

Gazette of the United States.

A NATIONAL PAPER, PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS BY JOHN FENNO, No. 69, HIGH-STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

[No. 109, of Vol. III.]

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1792.

[Whole No. 317.]

FROM THE AMERICAN MUSEUM.

REFLECTIONS on the STATE of the UNION. [CONCLUDED.]

THE countries south of Pennsylvania are remarkably rich in fossils. Coals, copper, iron, lead, and other minerals are found in either Virginia, North or South-Carolina, or Georgia, or all of them. Mineral appearances occur every where. The promotion of manufactures is necessary to draw these forth; and as they have immense forests of wood, and the most powerful mill-streams, there can be no doubt, that they will be brought into use, as soon as those means shall be adopted.

The family manufactures of the middle and interior counties of Virginia, North-Carolina, and the interior counties of Georgia, South-Carolina, and Maryland, are said to be greater in value, than the articles of foreign manufactures, which they use; and were they universally awake to the facility, profits, and national importance of this mode of manufacturing, they might extend it much further, without impeding their farming operations, while, at the same time, they would provide an use for their agricultural productions.

A single state, Pennsylvania, has upwards of fifty paper mills, which work up materials of no value. The manufactures from those mills are computed at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars—the hands employed in them do not exceed one hundred and fifty, or two hundred. That state contains about one ninth of the people of the United States, and their contributions to the expenses of the government and the interest of the public debt, are consequently about 400,000 dollars. Their paper-mills, therefore, indemnify them for five-eighths of their quota! It is the duty of government to encourage the other states to do the same, especially as it can be done by WATER MEANS, and not by MEN diverted from their farms. The southern states do not want a capacity for this manufacture, which has acquired an establishment in Maryland, and has appeared as far to the southward as North-Carolina.

It may be safely affirmed, that the manufactures of LEATHER in the United States exceed in value ALL OUR ANNUAL BURDENS. We import few or no shoes. In each of the two last years we have procured from abroad no more than 70,000 pair of shoes and boots, for 4,000,000 of people. If we use only one pair and a half per annum per person, at seventy-five cents, they will amount to 4,500,000 dollars, which exceeds every demand of the general and state governments. The hides, skins, bark, lime, thread, bristles, and wax, nay, the very heel-pegs, are all drawn from our lands and farms. Recollecting this, and similar facts, we cannot question the utility of manufactures to the farmers, planters, and landed interest. If the manufacture of shoes in this country, were abolished, our annual debt to foreign countries would be increased to an amount equal to all our public contributions. Similar observations might be made on several other articles, though no one is so great an extent.

The manufactures of wool in Great-Britain have been stated by their ministers at 16,800,000 sterling—and the simple manufactures of liquors in that country are said to consume twenty-five millions of bushels of grain. Were there no other proof, we could not doubt the importance of manufactures to the agriculture of that country. They nourish and support it. We make up all our wool—our lands produce cotton with great facility; and we manufacture liquors as easily as Britain. There is no doubt, that the latter branch already affords to our farmers an ANNUAL MARKET for 1,500,000 bushels of grain. This manufacture is well understood and carried on in all the southern states.

The objection, that manufactures take the people from agriculture, is not solid, as elsewhere observed; since women, children, horses, water, and fire, all work at manufactures, and perform four-fifths of the labour; and as many manufacturers migrate to the United States, it may be fairly questioned, whether the QUANTITY of agricultural industry is not INCREASED by the impulse and demand arising from manufactures, though a few cultivators should follow them. And it may be asked, whether a farmer does not raise THE MORE cotton, flax, hemp, and wool, because his wife and daughters SPIN and weave them?

The employment of the new medium, the public certificates (which may be taken at 15,000,000 sterling) in a country that formerly had not 3,000,000 sterling of medium, renders manufactures necessary at this time. It may be said, lands will employ it. But farms sold well at the time when 3,000,000 sterling was probably the utmost extent of our medium, and cannot therefore give employment to the additional twelve millions, though they might to a part of it. The first application of this capital is intended to be made to the manufacturing of cotton, which is peculiar to the southern states. This is one method by which those states will be benefited by even that part of the public debt, which they do not own. On this important point more will be said hereafter.

