

NEW-JERSEY GAZETTE.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1784.

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From the Maryland Gazette of December 2, 1784.
To the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of MARYLAND.

HAVING, for many years, devoted much of my attention to the consideration of publick affairs, I may be allowed to suppose that I better discern what will be beneficial or injurious to the state, than the greater part of mankind, whose contemplation and studies are seldom diverted from their private pursuits. I feel an irresistible impulse to disclose my sentiments on every occasion, which I esteem deeply interesting to the publick. But, as I possess not the honour of a seat in the great national council, I have no better way of communicating my ideas, than by availing myself of the liberty of the press. To the weight of personal influence, to the extreme force and elegance of language, to the almost magick power of action and speech, I have nothing to oppose, but what appears to myself to be plain solid reasoning; and if my arguments have not the utmost intrinsic weight, I must fail in the attempt, and perhaps forfeit some part of the little reputation I have acquired, by always pursuing the dictates of an unbiassed judgment. However, as I never meanly courted the favour of one great man, or dreaded the displeasure of another, as I am proud of despising mere and popular applause, I shall proceed under every discouragement to make some remarks on a recent motion in the house of delegates for another emission of bills of credit.

That an emission should at this time be thought the primary object of the legislature, I confess astonished me. I did not imagine the experience we have had, would have left a single man of reflection ignorant of a science, which might be easily attained, without uncommon talents or an extraordinary depth of penetration. But this is not the first time I have been deceived in my estimates of mankind. For my present mistake I account in this manner—When we have long meditated on a subject, and formed what we fancy unerring conclusions, we are too apt to suppose that every rational being must entertain the same ideas. For the benefit of those who have never reflected much on the subject, to disclose the plain uncontrovertible principle of the science of paper money, and to save myself the trouble of inventing different phrases, to express the same thing, I present some extracts from an essay published about a twelve-month ago. It is now scarcely extant, because it was published in a news-paper. It nevertheless had some influence with the members of the late house of delegates. A project for paper money was conceived at the last sessions; happily it was stifled in embryo. If the present scheme can likewise be rendered abortive, the publick will perhaps escape great and manifold mischiefs, which I think must be inevitable, if this monstrous conception should proceed to a safe birth, and be suffered to attain the age of maturity.

“The main support of paper money is opinion; which indeed is the grand foundation of all power in government. It is unnecessary to recite those ill judged acts of the legislature, which have destroyed all confidence between individuals, and that faith which men are naturally disposed to place in a government, constituted by themselves; but it may not be improper to explain what is meant by opinion, when applied to paper money—it is a firm belief, that paper is equal to, and will answer all the purposes of specie. If that opinion exists, the plan is smooth and easy; that it does not exist at present, and that there should be a certainty of its re-establishment, before we venture on an expedient which has been so often before productive of ruinous consequences, I think no disinterested man will deny.

“If we reason from the success of paper money under the old government, and thence form conclusions in favour of the plan, a much juster inference might be drawn from the prejudices occasioned by the ill fate of the various recent emissions. But, say the advocates for the measure, how can you reason from the prejudices of the people, when almost all orders of men, even the merchants of Baltimore, are clamorous for an emission? With me, this consideration has

not the least weight to demonstrate the existence of opinions. I can account for the wishes of these men. A dishonest debtor may entertain the fond hopes of another tender law, or another association. An honest man may suppose, that by introducing an abundance of money, he will be enabled with more ease to discharge his debt. Interest may be so strong a bias on the most upright man, as to make him willing to try all experiments. The people find themselves uneasy from the weight of taxes, and would undoubtedly be extremely well pleased to be furnished with the means of paying, with as much ease, as when red money, which they procured at the rate of two for one, was taken at par. As for the merchants, who have experienced the gains arising from the fluctuation of paper to be the most profitable part of their business; as for those who would be willing to give thirty, forty, or fifty per cent. for the use of money for one year, I am not surprized if the plan has their warmest approbation, and if they even consent to borrow it from the state as specie. To come to the point at once.—Is there a planter or farmer, who would sell the whole of his crop, at the present price, for this paper? Is there a gentleman, who has just placed his specie at interest, with good security, who would be willing to take it? Would a merchant take it for an assortment of saleable goods, at the current price?—If these questions must be answered in the negative, the Legislature should adopt some very effectual measures to supply the want of opinion, if they expect bills of credit to serve as a circulating medium, to comply with the just requisitions of Congress, and, in every respect, to be equal to gold and silver.

“I believe the wit of man can devise no method for the support of paper, where opinion fails, except by creating uses and demands. To talk of ample funds for their redemption at a distant day, betrays a total ignorance of the subject. The truth is, that bills of credit, which have neither opinion nor demand for their support, can be considered on no better footing than the notes or obligations of a private person. Let the wealthiest, most reputable man in the state, pass his bond for one hundred pounds, or any smaller sum, payable in five years, and it would sell to very few men for more than one half; but only contrive, that this bond shall fulfil every purpose that specie can do, and it will immediately be equal in value. It will be just the same with publick bills of credit. If the debtor knows that he can, without injustice, discharge therewith specie debts; if the merchant is satisfied that he can dispose of it in other states as specie; if government will receive it as such for taxes; if it can at any time be exchanged without difficulty for gold and silver; then is it, to all intents and purposes, equal to gold and silver. If there is a single material use which it will not answer, then will a difference be made between it and specie. The government may provide, that it shall be taken for taxes and debts due to the state; it may make it a legal tender between individuals; but as the payment of debts and taxes does not comprehend the greatest uses of money, these provisions will be found inadequate. By creating a single demand, you might indeed make paper of any value you please. For instance—the taxes to be levied in any one year amount to one hundred and twenty thousand pounds specie; you afterwards emit bills of credit to the amount of thirty thousand pounds, and ordain, that one dollar shall discharge as much of the tax as two silver dollars. Here then is a hot and pressing demand for sixty thousand pounds, to discharge one hundred and twenty thousand pounds specie, and there is but just half enough to answer it fully; there will be a competition among the purchasers, and, probably, about twelve shillings and six-pence specie may be had for a dollar bill. I do not learn that such a plan of emission as this is in contemplation. I do not think the state could afford to adopt it. It must nevertheless be a scheme somewhat similar at this time, which can make paper equal or superior to specie. To make it exactly equal, would require a nicety of political calculation, not to be found in more than one man belonging to the state.

