

FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS MERCURY.

CHARACTER OF MARTHA.

BEHOLD! She comes! the Graces round her throng, Sylvania's idol, and the pride of song!

See, in her train, a seraph-council moves! Soft, dove-eyed FRIENDSHIP smiles, when TASTE approves;

While souls, created of a viler mould, In craps alone can move, and charm in gold;

Thy soft attractions, to no sphere confin'd, Contemn the boundaries of the narrow mind;

Sweet, as the pure, ambrosial breath of even, Thy converse wings the soul to rapture's heaven,

Genius may wither, beauty cease to bloom, And FANCY build her Sister FASHION's tomb;

FROM THE VIRGINIA HERALD.

THE present situation of the United States in respect to the nations of Europe, having been anticipated in a prophetic speech of a respectable member of the Convention of this State, when the constitution of the federal government was under consideration, it may not be without its use to recur to an argument which then had weight in the determination of an important question.

What is the situation of America? She is remote from Europe, and ought not to engage in her politics or wars.

The American vessels, if they can do it with advantage, may carry on the commerce of the contending nations. It is a source of wealth, which we ought not to deny to our citizens.

Every one knows that the power contended for, was repoted in the general government. Every one knows that the situation of this country, predicted in the argument, and the war anticipated by the speaker, have occurred;

The most sacred obligations are not sufficient always to repel the power of avarice: it is therefore necessary that the eye of vigilance should be abroad, to discriminate those who shall dare, in contempt of constitutional authority, to violate the law of nations.

NEUTRALITY.

From the AMERICAN DAILY ADVERTISER.

PROBABLE CONSEQUENCES

Of the United States taking part in the present War between France & Great-Britain.

I. A SUDDEN and great diminution of the exports and imports of the United States.

II. The reduction of the price of wheat from 8/4 to 2/6 per bushel.

III. An increase of the price of all imports—Salt would probably rise from 3/6 to 3/1 pr. bushel.

IV. A failure of the interest on the public debt, by which means many thousand widows, orphans, and aged citizens, would immediately be reduced to poverty and misery.

V. A contradiction of all that has been said by republican writers, that wars originate in the pride, ambition and avarice of Kings—and that Republics love peace, and negotiate mistakes and insults with their neighbours.

VI. Great distress among all classes of our citizens, from the loss of fathers, husbands, brothers, and sons, who would perish in battle, or in military hospitals and prison ships.

VII. A great encrease of the public debt, and a heavy tax upon our farms to pay it.

VIII. A revival of the idleness, extravagance, fraud, and profligacy of manners, which were produced by the late war, and which are now nearly banished from our country.

IX. An increase of the influence of the executive part of the general government, whereby the balance of principles and conduct would turn in favor of monarchy and aristocracy.

X. Peace, after a seven year's war, with disgrace to our country—bankruptcy to thousand of individuals, and a concentration of all the expenditures of the war, in the hands of half a dozen contractors, quarter-masters and speculators.

NUMA.

Philadelphia, May 25.

Extract of a letter from London, April 5.

Within these last three weeks the Austrians have had the advantage in four actions; the French fought gallantly under Dumourie, but were obliged to quit their ground, altho' much superior in number, and are quitting almost every place they had gained possession of.

By accounts from Ireland, per the Ann and Mary, it appears that the government have put a stop to the emigration of redemptioners from the north of Ireland.

Napper Tandy, who was charged with being accessory to some insurrections at Dundalk, was ordered to take his trial.

The Governor of the Bahama Islands has issued a proclamation, permitting the importation of provisions in foreign bottoms into those islands for six months, from the 1st of April, 1793.

The Commissioners appointed to receive Subscriptions to the Bank of Pennsylvania, have given notice, that the Subscription will be opened on Monday the 3d day of June next, at the Lodge, in Lodge-Alley.

The Humane Society of Boston have voted, that five guineas be presented to the Rev. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Elisha Doane, to be by them distributed among those persons who so humanely exerted themselves in the preservation of the lives of the officers and seamen of the ship Gertrude Maria, Capt. Klien, from Denmark, wrecked on Cohasset, the 13th Feb. last.

His Excellency Arthur Fenner, Esq. is re-elected Governor, and the Hon. Samuel J. Potter, Esq. deputy Governor for the State of Rhode-Island.

PORTSMOUTH, (N.H.) May 15.

Capt. Samuel Briard arrived here last evening from Tobago, which he left the 21st April, and informs, that the islands of St. Christopher, Grenada, and Antigua were opened for the importation of lumber and provisions in American vessels.

In consequence of the opening of the ports of the British Islands, two vessels have failed from Portsmouth, for St. Kitt's with produce and lumber.

The Extraordinary-Commission of Guadeloupe, the 21st March last, decreed, "That the ports of Belle-terre and Pointe-a-Pitre will be freely opened to the vessels of the United States of America."

That said vessels will have liberty to export in return for their cargoes all kinds of colonial produce, paying however the local duties, and those called Domaine d'occident."

The Assembly of St. Lucia, has decreed—"That reckoning from the 17th March, all the ports of the island shall be opened to all neutral vessels."

A merchant of this city, has received letters dated the 4th of April, by a ship arrived at Alexandria from Gibraltar; from one of these letters, the following extract is copied:

"Since the commencement of hostilities against France, our small Squadron stationed here, have captured 16 French ships—eight of them with valuable cargoes of sugar, coffee, cotton and indigo, from the islands, some with wines and brandy for the northern ports, and others with assorted cargoes from Marseilles, bound to the West-Indies."

