

August 17, containing the pleasing intelligence of a "British Squadron having fallen in with the Dutch fleet in the Texel, consisting of 70 sail of men of war and transports—the whole of which were completely treated and captured."

The same paper says, "that the French fleet has escaped from Brest, consisting of 30 sail of the line and 200 transports—destination unknown."

French privateers are hovering about the banks of Newfoundland, and have lately plundered and destroyed several American fishermen.

Captain Smith, who arrived here yesterday from Figuera, Spain, says a report was in circulation there previous to his sailing, which stated, that admiral Nelson's fleet had fallen in with the Toulon fleet, engaged and defeated them.

NEW-YORK, August 30.

The following letter from the citizen referred to by the letter Z. it is equally important, in the opinion of M. Talleyrand, to lay before the public:

To the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

PARIS, May 31.

"Mr. Gerry has communicated to me the letter which you yesterday wrote him, in which you expressly desire him to acquaint you with the names of the persons understood by the letters W. X. Y. Z. referred to in the correspondence of the American envoys, printed in the public papers of the United States of America, dated the 12th April.—My delicacy could not be but severely hurt to see myself, under the appellation of Z. performing a part in the company of certain *intrigants*, whose object, doubtless, was to derive advantage from the credulity of the American envoys and to make them their dupes. Finding myself implicated in this affair, and desirous to remove the uneasiness I felt, respecting the disagreeable impressions, and the consequences which the publication of your letter to Mr. Gerry may have occasioned, I thought it my duty to see you without delay, and to entreat you, citizen minister, to have the goodness to give me your declaration in writing, that in the interviews I had with these gentlemen, I followed up the communication which you employed me to transmit to them, in the manner which I now proceed to explain. In the beginning of the last Brumaire, having gone to pay my respects to the minister of foreign affairs, and the conversation having turned upon the United States of America, he expressed to me his surprise that no Americans, and particularly the new envoys, ever came to his house; that this was not the way to open a negotiation, for the success of which they had more reason than us to be concerned; that he would receive them individually with great pleasure, and particularly Mr. Gerry, whom he had known at Boston.—Knowing the friendship which I maintained with Mr. Gerry, he desired me to communicate to them what he had said.—I accordingly waited upon Mr. Gerry, who having sent for his colleagues, imparted to them the conversation which I had had with the citizen minister. Messrs. Pinckney and Marshall, from motives of etiquette, refused to wait upon the minister; but as the same reasons did not apply to Mr. Gerry, it was agreed that he should go next day to the minister's house, and that I should accompany him. At this period Mr. Gerry could not express himself in French.

"Next day we accordingly went; but the minister not being at home, Mr. Gerry requested that a day should be named for the visit, and it was fixed for a few days after. We went to the place of meeting, and, after the usual compliments, Mr. Gerry having expressed to the minister to see harmony re-established between the two republics, the minister replied, that the Directory had come to a determination not to treat with them, till they had made reparation for some articles in the speech of the president at the opening of the congress, and giving an explanation of some others; that he could only put off for a few days making an official communication to them of this determination; that till then, if they had any propositions to make which could be agreeable to the Directory, he would present them with the utmost alacrity; that considering the circumstance and the services of a similar kind which France had performed on a similar occasion to the United States, the best way would be for them to offer a loan to France, either by taking Batavian inscriptions for the sum of 15 or 16 millions of florins, or any other manner that might be approved. Mr. Gerry, after replying in a polite, though evasive manner, on the first article, added on the subject of the loan, that their powers did not extend so far, but that he would talk over the matter with his colleagues.

"It is to be observed, that as the minister spoke nothing but French, I repeated in English to Mr. Gerry what he said; and that although certain that he very well understood the answers of Mr. Gerry, I repeated them to him in French. We took our leave of the minister, who then received a courier, and he desired me at parting to repeat to Mr. Gerry and his colleagues what he had said to us. Accordingly I repeated to Messrs. Pinckney and Marshall, in presence of Mr. Gerry, the conversation we had had with the minister.—A few days after, Mr. Gerry requested me again to accompany him on a visit to the minister; and having renewed his expressions of the extreme desire he entertained to see the most perfect union re-established between the two nations, he recurred to the insufficiency of their powers, and proposed in his own name, and that of his colleagues, that one of them should immediately set out for America with the conditions which the French government might propose. The minister answered, that it would then require six months to have an answer, and that it was of the utmost importance to come to a speedy resolution; that he was extremely desirous to have frequent communication with them individually and amicably. This

appearing to him to be the best means to arrive at a speedy understanding, he lamented on this account that he had yet to communicate with them. Such, citizen minister, as far as my memory can recollect, are the details of the two conversations at which I was present. I shall only add, that no person wishes more anxiously than I do to see this negotiation brought to a successful conclusion.

