

him to an acquaintance with the most simple forms of accounting.—He is totally unacquainted with the system of revenue laws and the forms of doing mercantile business, and is now too far advanced in life and too much enfeebled both in body and mind, ever to learn either.—A man whose age, whose infirmities, and want of the requisite knowledge is such, is unfit to be the collector of the district of New-Haven.

We are aware that it may be said, he has sustained with reputation, and now holds several offices in this city, town and county; but it will be remembered that none of them are by recent promotion. His office of mayor he holds by charter during the pleasure of the legislature; and he is continued as judge of the county court, and town clerk, because the people of this state are not in the habit of neglecting those who once enjoyed their confidence by a long course of usefulness.

Knowing the man as we do, we do not hesitate to say, that he cannot, without aid, perform a single official act.

It may be said that the appointment was with a view to the aid of his son Abraham Bishop, Esquire, and that he is to be the real collector. We presume the business must be done by him if done at all. Yet we cannot be led to believe that the president would knowingly appoint a person to the discharge of duties to which he was incompetent, with a design that they should be performed by his son. If, however, this was the case, we explicitly state, that Abraham Bishop, Esquire, is so entirely destitute of public confidence, so conspicuous for his enmity to commerce, and opposition to order, and so odious to his fellow-citizens, that we presume his warmest partisans would not have hazarded a recommendation of him. Knowing these facts, of which we must believe the president ignorant, and relying on assurances, "that he will promote the general welfare, without regarding distinction of parties," we cherish the idea that our grief at the rejection of Mr. Goodrich, will not be augmented by the continuance of a father utterly unqualified for the office, or of a son so universally condemned.

We assure the president that the sentiments thus expressed, are the sentiments of the merchants and importers of the district, that such a class of citizens should be heard patiently, and their well founded complaints redressed, if practicable, we are fully persuaded. If it be an object, "to restore harmony to social intercourse," and if a decision "at the bar of public reason" be worthy of attention, surely such a portion of the community, will not plead in vain, for a reconsideration of his appointments, and that such an important office may be filled by a person competent to the performance of its duties, and in some degree acceptable to the public.

Signed by Jeremiah Atwater, Elias Shipman, Abraham Bradley, Abel Burnet, and others, to the number of 80 persons.

We certify, that the signers of the foregoing remonstrance are the owners of more than seven-eighths of the navigation of the port of New-Haven.

(Signed) ISAAC BEERS,
President of the bank, and of the chamber of commerce in New-Haven.

ELIAS SHIPMAN,
President of the New-Haven insurance company.

REPLY.
Washington, July 12, 1801.

GENTLEMEN,

I have received the remonstrance you were pleased to address to me on the appointment of Samuel Bishop, to the office of collector of New-Haven, lately vacated by the death of David Austin. The right of our fellow-citizens to represent to the public functionaries their opinion, on proceedings interesting to them, is unquestionably a constitutional right, often useful, sometimes necessary, and will always be respectfully acknowledged by me.

Of the various executive duties, no one excites more anxious concern than that of placing the interest of our fellow-citizens in the hands of honest men, with understanding sufficient for their station. No duty at the same time is more difficult to fulfil. The knowledge of characters possessed by a single individual is of necessity limited. To seek out the best through the whole union, we must resort to other information, which, from the best of motives, is sometimes incorrect. In the case of Samuel Bishop, however, the subject of your remonstrance, time was taken, information was sought, and such obtained as could leave no room for doubt of his fitness. From private sources it was learnt that his understanding was sound, his integrity pure, his character unstained. And the offices confided to him within his own state, are public evidences of the estimation in which he is held by the state in general, and the city and township particularly in which he lives. He is said to be the town clerk; a justice of the peace, mayor of the city of New-Haven, an office held at the will of the legislature; chief judge of the court of common pleas for New-Haven county, a court of high, criminal and civil jurisdiction, wherein most causes are decided without the right of appeal or review; and sole judge of the court of probates, wherein he singly decides all questions of wills, settlement of estates, testate and intestate; appoints guardians, settles their accounts, and in fact has under his jurisdiction and care all the property, real and personal, of persons dying. The two last offices, in the annual gift of the legislature, were given to him in May last.

