

Connecticut Courant,

A N D

W E E K L Y I N T E L L I G E N C E R .

HARTFORD: PRINTED BY HUDSON AND GOODWIN, NEAR THE BRIDGE.

THE subscriber, living at the fourth end of the Town, wants to purchase a Quantity of Indian Corn and Rye,

For which he will pay solid Coin, if delivered soon. Also, will exchange the best kind of Rock-Salt for Grain, on low terms.

THOMAS TISDALE.

Hartford, February 1785.

THE Treasurer of the State of Connecticut, informs the several Collectors of state taxes on the list 1783, that the twentieth part of the tax granted by the General Assembly in May last, of 1d. on the pound, payable the first day of October 1784, is not abated.

The several Printers in this state are desired to insert the above in their respective papers. Treasury-Office, Feb. 11, 1785.

F O R S A L E,

About 50 acres of very fine Timber

land, lying in Bar-Windor, eleven miles from Hartford, and one and a quarter from the river; it is covered with white and yellow oak, and will be disposed of in ten or fifteen acre lots, if preferred, on very reasonable terms if applied for soon. Cash or Produce will be received in payment. Apply to JOHN CALDWELL.

Hartford, Feb. 21, 1785.

Information Wanted.

THE subscriber will be much obliged to any person to inform him of an Order drawn on the Treasurer by the Committee of Pay-Table, in favour of the town of Windor, Fifty pounds in bill of this State, dated the 17th of April 1781, the order belonged to the subscriber and Silvanus Griswold in company, of Windor, and upon a settlement we cannot agree who had the benefit of the above order. Information therefore will much oblige

NATHANIEL GRISWOLD.

Windor, February 14, 1785.

ALL persons that are indebted to the estate of Mr. Zachariah Bunch, late of Wethersfield, deceased, are hereby desired to call and settle their debts immediately, or they must be called upon in a very disagreeable way both to them and me.

SARAH BUNCH.

Wethersfield, February 8, 1785.

WHEN the subscribers appointed Commissioners by the Hon. Court of Probate for the district of Hartford, to receive, examine and adjust the claims and demands of the creditors to the estate of Elijah Clapp, late of Hartford, deceased, represented insolvent; hereby notify said creditors that we shall attend said business at the house of said deceased in said Hartford, on the last Monday in February instant, and the first Mondays of March, April, May, June, July and August next, from one o'clock till night on each of said days. Said Court of Probate having allowed six months from the date hereof for said creditors to exhibit their claims, those who neglect to bring them in within said time will be legally debarred.

BARNABAS HINSDALE, WILLIAM ADAMS.

Hartford, February 19, 1785.

BROKE into the inclosure of the subscriber about the first of October last, five remarkable sheep, with a bell on one of them. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges and take them away.

NOAH WILLSON.

Torrington, Feb. 9, 1785.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons having any accounts unsettled with the estate of Doctor Niel M'Lean, late of Windor deceased, that the subscriber Administrator on said estate will attend at his own house in Windor, in the society of Wintonbury, to settle with those indebted, or those that have any demands on said estate, on the last Tuesday of February instant, and on the first Tuesday in March and April, and second Tuesday in May next. Those creditors who neglect to exhibit their claims within said time, will by order of the Judge of Probate be legally debarred.

JONAH GILLET, Administrator.

Windor, February 19, 1785.

LAST night the following prisoners made their escape from the goal in this city, viz. Joseph Dickerman, committed for house-burning; Ezra Davis, Abel Kidder, Abel Tiltonson and Andrew Broga, committed for passing counterfeit money. Whoever will return either of said prisoners to the Goal from whence they escaped, shall have a reasonable reward and necessary charges paid, by

BZEKIEL WILLIAMS, Sheriff.

Hartford, February 21, 1785.

