

## NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 1786.

TRENTON: Printed by ISAAC COLLINS, Printer to the State.

## T O B E L E T,

**A** COMMODIOUS dwellinghouse and potworks, late the estate of James Rhodes, deceased, in Nottingham township, Burlington county, near Trenton; to be entered upon immediately. For terms apply to Mr. John Yard, in Trenton, or the subscriber on the premises.

CATHARINE RHODES.  
4w\*

Dec. 30, 1785.

House of Assembly, Nov. 15, 1785.

**A** PETITION from John Schuyler, of New-Barbados Neck, in the county of Bergen, was read, setting forth, that through losses and misfortunes he is unable to pay his debts, and praying that, upon his assigning over and giving up his estate to certain persons for the use of his creditors, that his person may not be confined, and that he may have leave to present a bill for that purpose;

On the said petition being read a second time, November 23, 1785.

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to present a bill at the next sitting, agreeably to the prayer of his petition, on advertising the purport of the bill he means to present, and a copy of this order, in the news-papers printed in this state, and at least two of the news-papers printed in New-York.

Extract from the minutes,  
MASKELL EWING, jun. Clerk.

Notice is hereby given,

That a bill will be presented to the honourable the legislature at their next sitting, agreeably to the leave given in the above order.

JOHN SCHUYLER.

6w

Dec. 30, 1785.

House of Assembly, Nov. 11, 1785.

**A** PETITION from Martha Vanscuyver, widow and relict of William Vanscuyver, late of the county of Burlington, deceased, setting forth, that the said deceased made his testament and last will in the presence of 3 witnesses; but that, through ignorance of the law, two only signed the same, and the heir at law refuses to comply with the intention of the testator, and praying leave to present a bill to establish and confirm the said will as effectually as if there had been three subscribing witnesses to the same;

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to present a bill agreeably to the prayer of her petition, on the second Wednesday of the next sitting, on advertising the purport of the petition, and a copy of this order, in at least three of the most publick places in the township of Willingborough, and county of Burlington, as also in the New-Jersey and Pennsylvania Gazettes, at least six weeks previous thereto.

Notice is hereby given,

That a bill will be presented to the honourable the legislature at their next sitting, agreeably to the leave given in the above order.

MARTHA VANSCUYVER.

For and on the behalf of William, Sarah, Jacob and John, children of the said William Vanscuyver, deceased, who are under age.

JOSIAH MATLACK,  
MARY MATLACK,  
MARTHA VANSCUYVER.

6w

Dec. 30, 1785.

Shad and Herring Seine TWINES,  
**SNOWDEN and NORTH**  
Have for sale at their store on  
Spruce-Street wharf.

**A** QUANTITY of shad and herring seine twines, equal to any ever imported, both for fineness and the quality of the hemp, and made to a pattern suitable to the fisheries up the Delaware; which they will sell by the hoghead or smaller quantity. They also have cork, lead and landlines, of their own manufactory, which they will insure good.

Philadelphia, Dec. 4, 1785.

6w

## PRIMITIVE WHIG. No. II.

— Pleas'd with the whistling of a name,  
See Cromwel damn'd to everlasting fame.

POPE.

**T**HE question about the expediency of another edition of bills of credit, is of such importance, that it behoves every man who has a real concern for the prosperity of his country, and I may venture to say, for the very existence of this state, most seriously to revolve in his mind this momentous subject; and to oblige the publick with his speculations upon it. The mischiefs to be apprehended from so fatal a measure are almost innumerable; and as all of them are not likely to occur to one man; I wish that those who have clear ideas of the matter, but may be diffident of their abilities, to dress them in such language as they would choose to have them appear in before the world; and are at the same time pleased to entertain such favourable sentiments of me as to think that I could give them a finer suit—I wish, I say, that such of my fellow-citizens would honour me with their observations upon this very interesting subject, or on any other conducive to the emolument of our country, directed to the *Primitive Whig*, under cover to Mr. Collins.

But to the point in question. Who are the men that are in favour of paper money? They are, generally, debtors; and debtors, by their own confession, utterly irremediable without this iniquitous device. Iniquitous I call it, because, unless they pay their debts in money greatly depreciated at the time of payment, it can afford them no relief. How in the name of common sense should it? They are indebted. To pay their debts, they must take this money upon loan. For the repayment of this loan, they must mortgage their lands. And how is this mortgage to be discharged? In what better situation for being enabled to pay A, by running in debt to B? How is the last debt to be paid? Surely unless they annually raise out of those lands so much more than they spend, as will lessen part of the principal as well as discharge the interest, and by that means quiet the creditor, the premises mortgaged must be taken in execution at last. But that, I can tell them, they never can do, unless they will be really industrious and frugal; and oblige their wives and daughters to dress like the wives and daughters of *poor distressed debtors*, instead of parading in all the foppery and finery of the most opulent and independent fortunes. It is therefore their hopes of the depreciation of this money, that is the whole burden of the song. And thus the business is eventually to terminate in the shifting the creditor instead of paying the debt, or the finally sham payment of it in depreciated currency, to their great consolation indeed as to the saving their bodies from imprisonment, but to the evident exposition of their souls to eternal perdition for such bare-faced knavery. It is, I say, their expectation that such depreciation will ensue (and from our experience of the *inviolability* of the publick faith of former legislatures respecting this same *no-money*, we have the greatest reason to believe such depreciation will really ensue) that these same debtors are so clamorous for this charming and necromatic paper that, by the charming and necromatic Hocus Pocus of an act of assembly, can be made legally to discharge a debt, when in fact and in honour and in conscience and reality, it doth not discharge the tenth part of it. Justice! whither art thou fled? Honour! Truth! Virtue! where have ye taken up your abode? That any legislature should ever be made the dupes of such unconscionable, prevaricating, double-minded, insidious petitioners! That any legislature should, for their relief, pass acts necessarily tending to annihilate all publick faith, and all private credit! Ah! The passion for ensuring elections *per fas & nefas*! But of our present assembly, I hope better things. They are men of too much sense, of too great honour to be so duped. They know such kind of petitions to be evidently founded in self-interest. For where is the man of property, the man out of debt, the industrious man (excepting perhaps a very few individuals, who, for the sake of popularity, or for want of better knowledge, countenances the scheme) that

