

### Philadelphia, May 18.

Thursday, at one o'clock, M. GENEST, Minister from the Republic of France to the United States of America, arrived in this city from Charleston.—In the afternoon the bells of Christ-Church were rung on this occasion.

Mr. GENEST has been violently censured by many, for giving commissions to the privateers fitted out at Charleston. We can assert, from good authority, that in so doing he has only complied with the orders of the executive of France who sent him, and that the commissions are in fact from that executive and only filled up by Mr. GENEST, which he is directed to do when called upon for that purpose.

By an arrival at this port yesterday, in 12 days from Antigua, we learn that a British fleet, consisting of two 90 gun ships, and five 74's, under the command of Admiral Gardner, arrived at Barbadoes the 25th ult.—also, that a fleet of five sail of the line has arrived at Martinique from France.

A letter from Amsterdam dated the 5th April says, certain intelligence had been received there, that two Commissioners had been sent from Paris with orders to conduct Gen. Dumourier thither—that he, apprized of the design, had seized the Commissioners and sent them to the Imperialists; that the French army had mounted the white cockade and were marching to Paris, to restore the old monarchy, &c. &c. The Leyden Gazette of the same date makes no mention of these events—the account therefore is most probably premature.

Wednesday last Mr. J. RAVARA was committed to the goal of this city, charged with being the writer of several incendiary letters, to different gentlemen, demanding sums of money, accompanied with threats in cases of non-compliance.—One Guillouix, a hair-dresser, was the messenger sent for the answers to the letters, which were to be put into the post-office. This circumstance led to a discovery of the parties.

Tuesday evening arrived the ship Argonaut, of Marseilles, Capt. Chobert, from China and the Isle of France. This vessel was bound to l'Orlent; but not being well informed of the state of European politics with respect to peace or war, thought it most prudent to make for this continent. Has had 72 days passage from the Isle of France, brings a cargo teas, nankeens, &c. in value to the amount of 2 million of livres. She was formerly a frigate belonging to the Pope called the St. Charles; but now is private property;—mounts 14 pieces of 12 and 2 of 16 pounders.

The Hercules, of Boston, failed from the Isle of France the 27th February.

By a gentleman who arrived here in 24 days from Port-au-Prince, we are informed of the troubles which happened there last month. Our informant relates, that Mr. Santhonax, the national civil commissioner, arrived there in the America, of 74 guns, with two large frigates, on the 4th of April; that he issued a thundering proclamation against the inhabitants, whom he branded with the term of Counter-revolutionists, and imputed to them the cause of the insurrections of the blacks; that during the 5th and 6th the disputes ran high between the Aristocrats and Democrats; that on the 7th the national commissioners gave orders to the captains and commanders of the American and French merchantmen to quit the port, and to retire out of the reach of the artillery, and get under the protection of the ships of war. The Captains drew up and signed a pathetic memorial, and presented the same to the commissioners, remonstrating against the approaching destruction of the town; they were, however, obliged to comply, and retired out of the reach of cannon shot, during the 10th and 11th. On the 12th, at nine o'clock in the morning, the ship America commenced a most dreadful cannonade against Fort St. Clair; at the same time the frigates began to bombard the town, and continued that dreadful work till the afternoon. The Forts St. Joseph, St. Clair, and another, returned the fire with desperate intrepidity. It is computed that these three ships discharged about 3500 balls against the town and forts. The old men, women and children ran in different directions to meet death, 73 of these were killed on the spot. A cart loaded with powder blew up in one of the forts, by which accident 8 persons lost their lives. Towards the close of the day Mr. Borell, a leading man in the town, made his escape with 300 white men, and 100 blacks, to Jacmel. The commissioners took possession, and have since been organizing the troops, and imprisoning the disaffected, 300 of whom are now in jail there.

At a meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia, at the State-House, on Thursday evening last,

CHARLES BIDDLE, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair, and R. H. DUNKIN, appointed secretary.

