



MISCELLANY.

For the CENTINEL.
MR. RUSSELL,

IN reading Lord Kaime's Sketches lately, I marked several passages, which struck me as containing some historical facts, not generally known.—They flew how rapidly, in modern times, the arts and sciences have hastened to perfection—and how crude were the ideas of legislation in Europe, but a comparatively few years since. I send you the volume, that you may occasionally introduce such extracts from it, as room or inclination may induce you to insert. Yours, HISTORICUS.

“ WITH respect to naval architecture, the first vessels were beams joined together, and covered with planks, pushed along with long poles in shallow water, and drawn by animals in deep water. To these succeeded trunks of trees cut hollow, termed by the Greeks *monoxylas*. The next were planks joined together in form of a *moxyale*. The thought of imitating a fish advanced naval architecture. A prow was constructed in imitation of the head, a stern with a moveable helm, in imitation of the tail, and oars in imitation of the fins. Sails were at last added; which invention was so early, that the contriver is unknown. Before the year 1545, ships of war in England had no port-holes for guns, as at present: They had only a few cannon placed on the upper deck.

“ ABOUT the end of the thirteenth century, spectacles for assisting the sight were invented by Alexander Spina, a monk of Pisa. So useful an invention cannot be too much extolled. At a period of life when the judgment is in maturity, and reading is of great benefit, the eyes begin to grow dim. One cannot help pitying the condition of bookish men before that invention; many of whom must have had their sight greatly impaired, while their appetite for reading was in vigour.

“ THE second step naturally in the art of writing, is, to represent each word by a mark, termed a letter, which is the Chinese way of writing: They have about 11,000 of these marks or letters in common use; and in matters of science, they employ to the number of 60,000.

“ THE art of writing with letters representing sounds, is, of all inventions, the most important, and the least obvious. The way of writing in China makes so naturally the second step in the progress of the art, that our good fortune in stumbling upon a way so much more perfect, cannot be sufficiently admired, when to it we are indebted for our superiority in literature above the Chinese. Their way of writing is a fatal obstruction to science; for it is so rivetted by inveterate practice, that the difficulty would not be greater to make them change their language, than their letters. Hieroglyphicks were a sort of writing, so miserably imperfect, as to make every improvement welcome; but as the Chinese make a tolerable shift with their own letters, however cumbersome to those who know better, they never dream of any improvement. Hence it may be averred, with greater certainty, that in China, the sciences, though still in infancy, will forever continue so.

IN the former part of the reign of Henry VIII. there did not grow in England cabbage, carrot, turnip, or other edible root; and it has been noted, that even Queen Catharine herself could not command a salad for dinner, until the King brought over a gardener from the Netherlands. About the same time, the artichoke, the apricot, the damask rose, made their first appearance in England. Turkeys, carps, and hops, were first known there in the year 1524. The currant shrub was brought from the island of Zant, ann. 1533, and the year 1540, cherry-trees from Flanders were first planted in Kent. It was in the year 1563 that knives were first made in England. Pocket-watches were brought there from Germany, ann. 1577. About the year 1580, coaches were introduced; before which time Queen Elizabeth, on publick occasions, rode behind her chamberlain. A saw-mill was erected near London, ann. 1633, but afterwards demolished, that it might not deprive the labouring poor of employment. How crude was the science of politicks, even in that late age!

HOWEL Dha, Prince of Wales, who died in the year 948, was their capital lawgiver. One of

his laws is, “ If any one kill or steal the cat that guards the prince's granary, he forfeits a milch ewe with her lamb; or as much wheat as will cover the cat, when suspended by the tail, the head touching the ground.” By the same lawgiver, a fine of twelve cows is enacted for a rape committed upon a maid, and eighteen for a rape upon a matron. If the fact be proved after being denied, the criminal for his fault pays as many billings as will cover the woman's posteriors.

A CLOCK that strikes the hours was unknown in Europe until the end of the twelfth century. And hence the custom of employing men to proclaim the hours during night; which to this day continues in Germany, Flanders and England.