does not reprobate this ruinous measure? But it will be reported, that those who are against an emission of paper money, being creditors and men of property, are also self-interested in their opposition to it. Granted. But great is the difference between the self-interest and honesty of these and that of the debtors in question. The interest of the creditor coincides with that of the community. Not so the interest of the debtor. The former desires no more than his own. The latter wants to pocket the property of another. The one, by opposing a further emission of an intended fraudulent medium, labours to restore our national credit. The other, by making it a continual resource for his own convenience, prolongs the disease and inflames the malady. Surely therefore the self-interest of the one is just and laudable; that of the other knavish and infamous. And will any legislature, so far pervert the solemn and sacred trust of legislation, as to enable, under the august sanction of law, such debtors to triumph over such creditors? By what motives must such legislatures be influenced? I desire to be excused from answering the question.

*Votes and proceedings of the tenth general assembly of the state of New-Jersey.*

(Continued from our last.)

**T**HE bill, intitled, 'an act to vacate certain notes given for depreciation of pay to persons employed in the general hospital,' was read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

A petition from the township of Evesham, and another from the township of Chester, in the county of Burlington, praying for a law to maintain the publick roads by hire, were read, and referred to the committee appointed for that purpose.

A letter from sundry inhabitants, of the township of Mannington, in the county of Salem, praying that a law may pass to maintain their publick roads by tax, and to raise the causeway leading to the town of Salem above the flow of the tide, was read, and committed to messrs. Sinnickson, Hall and Sharp, to make report thereon.

Mr. Biddle, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the draught of a bill, intitled, 'a supplemental act to an act for regulating roads and bridges,' which bill was read, and ordered a second reading.

Mr. Combs, with leave, presented the draught of a bill, intitled, 'an act to vest in the heirs of James Morgan, late of the county of Middlesex, deceased, a certain tract of salt-meadow, situate in said county,' which was read, and ordered a second reading.

The auditor appeared in the house, and reported the state of sundry accounts, by which it appeared, that the account of Peter Dumont, late agent for forfeited estates, in the county of Somerset; the account of Thomas Fenimore, as agent for sequestered estates, in the county of Burlington; the account of the said Thomas Fenimore, as a commissioner for repairing the gaol in the county of Burlington; and the account of the executors of Bodo Otto, esquire, deceased, late agent for the recruiting service, in the county of Gloucester, ought to stand balanced; to which the house agreed.

That there is a balance due the state from Benjamin Fenimore, late paymaster to the militia in the county of Burlington, of £. 88 7 8, specie.

From John Stillwell, as agent for sequestered estates, in the county of Monmouth, of £. 106 9 6, specie.

From Abraham Kitchel, agent for forfeited estates in the county of Morris, the sum of £. 131 9 5, specie. And,

From Cornelius Haring, agent for forfeited estates in the county of Bergen, the sum of £. 143 6 8, specie.

Resolved, That the treasurer be directed to collect the same; and,

That there is due from the state to Joseph Ellis, esquire, late commissary and paymaster to the western company of artillery, the sum of £. 7 17 7.

To Samuel Hugg, esq. late commissary and paymaster to do. £. 186 15 11.

To Edward Dunlop, late agent for the recruiting service in Sussex, the sum of £. 65 13 9.

To Nathaniel Hunt, late paymaster to the militia in Hunterdon, the sum of £. 1 19 10.

To John Black, late agent for the recruiting service in Burlington, the sum of £. 56 10 4.

To John Stillwell, late agent for forfeited estates in Monmouth, the sum of £. 73 12 8.

To Jonathan Stiles, junior, late paymaster to the militia in the county of Morris, the sum of £. 200 7 11.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer do discharge the same.

*Ordered*, That mr. Longstreet do carry the accounts above referred to, and the above resolutions, to council for their concurrence.

The house adjourned till to-morrow morning nine of the clock.

Wednesday, November 23, 1785.

The house met.

A message from the council by mr. Clark.

*Council-chamber, Nov. 23, 1785.*

*Ordered*,  
THAT mr. Clark do carry to the house of assembly the bill, intitled, 'an act to amend an act, intitled, an act to require sheriffs to give security, and for other purposes therein mentioned,' and request their concurrence therein.

Mr. R. S. Smith, from the committee appointed to examine into the demands of Robert Hoops, esquire, upon this state, and report their opinion thereon, reported as follows:

THAT they find that on the 11th day of April 1780, the United States drew a warrant on the treasurer of this state in favour of colonel Blaine for 1,077,333 $\frac{3}{8}$  dollars; that colonel Blaine endorsed an order on the above draught in favour of mr. Hoops for 250,000 dollars, dated April 13, 1780; that mr. Stevens, then treasurer of this state, by virtue of a resolution of the legislature for that purpose, appears to have paid unto mr. Hoops 66,775 dollars; that for reasons which do not appear to your committee, the remaining 183,225 dollars have never been paid.

By order of the committee.

