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Gazette of the United States.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1792.

[Whole No. 434.]

Treasury Department,

August 10, 1792.

NOTICE is hereby given, that proposals will be received at the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, until the twenty-ninth day of September next inclusive, for the supply of all Rations which may be required for the use of the United States, from the first day of January to the thirty-first day of December, 1793, both days inclusive, at the places, and within the districts hereafter mentioned, viz.

At any place or places betwixt York-Town and Carlisle, in the state of Pennsylvania, and Pittsburgh, and at Pittsburgh, York-Town and Carlisle.

At any place or places from Pittsburgh to the mouth of Big Beaver Creek, and at the mouth of Big Beaver Creek.

At any place or places from the said mouth to the upper falls of the said Big Beaver, and at the upper falls.

At any place or places from the said upper falls to Mahoning, and at Mahoning.

At any place or places from the said Mahoning over to the Head Navigation of the River Cayahoga, and at the said Head Navigation.

At any place or places from the said Head Navigation to the mouth of the said River Cayahoga, and at the said mouth.

At any place or places betwixt the mouth of the Big Beaver Creek to the mouth of the River Muskingum, and up the said River to the Tuscarawas, and at the Tuscarawas, and thence over to the Cayahoga River, and thence down the said River to its mouth.

At any place or places betwixt the mouth of the River Muskingum and the mouth of the Scioto River, and at the mouth of the said River Scioto.

At any place or places betwixt the mouth of Scioto River and the mouth of the Great Miami, at the mouth of the Great Miami, and from thence to the Rapids or the Falls of the Ohio, and at the said Rapids.

At any place or places betwixt the mouth of the Great Miami, up the said Miami to and at Pique Town.

At any place or places from Fort Washington to Fort Hamilton, and at Fort Hamilton. At any place or places from Fort Hamilton to Fort St. Clair, and at Fort St. Clair.

At any place or places from Fort St. Clair to Fort Jefferson, and at Fort Jefferson.

At any place or places from Fort Jefferson to the field of action of the 4th of November, 1791, and at the said field of action.

At any place or places from the said field of action to the Miami Villages, and at the Miami Villages.

At any place or places from the said Miami Villages to the Falls of the Miami River, which empties into Lake Erie, and at the said Falls, and from thence to its mouth, and at its mouth.

At any place or places from the mouth of the said Miami River of Lake Erie to Sandusky Lake, and at Sandusky Lake.

At any place or places from the said Sandusky Lake to the mouth of the River Cayahoga.

At any place or places from the mouth of the said River Cayahoga to Presque Isle, and at Presque Isle.

At any place or places from Presque Isle to the stream running into Lake Erie from towards the Jadaghque Lake, and thence over to and at the said Jadaghque Lake, and thence down the Alleghany River to Fort Franklin.

At any place or places from Presque Isle to Le Beuf, and at Le Beuf.

At any place or places from Le Beuf to Fort Franklin, and at Fort Franklin, and from thence to Pittsburgh.

At any place or places from the Rapids of the Ohio to the mouth of the Wabash River, and from the mouth of the said Wabash River to the mouth of the River Ohio.

At any place or places on the East side of the River Mississippi, from the mouth of the Ohio River, to the mouth of the Illinois River.

At any place or places on the East side of the Mississippi, between the mouth of the Ohio and the River Margot inclusively.

At any place or places from the said River Margot to the River Yazous inclusively.

At any place or places from the mouth of the said Wabash River up to Fort Knox, and at Fort Knox.

At any place or places from Fort Knox, up the said Wabash, to Ouitanon, and at Ouitanon.

At any place or places from Ouitanon, up the said Wabash, to the head navigation of a branch thereof called Little River, and at the said head navigation of Little River.

At any place or places from the said head navigation of Little River over to the Miami Village.

At any place or places from the mouth of the River Tennessee to Occochappo or Bear Creek, on the said River, inclusively.

At any place or places from the mouth of the River Cumberland to Nashville, on the said River, and at Nashville.

And at any place or places within thirty miles of said Nashville to the Southward, Westward or Northward thereof.

