

NOTICE,

IS hereby given to all persons interested in the case of British captures, that Mr. Samuel Bayard, of the City of Philadelphia, is appointed to proceed to London, as agent of claims and appeals: that the merchants of Philadelphia, whose property has been condemned, have appointed a committee, consisting of Thomas Fitzsimons, James Yard, Stephen Gard, James Olden and J. Shoenker, to confer occasionally with the Secretary of State: That copies of the letters, which have passed between the Committee and the Secretary, are transmitted to the several Collectors in the United States, for the inspection of all concerned: That the Committee will adopt measures for procuring the records, yet wanting: And will enter into the proper correspondence in the United States, and in the West Indies.

The appointment of a committee was at the desire of the Secretary of State, for the convenience of persons at a distance. But any letters upon this subject are still to be addressed to him.

Nov. 7

Old American Company.

THEATRE—CEDAR STREET.

For the Benefit of Messrs. Munto and Solomons.

THIS EVENING,

November 7.

Will be Presented,

A PLAY, in three acts, never performed in this Theatre, called

Days of Old;

O R.

The Battle of Hexham.

Interperfed with Songs, Choruses, &c. With Alterations by Mr. Hodgkinson.

After the Play, will be delivered an Address written by a Citizen of the United States, called the THREE REASONS

By Mrs. Solomons and Mr. Munto.

After which a Masonic Song, in character of a Master Mason, by Brother Solomon with the chorus, by Brothers Carr, Martin, Woods, Richards, Prigmore and Barwick.

After which the favorite Song of the WAXEN DOLL, by Miss Solomon.

To which will be added,

A COMEDY, in two acts called,

The Citizen.

The doors will be opened at half after five, and the curtain drawn up precisely at half after six o'clock.

Places in the Boxes may be had at the Box Office, from ten to one every day (Sundays excepted) and on days of performance from three to five P. M. where also tickets may be had, and at Mr. Bradford's book store, No. 8, South Front Street, and at Mr. Carr's music-store.

Messrs. HALLAM & HODGKINSON respectfully acquaint the Citizens in general, that every expense has been cheerfully sustained, that might tend to make the Old American Company, worthy a share of their patronage, during the short stay the nature of their engagements will permit them to make here.

For the Benefit of Mrs. Miller Mrs. Hamilton, and Mr. Ryan.

On MONDAY EVENING,

Nov. 10.

Will be presented,

A Serious OPERA, never performed here but once, called

TAMMANY;

O R.

America Discovered.

With new Dresses, Music, Scenery, &c.

In act 3d a Grand Indian DANCE conducted by Messrs. Queney, in the course of which will be introduced a Scalp Dance by Messrs. Miller and Durang.

Between the Play and Farce, the favorite Epilogue of

Belles have at Ye All,

By Mrs. Melmoth.

Afterwards Mr. Marriot, will deliver the Description of an English Spouting Club.

To which will be added,

A COMEDY, in two acts called

The True-born Irishman.

Mrs. Melmoth and Mrs. Pownall,

Respectfully inform their Friends and the Public,

Their BENEFIT is fixed for

Wednesday next, Nov. 12.

On which Evening will be presented

The Tragedy of the

GAMESTER.

With a Musical Piece, called the

Wedding-Ring.

As performed in London, fifty nine succeeding nights, with the most unbounded applause.

Mrs. Melmoth will, for that night only recite Colliuz's Ode on the Passions, and deliver an occasional Address written by herself.

Other particulars will be expressed in the Bills of the Theatre.

A New Publication has just made its appearance in this City, under the title of

THE LEVEL

OF Europe and America,

By PIERRE EGRON, L. L. D. from FRANCE.

The Following is an interesting Extract from this work.

POLITICAL ECONOMY.

FIRST SECTION.

Of the Price of Land in newly formed nations.

We find a great disparity in the price of land, according as it is inhabited by savages or civilized men. Nature alone provides for the existence of the former, therefore the land occupied by them does not represent any capital, of which its products may be considered as the income. Whereas on the contrary, every thing belonging to the existence of a civilized man may be considered as a capital, and the land which he inhabits, constitutes the whole ground of its evaluation, because the land alone supplies him both with food and the raw materials necessary to his industry. From this truth we must conclude that the land being the source of every thing, is the true capital of the wealth of civilized man. Money, which is called a capital, is so denominated merely as it represents the value of things. If you take from it its representative function it will become a mere material product of the earth. Land is therefore the only true capital, and whatever it does or may produce is the yearly interest of this capital.