R. S. SMITH.

Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That upon the said Robert Hoops giving a receipt to the treasurer for the sum of 183,225 dollars, with interest, in discharge of the aforesaid warrant, the said treasurer give unto the said Robert Hoops, esq. a certificate, certifying that the state of New-Jersey is indebted unto Robert Hoops, esq. in the sum of £. 1305 4 6, which said sum shall be paid unto the said Robert Hoops, esq. or bearer, in specie, or other current money of this state, with interest at the rate of six per centum per annum from the first day of May in the year 1780, and that the auditor do countersign the same;

*Ordered*, That mr. Blauvelt do carry the above report and resolution to council for concurrence.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Little Egg-Harbour, praying that a law may pass to appoint inspectors of lumber, and that a fine may be imposed on any person who shall attempt to sell any lumber contrary to law; was read, and ordered a second reading.

Mr. Longstreet reported, that he had obeyed the order of the house.

The petition from Monmouth, read on the 4th November instant, praying a division of said county, was read a second time, and referred to the next sitting.

The petition of John Schuyler, of the county of Bergen, read on the 15th instant, was read a second time;

*Ordered*, That the petitioner have leave to present a bill at the next sitting, agreeably to the prayer of his petition, on advertising the purport of the bill he means to present, and a copy of this order, in the news-papers printed in this state, and at least two of the news-papers printed in New-York.

The house adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

The house met.

The engrossed bill, intitled, 'an act to vacate certain notes given for depreciation of pay to persons employed in the general hospital,' was read and compared; on the question, whether the same do pass? It was carried in the affirmative, as follows:

Yeas. Messrs. Blauvelt, Nicoll, Garrtse, A. Clark, Marsh, Combs, Bonney, Bunn, Blaire, Kelly, Biddle, Cooper, T. Clark, Baker, Swain, Houghton, Cook, Starke, Burgin, Bowen, Hankinson, Beardlee, Longstreet.

Nays. Messrs. Schuurman, R. S. Smith, Sinnickson, Hall, Sharp, Arnold.

*Ordered*, That the speaker do sign the same.  
*Ordered*, That mr. A. Clark do carry the said bill to council for concurrence.

Mr. A. Clark reported, that he had obeyed the order of the house.

The bill, intitled, 'an act to oblige the regimental agents of the troops of this state to deposit in the treasury the certificates remaining in their hands, and for making compensation for their services,' was read a second time, and referred to the next sitting.

The bill, intitled, 'an act to authorize the United States in Congress assembled to regulate foreign trade,'

was read a second time, debated, and ordered to be engrossed.

The petition from the county of Middlesex, read on the 17th instant, was read a second time, and referred to the next sitting.

The petition from John Adams, read the 16th inst. was read a second time, and dismissed.

The bill, intitled, 'an act for altering the time of holding the annual town-meeting, in the counties of Essex and Middlesex,' was read a second time, and referred to the next sitting.

The bill, intitled, 'an act to vest in the heirs of James Morgan, late of the county of Middlesex, deceased, a certain tract of salt-meadow, situate in said county,' was read a second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill, intitled, 'an act for obliging the proprietors of the several stage-waggons, coaches, ferries and taverns, between Hudson's river, and Delaware river, to contribute towards the publick expences of government,' was read a second time, and committed to messrs. Schuurman and A. Clark to report the next sitting.

Mr. Schuurman, from the committee to whom was referred the petitions of Jacob Warren, Tallman Smith and Jonathan Stiles; also the letter from the treasurer, read on the 20th instant, brought in a bill, intitled, 'an act to authorize county collectors, and the treasurer of this state, to receive certain certificates in payment of taxes;' which bill was read, and ordered a second reading.

Mr. Marsh, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the draught of a bill, intitled, 'an act for the relief of Samuel Meeker, late commissioner of forfeited estates, of the county of Suffex; which bill was ordered a second reading.

The house adjourned till to-morrow morning nine of the clock.

Thursday, November 24, 1785.

The house met.

Mr. J. Smith, from the committee appointed to settle the accounts of the treasurer of this state, reported a state of the same as follows:

[For these accounts we must refer our readers to the pamphlet, which is now published, it being inconvenient to insert them in a news-paper.]

Which settlement being read and examined,  
*Resolved*, That the house agree to the same as settled by the committee.

The bill, intitled, 'an act to confirm to the members of the church of the United Brethren in this state, the privileges of being admitted to take an affirmation instead of an oath,' was read a second time, and ordered a third reading.

A petition was presented to the house from a number of inhabitants of the township of Woodbridge, and county of Middlesex, in behalf of captain Matthew Freeman and company, who were embodied in the year 1780, for the defence of the frontiers, and received their pay in state dollars at a discount of forty for one, which reduced their wages to 2/6 per month, and praying that the house would make good to them their pay according to contract, which was read, and ordered a second reading.

A petition was presented to the house from John Young, a soldier in the corps of invalids, setting forth that he is deprived of his pension by reason of a mistake in his discharge, and praying relief in the premises, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Three messages from the council by mr. Mayhew.

*Council-chamber, Nov. 24, 1785.*

*Ordered*,  
THAT mr. Mayhew do carry to the house of assembly the bill, intitled, 'an act to revive the orphan's court in the county of Gloucester,' and request their concurrence therein.

*Ordered*,  
THAT mr. Mayhew do wait on the house of assembly, and acquaint them that the bill, intitled, 'an act to raise one hundred and ten men in the state of New-Jersey, to serve for three years unless sooner discharged,' is passed by this house without amendment.

*Ordered*,  
THAT mr. Mayhew do wait on the house of assembly, and acquaint them that the following bills are passed by this house without amendment:

'The bill, intitled, 'an act for transferring the residue of the confiscated personal property late of David Ogden, esq.' &c.

'The bill, intitled, 'a supplement to an act, intitled, an act to amend and explain an act, intitled, an act for ascertaining the value of debts due from the forfeited estates of certain fugitives and offenders, and for directing the payment of the same.'

'The bill, intitled, 'an act for the relief of persons who have purchased property for the use of the publick.'

