

NEW THEATRE.

On WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 23,

Will be presented, A COMEDY, called

The Road to Ruin.

Dornton, Harry Dornton, Sulky, Silky, Goldfinch, Milford, Smith, Tradesmen, Sheriff's Officer, Jacob, Marker, Poffillion, Mrs. Warren, Mr. Copper, Mr. L'Esfrange, Mr. Francis, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Fox, Mr. Darley, jun., Mitchell, Morgan, &c., Mr. Warren, Mr. Blissett, Mr. Warrell, jun., Mrs. Oldmixon, Mrs. Merry, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. Ledger, Mrs. DaSor

To which will be added, A FARCE, called

The Irishman in London.

Captain Seymour, Mr. Fox, Mr. Frost, Mr. Francis, Mr. Calloney, Mr. Darley, jun., Mr. Callooney, Mr. Warren, Edward, Mr. Harwood, Cymon, Mr. Blissett, Louisa, Mrs. Harvey, Caroline, Miss L'Esfrange, Cuthbert, Mrs. Francis

ON FRIDAY, The Tragedy of

The ORPHAN;

Or, The Unhappy Marriage.

With a New Ballet, composed by Mr. Byrn, called THE BOUQUET:

In which will be introduced, the favorite TABOURINE DANCE.

The French company of Comedians, having been honored with considerable applause on their first appearance, will perform again on Saturday next, and every Saturday, until further notice. Particulars will be expressed in future Bills.

Box, One Dollar twenty-five cents. Pit one Dollar. And Gallery, half a dollar.

Tickets to be had at H. & P. Rice's Book-store, No. 50 High-street, and at the Office adjoining the Theatre.

The Doors of the Theatre will open at 5, and the Curtain rise precisely at 6 o'clock.

Places for the Boxes to be taken at the Office in the front of the theatre, from 10 till 2 o'clock, and from 2 till 4 on the days of performance.

No money or tickets to be returned, nor any person, on any account whatsoever, admitted behind the scenes.

VIVAT RESPUBLICA!

Mrs. GRATTAN

Respectfully informs the Ladies and Gentlemen of the City, that the first

LADIES' CONCERT

Will be THIS EVENING at the Assembly-Room.

Act I.

Overture, Piehl. Song, Mrs. Grattan, "Angels ever bright," Handel. Concerto Piano-Forte, Mrs. Grattan, Krumpholtz. Italian Ballad, Harp, Mrs. Grattan, Milico. Miscellaneous Quartette.

Act II.

Harp Lesson, Mrs. Grattan, Cardon. Song, "Ah se perde," Mrs. Grattan, Sacchini. Sonata Piano-Forte, Mr. Reinagle, Pleyel. Primrose, ballad, Mrs. Grattan, Webber. Overture, Abel.

* To begin precisely at 7 o'clock. Mrs. Grattan begs leave to inform the Ladies and Gentlemen, that the subscription-book is at her house No 39, North Sixth-street, for the reception of those names who wish to honor her with their commands. A subscription for eight nights 16 dollars, including a Gentleman and Lady's ticket, both transferrable. Half-subscriptions 8 dollars, including one ticket. Single ticket 2 dollars.

Mrs. Grattan takes the liberty of requesting the subscribers to send for their tickets any day after Thursday, the 15th of December, at No. 39, North Sixth-street.

* Single tickets to be had at the Bar of Oellers's Hotel, December 20

For Sale,

Seven elegant Sites for Buildings,

Opposite the State-House Garden and Congress-Hall; each Lot being 25 feet front on Sixth-street, and 120 feet deep to a 24 feet Court, agreeable to a plan which may be seen at the Coffee-House or at the office of Abraham Shoemaker, No. 124, So. Fourth-street, where the terms will be made known. December 16

INSURANCE COMPANY of the State of Pennsylvania.

THE Stockholders are hereby notified, that an election for thirteen Directors to serve for one year, will be held at the Company's Office, on Monday the 9th January next, at 11 o'clock. And agreeably to the act of incorporation a statement of the affairs of the company, will then be laid before them.

