

Gazette of the United States.

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[Whole No. 352.]

ADDRESS

Of the Editor of the Federal Gazette, and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser, To the Citizens of the United States of America.

THIS Gazette, though originally published under circumstances of discouraging perplexity, has, with the rising fortune of our country, gradually risen to an eminence far beyond the Editor's expectations.

Encouraged by a generous public, whose rights this paper has ever been ready to defend, and whom it has from time to time endeavored to serve, as a friendly monitor against those evils to which other nations are exposed, it has "grown with its growth, and strengthened with its strength;" and this day the ninth volume (in compliance with the wishes of many respectable citizens) commences, on royal paper, of a superior quality, and more than double the size of that on which it was first printed in the year 1788.

By the present alteration (which precludes, however, any farther change) the Editor will be enabled to gratify the public, with a more copious selection of articles of domestic and foreign intelligence—an accurate detail of the debates and proceedings of Congress—a faithful representation of the progress of agriculture, manufactures, arts and sciences, throughout the Union—and a useful delineation of the character, power, policy, institutions, and manners of other nations. With a study proportionate to his conviction of their usefulness, he will early announce to the merchants the multifarious events that concern them. The arrivals and departures of vessels—the course of exchange—the prices current of merchandise and of stocks—the regulations of trade—each in its proper order, will be carefully exhibited, with as great a degree of accuracy as the most unremitting attention can ensure.

It is an advantage peculiar to the Federal Gazette, which cannot be too highly estimated, and which the Editor adds with gratitude to the present enumeration, that it is made the medium of publishing AUTHENTIC COPIES of the laws of the United States, under the authority of the proper officer, as soon as the acts have received the legislative sanction.

Intended as a faithful guardian of the sacred rights of the community, this paper was warmly and liberally zealous for the establishment of that noble monument of modern civilization, the Constitution of the United States; and having seen it safe from the attacks of its various opponents, and successfully carried into effect, this Gazette, with equal solicitude for that Constitution, will constantly endeavor to remove whatever might impede its firm establishment in the hearts and affections of Americans. A ready advocate for the diminution of the debts of the country—for the upright support of its credit—and the general diffusion of its happiness, the Editor flatters himself he has contributed his mite towards the extension of those sentiments that are likely to promote measures so salutary: and it is his intention to show equal fidelity, in the maintenance of order and the support of good government, on the one hand, and genuine liberty and republicanism, on the other.

Upon this plan, and with those views, it is fondly hoped that the Federal Gazette may serve as a faithful history of the times—a complete town and country register—and a valuable repository of useful and interesting information, totally divested of the violence—the illiberality—the licentiousness of party.

As the Editor flatters himself that a retrospective consideration of his conduct and success would afford the best assurance for the future performance of his engagements, he conceives it would neither be proper nor is it necessary, to speak of the increasing popularity of this Gazette;—the great impression that is struck off daily, and its numerous literary and other correspondents, must make these honorable circumstances sufficiently conspicuous.

In a paper of such general circulation, advertisements have visible advantages; and their early and correct insertion shall always be an object of strict attention.

With sentiments of gratitude for the liberal encouragement of the past, and with assurances of exertion to deserve support in the future, the subscriber remains the faithful and devoted servant of the public.

ANDREW BROWN,

Editor and Proprietor of the Federal Gazette, and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser.

Philadelphia, 12th Sept. 1792

Subscriptions (at Six Dollars per annum, to be paid in advance) advertisements, essays, and articles of intelligence, for this paper (post paid) are received at the Printing-Office of the Federal Gazette and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser, at Washington's Head, Chestnut-Street, Philadelphia.—Subscriptions and advertisements are also received at the following places, viz

At Brewer's tavern, Portsmouth, New-Hampshire; Coleman's Coffee-House, Boston, Massachusetts; Townsend's tavern, New port, Rhode-Island; Bull's tavern, Hartford, Connecticut; the Post-Office, Bennington, Vermont; Bradford's Coffee-House, New-York; Drake's tavern, Trenton, New-Jersey; Brinton's tavern, Wilmington, Delaware; Grant's tavern, Baltimore, Maryland; the Eagle tavern, Richmond, Virginia; Joslin & De Herbe's Coffee-house, Wilmington, N. Carolina; Williams's Coffee-House, Charleston, S. Carolina; and at Brown's Coffee-House, Savannah, Georgia.

* * * This Gazette is, by every post, forwarded to, regularly filed, and may be constantly seen at each of the abovementioned places.

FROM THE AMERICAN MUSEUM.

REFLECTIONS on the STATE of the UNION. (CONCLUDED.)

The conclusion: being miscellaneous thoughts on the government.

THE independency of the judiciary, as well in the tenure of their stations as in the permanency of their compensations, under the federal constitution, and most of those of the states, is an advantage over the ancient republics and the generality of modern governments, of inestimable value in regard to liberty and property.

