

ment, yet you are shameless enough to contend that I have ungenerously attempted to throw the blame of the misconduct of the commissioners on a dead man. There is no depth of prostitution into which you will not readily and willingly plunge to calumniate the character of a man, who, your conscious heart must inform you, has discharged his duty to the public with fidelity. But you now make that a question which you have heretofore confessed to be true. During the last session of assembly, when the business of the commissioners was finished, their conduct had been much misrepresented, and the information was said to have been received from the intendant. Upon application to you the matter was satisfactorily explained, and you then declared, that you had never found fault with my conduct as a commissioner, and that you never had any reason to find fault with it. You made a similar declaration as to Mr. Holyday; and you also declared that you had never questioned colonel Ramsay's integrity, but observed, that he had been inattentive in some parts of his business, of which you had complained. You now wish to inculcate an opinion directly opposite to that which you voluntarily gave, when you were left under the influence of prejudice, and therefore may be supposed to have spoken your real sentiments. What can we think of the sincerity, the veracity, the honour or integrity of such a man?

Another objection, equally frivolous, is made to the account of the commissioners;—that they were not entitled to commission on the property which was assigned and conveyed to Mr. Russell, one of the Principio company, at a valuation. Your reason is that it was expressly ordered not to be sold by the act of May 1781, chap. 23, and April 1782, chap. 44; that no bond was necessary to be taken, and not one farthing was to be paid to the state. In this assertion you are contradicted by the act of May 1781. It directed the commissioners, with the agreement and consent of Mr. Russell, to divide and set apart by metes and boundaries, his part of the lands of the company, and to lay out the residue in such convenient parcels as they might judge most advantageous;—or, if Mr. Russell should choose that the whole of the land directed to be sold should be laid out in parcels, then the commissioners might so lay it out;—but if Mr. Russell should not agree to such partition, nor to lay off the land into parcels, then the commissioners were required to issue a warrant to the sheriff of the county where the lands lay, to summon a jury to make just and equal partition between the state and Mr. Russell; and the commissioners were directed to sell the residue in parcels in the manner before mentioned;—and if Mr. Russell should consent to have his part of the land laid out and sold with the other, he should have his proportion of the purchase money secured to him by bonds;—or Mr. Russell might become a purchaser personally, or by another on his behalf, to the amount of his share of the lands to be sold. The law was the same in substance as to the personal estate.

Mr. Russell finding that if partition should be made in the manner directed, it would be attended with much trouble, expence and delay; and that if he should purchase to the amount of his share of the property, he might be compelled to purchase it in different counties, which, without benefiting the public would be disadvantageous to him; the general assembly, on his application, at their session in April 1782, directed that his share of the property should be laid off in a particular county; and persons were nominated to make a valuation of the forge in Cecil county, and such of the lands, negroes, stock and utensils, as Mr. Russell might think necessary for carrying on the forge; and if the valuation should exceed Mr. Russell's share of the property, the surplus should be accounted for by him to the state; and in case it should be less, then the state engaged to make good the deficiency; and the commissioners were required to cause the same to be laid off to him, and to convey it to him in fee. Under the acts referred to, the commissioners received a per diem allowance until some time in January 1782, and afterwards a commission of two and an half per cent. Mr. Russell made some purchases at public sales, and Mr. Washington also, who was entitled to a share of the property of the Principio company. It is not pretended that in these cases the commissioners are not entitled to a commission, though not a farthing is to be paid to the state; and yet the state is equally benefited whether Mr. Russell or any other partner of the company received their share of the property by partition, or by bonds taken for the property sold, or by purchasing to the amount of his part or share. The trouble and expence to the commissioners were the same; and it must appear clear that they are equally entitled to payment, whether acting for a per diem allowance, or on commission for disposing of property at public auction, or at private sale agreeable to a reasonable valuation, as in the case under consideration. You have asserted, but without any regard to truth, that the commissioners had only the trouble to make an entry of this property in their books, and to convey it to Mr. Russell. On this business alone, they were obliged to attend two different times in Cecil county, to execute the directions of the legislature respecting it; and the trouble and expence were greater, and the profit less, than if they were sold at public vendue. But this is one of the incidents of office for which no allowance was intended, and if any thing was to be paid, a much less sum would

have been an ample reward." In this, as in your other assertions, you are distinguished more for the singularity of your opinions, than by any judicious or pertinency of remark in support of them.