SAMUEL W. FISHER, Sec'y. Philadelphia, December 19, 1796. dt 9th Jan.

TO-MORROW MORNING will be Published,

PORCUPINE'S

POLITICAL CENSOR,

For NOVEMBER, 1796.

CONTAINING OBSERVATIONS

On the Insolent and Seditious Notes,

(Attacking the sovereignty and independence of the United States.)

Communicated to the People, by the late French minister, ADEY. December 20.

Just Arrived,

In the ship Dispatch, Captain Morton, from Havre de-Grace, and for sale by

Isaac Snowden, jun. No. 141,

SOUTH SECOND STREET,

An Invoice of Gloves of various kinds, Men's White Silk Hosiery, Black and White Laces, and a few pieces of Black Silk.

December 2. \$xv.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. FENNO,

THAT contemptible and drunken vagabond TOM PAINE, who is notoriously destitute of every honest principle, religious, moral or political, has crowned his career of impudence and falsehood with a letter addressed in all the affected familiarity of democratic familiarity, THOMAS PAINE to GEORGE WASHINGTON. Heavens! what a contrast.—Excessive vanity, dauntless impudence and extravagant falsehood are the prevailing ingredients in this democratic dose. The poor, silly for has been railing at all the world unheeded and despised, and expects now to call attention by the magnitude of his object and the ridiculous extravagance of his defamation—and what has set the madman roaring? His dear friends have been so ungrateful (for I suppose he effected their revolution as well as ours) as to have given him a fraternal embrace in the arms of a prison; and the President of the United States most "unfeelingly" and in the rankness of his ingratitude, neglected to arm the American nation in his behalf, and liberate this French citizen, this member of the National Convention from his imprisonment among the friends of liberty and equality. If he gave himself to the French, as certainly he did, they had a just authority to dispose of him as they thought proper, and it would have been an impertinent interference in the internal affairs of a great and magnanimous nation to have attempted any controul in their treatment of him. If he entered into their service and betrayed them, as he did the committee of foreign affairs of the United States, they had as fair a right to imprison him for his offence, as congress had to dismiss him from office.

