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Discourses on Davila.—No. 29.

THE Queen-Mother had either more hypocrisy, or more softness of temper or more cunning. She was for essaying all means of alluring the Chiefs of the Hugonots to the bosom of the Church, and their obedience to the King.

The differences of circumstances, of manners, of interests and characters, as usual, divided their sentiments, and, causing them to look at things on different sides, dictated opposite resolutions. The two Kings however take measures in concert to suppress rebellions. The Queen of Navarre comes to court. The King engages the family of the Chatillons to a reconciliation with that of the Guises. Their reciprocal hatreds soon rekindle and break out afresh. The Queen of Navarre in discontent quits the court.

The advice of the Duke of Alva was conformable to the temper and character of this King. He said he highly relished the sentiment of the Duke of Alva; that the heads of those rebels were too high in the State. The four families of Bourbon, Montmorency, Guise and Chatillon, all stimulated by other subordinate families dependent on them, continue their emulations, fallacies, hatreds, envies, oppositions, intrigues, manœuvres, combinations, decompositions, tergiversations: Another civil war breaks out, the history of which with its causes and events, we shall leave the reader to read in detail. In 1567, at the battle of Saint Dennis, the Constable de Montmorency, in spite of five wounds he had received in the head and face, fought with extreme valour, endeavors to rally his troops, and lead them on to battle, when Robert Stuart a Scot, came up to him and presenting to him a pistol, the Constable said to him, "you are ignorant then that I am the Constable." "It is because I know you, said Stuart, that I present you this," and at the same time shot him in the shoulder with his own pistol; although the violence of the blow struck down the Constable, he had still strength enough left to strike Stuart in the face with the hilt of his sword, which remained in his hand, though the blade was broken, with such force as broke his jaw, beat out three of his teeth and brought him down by his side half dead. The Hugonots were defeated however, but the next day the Constable died at the age of fourscore, after having shown in the action as much enterprise, bravery and vigor as if he had been in the full strength of his youth. He preserved to his last moment, an admirable firmness and presence of mind; a priest approached his bed, to prepare him for death; the Constable turned to him with a serene countenance, and prayed to be left in repose—adding it would be shameful for him to have lived eighty years, without learning to die for half an hour. His wisdom, his rare prudence, and long experience in affairs procured for him and his family immense riches, and the first employments under the crown: But he was always so unfortunate in the command of armies, that in all the enterprises where he had the command in chief, he was either beaten, or wounded or made prisoner.

The Calvinistic army retired into Champagne, and afterwards into Lorraine to meet the troops they expected from Germany. The Queen, whom the death of the Constable had now delivered from the power and ambition of the Grandees, and who remained the single arbiter of the Catholic party, would no longer expose herself to the dangers of an unlimited power by advising the King to name another Constable or General of the army. She judged more proper to reserve to the disposition of the King and in her own power, the whole authority of the command. She therefore persuaded Charles, by many reasons, to place at the head of his army, the Duke of Anjou his brother, a young Prince of great hopes, but who was not yet sixteen years of age. The army is reinforced by succours sent from Flanders by the King of Spain, and from Piedmont and many other places. The Duke of Anjou follows the Hugonots, to give them battle before their junction with the Germans. He overtakes them near Chalons: But the misunderstandings and other obstacles excited in his council, hinder him from hazarding a battle. The Calvinists pass the Meuse and form a junction with the auxiliary troops commanded by the Prince Cassimir. They return into Champagne. The Queen goes to the army to extinguish the divisions that reign there. They take the resolution not to attack

the Hugonots, now become too formidable; but to draw out the war, into length; marches off the two armies, satisfied with observing each other's motions. This Fabian system of the Catholics disconcerts the Prince of Condé and the Admiral, unprovided with money for support, for any length of time, their army. In order to draw the royal army to battle they form the siege of Chartres. The danger of that city gives occasion to new propositions of peace: Indeed a peace is concluded and the two armies are separated; but the Hugonots did not surrender all the places they were masters of, nor did the King discharge his Swiss or Italian troops—which occasion new quarrels.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

A WRITER in your paper has expressed his surprise that only in the state of Pennsylvania the law for establishing the Bank of the United States has been found fault with: It has yet had hardly time to circulate in the others; and it is a measure of so much depth, and in its consequences of so much greater magnitude than appears on the superficies, that it will require a good deal of time for investigation, before its merits can be justly appreciated. It did not want however for respectable authorities opposed to it at its birth, and it is believed their reasonings are such as will bear the test of time. Whether the opposition be numerous, or whether the publications against it be those of a single individual, or of many, is of no importance to the question: If the reasonings are right, and grounded on solid principles, they will carry their own weight with them—nor will the progress of truth be less certain because of its being slow or unattended.