'The bill, intitled, 'an act to amend an act, intitled, an act to regulate the fisheries, and to prevent the obstructions of the navigation of the river Delaware.'

'The bill, intitled, 'an act directing the mode by which shares of propriety, and rights to unlocated lands in the state of New-Jersey, may be sold for the payment of debts.' And,

'The bill, intitled, 'an act for incorporating sundry persons as trustees of the first Presbyterian congregation in Hanover, Morris county.'

Mr. Sharp, from the committee appointed for that purpose brought in a bill, intitled, 'an act for striking one hundred thousand pounds in bills of credit, and directing the mode for sinking the same,' which was read; and, on the question, whether it be read a second time? It was carried in the affirmative, as follows:

Yeas. Messrs. Garrtse, A. Clark, Marsh, Combs, Schuurman, Bonney, Bunn, Blaire, Kelly, Sharp, Baker, Lambert, Houghton, Cook, Starke, Arnold, Hankinson, Beardlee, Longstreet.

Nays. Messrs. Blauvelt, Nicoll, R. S. Smith, Biddle, J. Smith, Cooper, T. Clark, Sinnickson, Hall, Swain, Burgin, Bowen, Sheppard.

The engrossed bill, intitled, 'an act to authorize the United States in Congress assembled to regulate foreign trade,' was read and compared;

*Resolved unanimously*, That the same do pass.

The engrossed bill, intitled, 'an act to vest in the heirs of James Morgan, late of the county of Middlesex, deceased, a certain tract of salt-meadow situate in said county,' was read and compared; on the question, whether the same do pass? It was carried in the affirmative, as follows:

Yeas. Messrs. Blauvelt, Nicoll, Garrtse, A. Clark, Marsh, Combs, Schuurman, Bonney, Bunn, Blaire, Kelly, R. S. Smith, Biddle, J. Smith, Cooper, T. Clark, Baker, Lambert, Houghton, Cook, Starke, Arnold, Burgin, Bowen, Hankinson, Beardlee, Longstreet.

Nays. Messrs. Sinnickson, Hall, Swain, Sheppard.

*Ordered*, That the speaker do sign the said bills.

*Ordered*, That mr. Nicoll do carry the said bills to council for concurrence.

A petition from Garret Hopper, of Bergen county, was laid before the house and read, setting forth, that he was indicted for a misdemeanor, and fined in the sum of four hundred pounds, state-money, for which he is now confined in the gaol of said county, which fine he is utterly unable to discharge; but that his friends have offered to advance in his behalf the sum of one hundred and thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight-pence, in state-certificates, provided he can be released from said fine and imprisonment; And whereas it is fully certified from a number of the magistrates and other inhabitants of said county, that the above sum is all the petitioner's friends will advance on his behalf, and that he is unable to pay any part thereof without such assistance;

Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That upon condition any person, in behalf of the said Garret Hopper, shall pay into the treasury of this state, in notes given to the officers and soldiers of the Jersey line for the depreciation of their pay, or notes given to the militia of this state, the sum of one hundred and thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight-pence, with interest thereon, from the time the said fine was laid, and also pay unto the sheriff of said county, in state-bills of credit, in circulation at the time such fine was laid, at their nominal value, the costs accrued on such fine and imprisonment, the said Garret Hopper shall thereupon, to all intents and purposes, be discharged from said fine and imprisonment, any law, usage or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Ordered*, That mr. Bonney do carry the said resolution to council for concurrence.

Mr. Bowen having informed the house, at the request of colonel David Potter, that there are in his possession a quantity of musket-cartridges, in boxes, the property of the state;

Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said David Potter be empowered and directed publickly to advertise and make sale of the same; and that he shall receive either gold and silver, or the notes given to the officers and soldiers of this state for the depreciation of their pay, or the notes given to the militia of this state, in payment; and that he render an account of such sales to this house at their next sitting, with the expences attending the same.

*Ordered*, That mr. Bonney do carry the said resolution to council for concurrence.

The house adjourned till to-morrow morning nine of the clock.

Friday, November 25, 1785.

The house met.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill, intitled, 'an act to call in all the contractors' and surplus certificates, to issue state notes to the holders, and to procure a more accurate estimate of the state debt: An amendment in the third section moved for by mr. Sinnickson, seconded by mr. Sheppard, that the following words be inserted, to come in immediately after the Words 'fraudulently obtained,' 'or original certificates, which do not express the quantity of the articles furnished according to law,' was carried in the negative, as follows:

Nays. Messrs. Nicoll, Garriffe, A. Clark, Marsh, Schuurman, Bonney, Bunn, Kelly, Biddle, Lambert, Houghton, Cook, Starke, Arnold, Hankinson, Beardlee, Longstreet.

Yeas. Messrs. Blauvelt, Combs, R. S. Smith, J. Smith, Cooper, T. Clark, Sinnickson, Hall, Sharp, Baker, Swain, Burgin, Bowen, Sheppard.

And several amendments being agreed to in the house,

Ordered, That the said bill be engrossed.

On motion,

Resolved, That when this house adjourn the present sitting, they will adjourn to meet the 15th day of February next.

Resolved, That when this house meet on the 15th day of February next, they will meet at Trenton.

(To be continued.)

## American Intelligence.

QUEBEC, October 20.

On Sunday the 9th instant, between four and five in the afternoon, an uncommon darkness was perceived here, though at the same time the atmosphere over this city appeared of a fiery, luminous, yellow colour; this was followed by squalls of wind and rain, with severe thunder and lightnings which continued most of the night, a thing uncommon here at this season, it having froze considerably the night before.

On Saturday the 15th, about 15 minutes after 3 in the afternoon, it became darker than it had been the Sunday before, and the sky of much the same colour; it was succeeded by a heavy shower and very severe thunder and lightning.