“ THE art of reading made a very slow progress. To encourage that art in England, the capital punishment for murder was remitted if the criminal could but read, which in law language is termed *benefit of clergy*. One would imagine that the art must have made a very rapid progress when so greatly favoured: But there is a signal proof of the contrary; for so small an edition of the bible as six hundred copies, translated into English in the reign of Henry VIII. was not wholly sold off in three years.”

For the CENTINEL.

MR. RUSSELL,

I SEND you the following extract from the THIRD VOLUME of Dr. ADAMS's DEFENCE of the AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONS, not doubting your publishing it, as it contains the sentiments of so great and good a man, upon a subject so interesting and important to the people at large—but also as it shews the mind of the author respecting that ONLY EFFECTUAL BARRIER to tyranny and arbitrary power—EDUCATION.

Yours, POPPICOLA.

AN EXTRACT.

“ THE instruction of the people in every kind of knowledge, should be of the first concern in the practice of their moral duties as men, citizens, and christians, and of their political, and civil duties, as members of society, and freemen, ought to be the care of the publick, and of all who have any share in the conduct of its affairs, in a manner that never yet has been practised in any age or nation.

“ The education here intended is not merely that of the children of the rich and noble, but of every rank and class of people down to the lowest and poorest.—It is not too much to say that schools for the education of ALL, should be placed at convenient distances, and maintained at the publick expence. The revenues of the State would be applied infinitely better, more charitably, wisely, usefully, and therefore politically, in this way, than even in maintaining the poor.—This would be the best way of preventing the existence of the poor. If nations should ever be wise, instead of erecting thousands of useless offices, or engaging in unmeaning wars, they will make a fundamental maxim of this. In proportion as this is done, tyranny will disappear, kings and nobles will be made to feel their equitable equality with commoners, and commoners will see their interest and duty to respect the guardians of the laws; for guardians they must have as long as human nature endures. There is no room for doubt that the schools, academies, and universities, the stage, the press, the bar, pulpit and parliament, might all be improved to better effect than they have been in any country, for this great purpose. The emanations of error, folly and vice, which proceed from all these sources, might be lessened, and those of wisdom, virtue, and truth might be increased; more of decency and dignity might be added to the human character in high and low life; manners would assist the laws, and the laws reform manners; and imposture, superstition, knavery and tyranny, be made ashamed to show their heads before the wisdom and integrity, decency and delicacy, of a venerable publick opinion.”

CHAIN OF FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

[The following address is given the publick as a specimen of the inflammatory publications which have been distributed in France, to prejudice the subjects of that kingdom against the Ruling Powers.]

LONDON, June 4.

THE following paper was lately seized at a private printing press in Paris; a few copies

of which had been previously circulated, and one of them stuck on the city gates. Through the zeal of parties concerned, the officers of police got information and committed the remainder to the flames. The men who were at work, escaped.—A very diligent but private search was made to discover the authors and abettors.

TRANSLATION.

Fellow Citizens and Countrymen!

“ Your hearts are full of grief and indignation. Every tongue proclaims the cause. The king and his ministers have trampled with impunity on your dearest rights. He who should be the father of his people, is become their bitterest enemy and implacable oppressor!

“ Not content with mocking our loyal services; he dares to punish the men who are bold enough to tell him you feel! Your most industrious fellow citizens are punished with exile.

“ Can you live and suffer this? Existence is contemptible without its sweets—and those sweets of our existence, are our liberties. A certain personage and his abandoned adherents are attempting to tread upon our necks.—Not a single law remains unviolated, that can favour the progress of the king's power: They tear up government by the roots—while there remains no hold to shelter you from oppression.

“ Our remonstrances are called disloyal, because they are bold. Our right of complaining they pronounce injurious, though the only right we have left, and still it is irreconcilable to the constitution: Though our laws permit us to plead our grievances before the throne, they are sacrificed to injustice. The King tells us with a sneer, when we murmur, that we are misled. Detested hypocrisy! they enjoy our complaints instead of listening to them.—Honey drops from their tongue, while poison lurks within the heart.

“ Their mouths are filled with declaring a passion for the glory that results from reigning over free men, yet they have been the dagger that stabs the very vitals of the constitution. Alas! what redress can we expect from men who add perjury to their other crimes; and who violate without remorse, the most sacred obligations of society.

