

# THE ARGUS, AND New-Jersey Centinel.

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## FOR THE ARGUS.

Peter Plowden continued.

If the only object of the first section of this law was (as the hon. member intimates by referring us to the Orphans' court law,) to prohibit a surrogate from acting as judge of the orphans' court, we should, perhaps agree in opinion exactly as to the propriety of it; and even in the power of the legislature respecting it. But if that only was intended the section would now read as it originally passed the house of assembly, "that no person shall hold the office of surrogate and act as judge of the orphans' court at the same time;" and then none of the preceding observations would apply to it.

For, a judge of the orphans' court is unknown in the constitution. The office is a legislative one, and subject to legislative control. The law of 1784 constitutes a judge of the court of common pleas, judge of the orphans' court, (but not, "by virtue of his office,") His authority as judge of the orphans court is derived solely from the law, and has no necessary connection with his office of judge of the common pleas. He is named by his office in the law solely to designate the person whom the legislature meant to constitute judge of the orphans court. Any other officer or person might have been named by that law. In the original bill this power was vested in justices of the peace, but altered afterwards; and it might have been given to the overseers of the poor. Was that the case, who will pretend that to prohibit a person from acting as judge of the orphans court, the law must say that he shall not hold the office of overseer of the poor?

The same power which enacted that a judge of the court of common pleas shall be judge of the orphans' court, may enact that, in certain specified cases, he shall not be judge of that court. But it does not follow that, in the same cases, it may enact that he shall not hold the office of judge of the common pleas. The reasons that would justify the prohibition in the one case, and the constitutional grounds of it are very different from the other. If this reasoning be just (and if not we with the hon. member to correct it) "the propriety" of the section, as it now stands does not appear evident from the orphans' court law of 1784 to which he referred as the only ground to support his opinion, and which he has quoted inaccurately. And it must be a little extraordinary, if "the propriety" of the law is so "evident," that the legislature (according to his account) were twelve years in discovering it; that the present legislature never discovered it until the last day of the last sitting; and that the reason of it, like gun powder, vanished in the air with the explosion, and has never been discovered since.

It appears from the journals, and the information of members, that the amendment, to strike out "Orphans court, and insert 'court of common pleas,'" was made in council, they day before they rose, in the absence of the councillor of Cumberland, who, when informed of it, publicly reprobated it; that the final question in the house of assembly on the bill as amended was taken the last day of the sitting that a number of respectable members in both houses voted against it, and others say it was done in the hurry of business and they did not advert to the purport of it when the question was taken, if they had they should have voted against it. "The propriety of it," therefore, does not appear very "evident" from those facts. And "when it is recollected" that in several late instances, where the same principle applied to his own case, the hon. member did not see "the propriety of it;" and that the law he cites can have no connection with the remaining sections of this act, the propriety of which seems also questionable; we submit, it upon the whole, to the hon. member's candour, whether some of his constituents are not excusable in yet entertaining doubts on the subject. But one thing we believe the hon. member himself, nor any one else, doubts, "the propriety" of his hastily judging in favour of a law of his own making, considered either as a Representative whose constituents only have the right of judging of the propriety of his acts when made; or as passing sentence in favour of his own acts, as thereby violating, in the very act of justification, the principle of the law he is advocating.

We also submit to the candour of the hon. member whether it was proper in him to question the official opinion of the judiciary officers of the county without assigning better reasons for it than he had done? Whether referring them to the law of 1784 does not mean if it means a y thing, that in forming their opinion they were ignorant of that law, or knew not how to construe it without his assistance? Whether in citing that law he has not to use his own elegant language, "grossly misrepresented" it? Whether the judiciary officers of the county are not as respectable in their place as members of the legislature? Whether a judiciary act signed by their President ought not to be treated with as much difference as an act of assembly signed by their speaker? whether both are not equally free game for every one who uses fair play? Whether a gamester who complains of foul play ought not to point out the acts of unfairness, or quit gentlemen's company? Whether it is not well known that he has for many years past been constantly fishing for offices of every kind, as clerk, surrogate, judge, member of congress, treasurer, secretary of the state, &c. &c. Whether we are not fully justified in judging, from the general tenor of his conduct that he would willingly hold all the offices in the state himself, "at the same time," if he could catch them? And, whether, for these and other reasons, which we forbear to mention, he is not the last man in the world, who, in point of common decency and propriety ought to have affixed such a preamble to such a law?

In this disquisition the writer has stated no facts or positions but what he verily believes to be true. But conscious that he is equally liable to error and mistakes as others, he will cheerfully correct whatever shall be decently and candidly pointed out, as such, by any of his fellow citizens.

He wishes not to be misunderstood. If he supposes the legislature, for the reasons which he hath assigned hath Erred, he is far from imputing it to wrong and unjustifiable motives, either in that honourable body collectively, or in any individual members in their legislative capacity. What they do elsewhere is another matter. Nor does he mean to question the propriety of prohibiting the holding a plurality of offices. He only conceives it ought to be done upon equal, general, and constitutional grounds.