More money is employed in manufactures, than in foreign commerce, because the gross value of exported articles is much less than the gross value of manufactured articles. This will not be doubted, when it is remembered, that shoes alone amount to several millions of dollars. These manufactures cannot be deemed less important to the southern landholders than foreign commerce; and those proprietors will not be disposed to neglect foreign commerce, nor will they consider it as irrelative to their local interests.

EXTRACT.

“It is reported of the Sybarites, that they destroyed all their cocks, that they might dream out their morning dream without disturbance. Though I would not so far promote effeminacy as to propose the Sybarites for an example, yet since there is no man so corrupt or foolish, but that something useful may be learned from him, I could wish that in imitation of a people not often to be copied, some regulations might be made to exclude sereech owls from all company, as the enemies of mankind, and confine them to some proper receptacle, where they may mingle sighs at leisure, and thicken the gloom of one another.”

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MANUFACTURES.

IT is often said in conversation, that agriculture is the greatest interest of the American people, and the foundation on which their wealth and prosperity are supported. This is just, but a conclusion is drawn from the principle which is not equally well founded. We often hear it remarked that agriculture being the best interest, it is improper to engage in manufactures. This is carelessly asserted and admitted. But, is it true that the interest of agriculture is injured by our manufactures?—Our farmers will not easily be persuaded that it is. What is done with the wool, flax, cotton, hemp, but to work them up. All the iron made in the country is wrought in it. Would any man, in his wits, recommend that all these articles, which form the materials of our most valuable manufactures, should no longer be cultivated or attended to. The farmer would suffer, and the money of the country must be sent out of it to buy the articles. What has the farmer to apprehend from the increase of manufactures; that he will sell flax, hemp, cotton and wool, on better terms, and in greater quantities? The manufactures of the country have grown up wonderfully since the protection given them by the laws of the United States. Since that increase, have not the farmers found the advantage? They have—and the new impost act will operate to extend the demand for the produce of their lands. The sail-cloth manufactories at Boston, and elsewhere in the state of Massachusetts, have made a demand for all the flax produced and offered at market, and the price has risen with the demand. The farmers in that instance receive a direct profit from the manufactory. This is intended only as an instance—many others might be adduced. They all tend to refute the insinuations which are often made to rouse jealousy, on the thread-bare pretence that the eastern and southern states have different interests, and that the farmers will be sacrificed to the manufacturers.

The manufactures of the southern states appear, on enquiry, to be more advanced, as well as more prosperous, than has been believed. But if it was not so, it is hard to see the damage sustained by the southern states, by the middle and eastern manufacturers buying their flax, wool, cotton, hemp and coals, as well as their corn, to feed them—all which is actually the case at present.

It is much to be wished that a brotherly affection may subsist between the citizens of the different states. If these remarks, trite as they may appear, have any tendency to that end, the design of the writer will be accomplished.

A C T S, &c.

Passed at the First Session of the Second Congress of the United States, begun and held at the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, on Monday the twenty-fourth of October, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one.

November 8. AN ACT granting farther time for making return of the enumeration of the inhabitants in the district of South-Carolina.

Dec. 16. An Act for the relief of David Cook and Thomas Campbell.

23. An Act making appropriations for the support of government for the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

Jan. 3. An Act for carrying into effect a contract between the United States and the State of Pennsylvania.

23. An Act to extend the time limited for settling the accounts of the United States with the individual States.

Feb. 16. An Act concerning certain fisheries of the United States, and for the regulation and government of the fishermen employed therein.

20. An Act to establish the post-office and post-roads within the United States.

March 1. An Act relative to the election of a President and Vice-President of the United States, and declaring the officer who shall act as President in case of vacancies in the offices both of President and Vice-President.

5. An Act for making farther and more effectual provision for the protection of the frontiers of the United States.

19. An Act declaring the consent of Congress to a certain act of the State of Maryland, and to continue for a longer time an act declaring the assent of Congress to certain acts of the States of Maryland, Georgia and Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, so far as the same respects the States of Georgia, and Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations.

