

FROM THE COLUMBIAN CENTINEL.

PUBLIC HAPPINESS.

No. V.

NOTHING is more delightful to a benevolent mind than the sight of human happiness, and the traveller who beholds it in any country will by the sympathy of nature share in the felicity. Every traveller in this country will have his feelings powerfully excited by seeing the happiest people on earth, with prospects unbounded—Heaven, ever propitious to America, is crowning the year with health and plenty, and we every where behold the vivid countenance and the smile of joy. The old query and complaint, "Why were the former days better than these?" is not heard in the land. The people have the intelligence to know the superiority of their blessings, "out of the heart the mouth speaketh," and there is a voice of contentment and glow of gratitude—there is a triumph of sentiment which is American. Religion, which is the cordial of human existence, now expands the virtuous mind with sentiments of felicity while recounting the favors of Providence, and the wide prospect of future good to the world, from the events daily unfolding here—Disinterested benevolence is Heaven in miniature.

The United States have only to continue their exertions and progression in the line they are in, and they will rise with the flow of time, until their populations and improvements exceed all the nations of the world. This appears to be an irresistible conclusion, from the foundation laid by nature, and the present state of things—In truth there is nothing that can be opposed to this happy conclusion, but a conjecture that the people of America may be become ignorant, fools, and madmen—But as such a conjecture is against all reason, it vanishes from the mind, and leaves the field of hope every where blossoming with flowers, and the moral hemisphere brightening into day.—From the beginning of time there were never so many causes in operation to diffuse universal science, and such powerful and multiplied means to enlighten the whole people as are now seen in this country. If the design of Providence can be learnt from the long chain of causes and events which have conspicuously marked the history of this country, moral reasoning will confirm the conclusion from nature and present facts. Every appearance in reason and nature, the past and the present, express in capitals the glowing prospects and pre-eminence of Columbia. Let the EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN forever be considered and pursued as the first concern—by legislators, judges, clergymen, and by ALL men. This, and this only, will crown with perfect and never fading glory, the empire of freedom.

A TRAVELLER.

FROM THE COLUMBIAN CENTINEL.

Mr. RUSSELL,

I SINCERELY congratulate the public on its late rich acquisition of historical knowledge in the publication of Mr. Belknap's History of New-Hampshire.

If genius and merit are encouraged as they ought to be, we may soon expect to see a complete history of each State; and until this is done we cannot expect an authentic and copious general history of the United States.

South-Carolina and New-Hampshire are now brought down to the present day, by native historians of our own soil, who do honor to their parent Columbia, as they would to any other country.

The history of Connecticut, we hear, is undertaken by the Rev. Benjamin Trumbull, of New-Haven, and that of Georgia, by Edward Langworthy, Esq.

Rhode-Island, Delaware, Maryland and North-Carolina, have not yet furnished any regular history, written by any of their sons—what little they have, has been written by foreigners.

That of Massachusetts, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia, are very incomplete, and some of them more than 50 years behind.

If we are so happy as to have gentlemen in the several States possessing the fidelity, candor, liberality and industry of Belknap and Ramsay, with their elegant simplicity and smoothness of style, they will not fail of pleasing. No one who feels the honest pride of being an American, will think his library complete until it is graced with the Histories of Belknap and Ramsay, and we may add of Minot, the Boston Sallust. PHILO HISTORICUS.

From PELOSI's MARINE LIST.

The following intelligence we had from Capt. Rogers, of the brig Harmony, arrived at this port from Port-au-Prince, Sept. 10.

284 Plantations burnt; 94 ditto entirely destroyed; 169 ditto of coffee burnt; 154 white men killed; 48 women; 18 children murdered; 6 plantations, of the Gallitot family, destroyed; 36,000 Negroes revolted; 8,000 killed and dispersed; 4,000 returned back.

IT is generally said, that the King is to be permitted to retire to Fontainebleau, there to deliberate with his Council upon the revised constitution, which is speedily to be presented to him. Without doubt he will be puzzled whether to accept or refuse it; for it will either be accepting or refusing the Crown. He will have leave to go to Fontainebleau, to prove that acceptance is free. This is considered to be merely a political farce, for go where he will, he will still be guarded—still will be considered as a national prisoner.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

AUGUST 6.

The proposed constitution being read, M. de la Fayette rose. For a long while, gentlemen, the people have been wishing for this constitutional act, which formed after mature deliberation, admits no longer of any useful delays; but which, on the contrary, every circumstance prompts us finally to fix. It is at a time when a combination of passions and interests, is in motion around us, that it is proper to proclaim these principles of liberty and equality—to support which every Frenchman has irrevocably devoted his life and honor.

The Assembly, no doubt, also, is of opinion, that it is full time to give to all the powers established harmony of motion; that the nation may have at foreign courts constitutional organs; that the numerous explanations they owe us may be obtained, that the sleep of royal functions be at an end; and that mutual confidence may revive.

I shall make no mention of the arduous duties which our country has a right to expect from me, (because every sacrifice to it is due) but must impatiently wish to see it in a situation no longer to call for their exercise.

I propose that the Committee of Constitution, should draw up the plan of a decree, to fix the forms to be followed in presenting the constitution, when it is finally agreed to, in the name of the French Nation, to the King, for his most independent examination and accepting.

Agreed.

L O N D O N, August 12.

A ship lately arrived in the river from Philadelphia, has brought over six fine plants of the Maple Tree, which we understand are intended as a present to her Majesty.