The principle of the law, as a general rule, he admits to be just and right. He only contends that the principle has been partially, unfairly, and unconstitutionally pursued. That the letter of the law violates its principle, by insidiously including some objects not within the principle nor intended to be included, and omitting many others clearly within it. That it is so defectively penned as not fully to effectuate any of the purposes apparently intended by it. And that, as this is the first law of the kind ever made, though numerous cases within the principle of it have occurred, and many actually existed at the time of passing this act, it ought not to have been so rigidly pursued, in this single case, as under known existing circumstances, to do much more injury than benefit to the community.

If he is right in all or any of these points, his objections are not groundless, and merit public notice and consideration.

But as both the hon. Preamble-maker and the writer, are, perhaps, improper judges of the merits of this law, and their opinions not to be relied on any farther than the reasons they offer support them; to bring the question to a close; if he will demonstrate the constitutionality and propriety of the law, to the satisfaction of any three or more competent judges of the united states, the writer will throw down his pen, and acknowledge that he has been in an error. Until this be done, the writer flatters himself his fellow constituents will approve of his having entered the list, and taken up the glove, on this occasion; and, therefore, to their impartial judgment he humbly submits whatever he hath written or shall write, on the subject.

Du menfonge le vrai devoit toujours le maître, Pour faire paroître Homme honnête ne plus que d'Étre.

## FOR THE ARGUS.

Peter Plowden has been making a great noise respecting the Act concerning surrogates. It may be productive of one beneficial consequence at least. Some Machievialian secrets may leak out,

certain facts may be illucidated, which, otherwise, would probably have remained in obscurity.

To accelerate this business, that the public mind may be relieved from that anxiety which is always the concomitant of doubt and suspense, I will propose a few queries which I hope will be solved by some one who is better acquainted with the circumstances than myself.

1. Has not the legislature, in general, been very careful not to heap offices, incompatible in their nature, upon a single individual?

2. Was not this objection made in joint-meeting to the appointing of the surrogate of Cumberland a judge of the Common Pleas?

3. Had not this objection so much weight that there was but a very small majority for bestowing the office?

4. Were not many of the members informed, that the office of Surrogate would be relinquished upon receiving the commission of judge, and did not some of them give their vote under this impression?

5. If the foregoing be answered in the affirmative, and the possessor of the offices was as sensible then, as he is now, of their collision, why was not one of them resigned agreeably to promise?

6. If the office was given, on the word of a man that another office with which it clashed should be relinquished, and when this word is not complied with and the legislature undertakes to destroy the power of corruption by separating offices incompatible one with the other, is it not particularly ungenerous in Peter Plowden to oppose the act?

P. Q.

N. B. Peter will please to observe that the word Delicacy has not been mentioned in the above.

## The STROKE of DEATH.

\*\*\*\* I am now worth one hundred thousand pounds, said old Gregory, as he attended a bill, part of an estate he had just purchased.

I am now worth one hundred thousand pounds, and am but sixty three years of age, hale and robust in my constitution; so I'll eat and I'll drink, and live merrily all the days of my life.

I am now worth one hundred thousand pounds, said old Gregory, as he attained the summit of the hill, which commanded a full prospect of his estate; and here, said he, I'll plant an orchard, and on that spot I'll have a pinary.

Your farm houses shall come down, said old Gregory, they intercept my view.

Then what will become of the farmers? asked the steward, who attended him.

That's their business, answered old Gregory.

And that mill must not stand upon that stream, said old Gregory.

Then how will the villagers grind their corn? asked the steward. That's not my business, answered old Gregory.

So old Gregory returned home—ate a hearty supper—drank a bottle of port—smoked two pipes of tobacco, and fell into a profound slumber, from whence he never awoke. The farmers reside on their lands—the mill stands upon the stream—and the villagers all rejoice in his death.

## INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, May 21.

We hear that it is at length finally concluded that the princess royal is to give her hand to the prince of Wirtemberg. Count Zeppelin, it is said has been the successful suitor for his prince on the occasion.

The Austrian general Argenteau, second in command, has been arrested on a charge of misconduct during the late campaign in Italy, and is to be brought to a court martial. He is a prisoner at Mantua.

The report of peace is again very prevalent in London, and the return of Mr. Netman from Paris is anxiously expected. This gentleman has been associated with M. Charretier, as agent for French prisoners in this country, and approved as such by our ministry. He was formerly under M. Barthelemi, in the service of the French ambassador in London; and was sent off on Monday last night express to Paris, supposed to be charged with a mission of importance. An express was sent off to Dover 12 hours before Mr. Netman left London, with a letter from the Duke of Portland to the Mayor, to let this gentleman meet with no delay, and that a packet might be in readiness to receive him. He failed from Dover to Calais under a flag of truce and was only two hours and a half on his

passage. Mr. Charretier accompanied him to Dover, but not to France.

Scarce any thing of the events which have occurred in the progress of the French revolution are more extraordinary than those of the present day. Almost in the same sitting of their legislative bodies, they consult on the first movement towards peace, made by Mr. Wickham to Mr. Barthelmi, they receive news of victories decisive of the fate of Italy and the submissive proposals for peace from Sardinia and Naples, and in the same breath they announce to the people that a conspiracy has been just discovered in the perpetration, headed by men of the first abilities, some of them of the legislative body, threatening the massacre of all the constituted authorities, and the re-establishment of the bloody system of 1793.

