

# Gazette of the United States.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1792.

[Whole No. 432.]

## PRICE CURRENT.

PER QUANTITY.—DOLLARS 100 Cents each.  
PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 8.

	Dols.	Cts.	Dols.	Cts.
ANCHORS pr. lb.				
Allum, English, pr. cwt.	1.30	73	4	
Ditto, Roch pr. lb.			11	
Alfies, pot, per ton.	00	100		
Pearl,	137	140		
Arrack pr. gall.	1	33	1	67
Brandy, common,			1	20
Cogniac	1	56	1	33
Braziletto, pr. ton.			32	34
Bricks, pr. M.	4	7		
Bread, ship, pr. cwt.	1	67	2	
Ditto, pilot			3	33
Ditto, small water, per keg		36		
Beer, American, in bottles,			1	40
pr. doz. bottles included,				
Ditto pr. barrel,	4	67		
Boards Cedar pr. M feet,	14			
New England	11			
Oak	9		10	
Merchantable pine	16		17	
Sap, do.			8	
Manogany, per foot			10	
The above are the shallop prices,				
for the yard price, add 1 dol-				
lar 33 cents per 1000.				
Brimstone in rolls, pr. cwt.	3	33		
Beef, Boston, per barrel	8			
Country ditto	6		7	
Fresh, per cwt.	3	33	4	67
Butter pr. lb.			15	
in kegs			9	
Candles, Sperm. pr. lb.			43	
Wax			56	
Myrtle Wax			53	
Mould, tallow			11	
Dipped			10	
Cheese, English, pr. lb.			19	
Country			8	
Chocolate	17			
Cinnamon	2	40	2	67
Cloves			1	20
Cocoa pr. cwt.	13	67		
Coffee pr. lb.	18		19	
Coal pr. bushel	20		22	
Copperas pr. cwt.	1	67		
Cordage, American, per cwt.	7	67	8	
Cotton pr. lb.			40	
Currants			13	
Duck, Russia, pr. piece			11	33
Ravens	8	93		
Dutch sail duck,	18		20	
Feathers pr. lb.	40		44	
Flax ditto	11		12	
Flaxseed pr. bush.	85		9	
Flour, Superfine pr. barrel			5	18
Common,			4	80
Bur middlings, best	3	75		
Meal, Indian	2	50		
ditto Rye,	2	40		
Ship-stuff pr. cwt.	1			
Fustic pr. ton,	20			
Gin, Holland, pr. case,	4	67		
Do. pr. gall.			80	
Glue, pr. cwt.	21	33		
Ginger, white race, per cwt.	7			
Ditto, common	7			
Ditto, ground pr. lb.			7	8
Ginseng,	20		24	
Gunpowder, cannon, pr. q. cask,	3	73	4	
Ditto, fine glazed			4	
Grain, Wheat pr. bush	93			
Rye	54			
Oats	26			
Indian corn	44			
Barley	90			
Best shelled pr. lb.	3			
Buckwheat, per bush.	4			
Hemp, imported, pr. ton,	120	146	67	
American, pr. lb.			4	
Herrings, pr. bbl.			3	
Hides, raw pr. lb.	9		11	
Hops			27	
Hoghead hoops, pr. M.			15	
Indigo, French per lb.	1	20	1	33
Carolina	60		1	
Irons, sad pr. ton,	133	33		
Iron, Castings pr. cwt.	3	47		
Bar pr. ton,	82	6		
Pig	24	26	67	
Sheet	173	33		
Nail rods	96			
Junk, pr. cwt.	4		5	
Lard, hogs pr. lb.			9	
Lead, in pigs pr. cwt.	5	33	5	67
in bars			7	
white	10		10	67
red	6	40		
Leather, foal, pr. lb.			17	
Lignum vitæ pr. ton,	5	60		
Log wood			24	
Mace pr. lb.	7	33	7	67
Mackarel, best pr. bbl.			9	
second quality			6	67
Madder, best pr. lb.	16		20	
Marble, wrought, pr. foot,	1	33		
ditto			33	
Molasses pr. gall.	44			
Mustard pr. lb.			50	
flour, in bottles, pr. doz.	1	20		
Nails, 8d. 10d. 12d. and 20d. pr. lb.			10	
Nutmegs pr. lb.	7			
Oil, Linseed, pr. gall.	65			
Olive				

On the uses that may be made of Coutechou, Elastic Gum, or Indian Rubber, in Arts and Manufactures, with an account of the manner of obtaining and manufacturing it.

