

FROM THE COLUMBIAN CENTINEL

NATURAL HISTORY.

MR. RUSSELL, MANY literary as well as political advantages have accrued to the United States, and to those of New-England more particularly, since the adoption of our present happy form of government. The various philosophical institutions, founded within a few years in this Commonwealth, have laid a broad foundation for improvement in science and arts. Among others, that of Natural History begins to flourish with us. The recently established Agricultural Society bids fair to amplify and spread this useful and delightful study. Botany, that beautiful handmaid of Physic, so much neglected by the ancients, has been successfully addressed by the Europeans, and from present appearances, will be as profitably pursued by their descendants, the Americans. We know that our vegetable kingdom is ample and interesting, and believe that the treasures hid in the earth are invaluable; but for want of persons skilled in Mineralogy, these recesses of curiosity, wealth and pleasure, have not been entered, and we remain dependent on foreign countries for riches that are actually under our feet. The celebrated Dr. Lettsome, of London, impressed with a sense of the advantages which would accrue to this country from searching the earth for ores, and other fossils, has generously sent a noble collection of minerals to our University, to serve as standard specimens. This collection will form the richest cabinet of minerals in the United States. It contains a great variety of specimens of iron ores found in England, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and other places. As a great variety of copper ores, from different parts of the world. The same may be said of the specimens of lead and tin. To these are added the specimens of semi-metals, and others variously mixed and compounded. There is besides a fine collection of salts, and saline earths, from Transylvania, which would be considered very complete, in any cabinet in Europe. There are, moreover, a great number of spars, curious crystallizations and petrefactions, amounting in the whole to above 500 specimens. This noble donation may be more extensively useful, than some would perhaps at first imagine. The importance of agriculture is confessed by all—but agriculture could not exist without mineralogy; for although it may be true, that every thing for the support of life is continued with unceasing circulation from the upper layer of earth, it is nevertheless as true, that from the bowels of it, labour draws all her tools, agriculture the chief of her support, commerce her riches, and the fine arts their materials. The philosophers of Europe, expect much from us, in the department of Natural History, from a belief, that no country is so happily situated and circumstanced as America, for the promotion of that useful branch of science. One of the most celebrated philosophers in England, a character as eminently distinguished in the line of Natural History, as famous in that enterprise which set bounds to navigation, and whose name with that of Cooke's will be remembered by future ages with grateful admiration, writes thus to one of our Cambridge Professors—"Nothing can give greater pleasure, to your fellow-labourers here, who cultivate the vineyard of science, than the assiduous endeavors of their fellow-workmen in America. We were brethren before the commencement of the unnatural war, which made a separation between us—and I hope the men of science in both countries will be the first to renew the claims of consanguinity which have been for a while suspended; and regardless which might take the lead in promoting useful knowledge, join their hands heartily in aiding each other's progress. I hope you will be wise enough to adhere to the government, under which your community flourishes. May peace continue with you forever; and may harmony between you and us, be unbroken, whatever calamities Providence has in store for us."

NEW-YORK, June 7.

CITIZEN HAUTERIVE, Consul from the Republic of France, at New-York, having presented to the Governor of said State, an exequatur, under the seal of the United States, and signature of the President. The same is now published at the request of the said Consul, for the information of all whom it may concern.

New-York, June 6, 1793.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

To all whom it may concern, THE Citizen HAUTERIVE, having produced to me his commission as Consul from the Republic of France at New-York, I do hereby recognize him as such, and declare him free to exercise and enjoy such functions, powers, and privileges, as are allowed to Consuls of the French Republic by the laws, treaties, and conventions in that case made and provided.

In testimony whereof, I have caused these letters to be made patent, and the (L.S.) Seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand, the twenty-ninth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the Seventeenth.

G. WASHINGTON.

By the President.

TH. JEFFERSON.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE EDITOR proposes to continue the publication of the GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES, for distant circulation, after the first of December next, on the following terms, viz.

It shall be published on WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS, on paper of the Medium size—which is larger than the present.

The price, Three Dollars per annum, exclusive of postage.

Subscriptions to be received by the respective Post-Masters throughout the Union, or such other persons as may see proper to collect them.

The papers to be forwarded by post twice a week. No packets to contain less than six papers—and no subscriptions to be received for a less term than six months.—Payments to be constantly six months in advance.—Twenty per cent. deduction from the price of the GAZETTE, will be allowed to those who collect and forward the subscription money, free of expense, in full of all charges for their trouble in the business.