“An attention to the history of red money will illustrate every position. In the campaign of 1781, the community was destitute of a proper circulating me-

dium, and the state wanted the means of carrying on the war. The sum of two hundred thousand pounds was directed to be issued in bills of credit, redeemable within four years; (it is needless to mention how they came into the hands of the people, and how long it was before the whole were emitted.) British property, to the amount of a much greater sum, was appropriated for their redemption, and great part of it immediately sold; private property was likewise mortgaged; to crown all, there was a general association, and men pledged their sacred honour to receive them as specie. Was it possible for a plan so well concerted to fail? To the eternal disgrace of the people of Maryland, and more particularly the merchants of Baltimore, some men will exclaim, it did fail.—But I say, neither the people nor the merchants were to blame; it was impossible for it to succeed; opinion was wanting, and the Legislature did not create uses and demands to supply the defect. Notwithstanding every provision they had made, it scarcely passed as specie at all between individuals. Some few creditors indeed, who could not violate so recent and solemn an engagement, received it with reluctance. A few merchants, of more than common publick spirit, sold goods for it at the old price; others, more prudently, either raised the price, or laid up their most saleable merchandize; and the farmers and planters generally would not sell their commodities at all. After a very little time, the signers of the association considered themselves as absolved from their engagement; there was then but one immediate use for the bills, and that was to pay for the confiscated property already sold for their redemption; and no body would touch them, except a very few speculators, who calculated on the present value of money, payable at a future day, or those who wanted to sell them to the purchasers of the confiscated property, or the purchasers themselves. This demand fixed the price for a little time at two for one, and at that rate they passed, sometimes as a medium of barter; the uncertainty of the rate, at which they might be received at the treasury, undoubtedly having influenced the price. The memorable dissent of the senate soon took away the only immediate certain use, and they instantly ceased to circulate. Another use was created—a dollar in these bills was to go as far in the payment of taxes as a bushel of wheat, the price of which was between four and five shillings; or twenty shillings would discharge as much as 100 lbs. of tobacco, the price of which was between twelve shillings and six-pence and fifteen shillings. The price then of the bills being regulated by the demands of the people, who would not speculate but for advantage, they were again sold at no higher rate than two for one. As the time for collecting the tax approached, or, as wheat and tobacco rose in value, they also rose, and were sometimes sold at the rate of three for two. They are now taken by the treasurer at par, and, as there is a very inconsiderable sum in the hands of the people compared with the demand, they have at length attained a value within ten per cent. equal to that of specie.

“The principles here laid down were more briefly explained by a writer two years ago; they were considered, by some very profound politicians, as the crude notions and wild dreams of a visionary projector. I have, in this essay, endeavoured to be as full and distinct as possible; and I flatter myself, that experience hath set its seal to every one of my positions. By some discerning men, I may probably be thought too prolix, and to have laboured to demonstrate self-evident truths; but if other gentlemen of respectable talents and reputation have proposed a paper emission; if a majority of the people are clamorous for the measure; and if the assembly are already deliberating on the proposition, I conceived it my duty, as well as my right, to offer my opinion. A little reading, with a great deal of reflection, has given me some insight into the nature of publick credit; and, without vanity (for I have gained nothing by the science) I have never materially erred in my productions, respecting that amazing variety of paper money, with which this state has amused and cajoled its citizens; it has enriched men without merit or industry; and impoverished men without a fault. During the war it might be necessary; but it is, at this time, the business of a wife and

honest government to repair, not multiply mischiefs; to restore public credit; to conciliate the affections of its people; and, as far as possible, to do justice to all. When these things are brought about; when obstinate prejudices shall be removed, and injuries totally forgotten; if the exigencies of the state should absolutely require it, there is a possibility, that bills of credit may again become money. Until that period, I confess myself, and I believe every other man, unequal to the task of devising a safe and eligible plan of an emission."

So far the Reviewer of last year. If these principles be true, this state of facts just, and these remarks unanswerable, it must task human invention to suggest plausible arguments for adopting an expedient, which, even in the time of our greatest difficulty and distress, scarcely served a temporary purpose. It may, however, be deemed arrogant to decide, without hearing all that may be said, or waiting to see whether, in the delineation of the plan, there may not be something material to discriminate it from all others. But should I wait for this, I may not have an opportunity of being heard. It is my business therefore to anticipate.

