

and good ship timber are also good articles here, and we hope next season your flax-seed will sell currently, as essays have been made this year, and the last; but your provisions, pitch, tar, or turpentine, have not as yet recovered the disrepute they fell into by being badly made up, very foul, and short in weight.

"After this detail which we hope will not be unacceptable, it only remains for us to express the ardent wish we form, that in this new arrangement of things, and from the regulations which we understand are taking place in your constitution; the result may insure the freedom and happiness of each, and perfectly cement the union of both countries; in this wish, and one for your prosperity, we remain truly and sincerely,

Your obedient humble servants, &c.

BRUSSELS, August 11.

THE following letter has been received by the Supreme Belgian Congress, from commandant Schipplacken, from Battice, the 8th instant.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acquaint you, that having left Liege yesterday at eleven in the forenoon with a body of 1500 men, we took the town of Herve about half past seven in the evening, where we found our three pieces of cannon, chests, tents, baggage, &c.

I used all the means in my power to prevent pillage and disorder, but they proved abortive, owing to the long resistance made by the Austrians, and that of several thousand peasants and citizens, who fired at us from the windows, and behind hedges.

Our loss in killed is not very considerable; but in wounded a great many. We have had the misfortune to lose the brave lieutenant colonel de Restaing, who was killed by a musket shot about three-quarters of a league from the town, fired from the house of a peasant, to which we set fire. What contributed most to the catastrophe of the day was, the inhabitants having left their houses, the soldiers forced them to discover those who fired on them, and who, on being found, became objects of their fury.

I am &c.

LONDON, August 31.

Letters from the continent advise that the wheat, barley, and rice harvests, in the southern provinces of Spain and Portugal have proved abundant and were well got in about the 24th of July. The olives, dates, oranges, lemons, grapes, and other autumnal fruits, were in good order, and promise a plentiful crop.—The silk harvest, as it is called, in the warm provinces of Andalusia, Mercia, Valencia, and the district of La Mancha, was rather short owing to the heavy rains that prevailed, with a strong S. W. wind, during the working months, whereby a prodigious number of worms perished. The provision, of all kinds were in general plentiful, and consequently cheap, oats excepted, for which there was a very smart demand at most of the ports on the Mediterranean.

The dutch fleet, which was lately at Spithead, is now anchored in the Texel. This intelligence was brought to Portsmouth by a brig which left Holland a few days since.

The French, with their usual activity, are taking the most effectual means of spreading over Europe the knowledge necessary to inspire their fellow-creatures with a just sense of their rank. French books and papers are proscribed in every despotic country. N'importe! They have manufactured many thousands of handkerchiefs, on which they have printed in all European languages, the declaration of the rights of man, and these handkerchiefs they sent to the fair at Frankfort, the great mart of Germany, and to which the chapmen of all countries come. They were bought up with avidity, and are already dispersed over Europe.

The National Assembly of France have emitted a paper medium, to the amount of 400,000,000 livres, and funded it on the confiscated property of the clergy.

M. d'Orleans loses by the decree of France, four millions two hundred thousand livres per annum—a sum almost equal to 100,000l. sterl.

BOSTON, October 22.

Capt. RUSSELL, in the ship William, from Petersburg, put into Falmouth, in England, which place he left the 9th of September, at which time the press was as violent as ever, four of his men were pressed on board of an English frigate, but he got them off again. The Captain of the English frigate informed him that war must unavoidably take place very soon. It was said that the English fleet was very poorly manned, they having been obliged to take the tagrag of creation in order to get their ships at sea.

From the "Journal de Liberte," of Aug. 29th, we have extracted the following paragraph:—

PARIS, August 29.

THE horizon, as we have always feared, is still more and more obscured.—Lord GOWER, the English Ambassador, dispatched, the day before yesterday, Mr. Shaw, one of the cabinet messengers, with official dispatches for London. Yesterday morning he sent Mr. Broughton, another extraordinary messenger, and on the evening the departure of a third was expected. His Lordship spent all Friday night in preparing dispatches with his Secretaries. We shall soon know, by the result of these dispatches, whether England has meant all along to quarrel with us; for there is certainly nothing in the decree relative to Spain, which can furnish her with any reasonable pretence for a quarrel now. We further add, that no Englishman, who thinks, can forbear applauding it; for every independent nation has, without doubt, the right to watch over its own welfare and defence.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES.
CONNECTICUT.

