

From the *St. Louis Courier* of Nov. 24.
GOVERNOR MORRIS.
I intended to have had an obituary paragraph for Mr. Morris, but the more I reviewed the period and steps in which he appeared, having passed before my maturity, I applied to his friend Judge Benson for information of materials, and he has been so obliging as to write me the subjoined letter. It obviously cannot be abridged, and I cannot persuade myself I can add to it. I have accordingly obtained his permission to publish it in lieu of any thing of my own.

Mr. Morris, you will accept the following as an answer to your enquiries relative to the late Mr. Morris. His family is one of the most ancient among us. The grant for the estate, Morrisania, may be considered as coeval with the surrender of the government by the Dutch to the English in 1654. His grandfather was our chief justice, and his father judge of the vice admiralty, and both at different periods, members of assembly, taking an active and conspicuous part in the affairs of the colony.

The first appearance of Mr. Morris in public life, was as a member of the provincial congress in 1775; and he continued a member until it ceased on the establishment of the regular government under the constitution, April 1777; the body having in the meantime, on the declaration of the independence, varied its style to the convention of the state.

He was then chosen a member of assembly for the county of West-Chester. It met in September following; and at the same session, he was appointed a delegate to congress. His colleagues were Philip Livingston, Francis Lewis, James Duane, and Wm. Duer. Should it ever be asked, how it was, that amidst all our discouragements and difficulties, we still persevered, and in the end prevailed? the enquirer may be directed to look at this representation in congress.

He took his seat in congress 20th January thereafter, and on the same day was added to the committee to repair to camp to confer with the commander in chief. The subjects of the conference, are, in general terms, expressed to be, "to promote discipline and economy in the army; to take effectual measures to reduce the number of regiments; and to reform abuses which had too long prevailed in the different departments of the army."

In 1787, residing then in Philadelphia, he was chosen by the legislature of Pennsylvania member of the convention which formed the present constitution of the U. S. After it was agreed to in detached parts, it was put into the hands of a committee, Mr. Morris one of them, to digest and arrange it, and where it could be done and the sense still preserved, to amend or vary the phraseology; and we owe to him chiefly the form or order, & propriety and perspicuity of language in which it now appears.

During the session of Congress of 1792, he was appointed our minister to the court of France, where he was not only well received, but much in the personal esteem and confidence of the king. Mr. Morris had one opinion of the French revolution, from the beginning. Concealment or change of opinion, was a task too difficult for him. The purport of the one alluded to need not be repeated; it may readily be collected from the circumstance, that when we requested, from the revolutionary government, the recall of their minister, they waived themselves of the occasion, and in return requested the recall of Mr. Morris. It being judged prudent to comply, he was recalled. He returned to his country, and enjoyed its honors; being chosen one of our Senators in Congress; and was present, and took a distinguished part in the memorable debate in the repeal of the Judiciary Law. He was, and from his well known principles it could not fail to be, should be, opposed to the repeal. The day may come, may it not come too late? when we may be inclined to "learn instruction" from him. In one of his speeches he expresses himself, "examine the annals of history—look into the records of time—see what has been the ruin of every republic—the vile love of popularity—Why are we here? To save the people, from their most dangerous enemy, to save them from themselves—What caused the ruin of Greece and Rome?—Dissensions, who by flattery gained the aid of the people to establish despo-

ty. He was answered by a Senator from North Carolina. He replied, "The honorable member from North Carolina has informed us, there is no check for the overbearing powers of the Legislature, but public opinion; and he has been pleased to notice a sentiment I had uttered; a sentiment which not only fell from my lips, but which flowed from my heart. It has however been misunderstood and misapplied. After reminding the House of the dangers to which popular governments are exposed from the influence of designing demagogues upon popular passion, I took the liberty to say, that we, the Senate of the United States, are assembled here to save the people from their most dangerous enemy, to save them from themselves; to guard them from the baneful effects of their own precipitation, their passion, their misguided zeal."—His practice was in conformity with all this—He never sought office—A consciousness in others of his trust, worthiness and ability, impelled it to seek him.