The arguments used last year, on a similar occasion, were these:—"The community deeply feels the want of a circulating medium. Creditors cannot collect debts. Merchants cannot procure money to carry on their business. The people have not wherewith to pay the tax. And a thorough conviction of the necessity of removing these evils will engage every man in the support of a paper emission, and then it cannot fail." All these positions, except the last, I might admit, and still it would remain to prove, that a paper emission would remove the evils. The last position I can never admit, because the sense of a general evil was never known to bind the generality of mankind to act contrary to the dictates of private interest. I appeal again to the history of red money, with its association, private security, and what not. Even the sincere endeavours of every individual in this single state would not, without defeating the very end for which paper is to be introduced, give it equal value to that of specie, because they could not make it answer all the purposes of specie. That the community feels the want of a circulating medium is much to be questioned, because every man, who has commodities to sell, may find a ready market, and a better price, than was given before the war. That creditors cannot collect debts is very true; and yet this scheme would not better their condition, because, if this paper should be money in the true sense, a greater quantity of it will not find a way to the pockets of debtors, than they could by the same means procure gold and silver; and no man would risk a proposition of so deep damnation, as that of a tender law. That merchants cannot procure specie to carry on their business, should be fairly understood. That a great number of men without capital want this paper, to launch forth into a business, which already employs too many of our citizens, I readily believe. This scheme would not be beneficial to them, and a true merchant will perceive no advantage in it to either himself or the state. He will tell you, that if there is a necessity for increasing the medium of commerce, that it cannot be done by bills of credit; and that the only paper, which can effect this purpose, is bank notes. Again—If the people have not wherewithal to pay the tax, when they can command specie for every kind of produce, they would not have wherewithal to pay, if the scheme should be adopted, and should answer the avowed expectation of its advocates. If indeed it be said, that we ought to ease the people, by taking from them what may be more easily procured than specie, let us in the name of common sense rather lower the tax, if it be too high; but let us not burthen them to pay that, which cannot answer the true purposes of government.

It has been triumphantly said, that this emission will "stand on the firm basis of private security." Is not the security for the redemption of red, black, and continental state bills, as ample as the heart of man can wish, provided the publick can at all be relied upon? Is not the same outstanding extremely moderate? Are not the periods of redemption very near? And yet are not these bills inferior to specie? And do they in the slightest degree serve as a circulating medium?

To reason from the success of the paper emission before the war is as ridiculous as it is common. Circumstances are totally changed. There is as great a revolution in the minds of men respecting paper money, as there is in government. I will make one plain observation, which is equal to a thousand volumes. Paper was good before the war, because the people thought it so. And it will be bad now, because the people think it bad. To make good paper money, therefore, you have no less to do, than to give them precisely the same ideas on the subject which they had before the war.

It is contended by some, that an emission is necessary for the benefit of certificate holders. There must surely be magick in the management of paper, or I

must want common apprehension. I cannot conceive, that if a creditor should call upon me, it would be any satisfaction to him for me to take back my bond and give him another; unless indeed the old bond were nearly out of date.

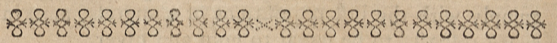
There is another argument for an emission, which to me is more hateful than all the rest. By exchanging these bills for certificates, we prevent the further accumulation of interest, whilst we may still receive interest from our debtors. Or by lending these bills, we may receive a sum that will considerably diminish the weight of taxes. In plain English the argument is this—It is high time for the state to speculate, and, like other speculators, it must avail itself of the wants and follies of mankind. It is easy to perceive that the state, in truth, can neither gain nor save. The state is composed of its citizens. The state is a republick, and all its citizens have equal rights, and are entitled to the same consideration and guardian care. The revenue of the state, collect it by what method you please, must be furnished by its citizens. There is indeed a distinction between the various methods of obtaining it; but that, which is the most equal and productive of least evil, is on every account to be preferred.

The limits of a news-paper will not permit me to descant on the various subjects, which might be involved in the discussion of this question. Enough, however, I trust, has been said for the purpose of exposing the plan. I cannot conclude better than with the words of the aforementioned essay.

"Is it fair and honest, by not paying creditors their interest, and denying them the right of discounting the principal, to compel them to relinquish both for this trashy paper? Would you court rash enterprising men to embark in the most extravagant ruinous plans? Would you give speculators—the men you have abused so long—would you give them another fair field to display their talents? Will you commit the most flagrant injustice? Will you thrust daggers into the hearts of your creditors? Will you, if it be possible, reduce publick credit to a more deplorable state?—And will you do all this on the principle of benefit to the publick? No project, which is big with so many complicated evils, can be salutary to the state; and if, instead of ninety thousand pounds, it could gain a million, the scheme deserves to be damned."

A REVIEWER.

Annapolis, November 30, 1784.



Foreign Intelligence.

LONDON, October 16.

The following account of the extraordinary conduct of the Bishop of Derry, may be depended on as authentic. It is an extract of a letter from an officer in the 49th regiment, quartered in Belfast, to his friend in London.

