

For the Gazette of the United States.

To CITIZEN W. WILCOCKS.

TO let you know, sir, that there is more impudence than truth, in the assertions daily made, that the Democrats cannot answer your late dogmatical addresses, I have determined to step forward in the injured cause of my friendly associates. And in the first place, let me tell you, sir, that it does not become you, thus to insult the unfortunate. Is it not enough that we have been denounced by all Europe, and fertilized by all the branches of the Legislature of the United States?

Called upon to open our doors, and to publish our secret electioneering letters, and other correspondences; and also to make known the names of our associating members, together with the term of their residence, respectively, among us—I say, is not this punishment enough, for all our real and supposed crimes?

I answer, yes! witness the neglect of government to prosecute, or rather to persecute us any further, than by telling the people what we are, and what we have done. And yet you, *dread sir*, have scarcely allowed us time to breathe under these afflictions, before you must add your individual buffets to those so unmercifully inflicted on us by the Republican Governments of both Hemispheres. Is it to be wondered at, that we are chop fallen in consequence? But we have had our day; and we yet hope, in spite of present appearances, that this may be the case again, in due time. And now sir, to begin with your Camel, of which as you, *perhaps*, are included in the application, we will not complain.

Next in order, I would notice your assertion, that bad men bear sway in our Clubs, and that these do continually endeavour to run away with that adde-headed *weather cock* and tattered-malicious race of animals, *the People*. Pray *Citizen Craven*, is there any thing new in all this? As you have quoted scripture, do you not know that Abalom killed the multitude to answer his own electioneering purposes? And did not Cæsar, to answer his ends, propose to divide the public lands among the soldiers? Then, why may not modern Democrats embrace *their own means*, by which to mount the high horse of power, or the chariot of fame?

As my rival, I should wish for nothing more than that you may go on *abusing* the people, by telling them the truth—while I will praise their vices, as well as weaknesses, to the very skies.

And as we are both, *undoubtedly*, ambitious, let us try who will win the race for public favour—you, or I.

By experience, I find that your mode will never serve my turn, *at least*; and I believe you may promise yourself as much success, by telling a decayed rich coquette, that she is ugly, while surrounded by hungry fortune hunters versed in all the art of flattery, as you can by telling the people of their weaknesses.

For my part, I mean to assure the people (I mean all within hearing) that they are all "as vile as serpents, harmless as doves," beautiful as angels, and as "terrible as an army with banners." Perhaps I may now and then state, that all men above me in place are Aristocrats, and query whether a guillotine may not set things to rights, if kept up until my ambition may be gratified, by the mob's

Most devoted,

Most honest,

Most modest,

And most humble servant,

A TRUE DEMOCRAT.

From the American Daily Advertiser.

Messrs. DUNLAP & CLAYPOOLE,

The resignation of Mr. Hamilton of the important office of Secretary of the Treasury, is an event which has, (notwithstanding the merits of his successor) caused great sorrow to his fellow-citizens in general. It is much to be lamented that pecuniary considerations should have deprived the republic of the eminent talents of that celebrated Statesman; but it is well known that a small fortune and a large family urged him to relinquish a situation, the emoluments of which in this expensive city, instead of being an adequate compensation, did not prevent the annual increase of his embarrassments. Justice to his family compelled him to forego the honors of office, & to seek in forensic labors, that aid which is not only necessary to repair the injury his fortune has sustained, but to make future provision for a numerous family. When a review is taken of the very signal and splendid services this gentleman has at various times and in various situations rendered his country; when we reflect on his military services during the

war, their important agency in securing our independence—How greatly we are indebted to him for the constitution, which now secures to us our liberties, by his talents in the first instance, in its formation, and afterwards in securing its adoption, and by his admirable *Federalist*.—How much we are indebted to him for the preservation of our neutrality during the present dreadful war, by his wise councils and unanswerable publications—How much we owe to him the present prosperous state of our Finances, by the excellent and judicious systems he established in the Treasury Department—How much the happy termination of the late insurrection was attributable to the firmness and prudence of the measures which he was instrumental in promoting—When we recollect his numerous reports on the finances of the United States which have been the means of exalting our *National Character* and *Public Credit* beyond that of almost every nation on earth—When, I say, we take a review of all these distinguished services, will it be believed, that the man who performed them, was obliged to retire from one of the most eminent stations in the government; from the administration of the finances of this rising Empire, to toil at the drudgery of the bar to maintain his family? Such however, is the fact; without insinuating that there exists cause either for individual or national reproach, I will conclude with these consolatory reflections,—that although this great man may be withdrawn from official station, and absent from the seat of government, yet that in cases of emergency, he will be always within the reach of consultation, and that his energy of mind and extent of genius will not only support him in the arduous toils of the bar, but soon supply him with a handsome competency, which will permit him either to refuse official honors, or enjoy in the bosom of his family, the *otium cum dignitate*. That this may soon be the case, is the wish of

THOUSANDS.

