

subvert our federal government. And I do know that in all societies, even in Legislatures, a few, (and sometimes a single man of art, and intrigue) often have led unsuspecting honest-meaning men, to become the instruments of injustice, and designs they have detested when it was too late. There is certainly a violent presumption from the President's speech that those societies, or some of their members, afforded support to that unfortunate attempt in Pennsylvania—and for myself, I must confess, I believe the conduct of the societies at different times, was such as naturally to foster the seeds of sedition, and excite in the insurgents the delusive hope, that government would not receive the aid of the well affected citizens.

Our New-York Society had declared, "that to their fellow freemen they appeal, that by their determination, by the voice of Justice, and their Country, they submit to stand or fall."—Then they ought to fall—for the voice of their country has determined against them.—The voice of their Country, is the voice of their legal, their constitutional Representatives—I am sure they would not admit my voice, to be the voice of their Country—I should be sorry they would—for I do not admit their's, to be for me, the voice of the Country—neither would they admit the voice of ten thousand individuals, of each state, to be the voice of the Country. Why not? Because—it is down right political Heresy and Nonsense—to receive the Idea of any voice of the Country, but that of our Legislatures, constitutionally elected to give the voice for us—But if our Society meant to deny a social connection—to disfranchise, or uncivilize themselves by appealing to their countrymen in their individual state-of-nature capacity—even then I believe, they are condemned by nine tenths of those.

But our society have condemned themselves—they do so, that—"the charge against them, is so weak, and futile as scarcely, to possess an attendant circumstance in its favor"—this is a plain admission that there are, some circumstances against them.—However as this may be deemed nice criticism, or captiousness in me—and as I really do not wish to irritate, but convince, I am willing to suppose, that this was an inadvertence, occasioned rather by the impulse of a warm imagination than solid Reflection in the original compositor—and adopted by the Society from that inattention and inaccuracy which is common, where numbers are collected—I therefore pass on, to show, that Democratic Societies in America, are unnecessary. They are unnecessary—because the Individuals who compose them have not acquired, one single right, which they did not enjoy previous to these associations—and, because they have not obtained one single privilege which might not be exercised, or is not the birth right, or charter right of all their Fellow-Citizens. If they have a right to associate, to diffuse knowledge—or to oppose Government, or watch over it—Every man in all America must have the same right—And what a ridiculous figure we should cut—We should have ten thousand Democratic Societies—amounting to 1,000,000 of people, to watch over an hundred, whom, we three days ago all convened to appoint to watch over and guard us!!!—A meeting of these Societies once a week, or fortnight, would amazingly promote agriculture, commerce and mechanics!—The right of thinking, speaking, or publishing, is secured to every inhabitant of the American republic—and is universally acknowledged—the liberty of the press, has never been denied, or controverted by any one—The Diffusion of knowledge is commendable in every one—and objected by none—and yet these are the topics, about which the tocsin has been sounded from Massachusetts to Georgia.

They are unnecessary—because, independent of the whole mass of the people, every individual of whom is a political Watchman, there will in the nature of men and things, forever exist in Congress, such a jealousy of rights, and Collision of sentiments, as will of themselves always forewarn, or secure us against the encroachments of dark-designing, or openly ambitious men.

They are unnecessary—from the nature of our Government. In Monarchies the Liberties of mankind are borne down by the weight of Sovereign authority.—The people have no rights.—The very air they breathe, and the light of Heaven, is not their own.—They have only the usufruct—for they may be despoiled of both, at the pleasure of the Prince—of his favorites—or even his Mistresses.—These Governments are the children of Accident or Usurpation.—But as in this case, the

people are robbed of rights which are natural rights, inalienable and unalienable—and as we hold that all power is in the people, or ought to be derived from them—and exercised for their benefit—I hold it justifiable, in the people, to endeavor to obtain those rights from such Governments—by any associations, or means within their power.

But in our government, which is a representative democracy, all power is, as it ought to be, derived from the people—they are the sovereigns—their delegates the servants.—We have formed a constitution, and have bound ourselves to observe it—to this constitution we are all equal parties, have a common interest—if our agents should do wrong, we have agreed in the mode by which they shall be chastised and therefore no individual, or associated individuals, till a new compact is formed, can possibly have a right, to assume an exclusive, or different mode from that which was adopted by common consent, for restraining those of our representatives who may be supposed to have offended.