Sunday morning, the 16th, was quite calm and foggy till about 10 o'clock, when there arose some wind from the eastward, which partly expelled the fog; in about half an hour after it became so dark that ordinary print could not be read within doors; this was followed by a squall of wind and rain, when it brightened up again. From five till about ten minutes after twelve, the darkness was so great that the ministers in the English and Presbyterian churches were obliged to stop till they got candles. From two o'clock till about ten minutes after, it was as dark as at midnight, when there is no moon-light. From 43 till about 50 minutes after three o'clock, it was total darkness; and from 35 till 45 minutes after four it was very dark. The people in this city dined by candle-light, and spent a part of the afternoon in lighting up and extinguishing them. Each period of darkness was followed by gusts of wind and rain, with some severe claps of thunder, and the atmosphere looked as before described. It was remarked, that on the days before-mentioned, there appeared to be two adverse currents of air, the uppermost impelling a luminous strata of clouds towards the N. E. and the lower driving with great rapidity broken misty clouds towards the S. W. and that the rain-water which fell on Sunday during those gusts was almost black. As these wonderful phenomena have been the subject of much conversation, and given rise to various conjectures, we flatter ourselves some of the curious, skilled in meteorological observations, will furnish us with their opinions thereupon for our next.

Yesterday arrived, his majesty's packet-boat Antelope, captain Kempthorn, in eight weeks from Falmouth: In her came passengers, Sir John Johnson, bart. with his lady and child; colonel Johnson, of the royal artillery, and his lady; major Ross, of the 34th; captain Keith, of the royal artillery; captain Graham, of the 65th, and ensign Barckly, of the 34th.

Oct. 27. Friday morning last, about ten o'clock, brigadier-general Hope, commander in chief of his majesty's forces in this province, arrived here from Montreal, when he was saluted by the cannon of the garrison.

MONTREAL, October 20.

On Sunday the 16th inst. the air was darkened by a thick fog, which dissipated about ten o'clock. The atmosphere was of a luminous fiery colour. About 2 o'clock in the afternoon, it became dark by degrees, in such manner, that about half an hour after two, people could not see one another in the houses. This lasted twenty minutes, and was followed by lightning, thunder and rain, which gradually diminished the darkness; it was however very difficult to read without candle-light at three o'clock. This period was of short duration, for the darkness came on again at 7 minutes past three, and it grew by degrees as dark as before; inasmuch that no night ever was more obscure than it was at this time. The black clouds dispersed about 14 minutes past three; but lightning, thunder, and a heavy rain, continued till about half after five.

Doctor Setre, who resides in this city, says, that having perceived the rain-water that fell during the shower, to be of a black colour, he smelt it, and find-

ing it had a sulphureous smell, he placed in the middle of his yard a muslin handkerchief in the form of a funnel, at the bottom of which he found a black sediment; having rubbed it between his fingers, he found that its smell was owing to no other cause but the sulphur which composed its substance. Hence he is of opinion that the only cause of this phenomenon was the inflammation of some neighbouring mines, whose thick smoke being condensed in the air, was driven by the wind over this region.

BOSTON, December 22.  
Extract of a letter from Bedford, dated November 4, 1785.

"This idle hour I will employ in giving you some account of a great discovery lately made in hydrostatics, by a Mr. Allen, from Martha's vineyard—A man of good natural abilities, but who never had any advantage of philosophical studies, or other than common education. By accident, he was led to attempt the important trial of separating fresh from salt water, and has succeeded in a wonderful manner: he informs me, that with his present machine he can separate one hundred and twenty-eight gallons in twenty-four hours; and that he is now constructing one on the same principle, capable of producing between seven and eight hundred gallons in that time.

"How inconceivable its utility to mankind! Ships may be furnished with daily supplies of fresh water at a very small expence and trouble; and the freight of water in navigation, in the present mode is enormous, particularly on long voyages, and in transporting live stock. Ships to India are one third loaded with water. Desolate islands may be supplied by this method. And what I conceive fully equal to either, is the manufacture of salt; whereby we may supply ourselves without importing; as by this easy and quick process, the fresh water may be separated so effectually, that the remainder will crystallize almost immediately—and I dare prognosticate, that many other eminent advantages will be derived to this and succeeding generations from this discovery.

"He has communicated as much of the secret (reserving intricacies) as has convinced a learned Doctor West, of this parish, of its feasibility: he is to undertake for Mr. Allen to lay it before the American academy of arts and sciences at their next meeting. If they will secure to him a premium, which he may think adequate to its importance, and his merits, he will divulge it to them; otherwise he proposes for Europe.

"I am informed that Mr. Allen, when a boy, on a whaling voyage, approaching very near to a water-spout, he observed the circumfused water to have the exact colour of fresh water, down to the very surface of the sea; and as the rain which poured down from the cloud above was fresh, he had no doubt but the separation took place at the surface, before drawn up: this first gave him an idea of this noble project, without having even one principle of the hydrostatic laws. The hypothesis, that the salt water is drawn up to the clouds in water-spouts, and there by a certain operation of the air, while it is expanding, and dispersing in the clouds, is separated from the saline particles, must be exploded, by this, and several other new theories.—From what I can gather, by the character and conversation of Mr. Allen, both his theory and machinery must be very simple.

"I should conjecture, by some peculiar temperature an action of the air on the surface, he produces the effect to sink the grosser particles, while the pure and subtle float on top, to be received free from salt. Whatever may be the method, I am sure it must be simple, and therefore it will be much more useful to mankind.—He assured me, the apparatus may be made complete for a trifle, will wear (as his own phrase is) 'as long as stem, keel and stern post of a ship,' and be very little liable to derangement.