This creature of avaricious poverty and deranged ambition, who is the ready and devoted tool of every faction that will pay his price,—who would set the world on fire if he could find six pence by the light—and advocate the climate and government of hell to be popular there, assumes to himself a high rank in the American revolution. His pen, it is true, was useful, whilst the head and heart that directed it were detestable. The manner and means by which his talents in inflammatory composition were engaged in favor of American liberty, like every other known act of his life, shew him to be an unprincipled, mercenary wretch. Dare he pretend that "Common Sense" was the voluntary effusion of his enthusiastic love of liberty? Did he come forward a willing and sincere advocate of our cause, directed by an honest, patriotic principle, and acting with the zeal of freedom and fidelity? On the contrary, it is not known, that he was, at the commencement of our revolutionary troubles, a decided friend of the measures of Great-Britain? And was he not fought out and employed to write on the American side? When thus flattered, persuaded, and, if I mistake not, paid, how easily did he forsake his first impressions, for principles he has none, and violently oppose his former friends and conduct. When peace crowned the success of our arms, PAINE emigrated to Europe.—The land of peace afforded no theatre for the exhibition of his factions and malignant talents. He has no sacrifices for her temple. Intrigue, faction, war and desolation are his divinities.—To them his days and nights are consecrated.—In their service he disregards every tie that unites man with his God, his country and himself.—His first attack was upon the tranquillity of Great-Britain.—But here he was disgracefully defeated, and had well nigh left his ears as the trophies of that defeat, and the security of his good behavior. At this critical time with him, France presented a glorious scene for the exercise of his talents.—Thither he went, and for a little while imposed on his new employers. He was hailed on his arrival as the child and defender of liberty, but was soon discovered to be a hypocritical bastard of discord and faction, and driven from all confidence and respect. He terminated his exploits in France as he did those in America in disgrace and contempt.—The rigorous policy of that country confined him in a goal, while the more lenient measures of this were content with discharging him from all office and trust. Are the ravings of this disappointed madman to be attended to? While I regret there was found any man in the United States so base and hostile to the peace and honor of his country as to publish this letter of infamy, I comfort myself with believing that there is but one man so lost, and that he is now so well known that he can neither add to nor diminish the reputation of my country. DETECTOR. Philadelphia, Dec. 19, 1796.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Men of reading and reflection long ago concluded that Democrats were no republicans. It was lately conceded in one of the Jacobin papers that this was true. Its being true renders its rather more strange that it should be acknowledged. It is so however, and Democrats take the name and are welcome to it. It has worn badly enough, and now their French pay-masters have cast it off (for they now reprobate democracy in Paris) our imitative gentry seem to claim it as if like running footmen they had a clear right to the second-hand suit of those whom they serve. The name fits them admirably, as it means that anarchy which rules the constituted authorities or survives their destruction. The use that has been made of the name, to deceive first, and then to plunder, suits the hypocrisy, the licentiousness, or the need of the different sects that form the democratic party. The credulous dupes may be left out as a distinct sect, for the fact is, they do not keep together in a body, but are scattered among the others, according to the character of the leader they happen to enlist under. In the rage of despair, an attempt has been made to disgrace the character of federal-republican. Definitions have been quoted from books, implying that it is the power of a few which is meant by republicanism, &c. But these are proofs of that sort of pedantry and incivility which is not made modest by conscious ignorance, nor wile by reading. Let the party be stilled democrats, for two reasons. First, it describes the sort of politics they would introduce—and secondly, it is a name already disgraced and fits the wearers.

Paragraph from the Aurora.

"When Mr. PARKER asked what had become of Mr. AMES's patriotism during the revolution, he arose, and said nothing on that subject."

The Answer.

Mr. Ames was then a boy. It is a point yielded to Mr. Bache that patriotism may be sometimes a saleable virtue. It is denied that it is a boyish one.

THE DEMONIAC—No. II.

From the Aurora of Yesterday.

What! is not 25,000 dollars a year, drawn out by anticipation, a compensation sufficient for the official duties of the President; and is he himself to declare his country still in his debt; by boasting of his disinterestedness? The law says that 25,000 dollars a year shall be a compensation for his services, and reason says it is quite enough.

It has been said, that ingratitude is the crying sin of republics. I hold a contrary doctrine, that gratitude to individuals is their greatest crime, and oftener leads to slavery than any other cause. When a citizen is called by the voice of his country to an important station, he is honoured, and his best exertions, only can repay the debt of gratitude he owes his country. While he is in the service of his country he receives a compensation, in full for his time and trouble, and when he retires after having done his duty, he has but done his duty. If a balance remains, it is of gratitude due the people by the individual, for the honor conferred on him. A contrary doctrine will make slaves of us all.

The malice of Jacobin hearts is well known;—but there seems something inexplicably wrong in the make and operation of their brain.

The President is denied, in the Aurora, all claim to gratitude, because, if he has done well—(mind the impudence of that if)—he has done no more than his duty, which he is paid by his salary for doing. Gratitude, when it goes beyond that, would endanger the liberty of a republic.

This is rather a new doctrine. When the Aurora gives details of French victories, the editor is never tired, though his readers are, of the praises due to the French soldiers, because, they did their duty in the battle. Why praise Frenchmen for doing their duty? They have bread, and meat, and wages. If the President were a Frenchman, would he be entitled to praise and thanks?

Put a plainer case. Is not the Aurora deserving of praise, for its hardy zeal in the cause, beyond the ordinary reward of the subscription money? Surely it is worth more than money to exult at the prospect of our being involved in disputes with France, our trade preyed upon, and our nation snubbed and spit upon, as if it was St. Domingo, or a party-coloured rattle of Victor Hughes's men. To exult in this case, to justify the aggressors, and to join in condemning America, is merit—it is more than duty—and justly claims some other reward than money.