In examining the account of the commissioners, it seems, you have discovered that they have received the sum of $\$11864$ specie from Mr. Lecompte, and for iron, which they have set against the like sum due them for commission, payable in paper money, worth very little more than two for one, and in wheat at $7/6$ per bushel, worth only from $3/6$ to $4/0$; and that therefore there is about the sum of $\$550$ specie, yet to be accounted for. You ought to have a thorough knowledge of your premises before you suffer your malignant disposition to hurry you to a conclusion. But the man who has no regard to truth or justice, nor any sense of honour, is altogether indifferent as to his assertions or imputations, because he has not feeling enough to be ashamed when detected in the most base and infamous falsehood.—The money received of Mr. Lecompte was paid by me to the orders of the commissioners for the defence of the bay, and the receipts are lodged in the auditor's office. A part of the iron alluded to, and for which the state is credited with the sum of $\$450$, was sold by direction of the general assembly in June 1781, and the money paid into the treasury, as appears by the following receipt:

Received, 3d July, 1781, of the commissioners appointed to preserve confiscated British property, $\$450$ specie. B. HARWOOD

The remainder, and for which the state is credited, with the sum of $\$540$, was sold for some afterwards, by the direction of the commissioners, to provide for certain public exigencies, which the red money would not answer. Some of the farveyors, chain-carriers, and others, whom the commissioners were obliged to employ, refused to engage in the public service without a personal engagement by the commissioners to pay them in specie. They would not receive the red money at par, and it was not allowed by the state for less than the nominal value. The receipts and vouchers of the expenditure of this sum in the manner before mentioned, and for other public services, which appear by the commissioners' books and papers, are filed in the auditor's office.—If your references had been directed to this discovery of truth, you would have seen, by the account of the commissioners, that the sum of $\$1952$ 10 specie was due to them for services when acting for a per diem allowance. If therefore, they had made use of specie to that amount, it must be acknowledged that they were justly entitled to it, upon every principle of law and reason. But this has not been done. They received the greater part of that sum in depreciated paper. So that the very reverse of what you have asserted is the truth. Instead of receiving specie to the amount you mention, when they were only entitled to receive paper, they have received paper to a greater amount, actually worth no more than one half its nominal value, when the faith of the state was pledged, by law, to pay them in specie. But you, I presume, judge of the conduct of other men by your own. It is a sorry informed, when it was your peculiar and indispensable duty as intendant of the public revenues to manage and improve them with the best economy, and to the utmost benefit of the public, without scruple or hesitation, you could receive specie from a collector of taxes, and make payments for him in the treasury in certificates. By this example, you encouraged the hopes of the most enterprising in their attacks on the treasury if you were not callous and destitute of all those delicate sentiments and feelings which are natural to the virtuous and unimpaired, you would blush when you mention your anxiety about the public funds, or your regard for the public welfare.

You have contended that the commissioners are not entitled to specie for their commissions, as it was payable in red money depreciated, or in wheat at a dollar per bushel. Your argument is, that all the officers of government received those articles specifically at a time when they were worth little more than one half of what they were rated at. This argument proves nothing, because the commissioners as officers of government received those articles in like manner. To shew the propriety and justice of your position, you ought to prove that the officers of government, whose salaries were payable in red money, and in wheat, have been paid in specie according to the actual worth of those articles at the time the law passed; which cannot be done. Upon every principle of reason and common sense, as they must have been obliged to receive red money if depreciated to three or four for one, and wheat if only at $2/6$ per bushel, they were certainly entitled to receive the red money when at par, and wheat if more than a dollar per bushel. The red money was exhausted and all drawn out of the treasury in the year 1782, and in the year 1783 wheat was as high as eight and nine shillings per bushel; and the state having neither of those articles, at a time when red money was equal to specie, and wheat worth a dollar per bushel, could not justly refuse specie to those who were entitled to those articles. This is a matter so clear and evident that it was never made a question until the present dispute. And as you, when intendant of the revenue, did not hesitate to pay the commission in specie, the objection which you have now started, can only be considered as the thought of the day, to answer a present purpose.

[To be continued.] G. D U V A L L.

W A R S A W, August 16.
A FIRE has happened at Oppatow, in which one half of the town has been reduced to ashes. The pieces Dowager of Lobomsky, to whom the town belongs, in consequence of this melancholy accident, immediately sent 10,000 roubles, with a liberal supply of corn, for the use of the wretched inhabitants.

B E R L I N, September 16.
A courier arrived the day before yesterday from the Prussian ambassador at the Hague, with dispatches, which were immediately sent off to the king; their contents are said to be relative to the disturbances in Holland, and the marching of troops, &c. It is also said that the states of Guelderland have declared to the states of Holland, that if they do not repeal their resolution relative to the suspension of the capitulation, they would entirely separate themselves from them, and for their own protection take Prussian troops into their pay.

H A G U E, October 8.
Affairs of great importance are now on the tapis, between the city of Utrecht and the states of Holland. Within these two days couriers have been continually passing between this city and Utrecht; but we are yet uncertain as to the subject of this correspondence.