This capital and its yearly interest are easily ascertained in a country whose population is full grown. Let us take France as an instance; its surface contains 211,800 square miles of 69 12-100 to a degree under the equator, consequently it contains 136,211,000 acres computing 640 acres for a square mile, its land rent is estimated to be 1,100,000,000 livres. In which computation are included the produce of the land and the rent of buildings of every sort, in cities, towns, villages and hamlets. Therefore if we estimate this produce at the rate of 4 per cent. of the capital which it represents, we find that this latter must be fixed at 325,000,000,000, and the average price of every acre is 236 French livres, including rivers, ways, barren mountains and other places inaccessible to human industry, nevertheless there are acres in cities which at the rate of 200 livres a square fathom, are worth more than two millions of French livres; there are also others in the country which are worth more than 100 livres.

Lands in a newly formed nation are not susceptible of a similar evaluation; for the moment of their becoming possessed of the lands was to them the creator of the world. The soil is uncultivated, it wants inhabitants, and the price to be given for an acre is but the discount, of the real value it will bear, when it be provided with husbandmen or become a part of a city; but in a country enlightened by reason, that period will form a remarkable era, at which a world as yet in an infant state receives the first germs of a people who a hundred years hence will make known their power. Let us contemplate for instance the future splendor of the United States in a century hence.

It was in 1681 that William Penn laid the foundation of the colony, which retains his name (Pennsylvania) and has rendered him immortal. Philadelphia is now its capital, it was then but its nursery. At that time about 2,000 Europeans having landed with Penn, on this till then unknown land, dispersed themselves in the country to demand of the earth its productions. A very small part of them were employed in the arts of first necessity, and were the inhabitants of the town. It was then, that Penn in order to pay his Coachman two year's wages which were due, offered him a lot of ground in that growing town, which was then estimated at about 200 French crowns. This same ground was already in 1784 worth more than 16 millions of French livres. Hence it is demonstrated that the United States, and almost all new nations, destined by civilization, to a high degree of prosperity, presents a natural progression of riches far superior to the greatest prodigies which have appeared in the old world, and not to advance any thing unsupported by the comparative experience of the two hemispheres, I will again call the attention of my readers to Europe.

Its newspapers in 1784 proposed as an object worthy of admiration, the execution of the last will of the Judge of

Norwich in England, who died in 1724. He had left by his will a sum of 96,000 French livres, to be employed, after the expiration of 60 years, in establishing a public school, which was to cost one million and eight hundred thousand French livres. This sum was accumulated, and the establishment was about to be effected, but in this instance we see a capital put out only at the compound interest of five per cent. per annum, and in the progression of the ground alluded to in Philadelphia, we perceive a capital producing merely a compound interest of 11 per cent. per annum, the capital of the Judge of Norwich would at that rate have increased in 60 years to the amount of 33 millions 200,000 French livres, instead of 1,800,000 only. To like instance as the 200 crowns proposed by William Penn's coachman, in a lot of ground in Philadelphia, would have amounted in 1784 to only 78,002 French livres, instead of the said 10 millions, had the price of that land risen every year only at the rate of a compound interest of 5 per cent. But it is known to the Americans, who will be the first to read this work, that their lands exhibit every day more rapid progressions. We shall adduce some instances of this sort, nor is it possible to suspect the truth of facts laid before such readers.

In the year 1761 Mr. Farlay purchased of Colonel Bird for the price of 1,000 guineas, 33,000 acres of land situate in the State of North-Carolina on the banks of the river Dan, for which, six months before Mr. Maxwell had refused to give him 500 guineas; this latter circumstance is a proof that one thousand guineas were a good price for these 33,000 acres in 1761, in 1772 was offered 2800 to Mr. Farlay for this same land; his capital had therefore been put out at a compound interest of 35 per cent. per annum; this instance is taken from the relation of Mr. Smith's travels through North-America in 1784, and yet from his writings he cannot be considered as a partisan of North America.

In an advertisement printed in 1784 to dissuade Europeans from coming to the United States with chimerical hopes, Doctor Franklin has enumerated the real advantages to be found; in that number is the progressive value of lands; he states that he had often seen vast tracts of land which paid 28 sous per acre raised in the course of 20 years to 4 livres per acre; though they had remained in the same state. Now 28 sous amounting to 4 livres in 20 years are let out at the interest of 18 per cent. which doubles the capital every four years and two months, and returns it nearly 29 times in 20 years.

In 178 the military lands situate in the State of New-York to the north of Pennsylvania, and south-east of lake Oneida, were sold at 8 dollars per soldier's lot of 300 acres, or 2 pence 88-100ths and about 3 sous per acre; in 1794 an acre of these same lands is sold for a dollar or 108 sous, now 2 sous and 11-12ths amounting to 1 8 in ten years are let out at the interest of 43 per cent, which doubles the capital every two years and returns it 36 times in 20 years.

