

the vexations and spoliations which your commerce has experienced, you will doubtless receive with pleasure some explanations of the complaints well or ill founded, which have been brought against the privateers & 2 ships of war of the French Republic.

In the list of complaints against the republic of France the complainants urge that the French privateers do not less harass your commerce than those of the English.

To this assertion I answer by two observations which I submit to your impartiality. 1. It is now some time since any more privateers have sailed out of the ports of France, and the number of those which have been armed in our Islands is not to be compared with those pirates which the island of Bermuda alone sends forth.

2. If any of your merchants have suffered any injury by the conduct of our privateers, (a thing which would be contrary to the intention and express orders of the Republic) they may with confidence, address themselves to the French government, which will never refuse justice to those whose claims shall be legal.

I feel a pleasure in thinking, and saying to you, that it is not the fault of the French, if commercial property, even of enemy-nations, has not been respected amidst the horrors of war.

This proposition of natural right was made by one of our legislative assemblies to the British, who rejected it.

2dly. It is imputed to *vous* of our ships of war that they have committed enormities on your vessels.

Should the fact be proved, the Captains of those two vessels are as culpable towards France as they are towards the United States, for having acted in a manner contrary to the instructions they have received: The government, upon information of the crime, will most certainly punish the authors of it. It would be unjust to accuse a nation generally for the act of some individuals, when that nation disavows their conduct, and repairs the wrongs which they have committed.

3dly. Certain acts of oppression in the courts of a miralty are complained of.

The oppressive acts of the admiralty courts need no longer to be complained of, since on the claims of merchants of the United States the Convention on the 8th November last, passed a decree giving to the executive council the power of judging of the validity or invalidity of prizes.

It is as follows: The National Convention after having heard the report of the committee of public safety, decrees that all disputes arising, or which may arise, on the validity or invalidity of prizes made by privateers, shall be decided, by way of administration, by the provisory executive council. The decree of the 14th, Feb. (O. S.) attributing the judgment of these matters to the commercial tribunals is repealed.

Copy agreeable to the original, Jh. Fauchet.

The 4th allegation, would require a long discussion which I shall not undertake here. I shall only indulge myself in this single reflection, that the horrible system of violating the law of nations in order to starve a people who cannot be conquered by force of arms, has not been invented by France, and that it would be as unjust as barbarous to require that she should allow provisions to pass to her enemies, while those destined for her are taken by them.

As to the embargo on American vessels, imperious circumstances, the salvation of the country, have imposed that measure; and the interests of no one will be injured; and to convince you of this, I recite an extract of a letter which I have just received from citizen Tallien Representative of the people at Bordeaux.

It is possible, he writes me, "That some malevolent persons may make use of this pretext (the embargo) to disturb the harmony existing between the Americans and us, or might represent this measure as a violation of treaties between the two nations; the interest of individuals may for a moment cause the general interest to disappear. It is then to you brave Republican and the true friend of your country, that we must consign the care of defending it to Congress (should the measure happen to be there calumniated) say to our brethren that it is the intention of the committee of public safety, the actual center of the French government to indemnify all the owners or captains who by the operation of the embargo have been obliged to remain a length of time in France, and that the propositions which soon will be made to them in the name of the committee will be advantageous to both nations. In short, my friend, use every means of a frank republican negotiator to convince our brethren the Americans, that when occupied concerning the aggregate interests of the nation, we do not forget theirs, and they may be assured, that they will always find in us faithful observers of the treaties made with nations worthy of liberty.

The fifth and last allegation is that a contract the payment of which having been stipulated in cash, has been made in assignats; I am unacquainted with the fact, but I am assured, that it is the intention of the National

Convention not to permit any injustice, and to repair such as shall have been committed.

I conclude my reflections; not doubting, Sir, but that they will be received with the same interest as would be excited in France by the observations of our allies, to whom I always with new pleasure renew the assurance of the most perfect fraternity and eternal friendship on the part of the people of France.

JH. FAUCHET.
Faithfully translated from the original, 29th March, 1794, by G. TAYLOR, jun.

Philadelphia, April 3d, 1744.

SIR,
YOU do me no more than justice, in believing, that I receive with pleasure the explanations, which your letter of the 29th ult. contains. They inspire me with full confidence, that my representations on each complaint will be treated with candor; and assure me of redress, as far as truth will support my demands.

On my part, permit me here to repeat what I have expressed in my letter on the vexations of our commerce, that my inquiry into the facts did not go beyond the allegations of the parties interested. My view was to present a summary only of the subjects, of the remonstrances, lodged in my office, reserving the proofs for our interviews on the adjustment of the claims of retribution; delivering no opinion, how far the charges were supported by evidence, and above all, not imputing to the French Republic the unauthorized misconduct of its ships of war.