The subject, which more than any other, occupied the Provincial Congress in 1775, was a paper currency, our only money sinew. Mr. Morris appeared to have comprehended it throughout, and as it were by intuition, he advanced and maintained opinions new to all; there were none who did not ultimately perceive and acknowledge them to be just. They have since become familiar.

It is not needful however, to fulfil your request, that I should appear either as the eulogist of Mr. Morris, or his witness—I leave his acts, of a nature neither to exaggerate or deceive, both to speak his praise and verify it. The address from the assembly to the governor, in answer to his speech at the opening of the session in 1777, is a model of appropriate style and manner; but the acts to which I principally refer, are the report of a committee of Congress, 22d April, 1778, on a letter from Gen. Washington, "containing a printed paper sent from Philadelphia, and said to be industriously circulated by emissaries employed by the British, purporting to be draughts of two bills intended to be brought into Parliament," their contents in substance a proposal of a compromise of our claims of rights, and of course involving a relinquishment of our Independence, and the address from Congress thereupon to the people of the United States, a few days thereafter.

At no period of the revolution was there more cause to be apprehensive for the issue of it; and those remaining who were in it, will doubtless recollect that the effect of the report and address, they being printed and distributed together, to revive hope and spirit. We have few, if any state papers equal, certainly none surpassing them; unless the address from the congress of 1774 to the people of Great Britain, from the pen of Mr. Jay, should be deemed so, & where tracing the plant to its germ, we find the resolution:—"Know ye, that we consider ourselves, and do insist that we are and ought to be, as free as our fellow subjects in Britain; and that no power on earth has a right to take our property from us without our consent." "That we will never submit to be hewers of wood, or drawers of water, for any ministry or nation in the world."

When our treaty with France arrived and was read in congress, the 4th May, 1778, "a committee was appointed to prepare a publication of it—They brought in a draft which, after debate, was re-committed, and Mr. Morris added to the committee—They then brought in another which was agreed to." When Dr. Franklin was appointed Minister to France, Mr. Morris was Chairman of the committee to prepare instructions for him—Indeed I might refer you to the whole journal of Congress while he was there—scarcely an instance, where thought and talent were required, and he not one of the committee.

It may be asserted with truth, that Mr. Adams and Mr. Jay excepted, there is no one, now living, to whom we are so much, nay in no conceivable degree so much, indebted for our independence as to Mr. Morris, for his useful, faithful, unwearied labours.

I remain your obedient servant.
EGBT. BENSON.
Mr. Gardiner's. 16 Nov. 1816.

It appears, that the misunderstanding with the Court of St. Petersburg, and which had so far pro-

ceeded, as to announce the departure of the Russian minister, by order of his Emperor, is likely to be amicably adjusted. The dispatches brought by Edward Weyer, esq. Consul at Riga, from Lovitz, Hafria, esq. our Consul General, are said to breathe a wish for harmony on the part of the Russian government, instead of hostility.
[*Natl. Advocate.*]

CAPTAIN GORDON.
We have seen a letter received in town from an officer of the Mediterranean squadron, which leaves little doubt that the Captain of the U. S. Navy who is stated to have died recently on board one of our frigates, is Captain Gordon. The letter alluded to is dated 17th Aug. at which time Captain Gordon was confined to his bed, and so ill as to leave little hopes of his recovery. The letter further observes, that he was desirous to go to France, to try the effect of a change of air & scene, for which purpose he had obtained the consent of the Commodore.
[*Norfolk Beacon.*]

From the *American Daily Advertiser.*
ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC.

