

Gazette of the United States.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1791.

[Whole No. 273.]

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

EDUCATION.

THE English papers represent the rioters at Birmingham as an ignorant rabble. And that it is of such that mobs are always composed. Whether a man is much of a philosopher or not, he cannot well avoid reflecting on the mischiefs done, and losses of property suffered, as well as the terror, disturbance and disgrace, resulting from these violent disorders. A man will then see that, as the most ignorant of men are the actors in these scenes, ignorance is the true cause of all the mischief. Instead of hanging men, though doubtless they deserved the gallows, let the government of England look to the root of the evil. The loss of property is said to have amounted to some hundred thousand pounds sterling. Had the interest of the sum been applied for the support of schools, and the rioters, in their youth, been taught in them, it is probable that they would not have been concerned.—From whence it may be inferred, that the neglect of education costs more than the provision for it. For it is certainly right, in keeping the account between ignorance and knowledge, to charge the former with the mischief it does. A school-house will turn out in the end a better security of the public peace, than a regiment of the horse guards. We see the latter did not arrive in time to protect the sufferers at Birmingham. It is easier, cheaper and wiser, as well as more humane, to prevent evil, than to remedy or punish it after it is done. How few persons, who have been tolerably well educated, have been disturbers of the public peace. The gallows would attest the truth of this remark, if the history of its obscure and almost unpitied victims could now be told. Very few, especially of the natives of America, have suffered, whose fate could not justly be ascribed to the neglect of their youth—Shall we then go on smoothly as they do in England, hanging one half the people to keep the other half quiet in their beds?—or will our men of humanity, and our politicians, bestir themselves at last, and by establishing schools, get at the fountain head of the evil, and endeavor to diminish crimes and punishments by banishing ignorance?

All other public cares are worse than lost, for while they punish offenders with more and more fruitless severity, they divert our attention from the true nature and proper remedy of the evil.

PARIS, September 6.

THE Bourdeaux chamber of commerce has unfortunately demanded the recall of the decree, granting liberty and equal privileges with the whites to the mulattoes in St. Domingo. This is directly contrary to the opinion of the citizens of Bourdeaux, who in their petition on this subject, voluntarily offered to embark in quality of soldiers, to compel the colonists to comply with the decree of May 15th. The municipality and friends of the constitution wished to prevent the setting out of the messenger that had been engaged to carry the address of the chamber of commerce to the National Assembly; but the mercantile and naval bodies urged his departure, considering, no doubt, that the commercial interests had at least as good a right to petition, as the club constitutionists.

Sept. 26. It is currently reported here, and very confidently believed, that the King, since his acceptance of the constitution, refused to receive a packet addressed to him by his brothers, or to hear any verbal explanation of the contents from the bearer; to whom he said, that he could hold no correspondence with the Princes till their return to Paris.

Every thing is as peaceable and quiet here as if nothing had happened; trade is taking its

usual course, and we have not the least suspicion of any of the powers of Europe attempting to disturb our domestic tranquility. We shall, however, be prepared for defending ourselves, but we shall treat any attacks as those of an assassin, who endeavors to disturb individual repose.

The choice of a new Marine Minister was not declared or known yesterday.

Conformable to the decree of the National Assembly, two preachers yesterday informed the Municipality of Paris, that they had formed contracts to enter into wedlock immediately.

M. de Segur, who was lately appointed ambassador to Rome, will, it is said, proceed to England to replace M. de la Luzerne, deceased.

DUBLIN, September 17.

Yesterday wheat fell in proportion of last week, four shillings a barrel. If flour gets any thing of a tolerable fall, the price of bread being struck from the average of both, we may expect an addition of half a pound to the twelve-penny loaf. Potatoes now sell in Francis-street at four-pence a stone, and cheaper by the hundred. The fine weather we have happily experienced for some time past, has occasioned this reduction of the late extravagant rates of two such essential necessaries of life.

Whatever may be the opinions of the people of Ireland on political subjects, we hope the French king's acceptance of the constitution will give sincere and general pleasure—as preventing the effusion of human blood—putting a stop to the madness of ambitious or capricious wars, and exalting 25,000,000 of people to the rank of freemen.

LONDON-DERRY.

We have received from Philadelphia letters and papers down to the 3d of August. All accounts agree in a favorable report of the increasing prosperity of the United States—their stocks are now above par, as money is coming into them from all the countries of Europe—the subscriptions to the federal or national bank were filled up in a few minutes, and their crops this season, are rich and plentiful. The Indian war has taken a fortunate turn: On the 1st of June, Brig. Gen. Scott, defeated the savages on the banks of the Wabash; the American army was soon after joined by 500 Indians, and the hostile nations have sued for peace. The new fifteen states (by the junction of Vermont and Kentucky) were to meet in Congress the beginning of October.

LONDON, September 30.

The Duke of York's marriage was celebrated yesterday at Berlin. Political formalities would have deferred it for some months, but these obstacles the impatience and address of a lover found means to remove.

M. de Fayette is succeeded M. Bouille in the command of the troops in the departments of the Meurthe and the Moselle.

EUROPEAN STATE OF POLITICS.