NOTICE is hereby given to the following persons, That so much of their Lands will be sold at the sign-post in Danbury, on Monday the eleventh day of April next, as will pay their public taxes due to me the subscriber, with incident charges arising thereon, unless prevented by payment, viz. John Benedict, Benjamin Platt, Richard Wildman, John Weed, Jonathan Whiteock, Joseph Wood, Jonathan Benedict, Thomas Starr, ad. Thomas Starr, John Francis Corry, Eleazer Hoyt, John Segar, Robert Andrus, John Leddell, Elias Taylor, Abraham Willy.

ELIPHALET BARNUM, Collector.

Danbury, Feb. 16, 1785.

Dr. PRICE'S OBSERVATIONS, continued. Of Trade, Banks, and Paper Credit.

FOREIGN trade has, in some respects, the most useful tendency. By creating an intercourse between distant kingdoms, it extends benevolence, removes local prejudices, leads every man to consider himself more as a citizen of the world than of any particular State, and, consequently, checks the excesses of that *Love of our Country* which has been applauded as one of the noblest, but which, really, is one of the most *destructive* principles in human nature. Trade also, by enabling every country to draw from other countries conveniences and advantages which it cannot find within itself, produces among nations a sense of mutual dependence, and promotes a general improvement. But there is no part of mankind to which these uses of trade are of less consequence than the *American States*. They are spread over a great continent, and make a world within themselves. The country they inhabit includes soils and climates of all sorts, producing not only every *necessary*, but every *convenience* of life. And the vast rivers and wide-spread lakes which intersect it, create such an inland communication between its different parts, as is unknown in any other region of the earth. They possess then within themselves the best means of the most profitable *internal* traffic, and the amplest scope for it. Why should they look much farther? What occasion can they have for being anxious about pushing *foreign* trade; or even about raising a great naval force? Britain, indeed, consisting as it does of *unarmed* inhabitants, and threatened as it is by ambitious and powerful neighbours, cannot hope to maintain its existence long after becoming open to invasion by losing its naval superiority. But this is not the case with the *American States*. They have no powerful neighbours to dread. The *Atlantic* must be crossed before they can be attacked. They are all a well-trained *militia*; and the successful resistance which, in their infancy and without a naval force, they have made to the invasion of the first *European* power, will probably discourage and prevent all future invasions. Thus singularly happy, why should they seek connexions with Europe, and expose themselves to the danger of being involved in its quarrels?—What have they to do with its politics?—Is there any thing very important to them which they can draw from thence—except *Infection*?—Indeed, I tremble when I think of that rage for trade which is likely to prevail among them. It may do them infinite mischief. All nations are spreading snares for them, and courting them to a dangerous intercourse. Their best interest requires them to guard themselves by all proper means; and, particularly, by laying heavy duties on importations. But in no case will any means succeed unless aided by *Manners*. In this instance, particularly, there is reason to fear that an increasing passion for foreign frippery will render all the best regulations ineffectual. And should this happen, that simplicity of character, that manliness of spirit, that disdain of tinsel in which true dignity consists, will disappear. Effeminacy, ferocity and venality will enter; and liberty and virtue be swallowed up in the gulph of corruption. Such may be the course of events in the *American States*. Better *infinitely* will it be for them to consist of bodies of plain and honest farmers, rather than opulent and splendid merchants. Where in these States do the purest manners prevail? Where do the inhabitants live most on an equality, and most at their ease? Is it not in those inland parts where agriculture gives health and plenty, and trade is scarcely known?—Where, on the

* The love of our country is then only a noble passion when it engages us to promote the internal happiness of our country, and to defend its rights and liberties against domestic and foreign invasion, maintaining at the same time an equal regard to the rights and liberties of other countries. But this has not been its most common effects. On the contrary, it has in general been nothing but a spirit of rivalry between different communities; producing contention and a thirst for conquest and dominion. What is his country to a *Russian*, a *Turk*, a *Spaniard*, &c. but a spot where he enjoys no rights, and is disposed of by owners as if he was a be-ast. And what is his love to his country but an attachment to degradation and slavery?—What was the love of their country among the *Jews* but a wretched partiality for themselves and a proud contempt for other nations? Among the *Romans* also what was it, however great in many of its exertions, but a principle holding together a band of robbers in their attempts to crush all liberty but their own?—Christianity has wisely omitted to recommend this principle. Had it done this, it would have countenanced a vice among mankind.—It has done what is infinitely better.—It has recommended *universal benevolence*.

