



MISCELLANY.

For the CENTINEL.
Mr. RUSSELL,

The day—the important day—big with the fate of the States of America, is just at hand.

THE system of federal government agreed on by the Convention is announced—therefore nothing will be wanting to give it efficacy, but the sanction of the approbation of the people of the different States.

A war between France and England appears to be inevitable, it not already begun—in this war America has no need to involve herself, as when under the government of Great-Britain.

Never was it known since society has been established among men, that any country has had so fair a chance as this country has at this time of rising superior to every difficulty—of paying off its national debts without distressing the industrious citizen—of supporting its public credit and eventually of becoming the admiration of the surrounding universe.

Should the several States agree (and there appears but little doubt remaining that they will) to adopt the federal system, we shall at once be acknowledged our proper rank among the nations of the earth—our laws respecting trade will be such as will soon convince the British nation that unless she will confer to deal with us upon terms of reciprocal advantage, her vessels will not be admitted to our ports, and that the produce of these States is necessary to the very existence of her settlements in Nova-Scotia, New Brunswick, and the West-Indies, every one is at length sufficiently convinced: By adopting the federal government, the value of the landed interest will immediately be increased—taxes will lessen—Commerce, Arts and every species of industry will rapidly increase—Emigrations from the old countries will instantly begin—the wilderness will be cultivated, and the fullest wishes of every true American will in a short time be realized.

Our government once established what a harvest would an European war be for our country—in a state of peace, with a warring world, our vessels would become the carriers to all Europe—hence the important branches of ship-building, and the many branches of business connected with it, would at once revive, and an American bottom would then be held in as much estimation by an European, as at present it is viewed with contempt.

My countrymen awake, and convince the foes of our country, that their malice is as ineffectual in peace, as their arms were in war.

A TRUE AMERICAN.

N. B. In the expected war depend on it the sun of Britain will set to rise no more, we shall then have the pleasure of beholding our worthy allies enjoying the success we sincerely wish them.

Extract from a General Description of China, lately published.

THE cold is severe at Pekin, and the heat excessive in the other provinces; the air, in general, is healthy, and men live to be very old. The mountains of China are said to contain mines of iron, tin, copper, quick-silver, silver, and gold. Prudent and political views have long prevented the opening of the latter. The enlightened chiefs of the first dynasties knew, that imaginary and fictitious wealth was not the basis of prosperity; they dreaded the discovering sources of luxury, and leading the people to neglect the natural riches of the soil, by applying themselves to other labours than those of agriculture. The wisdom and knowledge of the Chinese, in profiting by the advantageous situation of their rivers and lakes are worthy admiration. One of the most famous works of this kind is the celebrated canal, called by them the royal canal, six hundred leagues in length, which reaches from Canton to Pekin, and communicates with both the northern and southern provinces. In this a great number of other canals terminate, which extend up the country, and pass by the cities, towns, and neighbouring boroughs.

The population of this empire is indeed immense; and from the most circumstantial and careful calculations, it may be presumed that it amounts to near two hundred millions; that is to say, China contains nearly as many people as all

Europe: The latter, however, has one advantage which the former wants, a security from famine: situated in the remote and farthest part of Asia, and surrounded by barbarous nations. China is obliged to find subsistence for its innumerable inhabitants in itself. This has always been one object of the public administration. Granaries, and corn magazines are established in all towns of any magnitude, for the relief of the people in times of scarcity; but the delays of form often prevent its coming soon enough. When the harvest fails in one province, before the mandarines, who govern it, have sent their memorials to court, and before they have passed through all the offices, previous to their coming to the Emperor, who must afterwards assemble the great and inferior tribunals, and appoint commissaries for those provinces, the people are perishing by thousands.

Various species of sonorous stones are found in China, of which the Chinese have composed a musical instrument, the most ancient and most esteemed among them, which they call *king*. The blackest species of these stones are the most sonorous. It appears the Romans were acquainted with a sonorous stone; Pliny says that the stone called *chalcopyron*, or brass founding, is black; *Chalcopyron nigra est, sed illi æri tinnitum reddit*. Our chemists have at length found the secret of making from black marble, the instrument *king*, almost as sonorous as those of China.

Oranges are said to have been brought from China by the Portuguese. It is asserted that the first orange tree, and from which all the others in Europe have been produced, is still preserved at Lisbon, in the house of the Count de St. Laurent. The Chinese have a small kind of a lemon, yellow within, and sweet, which they eat with the skin, as we sometimes do apples in Europe.