RICHMOND, (Virginia,) Dec. 10, 1796.

AN ANECDOTE.

At the late election of a President and Vice President, a gentleman of the name of Leven Powell, had wisdom and firmness enough to vote for George Washington and John Adams, notwithstanding the insidious arts of the elector from Caroline, to induce a belief that it was essential for America to conciliate with the French directory, by voting for Thomas Jefferson. At the play on the last evening, a certain Isham Randolph, supposing himself surrounded by birds of a feather, undertook to call upon the Orchestra, for "God save the king, for Leven Powell!"—the intended wit created a democratic grin for the moment, but a young gentleman by the name of Chester, demanded of Randolph what he meant? Nothing sir, cried the Poltroon—very well, if you meant nothing, it may be easily settled—there sits Mr. Powell, tell him you meant nothing, and ask his pardon. He did so, and saved himself from the chastisement he deserved.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, December 14.

Continuation of the debate on the address in answer to the President's speech.

Mr. Swanwick did not know that any gentleman had objected to that part of the paragraph in question which spoke of our grateful sense of the kindness of providence, for the benefits we enjoyed; but it was the impropriety of contrasting our situation with that of other nations which was principally objected to. And was it right, he asked, to tell Providence that we were more enlightened than other nations? certainly not, rather let us rejoice that it is so, but not offend others by making our boasts of it. Mr. Swanwick again noticed the losses sustained in our commerce, from the British, French and Algerines. The only remedy for which he believed was a naval force. Was this, he asked a cause for exultation: He thought not. He feared the revenues of this country would certainly suffer from the present stagnation of commerce. He had himself experienced considerable losses; but the evil was not a partial but a general one; and, as he did not feel the prosperous situation in which this country was painted, he could not consent to violate his feelings by expressions contrary to them. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Ames) in the last session spoke at great length, on the horrors of war; which he looked upon as inevitable, if the British treaty then under discussion, was not carried into effect. But now, when a prospect of war, appears from another quarter, its miseries seem to be forgotten, and he almost calls his country to the conflict. He left the gentleman to account for such inconsistency.—The same gentleman had made a comparison of a shipwreck, which he thought totally inapplicable. Were the nations to which this country were compared in a state of shipwreck? If we consult their own account of themselves, as he had before noticed, they called themselves the most free and enlightened. Mr. Swanwick concluded by saying that he neither discarded Providence, nor was willing to think too lowly of our prosperity, but he did not wish to make our boasts, as to risk the offending of other nations.

On a call for the committee to rise (it being past three o'clock.) A motion was put that effect, and lost 43 to 31.

Mr. Giles hoped the committee would have risen, that he might to-morrow have had an opportunity of replying to some observations which had fallen from different gentlemen; for though he thought he had expressed himself so as not to be misunderstood, it seems he was mistaken. It was not wonderful, he said, that

the popularity of the President should be drawn into this debate. It had been too common to do this; but he trusted the weight which was wished to be given to arguments from that circumstance would not be very great; and as the committee who prepared the address before them having been unanimous in agreeing to it, that would have little effect upon him. He cared not for the unanimity of that committee tho' it appeared strange that the fact should have been stated. It had been complained that if the President was not to be complimented upon his wisdom and firmness in his administration, there would be no room left for compliment. He was of a different opinion. At any rate he was unwilling to allow his administration had been wise and firm. Gentlemen had called upon him to produce instances of his want of wisdom and firmness. He said he would not seek for more than one, which was in the case of the British treaty, the consequence of which he believed was the present misunderstanding with the French government; for though many causes of offence were mentioned in the French minister's note which had taken place prior to the British treaty, yet as these grievances had never before been spoken of, it was evident that the British treaty had called them forth. and gentlemen might say what they pleased about the law of nations, no neutral nation ought to grant that to one belligerent power, which should prove an injury to its rival. Look at Europe, said he, and see what joy was shewn by Britain on the accomplishment of the late treaty, and with what contrary feelings it was received by France.