"You have lately heard the lectures of the celebrated Doctor Moyes, on water-spouts. I believe you will never be able to reconcile his darling theory to this discovery: although as yet we can only conjecture, but I dare say, Mr. Allen has as little knowledge of the laws of the electrical fluid, as of the doctrines of Confucius or Zoroaster. I hope the learned president of the academy of Arts and sciences will open a correspondence with Mr. Allen, and by some promise of reward to his heirs, induce him to commit the whole in writing, that in case he should die before the negotiation is finished for the purchase of the secret, mankind may not even run the hazard of losing so invaluable a discovery."

NEW-YORK, January 2.

The Richmond, Greene, from Newport, and Lottery, Mann, from Baltimore, are arrived at Alexandria, in Virginia.

The brigantine Sophia Magdalena, capt. Ysbrand Groof, arrived the 29th of October last, at St. Cruz de Teneriffe, from Hamburg; from whence she is to sail about the 1st of December for Philadelphia.

A list of letters remaining in the Post-Office in Trenton, January 5, 1786.

- (A) David Adair, Suffex.
- Jacob Arnold, Esquire, 2.
- Thomas Brooks, Hackets-Town.
- William Bowman, Atfion.
- James Burrus, Trenton.
- James Brown, do. 2.
- Mary Brion, do.
- Christopher Benwick, Coryels.
- Charles M'Cayec, Maidenhead.
- Hannah Chamberlain, Hopewell.

- Anny Carnes, Suffex.
- Daniel Clark, do.
- Aaron Cowling, Six Mile Run.
- James Collyer, Easton.
- (D) Mary M'Donald, Allentown.
- Thomas Dick, Vally-Hill.
- (E) John English, Burlington.
- Jacob Eckman, Mufconetcong.
- (F) Frances and Jeremiah Harris, New-England Town, 3.
- Samuel Frances, New-Jersey.
- David Frazz, Esquire, Hunterdon.
- (G) James Gliffon, West-Jersey.
- Robert Gilbert, Mount-Holly.
- (H) Rev. Oliver Hart, Hopewell.
- George Hastings, Taunton.
- Saunders, Mill-Hill, Trenton.
- James Hutchinson, Forks Delaware.
- (L) John Lee, Esquire, Mount-Holly.
- John Lowrey, Amwell.
- Doctor William Ledlie, Easton.
- (M) William Menagh, Elfinborough.
- Mullin, Esquire, Mount-Holly.
- George Mitchel, Burlington, 2.
- John Miller, Trenton.
- John Mullen, Union.
- Edward Morrison, Bordentown.
- Andrew M'Lane, Suffex.
- George Mitchison, New-Jersey.
- James Maxwell, Trenton.
- Hugh M'Kay, Trenton.
- Charles M'Koy, Maidenhead.
- (N) Thomas Norris, Esquire, Salem.
- (O) John Owen, Mount-Holly.
- (P) Robert M'Philomy, Kingwood.
- John Peirson, Trenton.
- Robert Parrish, New-Jersey.
- William and Matthew Patterson, Trenton.
- Benjamin Prall, Amwell.
- (Q) Samuel Quay, Allentown.
- (R) Jacob Richardson, Trenton.
- Kitty Rhoads, Trenton.
- Peter Rockefeller, Amwell.
- Mrs. Riche, Bordentown.
- Thomas Riche, New-Windfor.
- William Robins, East-Town.
- Doctor John Ross, Mount-Holly.
- Doctor Nathan Ramond, New-Jersey.
- (S) Edward Singleton, Bird's Works.
- Joseph Sergeant, Trenton.
- Benjamin Swett, Cooper-Hill, 2.
- Joseph Smith, Trenton.
- (T) Jacob Terhune, Esquire, 2.
- John Tyler, Union.
- David Thompson, Mount-Holly.
- John Turner, Kingwood.
- Niel Towland, Forks of Delaware.
- (W) Colonel Richard Westcot, Egg-Harbour.
- John Wilkins, Esquire, Gloucester.
- (Y) Andrew York, Elfinborough.

BENJAMIN SMITH, D. P. M.

\* \* \* The laws passed at the last sitting, the votes and proceedings of the assembly, and the journals of the legislative-council, are printed, and ready for delivery.

## T O B E S O L D.

About ten thousand acres of excellent patent land,

IN Fayette county, in the state of Virginia, on the waters of the Kentucky river.

ALSO twelve thousand acres of prime land, in Harrison county and state aforesaid, on the waters of Monongahela river, and within a few miles of the county town called Clarksburgh.—Cash, good bonds, final settlements, or country produce, will be taken in payment. For further particulars enquire of Joel Gibbs, merchant at the Black Horse, or of the subscriber in Water-street, Philadelphia.

RICHARD MASON.

Jan. 14, 1784.

4W

## T O B E S O L D, BY JACOB HILTZHEIMER, IN PHILADELPHIA,

A FULL-BLOODED brown horse, between 5 and 6 years old, 16 hands high, well shaped, got by the late Mr. Wilson Hunt's horse, called WASHINGTON, and his dam by old Juniper, his size makes him fit to get either saddle or carriage horses.

N. B. If not sold by the middle of March next, he will be put out on shares for the ensuing season. Philadelphia, Jan. 9, 1786.

10W\*

## T O B E S O L D,

A LOT of land, situated and lying in the county of Middlesex, within 2 miles of Princeton, opposite col. Scudder's mill. There is on said lot a dwellinghouse, 2 stories high, with 3 rooms and a fireplace on the lower floor, and two rooms with a fireplace on the second, with a convenient garret overhead. A spring of good running water near the door. Likewise a convenient barn 22 by 32 feet, and covered with cedar. Said lot is that whereon Ezekiel Forman formerly lived and kept a store, and would be a most excellent stand for either merchant or tradesman. For further particulars enquire of the subscriber, living on the premises. NICHOLAS HIGHT.