In 1787 the State of New-York sold at public vendue, at 9 pence per acre, many thousand acres, situate above the Susquehanna river, below the Chenango, we are assured that the same lands are sold now from a dollar to a dollar and an half and more per acre; now when 9 pence of New-York, or 10 sous 2-11ths amount in 7 years to a dollar, or 1 8 sous, they are let out at the interest of 40 23-100ths per cent. the interest is the same as mentioned above, and doubles the capital in 2 years, within a few days.

In the district of Maine, at 20 miles from the sea, on Pleasant river, which empties itself into the harbour of Fundy lands, which we are assured had been sold at 22 cents per acre, at the end of 1791 were sold at Philadelphia in August last at the rate of 98 cents per acre, now 21 cents amounting in two years and an half, are let out at 73 per cent. per annum, compound interest, the capital was doubled every thirteen months.

In 1784 and 1783, the State of Pennsylvania bought from the Indians, about 13 millions of acres and sold them again at different prices from 6 to 17 pence of Pennsylvania or from 7 sous 1-12th to 20 sous 4-12ths, it is asserted that now the same lands are worth from 5 shillings or 3 livres 12 sous 2-12ths to 3 pounds or 43 livres 4 sous per acre, we shall take notice only of the lowest progression from 6 pence to 5 shillings in 10 years. This is a compound interest of 26 per cent. per annum which doubles the capital every three years.

Every acre of land in the United States which has now a value, had less value some years ago, and furnishes an

instance of the progression of capitals among new people, a great many fortunes which would be reputed immense in Europe have been raised by this kind of speculation, however the integrity which must characterize this work compels us to inform our readers that those operations require a great deal of sagacity, imprudent speculators are not always successful but these instances accompanied with this observation will evince that Europeans, under the direction of men of judgment and integrity, cannot have a more rapid means of increasing their fortunes, of this the United States furnish a proof, the Antilles, Surinam, Terra Firma, Louisiana, in a word, all the settled parts of America give more or less the same testimony.

See the Gazette de France, of the 13th of August 1784, number 65. England furnishes many other instances. It is to be regretted by Europeans that the United States want yet some plan of operation to help to direct the prudent minded man of the old world, to accumulate their capital on the lands of the new world, considerable sums would then flow from Europe into the United States, to the great advantage of agriculture, and in the following section it is partly demonstrated that these speculations would not be less favourable to the European governments. I had conceived in Europe the idea of those operations, it is my wish not to quit the United States, without having realized it; it is worthy the zeal of citizens who love their country.

BIOGRAPHY.

OF EDWARD GIBBON ESQ.

This illustrious historian closed on the 16th of January last, a life of 57 years, which had been eminently devoted to literature. He was the celebrated author of "The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," and of some other publications, which probably will last as long, as the English language. We believe he was the last of an ancient and honorable family, long resident in the Weald of Kent. He was born at Putney 1737; and was sent at a very early age, to the grammar-school at Kingston, from which he was removed to Westminster school. On his leaving that seminary, he went to Lausanne, where he studied under the father of the present Mrs Necker, with whom he lived till his death on the most friendly terms.

About 1768, he returned to England, and took possession of his paternal estates. Under the administration of his friend Lord North, he was chosen a member of Parliament and appointed a Lord of trade; and upon his Lordship's resignation, returned to Switzerland, where he proposed to have spent the remainder of his life in study and retirement. But about 3 years since he paid a visit to his friends in London; and lately, gave a proof of the goodness of his heart, in sacrificing every consideration, and quitting his elegant abode, solely to administer every consolation in his power to his dearest friend, who had left his lady, one of the most amiable women in England. He had lately undergone the palliative operation for the hydrocele; but the immediate cause of his death was the gout in his stomach. His sufferings were short; for he enjoyed his usual flow of spirits, and conversed, with as much gaiety as he writes, the night before his death, remarking that he thought that there was a probability of enjoying thirteen or fourteen more years of life; but had not been long in bed before he was seized with excruciating pains. He endeavored to swallow some brandy, but in vain. He then made a signal for his valet to leave the room, and in a few minutes expired. On the 23d his remains were carried out of town, to be deposited in the mausoleum of Lord Sheffield's family in Suffolk.

