

Messrs. CHILDS & SWAINE,

IF the following hints respecting *Toll Bridges* and *Turnpike Roads*, will be of any use, please to insert them.

est ebb, was upon the point of expiring, and their exhausted treasury, gave perpetually the lie to their public faith so often and so solemnly pledged. The forcible ties of a common interest directed to one great object during the war, were greatly loosened by the accomplishment of that object, and the seeds of mutual hostility were sown, by the partial commercial regulations of the respective states. The revenue laws which had been enacted in several of the states, were not able to support their credit, and yet were so unequal in their operation, that numerous bodies of men in more than one of the states appeared in open rebellion against the mildest governments that ever were instituted. Instead of the glorious reward which the people had expected for their virtuous exertions, internal discord, and infamy abroad presented themselves in dreary perspective before them. At that critical period, when the system to be annihilated, was an empty name, and there was only a government to be formed, the national constitution was presented to the people of America "in their original character," and even then its existence was to depend upon the assent of nine states, that is two thirds of the people. Very fortunately it has at length been freely adopted by all the members of the union; but the extreme difficulty which impeded the progress of its adoption, and the various amendments, which in many of the states were in a manner made the condition of their assent, exhibit the fullest evidence, what a more than Herculean task it is, to unite the opinions of a free people upon any system of government whatever.

Under the sanction of such authority, I venture to assert that the people of England have no right to destroy their government, unless in its operation the rights of the people are really oppressed, and unless they have attempted in vain every constitutional mode of obtaining redress. These principles ought to operate with peculiar force upon the people of England, because in the uncertain and hazardous event of a revolution, they have more to lose, and less to gain, than any other European nation, and because whatever they may acquire, must in all probability be purchased at the expense of a civil war. When provision is made for the alteration of a constitution, otherwise than by the common legislative power, it may be done comparatively without difficulty or danger; but where this power is already delegated, with the other powers of legislation, the people cannot use it themselves, except in their original, individual, unrepresented character, and they cannot acquire the right to act in that capacity, until the power which they have thus conveyed in trust, has been abdicated by the extreme abuses of its administration.

When Mr. PAINE invited the people of England to destroy their present government and form another constitution, he should have given them sober reasoning, and not flippant witticisms. He should have explained to them the nature of the grievances, by which they are oppressed, and demonstrated the impossibility of reforming the government in its present organization. He should have pointed out to them some possible method for them to act in their original character, without a total dissolution of civil society among them; he should have proved, what great advantages they would reap as a nation from such a revolution, without disguising the great dangers and formidable difficulties, with which it must be attended.

The principal and most dangerous abuses in the English government, arise less from the defects inherent in the constitution, than from the state of society;—the universal venality and corruption which pervades all classes of men in that kingdom, and which a change of government could not reform. I shall consider this subject more largely hereafter; but at present with respect to the expediency of a revolution in England, I must enquire how the nation can be brought to act in their original character? Mr. PAINE, perhaps from the delicacy of his situation, has said nothing openly upon this very important point. Yet in two different parts of his work he seems obscurely to hint two methods for the accomplishment of this object. When he compares the situation of the citizens of London, to that of the inhabitants of Paris, just before the taking of the Bastille, it seems as if it was with an intention to recommend a similar insurrection for the purpose of dispersing the parliament, and expelling the king, which would leave the nation without any government at all, and compel them at all events to act in their original character. When he advises "Revolutions by accommodation," he must probably mean that a convention should be called by act of parliament to regenerate their constitution.—I cannot imagine any other method of answering his purpose. Mr. PAINE seems to think it is as easy for a nation to change its government, as for a man to change his coat; but I confess both the modes of proceeding which he suggests, appear to me to be liable to great objections.

PUBLICOLA.

