

A WORD TO THE WISE.

THE Legislatures of some of the States claim a right to instruct their Senators in Congress. But have they well considered whether this claim is warranted by the Constitution, or compatible with the duty which their Senators owe to the Union? And if it is not, whether it is consistent with the public good, or their own dignity, to attempt to exercise it?

The Constitution authorizes the State Legislatures to choose Senators for Congress—and this they ought seasonably to do—but it gives them no authority to instruct them after they are chosen; and the nature of their trust seems to forbid it:—for it is their duty, on mature deliberation and consultation, when assembled, to act what they shall judge most for the good of the United States in general; and their deliberations ought to be free and unbiassed. By the Constitution, each House has authority to determine the rules of its own proceedings; but they are required to publish their journals, except such parts as in their opinion require secrecy, and this their constituents have a right to expect;—but whether their debates shall be public or private, is a matter of expediency, of which they alone are the proper judges.

A CITIZEN.

MR. FENNO,

THE letter-writer in your last, appears to think that the postage on newspapers will check the circulation of those important vehicles of information. That the postage proposed is too high, remains to be proved—if it should have the effect apprehended by this writer, it certainly is; but even with this charge, I conceive that the probability is, that the circulation will be increased—and surely thereby the business is put on a better footing than it ever has been heretofore. The exchange papers of the printers are to go free in the mail, and the printers may make their contracts as usual—while by the law they acquire a right to transmit them by the mail to their subscribers, they paying the postage, which it is probable the subscribers will do with cheerfulness, if they can by that means receive their papers with certainty and punctuality.—On the present precarious footing of the business, it is demonstrable that the circulation of newspapers would very soon come to an end.—There is now a bill before Congress for reducing the rate of postage on newspapers—and nothing short of a conviction that the reduction will defeat the object which every member appears to have at heart, viz. a steady and punctual transmission and reception of the papers, will prevent the diminution. The postage must be adequate to defraying the expence—any thing short of that, will disappoint the public expectation.

A. Z.

LONDON.

THE cause of truth and justice would be greatly promoted were a bill to be passed to prevent the rudeness and insolence with which many barristers treat not only the witnesses but the person against whom they may be employed to plead. How much would that judge deserve the thanks of his country who should attempt to repel such attacks upon diffidence and private character?

On the trial of Borrett for counterfeiting the stamp of the Goldsmith's Company, a circumstance happened which is worthy notice. Before the jury were charged, his attorney conferred with him for some time at the bar, and on his return it appeared that the wife of Mr. Borrett had the preceding evening been delivered of twins.

Mr. Attorney General, who attended to conduct the prosecution, upon being informed of this fact, immediately addressed himself to the court, and with generous humanity as great, as noble, as exalted as ever glowed within the breast of man, consented not only that the trial should be deferred till the next session, but that if the prisoner could find such bail as the court should be pleased to direct, he was willing that he should be discharged, in order that he might go home and afford comfort to his wife.

Four gentlemen of fortune who were in court, to whom the prisoner was known, immediately offered to become his bail, and on their entering it, to a recognizance for his appearance, he was discharged.

Words would be vainly used in attempting to describe the exquisite sensibility with which this unparalleled liberality of Mr. Attorney General seemed to touch every heart.

A new institution among the Jews, on the plan of our Sunday schools, promises much utility to the lower classes of that people; as teaching on their own sabbath is forbid, a certain number of the male sex are to be instructed gratis in English reading, writing and arithmetic, on a Sunday, and a certain number to be apprenticed to trades.

The pillory seems to be the punishment for fraudulent bankrupts in Scotland; were that the case here it would be necessary to build a scaffold along the streets, that gentlemen of that description might not have far to go.

The rights of women are every day more and more invaded. A man who was acquitted at the Old Bailey on Monday, was led out of the court in violent hysterics!

HALIFAX, January 19.

On Sunday last sailed, with a favorable wind, the Sierra Leona fleet, consisting of fifteen sail, under the charge of Lieut. John Clarkson, of the Royal Navy, having on board 1,200 free blacks, that have chosen to emigrate from this country to Africa, in the hope of its being more congenial to their habits and constitutions, under the protection of the Company, lately incorporated by Charter in Great-Britain, for the establishment of a free Colony there.

NEW-YORK, March 9.