Hon. Roger Sherman, 2069 votes. *Pierpont Edwards, 2239. *James Hillhouse, 2035. Jonathan Sturges, 1730. Jonathan Trumbull, Esquires, 1720. [These gentlemen having the highest number of votes of the 12 candidates, are chosen. The highest number of votes for the unsuccessful candidates, was for Mr. Reeve, 1672, the lowest, Mr. Davenport, 786. *New members, vice Hon. Messrs. Wadsworth and Huntington.

RHODE ISLAND.

Six candidates there are, viz. Hon. Mr. Bourne, (the present Representative) Messrs. P. Mumford, J. Comstock, James Sheldon, Stephen Arnold, and Peleg Arnold. The votes in Newport, were, for Mr. Mumford 80. Mr. Comstock 1. We have since heard, that the Hon. Mr. Bourne, is re-elected.

Accounts from Plymouth, &c. (Mr. Partridge's district) inform us, that there is not a choice of Federal Representative in that district; and that Sherjashub Bourn and Thomas Davis, Esquires, stand the highest on the poll.

HARTFORD, October 25.

Last Friday, the circuit court, for the district of Connecticut, was opened in this city. The chief justice, in his charge to the grand jury, read and commented on the law of the United States for defining and punishing certain crimes. In the course of his address, he made many pointed remarks upon the nature of certain offences, and the duty of the grand jury; and delivered the whole with elegant simplicity and precision. The court found business sufficient to detain them a part of the present week.

The following gentlemen were admitted attorneys and councillors: William Judd, John Trumbull, Thomas Y. Seymour, Jonathan Brace, Joshua Coit, Sylvester Gilbert, William Mosely, Alexander Wolcott, Noah Webster, jun. Enoch Perkins, Ephraim Root, John Williams, Thomas Chester, John Smith, and Samuel Whittlesey, Esquires.

ELIZABETH (Hager's) TOWN, (M). Oct. 21.

YESTERDAY afternoon, at 2 o'clock, the approach of the President of the United States was announced in this town, when (to the great honor of the troop) the company of Light Horse, under the command of Capt. Davis, paraded splendidly equipped, in a few minutes, and with the principal gentlemen, met the illustrious stranger three miles from town, and escorted him to its environs, where they were met by that beautiful and martial like company of infantry, commanded by Capt. Ott. He was then conducted through the main street, (the bells ringing) amidst the welcome applauses of its grateful inhabitants, to Mr. Belzhoover's Tavern.

In the evening the town was illuminated, bonfires appeared in all quarters, and every public demonstration of joy was exhibited on the happy occasion.

An elegant supper was prepared by direction, of which the President and principal inhabitants partook; at the close of which a number of toasts were drank, accompanied with a discharge of artillery and a volley of musquetry to each.

The whole scene of perfect pleasure, good humor, satisfaction, and hilarity terminated before ten o'clock, in the greatest order.

This morning at seven o'clock, our renowned chief bade us an affectionate adieu—and set out for Williams-port, in order to take his passage down that noble river (the American Thames) which will be proud to waft him home.

The following ADDRESS was presented.
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SIR,

WE the inhabitants of Elizabethtown and its vicinity, being deeply impressed with your illustrious character, and sensibly awake to your resplendent and innumerable virtues, hail you a hearty welcome!

We are happy to find, that notwithstanding your perils, toils, and guardianship, you are still able to grant us this first, this greatest of all favors—your presence.

We felicitate ourselves on your exploring our country—and as you already reign in our hearts, so we should think ourselves doubly blessed, could we have the honor to be included within your more especial command and jurisdiction—within the grand centre of virtues.

Our beloved Chief! Be pleased to accept our most grateful thanks for this honor conferred on us. And may the disposer of all things lengthen out your days, so that you may behold with satisfaction, the virtue and prosperity of the people whom you have made free. And when you come to close the last volume of your illustrious actions, may you be crowned with a crown not made with hands.

THOMAS SPRIGG,
HENRY SHRYOCK,
WILLIAM LEE,

(In behalf of the whole.

Elizabethtown, Oct. 20, 1790.

The President was pleased to return the following Answer.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF ELIZABETHTOWN and its VICINITY.

Gentlemen,

THE cordial welcome, which you give me to Elizabethtown, and the very flattering expressions of regard, contained in your address, claim and receive my grateful and sincere acknowledgements.

Estimating, as I do, the affection and esteem of my fellow-citizens, and conscious that my best pretention to their approbation is founded in an earnest endeavour faithfully to discharge the duties which have been assigned me, I cannot better reply to their confidence than by assuring them that the same impartiality, which has heretofore directed, will continue to govern my conduct in the execution of public trusts.