The publication will contain as usual, a variety of original essays—foreign and domestic intelligence, and a summary of the proceedings of the Legislature of the Union, &c. &c.—Attention will be paid to dispatching the papers with punctuality, and Subscribers may depend on receiving them as regularly, as the post arrives.

June 8.

FOR SALE, 1360 Acres of excellent FARMING or TOBACCO LANDS,

LYING in the county of Amherst, in the State of Virginia, on one of the principal branches of James River, within six miles of the latter, from whence it is navigable for boats of ten or twelve tons burthen.

Besides the advantages of these lands, for the farmer or cultivator of tobacco, they are supposed, from a small though successful experiment made by the late Col. Chiswell, to contain an abundance of metals, which, if not of a precious (as has been even supposed) are certainly of a very valuable kind. The better however to ascertain this fact, and place the purchaser on a safe footing, in so hazardous a business, as all those subterraneous researches, without the utmost certainty of an abundance of the desired ore, are supposed to be, every reasonable and necessary assistance or indulgence will be rendered those inclined to make the experiment, as well as every other necessary information given by the printer of this Gazette in Philadelphia, or

JOHN NICHOLAS, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Albany Glass-House.

The Proprietors of the Glass-Manufactory, under the Firm of

M'CLALLEN, M'GREGOR and Co.

BEG leave to inform the public, that they have now brought their WINDOW-GLASS to such perfection, as will be found, on comparison, to be equal, in quality, to the best London Crown Glass.

Having fixed their prices at a lower rate than imported Glass, they are induced to believe, that importations of this article will be discontinued, in proportion as their works are extended.—They propose to enlarge the scale of this business, and as the success of it will depend on the patriotic support of the public, they beg leave to solicit their friendly patronage in the pursuit of a branch which will interest every lover of AMERICAN MANUFACTURES.

All orders for WINDOW-GLASS, of any size, will be received at the Store of RHODES and MACGREGOR, No. 234, Queen-street, New-York; and at the Glass Warehouse, No. 48, Market-street, Albany, which will be punctually attended to.

WANTED, six smart active LADS, not exceeding 16 years of age, to be indentured as Apprentices, and regularly instructed in the various branches of Glass-Making.

Also, three Window-Glass Makers, to whom great encouragement will be given. May 1, 1793. ep12w

GENERAL POST-OFFICE, Philadelphia, May 27, 1793.

500 Dollars Reward.

WHEREAS a certain THOMAS SLOSS GANTT, has lately made his escape from Baltimore County Gaol, to which he was committed under a charge of having robbed the Eastern Mail, on the 28th day of January last: Notice is hereby given, that a reward of five hundred dollars will be paid at this Office, to any person or persons who shall apprehend the said Thomas Sloss Gantt, and deliver him into the custody of the keeper of the said Gaol, or into the custody of either of the Marshals within the United States, so that the said Thomas Sloss Gantt may be effectually secured, and forth coming to answer the above mentioned charge.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, Post-Master General.

The following is a description of the above-named THOMAS SLOSS GANTT: He is about six feet high, stait and well made, has light coloured hair, tied behind, fair complexion and has a down look when spoken to.

THE Post-Masters and other persons who may collect Subscriptions for the Gazette of the United States, on the terms proposed in the address published in our last, are requested to forward their orders for the papers by the first of November next.

Philadelphia, June 12.

STATE of RHODE-ISLAND and PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

In General Assembly, May Session, A. D. 1793.

RESOLVED, That an Act passed by this Assembly at the Session in May, A. D. 1791, whereby JABEZ BOWEN, Esq. Commissioner of Loans, was requested to loan any Notes of a certain description, issued by the General Treasurer of this State for Monies due to the Soldiers of the late Army, in consequence of their having been fraudulently obtained, and the said Commissioner was further requested to retain said Notes in his office until such future orders should be thereon made, as might conflict with the principles of justice and equity, be, and the same is hereby repealed, so far as regards the detention of those Notes.

It is further resolved, That the General Treasurer advertise in all the newspapers in this State, and in the Gazette of the United States, a description of the Notes thus fraudulently obtained, with a caution to all persons not to purchase them.

List of Notes obtained from the Treasury Office by fraudulent Measures, to wit:

Table with columns: When delivered, To whom payable, When payable, Amount of the Face. Lists names and amounts from Sept. 25 to Dec. 23, 1790.