Should any rations be required at any places, or within other districts, not specified in these proposals, the price of the same to be hereafter agreed on betwixt the public and the contractor.

The rations to be supplied are to consist of the following articles, viz.

One pound of bread or flour,
One pound of beef, or $\frac{3}{4}$ of a pound of pork,
Half a gill of rum, brandy or whisky,

One quart of salt,
Two quarts of vinegar,
Two pounds of soap,
One pound of candles, } per 100 rations.

The rations are to be furnished in such quantities as that there shall at all times, during the said term, be sufficient for the consumption of the troops at each of the said posts, for the space of at least three months in advance, in good and wholesome provisions, if the same shall be required.

It is to be understood in each case, that all losses sustained by the depositions of the enemy, or by means of the troops of the United States, shall be paid for at the prices of the articles captured or destroyed, on the depositions of two or more credible characters, and the certificate of a commissioned officer, ascertaining the circumstances of the loss, and the amount of the articles for which compensation is claimed.

The contract for the above supplies will be made either for one year, or for two years, as may appear eligible. Persons disposed to contract will therefore confine their offers to one year, or they may make their propositions so as to admit an election of the term of two years.

The offers may comprise all the places which have been specified, or a part of them only.

FROM THE AMERICAN MUSEUM.

REFLECTIONS on the STATE of the UNION.

Concerning the national industry.

AN enquiry into the knowledge or skill, assiduity, economy, or frugality, and good management with which the several descriptions of citizens in the United States pursue their employments, has never been made. The subject is copious, and would require much previous enquiry and detail. It is not intended, therefore, in this place to attempt a development of it: yet it may be serviceable to bestow upon it a few brief reflections. The learned professions will not be brought into view, as they are not strictly of the nature of the object contemplated. The planters, the farmers, the merchants, the navigators, the fishermen, the shipbuilders, the manufacturers and the mechanics, with the persons immediately employed by them, are all which are conceived to be comprehended in the subject. The body of the planters, that is, those who cultivate tobacco, rice, indigo, and cotton, are, as a general description of cultivators, the best informed in regard to the object of their particular pursuit, though it is manifest that they have abundant matter for increased attention in perfecting their cultivation, in ascertaining those species of their valuable plants, which are most excellent, most certain, and most productive, in the improvement of their implements of husbandry, in the acquisition of auxiliary implements and machinery, in perfecting the modes of curing their produce, and preparing it for market, and particularly in the attainment of an adequate substitute for the ordinary species of labourers, a supply of which has become precarious. It appears to be worth their considering, too, as well with an eye to profit, as humanity, whether an advantageous variation in the employment of some of the blacks might not be made, by introducing upon every estate some of the simpler manufactures to employ children, old and invalid persons of both sexes, and particularly the females during that term when two lives depend upon their health.

The merchants, navigators, fishermen, and shipbuilders of the United States, may be safely affirmed to be four descriptions of our citizens, whose industry is as uniformly energetic and well directed, as those of any country in the world, though it is certain that a much stricter economy prevails among persons of some foreign nations engaged in those pursuits—an example demanding serious attention.

The manufacturers in some branches pursue their occupations under the disadvantages of very few errors; yet those citizens would be sensibly benefited, were they able to relieve themselves of certain parts of their labor by the attainment of the auxiliary machinery, which are the purchase of larger capitals than are yet engaged in their line. Circumstances, however, of various kinds, are daily contributing to remove this inconvenience. The bulk of the manufacturers do not want industry, nor skill enough to succeed in those simple manufactures, to which it is most their interest to apply themselves. It may be rather said, that they manufacture ordinary kinds of fabrics, from the nature of the demand, than that they manufacture badly. Their business is, moreover, progressively advancing, and has felt, on several occasions, some of them recent, the fostering hand of government.

The mechanic branches have been, till this time, on nearly as good a footing; but those employed in the erection of buildings ought now to seek the aid of such parts of science as have relation to their calling. Architecture has been little studied. It ought not to be forgotten, that a competent knowledge of it is no less conducive to economy and convenience, than to elegance and splendor.