The conspirators accuse the present powers of intending to restore the monarchy: they retort the charge on the conspirators and urge the nation to oppose the restoration of the constitution of 1793 to the utmost, as the only means of establishing the republic and the liberty of France.

At the close of the Poll for Westminster, on Friday, Mr. Fox and Horne Tooke addressed the mob, in pretty long speeches:—that of the former Gentleman was the most inflammatory we ever heard. He said (among other strong things) that he remembered but two wars in which this country has been engaged—the one directed against the liberty of America, the other against the liberty of France—both caused by the despotic principles of the existing governments—that the present war was nothing more nor less than a combination of despots to overturn the liberties of Europe.—That a constitution was good, exactly in proportion to the share that the people had in the government of the country—that the sovereignty was in the people.

He cautioned the people against entertaining the fantastic notion—that an existing constitution might not be destroyed.

He spoke of Mr. Horne Tooke as a gentleman whom he respected, and whom he considered as the most injured and persecuted man alive; this speech might be called a canvas for Mr. Tooke.

Mr. H. Tooke said, that he would not continue a candidate, if he conceived that by so doing, he would endanger Mr. Fox's election. He agreed in every single sentiment that Mr. Fox had uttered.

Is there not then a coalition in principles avowed between Mr. Fox and the chief of the Corresponding Society.

Extract of a letter from Alicant, dated April 10. "On the 10th inst. an American brig came in three days from Algiers to this place; reports that the Moors had just carried 6 Danish vessels into that port, they were all loaded, one had Sicily ash for London, some others wine and brandy. The ground of this unexpected hostility seems to be this:—Some time ago, a Dane, bringing 300 Moors from Constantinople going to Algiers, was stopped by a Tuscan man of war, and carried into Naples, where the Moors are detained. The dey of Algiers makes Denmark answerable for them; and, we understand, that he has intimated to the Danish consul that they must be returned within a limited time; that if they were, he would continue a friend to Denmark, and release the vessels detained, and if they were not, they would be sold and their crews made slaves; the Danish flag declared enemy, and the consul turned out of Algiers.

"As it is some time since the consul has been writing for compromising the matter at Naples, it may be hoped he will be able to pacify the dey, in which case the Prizes will be restored.

This intelligence may be depended upon, but however it is not improbable that you may, ere this reaches you, be informed of this circumstance."

The American treaty with the Algerines, it seems, is in great forwardness, and the captives expected to depart daily from Algiers. Mr. Donalson, it was likely, would be able to accommodate matters on a permanent footing with the regency of Tunis and Tripoli—and when this takes place, the Americans will have nothing more to apprehend from the Barbary powers."

His majesty's state coach has undergone material alterations, in consequence of the damage done to it on the first day of the session. The sides and back, instead of being glazed, as formerly, are completely pannelled; and lined with sheet copper, musket proof, for the better protection of his majesty's sacred person. It is painted a very rich yellow, with sprigs of flowers, and is very highly varnished. The lining is crimson, behind which is a wadding of fine wool, coated with buffalo skin. By this new construction the public are deprived of their former gratification of having a full view of their sovereign; but, on the whole, it must be allowed to be a very judicious, and we are sorry to say necessary improvement.

May 21. The examination of Drouet is carrying on before the commission of seven. Paris is not yet tranquil, the partisans of the conspiracy still entertaining some hopes of carrying their plan into effect.

The duke of Parma, alarmed at the rapid progress of the French, has solicited and obtained a cessation of arms, but on conditions the most humiliating to himself.

A number of French troops, it appears, have been detached from the army of the Rhine to Italy, while the emigrant corps under the Prince of

Conde have been augmented to 15000 men, by the accession of a considerable body of French deserters.

Gen. Tetas, the commander of an imperial corps in the Brigand, is gone to Italy, and has been succeeded by general Furlberg.

A letter from Elincour, of the 14th inst. announces a declaration of war by the Dey of Algiers, against Denmark.

May 24. Peace is said, by the Parisian Journalists, to be negotiating in favour of all the States of Italy, excepting those belonging to the house of Austria. It appears that even the Pope will not be excepted.

The treaty with the king of Naples is already advanced. One of his agents is arrived at Paris, to treat with the Directory.

When the treaty concluded with the king of Sardinia was submitted to the council of Five Hundred, some of the members remarked, that the terms were too degrading for a conquered Prince, who submitted to the terms imposed on him, and who was certainly entitled to that respect which is ever due to misfortune.

In the sitting of the 19th inst. a report of the celebrated Abbe Seykes was read to the Council containing the strongest threats against England, and exhorting the Government to turn the whole force of the Republic, and to direct the whole weight of their vengeance against her.

RATISBON, May 22.

One of his Imperial majesty's couriers extraordinary, charged with dispatches for count Louis de Harkenberg, his minister near the court of St. James's, passed through this city in the greatest haste. He confirms the news of the signal victory of the French army in Italy, and of the incredible losses which the house of Austria has sustained in that country. He adds that these events have now thrown the court into the utmost consternation, and that 15,000 infantry, 5 companies of artillery and 50 pieces of cannon, have passed through Vienna, for the reinforcement of the routed army, but that it was feared that they would arrive too late.

HANOVER, May 18. War, that dreadful scourge of mankind, is extending its concomitant evils to this country.

