

# The Massachusetts Gazette.

(VOL. VI.)

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Printed and published, every *Tuesday* and *Friday*, by SAMUEL HALL, in State-Street, BOSTON.

From the Political Journal, printed at Brussels.

FRANKFORT, (Germany) December 11.

TO prevent the errors of inattentive Journalists, who are either ignorant or little skilled in these matters, we here present our readers with an exact calculation of the population and extent of the different kingdoms and states of Europe, by an eminent German author. It is to be remembered that the German mile is to the French league in the proportion of 15 to 25, that is to say, three German miles are equal to five French leagues, or fifteen English miles.

I. The German empire extends from 20d. 5m. to 36d. 40m. west longitude, and from 45d. 12m. to 55d. north longitude, contains 12,000 square miles, and 26,000,000 inhabitants.

II. Denmark from 24d. 20m. to 30d. 40m. longitude, and from 54d. 20m. to 25d. 40m. latitude; Norway, from 58d. to 71d. north latitude; Iceland, from 63d. to 71d. north latitude, contain 11,400 square miles, and 2,200,000 inhabitants.

III. Sweden from 29d. to 49d. longitude, and from 55d. to 70d. latitude, contains 13,057 square miles, and 3,000,000 inhabitants.

IV. Russian empire in Europe, from 40d. to 80d. longitude, and from 44d. 40m. to 70d. latitude, according to its ancient limits towards the East, contains 63,000, and according to its modern limits on the same side, 74,636 square miles, and 20,000,000 inhabitants.

V. Poland and Lithuania, from 33d. to 51d. longitude, and from 47d. to 57d. latitude, contain 10,050 square miles, and 8,500,000 inhabitants.

VI. Prussia, from 52d. to 56d. north latitude, contains 1,384 square miles, and 1,500,000 inhabitants.

VII. Portugal, from 8d. 40m. to 42d. longitude, and from 37d. to 42d. north latitude, contains 1,711 square miles, and 2,230,000 inhabitants.

VIII. Spain, from 8d. to 21d. longitude, and from 36d. to 44d. north latitude, contains 9,278 square miles, and 10,500,000 inhabitants.

IX. France, from 12d. to 31d. longitude, and from 42d. to 51d. latitude, contains 10,200 square miles, and 25,300,000 inhabitants.

X. Great-Britain and Ireland, from 7d. to 20d. longitude, and from 50d. to 62d. latitude, contain 6,308 square miles, and 11,800,000 inhabitants.

XI. United Netherlands, from 40d. 48m. to 25d. west longitude, and from 51d. 20m. to 53d. 30m. north latitude, contain 625 square miles, and 2,500,000 inhabitants.

XII. Swiss Cantons, from 23d. 40m. to 28d. 10m. longitude, and from 45d. 45m. to 47d. 30m. latitude, contains 995 square miles, and 2,000,000 inhabitants.

XIII. Italy, from 37d. to 46d. 30m. latitude, and from 23d. 30m. to 36d. 30m. west longitude, contains 5,625 square miles, and 16,250,000 inhabitants.

XIV. Turkish Empire in Europe, from 34d. to 50d. longitude, and from 34d. to 49d. latitude, contains 11,410 square miles, and 8,000,000 inhabitants.

XV. Hungary, Styria, Transylvania, between the 44th and 50th degree of north latitude, contain 5,757 square miles, and 5,170,000 inhabitants.

XVI. Galicia and Lodomeria contain 1,280 square miles, and 2,800,000 inhabitants.

Extent in Square Geographical Miles.

163,041 square miles, according to a moderate computation.

According to Busching, 170,000  
Ditto Templeman, 171,831  
Ditto Kirsch, 150,140  
Ditto Bergman, 181,632  
Ditto Crome, 174,090

## POPULATION.

147,750,000 Souls.  
According to Busching, 140,000,000  
Ditto to the highest estimation, 150,000,000  
Ditto Crome, 146,362,500  
906 individuals on a mile square,  
According to Busching, 824  
Ditto to the highest estimation, 962  
Ditto Crome, 841

## L O N D O N,

March 29. A letter from Italy says, "the inhabitants of Rimini have lived in the fields during the months of January and February, notwithstanding the inclemency of the season, the earth having been in constant motion, and the houses which appeared best able to resist the shocks, having successively given way to their violence. The great church of St. Francis, the sumptuous monument of the munificence of the Court of Malatella, is entirely overthrown; the famous Arch of Augustus, which seemed of strength sufficient to defy the effects of time for ages to come, is split in the middle; and Trajan's bridge has suffered considerable damage. The custom-house is wholly in ruins, and more than 40 persons have lost their lives from the fall of buildings in the city and its environs."