The most important of all the employments of our citizens, that of the farmer, remains to be noticed. It is very much to be feared, that in point of execution, a candid examination would prove that this best of pursuits is most imperfectly conducted, at least in the grain states.

The proofs are, innumerable instances of impoverished lands, bodies of meadow lands, in the old settlements, which remain in a state of nature, an almost universal inattention to the making or preserving of manure, the frequent inattention to the condition of the feed grain, evidenced by the growth of inferior grain in fields of wheat, and by the complexion of the flour in some quarters, the bad condition of barns, stables and fences, and in some places the total want of the former, the deficiency of spring-houses or other cool dairies in extensive tracts of country, the want, or a trifling stock, of bees, the frequent want of orchards, and the neglect of those which have been planted by preceding occupants, the neglect of the sugar tree, the neglect of fallen timber and fuel, accompanied with the wanton felling of timber trees for fuel, the neglect of household manufactures in many families, the neglect of making pot-ash, the non-use of oxen, and above all, the growth in substance, of large bodies of farmers on lands of ordinary quality, while the inhabitants of extensive scenes, hardly extracted from much superior lands, a miserable sustenance and more miserable clothing.

It is a fact very painful to observe, and unpleasant to represent, but it is indubitably true, that farming in the grain states, their great best business, the employment most precious in free governments, is, too generally speaking, the least understood, or the least economically and attentively pursued, of any of the occupations which engage the citizens of the United States. It is acknowledged, however, with satisfaction, that great changes have been lately made, and that the energy, spirit of improvement, and economy, which have been recently displayed, promise the regular and rapid melioration of the agricultural system. All other things have taken a course of great improvement—and it cannot be apprehended that the yeomanry of the United States will permit themselves to be excelled by any of their brethren, in the most precious characteristic of a good citizen—*usefulness in their proper sphere.*

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

If the following should be deemed worthy of a place in your Gazette, by inserting it you will serve the cause of truth and your country.

THE most judicious writers on civil government are agreed that a general prevalence of virtue among the citizens is essential to the existence and permanency of a republic, and experience proves the opinion to be well founded. It becomes the United States therefore, as they wish to secure the blessings of freedom and independence to themselves and posterity, to inspire the rising generation with a sacred regard to truth and justice, and to favour the cultivation of such principles as will give stability and dignity to their empire. The most effectual way to accomplish this end is to promote the interests of true religion—Virtue derives all its force and propriety, all its reason and beauty from religion; dissolve the alliance, and you at once reduce it to a mere speculative principle, and divest it of all its authority.

No other principle can supply the place of religion—the sense of honor and shame—the beauty of propriety and the reason and necessity of submitting to the decision of the majority, are weak restraints to men in the eager pursuits of their pleasures and passions. The constitution of human nature, as well as the history of civil society evinces the necessity of some authoritative principle, that will penetrate the heart and afford an invariable sanction to the rules of social and moral duty.

How preposterous is the conduct of those who declaim upon the progress of aristocratical principles in this country, and at the same time endeavour by their writings, their innuendoes, their anecdotes, and indeed by every means in their power to lessen the influence of those principles which form the only basis of a popular government.

Whence is it that the clergy are indiscriminately blackened under the odious name of priests, and religion, scandalized under the false appellation of superstition and priestcraft? Is there any thing that these declaimers have devised as a substitute for religion, that will be more effectual to produce virtue among mankind? If they have, let them make known the discovery, they shall have the honour of it, and be rewarded for their pains.—But if not, let them keep silence, or speak consistently.—The man who endeavours to undermine religion, saps the foundation of moral virtue, relaxes the principles of social obligation, and whether he knows it or not, advocates the cause of anarchy or despotism.—Is there any class of men in the United States, who have discovered a more sincere and ardent attachment to the principles of the revolution than the clergy in general? Are there any who contributed more in their spheres to accomplish it? Were there any who displayed more fortitude, or did more to support the sinking spirits of their fellow citizens in the darkest stages of the war? Are there any who have given a more ready reception to such measures as have been generally thought conducive to the interests of this country? And are there any less exceptionable in their general deportment than they? How then have they provoked such abuse as certain writers are constantly casting on them?