We are reduced to the brink of ruin, by requisitions of all kinds. The king of Prussia, under the pretence of protecting the line of neutrality, causing it to be respected and to prevent an invasion in the north, has sent us a considerable army, which, including our own, may amount to 60 or 70 thousand men, three fourths of which we are forced to maintain. In short, our fields are deserted, nearly all our young men having been destroyed since the beginning of the war. We are likely to lose the remainder, as the recruiting service still continues. We find no difference in the distress inflicted on us both by our foes and friends.

If the king of Prussia and the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, have, like us, made peace with the French, why do we fear them or the Hollanders? and certainly there is no danger to be apprehended from us on the part of the house of Austria.

CREVELD, May 25.

Gen. Damas left this place yesterday, for his post at Anderuvch. Gen. Kleber accompanied him to Cologne, where they will have a conference with gen. Jourdan. It seems that some great blow is intended to be struck on the Hundsruck. We are assured that the greatest part of the Austrian army have crossed the Rhine on its way to that river: the baggage was left on the right bank of the Rhine, under the guard of four regiments stationed from the Seig to Mayence. The head quarters of the Archduke Charles are by this time at Creutznach.

A camp of French and Batavian troops is about to be formed of Cleves.

COLOGNE, May 27.

The camp near Brühl will remain there to observe the Austrians encamped on the Seig.

The motion of the troops in this quarter is not very confidentable, but there is the utmost activity displayed on the side of Coblenz, and on the Hundsruck. A flotilla is equipping on the Moselle consisting of bomb ketches, fire ships, and gunboats which are to be launched as soon as circumstances shall require it. Sails, rigging and anchors have been put in requisition.

The camp at Wilg, commanded by gen. Grenier was raised this morning; the troops are under marching orders to Anderach.

The general in chief, Jourdan, left this place at an early hour yesterday; he was followed this morning by gen. Ernouf, and all the staff of the army of the Sambre and Meuse. Head quarters are removed to Munster Maynfeld, beyond the Mozelle.

All the boatmen of the lower Rhine have received orders to leave this place.

INSBRUCK, May 16.

Within a few weeks past, the Triol has been the rout of the troops from Germany and Austria, for the army in Italy; they were very much astonished to meet there the sad remains of that army which

whom they expected to share their laurels, totally dispersed, without any order: these movements, equally unexpected as extraordinary, have created a most vivid sensation in the minds of the inhabitants; a part of whom did not credit the defeat of Beaulieu.

BRUXELLES, June 2.

General Jourdan concert all his movements with the army of the Rhine and the Mozelle under the command of general Moreau. A junction seems to be their object, and should they accomplish it, they would re-commence the blockade of Mentz. 33000 men will attempt to reach Limburgh upon the Lahn.

A considerable French fleet is in the port of Flushing, it is said to join in the North sea, a Dutch fleet.

FRANKFORT May 14.

They complain very much at Vienna of the conduct of the Piedmontese troops, and still more of the government of Genoa. They observe that the French themselves declare in their reports that the Imperial troops fought with the greatest bravery; they conclude from thence that the reverse they have experienced may be attributed to some secret cause.

Letters from the Imperial army in Italy announce that general count d'Argenta is accused, if not of treason, at least of failing in transmitting to the generals who commanded under him, the order of Mont. Beaulieu. Mont. d'Argenta and several of his officers have been arrested by the commander in chief, and conducted to Pavia, where the first has been already subjected to divers interrogatories.

PARIS, June 7.

Duchavel, representative of the people, to citizen Duplantier, President of the administration in the Gironde department.

As a post going from Bourdeaux with dispatches has offered me his services, I seize with joy this opportunity to inform you of the good news which will soon spread far and wide among our good citizens. I promised you in my last letter the particular events in Italy. The papers to which I refer you will give you ample satisfaction. It is not in Italy only that the French signalize their courage, they have gathered laurels upon the borders of the Rhine. They have gathered them at their first steps. Gen. Jourdan, the worthy rival of Buonaparte, has defeated the duke of Wirtemberg. Accept the substance of a communication from the Directory, addressed to us this day, upon this occasion.

"After our successes in Italy, we expected that the emperor would sue for peace. We were deceived. Austria has broken the truce which the French had maintained for the good of humanity. But the army of the Sambre and the Meuse has undertaken to make them repent of it. On the 30th May, the republicans took many advantageous positions of Hundsruck. On the 31st, the enemy attempted in vain to dislodge them. The divisions of gen. Marceau and Championnet contributed greatly to the success of our arms. On the same evening, the armed force commanded by gen. Kleber, and supported by other divisions, passed the Seig, and attacked the enemy, who lost 2000 men of which 1000 are prisoners, and a whole staff of officers. The army pursued the enemy with their bayonets, and flew to fresh victories. The directory has promised to publish the circumstances of this memorable affair in the official journal."

We enjoy a victory of a different kind, and it is over some late attempts of infamous speculators, in concert with England to destroy the credit of our paper money. These wretches are as completely defeated as the Austrians, and despair of any future success. The mandates which their infamous business had depreciated to 96 per cent. have risen suddenly, and at this moment are up to 85, and things have a most favourable aspect. The legislative body is firmly determined to support the law of the 26th of February. You will find proofs of it in what I submit. I cannot describe the joy of all friends of the country. What a joyful fight. Each congratulating his friend and continuing to repeat "We shall at last conquer all our enemies, the speculators as well as the satellites of despots."