March 30. The Emperour of Germany has lately followed the example of his humane brother-in-law, the most Christian King, and forbidden the arretling of his subjects for debt. Of what does the boasted of liberty of England consist? and what would be the fate of half our British senators, were they not protected by the privilege of Parliament?

A letter from Cadiz, dated December 29, says, "The 23d and 24th inst. we experienced such a storm, or rather hurricane here, as has not been seen a long time; the sea broke in over almost half Cadiz, and in the streets it may be said to rain salt water, from the spray. Since this we have received the most melancholy accounts of the number of vessels call away. The captain of the Bay has had advice of upwards of 80 vessels and barks being lost from hence to Cape Trefulgar, among which I am sorry to inform you, by papers dove on shore, that the Bilbao Packet, James Wray, jun. master, from Galipoli to Bruges, with oil, is totally lost, and all on board perished. Nothing can be more distressing than to see the number of dead bodies and pieces of wrecks continually washing on shore. I assure you I never saw such a terrible and awful sight; the sea ran mountains high, threatening Cadiz to be swallowed up every moment, which will certainly be the case, sooner or later. I was on the cathedral, which is not twenty yards from the sea, and it was with difficulty I could stand, the spray continually passing over me. We have had no news as yet from the coast of San Lucar, which, as it is worse than off Cape Trefulgar, we expect to be very bad. There are missing out of this port, and Port St. Mary, 18 fishing boats, with upwards of 300 people on board, all supposed to have perished."

Among the Societies on the Continent little known, but of increasing reputation, is the Economical Society at Madrid. The Spanish nation is emerging from its indolence; they are becoming good chymists, good philosophers, good physicians, and good patriots. This truly patriotic institution proposes for the first distribution of the prizes in 1787, on the day of St. Isidore, to reward with a prize of 2,250 rials (a rial at Madrid is equal in value to about 6d. sterling), the best memoir on the following question: "What is the true spirit of a legislation favourable to agriculture, industry, arts, and the commerce of a great kingdom?" The author is expected to apply his opinion to the different possessions of Spain, considered with relation to their different climates, productions, and the manners of their inhabitants. Foreigners are admitted among the candidates; and dissertations may be written either in Spanish, French, English, Portuguese, or Latin.

April 2. The ARTS now being of prime consideration in a view to mere TRADE, the commercial treaties and regulations, be considered accordingly:

The export trade of our engravings to France far exceeds the trade at home. The trade at home is chiefly in low priced prints, little ovals, and furniture decorations. Of the more costly productions, the French exceed, by three to one, the buyers in England. In Paris alone, to Sir R. Strange's last print from Vandyke, the subscriptions there exceeded ours, as seventeen to three. The calculation in all undertakings is on the foreign sale, being thrice above our own.

Spain is also beginning to deal largely in this commodity, which adverting to the state of the art in this country, is, indeed, "a commodity of good name."—A late order from Madrid to Messrs. Boydell exceeded 1500l. sterling.

Portugal, by the uncorrected error of some religious persuasion, prohibits all importations of engravings. An error of this sort is not now likely to mislead even Lisbon long—that port will soon be opened to the prevailing powers of the British graver.

The Bailli de Suffrein has conceived a project worthy of his great soul, as well as of the power which he represents. Lately, in quality of Ambassador from Malta, he assembled all the foreign ministers to find out means for repressing the Barbary powers, which have now risen to so great a height. His scheme is either for the maritime states of Europe to enter into an agreement not to furnish them with any more naval stores, or to form a league in order to put an end to the piracies, or at least to lessen them. As soon as the ministers with whom he has conferred, shall have received their answers from their respective courts, we shall know whether the proposals and plan are capable of being put in execution.

The celebrated General Lloyd lately evinced, by a number of examples, which occurred in the course of the last war, that the sword was to a soldier almost useless, and ought to be laid aside. He proposed that three fourths of our infantry should be armed with a musket and a short lance to fix on it, instead of the bayonet now in use. The other fourth-part were to be armed with a pike twelve feet long, a good sabre, and a pair of pistols, which they were to carry in their belt. Why these arms were not adopted by the officers who had the direction of our tactics, we cannot say, but it is certain one of the greatest monarchs in Europe has directed this new mode of defence to be practised by all the infantry in his armies.

