann, and State of Virginia, lately ceded for that purpose to the United States. It is desired, that the proposals may leave the election, whether the building above the foundation shall be of brick or stone, and as the cost and charges of those materials vary, it is expected, that a corresponding difference will be made in the terms offered.

The foundation of the Light-House is to be of stone, and sunk to the depth of thirteen feet below the water table, over the top of which the pavement is to be laid. The diameter thereof is to be twenty seven feet six inches, with a vacancy of about nine feet in the centre.

The diameter of the base is to be twenty six feet, at which place the thickness of the walls is to be six feet. The height from the bottom of the water table to the top of the dome work is to be seventy two feet, where the diameter is to be sixteen feet six inches, and the thickness of the walls three feet. The form is to be an octagon, having three windows in the east, and four in the west. If it be built of brick, it is to be faced with the glassy kind, if of stone, it is to be faced with hewn or hammer-dressed stone.

On the top of the stone work is to be a floor of joists, bedded therein, planked over and covered with copper, extending about two feet eight inches beyond the wall, thereby forming an eve, which is to be finished with a cornice, the whole having a descent from the centre sufficient to throw off the water.

The lantern is to be supported by eight posts of wrought Iron of three inches square and twenty feet in length, ten feet of which are to be wrought into the stone wall on the inner part at each corner. The diameter of it is to be ten feet, leaving a platform on the outside thereof of about six feet in width. All the work above this is to be of iron and copper. The lantern is to be ten feet high, having a semicircular roof of five feet more; with iron rafters covered with copper. The whole space between the posts supporting the lantern, is to be occupied by the sashes, which are to be made of iron, each sash is to have twenty-eight panes of glass, twelve by fourteen inches. One of the sashes on the fourth west side is to be hung with hinges for a door to go out upon the platform, from the outer part of which to the roof of the lantern is to be a frame of iron covered with a net work of strong brass wire, to preserve the glass from injuries by hail and flights of birds in the night.

The rafters of the lantern are to be well fastened to an iron hoop, over which is a copper funnel, through which the smoke may pass into a large copper ventilator in the form of a man's head, capable of containing one hundred gallons. This head is to be so placed as to be turned by a large vane on the spire above it, that the hole for venting the smoke may always be to the leeward. Eight dormant ventilators of six inches diameter are to be fixed in the roof of the lantern.

A close stove is to be provided and fixed in the lantern, which is to be furnished with eight lamps, each capable of containing six quarts, hung in two tiers over each other transversely. There are to be six flights of stairs to ascend to the lantern, the entrance to which is to be by a door covered with copper. The building is to be furnished with two conductors, to secure it from the effects of lightning.

A frame house is to be built for the keeper, twenty feet square, two stories high, with a frame kitchen; the whole to be finished with lath and plaster.

A vault for the storage and safe keeping of the oil is to be built of stone at a convenient distance, twelve feet wide, and twenty in length. It is to be arched, and covered with earth or sand, over which a shed is to be built, and it is to be furnished with eight strong cedar cisterns with covers, each capable of containing two hundred gallons of oil. The entrance is to be secured by a strong door.

Good security for the faithful performance of the contract will be expected. Payments on account will be made at proper stages of the work, and the balance will be paid on its completion; or, if a suitable difference should be made in the terms, cash will be advanced for the purchase of materials and provisions.

The Printers in the several States are requested to insert this.

By Order of the Honorable Richard Morris, Esq. Chief Justice of the State of New-York.

NOTICE is hereby given to Lewis M'Donald, of Connecticut, an absent debtor, that upon application and due proof made to the said chief justice by a creditor of the said Lewis M'Donald, pursuant to an act of the Legislature of the said State, entitled, "An act for relief against absconding and absent debtors," passed the 4th April, 1786; he, the said chief justice, has directed all the said Lewis M'Donalds estate, within this State, to be seized, and that unless he shall discharge his debts within twelve months after the publication of this notice, the same will be sold for the payment of his creditors. Dated the 3d May, 1790. New-York, May 7, 1790. (1w. 1y.)