I offer sincere wishes for your temporal happiness and future felicity.

G. WASHINGTON.

[THE readers of the Columbian Centinel have for some time past been entertained with the lucubrations of a writer, whose Essays are entitled "The Yankee:"—The following judicious Observations on Wit, or "The Art of Joking," are extracted from the ninth number of that paper.]

THE ART OF JOKING.

NOBODY is affronted at being called a wit: notwithstanding, an injudicious display of wit is apt to affront others. It is inherent in human nature to strive for admiration; and self-love will often triumph over prudence. The vanity of exhibiting fine talents is strongly marked in most characters; but many had rather be complimented for the possession of wit and humor, than for the more excellent qualifications of wisdom and virtue. This preposterous and unaccountable vanity, is the constant harbinger of indiscretion. A person, who is ambitious of being remarked for brilliant achievements and flashy feats, will not hesitate, in the warmth of his favorite, hobby horrical pursuit, to risk the loss of his best friend, to gain the frivolous honor of speaking a joke.

Whenever the search after wit leads us into affectation, we become insupportable to the patience of all companies. A man, conscious he deserves applause, who pauses in proper places of his conversation, to be praised, will be frequently disappointed in the approbation of men of sense.

Wit is at no time more shocking than when united with wickedness. This detestable combination, when it is sent into the world under the denomination of *flander*, is offensive to delicacy, and subversive of morals. If verbal indiscretion is without palliation, written scandal can surely have no excuse. In the paroxysm of anger, a sarcastic expression may be overlooked by those who consider the imperfection of our natures. But he who with deliberation, and premeditated malice, wantonly writes and publishes his friend's deformities and weaknesses, real or supposed, deserves less clemency than him who errs through passion.

MR. FENNO,

I HAVE read with great pleasure the article which has for sometime past appeared in the Gazette of the United States, under the title of "Discourses on Davila." The History of France, written by this celebrated Italian, has never fallen into my hands; I have, however, seen it mentioned by several writers of eminence, as a masterly performance. The most interesting period of the affairs of France, I find, is comprized in this history—viz. The time of the civil wars occasioned by the reformation. It is an old observation, "that we reason best from experience." Every event that has been hitherto detailed by the author of the Discourses, confirms the leading sentiment of the writer, and shews how deplorable is the condition of mankind, without that dernier resort of freedom, A FREE CONSTITUTION, when under the controul of despotism, aristocracy, or powerful factious leaders of a party. The natural, irrefragable truths deducible from the reflections of this nervous and independent writer, should inspire the free citizens of this rising republic, with the most profound veneration for, and attachment to the constitution of the United States, which while it holds out the most powerful incitements to a patriotic line of conduct, secures the equal rights of all; and by a happy adoption of the tripple balance, guards and protects us from the tyranny of the *one the few*, or the *many*.

FROM THE COLUMBIAN CENTINEL.

Mr. RUSSELL,

You are requested to publish the following in the Centinel.

Your's, &c. E. D.

WE the subscribers feel ourselves in duty bound thus publicly to acknowledge for ourselves, and in behalf of the mercantile and Maritime interest of these United States, the particular obligations we and they, in general, are under to Mr. JOHN BROWN CUTTING, a citizen of America now in London, for his unwearied applications and constant success, in effecting the release of all the American Seamen, who were suffering by an indiscriminate press, which existed in all the ports of Great-Britain, from the month of April, until the time of our departure, and we doubt not that the other masters of American ships, will be equally ready to make known the grateful sense we all entertained of Mr. CUTTING's friendship.

TRISTRAM BARNARD, RICHARD S. TIBBITTS,
EDWARD DAVIS, SAMUEL CALDER,
CHARLES C. RUSSELL, FITZWILLM. SARGEANT,
Boston, Oct. 23, 1789.

From Mr. T. ALLEN'S MARINE JOURNAL.

Navigators keep a good look out.

DUE S. S. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. seven miles distant from the S. W. Point of Sand-Key, off Turks Island lies a ledge of rocks of about two hundred yards in length, and one hundred in breadth, hitherto unknown: Upon the shoalest part of which is but seven feet water—from thence the depth is irregular, varying greatly every cast of the lead. Those rocks are not discoverable by the least rip or breaking of the sea, hence they become more dangerous and require a good look out, by keeping the land bearing, to avoid them by the course above. Perhaps this account will not at first be credited by old navigators; indeed it is astonishing that so many hundreds of vessels yearly passing this passage, that it should never have been