The United States, being without transmarine or separated dominions, are exempted from two inconveniences, which have resulted from them.—An immense naval force has been found necessary to defend such territories, and protect the trade with them in a time of war, and the difficulty of devising for them a free legislation, has hitherto proved insurmountable. The British nation declared, that they had a right to legislate for their colonies and dominions in America, Asia, and Africa, in all cases whatsoever, and the revolution of the United States, turned upon that cardinal point. When we observe that the French nation, devoted as they are to the pursuit of liberty, have not yet been able to devise any system of government for their colonies without a dernier resort to the legislature of France, it will be a source of comfortable reflection to the friends of free and efficient government in these states, that we are not perplexed by the necessity of so delicate, important, and difficult an operation.

It has been unfortunate for most nations as well ancient as modern, that they have had no settled pre-existing mode of altering, amending, or renovating their political system, to which they could resort without a deviation from the legal course of things, hazarding the public tranquility, and often freedom itself.—It is equally happy for the people of the United States, that in their federal government, and in most of the states, there exists a provision, by which those necessary and desirable ends may be obtained, with whatever zeal without recurring to irregularity or violence. Fundamental principles being already settled by common consent, and duly recorded in the constitutions, the people cannot long mistake the nature of a measure, a law, or a political maxim, which is really opposed to them; and when their judgment is decided upon any one or more derelictions of those principles, of magnitude sufficient to induce an effort for reform, their will cannot be successfully resisted. The consequence of this state of things will be, that the mass of error will not easily accumulate so as to become insupportable, being kept down by these orderly natural exertions of the community to relieve themselves at an earlier stage of inconvenience. Too great a facility to change would, however, be likely to produce fluctuations injurious to order, peace, property, and industry, if not to liberty itself: but as the mode of performing the amendatory or alterative operations is slow, and consequently deliberate, light or dangerous changes would be very difficult to accomplish. In this view there appears to be very little probability, that changes from free or representative government, will take place, or that any modification of hereditary power will be introduced into the government either of the states or of the union. The people will never deliberately consent to the abrogation of those clauses in the several constitutions, which explicitly provide both in general terms, and in particular detail, for free or republican government: nor does it seem easy, considering the degree of perfection we have obtained and the constant and moderate operations of the amendatory clauses, to accumulate sufficient public evil or grievance to produce one of those convulsions, which the ambitious are wont to seize as the moment to introduce by force, a despotic government. Even local circumstances conspire to favor the permanency of liberty in these states. Being too remote from any foreign nation, to render a war, requiring a great army, at all necessary, that instrument, so often used by ambitious leaders, is not likely to be placed within the reach of the enemies of freedom, while the union remains entire. It is worthy of the most particular observation and remembrance, that a dissolution of our government would immediately open a door to this danger, as the several states or little confederacies, would each deem it prudent to maintain a larger army than is now requisite for the whole. The history of Greece will instruct us that by this, more than by any other possible measure, we should be prepared for the military domination of some modern Philip, or some new Alexander. A strong union and a tranquil liberty would be miserably exchanged for such a state of things.

It is an evident truth that the penal laws of these states, have been gradually mitigated since the epocha of their independence; and it is no less true, that the number of crimes does not bear so great a proportion to the population, as was formerly the case, though an universal relaxation of the police took place in the late war. It is, perhaps, an ill symptom of the state of things, in a society, when mild laws, strictly

executed, are incompetent to the preservation of order and public happiness. Our penal codes are, upon the whole, among the least sanguinary; and it is believed, they are not cruel, even in those unhappy cases, which impel the community to extremities. The constitution of the United States has extracted all the gall from the punishment of offences against the national safety, by contracting the power of legislating concerning them with a mildness unknown to the systems of most countries. It is honorable to the humanity and magnanimity of the American people, that this proceeding flowed from them, almost unanimously, four years after the revolution war. Future ages will do justice to a nation capable of such an effort at a moment so particular.

Taking the United States at large, there are few or no countries in which at this time, the just demands of private creditors can be obtained by a more certain, a more expeditious, or less expensive course of legal process.

There are some local, and a very few general defects yet existing; but they are vanishing before the spirit of the general and most of the state constitutions. There is no part of the public conduct more striking than the firmness with which they have applied the caustic to some inveterate cancers, which had been derived to their pecuniary system, principally from adventitious causes. It proves the existence of that virtue and fortitude, which qualify a nation for republican government. There are some exceptionable circumstances yet to be done away; but the successful efforts which have been made, justify a confident expectation, that they will yield ere long to the powers and influences which have eradicated much greater evils of the same kind.

SONNET.

ON SEEING SOME CHILDREN AT PLAY.