“ Alas! Friends and countrymen! The crisis is arrived, behold yourselves at the eve of liberty, or miserable and perpetual slavery! Fearless of the frowns and menaces of tyrants, let us pour in remonstrances from every corner of the nation. To these should it become necessary, let us add the most spirited manifestos.

“ May Heaven, and a repenting Sovereign, avert the horrors of a civil war; but if our entreaties prove in vain, shall we be tamely driven on to desperation?—No, let us make a last appeal to the all-powerful God of Battles.

“ Oh! may the names of all those who will not sacrifice even life, to break the chains these tyrants are forging for us, and for posterity, be branded with the blackest infamy! pursued by public detestation even beyond the grave! May they be marked by curling and bitterness for ever-lasting ages!

To your Tents,

O ISRAEL!

Of the SWEDES.

JUNE 21. Dispatches received in town yesterday contain the most positive advices, that an immediate declaration of war will take place on the part of Sweden against the Empress of Russia.

The immediate object of his Swedish Majesty, is, first, to recover the very valuable province of Finland, formerly belonging to the crown of Sweden; and secondly, should he succeed in this endeavour, to enter the province of Livonia, on the opposite shore, one of the most productive territories throughout Europe.

The King takes the field in person. There is an army of near 50,000 men in Finland, well provided in every respect, and the troops eager for conquests.

A treaty of defensive alliance has been some time negotiating between Sir James Harris, on the part of Great-Britain, and the Baron Alvensleben on the part of Prussia, which was finally concluded and signed by each party at Loo, on the 31st inst. and a messenger arrived with it on Thursday last, at the Marquis of Carmarthen's office.

On Wednesday last, the six malefactors condemned at Gloucester, were executed at that place.

Francis Turner, whose real name was JOHN, &c, addressed the crowd of spectators, admonishing them to beware by his sad fate, and avoid the practices which led him to this untimely end.—

CASTALIAN FOUNT. AMERICAN POETRY.

The HAPPY MAN.

By the late Dr. LADD.

Blest with the joys impassion'd fathers know, And all that heav'n could in a wife bestow: A wife endear'd to that congenial breast. In three sweet prattlers most supremely blest. Blest with enjoyments that on wealth attend, And blest by heav'n with many a social friend; In calm delight, whose ever-smiling rays Spread a sweet sunshine o'er thy happy days; And blest to know, that high enroll'd in fame, Ages shall love and venerate thy name. To ev'ry friend thy mem'ry dear shall be, And sweet the song be, when they sing of thee— Oh! read this verse, where blessings all combine, And view thyself in each descriptive line.

MISCELLANY.

HUMANITY of a RAVEN.

Mr. URBAN, Bath, Feb. 5.

YOU have given two instances of the sagacity, confidence (or what shall I call it?) of birds. Let me, therefore, give you one instance of the tenderness, I was about to say humanity of a raven. He lives, or did live three years since, at the Red Lion at Hungerford; his name, I think, is Rafe. You must know then, that, coming into the inn, my chaife run over, or bruised, the leg of my Newfoundland dog; and, while we were examining the injury done to the dog's foot Rafe was evidently a concerned spectator; for, the minute the dog was tied up under the manger with my horses, Rafe not only visited, but fetched him bones, and attended upon him with particular and repeated marks of kindness. The bird's notice of the dog was so marked, that I observed it to the hostler, for I had not heard a word before of the history of this benevolent creature. John then told me, that he had been bred from his pin-feather intimacy with a dog; that the affection between them was mutual; and that all the neighbourhood had often been witnesses of the innumerable acts of kindness they had conferred upon each other. Rafe's poor dog, after a while, broke his leg, and, during the long time he was confined, Rafe waited upon him constantly, carried him his provisions daily, and never scarce left him alone! One night by accident, the hostler had shut the stable door, and Rafe was deprived of the company of his friend the whole night; but the hostler found in the morning the bottom of the door so picked away, that, had it not been opened, Rafe would, in another hour, have made his own entrance-port. I then enquired of my landlady (a sensible woman) and heard what I have related confirmed by her, with several other singular traits of the kindness this bird shews to all dogs in general, but particularly to the maimed or wounded ones; but having committed these particulars to paper, and sent them for publication in the St. James's Chronicle, I have forgotten them. I hope and believe however, the bird is still living; and the traveller will find I have not overrated this wonderful bird's merit. In my next, I will give you some account of a real Newfoundland dog, once my property; for, though I know it will be deemed a long bow-string, I had rather be suspected of such a stretch, than omit to repeat what I saw, and what I verily believe my brother saw.

