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Download date	2026-05-13 18:48:10
Link to Item	https://soar.kennesaw.edu/handle/11360/7249

The Massachusetts



CENTINEL.

PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

Uninfluenced by Party, we aim to be JUST.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1788. [12s. per ann.] NUMBER 1, of VOL. IX. Price Three Cents.

MISCELLANY.

From the CONNECTICUT COURANT.
The LANDHOLDER, No. 11.
To the Citizens of New-Hampshire.

THOSE who wish to enjoy the blessings of society must be willing to suffer some restraint of personal liberty, and devote some part of their property to the publick that the remainder may be secured and protected. The cheapest form of government is not always best; for parsimony though it spends little, generally gains nothing. Neither is that the best government which imposes the least restraint on its subjects; for the benefit of having others restrained, may be greater than the disadvantage of being restrained ourselves. That is the best form of government which returns the greatest number of advantages in proportion to the disadvantages with which it is attended. Measured by this rule, the state of New-Hampshire cannot expect a Constitution preferable to that now proposed for the union: In point of defence it gives you the force of the whole empire, so arranged as to act speedily and in concert, which is an article of the greatest importance to the frontier States. With the present generation of men, national interest is the measure by which war or peace are determined; and when we see the British nation, by a late treaty, paying an enormous annual subsidy to the little principality of Hesse Cassel for the purpose of retaining her in military alliance, it should teach us the necessity of those parts in the Constitution, which enable the efficient force of the whole to be opposed to an invasion of any part.

A national revenue and the manner of collecting it is another very interesting matter, and here the citizens of New-Hampshire have better terms offered them, than their local situation can ever enable them to demand or enforce. Impost and duties on trade which must be collected in the great importing towns, are the means by which an American revenue will be principally, and perhaps, wholly raised. But a point of your State comes near the sea, and that point so situated that it never can collect commerce, and become an emporium for the whole State—Nineteen parts in twenty of New-Hampshire are greatly inland, so that local situation necessitates you to be an agricultural people; and this is not a hard necessity if you now form such a political connection with the other States, as will entitle you to a just share in that revenue they raise on commerce. New-York, the trading towns on Connecticut river, and Bolton, are the sources from which a great part of your foreign supplies will be obtained, and where your produce will be exposed for market.—In all these places an impost is collected, of which, as consumers, you pay a share without deriving any publick benefit. You cannot expect any alteration in the private systems of these States, unless effected by the proposed government, neither to remedy the evil can you command trade from the natural channels; but must sit down contented under the burden, if the present hour of deliverance be not accepted. This argument alone, if there were no other, ought to decide you in favour of adoption.

It has been said that you object to the number of inhabitants being a ratio to determine your proportion of the national expense—that your lands are poor but the climate favourable to population which will draw a share of expense beyond your ability to pay. I do not think this objection well founded. Long experience hath taught that the number of industrious inhabitants in any climate is not only the strength, but the wealth of a State, and very justly measures their ability for defraying publick expenses, without encroaching on the necessary support of life.—If a great proportion of your lands are barren, you ought likewise to remember another rule of nature; that the population and fertility in any tract of country will be proportioned to each other. Accidental causes for a short time may interrupt the rule, but they cannot be of dangerous continuance. Force may controul in a despotic government, and commerce may interrupt it in an advantageous situation for trade; but from the first of these causes you have no reason to fear, and the last should it happen will increase wealth with numbers.

The fishery is a source of wealth and an object of immense consequence to all the eastern coasts. The jealousy of European nations, ought to teach us its value. So far as you become a navigating people, the fishery should be an object of your attention. It cannot flourish until patroniz-

ed and protected by the general government. All the interests of navigation and commerce must be protected by the union or come to ruin, and in our present system where is the power to do it. When Americans are debarred the fishery, as will soon be the case unless a remedy is provided, all the eastern shore will become miserably poor.

Your forests embosom an immense quantity of timber for ship-building and the lumber trade—but of how little value at present you cannot be ignorant, and the value cannot increase until American navigation and commerce are placed on a respectable footing, which no single State can do for itself.—The embarrassments of trade lower the price of your produce, which with the distance of transportation almost absorbs the value; and when by a long journey we have arrived at the place of market, even the finest of your grain will not command cash, at that season of the year most convenient for you to transport. Hence arises that scarcity of specie of which you complain. Your interest is intimately connected with that of the most commercial states, and you cannot separate it. When trade is embarrassed the merchant is the first to complain, but the farmer in event bears more than his share of the loss.