Fellow Citizens,
The motive for presenting you with this address is, to invite your attention to a subject of very great interest. The writer is of opinion, that the quantity of grain now in the United States, is barely sufficient, even with the best economy, to furnish the requisite supply of bread for the inhabitants of our country. This opinion is founded upon the following supposition:—First, That of what we have had upon the average not more than half a crop, owing to the vast destruction occasioned by the Fly and otherwise—Second, That in the Middle and Northern States, the Indian Corn has not ripened so generally as to be fit to store in Cobs; and that from this cause but a small part will be preserved in a condition suitable for food.—Third, That to the South the Corn has fallen far short of the usual quantity, in consequence of the dry season which has been experienced in that quarter of the Union—And lastly, That the Buckwheat, which in common has been a valuable supply, was cut off by early frosts so far as to leave but little for the market. Every one of those statements are believed to be correct—and to those circumstances a very considerable foreign demand, which has recently occurred, and it is believed, that we are in great danger of witnessing such a scarcity of bread before the return of another Harvest, as has never been known at any time in our country. In the course of my reflections upon this important subject, I have apprehended an advantage might be gained by calling the attention of the public to it. In the first place, I had supposed, that if distillation from grain could be wholly declined during the present and approaching season, this would be means of preserving many thousand bushels; and having it to meet approaching difficulty—that in case a scarcity of bread should occur, before our next harvest, every man who had been engaged in Distillation, must be conscious that he had done the public a serious injury; and that the grain so destroyed, would be of much more value in time of need, than all the whiskey in the United States.

With a view to save for the use of the Community at large, all the grain in the country; the thought occurred of petitioning Congress to pass a Law prohibiting the Distillation for one year; but after mature reflection doubt arose respecting the expediency of that measure; and hence I resolved to bring the subject before the public by the present plan, humbly hoping that a regard to the lives and comfort of our fellow creatures, would triumph over mercenary views, and operate upon the minds both of Farmers and Distillers so powerfully, that many would be prevailed upon to decline selling their grain to those who they knew meant to distill it; and that distillers would humbly suspend their business during the present serious state of the Community.

If it should be supposed by some that the scarcity is not so great as I have alleged—I shall rejoice to find that I have been mistaken; but believing as I do, that we are in danger of suffering by want; unless the means now in the country are rightly applied—I think it the absolute duty of every man to discourage distillation from grain.

A FARMER.

From the *Albany Register.*
ONION JUICE.
Most people will probably remember that a number of yeastines, the question of what is the cause why a fish added to any given quantity of water in which it can swim, does not increase its weight? was started, and received many able and learned discussions, and many ingenious theories were invented to account for it, when some one started the experiment, and found it—all moonshine—and the position totally ignored, to the small confusion of its great defenders.

There is now an article going the rounds of the public prints, which asserts that the Juice of an Onion, being rubbed on the magnetic needle, totally destroys its properties, and will no longer settle north or south, which, if true, is certainly a great curiosity, and a discovery of no ordinary importance. From the seeming impossibility of this being the case, I was led to try the experiment, by which I am thoroughly convinced, and am able to account for it in the following way, viz: that it is of a piece with the "fish story"—a quia, and totally false.

I found on trial that the needle was not in the slightest measure affected by it, that it neither lost its attraction nor its polarity, that the magnet attracted and repelled it the same number of degrees from its natural position of north and south as it did before. The same force was exerted when the magnet was rubbed the same as the needle and in the same proportion, and even when the needle was completely immersed in the filtered juice of the onion it still kept all of its qualities of polarity, and was attracted and repelled as it would have been in common water. I tried it both with the white and red onion, and do undertake to say that the juice of an onion has no more effect on the Magnetic Needle than a blistering plaster would upon a wooden leg.

In short, the experiment had a much more powerful effect on my eyes, nose and lungs, than upon the insurmountable, powerful, and immutable principle of magnetism.

Extract of a letter dated Port of Spain, Trinidad, Oct. 30, 1816.
We who reside under the sunny line, so distant from Europe and the United States, cannot be in possession of much news. However, the situation of this island is very favourable to the reception of news from terra firma. Many of the inhabitants and emigrant Spaniards carry on a regular and uninterrupted communication with the main, consequently the sources of our information are most correct and authentic. The last private intelligence from that quarter was most favourable to the cause of independence and freedom.