The dormant title of Duke of Clarence is to be revived in the person of his Majesty's fourth son, Prince Edward, now on his travels abroad.

Anecdote of a distinguished Lord Chief Justice.

This celebrated Judge, being on the Midland circuit, a Mr. Shirley, of the county of Leicester, was brought before him, charged with having committed a rape on the body of one of his tenant's daughters.—The judge was remarkable for possessing an uncommon share of delicacy, and therefore on the day preceeding that of the intended trial, ordered the Crier of the Court to give public notice, that it would come on the next morning at seven o'clock, thereby trulling that the female sex would absent themselves on such an occasion,—instead of which, the Ladies came pouring in numbers into the Court, and filled the gallery by six o'clock. At length the Judge having heard all that the witnesses had to say in support of the charge, desired that the prisoner would enter upon his defence. Mr. Shirley, therefore, informed the Court, that as he was one evening walking over his grounds, he espied his prosecutrix carrying away a bundle of faggots from a pile that belonged to him, and observing she was a handsome girl, he jocosely told her, if ever he caught her repeating the transgression, he would assuredly repay himself in a way most agreeable to his wishes.—Business calling him the next day to town, he was absent about a fortnight, and on his return home, one of his servants desired to know whether he had given permission to a young woman to carry away faggots from such a pile, so that she had done it every evening since his departure.—It immediately occurred to him that it must be the girl he had seen before, and about the same hour he repaired to the old spot, where he had not waited long before she made her appearance.—To be brief—he jocularly desired the girl to make personal restitution, which, without hesitation or reluctance, she complied with.—Mr. Shirley, in short, was honourably acquitted; but before he departed the Court, the Judge desired to give him one piece of advice. If, says his Lordship, you should ever find a woman stealing your faggots again, do not threaten her with such a punishment, for if you do, believe me, that the ladies in the gallery won't leave you a stake in your hedge.



To the Publisher of the MASSACHUSETTS GAZETTE.  
The following, which I met with in a late Philadelphia paper, may, I believe, with some variation, suit the meridian of Bolton. Besides the abuses therein exposed, it furnishes some useful hints for the due administration of justice. That they may be attended to, as far as they are applicable to this town, is the sincere wish of  
A BOSTONIAN.

To the SOCIETY instituted for POLITICAL ENQUIRY at the house of his Excellency Dr. FRANKLIN.

GENTLEMEN,

AS the object of your Enquiries is certainly interesting to every man, and calls for universal information and support, I am induced to lay before you some hints, which, being matured by your investigation, and sanctioned by your influence, may tend to the removal of an evil that at present contaminates the stream of publick justice.

It would appear cruel, perhaps, to expose to the publick eye, the monstrous abuses and oppressions of those retailers of justice, who keep open shops for the disposal of it; but such as doubt, may resort to the records of the justices themselves, to the journals of the prisons, and to the experience of their neighbours. Indeed they are so flagrant, that they have brought the high and honourable office of *Justice of the Peace* into such discredit and contempt, that good men avoid it, and persons of property (those only who should execute the charge) disclaim it. A few there are, who see the enormity, and would act as becomes the office; but they, alas! are overpowered by the mean and the interested, and their voices are too weak to effect any thing.

Those magistrates of an inferior kind are often of trades which connect them with the offender they should punish; and too many of them are so poor, that their dinner depends upon a commitment. Instances might be produced of such persons, in the exercise of their criminal jurisdiction, stretching their power to provide materials, making offenders that they may afterwards punish them, seizing goods on the pretence that they were stolen, in order to fabricate an illegal charge for the trouble and expence of keeping and storage, and greedily grasping at the little money which, till the hour of acquittal or condemnation, might afford some comfort in a jail to an unfortunate wretch, for the mercenary purpose of securing, at all events, the payment of their fees.

In the civil department, the prostitution of their power is equally apparent, and the best customer, without regard to the merits of the case, is sure to be the heaviest in the scale of justice. Strifes are fomented, suits are encouraged, and all the process of warrants, judgments and executions strictly pursued, with the sole view of multiplying the perquisites of office.

Such are the abuses; we must now consider the remedy, and I would propose that the legislature should be called upon to make the following regulations, which might be so modelled as not to interfere with the mode of electing justices of the peace prescribed by the constitution.