TO BE LET,

On very low terms—and entered upon immediately, until the first of May next.

THAT elegant new TWO STORY BRICK HOUSE, in the Bowery-Lane, formerly occupied by ROBERT GILBERT LIVINGSTON, deceased; it has seven Fire Places with a good Cellar under the whole House—a convenient out-House in the rear, with a Coach-House, and Stables: for further particulars enquire of MANGLE MINTHORN Corporation Dock. (2 w. t. l.)

The Mail Diligence,

FOR PHILADELPHIA,

LEAVES the Ferry-Stairs, at New-York, Ten minutes after Eight o'clock every morning except Sunday. Stage Office, City Tavern. Broad-Way, New-York June 5, 1790.

Dr. Price's Revolution Sermon may be had of the Editor.—Price 1/7.

OCTOBER 12—DOLLARS 21 81.

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including spirits, rum, sugar, flour, and other goods.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, July 13, 1790.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Proposals will be received at the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, to the first day of October next inclusive, for the supply of all rations, which may be required for the use of the United States, from the first day of January to the thirty first day of December 1791, both days inclusive, at the places, and within the districts herein after mentioned, viz.

- List of locations for rations: At any place or places, betwixt Yorktown in the state of Pennsylvania, and Fort Pitt and at Fort Pitt; At any place or places, betwixt Fort Pitt and Fort McIntosh, on the River Ohio, and at Fort McIntosh; At any place or places, betwixt Fort McIntosh and the mouth of the River Muskingum, and at the mouth of the River Muskingum; At any place or places, betwixt the mouth of the River Muskingum, and up the said River to the Tuscarawas, and at the Tuscarawas, and thence over to the Cayoga River, and down the said River to its mouth; At any place or places, betwixt the mouth of the river Muskingum, and the mouth of the Scioto River, and at the mouth of the said River Scioto; At any place or places, betwixt the mouth of Scioto River, and the mouth of the great Miami at the mouth of the great Miami, and from thence to the Rapids, on the Falls of the Ohio, and at the said Rapids; At any place or places, betwixt the mouth of the great Miami, up the said Miami, to and at Piquetown, and thence over to the Miami Village, on the river of the same name which empties into Lake Erie; At any place or places from the rapids of the Ohio, to the mouth of the Wabash, thence up the said Wabash to Post St. Vincennes, at Post St. Vincennes, and thence up the said river Wabash, to the Miami Village, before described; At any place or places, from the mouth of the Wabash river to the mouth of the river Ohio; At any place or places, on the east side of the river Mississippi, from the mouth of the Ohio river, to the mouth of the Illinois river; At any place or places, from the mouth of the Miami river to the Miami Village; At any place or places, from the Miami Village to Sandusky, and at Sandusky, and from Sandusky to the mouth of Cayoga river; At any place or places, betwixt Fort Pitt and Venango, and at Venango; At any place or places, betwixt Venango and Le Beuf, and at Le Beuf betwixt Le Beuf and Presq' Isle, at Presq' Isle, and betwixt Presq' Isle and the mouth of Cayoga river; At the mouth of Cayoga river, and at any place or places, on the route from Fort Pitt, to the mouth of Cayoga river, by the way of Big Beaver creek; At any place or places, on the east side of the Mississippi, between the mouth of the Ohio and the river Margot inclusively; At any place or places, from the said river Margot, to the river Yazous inclusively; At any place or places from the mouth of the river Tennessee, to Cacchapo or Bear creek, on the said river inclusively; Should any rations be required at any places, or within other districts, not specified in these proposals, the price of the same to be hereafter agreed on, betwixt the public and the contractor; The rations to be supplied are to consist of the following articles, viz: One pound of bread or flour, One pound of beef, or 3/4 of a pound of pork, Half a gill of rum, brandy or whisky, One quart of salt, Two quarts of vinegar, Two pounds of soap, One pound of Candles, per. 100 rations; The proposals must specify the lowest price per ration. No credit is required. ALEXANDER HAMILTON, Secretary of the Treasury.