"YOUR countrymen hold us soldiers (particularly Englishmen) in great contempt. The Colonel, and two or three other officers of our corps, made an excursion last week to Giant's Causeway, and on the road made a stop to see the Bishop of Derry's house, as it is customary for most strangers to do.—His Lordship, hearing who they were, sent a servant to request their company to dinner, which they declined. However, he would admit of no excuse, and again, in the politest terms, repeated his solicitations, which common civility at length obliged them to comply with. He then accompanied them round his grounds, and took the greatest pains to render himself agreeable, and them happy. As soon as dinner was over, and the ladies retired, he expressed his pleasure at seeing them in coloured coats, viz. out of their regimental uniform, and said, if they pleased, he would give them a toast; on which he proposed the *Volunteers of Ireland*. This was drank with much good humour. In a few minutes after, he gave the *Colevaine Battalion*, and continued giving particular corps of volunteers for upwards of half an hour, during which the officers, not a little surprized to be thus treated by a Nobleman in his own house, silently bowed, and drank their wine, which, by the bye, was uncommonly good. Upon the Colonel's observing what a fine youth the Hon. Mr. Hervey was, who dined with them, and was clad in a white jacket, faced with blue, the Bishop said, "Yes," and that he made no doubt it would shortly be tried what stuff he was made of. During the course of the conversation, he was asked, whether he was really serious respecting the independence of Ireland? He answered in the affirmative; and said he hoped it would soon be decided in the field, and by the sword: that he himself would meet them there, and that he trusted he should have the happiness of seeing, ere he died, Ireland as independent of England, as of any other nation on earth."

OCTOBER 21.

Extract of a letter from Rotterdam, October 11. "Ever since the affair of the Imperial vessel in the Scheldt, an embargo for fourteen days was laid on all

the vessels (not foreign) in the ports of Zealand, which will be taken off or prolonged, at the expiration of that time, as circumstances require."

A letter from Toulon, by the last mail, says, that the Count Dillon sloop of war, bound from that port with despatches for Cadiz, was taken in the Mediterranean, by two large Barbary corsairs, after a smart engagement of one hour, and carried into Tunis; the Captain, the Surgeon, and several of the crew, were killed in the engagement.

Extract of a letter from Vienna.

"Grants for land are now making out from his Imperial Majesty's registry in this city, to persons who are to be permitted to build on those spots where the frontier barriers between Flanders and Holland were lately destroyed; there are many more applications than grants, the Emperor having restricted the quantity of land, and also the number of houses to be built thereon."

Extract of a letter from Brussels.

"The barges, &c. which are furnished with implements for removing the obstruction in the Scheldt, will go to work in a short time, the several artificers having arrived at the city of Antwerp for commencing those operations, which the States General have given their consent not to obstruct."

"The Emperor is shortly expected here on a visit to his brother Prince Charles; he will stay only a short time, but we understand he will visit most of the principal towns in Flanders before he returns home to Germany, which will not be till towards Christmas."

Authentic letters from Paris, dated July 26, mention, that the learned Missionary, M. Amiot, lately transmitted some very interesting memoirs from Peking, where he has resided some years, concerning the arts and manners of the Chinese. From these we learn, that the present Emperor Kien Long, who is in the 75th year of his age, has published an edict in favour of the Europeans, by which the former impolitic and illiberal restraints upon them are taken off, and they are ordered to be treated as friends and brothers.

The same accounts declare, that upon an estimate of the number of inhabitants in each province, made last year by order of the Emperor (who appears in all respects to deserve the noble title of father of his people) it was found they amounted to upwards of two hundred millions of souls. Incredible as this calculation may seem, it is delivered upon good authority, and supported by the testimony of Mr. Allerstain, President of the mathematical department at Peking.

TRENTON, December 27.

On the 10th inst. the Marquis LA FAYETTE arrived here from Philadelphia; and on the 11th the Legislature of this State presented him with the following ADDRESS:

To the Honourable the Marquis LA FAYETTE.

SIR,

WE, the Representatives of the Citizens of New-Jersey, convened in Council and Assembly, cheerfully embrace the opportunity which your present visit to this state affords, of paying you that publick mark of respect which is justly due to your distinguished merit.

With pleasure we recollect, that, actuated by a love of liberty, and a sacred regard for the rights of mankind, you left your native country, and all the endearments of domestic life, and voluntarily engaged in the hazardous cause of America, in her late contest with Great-Britain: And we acknowledge, with gratitude, that the signal services which you have rendered this state, and the other states in union, have greatly contributed to the complete establishment of that freedom and independence which they now enjoy.

Your unremitting endeavours to support our national credit and character, and your generous efforts to promote our trade and commerce, afford us the strongest evidences of your attachment to this country, and of your regard for the interests of our Federal Republick.

Permit us, Sir, to conclude with expressing our fervent wishes for your welfare and prosperity, and with assuring you that the citizens of New-Jersey will ever retain an exalted sense of your disinterested friendship and important services.

Council-Chamber,

Dec. 11, 1784.

By order of the

Council,

WIL. LIVINGSTON,

President.

House of Assembly, December 11, 1784.

By order of the

House,

BENJ. VAN-CLEVE,

Speaker.

To which the Marquis made the following ANSWER:

SIR,

IN the friendship and esteem of the state of New-Jersey, so kindly expressed by your Excellency, the Council, and Assembly, I feel myself the more flattered, as I have had numerous occasions to admire the spirit and patriotism of her citizens, to which, in trying emergencies, our cause has been so signally indebted.

It was my fortunate lot, Sir, to have been admitted among you in support of the great contest—it shall ever be my happiness, in zealous endeavours for the good of these states, to indulge the sentiments of my love and gratitude; and while the blessings of this revolution, so nobly purchased, will be eternally secured in the united strength and wisdom of this federal Republic, my heart feels deeply interested in the warmest wishes for the particular welfare of the state of New-Jersey.