SIGHING I see yon little troop at play;
By sorrow yet untouch'd; unharmed by care;
While free and sportive they enjoy to day,
Content and careless of to-morrow's fare!
O happy age! when Hope's unclouded ray
Lights their green path, and prompts their simple mirth,
They feel not yet the thorns that lurking lay
To wound the wretched pilgrims of the earth:
Making them rue the hour that gave them birth,
And threw them on a world so full of pain,
Where prosperous folly treads on patient worth,
And to deal pride misfortune pleads in vain.
Ah! for their future fate how many fears
Oppress my heart—and fill my eyes with tears!

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

No. VII.

REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.

THE importance of electing men as representatives in Congress, who are firm friends to the present Constitution of the United States, has been hinted at in the course of these publications. When we take a retrospective view of the circumstances and situation of the Union at large, and of this Commonwealth in particular, and compare the present state of things with this retrospect, it would hardly seem necessary to suggest the idea to the people, that federal men, and federal measures, have done all that has been done—and that to secure and perpetuate the blessings of peace, credit and freedom, federal men alone should be the object of attention to the free citizens of this State at the ensuing election.—No State in the Union has more to hope or to fear than Pennsylvania, from those measures of government which shall be adopted by the third Congress. Her local situation makes her in some measure the pivot of those scales in which the fate of the United States is placed. By those wise and energetic measures of the general government, which have been adopted, an alteration has taken place in her circumstances so much for the better, that every mind divested of prejudice, and the venom of party, is astonished at its contemplation. There is no interest or profession in the State whatever, which has not felt the auspicious influence of those measures—measures which were effected by the federal part of the legislature in opposition to the unremitting exertions of those of a different complexion—in opposition to the known, because often expressed opinions of men, who are at this moment held up as candidates for the suffrages of this federal city and commonwealth.—It is often speciously observed, that it is best to have men of different sentiments in a legislative assembly—that the collision of opinions serves to produce a more just decision in the end. But, under this pretext, there is the greatest danger of introducing characters who would rejoice in the opportunity of subverting the Constitution, and reducing these states to their late abject and deplorable condition.—There is no danger of truth's dying for want of exercise. The world is so full of system-mongers, that there is commonly as many modes of doing business suggested, as there are persons concerned, or have a voice in directing it.—

Some say that if Congress is composed of federalists only, there will be none to watch them.

What sort of watchmen the lukewarm friends, and the open enemies of the Constitution, have shewn themselves to be, let past experience testify. Had the national legislature heretofore consisted of a larger majority of federal characters, it is evident to a demonstration that the public business might have been transacted in one half the time which was consumed.

There is a general remark which I have heard suggested, that if true, ought to be taken into consideration by the electors—and that is, the weight of abilities throughout the union is with the federalists, by a very great preponderation—for tho' it is acknowledged that some of those in opposition to the government and its measures, are men of talents, yet the number is very final—but two or three such, having as yet been produced by the whole continent on the public theatre.

The people ought not to elect an antifederal character to represent them in Congress; such conduct would be no wiser than that of a commander of a ship, who should enter a sailor that would take the first opportunity to bore a hole in the vessel's bottom. C.

Foreign Affairs.

PARIS, June 22.

THE Jacobins are exerting every nerve to recover their power by inflaming the populace, but there is no doubt government will now go on with order and firmness.

A Persian actress here, of a most beautiful person, is to have her head cut off in the course of the week, for issuing false assignats. Every one laments her fatal destiny in the most pathetic manner. Her lover suffers with her for being an accomplice in the business.

Yesterday M. Petion waited on the King, and strove hard to make his majesty believe, that during the ever memorable 20th of this month, the constitution had not been in the least particular violated, and that every respect which could be expected, had been shewn to him and the royal family. The King answered, "You have entirely infringed the constitution so far as relates to the respect due to my person. Were I weak enough to confess the contrary, the breaking open of nine different doors to come to my apartments, by a furious populace, would demonstrate that I had advanced a pusillanimous falsehood." M. Petion attempted to make some observations, the King insisted on his being silent. The national guards are still under arms, altho' no danger is apprehended for the present moment. The Jacobins are scattering fire and flames against M. de la Fayette, on account of the letter which he had, they say, the audacity to write against their club, in which he desired that it might be abolished.

Yesterday there was delivered to the assembly, the following letter from the King:

"The National Assembly is already apprized of the events of yesterday. No doubt Paris is full of consternation. I leave to the prudence of the assembly the management of the constitution, and also the individual liberty of the hereditary representative of the people.

France will, with grief, learn what has happened. As to me, nothing shall hinder me from steadily pursuing, without the least distrust, the views which are directed by the constitution which I have sworn to maintain, and to obtain those ends which it prescribes.

(Signed) LOUIS."

The castle of Bannes is re-taken, the rebels having surrendered at discretion. Du Saillan, and some of the other ringleaders, have, however, found means to escape.

Particular Detail of the Irruption into the Thuilleries by the Paris Mob, on Wednesday last.

The King agreed, conformably to the constitution, to receive a deputation of 20 persons, and pointed out