[Genl. Mag.] P. T.

* Rafe has been a widow or widower some years. † To my great surprize, it was not inserted in that paper. I suppose it was not credited, but my name is at the service of the doubtful.

ANECDOTES.

A WELL-KNOWN person, of an odd turn of humour, riding a horse-back, near Bath (England) happened to meet another equal to himself, in a lane so narrow that neither could pass without one giving way, which neither would do. Both made a halt, and not a single word was spoken until the first mentioned, deliberately pulled a newspaper out of his pocket, and began reading it to himself, with the utmost composure, when the other, determined to prove an equal degree of patience and obstinacy, leisurely took a pinch of snuff, and very gravely accosted him, "Sir, when you have done with that paper, I shall be glad to look at it," which so pleased the humourist, that he immediately pulled off his spectacles, and seized him by the hand, declaring at the same time, that "he should go home, and dine with him."

DR. F— being in England in the year 1775, was asked by a Nobleman, what would satisfy the Americans? He answered, that it might

easily be comprised in a few Re's, which he immediately wrote on a piece of paper. Thus,

- call your forces, -sore Castle William, -pair the damages done to Boston, -peal your unconstitutional acts, -nounce your pretensions to taxes, -fund the duties you have extorted; after this -quire, and -ceive payment for the destroyed reas, with the voluntary grants of the colonies, and then, -joice in a happy -conciliation.

For S. CAROLINA and GEORGIA,



THE Schooner

BETSEY, will sail in about ten days, and will take on board a few tons of Goods, on freight, if application is made soon. For freight or passage, apply to

JOHN LILLIE,

At his STORE, south side the TOWN-DOCK.— Where may be had,

A quantity of Cape-de-Verd HIDES, and GOAT-SKINS on reasonable terms.

Writing, Printing, Bonnet, Press, and every other kind of PAPER, may be had in any quantities, at the above Store, as cheap as at any Paper-Mill, in the Commonwealth.

Boston, August 23, 1788.

NATHAN BOND

IS now selling off (under sterling cost and charges) his whole stock in trade, consisting (among others) of the following articles, viz.

- Jeans, Blankets, Fullians, Baizes, Corduroys, Horse Nets at 18s. pair, Calicoes, Ribons, Calimancoes, Buttons, Shalloons, Twill, Tammies, Bonnet Paper of the first quality, Durants, Spectacles, Gauzes, Shears, White and pink Satin, Scythes, Lustrings, Ivory handled Knives and Forks, Ladies' silk and leather Gloves, Men's ditto, Buckles, Sewing Silk, Small Looking-Glasses, &c. &c. Silk and worsted Mitts.

Mr. BOND will still continue to carry on the Broker's Business, at his Shop, No. 31, Cornhill, where ready money will be given for all kinds of PUBLICK SECURITIES, and the same sold on reasonable terms.

All orders either for purchases, or sales, received from his friends, and customers, will be executed on moderate commissions, with secrecy and punctuality. Boston, July 30, 1788.

THOMAS WELLS'S

Customers and the Publick are informed,

THAT he has given up the Wine-Store, just below the Draw-Bridge, and taken the one lately occupied by Capt. DAVID BRADLEE, formerly by Mr. JOSEPH BUSH—where they may have

WINE S,

Old Jamaica Spirit, West-India Rum, brandy, Cider, Vinegar, and a few dozen excellent Bottled CLARET, and CIDER.

The same articles may be had under the Old South Meeting-House, at which places constant attendance is given, from morning until nine in the evening.

N. B. The quality and price of the Wines, &c. Mr. WELLS, leaves to his generous customers to judge of, which he hopes will be determined by their trying them.