contrary, are the inhabitants most selfish, luxurious, loose, and vicious; and at the same time most unhappy? Is it not along the sea coasts, and in the great towns, where trade flourishes and merchants abound?—So striking is the effect of these different situations on the vigour and happiness of human life, that in the one population would languish did it receive no aid from emigrations? while in the other it increases to a degree scarcely ever before known.

But to proceed to some observations of a different nature

The united States have, I think, particular reason to dread the following effects of foreign trade.

By increasing importation to feed luxury and gratify prodigality, it will carry out their coin, and occasion the substitution of a delusive paper currency; the consequence of which will be, that *ideal* wealth will take place of *real*, and their security come to depend (as the security of *Britain* does) on the strength and duration of a *Bubble*.—I am very sensible that paper credit is one of the greatest of conveniences; but this makes it likewise one of the greatest of all temptations. A public Bank, (while it can circulate its bills) facilitates commerce, and assists the exertions of a State in proportion to its credit. But when it is not carefully restricted and watched; when its emissions exceed the coin it can command, and are carried near the utmost length that the confidence of the public will allow; and when, in consequence of this, its permanence comes to depend on the permanence of public credulity.—In these circumstances, a *Bank*, though it may for a time (that is, while a balance of trade too unfavourable does not occasion a run, and no events arise which produce alarms) answer all the ends of a *Mine* from which millions may be drawn in a minute; and, by filling a kingdom with cash, render it capable of sustaining any debts, and give it a kind of *Omnipotence*.—In such circumstances, I say, notwithstanding these temporary advantages, a public *Bank* must at last prove a great calamity; and a kingdom so supported, at the very time of its greatest exertions, will be only striving more violently to increase the horror of an approaching convulsion.

The united States have already verified some of these observations, and felt in some degree the consequences to which I have alluded. They have been carried through the war by an emission of paper which had no solid support, and which now has lost all value. It is indeed surprising that, being secured on no fund and incapable of being exchanged for coin, it should ever have obtained a currency, or answered any important purpose.

Unhappily for *Britain*, it has used the means of giving more stability to its paper credit, and been enabled by it to support expences greater than any that have been yet known, and to contract a debt which now *astonishes*, and may hereafter produce a catastrophe that will terrify the world.—A longer duration of the late war would have brought on this catastrophe immediately. The *Peace* has put it off for the present. God grant if still possible, that measures may be adopted which shall put it off for ever.

O F O A T H S .

OA T H S are expedients to which all States have had recourse in order to obtain true information and ascertain facts by securing the veracity of witnesses. But I know not how to relish that *imprecation* which always makes a part of an oath. Perhaps, there is no such necessity for it as is commonly imagined. An *Affirmation* solemnly made, with laws inflicting severe penalties on falsehood, when detected, would probably answer all the ends of oaths.—I am, therefore, disposed to wish, that in the United States *imprecatory* oaths may be abolished, and the same indulgence in this respect granted to all which is now granted to the *Quakers*. But I am afraid they will think this too dangerous an experiment, and what is of most consequence is to avoid.

First, Such a multiplicity of oaths as will render them too familiar.

And, Secondly, A slight manner of administering them. *England*, in this respect, seems to be sunk to the lowest possible degree of degeneracy. Oaths among us are required on so many occasions, and so carelessly administered, as to have lost almost all their use and efficacy. It has been asserted, that, including oaths of office, oaths at elections, custom-house oaths, &c. &c. there are about a million of perjuries committed in this kingdom annually.—This is one of the most atrocious of our national iniquities; and it is a wonder if we are not to be vi-

sted for it with some of the severest of God's judgments.