The stockholders of the Bank of Albany, have elected the following gentlemen as Directors, viz. Philip Schuyler, Abraham Ten Broeck, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Goldsbrow Banyer, Jeremiah Van Rensselaer, Cornelius Glen, Daniel Hale, John Maley, James Caldwell, John Stevenson, Stephen Lush, Albert Pawling, and John Sanders.

On the 28th ult. the House of Representatives of Massachusetts proceeded to the consideration of the report of the joint committee on the subject of building a bridge over Charles-River, from West-Boston to Cambridge—and, after a free and full discussion, the question on the expediency of the measure was determined in the affirmative. A bill was accordingly brought in.

PROVIDENCE, March 1.

The Hon. General Assembly of this state are now in session.—It is probable, that at this session, the following question will be agitated: "Whether the Legislature will recommend to the people of this State, the appointment of members to form a Convention for the purpose of forming a Constitution for this state?"

BALTIMORE, March 8.

The following Gentlemen were yesterday elected Directors for the Bank of Maryland.

- William Patterson Robert Gilmore
James Carey Charles Garts
Archibald Moncrieff Alexander McKinn
Samuel Smith Richard Cayton
Jeremiah Yellott John Hollins
Robert Oliver, John O'Donnell.

Philadelphia, March 14.

By London papers as late as the 10th of January, we learn, That all the German princes are declared enemies to France, who should after the 15th of January countenance the assembling and arming of the French emigrants. An oath was preparing at Coblenz, to be taken by all the French emigrants, the substance of which was, fidelity to the princes, and "an entire devotion to their orders, for the glory and interest of France."—Great preparations for war were making throughout France.

The magistracy of Worms had written respectfully to the King of France, that they had ever considered the reception of the emigrants among them only as an act of common hospitality—but, lest his Majesty should take it in ill part, they had given orders to the Prince of Conde to quit Worms with all his retinue of disaffected adherents. The Prince Bishop of Liege is amongst the most strenuous supporters of the Ex-Princes, supplying them with every necessary for war, and promising still more. The government of the Liegeois had forbid the sale of Montesquieu's Spirit of laws, and Voltaire's questions on the Encyclopedia.—All the emigrants in that State were ordered to be equipped by the 10th of January. His Holiness the Pope has been very ill of an apoplectic fit, but was recovering.—On the 26th of December, a letter was received at Coblenz from the Emperor to the French Princes, "he assured them of his most ample assistance—and that he had given orders to Gen. Bender to line the frontier"; the authenticity of the letter was however suspected.

A strict look-out was kept in the channel for the (British) Swallow packet, from India, which it was supposed would bring the most important accounts ever received from that country; it being expected in England the present campaign would determine the fate of Seringapatam and the Mysore country, Lord Cornwallis's army, and the whole of the English territory on Coromandel coast.—The French emigrants at Coblenz were preparing to retire to Hanau and the Margraviate of Anspach but that the emperor's notification to the elector, "That he considered even the threat of invading that electorate as an hostility on the part of the French," had suspended their resolution.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

That the circumstances of the United States have been ameliorated by the operation of the general government, is so abundantly evident, that it must be perfectly astonishing to those who compare the past with the present situation of our country, to hear any complaints of its administration; facts are continually occurring in respect to particular States to prove the truth of the above remark, and with respect to the union there is a perfect renovation. The State of Massachusetts from being grievously oppressed with taxes, is now so relieved from public burthens as to supercede, for the current year, any imposition whatever: before the late war, the finances of that State were in so eligible a situation, that the government commanded the money of its citizens at a much lower, than the legal and current rate of interest; from present appearances it is very probable that their public credit will very shortly be equally favorably circumstanced. The situation of other States admits of similar observations.

Can it be possibly conceived then that a government which in its operations has produced such effects should be unpopular? All our senses contradict the supposition—and he that hath eyes to see, ears to hear, an heart to feel, and an head to understand, hath all these testifying continually in favor of the general government. May the State governments be for ever dear to the people; but may they never be guilty of such ingratitude to heaven, as to deny the merits of the general government.

The word republicanism seems to be snatched up as a weapon to knock an adversary down. So much is said about it, one would naturally suppose that a good deal is done. Yet do we see that our declaimers wish to make use of the word beyond the present occasion—Do they come forward and honestly say to the people—the great cause of inequality is the difference of education. He that knows much will influence those who know little; and if those who know much are few, and those who know little are many, an aristocracy exists, which nothing but the general diffusion of knowledge can remedy.