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Ames) when the British Treaty was the subject was overcome by the prospect of war, but now he seemed willing to embrace all those horrors, and was loud in his calls of support of the executive. He spoke of foreign influence, and called upon the world to judge between them. He supposed us upon the eve of war with France. If so he would remind the house that such an event would be a disastrous one to this country, as no nation had the power of injuring us more than the French, and none that we had it in our power less to annoy. Yet that gentleman exclaimed, Now is the time to come forth to support the government! The War-hoop and Hatchet, of which the gentleman spoke last session so feelingly had now left all their horror. If this session was produced by the improper conduct of the executive, it was enough to prevent him from giving his vote in favour of the President's wife and firm administration. But the gentleman from S. Carolina (Mr. Smith) said there was an attempt to divide the President from the other branches of the government. Mr. Giles said the President had no advice in this business but that of the Senate. He would ask that house, he would ask all America, whether, if that instrument had been laid upon the table of that house, before it had received the sanction of the Executive, it would have been approved there? He was certain it would not. It was his opinion, it was the opinion of his constituents, that it was a ruinous measure, and this would, ere long, be the opinion of America.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Sitgreaves) had compared our notice of the calamitous situation of Europe to a man cautioning his family against the follies of his neighbours: but, said Mr. Giles, suppose that neighbour was present? They were carrying on a conversation about the French nation, which would be published. He believed, indeed, that an organ of a foreign nation had been present during the debate. How then would the comparison of the gentleman bear?

Gentlemen had been charged with a desire of striking out the expressions of our grateful sense of the kindness of Providence; but was it not known, that the motion to strike out, was with a view of introducing something more unexceptionable when recommitted? He thought there was scope enough to compliment the President, without pinning gentlemen down to write Scoundrel on their own foreheads, by expressing approbation of measures, which they had always opposed? he hoped therefore, the motion would prevail, and the answer would be recommitted.

Mr. Williams said, although he was convinced that the necessary attention would not be paid to any observations made at that late hour, yet he would not be satisfied by giving a silent vote on such an important occasion. He would, therefore, beg the indulgence of the house for a few moments, while he went over some objections which had been stated by Mr. Giles. Mr. Williams said, it was no new thing to be told by that gentleman, that the President's popularity would influence the house, or, that he (Mr. Giles) would say he would speak his own opinion.—Mr. Williams hoped he should be credited in not only speaking his own opinion, but that of his constituents, when he said, the address to the President was founded on truth, and this assertion, said Mr. Williams, is confirmed by the proceedings not only of the legislature of the state he had the honour to represent, but also that of the gentleman's own state, together with all the different legislatures in the union, which had been in session since the President's farewell address. But, said Mr. Williams, the gentleman (Mr. Giles) appears to have summed up his objections to the wisdom and firmness of the President in two points. The one was, respecting the British treaty, and the other, that of his having his name in the journals of this house, in opposition to the administration of the executive. With respect to the first, said Mr. Williams, this nation had a right to enter into a treaty with Great-Britain, or it could not be said we were an independent people; and he trusted we should be justified in so doing by France.—Did not the ambassador of France, in 1778, deliver a paper to the British court, declaring, that the French nation had entered into a treaty with the United States, and at the same time, stated, that great attention had been paid by the contracting parties, not to stipulate any exclusive advantage to the French nation, and that there was reserved, on the part of the United States, the liberty of treating with every other nation whatsoever, upon the same footing of equality and reciprocity. But, says the gentleman (Mr. Giles) no advantage ought to be given to an enemy. Mr. Williams observed, that he was convinced that no advantage was given to Britain; but, on the contrary, the article complained of, must, in its operation be beneficial to France; as it is an encouragement for American vessels to go to their ports. It ensures them against loss, if they happen to be interrupted in their voyage.