Of the Negro Trade and Slavery.

THE *Negro Trade* cannot be censured in language too severe. It is a traffick which, as it has been hitherto carried on, is shocking to humanity, cruel, wicked, and diabolical. I am happy to find that the United States are entering into measures for discountenancing it, and for abolishing the odious slavery which it has introduced. Till they have done this, it will not appear they deserve the liberty for which they have been contending. For it is self-evident, that if there are any men whom they have a right to hold in slavery there may be others who have had a right to hold them in slavery. I am sensible, however, that this is a work which they cannot accomplish at once. The emancipation of the Negroes must, I suppose, be left in some measure to be the effect of time and of manners. But nothing can excuse the United States if it is not done with as much speed, and at the same time with as much effect, as their particular circumstances and situation will allow. I rejoice that on this occasion I can recommend to them the example of my own country.—In *Britain*, a *Negro* becomes a *freeman* the moment he sets foot on *British* ground.

CONCLUSION.

SUCH is the advice which I would humbly (but earnestly) offer to the United States of America.—Such are the means by which they may become the seats of liberty, science, peace, and virtue; happy within themselves, and a refuge to the world. Often, while employed in writing these papers, have I wished for a warning voice of more power. The present moment, however auspicious to the United States if wisely improved, is critical; and, though apparently the end of all their dangers, may prove the time of their greatest danger. I have, indeed, since finishing this Address, been mortified more than I can express by accounts which have led me to fear that I have carried my ideas of them too high, and deceived myself with visionary expectations.—And should this be true—should the return of peace and the pride of independence lead them to security and dissipation—should they lose those virtuous and simple manners by which alone Republics can long subsist—should false refinement, luxury, and impiety, spread among them; excessive jealousy distract their governments; and clashing interests, subject to no strong controul, break the federal union—the consequence will be, that the fairest experiment ever tried in human affairs will miscarry; and that a revolution which had revived the hopes of good men and promised an opening to better times, will become a discouragement to all future efforts in favour of liberty, and prove only an opening to a new scene of human degeneracy and misery.

PHILADELPHIA, February 26.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Alexandria, to a gentleman in this city, dated Jan. 23, 1785.
“You have, no doubt, heard much said of the great scheme of opening the navigation of the Potomack, and you Philadelphians, I suppose, have been fond to conclude that it would never be more than a matter of amusement,—however, both the Assembly of Maryland and Virginia have adopted and confirmed a plan recommended, I believe by Gen. Washington—Virginia has resolved on extending the navigation in James-River as well as this. I would relate to you the heads of the plan, but as it now setting here, for the press, and will be out the latter end of this week, when I will transmit it in full.—Thus much I can tell you a Canal is to be cut round the different falls, loches are to be made use of to convey vessels, and there is to be an established toll at three different places for the benefit of the proprietors—There are 500 shares on this river, to be purchased at 400 dollars each. This state, as a small requital for the services of its boated-citizen, has made him a compliment of fifty shares in this, and an hundred in the James-River, plan at 200 dollars each, so that the whole is equal to 40,000 dollars. It is thought, by most people, that the toll upon its first establishment will not be less than twenty per cent. and the General himself believes, that in forty years every share will produce its own sum annually.—Now the whole sum thought necessary for the accomplishment of this work amounts only to 200,000 dollars; it has all along been supposed that the collection of it would be the greatest impediment, but it appears clearly to me that from the ideas the people of this state have of the profit of money laid out in this way, that it would be just as easy to raise one four times as large.”

It is currently reported that Congress have, after the most mature deliberation, determined to recognize the independency of Vermont, and to admit Delegates from that state to take their seats in the Federal Council accordingly.

A correspondent says, he is of opinion that the Congress of the United States will have to OPEN A SCHROD, as well as the Emperor of Germany; the Spaniards, regardless of the respect due to the sovereign and independent empire of North-America, have denied our flag the navigation of the river Mississippi, and interdicted the citizens of these Free States from an intercourse with their dominions, as if the Americans had been piratical robbers.