St. Jago Marino is in complete & peaceful possession of Guira, and its adjacent dependencies. Sir Gregor McGregor, an enterprising Scotch independent general, has met with a general success in his attempts against the royal enemy. He has under his command a very large army, generally officered by Englishmen.

Many naval and military officers at this station, excited by a spirit of enterprise, and disgusted with the English service from some local causes, are daily going over to join the invincible M. Gregor.

Many English vessels from American ports, have been seized, and several condemned in the court of vice admiralty; for the transgression of the act of parliament, that prohibits all vessels from having more than one third of foreign seamen on board.

From the *Patterson Bee.*
Melancholy Occurrence.
On Saturday morning the 15th inst. we were called to witness the most distressing scene, and even heard of the following are the particulars:—
Mrs. Melvina Hopper, wife of William G. Hopper, of Ramapo, Franklin township, Bergen county, (N. J.) left her bed between the hours of 11 in the evening of Friday and 4 in the morning of Saturday, stripped herself stark naked, & left the house unobserved by any of the family. At about 4 her absence was discovered, search was immediately made, but in vain. The neighbours were alarmed, and at daylight the search was renewed, when at about 8 or 9 o'clock, the body was discovered, at the corner of a goods-

store's lease, a short distance from the road leading from Ramapo to Pompton, and about a quarter of a mile from her former residence, sprawled out and in the same condition in which she had left her house. Suffice it to say, she was dead! A jury of inquest was immediately summoned, but no marks of violence were discovered from off her head and thrown from the opposite side of the fence which she lay, supposed to be dead in a fit of insanity. The jury reported her death was occasioned by the inclemency of the weather and the heat of God.

NOVEMBER TERM, 1816. PENITENTIARY REPORT.
The undersigned by appointment of the Honorable Court Oyer and Terminer and Grand Jury for Baltimore county, commencing to "an act concerning crimes and punishments."
RESPECTFULLY REPORT
That they have diligently examined the different apartments in Penitentiary, and have the great pleasure in stating that they could find no cause of complaint but on the contrary they found strictest regularity, good order, active industry, & perfect cleanliness throughout the whole establishment.

The enclosed list will show the number of criminals, and how they are employed.

Thos. C. Jenkins
Emmanuel Kent,
John Shaw,
Abner Neale,
John Kelsa,
Wm. Halsey,
esqrs.

MARYLAND PENITENTIARY
November 1st, 1816.
For the Grand Jury of Baltimore County,

An account of the prisoners confined, and their employment.
MALES.
Weaving, Quilting, Warping, &c.
Brush making
Cordwainery
Nailing
Coopering
Turning
Carpentering
Tailoring
Smithing
Cooking and Baking
Nursing
House Work
Cutting Dye Wood
Jobbing
Packing Oakum
Invalids
Gardening
Cells
Sick

FEMALES.
Spinning Flax and Tow
Wool Spinners
Weaving
Washing
Making Soap
Knitting
Sewing
Cooking
House Work
Spooling
Warping
Sick
Nursing
Twisting Yarn
Picking Wool
Reeling

Females 76
Males 187
Total 263

BENJ. WILLIAMS, Keeper.

Sale Postponed.

The subscriber offers for sale his Farm on South River, known by the name of Aberdeen, containing three hundred sixty three and a quarter acres of land. The facility of the soil excellent, admirably adapted to the growth of Indian corn, wheat and tobacco; Plaster of Paris can be used to great advantage. The improvements are a dwelling house in an unfinished state, which may be finished at a small expense so as to make it a complete dwelling; a number of other buildings in tolerable repair, such as corn-bins, smoke-house, stable, tobacco house, &c. a valuable young apple orchard of choice fruit, producing abundantly, a great sufficiency of wood of all descriptions. Persons inclined to purchase are invited to view the premises, which will be shown them by Mr. John B. Nichols, manager on the place. For terms, which will be accommodating, application will be made to
George C. Stewart,
or William Stewart, Mount Streat, N. B. If this property is not sold private sale before the 21st day of December next, it will be offered at public sale to the highest bidder, on the premises.
Dec. 8, 1816.