Cash given for empty BOTTLES.

FRESH Bohea Tea, of the

first quality, Also, The First, Second and Third Parts of WEBSTER'S INSTITUTE, to be had at No. 44, CORNHILL. August 20, 1788.

ALL persons indebted to, or

having demands upon the Estate of Mr. JOSEPH PUTNAM, late of Boston deceased, Chair-maker, are desired to exhibit their accounts to JESSE PUTNAM, Executor. Boston, August 11, 1788.

WANTED to attend an Office, a Lad, who can write a tolerably good hand.—Inquire of the Printer.

Samuel Blagge,

Has for SALE, at his Store, on Mr. NATHAN SPEAR'S Wharf,

FRESH Bohea Tea, part of the

Columbia's cargo, lately arrived at New-York from Canton, Souchong Tea, Flour, Iron flat and square Bars—blistered Steel—draught Porter, fresh Leghorn Oil, in casks, and a quantity of INDIAN CORN. August, 1788.

On THURSDAY, the 9th day of October next,

Precisely at ONE o'clock, P. M.

At the Bunch-of-Grapes Tavern, in State-Street,

Will be put up to sale, at PUBLICK AUCTION, If not before disposed of at private sale,

THE Dwelling-House, for-

merly the property of Mr. Gibbs Atkins, now in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Ballard, situated at the corner of the lane, leading from Middle-Street, near the Rev. Doctor Lathrop's Meeting-House, to Fifth-Street, at the North-End of Boston. Also,

A valuable Wharf-Lot and

Flats, and a House-Lot fronting the same, in the lane leading from Charles-River Bridge, to the bottom of North-Street, and opposite to the passage-way leading into Charter-Street. Conditions to be made known at the place, and previous to the time of sale, by

RICHARD CRANCH, } Committee for the sale of confiscated estates in Suffolk County. SAMUEL BARRETT, } Boston, August, 19, 1788.

JACK ASSES.

THREE excellent JACKS,

in good order, just imported, one of which will be warranted—to be sold on reasonable terms. Inquire of the Printer. August 23.

To be SOLD, cheap.

A FEW hogheads of excel-

lent, high-proof Barbadoes RUM, on board the Brig Port-Roicway, JAMES WISHART, Master, lying at his Excellency the Governour's Wharf. August 23, 1788.

THE Copartnership of JONES

and FAULKNER, having been dissolved the 18th inst. by mutual consent, all persons indebted to, or having any demands on them, are requested to call on FRANCIS FAULKNER, for settlement. EPHRAIM JONES, FRANCIS FAULKNER.

Water-town, August 18, 1788.

To be SOLD.

Or exchanged for a house in Boston.

THAT delightful SEAT, on

Jamaica Plains, formerly the property of Benjamin Hollowell, Esq. containing about 20 acres of land—The House, Store and Out-houses, are in complete repair—the Kitchen Garden large, and well stored with excellent fruit trees, gooseberries, currants and strawberries; and the Pleasure Garden with flowers. For particulars inquire at No. 65, Cornhill, Boston. June 14, 1788.

To be SOLD.

TWO Ends of a two-story

Brick HOUSE, the corner of Titellon's School Lane and Middle-Street; being part of the Mansion-House of the late Mr. John Grant. Fronting Middle-Street 18 feet 6 inches—fronting the Lane 30 feet—the length of the Lot 89 feet, with a Barn in the rear, a story and half 15 by 15, six fire places, with a Well and a Cellar under the whole.

Country produce, West-India Goods, or a Vessel will be taken in pay. Inquire on the premises. Boston, Aug. 13, 1788.

LOST about six weeks since,

a SILVER WATCH, No. 343—maker's name, Edward Santelos, London. Whoever, having found the same, will give information thereof to the Printer, shall receive ONE GUINEA reward for their trouble. Boston, August, 13, 1788.

ALM. ANACK.

Table with 4 columns: August, H.W. 10r. & l., Remarks. Rows include Wed. 7 59 5 23 7 St. Augustine, Thur. 8 53 5 24 7 Berigé, Frida. 9 47 5 26 7