We have never received any favours from the Spaniards. We owe them no obligation, nor have we done them any injury. These considerations, independent of national and liberal practice, confirm our correspondent in his opinion, that we should not let an idea go abroad, especially at this era of our Empire, of our permitting an insult to pass unnoticed, from any nation, state or empire upon earth. Rome, even before the rape of the Sabines, would not have permitted such a thing.

As several fictitious letters, said to be received from London, have been recently published in different parts of America, with a design to mislead the public, we think it necessary to inform our readers, that the following is a genuine copy of a letter from a house in London, to a respectable house in Philadelphia; the tenor of it renders comment unnecessary.

“London, November 4, 1784.

“Gentlemen,
“Your favour of the ———, we duly received, wherein you desire to have an assortment of ———, for which we are very much obliged to you; and sincerely wish the very great losses we have met with in America, had not acted so very powerfully upon us, as almost to root out the confidence we would wish to place in mankind: the great failures in this country, from American connections, make us act with still more caution than we otherwise should have done: therefore hope you will not entertain an unfavourable opinion of us, for not executing your order. There is a gentleman in Philadelphia, with whom we do business, who gives us the acceptance of a friend here, payable in three months: if those conditions would be agreeable to you, (or if three months longer) shall be happy to receive your commands.—We thank you for your candour, and do assure you, if the first house in America had sent us an order, we should have returned the same answer.—We remain, Sirs, your most humble servants.”

N E W Y O R K, March 2.

We are informed, that John Adams, Esq. is appointed, by the honourable the Congress, Ambassador from the United States to the Court of London. By the snow Sophia Magdalen, Capt. Loftensburgh, arrived last Friday from Lisbon, we have accounts from one of the most respectable houses there, that an express had the day the vessel sailed, brought positive assurances that the Emperor of Germany had, with the customary formalities, declared war against the United States of Holland.

The ship *Almy*, Capt. Haffie, from Glasgow, last from Charleston, arrived last Saturday at the Hook; she left 150 North-British redemptioners there, and brought hither 44. They were much attached to the rice and indigo plantations.

We are informed that Williamsburgh in Virginia, has been fixed upon as the place for holding the federal Court instituted for settling the controversy at present depending between this State and Massachusetts. The honourable Robert Hanson Harrison, and Thomas Johnson, Esq's. of the state of Maryland; the honourable John Rutledge, Esq. of the state of South-Carolina; the honourable George Wrythe, William Grafton, and James Munro, Esq's. of the state of Virginia; the hon. George Read, Esq. of the state of Delaware; and the hon. Isaac Smith, and William Patterson, Esq's. of the state of New-Jersey, are appointed judges for determining the said dispute.

Last Monday arrived here from l'Orient, his Most Christian Majesty's Packet *Le Courier de l'Orient*, commanded by M. de Coetnempren, in sixty-one days.

Extract of a letter from Caen, in Normandy, dated Dec. 20, to a gentleman in this city, received last Monday, by the Packet *Le Courier de l'Orient*.

“A new circumstance has lately taken place which is likely to create an influx in business; it is now certain that the Emperor of Germany has declared war against the Dutch, with the necessary forms usual on such occasions; hostilities commenced on the 6th instant, by the attack of several forts; the dykes have been broken by the Dutch, which has caused a most direful inundation; the mediation of France has been refused, and there is a likelihood that all Europe will soon be in arms.”

Died in London, on the 13th of December last, in the 76th year of his age, that great ornament of literature, and firm friend of virtue and religion, Dr. Samuel Johnson.

By the UNITED STATES in Congress assembled. February 25, 1785.

