

known before. To remove any doubts that may arise respecting the truth of this assertion, I shall just note, that on the 14th Sept. last, I saw the British ship *Endymion* of 44 guns laying upon her beam ends upon those rocks, bearing N. W. by W. Sand-Key then bearing N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. I judged five leagues distant. I run in between the ship and the key, where the passage is safe, and ocean water for five miles between the rocks and the land. The bearings and distance of those rocks I received from the sailing master of the ship, who has taken an accurate survey of the same. The *Edymion* struck upon those rocks at half past 8 in the morning, clear weather: She was from Jamaica bound to Turks-Island with cannon, commanded by Lieut. Daniel Woodriff (the Captain being sick in Jamaica) and had on board a good pilot. As lives and property of mariners are dependant in a great measure upon the knowledge of reefs and shoals, I am induced to give this early publication, flattering myself it will soon be confirmed to the satisfaction of the doubtful.

B. Snow.

The Tablet.—No. 149.

“Such causes exist in the United States as are favorable to a prosperous and permanent government.”

THE long contested question, whether men can govern themselves, is now fairly brought to the test of an experiment. From present appearances, there is good reason to expect the point will be settled, as to establish the affirmative of the question. Are not the people of the United States in the actual enjoyment of a free, and energetic state of government? And may they not, in the most proper sense of expressions, be said to govern themselves? What circumstances can be discerned, that threaten to diminish either the energy or the freedom of our government? Is not the state of society such, as to include the essential materials for forming those civil institutions which will continue long, because there can never exist a reason or a motive for altering them? It may be well to enquire, what can have induced so many wise legislators to doubt the practicability of a self-governed people.

The two main objections against conceding to the point in question are; firstly, that the general character of human nature does not authorize such a concession; and secondly, that the whole concurrence of historical testimony contradicts the idea, that a people will continue to govern themselves, in a cool, a reasonable, and efficient manner. I will make no particular remarks upon the first of these objections, because the advocates of it collect their general notions of human nature from historical facts, and therefore both objections do, in reality, form but one.

Politicians give an air of certainty to their inferences, when they attempt to prove that men always *must be*, exactly what they always *have been*. It will be asked, that as no people ever were found, who, properly speaking, did govern themselves, why may it not be inferred that no such ever *will exist*? The fallacy of the inference proceeds from its being extended too far. The examples that are adduced in support of the principle should only be applied to the proof of cases similar to themselves. A difference in circumstances may counteract all the force that is intended to be derived from the comparison. For instance, a people who were suddenly delivered from a long established despotism, and totally exonerated from a despot, would nevertheless, by bad management, soon reduce themselves back to despotism. Such an event would authorize an inference, that some other people, exactly so situated, would be in danger of a like disaster. But it furnishes no argument that such a description of men, as inhabit the United States, cannot preserve themselves from despotism. An ignorant, servile people cannot govern themselves, because they have neither knowledge nor spirit adequate to such a purpose. A turbulent warlike people will not govern themselves, because their love of plunder and confusion is superior to their love of order and protection. They can neither feel it to be their interest, nor conceive it to be their duty to encourage mild and equitable institutions. But it is far otherwise with respect to a nation, composed of traders, mechanics, and planters, who have a predilection for their several occupations; whose views and competitions generally relate to private objects of business; and whose personal prosperity is perceived to be essentially blended with that of the government. When a man, by honest industry, has acquired property, he feels a solicitude about the protection of it. Why then should he not be an enemy to faction, and to every other cause that really threatens to dissipate the maxims, and defeat the operations of law and justice? The people of the United States will not easily be beguiled into a bad choice of rulers, because the public opinion is so well informed as to be competent to decide upon the merit of characters; and it will be found, that the great mass of individuals know too well what promotes their own interest and safety, not to reprobate the idea of forming a legislature of weak and wicked men. Since the new government commenced its career,

it is obvious to the eye of a most careful observer, that the circumstances as well as the character of our inhabitants have meliorated. The talents discovered in the various executive departments, and the confidence which a judicious administration has inspired in the public mind, are conspicuous proofs that an enlightened people will be best satisfied, when they are best governed. It can never be the interest of one branch of the community, in a free country, to destroy the prosperity of another, nor can the rich derive such durable advantage over the poor, by oppressive laws, as by those that are mild and equitable. When rulers learn that their dignity consists not in being arbitrary and severe, they will have no motive to assume those atrocious qualities. When citizens are habituated to the idea, that their safety is greater in obeying than in opposing the laws, few men will be so foolish or perverse, as to join in pernicious combinations against the government. (To be continued.)