If an attachment to the Bank of North-America, (now called it seems the Bank of this State,) be a signal of opposition, then indeed the number of opponents will be numerous—for that heart must be dead to all the finer feelings of human nature, that can at once forget the eminent services rendered by this Bank, not to the State only, but to the United States—whose preservation in a very critical moment may be greatly deduced from it: This attachment is the natural characteristic of an enlightened American, who has witnessed the scenes of the late war, and thinks it hard the Bank alone should suffer, in a moment when all other creditors for public services are at least receiving two thirds of their dues.

The friends of the Bank of North-America are also warm and zealous friends of the United States; they are among the most steadfast supporters of its present excellent Constitution of government—they have no diffidence in the abundant resources of their country—they contribute largely to its Imposts, and have all the zeal any other citizens can have for the due support of its power; but they see no reason for all this, to relinquish the solemn chartered rights they are possessed of, or to yield to any other Bank the high privilege of serving their country, for which they were so early and so successful candidates. The people of Pennsylvania are too enlightened to embark all in one bottom, or not to cherish that power most, which is exclusively their own: By being strong, the State is the more respectable, and she can not be independent but by having her monied resources at her own command.

The public creditors are safe in reposing on the faith of the Union for their payments: To these no Bank is essential, while the country has justice to do what is right, and power to collect the necessary funds: How far their interests are concerned in the proposed Bank can be easily shewn them; it may become the grave of their certificates, but can never give them more life or vigor than is implied in their present solid and secure foundation—on the faith of the United States.

A V A R I C E.

MR. OSTERWALD, a well known Banker, died lately at Paris, literally of want—

—"A want, which many may think mad,
"But numbers feel—the want of what he had."

This man, originally of Neufchatel, felt the violence of the disease of Avarice—for surely it is rather a disease than a passion of the mind, so strongly, that within a few days of his death, no importunities could induce him to buy a few pounds of meat for the purpose of making a lit-

tle soup for him.—"Tis true," said he, "I should not dislike the soup, but I have no appetite for the meat—what then is to become of that?" At the time that he refused this nourishment, for fear of being obliged to give away two or three pounds of meat, there was tied round his neck a filken bag, which contained 800 Assignats of 1000 livres each. At his outset in life, he drank a pint of beer, which served him for supper, every night at a house much frequented, from which he carried home all the bottle corks he could come at. Of these, in the course of eight years, he had collected as many as sold for twelve louis d'ors, a sum that laid the foundation of his future fortune—the superstructure of which was rapidly raised by his uncommon success in stock-jobbing. He died possessed of three millions of livres, 125,000l. sterl.



CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, Feb. 7.

The BANK BILL under consideration.

MR. GILES,

IN the course of discussing the present important question, it has been several times insinuated that local motives, and not a candid and patriotic investigation of the subject upon its merits, have given rise to that difference of opinion, which has been heretofore manifested in this house. I shall not examine the truth of this observation, but merely remark, that the causes which may have produced the arguments against the proposed measure, whatever they be, can neither add to, or take from, their merit and influence—and of course the insinuations might have been spared without injury to the subject; but so far as the observation may have been intended to apply to myself, I can truly say, that if a bias were to influence my conduct, it would rather direct it to favor, than to oppose the proposed measure: This bias would arise from two causes—the one from the respect which I entertain for the judgments of the majority who advocate the measure—the other of a more serious nature: I have observed with regret a radical difference of opinion between gentlemen from the eastern and southern states, upon great governmental questions, and have been led to conclude, that the operation of that cause alone, might cast ominous conjecture on the promised success of this much valued government: Mutual concessions appear to be necessary to obviate this effect; and I have always been pleased in manifesting my disposition to make advances; but from the most careful view of the arguments in favor of the proposed measure, considered under this impression, they do not seem to me sufficient to establish the propriety of its adoption—and I am therefore impelled by the joint influence of duty and opinion to be one in the opposition.

A gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Ames,) prefaced his observations with this remark, that it is easier to point out defects and raise objections to any proposed system, than to defend it from objections and prove its affirmative propriety, and warned the house against the effects of arguments of this nature, urged in opposition to the measure now under consideration. I agree with the gentleman in this idea in general, but we should reflect, that in the present case, the address of the arguments in favor of the measure is made to one of the strongest affections in the human mind, (the love of dominion,) and hence we may justly conclude, that they will be received and relished with their full and unabated influence—this reflection appears to me to be at least a counterpoise to that remark.

The advocates of this bill have been called on, and I conceive with propriety, to shew its constitutionality and expediency, both of which have been doubted by those of the opposition. In support of the first position a multitude of arguments have been adduced, all of which may be reducible to the following heads: Such as are drawn from the constitution itself: From the incidentality of this authority to the mere creation and