

in its mouth a letter, which he could not read, led the horse to a neighbouring chateau, where the contents were made known to him, and an account of the reward promised therein, to any person who should bring Pegasus to its owner. It was, by the countryman, after it had been emptied, carried back to Paris.

The woman came down at Gentwilliers, and was seen by some labourers and a farmer, who all mistook the figure that then stood still, for a real living creature in distress. None, however, dared to advance towards it, except the farmer, who took it up in his arms; but to his great surprise found that instead of a real woman, he was hugging an inflated bladder. This, like the former, was also conveyed back to Paris, and restored to the owner.

**KINGSTON, (Jamaica) November 9.**

The following proposals for supplying the planters in this island, with lumber, provisions, &c. from America, on contract for three, five, or seven years, have been handed about London, from some very respectable houses:

I. They will agree to deliver at the port of Kingston, to the order of such gentlemen who choose to contract, every article that may be wanted from the States of America, from time to time, at the current cash price of said articles at the city of Philadelphia; adding thereto only the customary charges of commission, insurance and freight, all at the same rate as paid before the war; in payment for which they will receive (on delivery of the goods at Kingston) rum, at the current cash price, less 51. per cent to be allowed for trouble, &c. &c. or in sterling bills of exchange, at par, in the planters option.

II. They will agree to ship from Philadelphia, at all seasons of the year (in their own ships) goods on commission, at the rate of freight before mentioned, and in payment for amount invoice, they will value on the planter in London at current rate of exchange; but the freight to be paid in rum, &c. on delivery of the goods in Kingston.

III. They will agree to supply regularly, agreeable to any indent, for quantities or times, *i. e.* for any quantity to be delivered at different times of the year, at the present Philadelphia prices (adding charges aforesaid) so that the planter at once may be on certainty, and not liable to the variation of markets. In order to explain this proposition more clearly they have annexed a Philadelphia price current of the 8<sup>th</sup> of March last, and by way of example will select the article white oak staves, on which the following calculation is made, *viz.*

	Jamaica cur.	L. S. D.
White-oak hoghead staves at 8l. 10s.		
Philadelphia currency per M. exchange 170l. per cent is sterling 5l.	7	0 0
Wharfage, &c. (supp. fee)	0	8 0
Commission 5l. per cent.	0	7 3 1/2
Freight,	4	10 0
Insurance to cover 7l. 15s. 3d. at	0	3 10
Wharfage on landing	0	10 0
<b>Net cost of MWO staves at Jamaica</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9 1 1/2</b>

For which rum will be received in payment, &c. &c.

By this calculation it appears that slaves would come considerably higher than they used to be in Jamaica before the war.

It is true they are so—but it is owing to their having risen at Philadelphia nearly 100l. per cent. of course the Jamaica price must be in proportion, for it would be unreasonable to expect goods at Jamaica at the old prices, when the prices in America have advanced so considerably. However, the planter having it in his option to embrace the first or second proposition, will have the chance of a fall of markets entirely in his favour. The next calculation shews the terms on which an American house could do the same business, *viz.*

	American cur.	L. S. D.
White-oak staves at Philadelphia	7	0 0
Must allow all the former charges	5	19 11 1/2
At the same time if the consignment was made for sale, the factor's charges for sales and remittance, &c. is 12 1/2 per cent.	1	12 6
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12 5 1/2</b>

It is therefore plain, that the Americans cannot afford to carry on that trade (even supposing it remained in their option to take rum or not) on terms so advantageous to the planter as contained in the foregoing propositions. To which the proposer will add another, *viz.*

IV. That any planter who may wish to have his supplies delivered at his own estate (instead of Kingston) shall have it done without additional expence, provided they deliver their indent early enough in the season, so that the ships may arrive before Christmas, and agree to dispatch said ships with first of the crop to England, in preference to all other ships, and at current rate of freight for time being.

And in order to shew that they are serious, and equal to any engagements that they may enter into, they will find unexceptionable security for the performance of covenants on their part, and at the same time requiring it from others.