23. An Act to provide for the settlement of the claims of widows and orphans barred by the limitations heretofore established and to regulate the claims to invalid pensions.

27. An Act providing for the settlement of the claims of persons under particular circumstances barred by the limitations heretofore established.

27. An Act for the relief of certain widows, orphans, invalids and other persons.

28. An Act supplemental to the act for making farther and more effectual provision for the protection of the frontiers of the United States.

April 2. An Act for finishing the light-house on Baldhead, at the mouth of Cape-Fear river, in the State of North-Carolina.

An act establishing a mint, and regulating the coins of the United States.

12. An Act supplementary to the act for the establishment and support of light-houses, beacons, buoys and public piers.

An Act to erect a light-house on Montok-Point, in the State of New-York.

An Act for ascertaining the bounds of a tract of land purchased by John Cleves Symmes.

An Act for fixing the compensation of the door-keepers of the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress.

13. An Act for altering the times of holding the circuit courts, in certain districts of the United States, and for other purposes.

An Act to compensate the corporation of trustees of the public grammar school and academy of Wilmington, in the State of Delaware, for the occupation of, and damages done to the said school, during the late war.

14. An Act for apportioning representatives among the several States according to the first enumeration.

An Act concerning consuls and vice-consuls.

21. An Act authorizing the grant and conveyance of certain lands to the Ohio Company of Associates.

27. An Act to indemnify the estate of the late Major-General Nathaniel Greene, for a certain bond entered into by him during the late war.

May 2. An Act for raising a farther sum of money for the protection of the frontiers, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

An Act to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions.

5. An Act for the relief of persons imprisoned for debt.

An Act authorizing the grant and conveyance of certain lands to John Cleves Symmes, and his associates.

An Act to alter the time of the next annual meeting of Congress.

8. An Act concerning the duties on spirits distilled within the United States.

An Act relative to the compensations to certain officers employed in the collection of the duties of impost and tonnage.

An Act to continue in force the act intitled, “An Act to provide for mitigating or remitting the penalties and forfeitures accruing under the revenue laws in certain cases, and to make farther provision for the payment of pensions to invalids.”

An Act supplemental to the act making provision for the debt of the United States.

An Act or making compensations to the commissioners of loans for extraordinary expenses.

An Act making alterations in the treasury and war departments.

An Act making certain appropriations therein specified.

An Act to provide for a copper coinage.

An Act for regulating proceedings in the courts of the United States, and providing compensations for the officers of the said courts, and for jurors and witnesses.

An Act concerning the claim of John Brown Cutting against the United States.

An Act to compensate the services of the late colonel George Gibson.

An Act more effectually to provide for the national defence by establishing an uniform militia throughout the United States.

An Act respecting the government of the Territory of the United States, North-West and South of the River Ohio.

Resolve, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish the several collectors with printed Clearances, stating the accounts of the methods that have been used to obtain fresh water from salt, &c.

EXTRACTS.

“When fortune frowns, and friendship stands aloof—when the forlorn victim lies stretched on the bed of anguish, with misery and want pictured before him—the pleasing, the venerable form of RELIGION presents herself to his view—speaks joy and consolation to her humble votary—shews him the delusions of riches, and the vanities of worldly pleasure. His groans are changed into triumphs—as his misfortunes accumulate, his hopes increase—and the pillar of his fortitude is the wretchedness of his condition—with the sage of antiquity he may say, “Alas! he should have perished, had he not been undone.”

“Pure and genuine religion does not consist in the disgusting severity of a puritanical outside; nor does it in the least depend on nominal distinctions, as was formerly imagined; when the difference of a single letter, in a term of favored orthodoxy, opened wide the field of controversy—where the benevolent spirit of christianity was sacrificed to theological rancour, the church torn into schisms, and her wreath of victory was the blood of her children. As well might the intrinsic worth and excellence of a jewel be estimated from the casket in which it happens to be inclosed, as the goodness of religion measured by external forms, or inferred from modes of faith. It is built on the love and reverence of the Supreme Being, and an unshaken belief in the words of sacred truth, joined to a warm and practical benevolence towards all our fellow beings—piety and virtue are its everlasting pillars, faith and charity being the chief corner stone.”