On motion, it was resolved unanimously, that a committee of 7 citizens be appointed to prepare an Address to Mr. GENEST, Minister from the Republic of France to the United States; whereupon Messrs. Rittenhouse, Dallas, Hutchinson, Du Ponceau, Sergeant, Fox, and Barton, were unanimously appointed for that purpose.

Resolved, that a general meeting of the citizens be called by public advertisements in the papers to be held this day at 6 o'clock at the State-House, to receive the report of said committee, and act thereon.

CHARLES BIDDLE, Chairman.  
Attest,  
ROBERT HENRY DUNKIN, Secretary.

May 17.

The following paragraphs are copied from the (Boston) Independent Chronicle of the 9th inst.

To the innumerable rumours against the French, their defeats, disasters and retreats, &c. we have to oppose the real facts of the distresses of the British nation. It appears that their credit is in such low estimation, that the loan of 4 millions and a half cannot be effected under the enormous rate of 8 per cent.—that the mercantile stability, on whose support the Ministry has ever relied, is almost totally annihilated—a number of the first houses have stopped payment; and that all confidence is at an end among the merchants—this must soon operate among the manufacturers, and the convulsion this must occasion, may be better imagined than described.

The situation of the British nation appears truly alarming, just entering on an expensive War, with their finances so deranged, as to be obliged to give 8 per cent. for the loan of money to prosecute it—their merchants and manufacturers commencing Bankrupts—their fleets unmanned by reason of the combination of their independent seamen in opposing the press-gangs—their internal discontents with respect to the object of the war—the formidable operations of the Volunteers in Ireland—and the immense loss they sustain by captures.

These circumstances are facts which cannot be controverted, and bespeak the distressed state of that nation.—On the contrary, no such circumstances appear against the French: Their loans are easily effected—their finances well regulated and adequate—their navy completely manned, and what stamps a national stability as it relates to their commerce, not a French merchant of any great note, has failed during the whole controversy.

These things considered, we must be led to conclude, that France is in the most prosperous situation.

Among a variety of predictions and anticipations re-published at the present interesting period, the following has been extracted from a work published in the year 1701—by Mr. Robert Fleming, an eminent Scotch Minister;

“There is ground to hope, that about the beginning of another such century, things may again alter for the better—for I cannot but hope, that some new mortification of the chief supporters of Anti-Christ will then happen; and perhaps the French monarchy may begin to be considerably humbled about that time; that whereas the present French King takes the sun for his emblem, and this for his motto, *ne plus impar*—he may at length, or rather his successor, and the monarchy itself, at least before the year 1794, be forced to acknowledge, that (in respect to neighboring potentates) he is even *singulis impar*.”

“We may justly suppose, that the French monarchy, after it has scorched others, will itself consume by doing so; its fire, and that which is the fuel that maintains it, wasting insensibly, till it be exhausted at last towards the end of this century, as the Spanish monarchy did before, towards the end of the sixteenth age.”

Other remarkable extracts might be made, which are omitted on account of their not applying immediately to the present grand revolution in France—a work which, if it be of God, cannot be overthrown by all the combined despots and tyrants of the Universe.

Extracts of a letter from England to a gentleman in this city, dated Bath, February 18th, 1793.

“The price of tin in European markets, is raised from 58 to 72 per cent.—by which Cornwall receives between 30 and 40,000l. sterling per annum; the greatest part of it from foreign markets; so that there is full employment for men, women, and children, and the county not able to answer the full demand. And yet strange to relate! the county produces little corn. Depending on precarious importations, the poor inhabitants are often deprived of a supply, and grow riotous thro' want, even in times of profound peace. What may be expected, then, in this and other places similarly situate, in case the present war with France should continue.

“I was agreeably entertained by Mr. Bartram's travels in the Floridas and S. Carolina. His account of fishes of prey living peaceably with the smaller inoffensive fry, while together in clear, transparent water, is new and curious! His account of the amiable manners of those nations whom, thro' pride, we style Savages, is also very interesting.—Strange! that the artificial mode of flattening the heads of the children of the Chactaws, by mechanical compression, long continued, does not derange the faculties of the brain! On the contrary, we read, they become sensible, ingenious men; bold, intrepid, yet quiet and peaceable citizens. The method of taming wild horses, by salt, is a singular fact, and worthy attention.