Nov. 19. The speedy arrival of the London ships is looked for, with great anxiety, as table furniture is at a high price:—Not a cask of porter to be got; although, we hear, 32l. per ton have been offered; and London bottled and Bath porter sell at Spanish-town for 20s. per dozen.

Produce keeping up at so high a price will oblige the Americans to return chiefly ballast with silver; which makes that article very scarce.

**NEWBURY-PORT, December 21.**

In the Tuscan and Papal territories, travellers have noted with surprise, that in the former, where no crimes, except treason, and some species of murder, were punished with death, and all others expiated by proportionate labour in chains, the houses, roads, &c. were very secure; but in the latter, where almost every crime was capital, robberies and murders were frequent; and yet, only a small ditch divides these two territories.

**PHILADELPHIA, January 11.**

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the Western Country, dated December, 1785.

"I suppose that by this time the gentlemen who were sent out by congress to survey this country, and lay it out into townships have got back to New-York, and made their report to congress.

"Little has been done; nor was the prospect of success great. Mr. Hutchins came out too late in the season to make any considerable progress, had he found the Indians no way hostile.

"I think there must be few delegates in congress who are well acquainted with the nature of the Indians, or of the country they have purchased of them. The supposition, that the Indians would consider themselves bound by the contract which they had made with the commissioners at fort Mifflin, was almost groundless. The several tribes of Indians, scattered over the territories of the United States, are not organized into political bodies in such a manner as to authorize any character among them to treat with congress, or negotiate any business with such solemnity, and so extensively, as to render the same obligatory on the whole tribe to which they belong. It is true, they have among them those they call their chiefs and warriors; but these possess no more the rights of sovereignty over their tribes than the principal leaders of a mob do over their followers: In either case, while their demagogues conduct their designs agreeable to the wishes of those they lead, they will support their influence; but the moment the crowd, or even an individual, forms a wish to pursue other measures, there is no law or constitution whereby to restrain, or power to punish an infraction:—of this the Wolf lately gave demonstration to the party with colonel Lewis. The Indians are hardly one remove from a state of nature, politically considered:—there is no such thing among them as national justice. What security then can congress expect to derive from their compacts, especially while the British remain their commentators? The history of all the Indian wars, from the time of the first Christian setting foot in North-America to the present day, has been one continued series of Indian treachery, perfidy and falsehood: no treaty has ever bound them, no present has ever bought them to be friendly or just, one day longer than they believed it their interest to be so; fear alone can restrain their conduct, or reduce them to reason. Why then should congress raise their hopes on the success of treaties, from which nothing permanent can be expected? Who ever thought of trailing bears and wolves one yard beyond the length of their chain?

"The commissioners now at the Miami may treat with, and make presents to the Indians; and the Indians, such as deign to attend the treaty, in their turn will promise and make cessions of all the land asked of them. This they expect as a matter of course when they set out from their castles, otherwise they do not attend at a treaty. But does it follow, or can the most credulous believe, that Mr. Hutchins and his surveyors, in consequence of the treaty, may return into this country next spring, and prosecute their business undisturbed? I think not: unless they are escorted by a military force, they will again most assuredly be disappointed. The case then seems to be reduced to this alternative, that the United States must either keep up such a force against the savages as will awe them to peace and faith, or abandon their views of selling and surveying the federal lands, on the northwest of the Ohio river: but what system will be the most eligible to adopt in order to effect this force, and give a tone to our treaties, requires some consideration.

"We have heard in these parts, that the inhabitants settled on the Kaskaskies, in the Illinois country, have made application to congress, praying that honourable body to give them a system of government: it is hoped congress will pay some attention to their petition. This will be forming a very good flank of several hundred militia on our left wing as we advance into the Indian country. The people settled on the Wabash river, at post Vincent, will make a very considerable addition to the militia of Kaskaskies: these, properly seconded by emigrants suffered by congress to go from the Atlantic States, and settle on a line or range of country from the southwest shores of Lake Erie, so as to close upon the head waters of the Wabash, and form a chain of settlements from the waters of St. Lawrence to the Mississippi; this range of settlements again, rein-

forced by a few hundred soldiers in actual pay of the United States, properly disposed along the country in stockaded forts, and the whole put under the command of a governor of equal prudence and ability to the importance of his trust, will at once form a barrier against the savages; and cover all the country to the east and southeast of this chain, or range of settlements: then, and I fear never till then, will the surveyors be able to perform their business.