The King of Spain has caused the following intimation, addressed to the Supreme Council, &c. to be published:

"After a long negociation with the Bey and Regency of Tunis, since the truce of 1786, for the purpose of laying the foundation of a treaty of peace, friendship, and commerce, by a treaty useful and advantageous to my subjects, I have the satisfaction of informing them that this treaty, which secures forever free navigation and commerce on the coasts of Tunis, of which Spain has been deprived for several ages, was signed this day, with thanks to Almighty God, &c. Madrid, July 19th 1791."

The Consols were done yesterday at the very high price of eighty-nine (with the dividend) an instance that has not been known since the year before the American war.

This day his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will enter into the 30th year of his age.

The Church now building at Peterburgh is the largest in Europe. Two thousand men have been working on it these twenty years, and are not yet at the top of the walls. It is of polished marble, both outside and in; the pillars are of one piece, fifty feet high; the base and capitals of solid silver; but the greatest curiosity of all is the wooden box, which covers the whole from the weather, constructed in a particular manner. All the Empress's buildings are on the same immense scale. The Great Duke's dog-house has 1500 windows; and the Audience Chamber, in which the Empress receives Foreign Ambassadors, is lined with polished silver—Such is the magnificence of her Imperial Majesty.

TURKS AND RUSSIANS.

We have already informed our readers of the capture of Anapa, by the Russians. We are now enabled to lay before them the account transmitted by Prince Repnin, the commander in chief of the Russian army on the Danube, to the Russian Ambassador at Warsaw.

"I have this moment received information that General Gugowitz took the fortress of Anapa by assault, on the 3d of July, new style. There were made prisoners, Mustapha Pacha, of Three Tails, (son to Battal Pacha, who commanded last year at Anapa, and was then made prisoner) together with the famous Scheich Mansour, and about 14,000 persons, including the troops and inhabitants of both sexes.

"The Turks defended themselves obstinately, and many of them were killed.—I am yet unacquainted with the extent of their loss, and I do not yet know ours, which, however, the courier assures me is but trifling."

Isabell Stewart, who was on Wednesday last executed for stealing in a house where she was servant, differed materially from the generality of women who bring themselves into that situation.—Her husband being a sailor, engaged as a foremast-man in a vessel bound to Botany Bay, and she did all in her power to accompany him there, but finding she could not accomplish her point, she determined by stealing to be sent after him, at the expence of government. She however overshot the mark, by committing a capital offence.

Mr. Hammond, the new Consul General to the United States of America, and late Secretary to the Embassy at Madrid, will set off in a few days for Philadelphia. His appointment is of the highest importance to this country, as he has it in commission to conclude a treaty of Offensive and Defensive Alliance between England and America. The outlines of this treaty have been already discussed, and we learn that some very considerable commercial advantages are held out to America as the basis of it, which will in time supplant the greater part of the trade of Russia with this country.

Permanent stock was never known so high; at the same time, that which is considered not so permanent, is alarmingly to the holders, upon the decline. Whether a simple stagnation for a day gave rise to the report that the Minister has it in agitation to pay off the four per cents. or whether such a report was the cause of their further declension, a short time perhaps may determine. That such an event is at all likely to take place, is a brilliant circumstance in favor of the finances of this country, and of those who hold reins of government.

From the East-Indies, the accounts brought by the Abergavenny, are favorable; but not so extravagantly flattering as we may have been taught to expect within these few weeks by other accounts. When the dispatches left India Lord Cornwallis was hastening to attack Tippoo's grand army, and appearances promise every thing.

At home, from every quarter of the kingdom, the state of autumnal produce is most luxuriously reported.

The clubs of Paris seem again to be restored; but they have not the influence with the Assembly which they had.

The maddest feat of misled patriotism that ever any unhappy country experienced, is at this time exercising in Spain. The Church, no doubt, has the sole conduct of the present persecution of strangers, which has taken place in every province throughout the kingdom; and let us hope it may prove what it seems strongly symptomatic of, the last convulsive struggle of superstition.

Extract from a private letter from the East-Indies, dated March 5.

"I now write you from the top of the Ghauts, within 50 miles of Seringapatam, the capital of Tippoo Sultan, and nearer by the same distance than ever English troops were before. The detachment I am now with consists of a brigade of light field pieces, which ascended the Ghauts without opposition, the day before yesterday. Our force, under Col. Hartley, consists of the 75th regiment, the grenadiers, and the 7th battalion of Bombay native Infantry (the troops the Col. had with him at the glorious action at Trevan-ganny) to which were added a detachment of the 73d reg. and a corps of Grenadiers, consisting of four European and five Native companies.

"Our situation in the Ghauts is such, as to bid defiance to the Sultan's utmost power and force. The remainder of the army, commanded by Gen. Abercrombie, are in the vicinity of the Pass, and our principal employ for some time will be bringing up provisions, stores, and heavy cannon.

"The whole army under General Abercrombie now consists of near 9000 fighting men, including the Travancore troops, strong in artillery under Major Jones."

BURLINGTON, Oct. 11.

Burlington County Society for the Promotion of Agriculture and Domestic Manufactures.

MAY 7, 1791.

It appearing to this Society that the attention paid by them to the means of improving the quality of the CHEESE made in this county, has been productive of beneficial effects; and the Society being desirous, further to promote a manufacture of the greatest importance to the agricultural interest of the state—Resolved, That for the greatest quantity of the best flavoured, mildest, and richest Cheese, (not less than 300lbs wt.) which shall be made the ensuing season on any one farm in this county, and produced in good order to this Society, on the first Saturday in November next, between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock in the forenoon, accompanied by a certificate from at least two reputable freeholders, mentioning the place at which the said Cheese was made; a premium of Thirty five Dollars shall be paid; together with the market price for 300lbs. weight of the same cheese.