

which they had so honourably succeeded, and not as mercenaries fighting for pay. The event of this proposal is not yet known.

PARIS, November 17.

We are assured that on the 13th inst. the farmers general lent six millions to the Caisse d'Escompte, to demonstrate their joy on their re-establishment; all the debts of the bank will be liquidated about the end of December next. The administrators and stockholders met on the 13th and 14th, and resolved to add to their stock 1000 new actions of 3500 livres each, which will form an increase of the funds of 35,000,000 livres. This will serve, with what is adding, to give speedy satisfaction to the public.

According to an exact computation, the bills of the Caisse d'Escompte, which are in actual circulation, amount to 35 millions.

The 18th ult. died in the Louvre, monsieur d'Allembert, member of the French academies, and the academies of sciences.

KINGSTON, (Jamaica) December 10.

By a wag correspondent from Spanish-town, we are informed, that a military buck having publicly declared that he would make an attack behind the scenes of the theatre, and there kick up, what he politely called a bobbery, (some new military term for a riot) on Friday evening last, forced the out posts of the stage door, and in the tactical phrase, made a lodgment, but was repulsed by the manager, who heroically defended the garrison, and after some vociferous expostulations and manual operations, dislodged the commander, (in the language of common sense, turned him out) the gentleman prudently retreated to gain his former trenchments, the boxes, where being reinforced by some brothers of the blade, began a second attack at long shot, but they had only wind guns, and those badly served; the manager appeared in the front, and being sure of his situation, told the assailants, he thought himself justified in what he had done, that he wore a sword to satisfy any single opponent, but could not sustain the attack of six or seven—there it rested, only the gentlemen in scarlet threatened to have full satisfaction the next night, but thro' the interposition of some superior commanding power, they abandoned the design, and raised the siege, finding a blockade not to be supported.

Monday evening a very warm contest happened in the Spanish-town theatre, between a party of officers and the gentlemen of the town, the military gentlemen insisting there should be no play till Mr. Henry had made some concessions for what they deemed an affront on a preceding evening; the rest of the audience conceiving they had no right to have their amusement interrupted on a mere party piece of business, or their fanciful parade of what they call honour, a number of gentlemen leaped upon the stage and declared they would protect the performance; the contest then began, the gentlemen not military, having provided themselves with some very coarse oaken towels, and very elastic horse whips, proceeded to business, and the unfortunate sons of Mars were obliged to make a quick retreat, but not before they had sustained a severe castigation.—In the language of Shakespeare, *There was much clatter among the moveables, and some practice for the surgeons.*

BOSTON, February 26.

When we read the accounts of the late disturbances, and very high-handed outrages, between the two parties, called the Vermonters and the Yorkers, and observe the political conduct of the contending powers, what good and benevolent mind is not filled with anxious concern for the public welfare? They have already prohibited each other's inhabitants the benefit of their respective laws, so far as relates to the recovery of debts. On one hand we see governor Clinton, in his speech to the general assembly of the state of New-York, on the 21st of last month, recommending "Organizing of the militia, and such provisions for magazines and military stores, as are necessary, as well for their own defence and security, as a due compliance with the terms of their constitution and the confederation." And on the other hand, we see the legislature of Vermont (for a legislature they are ipso facto, if not de jure) adopting measures of a similar complexion. In such a situation, how imminently are they exposed to the most fatal civil dissension?

NEW-HAVEN, February 25.

Thursday the 29th of January the lower house of assembly came to a vote respecting the impost recommended by congress, when the yeas and nays being required, they were as follow: yeas 37, nays 69.

NEW-YORK, March 1.

Silas Deane, in an address to the free and independent citizens of the United States, lately published in England, says, That he resolved the first moment of peace and tranquillity, to appear and plead his cause at the bar of the public, during three years of misfortune and exile, he had impatiently looked for it. That it is of importance to them to know, if one, who formerly had their confidence to a great degree, actually betrayed and deserted them, and was guilty of the frauds, peculation and treachery with which he has been charged; or if artful and designing men, inimical to him, have taken the advantage of his weakness or imprudence, to charge him with those enormous crimes; to excite a general clamour against him, and, from his silence, to infer, in the strongest manner, his guilt. That the letters published by Rivington, as his, do not

materially differ from those which he actually wrote at that time, and, unfortunately for him, were intercepted by the enemy; and that they contained the undigested sentiments of his heart at that time, on the then apparent situation of our affairs. That to suppose him to have been in the interest of the ministers of this country, (England) and to have wrote those letters to promote their views, is as absurd as to suppose that he amassed an immense fortune in the service of his country.

The sloop Polly, Captain Marshall, from Philadelphia and Egg Harbour, is ashore on the West Bank.