Dec. 27, 1785.

4W\*

**American Blistered Steel,**  
Warranted equal in quality to the best steel imported from Europe, and to be sold by  
**John Nancarrow and White Matlack,**  
Under the FIRM of

**NANCARROW and MATLACK,**  
AT the stores of John Helling's on Stamper's wharf, and in Second-street, between Race and Vine-streets; at Greenfield and Humphreys' store on Chestnut-street wharf, at Baker, Potts and Co's. store in Third-street, at Michael Gunckle's store, the north east corner of Race-street, at Casper Singer and Sons in Market-street, and at Benjamin Davis's store in Arch-street, between Front and Second-streets; and also by most of the merchants in Trenton.

The great encouragement given the said John Nancarrow, by the rapid sale of the steel he has made, previous to and during the late war, has induced the said Nancarrow and Matlack to assure the publick, that as they intend to carry on the steel manufactory in an extensive and spirited manner, they are determined to spare no pains to render their steel worthy the character given it.

Trenton, Jan. 3, 1786. t. f.

**Six Dollars Reward.**

**R**AN away from the subscriber, on the 25th of November ult. in Mansfield township, Suffex county, New-Jersey, a negro wench, named Dyne, of a yellow complexion, between 30 and 40 years of age; some of her upper fore teeth are broken; she is very talkative: Had on and took with her a linsley short gown and petticoat, a calico short gown and skirt, a brown worsted cloak, a black silk bonnet, and two pair of shoes: Whoever takes up and secures said negro, so that her master may get her again, shall have the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by  
**JOHN CLINE.**

N. B. All persons are forbid to harbour her at their peril.

Dec. 20, 1784. 4w\*

On Wednesday the 25th January next, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock at noon, at the coffee-house in Philadelphia, will be sold

By **PUBLICK VENDUE,**  
A VALUABLE  
**PLANTATION,**

Or tract of land;  
**C**ONTAINING 217½ acres, situated on the river Delaware, and the Bordentown road, about four miles above Bristol, in Falls township, and Bucks county, being lot No. 10, as marked in the general plan of Pennsylvania manor, and is now in the tenure of William Alexander. On the said farm is a good log house, some cleared land and good meadow; and the timber growing on the farm is valuable from its situation on the river Delaware. Part of the purchase-money to be paid on making the deed, and the remainder to be at a reasonable credit, on giving security, of which terms notice will be given at the time and place of sale. 9w

The title to the said land is indisputably clear.

**T**HE publick are desired to take notice, that the subscriber intends to apply to the loan-officer of this state, to renew two loan-office certificates No. 250 and 251, for 500 dollars each, issued by Joseph Borden, esquire, and dated April 15, 1778, payable to Gabriel Allen, which certificates the subscriber was so unfortunate as to lose with his pocket-book, containing a number of other valuable writings, notes of hand and accounts, on the road between Crosswicks and Allentown, on September 12, 1778. Any person having objection against the renewal of the said certificates, agreeably to an act of Congress of May 10, 1780, are desired to exhibit the same within six weeks from the date hereof.

**GABRIEL ALLEN.**  
N. B. The above certificates and pocket-book were advertised in this paper on September 16, 1778. Bordentown, Dec. 28, 1785. 6w 7s6

**W**AS left at the house of the subscriber, inn-keeper, in Nottingham township, in the county of Burlington, and state of New-Jersey, in October last, a brown roan mare, with her hind feet white, and a star in her forehead, about 14 hands high, paces and trots, was very poor, her age unknown, was left by one Manly; he hath a wooden leg. The owner of said mare is requested to come, prove his property, pay charges and take her away, otherwise she will be sold as law directs.  
**ENOCH ANDERSON.**  
Jan. 7, 1786. 2w\*

**FOR SALE,**

**A** PLANTATION containing about one hundred and forty acres of land, on which is a tolerable dwellinghouse, a good large barn and orchard, a well of water near the door. Payments will be made favourable. An indisputable title will be given. Situate near Readington meetinghouse, Hunterdon county. For terms apply to **JACOB JENNINGS.**

N. B. Another plantation belonging to the father of the subscriber, in Bernard's-Town, Somerset county, containing about 160 acres, with good buildings. 4w

House of Assembly, Nov. 10, 1785.

**A** PETITION from sundry persons in behalf of themselves and others, owners of the tract of bog-meadow, on the west side of a tract of land between Pequannock and Passaic rivers, was read, praying leave to present a bill to vest the said bog-meadow in Elias Boudinot, Richard Kemble and Samuel Bayard, for the purpose of draining and dividing the same into three equal parts, one for the heirs of Anthony Brockholst, another for the heirs of Arent Schuyler, and a third for the heirs of Nicholas Bayard, or those interested in right of them, and of setting apart such a portion of the same to be sold as they may find sufficient for defraying the expences of the drains and division;

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to present a bill agreeably to the prayer of their petition, on advertising the purport thereof, and a copy of this order, in the Political Intelligencer of New-Jersey, and in two of the news-papers printed in New-York, at least six weeks previous thereto.

Notice is hereby given,

That a bill will be presented to the honourable the legislature at their next sitting, agreeably to the leave given in the above order.

On Wednesday the 8th of February, at the old coffee-house in Philadelphia, will be sold by

**PUBLICK VENDUE,**  
A VALUABLE GRAZING  
**F A R M,**

Plantation, or tract of land;  
**C**ONTAINING about 500 acres by deed, with an addition of near as much out-lands by a late survey, being the farm formerly colonel Joseph Barton's, situate on Peppercotting-Creek, in the township of Newtown, and county of Suffex, in the state of New-Jersey. There are about 90 acres of excellent meadow cleared, and as much more may be made, the upland is good; this place is under new fence, a good frame house with a cellar, and a frame barn.