It has been affirmed that the Chinese leave part of their land uncultivated; they, however, cultivate the very bottom of the waters; the soil of their lakes, ponds, and rivulets, yield them a harvest unknown among us. Their industrious activity has found resources in a great number of aquatic plants, several of which are accounted dainties at the best Chinese tables. The government, to encourage and set an example to the people, have taken care to plant the ponds, and other common waters which appertain to the state; and the Emperor himself has ordered his canals to be thus planted. The flowers and verdure of these useful plants almost cover the water which fall from the two immense cascades in the centre of Pekin, over which there is a public bridge, whence the magnificent gardens of the Emperor's palace may be seen.

One of the extraordinary productions of China is the tallow tree, which is about the height of our cherry trees; its fruit is contained in a skin, which has three spherical divisions, that open, when it is ripe, and yield three white kernels of the size of a small hazel nut. It is the skin of these nuts which possesses all the qualities of tallow; the colour, smell, and substance are exactly the same. The Chinese melt, and make candles from it, mixing only a small quantity of linseed oil, to soften and render it milder; had they the art of purifying it, as we purify tallow in Europe, their candles would not be inferior to ours. The Chinese collect a wax, very superior to that of bees, which is produced by small insects; that deposit it in species of tree, proper for their nourishment. The varnish-tree is still more precious. It has long been supposed the celebrated Chinese varnish was a composition, of which they alone possessed the secret; at present, it is known they are indebted to nature and their climate for this substance which gives so much lustre to many of their manufactures. It is, in fact, a kind of red gum, which drops from certain trees, and is a strong poison, since the people who collect it can only defend themselves from its destructive vapours by the use of preservatives, and many precautions.

The tea tree, or shrub, often grows on the sides of mountains, and among rocky cliffs, to come at which is frequently dangerous, and sometime impracticable. The Chinese, that they may gather the leaves, make use of a singular stratagem. These declivities are often the habitation of troops of monkeys, whom they mow at, mock, and irritate, until the animals, to revenge themselves, break off the branches, and throw them down on their inferiors; which branches the Chinese afterwards strip of their leaves."

From the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

THE former distinction of the citizens of America into whigs and Tories, should be lost in the more important distinction of federal and anti-federal men. The former are the friends of liberty and independence—the latter are the enemies of liberty, and the secret abettors of the interests of Great-Britain.

Should the federal government be rejected (AWFUL WORDS) a correspondent has favoured us with the following paragraphs, to be published in our paper in the month of June, 1789.

On the 30th ult. his Excellency Daniel Shays, Esq. took possession of the government of Massachusetts. The execution of ———, Esq. the late tyrannical governor, was to take place the next day.

Accounts from New-Jersey grow every day more alarming. The people have grown desperate from the oppressions of their new masters, and have secretly, it is said, dispatched a messenger to the Court of Great-Britain, praying to be taken again under the protection of the British Crown.

We hear from Richmond, that the new state-house lately erected there was burnt by a mob from Berkely county, on account of the Assembly refusing to emit paper money. From the number and daring spirit of the mob, government have judged it most prudent not to meddle with them.

Yesterday 300 ship carpenters embarked from this city for Nova-Scotia, to be employed in his Britannick Majesty's ship-yards at Halifax.

We hear from Cumberland, Franklin and Bedford counties, in this state, that immense quantities of wheat are rotting in stacks and barns, owing to the demand for that article having ceased, in consequence of our ships being shut out of all the ports of Europe and the West-Indies.

We hear that 300 families left Chester county last week, to settle at Kentucke. Their farms were exposed to sale before they fat off, but many of them could not be raised to the value of the taxes that were due on them.

On Saturday last were interred, from the Betering-house, the remains of Mrs. Mary ———. This venerable lady was once in easy circumstances, but having sold property to the amount of 5000l. and lodged it in the funds, which, from the convulsions and distractions of our country, have unfortunately become insolvent, she was obliged to retire to the City Poor-house. Her certificates were sold on the Monday following her interment, but did not bring as much cash as paid for her winding sheet.

By a vessel just arrived from L'Orient we learn, that the partition treaty between Great-Britain and the Emperor of Morocco, was signed on the 25th of April last, at London. The Emperor is to have possession of all the states to the southward of Pennsylvania, and Great Britain is to possess all the states to the eastward and northward of Pennsylvania, inclusive of this middle state. Private letters from Loodon add, that Silas Dean, Esq. is to be appointed Governour of Connecticut, and Joseph Galloway, Esq. is to be appointed Governour of Pennsylvania. The government of Rhode-Island was offered to Brigadier-General Arnold, who refused to accept of it, urging, as the reason of his refusal, that he was afraid of being corrupted by living in such a nest of speculators and traitors.