(CONCLUDED.)

6th. **AEROSTATION** is now nearly at a stand; but it is wonderful that no one ever perceived the use that might have been made of this substance for that purpose. No kind of silk, or other light substance could ever be found, that possessed the smallest degree of elasticity; by consequence, when they ascended into the higher regions, the expansion of the gas was in danger of bursting the globe; it was therefore necessary to leave it open below to guard against that accident. A globe of coutechou would have possessed the quality here wanted; it would have expanded as the circumstances of the case required; and while it was perfectly tight, to prevent the involuntary escape of the smallest quantity, it would have adapted itself in size to every variation of circumstances. It is true, the retentive power of this substance, when very thin, has never yet been ascertained by experience; but there is reason to believe it is very great.

7th. As this substance is inflammable, and burns with a bright flame without requiring any wick, it might be employed perhaps with great economy as torches or flambeaux. Solid balls have also been made of it, that are light, and of an amazing degree of elasticity; but what useful purpose could be made of these, does not at present appear. It might also be moulded into the form of riding whips, and would probably answer that purpose admirably well; and after they were wore out, they might be employed as torches.

8th. As a material for surgical purposes, it might be employed on many occasions. Catheters have already been made of it, after having been dissolved in æther, that have been found to answer the purpose wanted, and to occasion much less irritation in the parts than those of any other sort that have yet been tried; but the great price, when thus manufactured, prevents them from coming into general use. The little bottles, when applied to the breasts of women distressed with sore nipples, can be so managed, as to occasion a more gentle suction than can be effected any other way, and have therefore afforded very great relief. In short, the variety of uses to which they might be applied, as bags for injecting or for sucking, are too numerous, to admit of being here so much as pointed at.

9th. *Elastic springs.* In all cases where a spring is wanted to act by its contractile power, no substance can be conceived more proper, than that of which we now speak, especially in cold climates; and there are innumerable cases in which it might be employed in this manner with the happiest effect, in various kinds of machinery.

10th. It is many years since Dr. Bergius at Stockholm, made some experiments on this substance in Pappia's digester: By subjecting it in that way to an intense degree of heat, it is said to have been converted into a hard, elastic, horn-like substance. I have not heard that these experiments have been repeated; but if upon farther trial, this shall be found to be invariably the result, it would extend the utility of this substance, far beyond the limits we have hitherto thought of; but in the state of uncertainty that at present prevails on that head, it would be improper to say more.

I might go on at this rate for many pages together, pointing out various other uses to which it might be applied; but I shall content myself with specifying one other only.

Geographical globes are at present an article of great expence, globally when of such a size, as to admit of exhibiting a tolerable view of the earth's surface. These could be made of coutechou of any size required, at a very moderate expence. The savages of America whom our philosophers represent as destitute of every mental endowment, will teach us the way of proceeding.

The little bottles we import from thence, are formed upon moulds of clay dried in the sun. When the coutechou has hardened on the surface by the process already described, a little water is introduced at the mouth of the bottle, which gradually softens the clay, and in time allows it to be washed entirely out of it. A globe of clay might be easily moulded of any dimensions required, leaving at one of the poles a small protuberance for a little neck. This ball, when dry, might be covered with coutechou till it acquired the thickness required; and for the purpose here wanted, this might be very thin. The clay might then be washed out, so as to leave it empty. The remainder of the process might be here described, were I not afraid of encroaching too much on the patience of the reader.

It now only remains, I should give the reader some notices concerning the use that produces this singular substance.

In no one instance that I know has the inattention of mankind to useful improvements been more conspicuous, than with respect to the object of our present discussion. It is not much less than sixty years since Mr. de la Condamine first made known to Europeans this singular substance, which possesses qualities that obviously render it one of the most useful bodies that hath ever come to the knowledge of man for many important purposes in life; yet the culture of the plant which affords it, has been, till this moment, entirely neglected by every European nation; nor do I believe, that ever a single seed of it was planted by one person in the universe.