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Mr. Fenno,

HAVING read the lengthy Critique on the representation of CUMBERLAND'S new Comedy called the JEW in the Aurora of Monday last. I cannot, from the partial injustice levelled against some of our favorite performers in that play, refrain making a few observations: At this period it is the more necessary as the public have not been for some time gratified with the fair and impartial criticisms in your paper under the signatures of "The Observer" and "The By-stander," which being candid appeals to the judgment of the frequenters of the Theatre, have undergone the test and received their approbation: But lest that public should be led astray by the apparent impartiality, but dissingenuous remarks of this modern Dramaticus it is my object as well as duty to refute them.

He begins with an Exordium on the hardships the tribes of Jews suffer in England from national prejudices.

I ask him if that "unfortunate people" as he calls them, are in any Christian country so much tolerated as in England?

He next relates the Fable of the piece which he tells us is simple—this I am easily induced to believe from the very simple manner of the narrator. But "who so knowing as he who knows?" Is it not harmless to suspect him—*himself* a player?

He then says that the Characters are strongly drawn—that Mr. Wignell's "manner and emphasis were remarkably appropriate" and immediately adds he wanted "a better acquaintance with the dialect of a Jew;" what inconsistent shrewdness—*manner and emphasis*, but wanted the *Dialect* to personify a Jew!

In his great wisdom he then informs us that "Mr. Harwood (*ba ba*) personated the arch simplicity of Jabal the Jew's servant (*and so I believe he is*) with exquisite comic, this part considerably relieves the sentimental gloominess of the piece,"—*he is incomprehensible!*—after telling us this play shews the masterly pen of "Cumberland" of "Mrs. Whitlock's" splendid talents in impassioned Comedy, that it went off with great éclat, and again "received with distinguished applause!" Hear ye Americans—this piece is all *sentimental gloominess*, was it not relieved by Mr. Harwood's *exquisite comicality*!

He then wantonly plays upon his own sufferings by feeling a disappointment in Mr. Chalmers' representation of Charles that he was "defective in dignity," and "wanting in warmth," and then by a more cruel *snub* attributes those defects to indisposition: Who has ever seen Mr. Chalmers deficient—who has ever seen him and not been delighted? He builds note, he shall not build his fame on my praise, but who has not heard the celebrity of his name long ere he reached the western world?

Mrs. Shaw a worthy and indefatigable Actress has not escaped him—but let it be known that this Lady has already enforced the suffrages of the public.

He concludes by a charitable innuendo to the Managers, how the casts of this piece might be mended—that Mrs. Whitlock should have the parts of Mr. Ratcliffe &c. if this genius of literature be not a dramatic Tinker I beg his pardon; the Managers ought certainly to know best how to distribute the casts—but it seems his imagination has soared to the vestibule of Wisdom's Temple and in pure charity I wish him safe down again.

An unmanly reflection was a few days ago cast upon Mr. and Mrs. Warrell probably from the same ungenerous pen—Mr. W. stands high in public favor and

Mr. W. is considered but as 'vade mecum' to fill a cast occasionally, this is necessary in a Theatre and he merits great praise by his promptitude to serve the public.

We shall probably hear more of this Gentleman's dramatic lucubrations but he is in the mean time reminded what *Montaigne* lays—

"The man who shall dare to echo his own praise and detract the merits of another's well earned fame, is one of those vile nothings that is a remove beneath the criticism of the just—the impartial and the discerning."

THE EAR WIG.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, February 12.

Mr. New, from the committee of enrolments, reported the following bills:

An act relative to the compensations of certain officers, employed in the collection of the duties of import and tonnage.

An act to authorize the allowance of drawback on part of the cargo of the ship Enterprize.

An act to amend the act intitled an act making alterations in the treasury and war departments.