I. THAT a proper number of magistrates, men of some substance, and of known integrity, should be appointed to the administration of justice; that they should be indispensably obliged to attend in a certain rotation; and that the publick make them an allowance for the time which they bestow upon the publick service.

II. Two of these gentlemen should be appointed to sit every day; and the clerk, or some proper officer having a list of their names, should summon them with due notice. The same two should not sit any two succeeding days, but one should go off each day, and a new one take the charge in his place, the other who had been on the bench the preceding day remaining to initiate him who thus comes in.

III. This rotation of service should be carefully and invariably observed; but in case of sickness, or other real and reasonable cause, the person being excused, the clerk alone should take the care of summoning another, and that other should be always the next upon the list, without any exception; so there should be no collusion.

IV. AGREEABLY to this method, two impartial and upright magistrates should sit at some appointed place every day, attended by a clerk, and proper officer: before these, and these only, the common business of the magistracy should be brought, and by them determined in a summary way.

This I hope will be thought a plain and easy method; and certainly it would be effectual. Here could be no combination, nor tyranny of a single person. The prisons could not be filled with any but those who deserved to be there; nor the pub-

lick robbed, it knows not how, of the service of a multitude of indigent persons; for in the present course of the retailers practice in admitting what they presume to miscall *justice*, the fees are the great object, the office being considered as a *trade*: for the sake of these, as often as for their debts or offences, are persons committed to prison, and a creditor may relent, or a jury may acquit, but alas! this will not discharge them from their fetters. The publick hears no more of them; they are dragged back to prison for their fees, and remain there destitute, sick and miserable, till death is a mercy.—This is no exaggeration of fact, the prisons shew it at this hour, and it is against this detestable oppression that humanity proposes the present alteration.

If you, gentlemen, and those on whom the publick care depends, should think these hints deserve regard, there are but a few things more that I would add to them. I. That no tap or grog-house be allowed in any prison, for it converts punishment to jollity, or introduces debauchery to dispel care. II. That no magistrate should have a tenant licensed within his jurisdiction; for all conspiracies are formed in petty publick-houses; and when the landlord can prevent punishment, fear will seldom take place. III. If to these were added a certain and punctual reward for the discovery, and apprehending robbers, not to go through the hands of interested persons, I think the present design would be completed. The profits of the trade of justicing being removed, we should neither have half the rogues, nor half the candidates.

Permit me to conclude by assuring you, gentlemen, that in this, or in any other respect, I shall be happy to promote the utility of your labours.

R. S. S.

#### A NECDOTE.

IN 1758, while the King of Prussia was besieging Ormutray, the French Ambassador, alarmed at the probable consequences of that King's success, was desirous of persuading the Empress Queen to think of some terms of accommodation. He ventured to ask her whether, in case of bad fortune, she would wait for her victorious enemy at Vienna?—"No, sir—(said that Princess)—when he advances to Vienna, I will retreat to Presburg."—"And what, Madam, (replied the Ambassador) if Vienna should not be able to arrest the conqueror in his progress? you will hardly throw yourself into the arms of the Turk?"—"That I will never do (answered the Empress) I will collect my faithful Hungarians, and perhaps I may give battle to the King before Presburg: should I be defeated, I will write a letter to him, in which I will let him know that our differences are inexpiable; and that therefore I will meet him at a place to be named, in my post-chaise, with a brace of pistols; that we will draw up near to each other, and he shall then perceive, that I have a courage above my fortune, and a resolution superior to my sex."

LONDON, March 30.

In April, 1782, a Lascar Indian, engaged as cook on board a vessel bound from England to the coast of Guinea, upon a trading voyage, particularly for slaves. After trading a few weeks upon the coast, the Captain came on board one day, and having an altercation with his Lascar cook, ordered the mate to set him immediately on shore, with his chest and clothes. This cruel sentence was instantly executed—the wretched Lascar was hurried into the boat, and landed on one of the Plainain islands. This island was inhabited solely by savages, who were, however, under the government of a negro, who had been a considerable time in England, and erected a fort there for the purpose of defending his people from the savages of the continent, upon whom he made frequent depredations, by carrying off the people, and selling them into slavery. This Lascar well knew, that death or slavery must be his fate. For several nights he wandered on the island, hiding himself in the day. On the ninth day, the continental savages made a descent upon this island in great numbers, attacked the fort, and having carried it, put the commander to death, with every creature found in his garrison, and all the other inhabitants on the island able to bear arms. The Lascar, during this confusion, seized a canoe, and trusting himself to the mercy of the sea, departed from the island; and hunger compelling him to land upon the continent, he was there discovered by a party of thirty savages, who tied his hands behind his back, and marched him 14 miles to one of their villages. Here a consultation was held upon his fate. It was proposed to put him to death; but one of the savages discovering that his hair was like their own, they resolved to sell him for a slave. For this purpose he was carried to the coast, and sold to the Captain of a West-India tra-

