

in his estate against his creditors— they provide for the poor, and what is far better, they prevent the increase of poor by providing schools for the children. Not content with protecting the many from the few by equal laws, and by abolishing distinctions—they afford, by means of the public schools, all the aid of the laws to enable the poor to become rich, and the humble to raise themselves to eminence. Let those who prattle about the late obscurity of the republican spirit in New-England shew, if they can, in what institutions of the sister-states it appears with more useful splendor.*

The institutions and political habits of New-England do not evince a monopoly of power and rights by the few against the many. There was a time in 1774 and 1775, when the whole people of New-England spoke, through their town-meetings, the language of determined resistance to tyranny. Then it appeared to the whole continent, that the town corporations in the eastern colonies were so many orderly republics, admirably adapted to the preservation of equal liberty, because they served to collect, to mature, and to give a momentum to the sentiments of the people—and not less adapted to maintain good order even after the authority of the laws ceased. In fact, they stood for a time instead of laws and government, and during the whole war eminently assisted the states in the struggle. Yet this district of country, though filled with petty republics which actually reduce republican principles to practice, and make them familiar to the multitude, is pretended by a writer, who probably never saw it, to have declined from its republicanism.

Is there in the general state of New-England manners, any thing to warrant this insinuation? The tenure of lands is in fee simple— lease estates are almost unknown. Small, but independent freeholds, form infinitely the greatest proportion of property and influence. A soil, too rugged for any but free hands to till, is found on numberless trials, unprofitable when engrossed into great plantations. It must therefore remain in the hands of a numerous yeomanry. These are their rights, and the world has seen with what a high spirited consciousness of their worth the New-England farmers have defended them. Are these the men, who not only understand but who feel their rights, with whom the republican spirit is obscured? It is true their habits are favorable to order—they enjoy too much to desire the overthrow of a government which protects their rights, and extends their happiness. But without meaning to charge sentiments unfriendly to republican liberty upon the people of the southern states, New-England may vouch her constitutions and laws, her political habits and institutions, and the general state of property, manners and society, as well as the recent events of the revolution, to prove that the ardor of her zeal is not abating, and is not inferior to their own.

NEW-ENGLAND.

NOTE.

* If any should be of opinion that too much stress is laid upon the use of public schools to preserve equal liberty, they should know that PLATO and the wisest of the Ancients rated education at no less price.

All, says PLATO, who have meditated on the art of governing mankind, have been convinced that the fate of empires depended on the education given to youth. What are the solid foundations of the tranquility and happiness of States? Not the laws which regulate their constitution, or which increase their power, but the institutions which form the citizens, and give activity to their minds—not the laws which dispense rewards and punishments, but the public voice when it makes an exact distribution of contempt and esteem. When the nature, advantages, and defects of the different forms of government are carefully investigated, we shall find that the difference in the manners of a people is sufficient to destroy the best of constitutions, or to rectify the most defective.

EXTRACT.

"No precedent can justify an improper conduct. All customs which are unjust in themselves, however made venerable by time, should never be suffered to continue."

Foreign Affairs.

LONDON, September 21.

WE have authority to assure our readers, that a very flattering invitation has been sent from France to General Washington, to take the Command in Chief of its Patriotic Army. We have no less confidence in declaring, that if another campaign is had in France, this renowned soldier will make it against the host of insolent foes now confederated to destroy the liberties of mankind, and those principles which have rendered America more valuable than all the rest of the Globe. If that Saviour of his Country, and Giver of Freedom, accepts the call, he is to form a part of his staff from some of his old brother officers.

We expect every day to hear that Congress will deliberate on the propriety of assisting France, as also to what amount.

If WASHINGTON goes to France, every TYRANT will soon quit it!!!

Extract of a letter from Calais, Sept. 15.

Mr. Thomas Paine, after a passage of three hours, arrived here yesterday from Dover. The different treatment he met with at the two seaports, is such as ought to make an Englishman blush for the character of his nation.

On the name of Paine being announced, the soldiery at the gates were drawn up, and the officer on guard having embraced him, presented him with the national cockade. A very pretty woman, who stood by, desired she might have the honor of putting it on his hat, expressing her hopes that he would continue his exertions in favor of Liberty, Equality, and France. This ceremony being over, he walked to Dreffin's, (whose street is now called Rue de l'Egalite, formerly Rue du Roi) attended by men, women and children, crowding round him, and calling out, "Vive Thomas Paine!" He was then conducted to the town-hall, and there presented to the Municipality, who, with the greatest affection, embraced their new Representative. The Mayor then addressed him in a short speech, which was interpreted to him by Mr. Audibert, to which Mr. Paine (laying his hand on his heart) replied, saying, his life should be devoted to their service.