Philadelphia, Nov. 3.

WAR ONCE MORE!

A letter was received by a gentleman in this city last Evening, from Alexandria, which informs that a vessel had arrived at Rappahannock, in 22 days from England, and brought an account that WAR had been declared by Great Britain against Spain.

By accounts from the eastward, we learn that the Spanish fleet of 36 sail of the line, returned to the port of Cadiz the 9th September, after a cruise of six weeks.

The last European intelligence leaves us in doubt respecting the affairs of the Brabant Patriots—the late convention between Austria and Prussia, bears a most inauspicious aspect on their affairs.

We have seen some French papers of the month of August; they contain in substance the articles which have appeared in the English papers, and which have been transcribed into the American Gazettes—some of them contain very bold strictures on the transactions of the National Assembly; these are denominated Aristocratic Gazettes.

The King of Hungary, by his effecting a peace for his distressed dominions, proves himself to be both a great and good man. Not great by wading through seas of blood and scenes of devastation, to the accomplishment of some trivial object of ambition, or to gratify the selfish feelings of resentment and revenge; but from having through generous concession and manly negotiation, restored the blessings of peace to his impoverished and depopulated country.—How are the distinguished butchers of the human race obscured by the mild lustre of humanity? Fed. Gaz.

In England, every possible encouragement has been given to the woolen manufacture; in Ireland, to the linen; in France, to those of silk, of cottons, of woollens, and almost all others which can furnish labor to her industrious artizans: many have not only been patronized, but carried on at the expence of government: in these ways success has been ensured.

Capt. Jones, of the *Goliath*, who arrived at New-York on Thursday, passed through a British fleet of 30 sail of the line, 6 frigates and 4 cutters, on the 4th September, “sailing bearing N. E. 14 leagues, standing up Channel: he spoke with one of the fleet, and was informed they had not seen the Spaniards. He afterwards spoke with a brig from Gibraltar, who assured him that it was all peace.

By Capt. Ward, who arrived at Boston the 23d inst. from Martinique, we learn, that the commotions which have so long agitated that island have produced a melancholly scene of human carnage. Our readers will recollect, that there are two implacable parties in that Island. Count Damas (the Governor,) the principal planters, the King's troops, and free mulattoes, form one party which is denominated the Royalists; the other party is formed of the inhabitants of St. Pierre, and some of Fort Royal, who are called the Revolutionists. In a former tumult, the latter executed several mulattoes; which occasioned the expedition against St. Pierre, commanded by Count Damas, and the Viscount de Porteves Gien. The ringleaders of the mob who murdered the mulattoes, were apprehended—some were committed to goal, and others sent to France, and tranquility was there by restored for a time. Since then the St. Pierre Revolutionists have demanded of the Governor, that the prisoners in goal should be liberated, the suits commenced against those sent to France, stopped, the Mulattoes disarmed, and Fort Bourbon, put into their possession. These the Governor could not comply with; but the Revolutionists found means to get possession of Fort Bourbon, on which the Governor and his officers retired to Gourmon, where the Assembly was sitting; and the St. Pierre people fitted out 5 cutters, to prevent supplies going to that part of the island. The Governor also took measures to stop all supplies for the Revolutionists in Fort Bourbon. In consequence of which the garrison were obliged to send out large parties to collect subsistence from the Plantations: One of these parties, on a marauding expedition, was attacked by the mulattoes and negroes (whom the planters had armed for the protection of their property) and being overpowered by numbers, were obliged to retreat to a cane field—to this the negroes, &c. immediately set fire, and as the Revolutionists issued therefrom, massacred them without distinction to the number of 784; with the loss of only 5 or 6—Capt. Ward had the account of the numbers killed, from officers who counted the dead bodies. The planters have since solemnly sworn, never to carry any more of their produce to the market of St. Pierre; and the Count Damas was preparing for an expedition against that city, which he was determined to bring to submission, or reduce to ashes. In this unhappy situation was the island, when Capt. Ward left it.

Thomas Chittenton, Esq. is elected governor of the state of Vermont, vice his Excellency Gov. Robinson.

Of the three National Representatives for the state of New-Hampshire, the Hon. Samuel Livermore only is elected. Nicholas Gilman and Jeremiah Smith, Esq's. are the two next highest candidates.