But, adds our correspondent, should the federal government be adopted, the following paragraphs will probably have a place in our paper in the same month, viz. in June, 1789:—

Yesterday arrived in this city his Excellency the Earl of Surry, from the Court of Great-Britain, as Envoy Extraordinary to the United States. He was received by the principal Secretary of State, and introduced to the President-General, who received him with great marks of politeness, at the federal state-house. His Lordship's errand to America, is to negotiate a commercial treaty with the United States. The foundation of this treaty is, that all British ports are to be opened to American vessels, duty free, and a proposal to build 200 ships every year in the ports of Boston, New-York, Philadelphia and Charleston.

Last evening arrived at Billingsport, the ship Van Berkel, Nicholas Van Vleck, master, from Amsterdam, with 100 reputable families on board, who have fled from the commotions which now



CASTALIAN FOUNT.

Mr. CENTINEL, Your Fount has lately issued an ocean of political waters...

An EPI T A P H On a scolding Wife.

WE lived one and twenty years, As man and wife together, I coul'd not stay her longer here...

MISCELLANT.

Mr. EDITOR,

A SMALL work has lately appeared in Germany, under the title of "Joseph's Gebetbuch" (the Emperor's prayer-book) from which I have translated...

The WEEKLY MONITOR.

P I T Y.

AS blossoms and flowers are strewn upon the earth by the hand of spring; as the kindness of summer produceth in perfection the bounties of harvest...

He who pitieth another, recommendeth himself; but he who is without compassion, deserveth it not.

But the tears of the compassionate are sweeter than dew drops falling from roses on the bosom of the earth.

Shut not thine ear therefore against the cries of the poor; neither harden thine heart against the calamities of the innocent.

When the fatherless call upon thee, when the widow's heart is sunk, and she imploreth thy assistance with tears of sorrow...

When thou seest the naked wanderer of the street, shivering with cold, and destitute of habitation; let bounty open thine heart...

Redford Webster

INFORMS his Friends and Customers, That he has removed from Union-Street to the sign of the MOHAR, four doors Northward of the Draw-Bridge in Ann-Street...

Drugs and Medicine, genuine. Attendance at all hours. Sept. 26.

JUST ARRIVED,

And to be sold, by

James Huyman,

At his STORE, on FOSTER'S Wharf, GENUINE Holland's Gin in cases and jugs, Pitch of the best quality...

Sacred Musick.

A CONCERT of SACRED MUSICK is intended, at the CHAPEL CHURCH, on THURSDAY, 4th October next, to begin at 3 o'clock, P. M.

ACT I. 1Vth PERIODICAL OVERTURE. FITZ. ANTHEM—"Except the Lord build the House..." ACT II. ANTHEM—"O Lord God of Israel..."

Tickets at 3s. each, may be had of Mr. Hastings, at the Post-Office—at Col. Hurd's Office, State-Street—of Messrs William & Josiah Brown...

FOR, Turpentine, Rosin and Spirits of Turpentine. A few casks New-England Rum, and a quantity of best Virginia COALS...

For LONDON, THE Ship MARY, TRISTRAM BARNARD, Master, lying at the Long-Wharf, will sail on or before the first of November next.

Cash paid for POT and PEARL ASHES. Boston, 25th September.

WHEREAS Mrs. JEANE URQUHART, an absentee Wife for almost thirteen years & half has refused to take up with my Bed and Board...

By Permission of the Selectmen.

James Leach

HAS opened a SCHOOL in Stoddard's Hall, the bottom of Cross-Street, where he proposes to teach ARITHMETICK, and several other branches of the MATHEMATICKS.

Andrew Campbell's

EVENING-SCHOOL (opposite the Friends' Meeting-House) IS now opened. The price is very moderate—not exceeding Twelve Shillings, per quarter...

WRITING, Arithmetick, Navigation, Surveying, Gauging &c. &c. taught in the best manner, and at a reasonable price...

JOHN POPE.

N. B. His Evening School is opened. September 24 1787.

THREE FARMS lying in Stoneham, known by the name of Charlestown Farms. A piece of LAND, of about thirteen acres...

A piece of LAND, containing about twenty acres, known by the name of the High Fields, back of Ploughed-hill, in Charlestown.

About twenty-four acres of LAND lying in Charlestown, known by the name of Charlestown Common, lying one mile and one quarter from Charles-river Bridge...

WANTS EMPLOY, A PERSON acquainted with every branch of the DISTILLING-BUSINESS. Inquire of the Printer.

To be SOLD, CHEAP, THAT valuable Building, known by the name of CONCERT-HALL. Inquire of WILLIAM TURNER.

A Large, commodious House, with Stable, Coach-House, Gardens, and other accommodations, near Fort-Hill. A large House, with a Shop, good Yard, Garden, and Out-houses...

Table with columns for date, high water, rising, and setting of the sun, and remarks.

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