ACCOUNT OF BABOEUF.

Since Babœuf has become a person of some consequence, every one seems desirous of knowing who he is, and what he has done, of what importance he is and what he aimed at, by the conspiracy. The following letter extracted from the "Historian," will answer a part of these questions.

Francis Noel Babœuf was born in the commune of St. Quentin; he is about 36 years old; his father, a poor man employed in the excise upon salt, had him taught to write, and he writes extremely well.

In 1777, he left his father's house, and sought for employment with several persons in quality of scrivener, or copyist; but failed in procuring any on account of his youth, and the want of recommendations. In the mean time he was reduced to the most extreme distress; he was absolutely naked: Some person thro' pity offered him the place of a servant in some nobleman's family, who resided near Roze—he accepted it—he served in that situation about three years. The former lord of the estate was then about renewing the registry

of his lands. Babœuf wrote well, and he employed him in that business; he did not want penetration he applied himself diligently, and became a pretty good feedist. During these transactions he got a chamber maid with child and married her. His new feudal acquisitions having made him insolent, he was turned away. Having left his new situation he brought a suit against his master, and lost his cause. Instructed in the feudal business he determined to enter into business on his own account.—He fixed at Roye and announced himself commissioner of rent rolls.

A lady who resided at Paris, entrusted, him with the renewal of the rent roll of a small fief which she possessed near Roye. He performed it received the arrearages, rendered no account, was sued by the lady and lost his cause. The former Prior of St. Aurin, near Roye, entrusted him with the renewal of the registry of his priory—he performed it, engaged in a law suit with the Prior and lost his cause.

The former marquis of Loyecourt being about to renew the registry of his lands, gave him the direction of it.—He began the work, but the insolent letters which he wrote to the tenants having caused complaints against him; the marquis withdrew his confidence from him—this displeased Babœuf, he commenced a prosecution and lost his cause.

From that time till the year 1789, he lived by drawing writings for the country people. In the beginning of the revolution he began by hawking about and procuring signatures to a seditious paper—he was arrested and conducted to the prison at Paris—an amnesty published by the first constituent assembly restored him to his liberty.—He then commenced a journal which he quickly abandoned for the want of subscribers.

At the time of the primary assemblies of 1792, held under the sword of the Septemberers, he was nominated elector of the department of Somme. The electoral assembly afterwards appointed him administrator of the district of Mount Dedier. At the end of two months he committed a serious offence in the sale of some national property. He was prosecuted—he fled—and was condemned to 12 years imprisonment in irons. He then finally quit the department of Somme, and went and buried himself in the crowd of Paris; his writings there caused him to be arrested and he was shut up in the citadel of Arras; but the amnesty of Brumaire last, again restored him to liberty. Such, citizen, is the man who when he was a servant, did not surely doubt, but that he should, one day have played the part of a great conspirator, and that he should have offered to the directory to treat with them, as from one authority to another. Genius of liberty forbid that he should again be in a situation to prove the advantages of a third amnesty.

Health and fraternity  
GAMON.

May 15.

#### COLLOT AND VARENNES.

Pomme, one of the colonial deputies, has announced to the council of five hundred, that Collot d'Herbois, and Billaud Varennes, who were transported to Cayenne, began to tyrannize over that colony, as they had done in France. Collot had caused himself to be proclaimed king. He had established the system of requisition, the maximum, and revolutionary committees and tribunals. Pomme then demanded, if the colonies ought thus to be infested with those wretches, whom France was compelled to drive from its territories?

A committee is to be formed who are to consider what shall in future be the manner and destination to be fixed upon in cases of transportation.

#### GENOA, May 23.

The canton of Berne has ordered all the French emigrants to leave their territory.

In Corsica, the insurgents have taken Ajaccio, and on the fort is displayed the tri-coloured flag. They have found a plenty of ammunition, and are in a state of defence till they can have succours from the French. The vice-roy of Bastia was marching to attack the insurgents, but they had intercepted his provisions. Zamplino has the chief command among them.

#### VENICE, May 2.

There is no government which is better formed than Venice, by events which are about to take place in foreign countries. The public ministers for this purpose employ secret agents. This policy has contributed to their preservation: for by these means they have been frequently apprised of dangers which threatened them. As soon as the return of the count de Lille, was known, it was not doubted but that the invasion of Lombardy was at hand; and it was thought that the Venetian government would not leave a pretext for the French to enter their territories.

The Venetian government is the friend of France because its independence, nay its very existence, depends upon the success of that republic, but the Venetian noblemen are not, nor can they be friends of French principles.

#### ROME, May 1.

This city has never been in a more critical situation, it is threatened with the last misfortunes if peace is not restored to Italy. The price of 100

visions continues to rise daily, the industrious citizens of the community are without employment, the brisk commerce which was carried on in the Ecclesiastical state is absolutely ruined, it has been so illy protected that the merchants have lost all confidence; the resigns and notes of the holy father are multiplied and fall in value daily, gold and silver have absolutely disappeared, the brass money is also feared and falling from 12 to 15 for 100. To remedy the scarcity of a circulating medium, government has frequently forbid, and again permitted the sale of silver, the consequence of those measures has been uniformly to increase the evil. The apostolic chamber in order to restrain the discontented, continues to purchase corn at a fixed price, and ruin themselves in raising the price, priors, who cannot dispose of their provisions advantageously.