At the inn he was waited upon by the different persons in authority, and by the President of the Constitutional Society, desiring he would attend their meeting of that night. The whole town would have been there had there been room; the hall of the 'Mimmes' was so crowded, that it was with difficulty they made way for him to the side of the President. Over the chair he sat in was placed the bust of Mirabeau, and the colours of France, England and America, united. A speaker acquainted him, from the tribune, of his election, amidst the plaudits of the people. The women did not spare their hands, and, for some minutes, nothing was heard but *Vive la Nation, Vive Thomas Paine!* in voices male and female. They have appointed an extra meeting in the church to-morrow, in honor of their Deputy to the Convention, the *Mimmes* being found quite suffocating, from the concourse of people who attended yesterday. To-night there is to be a play, at which a box is to be reserved for the Author of the Rights of Man, the object of the English Proclamation.

Every thing here has the appearance of peace and quietness. The arsenals are well supplied, and able to stand a two years siege.

P. S. Mr. Paine has received a letter from the National Assembly, which he is said to be answering from hence. He will not probably be at Paris so soon as he thinks, since he has been elected for Abbeville and Beauvais, as well as for Calais; and they will hardly let him pass without paying him some mark of their attention.

FREDERICKSBURG (Virginia) Dec. 6.

We feel much concern in relating a melancholy accident which happened on Wednesday evening last. MR. ABNER VERNON, of Stafford, in attempting to load the Rappahannock at the falls, was thrown from his horse and drowned.—He was a man of a most amiable temper, cheerful and kind to every one, steady in his principles, pure in his morals; esteemed and respected by his numerous friends for his great integrity and usefulness, and who, now sensible of his worth, lament his loss with sincere and general sorrow.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.

Extract of a letter from Brigadier General Wilkinson, to the Secretary at War, dated at Fort Hamilton, 6th November, 1792, 7 o'clock P. M.

"Just as I was about to dispatch this, I received a letter from Major Adair, commandant of the Kentucky mounted infantry, of which the enclosed is a copy: The check which the enemy experienced in this little affair, will produce good effects, and the event reflects honour upon the major and the yeomanry of Kentucky; but the immediate consequence will be an entire stop to the transport of forage to the advanced post, as our pack horses are either destroyed or disabled, and the riflemen dismounted. In this situation, I am perplexed by difficulties, as from my ignorance of the designs of government, and for the want of explicit orders, I am at a loss whether to direct the purchase of more pack horses, or to encourage the riflemen to remount themselves. On these points I shall duly deliberate, and will make such decision as my judgment may direct, relying confidently on the liberality of government, for an excuse, should I err; and in the mean time, I shall urge forward the transport of forage from Fort Washington to this post, by every means left in my power.

As this affair happened near to and in sight of Fort St. Clair it may be enquired why the commanding officer did not support major Adair? The answer is short, and will, I hope, prove satisfactory.—The garrison under his command is poised for defence, and not offence, and altho' it appears that in this instance to have hazarded would have been judicious, yet as I have considered it safest for the national interest to confine my subordinate officers by rigid orders to defensive measures solely, they are bound to hazard in no case whatever, which does not immediately and essentially interest the safety of the trust which may be confided to them; and it may be added that in the instance before us, the attack was a most daring one, and that neither the number or ultimate object of the enemy, could be developed, before it was discovered that Major Adair was a full match for him.

I have this moment dispatched twenty of my mounted infantry, who will reach St. Clair before day light, to aid in bringing in the wounded and the weary.

Copy of a letter from Major John Adair, to Brigadier General Wilkinson, dated Fort St. Clair, November 6, 1792.

SIR,

THIS morning about the first appearance of day, the enemy attacked my camp, within sight of this post, the attack was sudden, and the enemy came on with a degree of courage that bespoke them warriors indeed, some of my men were hand in hand with them before we retreated, which however we did about eighty yards to a kind of stockade intended for stables; we there made a stand, I then ordered Lieut. Madison to take a party and gain their right flank if possible, I called for Lieut. Hail to send to the left; but found he had been slain; I then led forward the men who stood near me, which together with the ensigns Buchanan and Flinn, amounted to about twenty-five, and pressed the left of their center thinking it absolutely necessary to assist Madison. We made a manly push, and the enemy retreated, taking all our horses except five or six. We drove them about six hundred yards through our camp, where they again made a stand, and we fought them some time, two of my men were here shot dead.

At that moment I received information that the enemy was about to flank us on the right, and on turning that way, I saw about 60 of them running to that point. I had yet heard nothing of Madison I then ordered my men to retreat, which they did with deliberation, heartily cursing the Indians who pursued us close to our camp, where we again fought them until they gave way; and when they retreated our ammunition was nearly expended altho' we had been supplied from the garrison in the course of the action. I did not think proper to follow them again, but ordered my men into the garrison to draw ammunition. I returned however, in a few minutes to a hill, to which we had first driven them, where I found two of my men scalped, who were bro't in. Since I began to write this, a few of the enemy appeared in sight, and I pursued them with a party about a quarter of a mile, but could not overtake them, and did not think proper to go farther. Madison, who I sent to the right, was on his first attack wounded, and obliged to retreat to the garrison, leaving a man or two dead.