IN OBEDIENCE to the afore recited Act of the General Assembly, I do hereby caution all persons from receiving any of the above mentioned Notes, without the most plenary proof being made that they were obtained from the office by genuine documents from the soldiers

who performed the service, to whom the balances were found due, or from their legal representatives or attorneys.

HENRY SHELBURNE, General-Treasurer.

Newport, May 14, 1793.

THE MEMBERS OF THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA,

Are desired to take Notice,

THAT the Constitution requires Payment of One Dollar on each Share, on the Second Monday (the 8th Day) of July next, on Penalty of Forfeiture of the Money already paid.

Such Stockholders as have not made their second Instalment, are informed, that Payment will be received at the Company's Office, No. 119, South Front-Street, either on or before the said Day, as they may find it most convenient.

EBENEZER HAZARD, Sec'y. June 8, 1793. e14Bj.

CIRCULAR LETTER, OF THE

HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

Respectfully addressed to every Gentleman of Science in the Continent and Islands of America.

A SOCIETY has lately been instituted in this State, called the HISTORICAL SOCIETY; the professed design of which is, to collect, preserve and communicate materials for a complete history of this country, and accounts of all valuable efforts of human ingenuity and industry, from the beginning of its settlement. In pursuance of this plan, they have already amassed a large quantity of books, pamphlets and manuscripts; and are still in search of more; A catalogue of which will be printed for the information of the public.

They have also encouraged the publication of a monthly pamphlet, in which is given the result of their enquiries, into the natural, political and ecclesiastical history of this country. It is requested that you would contribute to its value and importance, by attention to the articles annexed. The Society beg leave to depend on your obliging answer to these heads of inquiry, when leisure and opportunity will permit.

Your letters addressed, free of expense, to the subscriber, will be gratefully received, and duly noticed in the Society's publications; and you will have the satisfaction of contributing to the general stock of knowledge, with which they hope to entertain the public.

In the name, and by order of the Society, JEREMY BELKNAP, Corresponding Secretary, Boston, in Massachusetts, Nov. 1, 1793.

Articles on which the Society request information.

- 1. The time when your town or city was incorporated; its Indian name; when the settlement began; whether it was interrupted, and by what means; to what Colony or County it was first annexed; and if there have been any alterations, what they are, and when made.
2. The exploits, labours and sufferings of the inhabitants in war; particular accounts of devastations, deaths, captivities and redemptions.
3. Divisions of your town or city in parishes and precincts, or the erection of new towns within the former limits.
4. Time of gathering churches of every denomination; names of the several Ministers; the times of their settlement, removal and death; and their age at the time of their death.
5. Biographical anecdotes of persons in your town, or within your knowledge, who have been remarkable for ingenuity, enterprise, literature, or any other valuable accomplishment; an account of their literary productions, and if possible, copies of them.
6. Topographical description of your town or county, and its vicinity; mountains, rivers, ponds, animals, vegetable production; remarkable falls, caverns, minerals, stones, fossils, pigments, medicinal and poisonous substances, their uses and antidotes.
7. The former and present state of cultivation, and your thoughts on farther improvements, either in respect to agriculture, roads or canals.
8. Monuments and relics of the ancient Indians; number and present state of any remaining Indians among you.
9. Singular instances of longevity and fecundity from the first settlement to the present time.
10. Observations on the weather, diseases, and the influence of the climate, or of particular situations, employments and ailments, especially the effect of spirituous liquors on the human constitution.
11. Accurate bills of mortality, specifying ages and casualties, the proportion of births and deaths, and the increase or decrease of population.
12. Accounts of manufactures and fisheries, and thoughts on the farther improvement of them.
13. Modes of education, private or public; what encouragement is given to schools and colleges, and what is done to advance literature; whether you have a social library, what is the number of books, and of what value.
14. What remarkable events have befallen your State, county, town, or particular families or persons, at any time.
P. S. The Corresponding Members of this Society are requested to transmit to the Corresponding Secretary, any historical information of which they may be possessed, respecting any part of the American Continent and Islands, together with printed acts and journals of Assemblies and Conventions, whether civil or ecclesiastical. And the Society will gratefully receive from them and from all other persons whatever, any books, pamphlets, manuscripts, maps or plans which may be useful in forming an historical collection—and any natural or artificial productions which may enlarge the Museum.
The Library and Museum are deposited in an apartment of Faneuil Hall. Any person desirous of making a search among the books or manuscripts, may have access to them under such regulations, as may be known by applying to any one of the members.