Hon. William Paterson Esq. Senator of the United States, is elected Governor of the State of New Jersey by the Legislature of said State.

The Hon. Oliver Ellsworth, is re-elected a Senator of the United States, by the legislature of Connecticut.

Extract of a letter from New-York, Oct. 1790.

I was this day informed that the Secretary of the Treasury has negotiated a loan in Holland for nearly two millions of dollars pursuant to the late act of Congress, on advantageous terms.

The negotiation of a loan with the wary Hollanders, on favorable terms, strongly indicates that the funds of the United States are considered in Europe as an eligible depositum of property.

Friday morning last, about three o'clock, the Powder-Mill, near Frankford, belonging to Mr. Joseph J. Miller, of this city, blew up—There was about one ton of Powder in the Mill.

Sunday morning last, about 4 o'clock the Brew-House of Mr. Hare, in the Northern Liberties of this city, was discovered to be on fire; and notwithstanding the utmost exertions of the citizens, the greatest part of it was burnt.

Agriculture and manufactures appear to be rising in the estimation of the people of the United States, and with great reason—they form the forest basis of independence, and eventually prove the source of the greatest profit:—Commerce is little better than mere speculation—and very seldom realizes the adventurer his high-raised expectations. It has lately been asserted in the newspapers of the United States, that one Farmer in Maryland sold from his last crop, twelve thousand bushels of Wheat: What commercial speculation, on a capital equal to the whole probable cost of this Wheat, would be equally productive on the most favorable calculation? And with respect to Manufactures, there can be little doubt that a large capital can be employed in several species of the coarser kind, to much greater advantage than in almost any mercantile enterprise. Duck of all kinds is now manufactured in the United States—and it has been said that coarse Woolens can be made and sold at a lower rate than they can be imported.

The security of property is one principal object of government: Contrast the present situation of the United States, in this particular, with that immediately preceding the adoption of the New Constitution, and how striking the difference! This conscious security, which is induced upon every citizen through the influence of the government, has diffused a new face over our affairs, and has called into operation the dormant funds of individuals, in such manner as to produce an influx of business in every branch, that has been productive of more solid profit to the Union at large, than perhaps ten times the amount of the expences of the general government.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.  
FINAL SETTLEMENTS 12s. a 12s.  
INDENTS 7s. a 7s.  
NEW LOAN, 6 pr. Cents—few at Market, about 14s.

LATEST ARRIVALS AT THIS PORT.

Schooner Dolphin, Williams, (N. C.) 10 days.  
— Minerva, Litchfield, do. 7  
Sloop Friendship, Beaks, St. Croix, 24  
— Richmond, Block, Virginia, 9  
— Millia, Spicer, (N. C.) 10.

SUBSCRIBERS in the City and State of New-York—and to the Eastward as far as Boston, will please to pay their arrearages to Mr. P. Wetmore, at the Post-Office, New-York—who will also receive subscriptions for the Gazette.

On MONDAY the first inst. was published,

By CAREY, STEWART, and Co.

The American Museum,

For OCTOBER, 1790.

CONTAINING as usual, a variety of original and interesting ESSAYS, in prose and verse.

Improvements and Additions to Mr. BOWEN'S Exhibition of Wax-Work,

Viz.

HIS Excellency Benjamin Franklin, Esq.—A Philadelphia Beauty.—Peace, (an elegant figure) with her Olive Branch.—Plenty, with wreaths of Flowers, basket of Fruit, &c.

TICKETS, at one quarter dollar, may be had at Mr. JAMES BRYSON'S, No. 4, Third, below Market Street; where the exhibition is open from 10 o'clock in the Morning, until 9 every Evening.

N. B. MINIATURE and PORTRAIT PAINTING done at the same place, on reasonable terms.

Philadelphia, Oct. 30, 1790.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

October 14, 1790.

NOTICE is hereby given, That Proposals will be received at the Office of the Secretary of the Treasury, to the 30th day of November 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 Springfield, in the State of Massachusetts, and the Post of West-Point, in the State of New-York.

The Rations to be supplied, are to consist of the following Articles, viz.

One pound of Bread or Flour,  
One pound of Beef, or  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a pound of Pork,  
Half a jill of Rum, Brandy, or Whisky,  
One quart of Salt,  
Two quarts of Vinegar, } pr. 100 rations.  
Two pounds of Soap,  
One pound of Candles,

Separate Proposals may be made for each place, specifying the lowest price pr. ration.—No credit is required.