The theocratic government of Rome is the worst of all, and that city will be entirely ruined if some happy event does not put an end to our misfortunes.

#### PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 4.

Arrived here the ship Pomona, Capt. Merrill, in 38 days from Ubes, who informs that our consular agent told him that our affairs with the Algerines were so adjusted, that the commerce of these states was not in the least hazardous, and our vessels might with the greatest safety, go to any port of the Straights without meeting any obstruction.

Capt. Merrill, the day previous to his leaving St. Ubes, read London Papers to the 9th of June, in one of which he perfectly recollects to have an account of a battle on the Rhine, in which the French as usual, were victorious, having taken 14000 prisoners, killed many thousands, taken vast quantities of ammunition, baggage, waggons, &c. &c.

Arrived here the brig Olive, Capt. Palmer, in 50 days from Cadiz, who informs that Richery's squadron was still at Cadiz the 18th of June. The Governor of Cadiz sent off to the English admiral, to know if his port was in a state of blockade the answer was not known when Capt. Palmer left there; the admiral had, however, ordered the squadron immediately off the coast, and it had actually sailed two days before Capt. Palmer left there.

#### Bridge-town, Aug. 8, 1796.

The Aurora of Tuesday morning, has the following:

There is a letter in town, we speak positively, dated Bourdeaux, June 23, and from a person of respectability, which says That an extraordinary courier had just arrived there with intelligence of a cessation of hostilities on the Rhine. The letter further mentions as the news brought by that courier, that the Austrians had been repeatedly beaten, had lost much ground, and had given up several posts with little more than the semblance of resistance; that finally the truce was agreed to and the Austrians had given up Mantz as a pledge of their sincere desire for peace.

#### LANCASTER, Aug. 4.

The celebrated Lachaise, so well known in the disasters of St. Domingo, as well as in America, under the orders of Mr. Genet, after staying a few days in Lancaster, on Wednesday morning last took his departure for Kentucky.

He has lately been promoted to the rank of lieutenant in the French service, and it is said, has arrived in this country on a secret mission. He informs that when he left Paris (which must have been in April last for he sailed with Santhonnax to the West Indies) the directory and the Spanish Ambassador were negotiating on an exchange of the Spanish part of St. Domingo, for Louisiana.

\* The crusade of Gen. Clarke may be recollected here.

#### PHILADELPHIA, August 8.

Extract of a letter from Bourdeaux, 20th Floreal (May 9.)

A captain of a privateer named the Adventure, arrived from Cayenne, relates the following instance: The negroes of the city and country stir up by some wretches, had agreed to murder nearly all the whites on Friday—the day however, was not definitely fixed, but might be postponed or delayed according to circumstances. Those who were of the city were to make themselves masters of the fort, and inform the other, of the event by firing 13 cannon.

The privateer Adventure arrived at Cayenne the Wednesday before, and saluted the fort with nine cannon.—The fort answered it by three, and they replied with one—the whole making 13. The negroes of the country deceived by the 13 cannon which they took for the signal agreed upon, ran in

to the city in crowds armed with all sorts of iron utensils they could procure.—They were however vigorously repulsed by the garrison, the inhabitants and the crew of the privateer. The Negro chiefs have acknowledged the plot; but the white chiefs treat it as chimera, waiting a better opportunity. This happened in Nivos last.

#### August 9.

By an arrival yesterday from Cape Nicholas Mole, we learn, that the Quebec, and another frigate, arrived there the 15th of July. They sailed from Barbadoes with five large transport ships, with troops and military stores, under their convoy, bound to the Mole: but off Cape Francois they were chased by three French 74 gun ships, and were obliged to leave their convoy to the French, who took them all and carried them into the Cape.—The sickness at the Mole exceeds very greatly its usual mortality; from 50 to 60 dying daily. All expectation of the reduction of the islands is despaired of, and even an attack from the brigands is apprehended both at the Mole and at Port au prince. The British troops had evacuated Bompard, and returned into the Mole. Both the taking and holding this place, even for the short time they held it was attended with great loss to the English.—There was no pressing Americans while our informant was at the Mole; but he saw several instances of their treating them with much respect and civility. There is no sale for American produce.

#### 10.

Extract of a letter from Londonderry, dated 1st of May.

I never knew of more people going to America than there are this year. We have had very troublesome times with defenders and peep o' day boys; but during the circuit many have been hung, and the country is at present quiet.

About Armagh the people dare not stir out after dark, and patrols are kept about their houses and bleach greens. No Roman catholic can now keep a gun except he have a freehold of ten pounds per annum, or 300l. in cash, which has in a manner totally deprived them of this privilege. Every man must register his arms at the quarter sessions, and if any magistrate chooses after this day to search the house of any man he may do it, and fine every man ten pounds with whom a gun is found.— This is a hard law.

#### DUTY ON CARRIAGES.

Notice is hereby given.

That agreeably to an act of congress of the united States of America, passed at Philadelphia, the 28th day of May, 1796; laying duties on carriages for the conveyance of persons, and repealing the former acts for that purpose.—That there shall be levied, collected and paid, upon all carriages for the conveyance of persons, which shall be kept by or for any person, for his or her own use, or to let out to hire, or for the conveying of passengers, the several duties and rates following, to wit.