The tree which yields this juice is large and stately. Its trunk is usually about 60 feet in height, and from two to three feet diameter. It grows naturally in Brazil, in French Guiana, and in several other provinces of South America, and also in China, as it is supposed. It is called by

the natives *Hevea*, and Mr. Aublet has preserved that name. He calls it *Hevea Guianensis*. It is the *Pao Springa*, act. Paris, an. 1761. *Jatropha solis ternatis ellipticis integerrimis foliis canis longe petiolatis.* Lin.—The form of its leaves, and botanical characteristics, will be well understood by the plate. Its feed is a nut, of a pleasing taste, very much resembling that of a filbert, and much esteemed by the natives. The tree grows very freely, and might doubtless be easily reared, were seeds brought hither for that purpose, either in some of the rocky parts of our West-India islands, or the Cape Verd islands, or along the coasts of Africa, where there are such extensive tracts of uninhabited country laid waste by the depopulation that our destructive trade in slaves occasions. What a difference would there be in the state of the inhabitants of that unhappy country, were they to be taught to cultivate the arts of peace, and to enrich themselves by industrious labour, instead of those cruel wars fomented by our miserable trade in slaves. Could this juice be had in abundance near to Europe, it might be sent here in its fluid state in close casks or bottles, so as to be here manufactured for the purposes it were fitted to answer.

Several other trees in those regions afford juices approaching to the nature of the coutechou, though differing from it in certain respects, which might be applied to other uses in life; but an account of these shall be reserved for another occasion.

### [CIRCULAR.]

Philadelphia, 3d August, 1792.

SIR,  
BY the inclosed copy of the minutes of the proceedings of a general meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia, you will perceive, that the citizens are desirous to obtain information, of the sense of the people in the different parts of the state, respecting the characters proper to be nominated as Representatives in Congress, and Electors of a President and Vice-President of the United States; and that they have committed to us, the task of endeavoring to collect the materials, on which their judgment and choice, in this important business, may be fairly, independently, and satisfactorily exercised.

We are solicitous, sir, to discharge so honorable and so sacred a trust, with diligence and impartiality; and, relying upon the assistance of every virtuous and candid freeman, we believe it practicable to accomplish the object of our appointment, without exciting suspicion, or meeting reproach.

The purpose of our appointment, indeed you will readily observe, is merely ministerial, with a view to collect necessary information. We are not delegated to deliberate upon the subject of the election; to admit, or to reject, the names of the Candidates; to declare the sense of the people; or to frame a Ticket: all that we are authorized to do (all that we have undertaken, or mean to do, on the present occasion) is to obtain a list of the various characters, whom the Citizens of every denomination, and in every part of the state, deem to be qualified for Representatives in Congress, and Electors of a President and Vice-President of the United States; and to submit this list, without the influence of a selection, or a comment, to the deliberate consideration, and unbiased suffrages of the People.

It is proper, however, at the same time, to add, that no anonymous communications will be noticed.

Permit us, then, sir, to request, that you will, as expeditiously as you can, communicate, by letter addressed to the Hon. Thomas M'Kean, Esq. Chief Justice of Pennsylvania, the names of the persons (particularly those in your neighbourhood) who, according to your own opinion, and the opinions of the inhabitants of the county in which you reside, ought to be preferred at the ensuing election of thirteen Representatives in Congress, and fifteen Electors of a President and Vice-President of the United States.

We are, Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants.

THOMAS M'KEAN,  
JAMES HUTCHINSON,  
A. I. DALLAS,  
JOHN BARCLAY,  
HILARY BAKER,  
JARED INGERSOLL.

To \_\_\_\_\_  
of the county of \_\_\_\_\_

The Printers of newspapers throughout the state, are requested to publish the above letter; and communications upon the subject to which it relates, will be welcome from every citizen of Philadelphia and the several counties.

### A RECIPE FOR KILLING RATS.

In 1783, a premium of five guineas was given by the Dublin Society for the following recipe to kill Rats.

Take 1 quart of oat meal, 4 drops of oil of Rhodium, 1 grain of musk, 2 nuts of pux vomica powdered. Mix the whole together, and place it where the rats frequent; continue to do so while they eat it, and it will soon destroy them, be they ever so numerous.

Time, says a late French writer, is universal property—to make good use of it, is the first of all riches.

Even those who possess nothing, have an interest to see property protected; for visible goods alone, such as money, furniture, houses, lands, &c. are not the only property—the force of labor, industry, are also funds of which the product is property; and this is perhaps the most valuable kind.