“In case the present troubles in this country, should go to extremities, and terminate in anarchy, or a national convulsion, America seems to offer the only

eligible asylum for peaceable English subjects, who can surmount local prejudices and reconcile themselves to a voyage across the Atlantic, and content themselves with becoming fellow-citizens with their brethren in America. Many circumstances seem to portend such an event as at no great distance. The sanguinary spirit that now prevails among the potentates of Europe, cannot fail to subject the inhabitants to all the horrors and calamities of war, or force them to seek refuge in more peaceable climes.

“*Quicquid delirant Reges plebscur Achivi.*”

“The last year, particularly in the western parts of this island, has been uncommonly wet. Of 365 days in the year 1792, two hundred and sixty three were rainy. viz. in January, 15 days; in Feb. 27; in March, 25; in April, 29; in May, 20; in June, 18; in July, 25; in August, 18; in Sept. 18; in October, 25; in November, 13; in Dec. 26. The present year, thus far, has been very similar: Scarce any frost or snow; much rain; cloudy atmosphere; the sun seldom visible.

“A method has lately been invented for marking the changes of the barometer by a clock; and this might perhaps, without difficulty, be transferred to the thermometer and hydrometer—which would be a capital improvement in meteorological experiments.

“The Steam Engine has received great and important improvements, and is about to be applied to the propelling of vessels and other purposes, in all which I believe America is not behind hand.

“The samples of the true cinnamon lately sent from Jamaica, are allowed to rival, or even excel the best specimens hitherto imported from Ceylon; and the plantation is said to be in a flourishing condition. Plants might be transplanted to Carolina, or other similar latitudes.—For why should this precious aromatic be confined to one particular spot? The Dutch by a narrow-minded selfish policy, have too long monopolized this and other valuable spices. But the products of nature, like those of science, ought to be diffused every where, that the different nations, like children of the same beneficent parent, may all partake of the benefit, and return grateful homage to the all-bountiful Donor.

“A spirit for extending inland navigation by canals, never was more predominant in this country: But war will retard these and all other public-spirited operations; watering of meadows begins to be successfully employed, diffusing fertility and verdure at a small expence. The gypsum is under trial, but does not promise such luxuriant crops as on your side of the Atlantic.

“Potatoes, for which we were originally indebted to South America, and which found their way very slowly as an article of diet, are now become the principal food for all kinds of cattle, without exception; and experiments have shewn that with a small portion of flour, they are capable of being converted into a very useful and pleasant bread.

“Paper begins to be manufactured from coarse, raw vegetables; and English rhubarb is about to rival the true Turkey tho' of a less marketable appearance.

“Mr. Knight, of Norwich, manufactures English shawls of large dimensions, and of such perfection as hardly to be distinguished from Indian, and at a twentieth part of the usual expence.

“Mr. Swaine, of the Bath Society, has discovered, that dried oak leaves, yield by decoction an astringent extract for tanning, which can be procured at one fifth the expence of oak bark, which is now exorbitantly dear.

“Mr. Howells, an ingenious watchmaker, has invented an improved escapement without springs, and without oil; so that the balance receives the same impulse in whatever position the watch is placed; and the machine goes with more truth.—The want of this was the grand defect of all former escapements, as acknowledged by the best artists.

“Silk has been produced in England, equal to the best Chinese; but mulberry plantations are too scarce to support a manufacture.

“The encaustic painting of the ancients, so much admired, has been lately revived by the ingenious Miss Greenland, who has discovered the method; and also, how to incorporate mastic and white wax, with water, by means of gum Arabic, as a vehicle for the colours.”

Yesterday at noon a Committee of the Commercial and Trading interests, consisting of about one hundred Gentlemen, waited on the President of the United States at his house, and presented the following Address—

GEORGE WASHINGTON,  
President of the United States.