- For and upon every coach, 15 dollars.
- upon every chariot, 12 dols.
- upon every post chariot, 12 dols.
- upon every post chaise, 12 dols.
- upon every phaeton, with or without top, 9 dols.
- upon every choatchee, 9 dols.
- upon other carriages, having pannel work above, with blinds, glass or curtains, 9 dols.
- upon four wheeled carriages, having framed posts and tops with steel springs, 6 dols.
- upon four wheel top carriages, with wood-en or iron springs or jacks, 2 dols.
- upon carriages with tops, 2 dols.
- upon chaises with tops, 2 dols.
- upon chairs with tops, 3 dols.
- upon sulkeys with tops, 3 dols.
- upon other two wheel top carriages, 2 dols.
- upon two wheel carriages, with steel or iron springs, 3 dols.
- upon all other two wheel carriages, 3 dols.
- upon every four wheel carriage, having framed posts and tops, and resting upon wooden spars, 2 dols.

The collector of the revenue of the 12th survey of the district of New Jersey will attend until the 30th day of September next, for the purpose of receiving the duties on carriages, at his own house except on the 28th of the same month on which day he will attend at the house of Almarin Brook, in Bridgetown; of which all persons possessed of such carriages are desired to take notice.

Notice is also given,

To all retail dealers in wines, and foreign distilled spirituous liquors, that licences will be granted to them: one licence for carrying on the business of retailing of wines, in a less quantity or in less quantities than 50 gallons—and one licence for carrying on the business of retailing spirituous liquors in less quantities than 20 gallons, at the same time and at the same places, by

EBENEZER SEZLEY,

Inspector of the revenue of the 12th survey of the district of New Jersey.

**NOTICE.**

All persons indebted to the subscribers on newspaper accounts, but particularly those who are in arrears on the first payment, are requested to discharge their accounts.

M'KENZIE & WESTCOTT.

June 9.

**NOTICE.**

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber for goods bought at his vendue last fall, or other small accounts are requested to pay the same immediately to John Hann, jun. to whom I have given a legal power of attorney to collect and receive the same for me. He has the obligations and books in his possession, ready to settle on application. Those who neglect payment after being called upon, will have their accounts put into the hands of John Mulford, Esq. to collect agreeably to law.

DAVID BOWEN.

Philadelphia, June 23, 1796.

**FOR SALE,**

A Lot of land situate in Greenwich, nearly opposite the market ground, containing 6 acres, on which is a good convenient one story frame house with a kitchen and outhouses, and an excellent well, and pump of water at the door. On the premises are fine orchards of apples, pears, peaches, cherries, &c.

Also, a lot of ground, opposite to the Friends school house in Greenwich, containing 18 acres 11 of which are extraordinarily well-timbered woodland—the remainder arable.

Likewise, a small lot of 2 acres, near the burnt school-house, convenient for building.

For terms enquire of

JOHN LANNING, Fairfield.

*Will you mind this and take a friend's advice.*

ALL those who are indebted to the subscriber for Constable, Court execution, Tavern, and Vendue accounts, or otherwise, are, in a friendly way, requested to come forward and settle the same, and save cost to themselves, and trouble to their friend,

BENNONI DARE.

June 23d, 1796.

**Broke into the plantation of the**

subscriber, in Fairfield township, a pair of large oxen: One of them was red, and had a strap and bell on his neck—the other black, with one horn broke off close to his head, and a scar on his nose, occasioned, it is supposed, by his throwing off riders.

The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges, take them home, and return another pair to compensate for the damage they have done.

DAVID PEIRSON SHAW.

July 28.

**FOR SALE,**

TWO Tracts of land, in Northumberland county, state of Pennsylvania, in or adjoining Bald-Eagle-township, on the west branch of the river Susquehanna, containing four hundred and twenty acres each tract, with large allowance for roads, &c. These lands were taken up and patented by the particular direction of the honourable Thomas M'Kean chief justice of the state of Pennsylvania, whose peculiar opportunity, when riding the circuits, and possessing the first information respecting the quality of all these lands need not be questioned. The above tracts are the very pick of twelve tracts which the person employed to direct the survey chose for his services. It joins thick settlements and the river Susquehanna. For terms apply at the office of the Argus.

**FOR SALE,**

About 150 acres of land, 100 of which is timber-land, situate on the road leading from Bridgetown, through Deerfield, to Philadelphia; bounded by lands of Aaron Moore, of Seeley and Merfeilles, by other lands of the subscriber, and by a run called *Cornwall's Branch*. The Woodland is mostly well-timbered and lies within two and a quarter miles of Bridgetown.

Also for sale, a beautiful lot for building, lying on Second Street, in Bridgetown, containing half an acre.

The terms will be reasonable. For particulars enquire of

ZECHARIAH LAWRENCE.

Aug 11, 1796.

Blank Bonds and Judgments for sale at this office.