A bill for the reimbursing of a loan authorized by an act of the last session of Congress, was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Coit next moved that the house should go into a committee of the whole, on the report of the select committee on the laws of the territory north-west of the Ohio. This was done, and the report read. The chairman, Mr. Cobb, reported the resolution of the committee, to which the house agreed, and a committee was appointed to bring in a bill.

The house then went into a committee of the whole, on the bill to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining, the militia of the United States.

The first clause of the bill was in these words:

SECT. 1. BE it enacted by the Senate and house of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passing of this act, the militia of the United States shall be composed of all able bodied white male citizens of the respective states, resident therein, who shall, respectively, be of the age of twenty years, and under the age of forty years. That the said militia shall be divided into two classes, the first class to be denominated the select corps of the militia of the United States. shall be composed of all able bodied white male citizens, respectively, who shall be of the age of twenty years, and under the age of twenty-five years. The reserved corps shall be composed of all able bodied white male citizens, respectively, who shall be of the age of twenty-five years, and under the age of forty years: Provided, That in the choice of officers, either of the select corps, or reserved corps, no respect shall be had to the limitation of age aforesaid; the foregoing regulations to be subject, however, to the exemptions hereafter specified.

It was moved to strike out this clause.

Mr. S. Smith did not know the state of the eastern militia, but that of the southern states was useless for the professed purposes of the institution. The officers would not have marched them, during the late insurrection, if it had not been for a general idea that there would be no resistance. This extreme deficiency had made several gentlemen reflect on the absolute necessity for a proper militia. By the present law you will have an hundred thousand young men with arms in their hands, knowing how to make use of them. They will, by rules laid down in this act, learn not only their exercise, but the essential duty of taking care of themselves, of cooking and of lodging themselves. From the want of this knowledge, the militia in the revolution suffered much, and carried home from the camp contagious diseases that swept off whole families. What would be the behavior of Britain, if she knew that you had an hundred thousand young men well armed? She would not stop your ships on the seas, if she knew that the states to the east of Hudson could instantly march thirty thousand men into Canada. Spain, on the south frontier, would be equally cautious for fear of the militia of Kentucky and the southern states. There would be no need of ever pulling a trigger. The misadventures of foreign powers would inform them of your internal strength, and they would be sufficiently careful. Every body will tell you that the present time for training the militia is too short. Instead of four days, Mr. S. Smith proposed they would recommend eight. At present the day of exercise conclud-

ed with horse-racing, cock-fighting, and wrestling. Since the end of the late war he had conceived a plan of militia on something of the kind that is now before the committee. In the war he had seen much of militia, and always very defective. He had formerly seen the eastern militia. They were not good soldiers, though they were excellent materials for making them out of. He was particularly interested that this clause should pass. The government must either have a good militia or a standing army, for the present militia, at least in the southern states, do no not deserve the name; a militia was more agreeable to republican principles. He endeavored to prove that the resolution was economical.

Mr. Sedgwick observed, that two systems presented themselves to the consideration of the committee. The first, that of compelling every citizen capable of performing the duties of a soldier, to arm himself, or to receive arms, to be in readiness to be called forth in defence of the country. The other, that of selecting a part of those capable of performing military duties, and to have them educated and disciplined in such manner, that they should be first called forth, and in some degree prepared to act as soldiers. He had the honor to be one of the committee, which had reported the bill. He did not intend to pledge himself at present to vote either for or against the principle of forming a select corps. But he would take the liberty of stating to the committee a few ideas which ought to be taken into consideration, to form an estimate of the merits of the proposed system. There, were, he said, no accurate data from which the proposed system could with accuracy be computed. He was, however, induced to believe, the proposed select corps would amount to 120,000. Gentlemen who know better than himself, had informed him, that their arms & accoutrements would amount to ten dollars per man,

Making	1,200,000
Their clothes to twelve dollars per man,	1,440,000
The rations excluding all except the time while in service in the field, would amount to 2,400,000, which, at ten cents per ration, would be	240,000
Add, for extra expence of cavalry, tents, &c.	30,000
The value of the time was not indeed to be paid out of the treasury, but it was a loss to the productiveness of the public, and not less than four dollars for each man,	480,000
	3,390,000

He would admit that the public faculties were equal to such an exertion, but whether the utility of the system, would compensate for the burden to be endured, was for the committee to determine. That the estimate did not exceed the truth, experience if it should ever be had, he believed, would verify. To put this system in operation would then the first year, be equal to a contribution of 3,390,000 dollars. This it ought, however to be observed, would not be the annual expence, for the value of the arms and clothing which might be returned, after deducting the wear and tear, ought to pass to the creditor side of the expenditure. There were some other circumstances which would result from this system, which had occurred to his mind as necessary to be considered. The loss which the community would sustain, by interrupting annually, for so considerable a portion of time, in the most profitable and productive period of life, all the necessary and useful occupations of labour, would produce effects worthy the mature reflection of the committee.