SIR,

SENSIBLE that nothing is wanting to the happiness of the people of the United States, but to continue in peace under their excellent laws and government, the Merchants and Traders of the city of Philadelphia, beg leave to express to you the high sense they entertain of the wisdom and goodness which dictated your late proclamation, declaring the neutrality to be observed by the United States in the war wherein several European powers are now engaged—A war which, however it might serve the interests of their Commerce for the time, they, as the Friends of ALL MEN, and of all Nations, are bound to deplore.

Impressed too with an opinion, that in an unoffending conduct towards all the world, consists the true policy of America, it is their determination not only to pay the strict regard to the proclamation themselves, but to discountenance in the most pointed manner any contrary disposition in others; examples of which they are persuaded will seldom occur—the sentiments just expressed being, as they have the satisfaction to find, the common language of the citizens of Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia, May 16, 1793.

To which the PRESIDENT made the following REPLY.

GENTLEMEN,

FULLY persuaded that the happiness and best interests of the people of the United States will be promoted by observing a strict neutrality in the present contest among the powers of Europe—it gives me pleasure to learn that the measure which I have taken to declare to the world their disposition on this head, has given general satisfaction to the citizens of Pennsylvania.

The friends of humanity will deprecate war wherever it may appear; and we have experienced enough of its evils in this country to know that it should not be wantonly or unnecessarily entered upon—I trust therefore that the good citizens of the United States will shew to the world that they have as much wisdom in preferring peace at this interesting juncture, as they have heretofore displayed valour in defending their just rights.

(Signed)

GEO. WASHINGTON

The above address was signed by about three hundred persons.

The following is a copy of a blank Sea-Letter, or Passport, issued by the Supreme Executive of the Union, to the Captains of ships or vessels belonging to citizens of the United States, bound to ports within the territories of the Belligerent Powers.—The letters are to be countersigned by the Secretary of State, and are in the English, Dutch, and French languages, conformably to the treaties with France and Holland.

GEORGE WASHINGTON,  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA.

To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

BE it known, That leave and permission are hereby given to \_\_\_\_\_ master or commander of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the burthen of \_\_\_\_\_ tons or thereabouts, lying at present in the port of \_\_\_\_\_ bound for \_\_\_\_\_ and laden with \_\_\_\_\_ to depart and proceed with his said \_\_\_\_\_ on his said voyage, such \_\_\_\_\_ having been visited, and the said \_\_\_\_\_ having made oath before the proper officer, that the said \_\_\_\_\_ belongs to one or more of the citizens of the United States of America, and to him or them only.

IN witness whereof, I have subscribed my name to these presents, and affixed the seal of the United States of America thereto, and caused the same to be countersigned by \_\_\_\_\_ at the day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord Christ, one thousand seven hundred and ninety \_\_\_\_\_

MOST Serene, Serene, most Puissant, Puissant, High, Illustrious, Noble, Honorable, Venerable, wife and prudent, Lords, Emperors, Kings, Republics, Princes, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Burgomasters, Schepens, Counsellors, as also Judges, Officers, Justiciaries and Regents of all the good cities and places, whether Ecclesiastical or Secular, who shall see these patents, or hear them read, We make known, that the master of \_\_\_\_\_ appearing before us, has declared upon oath, that the vessel, called the \_\_\_\_\_ of the burthen of about \_\_\_\_\_ tons, which he at present navigates, is of the United States of America, and that no subjects of the present belligerent powers have any part or portion therein, directly nor indirectly, so may God Almighty help him. And, as we wish to see the said master prosper in his lawful affairs, our prayer is, to all the before-mentioned, and to each of them separately, where the said master shall arrive, with his vessel and cargo, that they may please to receive the said master, with goodness, and to treat him in a becoming manner, permitting him, upon the usual tolls and expences, in passing and repassing, to pass, navigate, and frequent the ports, passes and territories, to the end to transact his business, where, and in what manner he shall judge proper: Whereof we shall be willingly indebted.

IN witness and for cause whereof, we affix hereto the seal of \_\_\_\_\_

A letter from Amsterdam of 30th March, received by the ship Pegg, says, “That the embargo on American vessels is taken off—and that the trade and commerce of that city begins to revive, since the French retreated from the Meuse and the Rhine.”