der, and by him again sold to the Captain of a Liverpool vessel, who brought him back to England, where he is now suing for justice.

An ingenious correspondent says, that there is as much thread spun in one day at Holywell, in Flintshire, as will surround the globe at the equator—a pound of cotton being generally spun into the length of 69 miles; but, with particular care, Mr. Atherton's new machines will spin out the pound into the length of 80 miles and upwards. But the *ne plus ultra* of mechanism is discovered in the silk manufactory of Derby, where one machine, turned by a single water wheel, actuates no less than 97,746 several wheels, and employs 3 or 4000 overlookers to act in concert with it. It contains 26,586 principal wheels, any one of which may be stopped separately, one regulator governing the whole work. It works 70,728 yards of silk every time the water wheel goes round, being three times in a minute—218,504,960 yards day and night: a girl eleven years old does the work of 33 persons.

A Philadelphia paper of May 3d, contains the following advertisement.—"May be seen at Mr. William Pinchon's, in second-street, a MALE CHILD, from North-Carolina, of the most extraordinary size ever known of the same age. His body and limbs are much larger than any man's of the middle size. Nothing in the human shape can exceed him in point of beauty in every respect—he is healthy, amazing strong and active, and has frequently lifted men who have weighed from 150 to 160 pounds. He is now six years old, and weighs 145 pounds. He has given the greatest satisfaction to all who have seen him, and is thought to be the greatest phenomenon of the present age."

JUST PUBLISHED,

## The Vision of Columbus;

A POEM, in nine Books.

By JOEL BARLOW, Esq.

Subscribers to the above may receive their Books by applying at the BOSTON BOOK-STORE, No. 59, Cornhill. Boston, MAY 23.

Boston, May 21, 1787.

THE Fellows of the MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SOCIETY are hereby informed, that a Meeting of said Society will be held on Wednesday, 6th June, at their Room in Court-Street, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The CENSORS will meet on Thursday, 7th of June, for the purpose of examining all such Candidates for the practice of Physick and Surgery, as shall apply, on or before the Meeting of the Society, to N. W. APPLETON, Recording Sec'y.

## Glass and China Ware

JUST OPENED,

And to be sold at Shop No. 21,

Next to Messrs. DEBLOIS's new Store, in Marlborough Street—consulting of

## A GREAT variety of Wine

Glasses, Tumblers, Decanters, &c. cut and plain; China of all sorts, plain and enamelled, wholesale and retail. A few Crates coarse Ware, Lead and Wooden Toys, &c.

April 23, 1787.

(16w)

IF any person has found a red *Cornelian* SEAL, on which is engraved a Buck's Head as the Crest of a Family Arms, he will very much oblige J. DEVERELL by leaving it at his Shop, No. 23, Marlborough-street, where he will be amply rewarded for his trouble.

ALL Persons who have any demands on the late Company of HINKLEY and KNEELAND, are desired to bring in the same, immediately, to the Subscriber; and all those indebted to said Company, or the Company of PARKMAN and HINKLEY, are requested to pay their dues without delay, in order for a speedy settlement of said Companies' accounts. (ttf)  
JOHN KNEELAND, jun. surviving Partner.

THE subscribers being appointed, by the Hon. Benjamin Greenleaf, Esq. Judge of Probate for the county of Essex, commissioners on the estate of Mr. William Bradley, late of Haverhill, yeoman, deceased, represented insolvent; and six months being allowed for the several creditors to bring in and prove their claims, hereby give notice, that they shall attend, for that purpose, at the house of Peter Bradley, innholder, in said Haverhill, on the last Tuesday of May, current, and on the five following months, from two to six o'clock, P. M.

JAMES BRICKETT, } Commissioners.  
PHINEAS CARLETON, }

Haverhill, May 10, 1787.