March 5. A letter from Port Roseway mentions, "That such scenes of misery have been exhibited there this winter as would make the stoutest heart bleed. This war, began in iniquity, and ended with infamy, is the rock we have split upon."

PHILADELPHIA, February 26.

The following paper was lately read before the American philosophical society, by Dr. Morgan; upon the *Cortex ruber*, or red bark.

I have received the following communications upon the *Cortex ruber*, which I have found so efficacious in the cure of obstinate remittent and bilious fevers, that I think it my duty to lay them before this society, in hopes of so valuable a medicine being thereby known, and introduced more generally into practice.

Extract of a letter from Thomas S. Duche, dated London, August 9, 1783.

"I was lately at a lecture delivered at Guy's hospital, by Dr. Saunders, upon the cure of intermitting fevers; and observing the doctor spoke very much in favour of a new species of bark, which he had introduced into the practice of physic, I procured a specimen of it for you, thinking it might be agreeable to you to hear of any new improvements in the healing art. It is called red bark. According to his account, it possesses so much virtue, and is of such certain efficacy, that compared with it, the common bark is an inert mass. It contains a much larger portion of resin, has a much stronger aromatic taste than the common bark, and does not require half the quantity for a dose. Amongst other particulars, he mentioned the following proof of its superior virtue, namely, that of this medicine, when administered in a simple cold infusion, any given quantity is much stronger and effectual to remove the fever, than a chymical extract from the same quantity of the other. I now send you a specimen, by which you will be able to make a trial, and form some judgment of its virtues. T. S. DUCHE.

Soon after the receipt of the foregoing letter, I received the following valuable communication from Dr. George Davidson, of St. Lucia, which it affords me great pleasure to lay before the society:

St. Lucia, August 24, 1783.

To Dr. John Morgan, at Philadelphia.

SIR,

If the subject upon which I have the honour to write you, should be found to merit attention, and prove in any respect useful and advantageous to mankind, I shall easily stand excused in addressing you, personally unacquainted as I am.

I have by this opportunity sent a small specimen of the Cinchona of this island, resembling the Peruvian bark in its botanical character, and from the trial made here, surpassing it in medical virtue. It is now nearly four years since the Caribbean bark was discovered upon the heights adjoining Morne Fortune, and introduced into practice by Dr. Young, physician to his Britannic majesty's troops.

The freshness of the bark, the little attention bestowed in drying it, and the large doses in which it was exhibited; produced alarming fits of vomiting and purging, and deterred us at that time, from the further prosecution of the subject, until the other day, that a treatise upon the red bark by Dr. Saunders, of London, and a belief which we entertained, that this was the same bark which he describes, induced us again to make a trial of it. Having properly dried it, and given it in the cold infusion, with greater caution and less doses than at the first essay, we are now happy in assuring the public, that in most instances it has not disappointed us. Still however, notwithstanding the utmost care in drying it, in some cases it still seems to retain its emetic and purgative qualities, as the stomach and first passages, in complaints here, are loaded with a quantity of putrid bile. These are not its least invaluable properties. It will however be necessary, when these effects are produced, to check them afterwards by opiates.

With regard to its preparations: I have generally given it in the cold infusion, either made with lime or cinnamon water. An extract made with spirits and water fits easily on the stomach, and can be given in larger quantities.

In some late cases of tertians, where I have been called to the patient during the second fit, without waiting for its going off, I have begun with the bark, which effectually cleansed the stomach and bowels, and paved the way for its future administration.

In putrid dysenteries, and in a remarkable species of dysentery, conjoined with an intermitting fever, which I have not met with here, this bark has done more than all the remedies which I have seen employed. The purgative effects which it produced, enabled us to throw it in earlier; the hardened scybula, the support of the disease, were removed; the stomach and bowels braced up; and by the interposition of opiates, the spasms were removed.

Having sent several specimens of the bark for a trial to different parts of the continent of America, and in particular to my worthy friend Dr. Hall, of Petersburg, in Virginia, I impatiently wait the result of their trials, and will esteem myself particularly obliged by your communication. If you choose, I shall send you some of the young trees planted in tufts, with some of the seeds.

Should it be found to answer my expectation, the pleasure resulting from the thoughts of having communicated something useful, will be to me ample enough recompence. I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE DAVIDSON.

P. S. Dr. Wright, of Jamaica, (in the 5th vol. of medical commentaries) describes a species of cinchona, with only one flower on a foot-stalk; the same was like-

wife found at the Havana. It differs in that particular from the old bark, which resembles the St. Lucia bark, in having several flowers on each foot-stalk. The following is a description of the cinchona Caribbea St. Lucia.

