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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1791.

[Whole No. 277.]

## PHILADELPHIA.

PHILOSOPHICAL-HALL, December 16.

The following Address was presented in a full Meeting, 1791.

TO DAVID RITTENHOUSE, Esquire, L. L. D. President of the American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful Knowledge.

SIR,

THE American Philosophical Society embrace the present occasion of a meeting for stated annual business, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated Nov. 15, addressed to their treasurer; in which you are pleased to inform him, that "You have paid the debt of 308l. due to the late Judge Hopkinson, and will lay the bond and mortgage before the society," expressing your hopes that this benefaction, on your part, may "encourage the society to exert themselves to get rid of some other heavy debts and incumbrances."

This renewed instance of your liberality, joined to the consideration of the illustrious part which you have taken in their labors for many years past, hath made such an impression upon them, that they are at a loss in what manner they can best express their gratitude, or their respect and veneration for your name.

At any time, and in any country, such a "brilliant present" would indicate a mind that can feel the inseparable connexion between learning and human felicity. But in the present state of our finances, it is a most important benefaction; and a noble specimen of literary patronage in a young empire, where many other improvements must share with the arts and sciences, in the public attention and bounty.

We are sensible of the necessity of extinguishing the other heavy debts of the Society, with all possible speed; and have appointed a proper committee to devise ways and means for that purpose.

Signed in behalf and by order of the Society, at a meeting held this 16th day of December, 1791.

JAMES HUTCHINSON,  
ROBERT PATTERSON,  
JONATHAN WILLIAMS,  
SAMUEL MAGAW,  
JOHN EWING,  
WILLIAM SMITH,  
THOMAS JEFFERSON.

The President of the Society was pleased to return this Answer:

GENTLEMEN,

THE satisfaction I feel in contributing something towards promoting science, the interests whereof are, I am persuaded, inseparable from those of humanity, is greatly increased by your very polite approbation.

My sincerest wishes are, that this institution may ever merit public encouragement, and enjoy the patronage of the generous and the good.

## AN ORDINANCE,

For securing the punctual Payment of the Monies due on the Subscriptions to the "SOCIETY FOR USEFUL MANUFACTORIES."

### SECTION I.

BE it ordained, "by the Governor and Directors of the Society for establishing useful Manufactories," and it is hereby ordained by authority of the same, That the monies subscribed to the said Society shall be paid either to the Cashier of the Bank of New-York, or to the Cashier of the Bank of the United States, at Philadelphia, or to John Bayard or John Neilson, Esq. at Brunswick, in the State of New-Jersey, who shall, within ten days after they receive such monies, pay the same to the Cashier of the Bank of New-York. Provided always, That in all cases where the subscriber may prefer to pay his or her subscription agreeably to law, in the funded stock of the United States, such stock shall be transferred on the books of the Treasury of the United States, or on the books of the Loan-Officer at Philadelphia, Trenton, or New-York, in the name of the "Society for establishing useful Manufactories."

SEC. II. And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the first payment of the said subscriptions shall be made, in the manner aforesaid, on or before the thirteenth day of January next; and that the share or shares of all and every person or persons who shall neglect to make such payments, on or before that day, shall be forfeited, and vested in the Directors for the common benefit of the Society.

SEC. III. And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That if any subscriber, or his assigns, shall neglect to pay the second, third or fourth payment of his, her or their respective subscriptions, for the space of three days after the expiration of the time limited by the law of the incorporation for the said payments, that is to say, the second payment on the thirteenth day of July, 1792, the third payment on the thirteenth day of January, 1793, and the fourth and last payment on the thirteenth day of July, 1793, that then, and in that case, all and every share or shares of such person or persons, so neglecting to make such payments as aforesaid, and the monies by them previously paid, shall be forfeited and forever thereafter vested in the said Directors and their successors for the common benefit of the said Society.

SEC. IV. And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Governor, when he gives notification as hereafter mentioned, of the periods of said payments, shall also notify the proportional sums which may be received in specie, as a substitute for the deferred stock, according to the principles expressed in the act of incorporation.

SEC. V. And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Governor direct the forms of certificates to be given on the payment of any subscription monies, which shall entitle the original holders, or their assigns, respectively, to such shares or parts of shares as may be specified therein: subject, however, to the regulations contained in this ordinance.

SEC. VI. And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Governor, for the purpose of notifying the manner of payment, cause the foregoing ordinance to be printed in one of the public newspapers in the cities of Philadelphia and New-York, and of the State of New-Jersey, twenty days previous to the period of the first payment, and six weeks previous to the period of the subsequent respective payments.

WILLIAM DUER, Governor.

(Counterigned)

ELISHA BOUNDINOT, Sec'y, pro tempore.

BE it known, That the proportion of specie which may be paid on the respective installments of every original share, by such subscribers as prefer paying a moiety of their subscriptions in specie in lieu of deferred debt, is as follows:

	Dolls.	Cts.
On the 13th of Jan. 1792,	7	42
On the 13th of July, 1792,	7	63
On the 13th of Jan. 1793,	7	86
On the 13th of July, 1793,	8	9
	31	0

WILLIAM DUER.

## EXTRACT.

FROM A FRENCH PAPER.