They are unnecessary, because neither the state of our public concerns, nor the administration of our Government, have at any period since the adoption of the present constitution, required those extraordinary expedients—which can never be necessary, and have never been resorted to, but in a state of actual, or intended Revolution—I admit that in such case, as a temporary thing, they may be justifiable, and necessary—tho' dangerous even then.—That we are not in a revolutionary state, will be acknowledged by all.—But if the democratic Societies, do seriously wish to subvert the present Government, they have adopted the proper expedient.—But of this I am not convinced, nor do I believe.—Why should they? Do we labor under any violent grievances? Are we governed by an hereditary Monarch? An aristocratical hereditary nobility, or a venal parliament, representing not an hundredth part of the community, and that unequally? Do we pay a land tax? Poll tax? Or any direct tax of consequence?—On the contrary—Are not our liberties secured and defined by a charter of our own fabrication?

Is there a single magistrate or officer in the direction of our interests, who is not immediately chosen by ourselves, or in the way we have specified?—Are they not even up to the President, amenable for their conduct?—Have we not frequent elections?—The eternal bulwark and security of our liberties, if we are honest and independent ourselves. Can they claim a hereditary or prescriptive right, to represent us against our will?—If they should be tyrants to-day, must they not be slaves to-morrow?

Is not the world at war?—Are we not exempted from this calamity, this scourge of the human race, this hobby-horse of monarchs and their minions? Do not our merchants, mechanics, and farmers, prosper to a degree never experienced in America, nor perhaps in the world?—In short, are not the very heavens and the earth ameliorated by the rapid population of our wilderness?—What madnes then, my fellow citizens, hath possessed you, that instead of returning the most sincere acknowledgements to our Supreme and Bountiful Benefactor, you should provoke his patience by a conduct so reflexive and ungrateful—by the establishment of institutions, which have excited so much unhappiness?—By institutions which, sanctioned by perpetuity, will, as sure there is a heaven above, and an earth beneath, at some period or other, prostrate our constitution and laws—and involve this great and new happy empire, in all the miseries of ANARCHY, or CIVIL WAR.—I have seen enough of war—and that the Lord may avert so dreadful a calamity is the prayer of

WM. WILCOCKS.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, 2d February.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Treasury, including a long report relative to the laying of duties on imports.—The report was read by the clerk, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Giles from the select committee reported a bill for arming, organizing, and disciplining the militia. This was read to the house, made the order of the day for Thursday, and directed to be printed.

A letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, with a report on various petitions referred to him. The report was read by the clerk.

The house, on motion of Mr. Dayton, next resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the report of the select committee relating to

the military establishment. The chairman having read the resolution recommended by the committee in the following words, viz.

"Resolved, That two regiments, consisting of nine hundred and sixty men each, be formed out of the regiments now in the service of the United States, to compose with the corps of artillery the military establishment of the United States, and to continue in service until the first day of June, 1798, unless sooner discharged."

Mr. Dayton said that he disliked the report in general, and was more immediately opposed to the proposition on the table, which he should not agree to under any modification of which it was capable. It was his wish to have taken the sense of the committee of the whole upon his plan, by proposing to amend the one before them, but he found it could not be done consistently with the rules of the House, as it might with propriety be considered rather as a substitute than an amendment. If the one under consideration should be negatived, and that such ought to be its fate, Mr. Dayton inferred, not merely from the insufficiency of the numbers proposed therein for the military establishment, but from the wording of it, which contemplated regiments, a term not at all applicable to the present system of organization, which was a legionary one, then the way would be opened for him to offer to the House a proposition which he held in his hand, for their information. Mr. Dayton then read it as follows, viz.

Resolved,—That the present military establishment of the United States be continued, and the corps composing the same completed by enlistments for a term not exceeding three years, with authority to the President to forbear to raise, or to discharge after they shall be raised, such part thereof as future events shall in his judgment render consistent with the public safety, convenience and economy.

After reading it, Mr. Dayton remarked, that he had been unfriendly to a reduction of the establishment when the subject was some time since under discussion, & that he heard nothing since, to induce him to alter that opinion; on the contrary two communications from different quarters had since that time been received, which very much strengthened it. He alluded to a letter from General Wayne, which was communicated under confidential injunction but which was doubtless fresh in the recollection of every member of the committee; and to a report of the Secretary of War, made in consequence of the late request of the house directed to the President. The object which he had in view was the effectual protection of the frontiers in a manner the least inconvenient and harassing to the militia, and the most economical to the United States. There needed no proof that calls for the service of the militia were always attended with embarrassment to our fellow-citizens who composed it, and with a waste of money which the other system would not occasion. Mr. Dayton wished to ascertain whether in the present unsettled state of affairs, while Britain pointed our guns, and the Indians remained hostile, it was the sense of a majority that the military establishment ought not to be reduced.