Resolved,
THAT the quartermaster-general, commissary of purchases, commissary of issues, commissary of forage, and all the late heads of departments or their successors or agents, be required without delay, to forward to the board of treasury or to the comptroller, a list of their respective deputies who have been duly authorized to issue certificates. That the heads of departments aforesaid, and each of their deputies who have not settled their accounts, and all other persons who have issued certificates of debts due by the United States, loan office certificates, and certificates of final settlement excepted, be required forthwith to deliver to the board of treasury, or to some commissioner of accounts in the state where such persons reside, a fair abstract of all the certificates which they have issued, and they shall specify those certificates for which they have taken receipts as for cash paid; and a copy of those abstracts shall be transmitted by the board of trea-

sury to the several commissioners of accounts, to whom they may be of use in detecting frauds.

That a copy of these resolutions be published in the gazettes or public newspapers of the several states, and that if any person or persons so required as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect for the space of two months from such publication, to deliver a full and just account of the certificates he or they have issued, the board of treasury, or in case it is not at the time organized, the comptroller shall take proper steps for causing him or them to be prosecuted according to law.

Resolved, That the commissioners of accounts be instructed, to be careful how they admit charges against the United States, on certificates which are not duly supported by the authority of Congress, and the accounts of the officers who have issued them.

CHARLES THOMPSON, Sec'y.

HARTFORD, March 8.

We are informed that Congress have been pleased to appoint the following gentlemen Commissioners for laying out the ground on which to build the apartments for the future accommodation of that honorable body, viz. Philip Schuyler, Esq. of New-York, Philemon Dickinson, Esq. of New-Jersey, and the honourable Robert Morris, Esq. of Pennsylvania.

The 20th of February died in the 29th year of her age, the amiable consort of Capt. Daniel Barns, of Farmington. Her sprightly genius and natural activity are seldom equalled; her kind benevolent disposition rendered her life most agreeable to those who enjoyed the most intimate acquaintance; her husband laments the death of a pleasant companion, and two small children are deprived of the kindest of mothers.

To be Sold at the Auction Room, on Friday next At two o'clock in the afternoon,

Hard Soap, Loaf Sugar, Jennets, a large quantity of Mens, Womens, Boys and Girls English made Leather Shoes—one cask Lisbon Wine, and sundry other matters.
Hartford, March 8, 1785.

Crockery Ware.

A Few Crates well assorted, will be sold on reasonable terms, for Soldier's Notes due, Certificates, State Money, or Commutation Notes at their current value, if applied for soon.

Also, a Quantity of

Nutmegs, Cloves, Cinnamon, Black Pepper and Allspice, with many other articles in the Grocery Way, very low for Cash or any kind of Produce.

Red and white Clover and Herd's Grass Seed, of the last years growth, on reasonable terms.

ASHBEL WELLS, Jun.

Hartford, March 7, 1785.

C A S H.

The Subscribers will pay Cash for Oats and Hog's Lard,

At their Store in this place.

They also want a Quantity of

Butt Staves and Heading,

For which a generous price will be given.

BARNABAS DEANE and Co.

Hartford, March 5, 1785.

To-morrow will be Published and ready for sale,

By Hudson & Goodwin,

(Price One Pistreen.)

S K E T C H E S

OF

American Policy,

Under the following Heads:

- I. Theory of Government.
- II. Governments on the eastern Continent.
- III. American States; or the principles of the American Constitutions contrasted with those of European States.
- IV. Plan of Policy for improving the Advantages and perpetuating the Union of the American States.

By NOAH WEBSTER, Jun'r. Esq.

Leather Buckets,

MADE, jack'd and painted, as low as in this or any other state. Also, Carriage and Harness work of all kinds, made and sold by

JONATHAN PHILLIPS.

Hartford, March 5, 1785.

THE Hon. Court of Probate for the district of East-Windsor, having allowed eight months from the date hereof to those who have demands on the estate of Elijah Hollister, late of Gloucester, deceased, to bring in their claims against said estate: The executors on said estate hereby give notice, that they are ready to receive any claims against said estate properly attested, till the expiration of said time, after which no accounts can be received or allowed.

JOHN HOLLISTER,

ROSWELL HOLLISTER,) Executors

Gloucester, March 2, 1785.