Highly sensible of my obligations to your Excellency, the Honourable Council and Assembly of New-Jersey, I beg leave to present you and them with most grateful acknowledgements, and the affectionate assurances of my respect.

LA FAYETTE.

His Excellency the Governor, the Honourable the Council and Assembly of the state of New-Jersey.

The Anniversary Meeting of the Members of the TRENTON-ACADEMY was held on Tuesday the 14th inst. when the Honourable David Brearley, Moore Furman, Esq. Mr. Isaac Collins, Samuel-Witham Stockton, Esq. and Mr. Benjamin Pitfield, were, by ballot, elected Trustees; and the Hon. William-Churchill Houston, Mr. Stacy Potts, and James Ewing, Esq. were appointed Visitors, for the ensuing year.

Saturday fennight, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, came on the Examination of the Grammar-School at the Academy in this place. His Excellency the President of Congress, and other Members of that Hon. Body, his Excellency Major-General Baron Steuben, several Members of the Legislature of this state, the Attorney-General, the Trustees of the Institution, and a number of respectable Citizens of the town and vicinity, were present, all of whom expressed their approbation of the Performances of the Students.

In the afternoon the scholars exhibited a specimen of their improvement in the art of speaking, in the presence of a polite and crowded audience, who gave many signal proofs of their agreeable entertainment.

The navigation is stopped at this place by the severity of the weather.—It changed suddenly on Wednesday last, and still remains very cold.

On the 18th inst. the Brigantine New-Jersey arrived in the Delaware, in 17 days from St. Eustatia, laden with rum, sugar, and other articles of West-India produce; and, on Friday last, she got up as far as Bristol, the ice having prevented her coming further.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint THOMAS HENDERSON, Esq. of Monmouth, to be one of the Masters in Chancery.

Friday last the Honourable the Legislature of this state rose *sine die*. During their Sitting the following Acts were passed, viz.

1. An act to authorize the Congress of the United States to adopt certain regulations respecting the British trade.
2. An act to authorize and empower Mary Allen, widow of John Allen, late of Philadelphia, Esq. deceased, to sell and dispose of the undivided five sixteenth parts of the lands and tenements, messuages, furnaces and forges, called the Andover Ironworks, in this state, being the estate of her infant sons John and William Allen, for the uses and purposes in this act mentioned.
3. An act to amend and confirm the charter of the Episcopal Church called St. Mary's, in the city of Burlington, in the state of New-Jersey.
4. An act to confirm an act, intitled, 'An act for barring the estate tail in certain lands and tenements in the province of New-Jersey, lately belonging to Anthony Sharp, the elder, deceased; and also for vesting the same in Isaac Sharp and Joseph Sharp, his grandsons, their heirs and assigns, pursuant to an agreement made with the tenant in tail.'
5. An act to amend and explain an act, intitled, 'An act for directing the settlement of certain debts contracted by the citizens of this state previous to the thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-one, on principles of equity, and to repeal an act, intitled, 'An act for the relief of persons holding publick securities, and for other purposes therein mentioned.'
6. An act to extend the time limited by law for the exhibition of militia demands.
7. An act for the recording of deeds and other instruments of writing respecting the titles of land in the several counties in this state, and for declaring what shall be evidence of such deeds and other instruments.
8. An act for the relief of Samuel Meeker.
9. A supplement to the act, intitled, 'An act to empower the clerks of the several counties to administer the official and other necessary oaths to certain officers in such counties; and for procuring to the secretary of the state returns of the names of such officers.'
10. An act to ascertain the power and authority of the Ordinary and his Surrogates, to regulate the jurisdiction of the Prerogative Court, and to establish an Orphans Court in the several counties of the state.
11. An act for further suspending the sales of forfeited estates in this state, and for appointing an agent in the county of Suffex.
12. An act for raising the sum of ten thousand pounds, to be applied towards sinking the bills of credit of this state.
13. An act for incorporating the town and port of Burlington.
14. An act for erecting the north ward of Perth-Amboy, and a part of the township of Woodbridge, in

the county of Middlesex, into a city, and for incorporating the same by the name and title of the city of Perth-Amboy.

15. An act to raise the sum of ten thousand pounds in the state of New-Jersey, for the support of government, and the contingent expences for the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five.

16. An act for the better securing of the surplus of personal estates, after payment of debts, of persons who die intestate, leaving no relations entitled to the administration thereof.

17. An act to revive and continue an act, intitled, 'An act for regulating roads and bridges.'

18. An act to regulate and fix the terms for holding the court of appeals or errors.

19. An act to enable the surviving executors of Samuel How, Esquire, deceased, or the survivors of them, to make a conveyance unto Ezekiel Johnson, for certain pieces of land contracted for by the said Samuel How in his life-time, by articles of agreement.

20. An act to raise the sum of seventy pounds on the inhabitants of the counties of Middlesex and Somerset, to repay Charles Suydam his disbursements in building the bridge at Raritan landing.

21. An act for the constituting and appointing of trustees to execute and fulfil the purposes of the last wills and testaments of Henry Cuyler, the elder, and Henry Cuyler, the younger, deceased.

22. An act to provide for the payment of the several officers of the government of the state of New-Jersey, to commence the thirteenth day of October, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-four, and to end the second Tuesday in October, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five, inclusive.

23. A supplement to the act, intitled, 'An act to extend the power of justices of the peace in the several counties in this state, to try causes to the amount of twelve pounds, and to prevent actions under fifty pounds being brought in the supreme court, and for other purposes therein mentioned.'