This produced a discussion, in which Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Dayton, Mr. Ames, and Mr. Madison spoke. The latter gentleman seemed rather favorable to the reducing than augmenting the number of troops in the service of the United States. He alluded to the report of the treaty said to be entered into between this country and Britain, from which it might be inferred that the Indian hostilities north west of the Ohio should slacken.

Mr. Ames, in reply to what had fallen from Mr. Nicholas, thought it would be bad economy to reduce the number of troops, which might tend to prolong the war. The latter gentleman having referred to the solicitude of Mr. Ames for paying off the public debt, which he considered as not quite consistent with his present desire of expending so much money on a standing army, Mr. Ames replied that he believed the gentleman would be very much mortified to think he possessed as little property as he (Mr. Ames) did; that a report had been industriously circulated, as if the possession of public funds had an influence in that house on the votes of members, and this foolish calumny had been disseminated with so much industry as to have had an injurious effect on the minds of the public in some parts of the Union: and had much influence in serving the ends of some people.

Mr. Sedgwick said, that it would be improper to diminish the preparations for war, under any notion founded on the report of a treaty with Britain; for if there was such a treaty, which was not yet certain, nothing could be counted upon it, till ratified by the government here.

The committee rose after disagreeing to the report. The chairman reported progress, and the question being put, the house also disagreed to the report of the committee.

Mr. Dayton then read his resolution on this subject that has already been inserted, and which was made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. Fitzsimons gave in a set of resolutions respecting the payment of the interest of the national debt. They were read and referred to the same committee who have before them the subject of reducing the debt.

At half past three o'clock the house adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 7.

From a Correspondent.

A factious party made a recent attempt to claim the merit of the negotiation which Mr. Jay has succeeded in completing. Disappointed in that extravagant effort, they have now changed their key, and in this morning's Aurora, one of the party has begun to abuse the Treaty. Strange inconsistency! one day they arrogate the MERIT of accomplishing THAT which the next they REVILE.

Do they vainly flatter themselves that by such ridiculous and gross deceptions they will be able to raise a serious opposition to the ratification of the Treaty? Their failure in April last, when a similar struggle was made by the same men to prevent the appointment of Mr. Jay, ought to teach them a different conduct.

But what can be expected of men, who, impelled by foreign influence, disappointed in their ambitious views, or embarrassed by their creditors, will, under all circumstances, work hard to involve their country in war?

The first number of THE PHILADELPHIA MINERVA made its appearance this day—this is a new weekly paper, published by Woodruff and Turner No. 17 Chestnut Street.

Extract of a letter from Lisbon Nov 27, to a merchant in this city.

"The Algerines have got as far down as Malaga, but we can inform you most authentically that they cannot come without the Straights, as this Court will keep a sufficient force in the Mediterranean to check them."

By this Day's Mail.

NEW-YORK, February 6.

We have not been able to give the particulars of the canals, last evening, but we can assert, from the best authority, that Mr. Livingston is elected by a majority of 205 votes.

Yesterday the following gentlemen were elected Directors of the Branch Bank in this city.

Philip Livingston, Gerard Bancker Thomas Buchanan, Mathew Clarkson, William Henderson, James Watson, Gulian Ludlow, John Murray and William Laight.

BALTIMORE, February 5.

From a Charleston (S. C.) paper, of January 12.

Extract of a letter from Augusta, dated the 20th December last.

"Our legislature is still sitting, and endeavouring to sell our Western Territory, which contains upwards of thirty millions of acres; the price offered is 500,000 dollars, 100 of which is already deposited in the treasury of the state; both branches of the legislature have agreed to the sale, but the governor negatived the bill; therefore the land speculators are all in a quondary, not knowing how the business may be terminated, as it is doubtful whether they will be able to get two thirds of both branches to agree, which number is required to pass the same into a law without the governor's assent. It is believed that the land is worth ten times the sum offered, and I make no doubt would bring it in a year's time if proper notice was given to the world."

PITTSBURGH, January 31.

We are informed that Captain Jolly, who went in pursuit of David Bradford, is returned home, and reports, that he pursued him, as far as Red Bank, about 200 miles below the Falls of Ohio, and that Mr. Bradford had left that place for the Spanish settlements, six days before Captain Jolly arrived there.

LONDON, December 9.

The following is a summary account of the operations of the Russian general Suwarrow, from the beginning of his march to the capture of Warlaw.