"And all this may conveniently be done in the course of the next year, if the United States in Congress assembled will take up the business in time and with spirit.

"Numbers in these parts are very impatient to become adventurers in some form or other; and they are only retrained from bursting into the federal lands, by their love and attachment to the United States, who have peremptorily forbid an intruder. They stand here as it were on tip-toe to be gone; nor could the whole host of savages, clothed in horror's form, delay them one month, should congress give them leave.

"And here much might be said, with regard to the ordinances of congress of the 20th May last, directing the federal lands to be surveyed from Lake Erie to the river Ohio. Much of the country is rough, and will be extremely difficult to survey: Nor can the surveyors do it for the rewards allowed them; but even that is sinking much of the land, by the expence of surveying in the first instance. Some of the lands will not sell in a century; yet there is two dollars a mile advance in expence, with interest thereon in a compound ratio, until they do sell. And such lands as are inviting cannot be had, but by such a circumrotation in the business as is exceedingly discouraging. To say nothing of the price, you have first to view the lot, or township, and obtain the number and quality, none will buy the land uninformed; then to trace that number out at the board of treasury, perhaps you will have to pursue it to New-Hampshire or Georgia, and there wait long before the number you are in pursuit of will be exposed to vendue; and after all it may be bid out of your hands, and the whole of your designs blasted, at a great expence. This perhaps may be all right, but I confess that I do not see the propriety of it. If it be true, that the United States are indebted; that they wish to pay their debts; and that the federal lands are the only property of which they are possessed, without the necessity of asking from, and the possibility of being denied by an individual State, supplies in some other way; and that they wish to sell those lands for the purpose of paying their debts—then it is passing strange to me, that gentlemen, wise as those who form the sovereignty of the United States, should not do as has been done by those who seek a market, in all ages, and in all countries—court the buyer, by spreading the tempting wares in his way, and making such terms as are easy and agreeable."

Jan. 4. A London paper of September 10 says, that numbers of men have been enlisted privately in the Highlands of Scotland, for the service of the States general.

A scheme was some time since laid before the English government for the employment of 200 male convicts in the island of Portland, in the stone quarries, and 100 more in the Granite mines of the island of Guernsey. The chief difficulty likely to occur, is in the securing them to their work, which is now under consideration.

**BALTIMORE, January 20.**

Late London papers mention, that with no more foresight than what is needful to ascertain, that effects will ever answer to the quantum of cause, it may be taken as undoubted, that the king of Prussia will carry, unopposed, every one of his points with the Dutch, not only with regard to the stadtholder, but also as to any old claims of territory, immunity, &c. &c. &c.—That the debt in India, large as it is, would be paid off in less than five years—That the tea-trade alone has, within the last twelve months, increased above 330 per cent.—and that the muslin, the silk, and drug trades, have also had some, but not a proportionate, augmentation, as to quantity—That new regulations for advancing industry and commerce, for settling the interest of money according to the true principles of loans, for the improvement of the British fishery, and for encouraging the trade of the British colonies, were, it was asserted, the important objects under the consideration of the ministry of Great-Britain. That early in October, Mr. Adams, the American plenipotentiary, had a long conference with his Britannic majesty at his levee.

A writer in a late Dublin news-paper observes, that the college in Ireland for the Roman catholic of that kingdom, must be of the highest utility in detaining a number of men at home, who, if they possess any genius, are separated for ever from their native soil, and made to prove a credit to foreign realms by their brilliant abilities.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at St. Eustacia, to his friend in Wilmington, on Delaware, dated December 11, 1785.

"The prospect of business in this island is rather gloomy at present, nor can I consider myself other than an itinerant merchant, until a very considerable change takes place. There is a report here, that a treaty of commerce is likely to take

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