When will these men prove their republicanism by passing laws to establish free schools. Let the education of children become a common charge. If a man has property and no children, still he should be taxed to pay for the education of other men's children. The more knowledge the safer his property. It is a better protection than armies.

Every day before this work is begun, is time lost. It is planting seed which will continue to bear for ages. All other securities of liberty without this are trifling. Let every state then divide its territory into proper districts, and establish at least one school in each. Make a beginning, and afterwards carry on the good work as fast and as far as possible. Let the district be made liable to assessment for neglect, and let it be made the duty of every grand juror, on his oath, to prevent the breaches of the law. In this wealthy and flourishing city, the experiment could not fail; and a beginning made here, would show what might be done elsewhere. The Philosophers, the Patriots, the friends of Liberty ought to rouse, and make a common cause against ignorance and vice, till in every part of united America provision shall be made by law for educating the children at the common charge.

Every good man rejoices in the progress of light and liberty—some preach up liberty for the sake of popularity, others preach it in the love of it—whatever the motives may be, still there is reason to rejoice—for genuine liberty, whatever the medium, is an acquisition to the world.

The President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, has appointed the following gentlemen Officers of the twelve companies of RIFLE-MEN, to be raised agreeable to an Act passed the 5th inst. for the more effectual Defence of the Frontiers.

PENNSYLVANIA.

- Edward Butler, of Allegheny Wm. Faulkner, Washington
John Guthrie, Westmoreland Uriah Springer, Fayette
Richard Sparks, Allegheny John Cook, Northumberland
William Smith, Washington Nathaniel Huston, Washington
John Cummings, Westmoreland William Steedman, Northumb.
Samuel Vance, Fayette Daniel T. Jennifer, Allegheny
Robert Purdy, Mifflin John Steele, Cumberland
John Kelfo, Dauphin David Hall, Westmoreland
Robert Lee, Northumberland Reason Beall, Washington

VIRGINIA.

- Benjamin Biggs, of Ohio William Lewis, Wythe
John Crawford, Ohio Hugh Caperton, Greenbriar
Thomas Lewis, Botetourt James Stevenson, Berkeley
James Glenn, Berkeley John Boyer, Botetourt
Robert Craig, Ruffel Benjamin Lockwood, Ohio
Wm. Clark, Louisville, Kent Benjamin Strother, Culpepper
Patrick Shirkey, Botetourt James Hawkins, Botetourt
Archibald Gray, Greenbriar Baker Davidson, Bath
Stephen Trigg, Kentucky Hugh Brady, Ohio

The late moderate weather having rendered the Delaware again navigable, a strong westerly wind on Sunday last brought into this port the several vessels which had been detained at Marcus Hook by the ice.

Married on Thursday evening last, Mr. THOMAS ANTHONY, to Miss SALLY STILLE, daughter of Mr. JOHN STILLE, of this city.

SHIP NEWS.

From PELOSI's MARINE LIST.

Table with columns for Ship Name, Captain, and Destination. Includes entries like Ship Peggy, Ceres, Conception, Delaware, Janus, Brig Sally, Hetty, Georgia Packet, Charleston, Janus, Polly, Maria, Fair Hebe, Newton, Norfolk, Sch. Commerce, Delaware, Tryal, Friendship, Sloop Union, Two Sisters, Adventure, Illinois, Newbern Packet, Sally, Brig Swallow, Cheefeman, Schooner Two Sisters, Lownsbury.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

Table with columns for Security Type and Price. Includes entries like 6 pr. Cents, 3 pr. Cents, Deferred 6 pr. Cents, Final Sett. and other Certificates, Indents, Half squares Bank Stock.

THE EDITOR of the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES, most earnestly requests that those of his subscribers, whose arrearages have been accumulating for more than twelve months, would make payment as soon as possible—at farthest, before the first day of June next.

Those persons who shall be disposed to patronize this GAZETTE after the Post-Office Law shall go into operation, will please to signify their intention to the Deputy Post-Masters in the United States, who are requested to forward such subscriptions as may be received, to the Editor, previous to the said first of June.—The terms of subscription are Three Dollars per annum, exclusive of postage—One half to be paid at the time of subscribing, the other half to be advanced at the expiration of the first six months.