General Suwarrow was zealously employed at Cherfon, in directing batteries and entrenchments, to defend the Crimea from future hostile invasions. Quite unexpectedly he received orders from the Empress to take upon him the command of a corps of Russians stationed at Niemirow. He set out with the utmost expedition, and a few days after his arrival at that place, his corps, which consisted of 30,000 men, was put on its march. It left Niemirow on the 17th September, and had to march 120 German leagues before he could reach Warlaw, and on its route it surmounted the following obstacles to its progress:

- Battles and Engagements. 1. Engagement at Diwin; 100 Poles killed and 40 taken prisoners. 2. Engagement at Kobryn; about 200 Poles killed, and one colonel and 100 taken. 3. Battle near Krupzyce Monastir, where the Polish army, commanded by

general Sierakowski, consisted of 14,000 men; 200 Poles killed and 500 taken.

4. Battle near Buzec Litewski against 11,000 Poles; 300 Poles made prisoners, the rest cut in pieces by the Russian cavalry, and 28 pieces of cannon taken.

N. B. After this battle Suwarrow tarried thirty days without advancing farther, according to his plan. This was occasioned by an Austrian officer arriving at his head quarters from general Hartsmount, to inform him of the position of the Austrian troops. Count Suwarrow perceiving that the Austrians would find it difficult to defend their cordon, resolved to co-operate in their favor by drawing his troops to the Austrian frontiers, and directing them in such a manner, as to effectually cover the same.

5. Battle near Kobylka, against 50,000 Poles under general Byczewski; 1000 men and the general himself made prisoners, the remainder put to the sword by the Russian cavalry, and 9 pieces of cannon taken.

6. Capture of Praga by assault, defended by 26,000 Poles, most of them regular troops; upwards of 13,000 men killed, Generals Meyne, Hefsler and Crupinski, and 11,000 men made prisoners; about 1000 Poles escaped by flight, and about 200 were drowned in the Vistula, Gens. Zayonczeck and Madalinski wounded.

On the 9th ult. Gen. Suwarrow entered Warlaw in triumph. Thus he arrived there from Niemirow in this capital in 52 days, and deducting the 30 days, on which his army halted without advancing, he completed his march in 22 days, and performed all the above-mentioned exploits.

Thus the laurels of this Russian General in Poland alone, cost the lives of upwards of 28,500 unfortunate Poles. How dreadful must the carnage appear, if we had a similar statement of the exploits of Fersen, and the rest of the Russian Generals.

The German politicians maintain that the Emperor is resolved, in case of necessity, to order all the inhabitants of his Austrian dominions to rise in a mass, and to divide that mass into three different requisitions; to put all the ammunition and provisions in a state of requisition, and pay for the same with assignats, for which the crown estates are to be mortgaged. It is, however, doubtful whether the Austrian Constitution will justify such a project.

All those citizens of Paris who were disarmed during the latter days of the sway of Robespierre, have had the arms returned them.

Craffoux was the last president who acted in the Jacobin club. His wife was extremely ill treated on the 9th ult.

EDINBURGH, Dec. 13.

The brig Virginia, captain Price, an American, which sailed from Port Glasgow about three weeks ago, having got to the Westward of Ireland, sprung a leak, and put about to return on the 30th ult. but finding it impossible to keep the vessel from going down, the people were put into the two boats of the Virginia, which drifted for five days, exposed to the most dreadful weather. From such hardships, and small stock of provisions, a woman and her child died, the rest were in danger of dying raving mad. Having reached the island of May, they were dashed on the rocks, whereby about fifteen persons, sailors and passengers, were drowned. The captain, second mate, and four seamen, the only survivors, have arrived at Greenock.

A Moriel for the Chawers of the Bone!

This Day was published, AND FOR SALE AT T. BRADFORD'S Book-Store, No. 8.

South Front Street, [Price 37 cents]

Observations on the Emigration of Dr. Priefley, And on the several Addresses delivered to him, on his arrival at New York, with additions, containing many curious and interesting facts on the subject, not known here when the first edition was published:—Together with a comprehensive story of a FARMER'S BULL.

Third Edition. At the same place may be had the following

- Late Publications, viz. 1. A Bone to gnaw for the Democrats; or Observations on a late pamphlet, entitled "The Political Progress of Great Britain." 2. The Young Quaker, a comedy, by O'Keefe. 3. Haun ed Tower, by Mr. Cobb. 4. Sicilian Romance, 80 opera, by Henry Siddons. 5. The Hapless Orphan; or Innocent victim of Revenge; a novel founded on incidents in real life. In a series of letters from Caroline Francis, to Maria E. by an American Lady, 2 vols. A general Assortment of Books in the different departments of literature.