24. A supplementary act to an act, intitled, 'An act for raising a revenue of Thirty-one Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty-nine Pounds Five Shillings per annum, for the term of twenty-five years, for the purpose of paying the interest and principal of debts due from the United States, agreeably to a recommendation of Congress of the eighteenth day of April, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-three, and for appropriating the same.'

25. A supplement to the act, intitled, 'An act to authorize the United States in Congress assembled to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandize imported into this state from any foreign port, island or plantation, and for the appropriation of the same.'

26. An act for the relief of persons who have purchased property for the use of the publick.

27. An act for the constituting and appointing of trustees to execute and fulfil the purposes of the last wills and testaments of John and Gertrude Barbarie, deceased.

28. A supplement to the act, intitled, 'An act for the regulating, training, and arraying of the militia, and for providing more effectually for the defence and security of the state.'

29. An act to regulate the fisheries, and to prevent the obstruction of the navigation in the river Delaware.

30. An act to empower the agent for forfeited estates of the county of Bergen, to sell, by publick auction, on the premises, on the first day of April next ensuing, which will be in the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five, that part of the real estate formerly belonging to John Zabriskie, and which has been forfeited to, and vested in, this state, situate, lying and being, in the county of Bergen, township of New-Barbados, and at the new bridge, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

31. An act for defraying sundry incidental charges.

By the United States in Congress assembled, December 20, 1784.

On motion,

Resolved, That it is expedient the Congress proceed to take measures for procuring suitable buildings to be erected for their accommodation,

Resolved, (by nine states) That a sum, not exceeding one hundred thousand Dollars, be appropriated for the payment of the expence of erecting such buildings. Provided always, That hotels or dwelling-houses, for the Members of Congress representing the different states, shall not be understood as included in the above appropriation.

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for Congress, at this time, to erect publick buildings for their accommodation at more than one place.

On motion,

Dec. 21, 1784.

Resolved, That it is expedient Congress should determine on a place at which they will continue to sit until publick buildings, for their proper accommodations shall be erected.

December 23, 1784.

Be it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, That the resolutions of the 20th instant, respecting the erecting buildings for the use of Congress be carried into effect without delay—that for this purpose three Commissioners be appointed with full powers to lay out a district of not less than two, nor exceeding three miles square on the banks of either side of the Delaware, not more than eight miles above or below the lower falls thereof for a federal town—that they be authorized to purchase the soil, or such part of it as they may judge necessary, to be paid at proper instalments; to enter into contracts for erecting and completing, in an elegant manner, a federal house for the accommodation of Con-

gress, and for the executive officers thereof; a house for the use of the President of Congress, and suitable buildings for the residence of the Secretary of foreign affairs, Secretary at war, Secretary of Congress, Secretary of the marine, and officers of the treasury; that the said Commissioners be empowered to draw on the treasury of the United States for a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars for the purpose aforesaid; that in choosing a situation for the buildings, due regard be had to the accommodation of the states with lots for houses for the use of their Delegates respectively; that on the twenty-fourth day of December, instant, Congress stand adjourned to meet at the city of New-York on the eleventh day of January following, for the despatch of publick business; and that the sessions of Congress be held at the place last-mentioned until the buildings aforesaid shall be ready for their reception.

Dec. 24, 1784.

On motion,

Resolved, That Congress entertain a due sense of the attention of the Legislature of the state of New-Jersey, in providing accommodations for their reception; and also of the exertions of the inhabitants of Trenton, in accomplishing the intentions of their Legislature.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'y.

To the PUBLICK.

MR. HILLS returns his most sincere thanks to those gentlemen that did him the honour to call and point out the errors that he was making in his map of the state of New-Jersey, and he is very sorry he was not at home, and hopes they will excuse him, for he was busily employed in surveying the city of Perth-Amboy, and its environs. As he has returned, he shall esteem it as a particular favour if gentlemen will call on him as they travel thro' Princeton, to point out any more errors, or can any way give him any information: And I do assure the publick, that it will be shortly finished, and I hope it will meet with general approbation.

J. Hills, Surveyor, Architect, & Draftsman.

Landed estates surveyed, planned or estimated, with the specific valuation of parks, seats, farms, or any parcel of land, &c. either for letting, sale or purchase, and all boundary lines run and settled, though ever so mountainous, marshy, or the bowels of the earth full of iron ore.

Plans of estates and houses neatly drawn or copied, by application or letter, post paid, directed to him at the Post-Office, Princeton, in the state of New-Jersey; or at No. 201, Water-street, New-York.

Princeton, December 10, 1784.

Notice is hereby given,

TO the creditors of John Valentine and Peter Trout, insolvent debtors now confined in the gaol at Freehold, in the county of Monmouth, and state of New-Jersey, that they be and appear before two or more of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas of the said county, on Tuesday the 25th of January next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Cornelius Hegeaman, innkeeper at Freehold, Monmouth county, to shew cause, if any they have, why an assignment of the said insolvents estate should not be made, and they be discharged from their confinement, pursuant to an act of General Assembly in such case made and provided.

Monmouth county, December 16, 1784. 4w*

W A N T E D,

A few Barrels of

SOFT SOAP.

Enquire of the Printer.