At Sheffield place he had passed a great part of his time, during the last twenty-five years, except while he was in Switzerland; and had there composed a considerable part of his immortal history. Mr. Gibbon possessed uncommon strength of memory, and a mind better stored with knowledge and anecdote, than perhaps, any man of the age. His conversation was lively and entertaining in a supreme degree, and will never be forgotten by his friends. He has left behind him, at his charming house at Lausanne, a library, which, though not very numerous in its contents, nor remarkable for the condition of the volumes, is, as may reasonably be supposed, one of the best, that ever was selected by an individual; and which, it was presumed, that he had left either to Lord Spencer or Lord Sheffield; but he has given every thing, indiscriminately, to a young Swiss gentleman, to whom he was remarkably attached, and who accompanied him last year, in a visit to this country. We are sorry to learn that Mr. Gibbon, so distinguished in the annals of literature, has not left any new work for publication; but hear, that among his papers, sketches are found of memoirs of his life and writings (in which are introduced the most eminent characters in Europe, and many interesting circumstances of the times) but in a very imperfect and unfinished state. It is hoped, that his friend, Lord Sheffield, who is so well acquainted with every thought of this extraordinary person, and with every circumstance of his life and is so capable of the work, will arrange

continue, and finish these memoirs, to satisfy the public with so interesting and curious an entertainment. Mr. Gibbon was the literary club, which has lately lost two of its distinguished members, the very respectable bishop of Peterborough, and the not less celebrated Mr. Gibbon. This club originally founded by Sir Joshua Reynolds and Dr. Johnson, has now subsisted thirty years; and during the last twenty, hath been deprived of the following eminent characters, Dr. Goldsmith, Mr. Samuel Dyer, Mr. Beauclerk, Mr. Garrick, and Ashburnham, Dr. Johnson, Mr. T. Warton, Dr. Adam Smith, bishop Shipley, Sir Joshua Reynolds, bishop Hinchelife and Mr. Gibbon.

For the Gazette of the United States.

MR. FENNO,

I OBSERVE in your paper of last night some pretty severe criticisms on the French, copied from the New-York head; the author of which concludes, that there is no standard of patriotism in France, and that the people there, tho' they wish for liberty, know not what form of government to adopt to obtain it.—What a pity that they do not send for this sapient author to inform them.—What a pity that the most numerous and most gallant nation in Europe have not his supreme talents to conduct them through this awful crisis!

No doubt we know much more than the French in all political truths, and could much better than they have done, have steered them through the war; but yet as they do not ask for our advice, and as I doubt after all whether our neutrality would admit of our giving it, if it were asked, would it not be full as well, if we left them to themselves, and left the cure of them to their enemies only—unless indeed we have any ambition to be of the party in the crusade against them; tho' from the success it has hitherto met with, it hath not the strongest attractions to engage us.

Yours,
A BYESTANDER.

From the American Minerva.

MR. GREENLEAF, Printer of the New-York Journal.

In your last papers, I find certain severe animadversions on Mr. Jay and his Mission. One writer mentions exultingly Mr. Jay's unsuccessful embassy to Spain; and another says of him, "the public have nothing as yet whereon to form their judgment of his skill at negotiation."

Let us, Sir, have facts, and the public will form a very just judgment as to both these points.

As to the ill success of Mr. Jay in Spain, this was owing almost wholly to the intrigues of the old French Court—that court assisted us during our struggle for independence, and to whom, it is said, we owe a world of gratitude. That court, while furnishing us with fleets and brave armies to fight for us, was uniformly intriguing, with Spain more especially, to prevent our independence. Their influence with the court of Spain could not be counteracted. Spain was alarmed at the idea of an Independent nation in the neighborhood of her possessions and claims in Florida and Louisiana.

This jealousy was most obvious in the negotiations for peace in 1783, in which Mr. Jay's skill at negotiation was most amply displayed. Mr. Jay had to contend, not only with the united courts of France and Spain, but what was worse, with the weakness of Dr. Franklin, [peace to the venerable Philosopher and patriot] over whom Vergennes and the French court had gained such an ascendancy, as to persuade him to abandon our most important interests.

The facts were nearly these. It was the object of the French and Spanish courts, either to prevent an acknowledgment of our Independence by a long truce of 40 or 50 years; or at least to prevent that recognition from making a part of the preliminary articles of a treaty of peace. This point was labored by Mr. Jay with indefatigable zeal, patriotism and skill at negotiation. He demonstrated the impropriety and the impracticability of nations treating with us, upon other terms than as an Independent people. It is even said he was compelled at last by the obstinacy of the French court, to threaten the making a separate peace with Great-Britain, if the French would not accede to this preliminary.

Again. The objects of the French and Spanish Courts were, to bound the United States on the West by the Ohio, and by a line to the southward which would have cut us off from a great portion of territory now in Georgia—likewise to prevent our having a share in the Newfoundland fisheries. These points were labored hard by the French and