Roads and Bridges, especially upon the great post road, through the Union, are objects of national moment. Dispatch in a courier, may suppress an insurrection in the bud. Expediting the baggage or artillery of an army, one day, may save a seaport of first rate consequence, or a post, which is the key of the union. Shortening the distance, and lessening the time, which it consumes to assemble our national representatives, is a very important object. The speedy promulgation of their acts and proceedings, has the happiest tendency to preserve peace and good order, as well as to prevent the sudden passing of injurious laws. To commerce, it is of great consequence. The enterprising merchant makes his speculations, or saves his insurance, with advantage, and promptness. Early intelligence, and dispatch, are of very great use to him. The gentleman of fortune, or the invalid, travelling for pleasure, or health, visit various states and climes, and scan human nature in its varied modes and habits, with ease and safety. I conceive that *Toll Bridges* and *Turnpike Roads*, are the most effectual and most equitable means of accomplishing so desirable a business. The smaller advantages arising from them would be, impeding the importation of foreign convicts, vagabonds and paupers; detecting highwaymen, horse thieves, and other villains. I have heard that in England, if a gentleman is robbed, he gives notice at the first turnpike, the alarm is passed; and villains are often detected in this way. They generally keep the high roads to great cities; when they deviate into villages, and bye roads, every cottager notices the horse, and dress of the stranger; so will the toll gate man, for he may get a reward by it. If attention was paid to the selection of steady, discreet men, they might be clothed with the powers of a constable. Let us suppose that besides the bridges, there were ten toll-gates, between Paules Hook and Philadelphia, and that the whole amount of the toll, came to one third of a dollar, for each traveller on horseback, or in a carriage; I presume the product of this money properly laid out upon the roads, in three year's time, would save half a day's time and expences to travellers, who then would lose by it? or rather, who would not be benefited by it?

The comparatively little state of New Jersey, has set a noble example of public spirit; she has no foreign commerce, and of course neither very prompt, or productive sources of revenue. She has undertaken three magnificent bridges. I could wish them ceded to the union, on the same footing as light houses. It would be no great affair for New-York and Philadelphia, to advance on loan, the sum requisite for their immediate completion. The two bridges between Newark and Paules Hook, will give access to a great tract of fertile country, between it and Morris-Town, near thirty miles back, to come to the New-York market, with great ease. Market people chafe in hot weather to travel in the night, with their perishable commodities; to cross ferries at all hours in the night, with horses, carts and waggons, is troublesome and dangerous, as well as very expensive. In cold weather, when the flogging is good, hundreds of sleds will probably pass these bridges with loads of fire wood, poultry, meal and other provisions so as to reach the banks of the Hudson in season in the morning for market. Loads of fuel would scarcely pay the expence of the two ferries. In a severe season, the ordinary water communication which supplies New-York with firing is cut off, and wood is scarcer for the distance of forty miles by land, than it is within twelve miles of Paules Hook, on the Jersey side.

Should either our corporation, or individuals, form temporary magazines on the Jersey shore to receive the wood when scarce, they would find their account in it. Seldom a day passes, but a boat may cross.

So long as Philadelphia continues to be the seat of government, she would have a great influx of company, and money of course, from the states east of her, in consequence of good roads and bridges. February and March, are the most leisure months in the year, to men of business, to merchants and tradesmen; and at this very season, the floating or rotten ice, in my conception, makes the transportation of a family, from New-York to Philadelphia, by land, more dangerous than it is by sea, to Richmond, in Virginia. I have known instances of persons, having leisure only at this season, and wishing to go, principally from curiosity, whom the danger has deterred.

I hope the state of New-Jersey will proceed to set an example to her neighbors. That she will by turnpikes and tolls, tax pleasure, commerce, and speculation, for their own, and the

public good; which they doubtless will cheerfully pay.

That to prevent clamour and opposition, she will permit persons inhabiting townships or districts, on the post road, to work on the highways as they have been used to do; to pass free into other districts, where they actually occupy, and improve lands or mills; or usually go to mill, to public worship, or to call the physician. That suitable exemptions will be made respecting the clergy, physicians, jurors, witnesses, &c. This is the age of revolution, and beneficial improvement. The human mind has burst its prison, and demolished the formidable battile of deep founded, strong built, ancient prejudice—Let us, reverencing the wisdom of our ancestors, pay no more respect to *old* customs, solely on account of their *antiquity*, than is due to an old man, merely for the length of his beard, or a long predicted comet, for the length of its progress and tail.