Let the citizens of New-Hampshire candidly consider these facts, and they must be convinced that no other State is so much interested in adopting that system of government now under consideration.

A LANDHOLDER.

From the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

MEET. PRINTERS,
THE words FEDERAL and ANTIFEDERAL, like many others, have departed already from their original signification. Instead of being applied only to the friends and enemies of the new government, I find they are applied as epithets to many other things, a short account of which I shall endeavour to furnish you with for your useful paper.

The following is a list of such persons, qualities and articles, as are designated with the epithet of FEDERAL.

General Washington, Dr. Franklin, and all the first and most useful characters in the American revolution.

The mechanics in every part of the United States. The war-worn officers and soldiers of the late American army.

Widows, orphans and aged citizens, who have deposited their fortunes in the funds of the United States.

The friends of publick credit and national faith are all federal.

Patriotism, integrity and industry, are all federal qualities.

Gold and silver are federal mediums of commerce.

American nails and paper, cloth buttons, leather breeches, and leather pockets for cloth cloaths, American beer, Hare's porter, New-Jersey and Connecticut cheate, and cyder, Massachusetts womens' shoes, and all other things manufactured in the United States, are federal.

In my next address to you, I shall send you a list of antifederal persons, qualities and articles.

A. B. C.

For the CENTINEL.

Another SCRAP,
Concerning the "ARS ARTIUM OMNIUM CONSERVATRIX."

IT is curious to observe on what trifling things the perpetuity or immortality of names, events and kingdoms depend. And how very different from the preconceived opinions of mankind.

When the monarchs of Egypt erected those stupendous masses the pyramids, for no other use than to record and eternize their names, they little suspected that a weed, then growing on the banks of the Nile, would one day be converted into more durable registers of fame, than those immense piles, or whole quarries of stone!—And yet the inventions of Paper and Printing, have infused endless fame to those who vainly sought it by building pyramids!—And when Paper was discovered, what ages rolled away before it was destined to its best services? It is equally amusing and instructive to observe what obvious arts escape our touch; and again, how quickly various channels are deduced from a source when once opened—[See Walpole's Hist. of Painting]—This was the case of the conserving art of all other arts—PRINTING, which was not discovered until about 1440:—In thirty years more, it was applied to the multiplication of Drawings. Authors had scarcely seen the facility of dispersing their works by Printing,

before painters received an almost equal advantage by Engraving. Endless famewas in a manner infused to all who had courage and merit to challenge it. This seemingly trifling invention, Engraving, (which from being common, is little thought of) has greatly assisted the advancement of almost every art and science: The natural historian is particularly indebted to it for accurate and easily multiplied representations of the various productions of nature—an advantage unknown two centuries ago.

Let those who despise the MECHANICKS, recollect that THREE seemingly inglorious MECHANICAL DISCOVERIES, in a short time, influenced human affairs more than any CONQUEROR, SECT or EMPIRE, that ever was!

For the CENTINEL, To the COMMITTEE for revising the BY-LAWS.

AS it has been proposed to remove signboards—it is the wish of many citizens, that the business of removing all obstructions in the streets, may be completed at once, by removing the pent houses, and the shop window shutts which project into the streets. Only to pull down a few sign boards, would be trifling—but to remove all the above mentioned obstructions, would add to the beauty of the town, and the convenience of the people.

It has also been proposed to oblige every householder to put his name over his front door—this would not only be useful by rendering it easy for a stranger to find any citizens, but might have a tendency to prevent bad houses.—When the Committee have these matters under consideration, it is hoped they may complete the good work.

A CITIZEN.

Late FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, December 24—30.

HAT there is a probability of the Emperess of Russia's concluding an alliance, for the purpose of effecting the Neutral Code; is certain, and there is perhaps little doubt but the French, to avoid greater evils, and because it is more hostile to England than themselves, will come into it. It is certain that the Emperess refused to revive the commercial treaty with us, expressly on account of our having yielded the great question of free bottoms making free goods to France, at the moment we denied it to her. This may serve to convince us of the folly of the commercial system, which we entered into with our double neighbour, and which, in this particular at least, was not called for by any necessity.