To this misfortune I think the enemy are indebted for the horses they have got; had he gained their right flank, I once had possession of their left, and I think we should have routed them at that stage of the action, as we had them on the retreat. I have six killed and five wounded; four men are missing, I think they went off early in the action on horseback, and are, I suppose, by this, at Fort Hamilton. My officers and a number of men distinguished themselves greatly.—Poor Hail died calling to his men to advance. Madison's bravery and conduct need no comment; they are well known. Flinn and Buchanan acted with a coolness and courage which does them much honor. Buchanan, after firing his gun, knocked down an Indian with the barrel. They have killed and taken a great number of the pack-horses. I intend following them this evening some distance, to ascertain their route and strength, if possible. I can with propriety say, that about fifty of my men fought with a bravery equal to any men in the world, and had not the garrison been so high as a

place of safety for the bashful, I think many more would have fought well.

The enemy have no doubt as many killed as myself; they left two dead on the ground, and I saw two carried off. The only advantage they have gained is our horses, which is a capital one, as it disables me from bringing the interview to a more serious and satisfactory decision. I am sorry I cannot send you better news, and am, sir, yours, &c.

Copy of a letter from James Seagrave, Esq. to the Secretary of War, dated St. Mary's 22d Nov. 1792.

SIR,

Being just arrived here from the conference ground at Colerain in company with forty-five of the principal chiefs of the Creeks on a visit to my residence, and finding a boat departing for Savannah, I drop you a line in haste to inform you, that every thing hath gone favourable beyond my most sanguine expectation.

I had present at our meeting the chiefs of eighteen of the principal towns in the Creek nation, peace and friendship with the United States they confirm, and declare pointedly against joining the northern tribes or any others RED OR WHITE against us. The whole particulars you shall have without delay. In the mean time I am happy in being able to say that every thing is in a most pleasing state between the Creeks and our country. I hope you will excuse this, as I am now surrounded with a very noisy but friendly crew of Red Kings and Chiefs.

Extract of a letter from General Wilkinson, dated Fort-Hamilton, 6th November, 1792.

DEAR SIR,

"I have the pleasure to inform you, that Major Adair* has this day had a smart and honorable brush with a body of savages, supposed to be double his number, near to Fort St. Clair, and that after several turns of fortitude and a sharp contest for two hours, he finally kept his ground, tho' the enemy carried off the great body of his horses during the action.

"I lament that Capt. Hale is among the slain; but for the consolation of his friends, and of the friends of all who have fallen, they fell gloriously, and sleep in the bed of honor—Madison is again wounded—If he continues his career, he will be a distinguished warrior. Be pleased to inform his brother that his wound is slight. Enclosed are the names of the killed and wounded. Major Adair has done no more than I expected, that is, he has combined courage to conduct, and done honor to the state of Kentucky.

N. B. The enemy left two dead on the field, and were observed to carry off many.

Killed—Captain Hale, Matthew English, Isaac Jett, Joseph Clinton, John Williams, Robert Boaling.

Wounded—Capt. Madison, Thomas Hickman, Aaron Adams, Luke Voris, Richard Taylor.

* Capt. Adair commanded a company of about 100 mounted volunteers, called into service from the state of Kentucky, to escort provisions sent from Fort Washington for the supply of Fort Jefferson.

LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Message from the Governor on Tuesday last.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Representatives of this state, in the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, have anxiously suggested to me, the necessity of making some further provision for the accommodation of Congress; as the present building will certainly be inadequate for that purpose, when the ratio of representation, established by a late act, shall take effect. The disposition which the legislature of Pennsylvania has uniformly evinced to promote the ease and dignity of the members of the different departments of the general government, assure me, that you will pay a cheerful attention to this subject. I shall only, therefore, observe, that the proposed measure may, perhaps, be accomplished, without incurring the expence of a new building, either by enlarging that which Congress now occupies, or (as the legislature, on a former occasion, authorized) by surrendering, for the use of the General Government, the State-House and the adjacent offices.

(Signed) THOMAS MIFFLIN.

Philadelphia, Dec. 18, 1792.

WEDNESDAY.

A letter from James Pemberton and John Kaighn, was read, requesting a copy of the petition of a number of the citizens of the French West-Indies.

The petition of the Directors of the Insurance Company of North-America, was read the second time, and referred to Messrs. Swanwick, Forrester, Turner, Everley, and Gallatin, to report.

A motion was made by Mr. Gallatin in the following words, viz.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the propriety of lowering the price of improved lands within the boundaries of the purchases made of the Indians prior to the year 1786.

The message from the Governor, read on Tuesday, was referred to a committee.

Died in this city, Mr. JOHN S. HUTTON, aged one hundred and ten years. Mr. HUTTON was born on Long-Island, in the fleet of New-York.