T O B E S O L D,

At PRIVATE SALE,

A FARM containing 170 acres of land, lying in Bernard's township, in the county of Somerset, and state of New-Jersey. Said farm is now in the possession of Jonathan Whitaker, jun. There is on the premises a good dwellinghouse, with three rooms on a floor, and a kitchen adjoining. Also a good new barn, suitable to said farm, an orchard of near 300 apple-trees, 150 peach-trees in their prime, beside pear, quince and mulberry-trees; also about twenty acres of cleared meadow. Said farm is well watered and timbered, and lies joining to a grist and sawmill, in a healthy place, in a good neighbourhood, and is in good repair. The purchaser will have possession on the 1st of April next. For further particulars apply to the subscriber, adjoining said premises.

MOSES M'COLLUM.

Bernard's-Town, December 21, 1784. 3w†

T O B E S O L D,

By the subscriber living in the village of Freehold, in Monmouth county, New-Jersey, viz.

1. **T**HE noted and valuable farm known by the name of **KILDAIR**, lying in the township of Upper Freehold, county and state aforesaid, containing about 300 acres; excellent wheat, rye, corn and grais land; about 200 acres cleared, 70 acres of that mowable meadow, the greatest part the best of English grafs; a good farm house of two stories, large barn, carriage-house, &c. a good bearing orchard of excellent fruit. This farm is let for four years, commencing from the first day of April last, at the annual rent of £. 125, and pay all taxes.

2. One farm lying in said township, five miles from the first, containing about 200 acres, very good wheat, rye and corn land; about 150 acres cleared, a small proportion of English meadow, a good farm house of two stories, new barn just finished, a good bearing orchard, &c. This farm is let this year only, for produce, at the present price of produce; will not amount to less than £. 75 per annum, and pay all taxes. These two farms are well situated between the two markets, New-York and Philadelphia, at the distance of 12 miles from one landing, and 16 miles from the other.

3. The old and noted tavern in the village of Freehold, now kept by Cornelius Hagaman; large stables, ball-ally, about 25 acres of highly manured land, chiefly in orchard; 75 acres of woodland at the distance of two miles; improvements now making to this house. This is let this year only, for 100l. and pay all taxes.

4. Also 100 acres lying between Miss Wikoff's farm and Albert Covenhoven's, opposite the well known woods belonging to Mr. Barlow, about half a mile from the tavern; a small proportion of wood and meadowland. This will be sold with or without the tavern, as may best suit the purchaser.

5. A small farm in Shrewsbury township, near Black Point, containing 60 acres, about 40 acres cleared, 8 of that good English meadow; a good farm house of two stories now finishing. This farm is let three years, commencing from the first day of April, 1783, at the low rent of 30l. per annum, exclusive of the house, and pay all taxes.

6. The house where the subscriber lives, convenient for a shop-keeper, it being built for that purpose, and a good stand for business; carriage-house, stables, hay-loft, &c. about 10 acres of land, including a pasture lot at 300 yards distance.—Either sell or let this for a number of years, which may first offer. The rents are annexed for the government of those who may think of purchasing. From the rents an easy calculation may be made, and save unnecessary application. It has been generally esteemed lands rented at 4 per cent. per annum, equal to money at 6 or 7 per cent. interest, merely from the certainty of getting the rent when principal and interest of money is very often lost. The subscriber is disposed to sell all the above lands low, on the following terms, viz. the purchaser paying down one-fourth part, the remaining three-fourths may rest on security for three years, interest being annually paid at 4 per cent. Indisputable titles will be given for the whole. Persons who may incline to purchase confiscated estates, may be supplied with contractors' certificates to a considerable amount, at 4 per cent. interest, for four years. Also one-sixth part of a farm lying on the head of Elizabeth river, in Essex county, containing 166 acres, returned to John Forman, deceased, September 1, 1744. Also one-sixth part of a tract of woodland near Shark river, in Shrewsbury township.

SAMUEL FORMAN.

Liberty-Hall, August 17, 1784. e. 3. w. t. A.

Frankford, December 4, 1784.

Strayed or Stolen,

From the subscriber's pasture at Point-no-Point, a chefnut forrel **MARE**,

FIFTEEN hands high, big with foal, in good order, and no shoes on. Whoever takes up said mare, and brings her to me living at the sign of the French Crown, at Frankford Bridge, shall receive Four Dollars reward, and all reasonable charges, paid by

JAMES MARTIN.

T O B E S O L D,

THE valuable mills in Allentown, in Upper Freehold, Monmouth county, containing one pair French burrs, one pair country stones, two reels in the merchant box, one country cloth, and one for Indian meal, all in good repair: She grinds twenty thousand bushels merchant work per year, and ten thousand bushels merchant work per year:—Likewise a good kiln to dry corn for shipping. There are forty-two acres of land, fourteen acres of meadow of the best kind, seven acres woodland, and two dwelling-houses on the same, together with a barn, forty feet by thirty, a brick springhouse, and a pump of excellent water at the door, with twenty bearing apple-trees. Any person inclining to purchase, may know the terms by applying to **PETER IMLAY,** 4w* on the premises.

A L L Persons indebted to the

estate of Reuben Armitage, late of Hopewell, deceased, either by bond, bill, note, book debt, or vendue contracts, are requested to make payment by the first day of January next, otherwise they may depend on being dealt with as the law directs.

BENJAMIN VAN-KIRK, } Adm.
ENOCH ARMITAGE, }

4w¶

A L L Persons indebted to

the estate of Samuel Henry, late of Trenton, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment; and those who have any just demands against said estate, are also requested to bring in their accounts and vouchers for settlement.