A NATIONAL MAN.

FROM THE (CONNECTICUT) FARMER'S JOURNAL.

Messrs. PRINTERS,

I NOW transmit to you for publication, the Census of Connecticut, taken in 1756, and 1762, by the King's order, which by being compared with the last return of the Census, taken in 1790, may serve to shew the rapid increase of population, notwithstanding the vast emigration from this State to others.

|          | WHITES. | BLACKS. |
|----------|---------|---------|
| In 1756, | 128,212 | 3,587   |
| In 1762, | 141,000 | 4,590   |

Increase in 21 years, 12,788 Whites, 1,003 Blacks.  
By the last return, made in 1790, there appears to be 222,371 Whites; so that the difference between the numbers in 1756, and 1790, (the term only of 34 years) appears to be 104,159 Whites, and 1,981 Blacks: The Blacks in 1790 amounting to 5,568. The difference from 1762 to 1790, is 91,371 Whites (the increase in 28 years) and 978 Blacks. So that the increase of Blacks in the last 28 years is not so great by 25 persons, as it was in the preceding 6 years.

Greenfield, June 1791.

CHARLESTON, June 7, 1791.

THE ADDRESS OF THE CITIZENS OF AUGUSTA, TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

SIR,  
YOUR journey to the southward being extended to the frontier of the union, affords a fresh proof of your indefatigable zeal in the service of your country, and an equal attention and regard to all the people of the United States. With these impressions the citizens of Augusta present their congratulations upon your arrival here in health, with the assurance, that it will be their greatest pleasure, during your stay with them, to testify the sincere affection they have for your person, their sense of obligations for your merits and services, and their entire confidence in you as the chief magistrate of their country. On your return, and at all times, their best wishes will accompany you, while they retain the hope that a life of virtue, benevolence, and patriotism, may be long preserved, for the benefit of the age, and example to posterity.

In the name of all the citizens,  
GEORGE WALTON,  
JOHN MEALS,  
THOMAS CUMMING,  
PETER CARNES,  
SEABORN JONES.

Augusta, May 19, 1789.

THE PRESIDENT'S ANSWER.  
TO THE CITIZENS OF AUGUSTA.

GENTLEMEN,  
I RECEIVE your congratulations on my arrival in Augusta with great pleasure. I am much obliged by your assurances of regard, and thank you with unfeigned sincerity for the favorable sentiments you are pleased to express towards me. Entreating you to be persuaded of my gratitude, I desire to assure you, that it will afford me the most sensible satisfaction to learn the progression of your prosperity. My best wishes for your happiness, collectively and individually, are sincerely offered.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

LONDON, April 26.

THE strength of the present Ministry does not so much consist in its political connection as in its incorruptible purity. There are no dark doings, no secret jobs—no bribe worthy services—all is open and above board, directed by wisdom, upheld by truth, and sanctioned by justice. Even the avowed political enemies of government are at a loss for any subject of complaint.

The Princesses of France, when they were the King's daughters, were something, now they are become the King's Aunts, they are nothing.—They are amiable, they are decent, they are innocent, and they are women, and while the privileges and honors of their birth are taken from them, they are not permitted to employ the liberty which is given them in exchange, in running away.

In Germany, an excellent and cheap die has been invented by Mr. Vogler, adapted to woolen and cotton manufactures. It consists simply of the seeds of the red trefoil, a plant very common in this country, and used to feed horses and cattle. A decoction of these seeds is mixed with different mineral substances, and the dies produced are very beautiful, and of a great variety. Among these are yellows and greens of different shades, as also citron and orange colours. These dies resist the action of the substances with which