Health and respect,
(Signed) "HAUTEVAL."

PHILADELPHIA, August 15.

EXTRACT.

Some facts evincive of the atheistical, anarchical, and in other respects, immoral principles of the French republicans, stated in a sermon delivered on the 9th of May, 1798, the day recommended by the president of the United States for solemn humiliation, fasting and prayer,

By DAVID OSGOOD, D. D.

Minister of the church in Medford, Massachusetts.

"The old pagan principle of going to war for plunder and conquest, after being exploded in Europe for more than a thousand years, is revived a fresh by the present rulers of France since their abolition of Christianity.

"Some perhaps may be startled at hearing me affirm, that the legislators of France have abolished the Christian religion. There are indeed persons among us who entertain a very different opinion, who considered them as stripping the whore of Babylon, pulling down the man of sin, destroying popery, and making way for the introduction of the millennium. In their view, the French revolution is a great step towards the glorious times predicted in the Gospel, when the whole earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord. How astonishing is the force of prejudice in warping the judgments of men? I will let before you, my hearers, some notorious facts, which have been, for years past, circulated in the public papers, and never contradicted by the most zealous advocates for the French. I will let these facts before you, that you may judge for yourselves.

"On the 14th of December, 1792, in a debate on the establishment of public schools for the education of youth, M. Dupont, a member of the national convention, and who, if I mistake not, is now a member of one of the councils, began his speech with the following exclamation—"What thrones are overturned! sceptres broken! kings expire! and yet the altars of God remain!"—He proceeded to propose the abolition of those altars, and proclaimed himself an atheist, amidst the reiterated plaudits of the assembly, and of the persons in the galleries. This sentence, *Death is an everlasting sleep*, written in capitals over the entrance into the grave-yards, was sanctioned by the authority of the legislature. "By the same power was proclaimed the abolition of the Christian era, and the Saviour of the world impudently made to yield precedence to the republic of France." Instead of laying in their dates, as all Christian nations say, *in the year of our Lord, &c.* the French say, *in the year of the republic, &c.* for since they have become republicans, they disdain the idea of having any Lord over them; they acknowledge neither Christ, nor his Father, nor any other being, as their master. Review their state papers, their laws, the decrees of their councils, and of their executive officers, the orders and dispatches of their generals, and their diplomatic intercourse—I challenge you to produce a single instance in all these, of their acknowledging any being above them, or of their making any mention of God or his providence. That Christ and his religion might cease to be remembered, and sink into utter oblivion, they did content themselves with setting aside the Christian era; they proceeded to abolish the Christian sabbath. Their new calendar, in which decades are substituted in the room of weeks, was obviously contrived to make the people loose the idea of the former division of time, and forget the weekly sabbath. It seems that notwithstanding all these attempts of the government, there were some people so obstinate in their adherence to religion, that they persisted in assembling themselves on the Lord's day. We have, therefore, been lately told in the public papers, that their rulers, in order to embarrass these fanatics, as they call them, have forbidden the ringing of bells to call them together to divine service.

"On the seventh of November, 1793, the existence of a God and the immortality of the soul—the two first and fundamental principles of all religion—were formally disavowed in the convention: and the resurrection of the dead declared to have been only preached by superstition for the torment of the living! Two days after, in the same place, all the religions in the world were asserted to be the daughters of ignorance and pride. It was decided to be the duty of the convention to assume the honourable office of *diffusing truth over the whole earth*; and as a part of this duty, that assembly decreed, that its express renunciation of all religious worship should be translated into all foreign languages. It was stated and received in the convention as an acknowledged truth, that the adversaries of religion have deserved well of their country.