ABRAHAM HUNT, } Execut.
CHARLES AXFORD, jun. }

Trenton, November 22, 1784. 3m¶

T O B E S O L D,

NINE Thousand acres of land, situate on the river Lachawaxen, about ten miles from Delaware river, and about one hundred miles from Trenton-Landing. On this tract there is a very great quantity of white and yellow pines of every size, from an eighty feet mast to the size of a spar.—It is accommodated with four millseats, on which sawmills may be erected to great advantage—from either of which large rafts of boards and masts may be sent down the Lachawaxen and Delaware to Philadelphia. The title is indisputable. For terms, apply to Michael Hilligas, Esquire, Reuben Haines and Mr. Richard Wells, merchant, in Front-street, Philadelphia, or to Robert-Lettis Hooper, junior, in Trenton. 9w

Trenton, Nov. 4, 1784.

T O B E S O L D,

LUCERNE, red and white **CLOVER**, **TIMOTHY** and **RYE**, **GRASS-SEEDS.**

Letters by post or otherwise, shall be immediately attended to, by

GEORGE MORGAN,
Near Princeton.

Nov. 10, 1784. 7w

T O B E S O L D,

By wholesale and retail, at the Printing-Office in Trenton,

DUTCH ALMANACKS

For 1785.

WHEREAS by the Deva-

station of the British army in December, 1776, the subscriber lost the title deeds of a certain lot of land containing about ten acres, situate in the township of Chesterfield, in the county of Burlington, and bounded by lands of Isaac Cowgill, Esquire, John Sager, Abel Thorn, and others, which deeds have not since been found; for remedy whereof, he intends to apply to the Supreme Court to be held in Trenton on the first Tuesday in April next, in order to have the title of said lot assured to him, as by law in such case made and provided—of which all persons concerned are desired to take notice.

ISAAC IVINS.

Chesterfield, December 14, 1784. 13w*

T O B E S O L D

O R R E N T E D,

Any time between this and the first of March next, **A** **PLANTATION** containing one hundred and fifty acres of land, in Hopewell, on the river road, eight miles from Trenton. There are on the premises a good dwellinghouse and barn; the stand is very convenient for any publick business, and has been kept as a tavern these forty years. There are forty acres of woodland, an orchard, and a well of water at the door. There is a sufficient quantity of meadow for the place. For further particulars enquire of the subscriber, on the premises.

ANDREW MERSHON.

December 15, 1784. 4w¶

T O B E S O L D,

A Young Negro Wench,

24 years of age, and a child 9 months old—sold for no fault, but want of employ.—

4w

Enquire of the Printer.

TAKEN up and confined in

the gaol of Trenton, Hunterdon county, and state of New-Jersey, 3 negro men, one named Jack, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, about thirty years of age, and says he belongs to Robert Montgomery, in Mill-Creek Hundred, in Newcastle county, and state of Delaware. One other negro man by the name of George Potter, about 23 or 24 years of age, about 5 feet 10 inches high, who says he belongs to James Crossan, living in Mill-Creek Hundred, in Newcastle county, and state aforesaid. One other negro man who calls himself Francis Lewis; he is about 23 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches high, with a scar over his right eye, left handed, and his left leg much larger than his right; says he was born in Prince George county, in Virginia, in John Andrew's family, and that his master gave him his freedom twelve months ago. The masters of said negroes are requested to apply and pay the cost, or they will be sold for the same in four weeks from the date hereof, by

DANIEL GANOE, Gaoler.

N. B. The Printers of the Pennsylvania papers are requested to insert the above advertisement in their papers.

December 18, 1784.

3w

T O B E S O L D,

By ISAAC COLLINS, at his Printing-Office in Trenton, the **NEW-JERSEY**

A L M A N A C K,

For the year of our LORD 1785.

C O N T A I N I N G,

Beside the usual astronomical observations, a variety of useful and entertaining matter in prose and verse.

Just come to Hand,

And now selling at the **PRINTING-OFFICE** in **TRENTON**—The

CHORISTER'S COMPANION;

O R,

CHURCH MUSICK revised.

C O N T A I N I N G,

Besides the necessary Rules of Psalmody,
A Variety of plain and fuging Psalm Tunes;
Together with

A Collection of approved **H Y M N S** and **A N T H E M S**,
Many of which were never before published.

By **SIMEON JOCELIN.**

These **SINGING-BOOKS** are allowed, by the best Judges, to be equal to any extant.

W A N T E D,

A M I L L E R.

Enquire of the Printer.

T O B E S O L D,

By ISAAC COLLINS, at his Printing-Office in Trenton—

[Price *Thirty-five Shillings*]

A C T S

O F T H E

C O U N C I L

A N D

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

O F T H E S T A T E O F

N E W - J E R S E Y,

F R O M T H E

Establishment of the present Government, and Declaration of Independence, to the End of the first Sitting of the eighth Session, on the 24th day of December, 1783;

W I T H T H E C O N S T I T U T I O N P R E F I X E D.

T O W H I C H I S A N N E X E D,

A N A P P E N D I X,

Containing the **ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION** of the **UNITED STATES**, &c.

With two alphabetical **T A B L E S** and an **I N D E X.**

Compiled under the Appointment of the **LEGISLATURE**, by

P E T E R W I L S O N, A. M.

A L S O,

A few Copies of

A L L I N S O N ' S

Edition of the **Laws of New-Jersey** may be had at the same place.

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