Is it possible that the man to whom the legislature of Connecticut has so recently committed trusts of such difficulty and magnitude, is "unfit to be collector of the district of New-Haven," though acknowledged in the same writing to have obtained all this confidence "by a long course of usefulness?" It is objected, indeed, in the remonstrance; that he is 77 years of age; but, at a much more advanced age, our Franklin was the ornament of human nature. He may not be able to perform in person all the details of his office; but if he gives us the benefit of his understanding, his integrity, his watchfulness, and takes care that all the details are well performed by himself or his necessary assistants, all public purposes will be answered. The remonstrance indeed does not allege that the office has been illy conducted, but only apprehends that it will be so. Should this happen in event, be assured I will do in it what shall be just and necessary for the public service. In the mean-time he should be tried without being prejudged.

The removal, as it is called, of Mr. Goodrich, forms another subject of complaint. Declarations by myself, in favour of political tolerance, exhortations to harmony and affection in social intercourse, and to respect for the equal rights of the minority; have on certain occasions, been quoted and misconstrued into assurances that the tenure of offices was not to be undisturbed.—But could candour apply such a construction? It is not indeed in the remonstrance that we find it; but it leads to the explanations which that calls for. When it is considered that during the late administration, those who were not of a particular sect of politics were excluded from all office; when, by a steady pursuit of this measure, nearly the whole offices of the United States were monopolized by that sect; when the public sentiment at length declared itself, and burst open the doors of honour and confidence to these whole opinions they more approved, was it to be imagined that this monopoly of office was still to be continued in the hands of the minority? Does it violate their equal rights, to assert some rights in the majority also? Is it political intolerance to claim a proportionate share in the direction of the public affairs? Can they not harmonize in society unless they have every thing in their own hands? If the will of the nation, manifested by their various elections, calls for an administration of government according with the opinions of those elected—if for the fulfilment of that will displacements are necessary, with whom can they so justly begin as with persons appointed in the last moments of an administration, not for its own aid, but to begin a career at the same time with their successors, by whom they never had been approved, and could scarcely expect from them a cordial co-operation? Mr. Goodrich was one of these. Was it proper for him to place himself in office, without knowing whether those whose agent he was to be, could have confidence in his agency? Can the preference of another, as the successor of Mr. Austin, be candidly called a removal of Mr. Goodrich? If a due participation of office is a matter of right, how are vacancies to be obtained? Those by death are few—by resignation none.

Can any other mode than but removal, be proposed? this is a painful office? But it is made my duty, and I meet it as such. I proceed in the operation with deliberation and inquiry, that it may injure the best men least; and effect the purposes of justice, and public utility with the least private distress, that it may be thrown as much as possible on delinquency, on oppression, on intolerance on anti-revolutionary adherence to our enemies.

The remonstrance laments "that a change in the administration must produce a change in the subordinate officers;" in other words, that it should be deemed necessary for all officers to think with their principal. But on whom does this imputation bear? on those who have excluded from office every shade of opinion which was not theirs? or on those who have been so excluded? I lament sincerely that unessential differences in opinion should have been deemed sufficient to interdict half the society from the right and the blessings of self-government: to proscribe them as unworthy of every trust. It would have been to me a circumstance of great relief had I found a moderate participation of office in the hands of the majority; I would gladly have left to time and accident to raise them to their just share; but their total exclusion calls for prompter correctives. I shall correct the procedure; but that done, return with joy to that state of things when the only questions concerning a candidate shall be, is he honest? is he capable? is he faithful to the constitution? I tender you the homage of my highest respect.

TH: JEFFERSON.

To Elias Shipman, Esq; and others, members of a committee of the merchants of New-Haven.

Extract of a letter dated Madeira, June 12, received by a gentleman in this city, by the ship Morning Star, arrived yesterday.

"Da Carreira was taken on his passage from Brazil to Lisbon on the 17th April, by a French brig privateer of 14 guns, and carried into Teneriffe. Capt. Macaroca and crew arrived here from Canaries a few days ago in a flag of truce (a Spanish schooner). The captain of said schooner reported, that on the 10th of May, a body of Portuguese troops attacked the Spaniards, in which, after four hours battle, the Spaniards fled, with the loss of 1200 men killed, and a number of prisoners. This is not a bad beginning.—Portugal has 190,000 men on the frontiers of Spain, all in high spirits."