Legislature of Maryland.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.
Monday, Dec. 5.
Being the day designated by the constitution for the meeting of the Legislature of this state, the following gentlemen appeared in the House of Delegates, to wit:—
For St. Mary's county, William Scott, Henry Watts, Gerard N. Loring, esqrs.
For Kent county, Robert Dunn, James Ringgold, Thomas Whittington, esqrs.
For Anne Arundel county, Rodd D. Dorsey, Thomas H. Dorsey, esqrs.
For Charles county, Nicholas M. Lawrence, Esqrs.
For Baltimore county, George W. Ward, George Hartman, Abram H. Price, Adam Showers, esqrs.
For Talbot county, Edward N. Hamilton, Alexander Hays, Robert Banning, esqrs.
For Somerset county, Littleton D. Dennis, Hampden Haynie, esq.
For Worcester county, Thomas Pitt, Benjamin W. Lecompte, Robert H. Edward Griffith, esqrs.
For Cecil county, Lambert Beard, Philip Thomas, esqrs.
For Prince-George's county, George Semmes, esq.
For the City of Annapolis, Lewis Drayl, Dennis Claude, esqrs.
For Queen-Anne's county, William E. Mconkink, Kensey Harris, esqrs.
For Worcester county, William J. Selby, Isaac Mitchell, esqrs.
For Frederick county, Richard Fort, Joseph Taney, Joshua Howard, Ignatius Davis, esqrs.
For Harford county, Samuel Bradford, John Glenn, esqrs.
For Caroline county, Matthew Dray, James Houston, William McDonald, Samuel Culbreth, esqrs.
For the City of Baltimore, William Stewart, esq.
For Washington county, John Bowles, Jacob Schnebey, Christian Hagar, esqrs.
For Montgomery county, George C. Washington, esq.
A quorum being assembled, they severally qualified in the presence of each other, in the manner prescribed by the constitution, and adjourned until to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, Dec. 5.

Messrs Thomas Sellman and Ches. Stewart, from Anne Arundel, Mr. John T. Stoddert, from Charles, Mr. F. M. Hall, from Prince George's, Mr. Thomas Kell, from Baltimore city, Messrs. Leonard Watkins, Zadok Lanham & Richard B. Watts, from Montgomery, appeared, qualified, and took their seats. Nicholas Stonestreet, esq. was appointed Speaker.
Mr. Louis Gasaway was appointed Clerk, Mr. John Stevens Assistant Clerk, Mr. Cornelius Mills Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Caleb Stewart door-keeper, Messrs. Rinaldo Pindell, John W. Hordley, George Mordoch, Marcus Jallmer and Samuel Fountain, Committee Clerks—severally qualified.
On motion by Mr. Stoddert, Leave given to bring in a bill for appointing a printer to the state.
On motion by Mr. Bowles, Leave given to bring in a bill for the relief of John Shick of Washington county.
Mr. Potts delivers a petition from the Levy court of Frederick, to levy money for securing a new goal. Referred.

Messrs. Taney, Dennis, Gausin, Drayl, and R. Dorsey, were appointed by ballot, a committee of elections and privileges.

Messrs. Banning, Hall, Griffith, Da. th. Washington, Bowles and Warner, a committee of claims.
Messrs. Leocomp, Potts, Hambleton, Stoddert and Harrison, a committee of grievances and court of justice.
Mr. Kell delivers a memorial from the Phoenix Fire Insurance Company of Baltimore, for an act of incorporation. Referred.

From the Boston Palladium, Nov. 26.

LATEST FROM RUSSIA.

Yesterday arrived at this port the U. S. brig Prometheus, A. S. Rodgers, Commander, 36 days from St. Petersburg, and 38 from London.
This is the vessel which carried the first news from the American government to the Court of Russia. She arrived at St. Petersburg on the 24th Sept. and remained there till the 20th of October, during which time the Emperor was absent on a journey.
We understand she has brought intelligence from the American Legation at St. Petersburg, and that the Emperor was on account of