I have the honor, Sir, to be with great respect and esteem,

Your most obedient servant,
EDM. RANDOLPH.

The Minister Plenipotentiary of the French Republic }
True Copy,
GEORGE TAYLOR, jun.

PHILADELPHIA,
APRIL 7.

The express, dispatched by the Executive of the United States, with the resolution of Congress for laying an embargo, arrived at Boston on Saturday evening the 29th ult. in seventy-four hours from the time of leaving this City.

Yesterday afternoon a boat overfet and immediately sunk about the middle of the river nearly opposite the Swedish church, by which accident, seven persons were unfortunately drowned—viz. three women, two men and two children. Two women and one man were saved by the humane exertions of some persons, who pushed off in a boat from a wharf opposite the distressing scene.

There is a report in town, that a truce between France and Spain has taken place.

Mr. Dayton this day gave notice, that he should call up his proposition, for the sequestration of British property, to-morrow.

Extract of a letter from Boston, dated 31st March.

"Mr. Sargent's brig is just arrived in 23 days from St. Kitts—this vessel was some time since obliged to put into St. Eustatia in distress, and was captured coming from that island, and carried to St. Kitts—where it seems she was immediately released.

"N. B. The January Packet was not arrived at St. Kitts when this vessel failed."

Extract of a letter from Chester county.

"When last in your city, I suggested to you a probability that the contemplated course of the unfinished part of the Turnpike road, which lies between the sixteenth and thirteenth mile-stones, would be rejected for a more southerly one, this probability approaching nearer a certainty, induced me some time since, to examine the southern route, which has these advantages, in an eminent degree; it being almost a perfect level, nearly straight, and in the midst of stone, better calculated for the purpose, than any I have ever seen—add to which, persons thro' whose property it will run, seem anxious that it should pass them; moreover ready and willing to assist in the completion of such parts as may come on their land, I therefore rest assured that the board taking those things as facts, will finally adopt this course as the most eligible."

By this Day's Mail.

NEW-YORK, April 5.
On Thursday the Commissioners appointed to direct the Fortifications, pro-

posed at this port, went down to the Narrows; and yesterday, they went to Governor's Island, to examine and determine on the most proper place, to erect forts and other works for the defence of the city and harbor.

Latest European Intelligence.

LONDON, January 11.

Letters from Brussels mention, that the different attacks lately made by the Carmagnols on the whole chain of positions from Nieuport to Tournay, had no other object, but to mark the departure of 10,000 men, who from the northern army have marched against the royalists of la Vendee. As soon as this march was effected, the Sans Culottes retreated to their former positions, after having destroyed all the causeways which led into the French territory.

A Spanish man of war, of 74 guns, is arrived in Falmouth roads, having on board, as is said, half a million of dollars, for the payment of the Nootka Sound claimants. Waggons are detained there, and the conveyance to London will commence as soon as a guard arrives.

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, Jan. 9. "This morning Earl Moira arrived from London, and joined the army at Cowes."

January 9. The Ottoman Porte, we learn, has determined to send an Ambassador to every Court in Europe.

The Treasury letters to the members of the House of Commons, are already issued, and, from the terms in which they are expressed, Ministers seem more than usually anxious to procure a full and early attendance of their friends.—The letters state, that a proposition of the "utmost importance," is to be submitted to the deliberation of the House, and most earnestly requests the attendance of the members on the first day of the session. This, it is supposed, alludes to a measure, which, we understand from very respectable authority, has been determined in the cabinet, of totally withdrawing the British troops from the continent, experience having proved that France cannot be conquered in Flanders.

Yesterday the Hero, Captain Howard, fell down the river, with upwards of 300 passengers for New-York.

MANHEIM, Jan. 2.

Extract of a private letter, The Imperial army, which on the 29th of December, crossed the Rhine near Philipshourg, is taking post on the right bank of the river, in order to protect Fort Louis, the possession of which is of the greatest importance to the allies, as it takes the lines of Weissembourg in the rear, and of course makes their possession useless to the enemy.

January 13. The arrest of Thomas Paine has made his profelytes in this country rather unfriendly to the present Convention of France. What has happened to this man, setting aside the enormities, of which the Convention is daily guilty, ought to serve as a warning to every one how they permit popular societies to infringe on the privileges of government, and take the law into their own hands.

The Emperor and the States of Brabant are still at variance respecting the appointment of the superior officers of the state. His Majesty had appointed M. Van de Velde, Chancellor of Brabant; but the states have refused to accept him, as being unworthy of their confidence.

We have received an official account of the late battle between the Portuguese and Spanish troops, and the French, in the Province of Rouffillon, which there was no time yesterday to translate; but it shall appear to-morrow or next day.

Circular letters have been issued from the Adjutant-General's office to all officers engaged in the recruiting service, desiring them to use the utmost activity in completing their levies.