The King of Cochinchina's superb present to the French monarch comes most acceptable. It is a state chair, studded with diamonds and other gems, of excellent workmanship. The Jews say it is worth 100,000l.—and his most Christian Majesty cannot value it at less!

There is said to be now living in Paris, a woman of high rank—Her name is Cecilia; she calls herself the daughter of Achmet III. Emperour of the Turks, and says she was born in the year 1710 of the Christian æra. Her life has been published at Paris, and though it has the air of romance, it is said to be genuine. The publisher says, she lives in the Rue de la Harpe, at the College of Bayeux, where she may be seen every day. She is described as a woman respectable for her years, her good sense, her fortitude, her piety, and her charities, notwithstanding the smallness of her fortune. If all this be true, and people of credit vouch for it, one cannot be too much astonished at the caprices of fortune, on seeing the daughter of one of the greatest sovereigns of the earth (who himself died in banishment, after having been driven from the throne) far from her native country, under an humble roof, and not having always had, as she herself says, even the bread of the poor to eat.

We do not know that the number of slaves yearly imported into our West-India plantations, generally, have ever been exactly estimated. In Jamaica they have been, and it appears that the annual imports into that island alone have sometimes exceeded 7000.

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, Dec. 17.
"The Bounty armed ship, Lieut. Bligh, for the Society Islands in the South Seas, is again failed under orders to make as much dispatch as possible. No other news here, every thing being reduced to a state of tranquility and dulness."



CASTALIAN FOUNT.

ON CONTENTMENT.

From PETER PINDAR's 2d. *Canto of the Loufiad.*

CONTENT can visit the poor spider'd room,
Pleas'd with the coarse rush mat and burchen broom;
Where parents, children, feast on waten bread,
With cheeks as round as apples, and as red;
Where health and vigour nerve their backs and hands,
Sweet souls, tho' ragged as young colts or rams;
Where calmly sleep the parents with their darlings,
Tho' nibbled by the fleas as thick as starlings:
Lull'd to their rest, beneath the coarsest rugs,
Dead to the bitings of a thousand bugs.
CONTENT, mild Maid, delights in simple things,
And envies not the fate of Queens or Kings;
Can dine on sheep's head or a distil of broth,
Without a table or a table-cloth;
Nor wishes, with the fashionable group,
To visit *Hortan's* shop for turtle soups:
Can use a bit of pack-thread for a jack;
And sit upon a chair without a back:
Nay, wanting knives, can with her fingers work,
And use a wooden skewer for a fork:
Sweet Maid! who thinks not shoes of leather shocking:
Nor feels the horrors in a worsted stocking:
Her temper mild, no huckabuck can shock,
Tho' for her lovely limbs it forms a smock:
Pleas'd with the nat'ral curls her face that shade,
No graves are robb'd for hair to make a braid;
Her breast of native plumpness ne'er aspires
To swelling *mary* thoughts of gauze and wires:
To look like crops of ducks (with labour borne)
Stretch'd by a superfluity of corn.
With nature's hips she sighs not for cork rumps,
And scorns the pride of pinching stays or jumps;
But pleas'd from whalebone prison to escape,
She trusts to simple nature for a shape;
Without a warming-pan can go to bed—
And wrap her petticoat about her head;
Nor fights for cobweb caps of Macklin lace,
That shade of quality the varnish'd face:
Sweet Nymph, like doves, she seeks her straw built nest,
And in pair of minutes is undrest;
While she he fashionable female clans,
Undressing seem unloading caravans.

MISCELLANY.

Of the OHIO COUNTRY.