**AMERICAN LITERATURE**

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In this little work the Authoress has confined herself rather to what are called *les petites Morales*, to repress discontent, and to inculcate the necessity of submitting cheerfully to such situations as fortune may throw them into, to check that Flippancy of remark so frequently disgusting in girls of Twelve, or Thirteen; and to correct the errors that Young People fall into in Conversation, as well as to give them a Taste for the pure pleasures of retirement, and the Sublime Beauties of nature.

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At a period when the United States of America are advancing rapidly in the Career of improvement to all the arts, that meliorate and embellish life, every attempt to add to the general Stock in this way will doubtless meet with that share of attention which it deserves. It is on this presumption only that this work is offered to the public inspection, and the editor is happy in believing that a work like this, calculated to promote industry, and stimulate genius will be received as an acceptable contribution.

VIII. Louisa, the lovely orphan; or the cottage on the moor.—2 Volumes in one. Price 3/9.

If the basest plot, devised against virtuous love, and conjugal Felicity, a plot arising from the Malice of disappointment, conducted by the darkest intrigue, be so overruled by Providence as at once to disgrace the Malevolence of persecution, and show female innocence and virtue splendidly triumphant and happy—if such a picture drawn by a masterly hand, can interest the heart, or convey entertainment and instruction to the mind, Louisa the lovely orphan, merits our attention, but the judicious reader will require no higher recommendation of this elegant work, than to be informed that, it has in a short time passed through no fewer than seven Editions.

IX. The Mytic cottager of Chamouny.—Price Bound 6s.

This interesting Novel, has been lately published in London, for the sole endeavour of raising a sum for the Benefit of a distressed orphan, deprived of the blessing of sight.

X. The Royal Captives; a fragment of secret History; copied from an old manuscript.—By Ann Yearly Milk woman, of Bristol, Author of *Earl Godwin*; an Historical play—also several celebrated Poems.

XI The Proceedings of the Society of United Irishmen.

It is hoped that this publication will prove in the highest degree acceptable to all the virtuous and patriotic citizens of the United States.—To them the cause of Freedom is ever sacred, and the struggles of an injured nation to regain their dear rights lost, will, we hope, keep alive on their minds a spirit of watchfulness over their public officers, and a disposition to resist with becoming firmness every encroachment on their Liberties, that they may enjoy the ineffable blessings of the free and most happy government on earth.

XII. The American tablet of Memory, containing the most memorable events in History, &c. from the earliest period till the year 1796. The whole being intended to form a comprehensive Arrangement of History and Chronology, particularly of that period which relates to America. Neatly bound.—price one dollar.

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In addition to the above, said STEPHENS sells every American publication and has received by the last arrivals a complete assortment of the best European books: also, a variety of stationary—all which he continues as usual to sell cheap; and offers to wholesale purchasers a liberal allowance, Gentlemen wishing to complete libraries, or embark in the book-selling business, can have a supply at the shortest notice, and every information necessary.

**FOR SALE,**

A Plantation situate in Hopewell township, about 3 and a half miles from Bridge-town, now occupied by Andrew High, containing 104 acres, 20 of which are good woodland, the rest arable. On the premises are a good two-story house, with a kitchen adjoining, a barn, and a variety of fruit trees. The whole is in good cedar fence. For further particulars enquire of

JOHN WETHMAN.

Aug. 4

**FOR SALE.**

A PART of the plantation whereon the subscriber now lives; situate in the county of Cumberland, New-Jersey, a short half mile above Cobansey bridge, containing one hundred acres; sixty of which are cleared and in good cedar fence, the remainder woodland. There is a lively stream of water running through the premises, on which is a small quantity of swamp meadow. A considerable part of the upland is under clover, part of which affords a good burden. On the said plantation is a good barn and some fruit trees.

Also a lot of valuable bank meadow of six acres, distant three miles, and a lot of good cedar swamp of six acres distant eighteen miles.

The above plantation is well situated for a farm store, or any mechanical business, laying on the main Philadelphia road: lots for building may be disposed of to good advantage; the situation is high, pleasant and healthy, and in full view of the growing village of Bridgetown.

EBENEZER SEELEY.

Laurel hill, April 9th, 1796

**FOR SALE,**

A lot of land, one mile from Bridge-town, on the road leading to Shiloh, containing ten acres, on 5 or 6 of which is young growing timber—the rest cleared. On the premises is a good log house 16 by 20 feet, with a well of excellent water at the door. For terms, apply at the Office of the Argus.

**VENDUE.**

On the 5th Sept. next, will be sold at public vendue at the house of the subscriber near Bridgetown, a variety of articles, among which are household and kitchen furniture, farming utensils, beds, bedding, a cupboard, an excellent milch cow, some young cattle, a good new seine and bateau, a sleigh, crows cut saw, &c. Conditions will be made known at the time and place of sale by the subscriber, who has for

**PRIVATE SALE,**

One half of the saw mill now in possession of Ephraim and Enos Seeley, and some lots and meadow adjacent to it—Also a number of lots of cedar swamp, some pine land, and a plantation of 60 acres, in the township of Maurice river.

For further information apply to the subscriber near Bridgetown.

ENOS SEELEY.

August 18.

**A H O G**

Came to the premises of the subscriber some time ago. Any person proving his property and paying charges may have him again.

REUBEN PEIRSON.

Aug. 18.

ALL persons indebted to the subscriber, on vendue accounts, are requested to make payment immediately.

EBENEZER SEELEY