PHILADELPHIA, August 1.

We are informed that the president of the United States has ordered a nolle prosequi to be entered in the case of the United States, v. William Duane, which was instituted in the circuit court for this district by the late president at the request of the senate of the United States.

Several families immediately from Switzerland have lately arrived in Kentucky; they are principally vine dressers, and have brought with them several boxes of vines and choice fruit trees of that country, as well as the seeds, stones, &c. of those fruits. Among those emigrants are the brothers and three sisters of Mr. John James Dufour, the present manager of the Kentucky vineyard, who have migrated to this country in consequence of the flattering accounts given by their brother, of the success of the vine in Kentucky; they expect to be followed by at least 200 of their countrymen, as soon as they can be informed of their arrival and friendly reception, &c.

Extract of a letter from the district of Maine, state of Massachusetts, is from a private gentleman to his friend in Philadelphia, dated June 21, 1801.

"We have lately had a malignant fever in this place. Out of eighty sick, we have had no deaths, though several have been attacked, subject to prior diseases, which this fever for the time has aggravated.

"The new system practised in your city has been adopted.—Bleeding is now in such repute, that patients sent for their doctors, not for his advice, but to be bled. We have had cases which admitted, and therefore required large bleedings, even to the amount of one hundred and eighty-six ounces. The recoveries have been quick, and unfollowed by secondary diseases."

GEORGE-TOWN, July 27.

We learn that the secretary of state has recently received a letter from Mr. Dawson at Paris, who writes, that he had been favourably received by the government there, and that there was a prospect of every thing being speedily and happily adjusted.

A letter has also been received by the secretary from our minister at London, in which he states, that lord Hawkesbury had informed him, that his majesty having understood the president of the United States had ordered a squadron into the Mediterranean, instructions had been issued to the British commanders of posts and ships of war in that quarter to treat the American flag with respect, and that if the American vessels should at any time need supplies they should be furnished from the British stores and arsenals.

July 31.

From the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

We understand that Mr. Paine wrote to Mr. Jefferson, before he was elected president, stating to him a strong desire to return to America; but also stating his apprehension, from information possessed by him, that if he came in a private vessel, the English would be likely to intercept the ship, make him their prisoner, and convey him to England, where his liberty, and perhaps life, might be endangered. He therefore requested, in case Mr. Jefferson should be elected president, and a national vessel should be sent to France, he might be permitted to take passage in her for this country. This letter Mr. Jefferson answered, and gave the permission required.

WASHINGTON, July 27. OFFICIAL.

Appointments by the president of the United States.

George W. Erving, of Massachusetts, to be consul at London.

Mr. De La Motte, vice-commercial agent at Havre.

Edward Jones, of Columbia district, to be commercial agent at Guadaloupe.

Thomas Aborn, of Rhode-Island, to be commercial agent at Cayenne.

Peter Dobell, of Pennsylvania, to be commercial agent at Havre.

Fulwar Skipwith, of Virginia, to be commercial agent at Paris.

John C. Murray, of New-York, consul at Glasgow.

Joseph Peelis, consul at Malta.

Etienne Cathalan, commercial agent at Marseilles.

Daniel Clark, of New-Orleans, to be consul for that port.

BALTIMORE, August 1.

Extract of a letter from an American gentleman now in London, to his friend in this city, dated 17th June, 1801.

"Some accounts favourable to France arrived yesterday from Egypt, the particulars I cannot inform you, as they are kept among great folks; it has, however, given a check to the India Stock."

Annapolis, August 6.

To the CITIZENS of ANNAPOLIS.

FELLOW-CITIZENS,

THE time is fast approaching, when one of the most important elections to Maryland in general, but to this city in particular, will take place, that has happened since the revolution; that is, the election of our next senate. It may be thought arrogant in a plain citizen to offer an opinion on so weighty a subject, but as it is proper that on all great public questions our citizens ought to have time to consider maturely, and determine with cool deliberation, what will be most conducive to their interest, before they act, I have deemed it not improper to lay my thoughts before them; I shall therefore put a few questions