A GENTLEMAN in North-Carolina, says,
"I am just arrived at this place, on my return from the northward, having spent more than a year past in travelling through those parts of the United States bounding on the Ohio and Mississippi. The situation and soil of those territories, in general, are extremely flattering, but the immense population that has already taken place in these parts has really astonished me. The face of these countries is every day visibly improving; forests as old as the creation are hourly falling before the ax of the hardy emigrant from the old states; elegant farms in abundance are already settled along the banks of some of the deepest and most beautiful rivers that America can boast of; and, in short, every circumstance seems to point out that country as the future seat of a great and powerful empire of confederated republics. The people are universally well disposed towards the states on the atlantick, and even those that have been born there mention them as the parent country, with a degree of fondness that I could not well account for. They cannot hear with patience, of the Spaniards claiming or demanding an exclusive right to the navigation of the Mississippi—and any man that should attempt to recommend a cession of that nature upon any consideration whatever, would, if among them, be made to repent dearly for his temerity. What is of very great consequence too, is, that these countries abound with *lead mines* as well as *salt-petre*; and I speak within bounds when I say, there is timber in sufficient quantities to build a thousand navies, without going a mile from the banks of the rivers.—It must give pain to a reflective mind when it considers that such oceans of blood have been repeatedly spiled in Europe, often for the sake of some miserable and insignificant spot of territory, when such a noble and extensive region as that of which I am speaking, has been so long neglected, as if hardly worth the attention of a civilized race of men. God grant that we may speedily establish a free and energetic government upon the broad basis of republican equality, which may take the western territories under its wing, and assist them in repelling any insults that may be offered by the jealous and avaricious devotees on the other side of the Mississippi, or those insolent intruders, who, contrary to the faith of treaties, still possess our polls to the northward."

EXTRACTS from ANCIENT RECORDS, with Remarks.

Two STATUES of NEW-JERSEY.
CONCERNING that beastly vice drunkenness, it is hereby enacted, that if any person be found to be drunk, he shall pay one shilling fine for the first offence, two shilling for the second, and for the third time, and for every time after, two shilling and six pence; and such as have no-

thing to pay, shall suffer corporal punishment, and for those that are unruly and disturbers of the peace they shall be put into the stocks until they are sober, or during the pleasure of the officer in chief of the place where he is drunk." *Collection of Grants, &c. page 72.*

Quere. *Would not the enforcing of such a statute in modern times be a ready mode of raising a revenue to discharge our publick debts?*

"If any man shall absent himself, or run out of this province, with another man's wife, (without her husband's consent) and after returning bither, he and the so offending and being lawfully convicted thereof, shall each of them receive ten lashes upon their bare backs."

In the first code of laws in Massachusetts, we find the following wholesome provision made to restrain scolding.

"Whereas there is no expers punishment, by any law hitherto established, affixed to the evil practice of lundry persons, by exorbitancy of the tongue, in railing and scolding;

"It is therefore ordered; that all such persons, convicted before any court or magistrate, that hath proper cognizance of the case, shall be gagged or set in a ducking stool, and be dipped over head and ears three times, in some convenient place of fresh or salt water, as the court or magistrate shall judge meet."

Quere. *Whether a few modern husbands and wives would not be happier, if they underwent this punishment.*

In the year 1700, during the administration of the Earl of Bellamont, the assembly of New-York passed a law to hang every Romish Priest, who came voluntarily into the province. The Historian who related this fact half a century after the passing of the law, observed that the law was then, as it ever ought to be, in full force.

N. B. This was several years after the Massachusetts people had ceased to hang witches.

The following is copied from an authentick Manuscript, dated 1650.

"At Watertown there was in view of divers witnesses, a great combat between a mouse and a snake, and after a long fight the mouse prevailed and killed the snake. The minister of Boston, a very sincere holy man, hearing of it, gave this interpretation—that the snake was the Devil, the mouse was a poor contemptible people, which God had brought hither, which should overcome Satan here, and dispossess him of his kingdom. Upon the same occasion he told the governour, that before he was resolved to come into the country he dreamed he was here, and that he saw a church arise out of the earth, which grew up and became a marvellous goodly church."

"Phillip Ratcliff, a servant of Mr. Craddoc, being convicted *ore tenens* (or tenus) of most foul scandalous invectives against our churches and government, was sentenced to be whipped, lose his ears, and be banished the plantation, which was presently executed." *Antifederalists what think ye?*

A NEW-YORK ANECDOTE.

MR. B.— who has the honour to shave the head of the State, some evenings since, (speaking of the new Federal Constitution, declared to the surrounding Gentlemen of the Comb, that should New-York be weak enough to adopt it, he would instantly leave the State, and seek an asylum in some other, where his rank and emoluments would stand on a firmer basis; and where, if in the course of his profession, he should arrive to the dignity of being seated in the Chair of State, he need not fear being tumbled out of it, by the intrigues of a Federal Junto.

This is the same gentleman, who, at the commencement of the late war, left a customer with one side of his face shaved, on being told that one of the tea ships had arrived in the harbour; apologizing to the man for the ludicrous situation he left him in, by saying, that the calls of his country must be obeyed in preference to those of a private nature.