Also, at same time and place will be sold by publick vendue, the three following tracts or parcels of land, to wit, a tract of 539 acres of land on the river Delaware, and near the Pahaquaiting Mountain, adjoining to colonel Van-Camp's plantation in the said county of Suffex.

Also, one tract of 477 acres near Scot's mountain, in the county of Suffex, adjoining lands of Atkinson, Joseph Hollinshead and Isaac De Cow. And also, a tract of 507 acres of land, situate on and near Schooley's mountain, about a mile from Hackett's Town, in the county of Morris, and state of New-Jersey. On the last mentioned tract are some good improvements. A part of the purchase-money to be paid down, and a reasonable time allowed for the remainder, of which the conditions will be made known at the time and place of sale, by the subscribers, assignees of John Biddle and Clement Biddle.

**WILLIAM POLLARD,  
CHARLES PETTIT,  
JAMES CRAWFORD,  
JOHN BARCLAY,  
JACOB SPICER.**

**FOR SALE,**

**T**WO hearty negro men, one about 40 years of age, the other about 27, the one is a good farmer—has been used to attend a saw and grist mill, and is remarkably handy with carpenters and turners' tools.

Also a hearty negro woman, about 27 or 28 years of age, and a negro girl, about 18. They have both been used to town and country, and would suit either. They have all had the small-pox and measles, and are sold for no fault, but that the proprietor is determined to keep none of their colour. A reasonable credit will be given for the purchase-money. Paper money, or notes given by Benjamin Thompson, Esq. will be taken in payment. For further particulars enquire of the printer.

Nov. 28, 1785. t. f.

A few of JOCELIN'S  
**SINGING-BOOKS**  
To be had at the Printing-Office in Trenton.

**T**HE subscriber, having built a commodious store and wharf for the storing and lading all kinds of country produce, and having proper boats for transporting the same to New-York, which sail from this place twice a week, gives this publick notice, and engages to receive into his store, and carry to New-York, all kinds of cask goods, at six-pence per barrel for flour, and in that proportion for all larger casks. The farmer, country trader and miller, are reminded of the expence they have, for two winters last past, been at in removing their flour, flaxseed and other articles by land from New-Brunswick, after they had been there stored, in order that they might be exported from hence to New-York, the navigation of the river Raritan having been for a long time intirely obstructed by the ice.—The prospect they have to dispose of their produce here at the New-York market price, by which the whole commission on the sales will be saved, and the certainty of getting their produce to market immediately upon the intelligence of an advanced price at New-York, cannot but be matters worthy their consideration.  
**JAMES PARKER.**  
Perth-Amboy, Dec. 1, 1785. t. f.

**P**URSUANT to the directions contained in the act, intituled, 'An act to call in all contractors and surplus certificates, to issue state notes to the holders, and to procure a more accurate estimate of the state debt.'

Notice is hereby given,

That the subscriber will open an office for the liquidation and settlement of such of the above described certificates as shall be presented to him for that purpose at Henry Drake's, in Trenton, on Monday the 2d of January next;

at James Eldaile's, in Burlington, on the 9th;  
at Zachariah Rossel's, in Mount-Holly, the 16th;  
at John Cox's, in Moore's-Town, the 23d;  
at Hugh Creighton's, in Haddonfield, the 30th;  
at Joseph Matlack's, in Woodbury, the 6th Feb.  
at \_\_\_\_\_ in Sweedsborough, the 13th;  
at \_\_\_\_\_ in Woodstown, the 20th;  
at Mrs. Burroughs's, in Salem, the 27th;  
at Samuel Wood's, in Bridgton, the 6th of March;  
and at Daniel Hand's, on Cape-May, the 15th March;  
at each of which places he will continue the remainder of the week; from which last place he proposes to remove to Daniel Randolph's, at Allentown, in the county of Monmouth, where he will open his office on Monday the 27th March, and continue 1 week; at Hagerman's, at Monmouth courthouse, the 3d April, and continue 2 weeks; at William Snider's, in Middletown, the 17th April, and continue 1 week; and at William Lippincott's, in Shrewsbury, on the 24th, where he will continue 1 week. At which times and places he will settle and adjust all certificates given by the superintendent of purchases, contractors, collectors, agents, and commissioners, for the payment of which the state is accountable. All persons holding such certificates are therefore requested to take particular notice of the above times and places, as the time allotted for transacting the business will evidently prevent any longer attendance, those therefore who neglect this notice must blame themselves if they are forever precluded.

**SILAS CONDUCT,** Commissioner.

N. B. This office will be opened in every county in this state, and previous notice given of the time and place.

Dec. 1, 1785. t. f.

**T**HE trustees of Lamington grammar school, beg leave to inform the publick, that they have lately opened school at Lamington, in the upper part of Somerset county, a very healthful country, where convenient board may be had at full as reasonable a rate as any in the state, under the direction of the rev. William Boyd, and tuition of mr. Joseph J. Hendrie, a young gentlemen of a liberal education, of a good moral character, and very flattering abilities. He teaches the mathematics, as well as the Latin, Greek, French and Spanish languages. He acquired the two last languages in their native countries, which no doubt affords him an accurate pronunciation of them. The trustees flatter themselves that their strict attention to the morals of the young gentlemen, as well as their proficiency in science, will meet with general approbation.

By order of the board,  
**JOHN MEHELM,** Sec'ry.  
4w  
Dec. 16, 1785.

**B L A N K**  
WARRANTS,  
SUMMONSES,  
EXECUTIONS, and  
APPRENTICES INDENTURES,  
To be sold by the Printer of this paper.