THE best method to restore those persons to their senses who are admirers of titles, and all the nonsense of quality and nobility, would be to recapitulate the quarrels of Princes with their legal descendants; the disputes of these with the Dukes, and of the Dukes, again with the gentry. In all these contests, the truth always came out, that the sceptred and titled men were the meanest of men, not so from nature, but from education and habits which had left little or nothing to their own exertions; for true greatness is always acquired and imbibed in the severe school of necessity. In the most superstitious nations of the earth, little men [in reality such] were always fond of being thought gods, and therefore affected a veil of obscurity to conceal their littleness from the vulgar. The moment they quarrelled, the veil was withdrawn, and with it their pretended divinity.

Let us pass from distinctions of birth to those of decorations, ribbons, and orders: and here we are at once sickened with the silly apparatus—What possible idea of honor could be affixed to the order of the Holy Ghost, or of the Staff, when a Madame Desprez created 58 Chevaliers and 7 Marshals of France in one day?—Who can forbear laughter when, in reading history, they see men, totally ignorant of war, purchasing titular dignities, with the motto of *Bellica virtutis premium*, when underneath should in justice have been written, *Risum teneatis, Ancie?*—But these abuses and follies are wearing out with time; men have been for ages in a comparative state of childhood, and the day is at hand when they will be universally ashamed of the toys and baubles befitting the *childish age*, as the science of government becomes better understood.

P A R I S, October 1.

## FIRST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(that which formed the Constitution) SEP. 30th.

THE Assembly received the valedictory addresses of sundry bodies; and decreed rewards to such as had rendered their country essential services.

At four the King, who had already been repeatedly announced, arrived. The former and the new deputies, together without distinction, did not leave the least vacancy in the house.

The King had scarcely ascended to the place assigned him, and turned towards the Assembly, when the house rung on all sides with expressions of applause.

A deep, but pleasing emotion, was depicted in his Majesty's countenance; he appeared happy—and the impression of his being so, diffused joy to all around.

Two or three times while delivering his discourse, his voice faltered; but all deeply felt the cause of it.

His Address, and the circumstances that accompany it, follow.

Kings of the earth read it; and examine whether in the exercise of your unlimited authority, you find any thing to be compared to the sensations which flow from these thoughts, sentiments, and emotions.

"GENTLEMEN,

"Having finished the Constitution, you have fixed on this day to conclude your labours. Perhaps it might have been desirable that this session should have been somewhat lengthened, that you might have had an opportunity of trying your work, and to add to the fruits of your labours, such as you have not had time to bring to perfection, and all those which three years experience might have suggested to enlightened legislators: But you have no doubt conceived it important to leave as small an interval as possible between the completion of the constitution, and

the end of the labours of the constituting assembly, in order to mark with more precision, the difference which exists between the powers of the constituting, and the legislative bodies.

"Having accepted the constitution, which you have formed for the kingdom, I will use all my constitutional authority, to secure to the laws due respect and obedience.

"I have given notice to the Foreign Powers of my acceptance of that constitution [great applause—long live the King] and I study, and shall constantly study every method that can secure the external safety and tranquility of the kingdom.—I shall not use less vigilance and activity in having the constitution executed within, and in preventing its being violated. [Applause.]

"As for you, gentlemen, having in a long and difficult undertaking, shewn indefatigable zeal and industry,—one duty remains to fulfill, when you shall be dispersed throughout this empire: It is to enlighten your fellow citizens concerning the true spirit of the laws that you have made for them, to call back to their duty such as neglect the path they direct, to purify and unite opinions by the example you will give by your love of order and submission to the laws. [yes, yes, unbounded applause.]

"When you return to your homes, gentlemen, I expect you will explain the uprightness of my views and sentiments to your fellow-citizens.— [yes, yes, great applause.]

"Tell them all, and repeat it to them, that the king will always be their best friend. [Long live the king.]

Mr. Treillard—"Sentiments worthy of Henry the IVth."

The King. "That he has need of their love; [long live the king] that he can only be happy with them and for them. [reiterated applause] The hope of assisting in making them happy shall give me courage in my endeavours; and the satisfaction of having succeeded shall be my best reward." [Long live the king, loud and reiterated applause.]

## THE PRESIDENT'S ANSWER.

SIRE,

The National Assembly come to a conclusion of their labours, now reap the first fruits of them. Convinced that the government which best suits France is that which conciliates the respectable prerogatives of the throne to the inalienable rights of the people, they have given to the empire a constitution which equally secures royalty and national liberty. The fate of France is connected with the speedy and proper execution of this constitution, and all the means to promote that execution seem united at present.

Soon, Sire, the civic with that your majesty just expressed will be gratified;—soon, returning to our homes, we shall shew an example of obedience to the laws, after having made them, and teach that there can be no liberty, without respect for constituted authority.

Our successors, vested with the powers on the exercise of which the prosperity of the empire depends, will neither mistake the object of their important mission, nor the constitutional bounds of it, nor the means of well discharging their trust. They are worthy, Sire,—they will always shew themselves worthy of the confidence which places in their hands the fate of the nation: And you, Sire, have already almost fixed that fate.

Your majesty has put an end to the revolution, by your fair and open acceptance of the constitution. You have disheartened our external enemies, you have strengthened internal confidence, restored the nerve of government to its vigor, and secured the useful exertions of an active administration.

Your heart, Sire, has already furnished you a recompense. Your majesty has enjoyed the interesting spectacle of public joy. Your sensibility has been gratified by the marks of gratitude and love exhibited by the people.

The sensations necessary to form the happiness of good kings are due you; Sire, they will ever exist in you, and their energy will increase more and more as the nation shall benefit by your constant efforts to secure the public happiness, by supporting the constitution. [Long live the king.]

The minutes of the meeting were read, and the president declared it to be the last of the Constituting Assembly.