Can it be affirmed that they are a factious, discontented ambitious class of citizens? Are they invested with dangerous privileges? Are they disposed to form combinations against the measures

of government? Are they as numerous in proportion to the other classes of citizens as to render combinations easy or dangerous? Do they by their conversation or writings endeavour to enflame the minds of the people, and render them unfriendly to the laws? Are they entrusted with too much power? Have they too great revenues for citizens of a free country? Or have they a dangerous influence in the councils of their country? Some one or more of these charges must be supported in order to give a shadow of truth or propriety to the representations of certain writers; and I am well persuaded, that there is not a man in the United States who is not an idiot or worse who would openly attempt to support them.

The clergy, as far as innocence of manners—uprightness of conduct, and lives devoted to the most benevolent purposes can render them, are worthy of the esteem and approbation of their fellow citizens. They have more individual influence in training our citizens to the habits of sobriety and industry—in forming the manners of our youth and in impressing them with sentiments of virtue and morality, and in general in effecting the ends of civil government, than any denomination of citizens whatever; and what greatly enhances their merit is, that they have voluntarily secluded themselves from sharing the emoluments of government; they have renounced the prospect of wealth of honor, and of office, and have devoted their time and talents to the best interests of their country. Judge then ye whose souls are not utterly devoid of sensibility, if such disinterestedness merits no better return than derision and insult; if any class of citizens deserves the esteem of the public, it is that of the clergy; the sacrifices which they make, and the benefits which they contribute principally to procure, entitle them at least to the gratitude of their country. If these writers have any reasonable exceptions against the clergy in any respect, let them state them openly and candidly, and not assassin-like divulge their scandal in so artful and dastardly a manner as to procure reception by its association with truth, and thus deprive the friends of virtue of any suitable mode of defence.

Such conduct considered either in a moral or political view is abominable—it is beneath the character of a man of sense or taste; it is a notorious breach of good manners—a gross insult to the feelings and opinions of their fellow-citizens, and tends ultimately to the destruction of our own constitution and of all free government.—But what renders their conduct the more detestable is, that like Satan who ensnared and ruined our first parents by professions of friendship and attachment; they pretend a zeal for equal liberty and the rights of men, and under this mask endeavor to propagate opinions destructive of all order and subordination in society and utterly subversive of the principles that constitute the only basis of civil government.

These gentlemen if we may judge from the specimens they have given us of their opinions have quite outdone Epicurus, and all the Atheists and Deists of ancient or modern times. They never denied the necessity of religion to civil government, but on the contrary, they supported the necessity of maintaining the appearance of it though they disbelieved its reality.

But if these writers are resolved at all events to obtrude their sentiments upon the public; I would advise them to abridge the labour by publishing at once a new edition of Tindal—Toland—Chubb—or some other of that fraternity, as they are now out of print as well as out of credit; and try whether their beloved doctrines will succeed better in this country than they did in Great-Britain.

This in my opinion would be a much better way, and I am sure a much more honourable way than to retail their principles by scraps, and that without the genius or taste of the original writers.

I am not a clergyman and therefore have spoken the more freely, but I am certain I speak the sentiments of a very large proportion of my fellow-citizens, and I think of every one not blinded by prejudice or diverted of the feelings of humanity.

I am yours, &c.

PHILAGATHOS.

P A R I S, May 31.

YOU will see by the decrees of the National Assembly, that the conjectures we communicated to you by the last post have been literally fulfilled. The King's Guard are assigned to the Military School, and the service at the Thuilleries is performed by the National Parisian Guards. The gardens are shut, and no person allowed to enter them; all is suspicion, fear, and accusation.

From Valenciennes we learn from a good channel, that the Generals have renounced the plan of offensive war recommended by the Marechal de Luckner, who is to conduct it, to adopt the defensive project of Mons. de Rochambeau who has resigned. We should scarce dare to send you this extraordinary piece of intelligence, did we not think ourselves authorized to rely upon the authenticity of our information.

It is something curious and worthy the confused ideas of our modern philosophers, that a nation which de