The tree is commonly found in ravines, near springs, under the shade of a larger tree. It delights in places well shaded, and defended from the north-east trade wind; the soil is commonly a stiff red earth with a clayey substance; quantities of small beautiful crystals, of a regular angular form, are found intermixed; the tree is about the size of the cherry tree, seldom exceeding the thickness of the thigh, and twenty-five feet in height; the flowers begin to appear at the commencement of the rainy season in beautiful tufts, upon panicles branched out in threes and fours. I have never seen that species described by Jacquin, and found at the Havana, *pedunculatis umbellatis*.

Before the corolla is fully expanded and the stamina make their appearance without the tube of the corolla, the flower is white, but it afterwards turns a beautiful purple. Then dropping off, the germen enlarges to the size of an hazle-nut, oblong and round. It gradually dries, bursts in two, and scatters the seeds, which fall to the ground and again take root.

The wood of the tree is light, spongy, and fit for no useful purpose. It has not the bitter taste of the bark. The leaves are very bitter, and flowers, seeds, &c. seem to possess the bitterness and astringency in a more eminent degree.

An ounce of the bark in fine powder infused in a quart of cold water for twenty-four hours, and the infusion afterwards filtered, appears higher coloured than a decoction made with double the quantity of the old bark. The colour which it strikes with the *tinct. ferri mart.* and *sal maris* is likewise of a deeper black. The spirituous tincture is of a deep red colour, and strikes a deep black by the addition of the preparations of iron.

The taste of the cinchona Caribbea is manifestly more astringent than the taste of the old bark; an inference may therefore a priori be made that its tonic powers are greater. The quantity of resin which it yields is much more considerable; and an extract made with spirits and water seems to possess the whole virtues of the bark.

JOHN MORGAN.

March 9. The Charleston Packet, capt. Allibone, arrived off our coast about a week ago, after a very disagreeable passage of 30 days, from Charleston. As provision had not been made for so long a passage, they were put to some difficulty in that respect, which, added to the severe weather, caused uncommon hardships during the voyage. The excessive cold felt during the winter in this quarter and to the northward, has also prevailed, in some degree, in the southern states, it having produced ice in the harbour of Charleston strong enough for skating on, which is very uncommon there. Large quantities of the ice made on our coast have been drove out to sea; great bodies of it having been seen ten leagues out by the Charleston.

Some of the passengers in the above vessel were landed at Seven Mile beach, where she was safe at anchor yesterday forenoon, and the captain intended going into Egg harbour, as the ice prevented his coming into Delaware Bay.

We have the pleasure to inform our readers, that the ship Fame, captain Roblin, from Bristol, which was blown off our coast in December last, has put into St. Kitts, all well; from whence she was to sail for this port in the beginning of February.

A late London print gives us the following information—"That a discovery has lately been made in France of the greatest importance to the marine. It is a metallic preparation for sheathing ships, which is liable to none of the inconveniences resulting from copper sheathing. The marine acid has no effect on it, nor is it liable to wear out; it is a soft paste, and perfectly flexible; but not elastic, and no violence of the sea can strip it off, as it forms one inseparable body with the substance it covers. The same gentleman has likewise invented a metallic varnish, which thoroughly penetrates nails, or other iron work on which it is laid, so as to prevent rust, and the ill effects of the nitrous and marine acid. It is added, that nails thus prepared, cannot be drawn without tearing the wood. The French government, after repeated trials, have adopted these inventions, and established a royal manufacture for these preparations at Nantes."

ANNAPOLIS, March 18.

The following vessels are arrived at this port: Ship Cato, captain Topham, from Martinico; ship Olive Branch, captain Thomas Patten, from Liverpool; brig Isabella, captain Gardner, from St. Kitts; brig Nesbit, captain Stanbury, from the Havannah; brig Dispatch, captain Allen, from Guadaloupe; ship Carolina, captain Angus, from London; brig Eclipse, captain Coward, from London; and several sloops and schooners whose names are unknown.

A NECDOTE,

From a late London paper.

In a select company, some little time since, the topic of conversation chanced to be what university each of the company was educated at: one was at Oxford, the other at Cambridge. For my part, says a young clergyman, I was educated at both universities, Oxford and Cambridge. That puts me in mind, says an old doctor in divinity, of a story I once heard of a calf that sucked two cows—and what was the consequence, pray, says a young physician? why, the consequence was (replied the doctor in divinity) that he was a very great calf!!!

MANY former sheriffs and others being indebted to me as late commissary-general in considerable sums of money, which ought to have been long since discharged: I hereby desire them to settle and pay the same to Thomas Jennings, Esq; whose receipt shall be sufficient. Those who neglect complying with this request in a reasonable time, may expect proper compulsory measures will be pursued against them and their securities, to obtain that justice which is in vain solicited.

WILLIAM FITZHUGH.