The Emperor and the King of Prussia, are said to have met about something, but no one can clearly tell what; they may or may not have conversed concerning France, but whatever they may intend, it is to be trusted little mischief to the cause of liberty in an age like the present, can ensue against the energy of an unanimous people, which as advocates for a different form of government from that which they lately experienced, the French nation certainly are—for if absolute monarchs be permitted to suggest by what form a neighbouring kingdom shall be governed, little in favor of the people can be expected. Imperfect as the new constitution at present may be, the people of France have now sufficient materials with which to work out their own happiness, without the interference of surrounding nations; and we will hope there is too much virtue in Europe, to suffer such an officious assistance.

SPAIN

Has involved itself in a war with Morocco, at a time when all its vigilance requires to be exercised at home, to prevent an universal spirit of discontent from breaking out into action in its own provinces. The late edicts directed against the French inhabitants of Spain, have, and little else could be anticipated, set the natives to enquire what this liberty is which provokes such a spirit of persecution; but the advocates for freedom in Spain have a stubborn foe to contend with in the clergy, who are a much more powerful body than ever they were in France—moreover, the French being expelled the kingdom, they have no philosophical leaders to urge them on; the Spanish people of weight and consequence being at present by no means remarkable for that liberal mode of thinking which has long distinguished their Gallic neighbors.

THE PAPAL STATES OF ITALY

Have lately discovered strong symptoms of discontent; and the mischief of it is, his Holiness has no power to oppose against any advances that may be made upon his ancient prerogatives, but the artillery of anathema, which of late years has been discovered to be very harmless in its effects.

POLAND

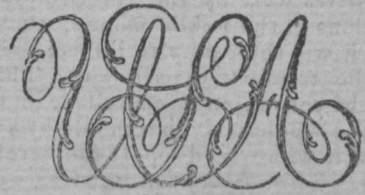
Has yet met with no interruption in its happy revolution; the new wheels which have been inserted in the machinery of its constitution, have been put into motion, and found to work well and harmoniously with the whole. Neighbouring despotism effects to frown, but its frowns are despised; though much remains at some future time to be done for the Poles. The people at large are certainly happier circumstanced than they were, and the nobility not less so. Comparative liberty has been given, without licentiousness having been encouraged.

RUSSIA

Has begun to fulfil her terms with the Porte, and the peace, at length established between these violent foes, promises to be one of some continuation.

TURKEY

Having temporarily disengaged itself from its unsuccessful conflict in Europe, finds its Asiatic possessions in a great ferment; but having now leisure to attend to them, it is not supposed from the sanguinary mode in which the Court of Constantinople proceeds in cases of rebellion, that any loss of territory on that quarter will be the consequence.



CONGRESS.

PHILADELPHIA.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2.

(CONCLUDED.)

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

On the Appropriation Bill for the year 1792.

MR. GILES was of opinion that the committee had done their duty, and had acted in conformity to the resolution of the House. He mentioned his being one of a small minority against that resolution, when it was under consideration. At that time, he said, he was of opinion, that some previous examination was necessary.

He adverted to the estimate from the Secretary of the Senate. That officer called for 4500 dollars, for contingent expences, though it did not appear that there was a deficiency in the sum of 3000 dollars granted last year. The only reason that was given for an increase of 50 per cent. was, the increased price of the articles to be purchased. He was against allowing an unnecessary latitude in appropriations. It would generally be found, he said, that the expenditures would come up very near to the sum appropriated; and if 3000 dollars were sufficient last year, it remained to be determined whether the increased price of articles warranted an increase of 50 per cent. in the sums to be appropriated now. If an increase in the appropriations for the department of war, from good reasons, was necessary, this was no reason why the contingent expences of the Senate should increase. He hoped the passage of the bill would not be precipitated, and was of opinion that information should be previously obtained.

He approved of the idea suggested by Mr. Gerry, to call on executive officers at stated times for their accounts. It had been said that members could seek for information at their offices; he thought it more proper that the officers should be called upon to bring their accounts to the House. He did not like the mode pointed out; and, indeed even supposing the members had neglected a duty, yet he hoped further time would not be refused. He was for the committee's rising.

Mr. Barnwell was of opinion, that the report of the Treasurer, containing a full account of the receipt and expenditure of all the public money, was the fullest information that need be received, neither the members of the House, or a committee of it, could possibly examine into the minutiae and items of every public account.—The Comptroller, Treasurer and Register were the proper officers to do this. If any member of the House was dissatisfied with any particular charge received at the treasury, he could either as an individual call and examine into its propriety, or on the floor of the House call for the information he wanted to satisfy his mind.

Mr. Fitzsimons was against the committee's rising. Many of the items in the appropriation bill were right without doubt, and papers were on the table to explain the propriety of others. Salaries would not be disputed. If clerks were unemployed at the offices, they would not be paid. The contemplated appropriations for contingent and incidental expences depended on estimates which were before the committee; and if any are thought too considerable, motions may be made to reduce them; but to rise now would be mere waste of time. He enumerated some of the objects of expence which called for a larger appropriation this year to remove the general objections of the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. Madison considered the present a good opportunity to determine how far the House could go into an examination of the accounts of public officers. It was true that the representatives of the people were the guardians of the public money, and consequently it was their duty to satisfy themselves as far as possible of the sources from

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