THEATRE.

OBSERVER No. XIII.

Mr. FENNO,
THE Observer presents his compliments in this hint to the ladies of his acquaintance. Is your husband poor, yet honest? Attend to Mrs. Whitlock in the character of Lady Eleanor Irwin.

Is he led astray by accident and inexperience, rather than by habits of depravity?—With her in Mrs. Belville smile him into good humor, and lure him back to virtue & constancy.

Is he, stung by misfortunes and wrongs led to rashness, and plots of daring? Like her in Belvidera, call up the latent sparks of honor, and guard him from the precipice.

Have disappointments or calls of duty, banished him from your arms, and in addition, left an infant offspring on your hands

to rear in the paths of virtue? Mark, and imitate her, in the character of Matilda, Isabella and Lady Randolph. But whether married or not, have you parents, whose heads are white, and whose eyes are dim with age? Lament her, in Euphrasia, the practice of filial duty and affection.

Those of his fair friends, who have heard and seen Mrs. Whitlock, in the characters alluded to, will bear her the most unequivocal testimony of their approbation and praise, as an actress, by adding new charms to those they already possess, in the practice of the virtues dictated, and so well delineated on the stage, by that accomplished woman.—Ask your hearts the question if they were not mended by the precepts, which came from her expression and action? And here the Observer cannot repress his feelings of disapprobation, to a received opinion, that Ladies who have lately lost relatives and friends ought not to attend the Theatre. That they should not attend ordinary comedy and light pieces, shall remain undisputed; but what reason can be given, that they should not attend, at the exhibition of such pieces as are mentioned above?

To hear Mrs. Whitlock and to see her in those parts, the Observer thinks would probably produce as virtuous tendencies as to hear some sermons. May not the Observer risk one hint to his Friends the Clergy? If to the excellency of their moral and religious discourses, they would add as much propriety and energy of action as is practised by some of the players, with equal elegance of diction, they would be under no necessity of preaching down Theatres; and preaching up the duties of attending public worship.

The Observer requests his fair friends in general, to attend once to Mrs. Whitlock, and hear only one performance, and he thinks he can never set her character as an actress in a better point of view, than to trust to their candid decision; he believes they will want no further inducement to attend; and be profited as well as amused and delighted.

A hint to Mrs. Whitlock.—Do you not rant and rave a little beyond the true stile of nature, in some parts? Can you suppose, that pronouncing the word "thy" in the same manner you do "the" is justifiable? This pronunciation frequently confounds, and we have to review a sentence before it is understood, and sometimes lose the sense of it. A small correction, under the sure guidance of Mrs. Whitlock's good sense, and critical ideas of propriety, will render her, not only a very unexceptionable actress, but the most accomplished one, in her way, that ever appeared in the United States.

April 5th, 1794.

A Subscriber, and Honestus to-morrow—other favors soon.

The annual election
FOR
Directors and a Treasurer
OF THE
Library Company of Philadelphia.

WILL be held at the LIBRARY, in Fifth Street, on Monday the fifth of May next, at twelve o'clock in the afternoon, when the treasurer will attend to receive the annual payments.

As there are several shales on which fines are due, the owners of them, or their representatives, are hereby notified, that they will be forfeited, agreeably to the laws of the Company, unless the said arrears are paid off on the fifth day of May, or within ten days after.

By Order of the Directors,
BENJAMIN R. MORGAN,
Secretary.
April 7. m & w 5th May.

NEW THEATRE.
THIS EVENING,
April 7.
Will be performed,
A TRAGEDY, called
MACBETH.

With the original music and accompaniments by M. Locke.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Duncan, | Mr. Green |
| Malcolm, | Mr. Cleveland |
| Donalbain, | Master Warrell |
| Macbeth, | Mr. Fennel |
| Banquo, | Mr. Whitlock |
| Macduff, | Mr. Moreton |
| Lenox, | Mr. Harwood |
| Fleance, | Master T. Warrell |
| Seward, | Mr. Warrell |
| Seyton, | Mr. Francis |
| Doctor, | Mr. De Moulins |
| Messenger, | Mr. Blisset |
| Lady Macbeth, | Mrs. Whitlock |
| Gentlewoman, | Mrs. Cleveland |
| Heats, | Mr. Darley |
| First Witch, | Mr. Bates |
| Second Witch, | Mr. Finch |
| Third Witch, | Mr. Wignell |

The vocal parts by Messrs. Marshall, Darley, jun. Lee, Bafon. Rowson—Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Warrell, Mrs. Rowson, Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Finch, Miss Willems, Miss Rowson, and Miss Broadhurst.

With new Scenery, designed and executed by Mr. Millburn.

To which will be added,
A COMIC OPERA, in two acts, called
the
Fitch of Bacon.