"We soon expect here a considerable Squadron of British, Dutch, and Russian ships of war; these are to be joined by about 20 ships of the line from Spain, that are ready at Cartagena, which will make a very formidable fleet—what their intentions are, time will discover, some great enterprize must be in agitation. The French have failed in their expedition against the Island of Sardinia, and met with considerable loss; their Squadron has retired to Toulon, where we imagine they will remain during the war."

The following particulars, from the General Advertiser, are collected from passengers on board the brig Sally, from Cape-Francois:

Dumourier really went over to the Austrians some time in the beginning of April. He tampered first with the old commissioners to Belgium; informed them that he now found Frenchmen unmanageable under a republic, and that they required all the rigour of monarchical energy to keep them in a proper degree of subordination.

The passengers in the Sally, do not appear acquainted with the circumstance of commissioners being dispatched by the Convention to apprehend him; but mention, that Burnonville was sent off to take the command of the army.

Dumourier, they say, before he quitted his post, made known his sentiments to his army, particularly to a body of about 12,000 most attached to him. These latter hesitated a moment whether they should join him, but at last determined to remain firm.

The following is a copy of the presentments made by the Grand Jury, at the last district court held in Richmond, Virginia.

WE of the grand jury do present as a grievance the great extent of the prison bounds, as established by the district court.

WE of the grand jury conceive it our duty to notice the grievances under which this county at present labours.

1st. By presenting the defective state of our laws, which render replevin bonds ineffectual for the recovery of debts, even under the ultimate decrees of our supreme court.

2d. We present the unfortunate situation of this district, the courts of which are limited by law to 24 days in a year; a period though perhaps sufficient in many other parts of the state, entirely inadequate here, where the public business entitled to preference, occupies the far greater part of the time, inasmuch that many appeals lie now undetermined from the institution of this court, besides an augmentation of the docket every term.

We hope that a vigorous interposition of the executive might soon alleviate those evils, and surely never was there a stronger call for their exertions, when it is considered that by the best information not less than ten thousand replevin bonds do now or will exist before the usual time of meeting of the Assembly, by which, so many of the most valuable citizens are deprived of their property, and the sole object of all government, the speedy and impartial administration of justice is utterly defeated.

Whilst we view with pleasure the rising opulence and growing prosperity of some of our sister states, founded on the exact distribution of justice and the conformity of their constitutions to that of the general union, we cannot but lament, that this state, from contrary causes, is in danger of losing that pre-eminence, to which our population, productions, and local advantages naturally entitle us.

Nothing is more obvious than that the prosperity of every country will be precisely proportioned to the confidence and credit it acquires amongst other nations; whilst these subsist entire, money can never be wanting for agriculture, manufactures and commerce, the only sources of wealth; and reason, as well as the example of nations, show that the speedy and equal distribution of justice is the only way to acquire them.

The New-York Daily Advertiser of the 29th inst. says—Affairs in St. Domingo, particularly in Cape-Francois, still wear an alarming aspect. By a vessel which arrived here yesterday, we learn, that the forces there have had several skirmishes with the blacks;—that the blacks have been successful in two skirmishes, and had killed (April 29th) upwards of 50 whites, and that the commander of the French troops, to prevent falling into the hands of the negroes, had blown out his own brains with a pistol.

At Cape Nicola Mole, we are informed, they are fitting out several privateers to cruise on the American coast.

The following gentlemen are chosen representatives to Congress from the State of Massachusetts—viz. Samuel Hollis, Dwight Foster, William Lyman, and Peleg Wadsworth, Esq's.

The amount of Rice shipped from the port of Charleston, S. C. from the 1st January last, to the 11th inst. viz. 8850 tierces, and 80,850 barrels, averaging each 550 wt. neat.

COMMUNICATIONS.

It may be the good luck of an ignorant and stupid nation to obtain liberty—but it is only for a wife and sober people to preserve it; we have a faction who are at work night and day to four the public against the national government; by this means they hope to get it into their own hands.

Let ambition wrap its wolf's head in sheepskin, let the foeneries and frothy maxims which inculcate purity and virtue from the gaming table be printed and reprinted as fast political truths; let lies be multiplied and the industry in circulating them quicken its pace; it is all in vain.

Opposing government, embarrassing its measures, and sowing jealousy and suspicion against its officers is a trade, and a servile one too. Sometimes we must work in the mire, and at others we must wade in charcoal.—For it is impossible to smut government and its officers without getting smutted.

We live and learn. It appears by some late scribblings, that he is an aristocrat who would have the laws govern. If we enquire of the advocates of genuine liberty and equality, we are happy to find the whole nation has imbibed the spirit proper to give efficacy to their government; there are, however, not a few who make a great noise about their republican principles whose style of life seems to be raised with a jealous pride above equality.

Who would suppose, after reading the abusive reflections on the government of this country which distinguish some publications, that the people of the United States possess and exercise the rights of free suffrage in the most unlimited degree?

Those who revile the freely elected officers of the government, aim a dagger at the vitals of liberty. When the people have established a government and organized its administration—to make the public suffrage the signal for slander and defamation, is but a miserable compliment to republican principles, and the public judgment.

SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVED AT THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA, Ship Hannibal, Conyngham, Canton Sch'r Ranger, Luce, Boston

PRICE OF STOCKS.

6 per Cents, 17 1/2
3 per Cents, 9 1/2
Deferred, 10 1/2
Full shares Bank U. S. 2 per cent. adv.

DEPARTMENT of STATE, to wit:

OFFICIAL information having been received that the Municipal Officers of the city of Dunkirk have withdrawn the BUOY which marked the entrance into the road of that harbour, notice thereof is hereby given to all masters of vessels of the United States, mariners and others whom it may concern. Given under my hand this 24th day of May, 1793.

J. JEFFERSON.