In Sparta the only country where an attempt had been effectually made, to create a whole community of soldiers, the existence of slavery rendered labour disgraceful to Citizens. They were of course very unlike the yeomanry of America; whose labour is equally required to continue their virtuous habits, and to promote the happiness of our country. He would not declare that the alteration might be not beneficial, but he had no hesitation in pronouncing, that it would produce a new state of society. Another consideration he would suggest to the deliberation of the committee. It was, he believed, impossible to calculate what effect on the rising generation, might be produced, by congregating, in large numbers, youth without experience, unrestrained by that controul to which it had been habituated.

Mr. Lyman vindicated the military

character of the militia of Massachusetts.

Mr. Hillhouse feared the worst consequences from calling out an hundred thousand young men. Some of them would be journeymen; others newly married. They would be forced to leave their employments; and lose their customers, who, in their absence would employ others. The militia had been very useful in the last year. They took Burgoyne. Mr. Hillhouse was satisfied that if any other power attacked America with regular forces, it would be found requisite to defend her with the same. No militia could supply the place of Regulars, when attacked by troops of that kind. The present law would have a very bad effect on the morals of youth. It would be wrong to have an army all of young men from the age of twenty to twenty-five. It would be better to have some old men among them.

Mr. Page feared that the expence would be enormous; and that it would be difficult to teach a militia the military discipline very exactly, but if once they came in sight of an enemy, and in actual service they would soon learn it.

Mr. Irvine said that in his part of the country, besides the four days of muniting there were usually two or three days of preparing as the Sweet hearts of the young men usually attended. He knew that the gentleman who spoke last had been in the service, but he could not guess where he had picked up the information that eight or ten hours in the neighbourhood of an enemy's Camp would make a man a soldier. If some thing is not speedily done, we shall be in the same situation as in 1774, when the country depended entirely for discipline on the British officers who had retired from service, and on the Sergeants among British deserters. He was in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Wadsworth had been one of the select committee on this bill, and it might therefore be expected that he should have something to say about it. He hoped that the section would not be stricken out, because it is not perfect. Though one of the committee, he did not like the whole of the system reported. "But Sir," said Mr. Wadsworth, "there never was a bill reported to this House, which was so perfect as not to require modification." "If the question before the committee were whether this report shall all go into a law, I would vote against it; but I believe the principle contained in the section to be absolutely necessary for the having such a militia; may be useful to correct any sudden insurrection, or any foreign enemy." "Much has been said of the late expedition against the western insurrections; but was this the militia of the law? No, Sir! In every state but one, from which they were drawn, it was not the militia of the law drawn out by the militia law. It was a volunteer militia, influenced by their feelings, or by private bounties, in favour of government." Mr. Wadsworth here asked "what a government has to boast of with such a militia? Is it safe for any government to rely on private individual influence to protect it against its enemies, whether foreign or domestic? No! It is dangerous. The same influence may be turned against the government. If the present loose militia law has, and Mr. Wadsworth said that he knew it has, produced in Massachusetts a good militia, it has not done so here; nor indeed in any but a very small part of the United States. If the clause is struck out, we give over every hope of mending our militia law; and we must remain as we are, in a loose deranged, uncertain situation. Mr. Wadsworth did not, by any means, approve the modifications of this bill. He did not wish for half nor even a third part of the numbers which this bill would place in the select corps. The active militia in the late expedition might be boasted of, and have great merit, but they were not brought into the field by the law, but were the militia mostly of volunteers, or of private influence. The government has great obligations to them, but the militia law, as it now is, would not produce an army; and if it remains for the government can hope little from it, but in any extremity must depend on a militia of private influence. Mr. Wadsworth wished that the clause might stand, and, as in all other bills reported to this committee, that such amendments might be made, as to put the government in possession of a force which can be relied on, and not to remain dependent on a force of individual influence.

Mr. Tracy was again striking out the clause. He imagined that it would be giving up all pretence to a reformation which was much wanted.