"In conformity to the spirit of these decrees, the convention, attended by myriads of the populace, proceeded to desecrate the churches of Christ: "The temple of the Almighty was profaned by the worship of a prostitute, personating the goddess of reason." The cathedral of Paris exhibited the monstrous spectacle of pagan sacrifice, by a people who had recently abolished Christianity. I have another fact to relate, which must thrill with horror every bosom impressed with the least fear of the Almighty." On

the thirtieth of November, 1793, the pupils of a new republican school appeared at the bar of the convention, when their leader declared, that he and his school fellows desired God! that instead of learning the scriptures, they learned the declaration of rights, and made the constitution their catechism." After this speech, the representatives of a great nation, by the mouth of their president, "expressed the satisfaction of the convention at the declaration of these young demons: These hopeful scholars were admitted to the honours of the sitting, and received the kiss of fraternity amidst the loudest applause.

"With these facts in view, is there a person in this assembly who can hesitate a moment to conclude, that not only Christianity, but all other religions, are abolished in France, so far as they can be abolished by the authority of the magistrate? Nay, when we consider the facts now stated, are we not constrained to view the French republicans as so many infernal, broken loots from their chains in the pit below, and now appearing in this upper world under the shape of men, but still thinking and acting as demons? They are certainly a new set of characters under the sun. Such decrees and such doings as are recorded in the registers of the French republic, are not to be found in the annals of any other nation from the days of Adam down to this day."

BALTIMORE, September 4.

Captain Boyle, arrived yesterday from Bourdeaux, received a letter, the day before he sailed, from a very respectable and well-informed gentleman at Paris, which informed him, that Mr. Gerry was to leave Paris for Havre in two days, accompanied by a French gentleman, whose object is to settle the misunderstanding between the two republics.

Annapolis, September 6.

To the VOTERS of the CITY of ANNAPOLIS, of PRINCE-GEORGE'S and ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTIES.

Gentlemen,

I THINK it expedient thus publicly to declare my determination to serve you as the representative of this district in congress, if honoured by an election to a seat in that important station.

It is not practicable or necessary at this time to give you a detail of the motives which have brought me forward on the present occasion—neither will I trespass on your patience by a lengthy avowal of my political sentiments. I hope, however, that a majority of the district will be pleased to know that I am, and ever have been, a decided friend to the government of the United States—that I am, and ever have been, a decided friend to the wife, firm, and virtuous administration of that government—that I consider our independence as an invaluable blessing, and will ever exert myself to protect it against the aggressions of France, or of any power on earth.

The little malicious reports that are now in circulation to injure my political character I hope to have an opportunity of proving to be as false as the heads of their fabricators.

I am, with every sentiment of respect,

Your friend and servant,

JOHN CHEW THOMAS.

Fairland, Aug. 18, 1798.

To the VOTERS of ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, Gentlemen,

WITH sentiments of the sincerest gratitude for the honour you have conferred upon me, in twice electing me to serve you in the general assembly of this state, and the last time almost unanimously, I must now beg you not to consider me among the candidates for that important station. You must not, however, at this moment, believe that I mean to shrink from the difficulties likely to arise from the unprovoked and irrational conduct of the French Directory.—No, my fellow-citizens, I will faithfully serve you, if elected, in a situation more arduous, requiring greater personal application, and demanding greater personal sacrifices. You will learn from my address to the district, that I aspire to the honour of serving you in the congress of the United States.

With cordial wishes for your prosperity,

I am your obliged servant,

JOHN CHEW THOMAS.

Fairland, Aug. 20, 1798.

THEATRE.

On FRIDAY EVENING, September 7, Will be presented, (never performed here,) a play, interspersed with songs, in three acts, called,

The Italian Monk,

Founded on the celebrated novel of the Italian, written by the author of Fontainville Forest, now performing in London, with distinguished applause. To which will be added, a comic opera, in two acts, called,

The Farmer.

Annapolis, September 4, 1798. ON the first Monday in October next an election will be held at the city of Annapolis for delegates to represent Anne Arundel county, in the central assembly; and one member to represent the second district in the congress of the United States. JOHN WELCH, Sheriff of Anne Arundel county.