L O N D O N, October 5.
We hear from Madras, that the French at Pondicherry are so very indefatigable in their industrious and laborious efforts to repair their fortifications, that they work day and night in clearing of the old ditch, and in building of their new fort—and their agents at Ganjam are freighting every vessel on the coast with grain for Pondicherry and the islands; and they are firmly resolved and determined to send salt to Beggal, and have for that purpose loaded a brig with salt, but which is now ashore near Ganjam: They are in hopes of getting her off.

The last news from Pegue was, that the king's orders were brought down to Rangoon, that 20 of his majesty's ships should be immediately got ready for the use of his army now going against the king of Siam.

Oct. 17. The Stadtholder by retiring into Guelderland, with the troops which are attached to him, has thereby taken possession of the only passage for Prussian troops to enter the provinces. So that it is thought necessary to solicit the aid of Prussia, he has preserved a communication.

The states, it is said, did not at first see the wisdom of the Stadtholder's motion; but now they are aware of it.

On the 6th of August last, the dey of Algiers shut up that port, in order to give time to the corsairs to prepare for a new expedition.—The dey has informed the Danish consul, that he had been informed many vessels belonging to powers with which he was at war, hoisted Danish colours whenever they perceived an Algerine corsair; and, therefore, seeing these deceits, he should in future, give orders for seizing all such vessels, although they may hoist the Danish flag and make legal prizes of them, and that the Danish consul should take notice accordingly.

ELIZABETH-TOWN, December 27.
The prophecy of the sages of the "ait rn world, of "A new Athens rising in the West," is fulfilled—the assembly of Vermont having lately incorporated a township by that name, in the county of Windham.

The delegates of the state of Connecticut, in Congress, on the 13th September last, executed, in the name and behalf of their constituents, a deed of cession, to the United States, "of the right, title, interest, jurisdiction and claim, of the state of Connecticut to certain western lands, beginning at the 4th degree of north latitude, 120 miles west of the western boundary line of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as now claimed by said commonwealth, and from thence by a line to be drawn north, parallel to, and 120 miles west of, the said west line of Pennsylvania, and to continue north until it comes to 42 degrees and 2 minutes north latitude:—whereby all the right, title, interest, jurisdiction and claim of the state of Connecticut to the lands lying west of the said line, to be drawn as afore-mentioned, 120 miles west of the western boundary line of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as now claimed by said commonwealth; shall be included, released and ceded to the United States in Congress assembled, for the common use and benefit of the said states, Connecticut included.—Which was accepted by Congress.

NEW-YORK, December 28.
By the Boston papers, we learn of the arrival of the ship Penelope, captain Moore, from London, who has brought news only to the 10th of October. Captain Moore, on the banks fell in with a wreck of a ship which he discovered to be the Congress, of Philadelphia, with no person on board.

The sloop Return, captain Perine, from New-Providence for this port, was cast away the ninth instant, near Cape Henlopen—part of her cargo is saved.

We are informed, that the commissioners, who have been sitting for some time past in the city of Hartford, in Connecticut, for the purpose of settling the disputed claims between Massachusetts and this state, have amicably adjusted the same.

PHILA D
It is much to be regretted that the custom of firing guns at the death of a man should not be prevented, as it is very dangerous, being liable to fire, containing powder and entirely unfit for the dwelling-house. It is a practice to be discontinued, as it is a neglect of the public safety, the inhabitation of the streets and to enable any one to be killed and endangered.

ANNAP
By captain Moore, London, the following is the account: That in the planter's letters, commissio- nary information to make report t- As it appears that are daily increasing American supplies needed will be largely thought will

To permit an States of America United States, in islands, all, or a the proclamation, United States; a schooner, notwith- rican built, and United States; p- frigate should be and shall not be commander, or also that rum- in payment for su- allowed to be ex- islands, on board- de. of the above- fore particularize United States, up- expectation, and securities and rel- law are or may be any British colony

Prince- To be S O ABOUT the raised from for making good- such vessels a- then delivered at- ter, without any

THE subscrib- ters who a- their several accou- is done, their frie- on the business w- and themselves, w- capable of; most- money articles, a- upon very short- friends will take- discharge their ba- mands upon them- fore the first day- customers who ar- before that time, reasonable to exp- which will greatly

THE subscri- PHYSICIAN 107

Newport, HERE A pulled c- injured, and o- our lands by law- ing, fishing &c; d- for the painful n- forewarn all pers- either dog or gu- on our marshes, terminated to pro- tigueur of the law

To be SOLD, January, if fair at the late dw Anne-Arunde SUNDRY furniture, I purchasers on g- teamity, if requ- ELIZA N. B. The cr- in order to make