IF JOHN COOK, (SON OF

John Cook, Carpenter and Joiner, of the Parish of St. Mary Magdalen, in the Borough of Southwark, in the Kingdom of Great-Britain, by *Sarah* his wife, and also GRANDSON of *Moses Bywater*, of the same place, Potter, all of whom are deceased) be living, and will apply to

HEWES & ANTHONY, *Philadelphia*, Messrs. DANIEL McCORMICK, *New-York*, or PATRICK JEFFREY, *Boston*,

he will hear of something much to his advantage; or if any person can give any account of him, it will be esteemed a favour. *Boston, March 8.*

ALL Persons who have demands upon the Estate of Capt. WILLIAM DOWNES CHEEVER, late of Boston, Sugar-Refiner, deceased, are requested to exhibit the same; and all who are indebted to said Estate, are desired to make immediate payment to the Subscriber, at the Store late belonging to the said deceased in State-Street.

CALEB DAVIS, } Attorney to the
Executrix.

N. B. To be SOLD, at said Store,
Loaf Sugar, of the best quality, Pepper,
Russian Duck, West-India Rum, Molasses, Coffee, &c. &c. (6waw)

Boston, February 16, 1788.

To be SOLD,
By order of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Suffolk,

THE REAL ESTATE of ROBERT PIERPONT, Esq. of Roxbury, deceased, viz. Three Tenements fronting on Essex Street, in Boston, with Land and Flats in the rear, where it is capable of making a Wharf.

Sale to be on the Premises at 9 o'clock, A. M. 22d MARCH next.

Also,
On the same day, at 3 o'clock, P. M. at Roxbury, two miles from Boston,

A House, Barn, &c. with ten acres of choice rich Land, under the greatest advantages; having a Wharf, with sufficient depth of water for any Coaster, Also, Apple-trees from grafts bearing fruit, viz. Pearmain, Golden and Gardner's Russetings, Newton Pippins, Winter Greeniens, High Sweetens, and Imperial Spitzenburgs, with 1-16th of an acre of the best Aparagus, in prime.

JOHN LUCAS, } Executors.
CALEB DAVIS, }
HANNAH PIERPONT, }

Boston, February 20, 1788.

A FEW
PIECES of low-priced
IRISH LINENS,

And a few hundreds SHIP BREAD,
To be SOLD, cheap for cash. Inquire of the
Printer. *March 8, 1788.*

To be SOLD,
At Store, No. 1, CORNHILL,

SUPERFINE black, buff and
white Casimere; Superfine blue and bating
Broadcloth; ladies' best white and coloured
Kid-Gloves, with a variety of English Goods,
cheap for cash.

N. B. A PIANO FORTE and HARP-
SICORD, to be sold, at cost and charges. Also,
A few Ladies' GUITARS.

Boston, March 8, 1788.

Tartary Oats
WARRANTED last year's growth,
to be SOLD,
At No. 45, NEWBURY-STREET.

Garden Seeds at a very moderate price,
as usual—Imported fresh every year from Eng-
land. *Boston, March 15, 1788.*

Garden Seeds.

Imported from LONDON, in the last Vessel,
A LARGE and general assortment of
PEAS, BEANS, and every kind of small seeds,
which are usually imported into America. All of last year's
growth, and to be SOLD, by

JOHN ADAMS,
No. 51, MARLBOROUGH-STREET.

N. B. Red and White Clover, Herds' Grass,
and Burnet Seed, Hemp, Rape, Canary and maw feed, for
birds. *March 15, 1788.*

CHARLESTON, (S. Carolina)

THE Schooner
BETSY, will sail in eight
days—for freight or passage, ap-
ply to JOHN LILLIE, at his
Store, south-side the Town-Dock.

Where may be had,

A few hogsheds Lisbon SALT, and a
small quantity of INDIGO, cheap for Cash, if ap-
plied for immediately.
March 14, 1788.

ALMANACK.

March	H.W.	10r.&.	Remarks.
19 Wed.	9	16	1 6 High tides.
20 Thur.	10	8	0 6 Day and night equal.
21 Frid.	11	25	5 8 Good Friday.

BURIED in town last week 8—BAPTISED 20

Published by BENJAMIN RUSSELL, near the
State-House, Boston.