

richly decorated curtains. Four appropriate Latin inscriptions were exhibited on the different facts of the pedestal. A considerable number of flambeaux, judiciously placed, illuminated the whole.

When the procession arrived at the church, the body of the general was placed on the pedestal, decorated with the various insignia of its official dignities. A plaintive and appropriate symphony was played while this was doing, by numerous bands of military music. The archbishop celebrated in full form grand mass, and the *requiem* was chaunted by the whole choir. The archbishop pronounced the funeral oration of the general.

The coffin which encloses the remains of the general is to be forwarded to Mount Gebert, near Soissons, where the general requested he might be buried. The escort is not expected at Lyons before the first of March. It is to be removed hence this day.

NEW-YORK, April 15.

Strong probability of the renewal of WAR between GREAT-BRITAIN and FRANCE.

Capt. Sterling, of the ship *Mercury*, from Liverpool, is the bearer of great news. He informs that on the day of his departure (10th March) an express arrived at Liverpool from London. An immediate impress of seamen took place, both on shore and in vessels on the eve of sailing. And nothing was talked of but war and a change of ministers.

Copy of a letter from J. CASCOGNE, member of parliament for Liverpool, to the mayor of Liverpool, dated March 8th.

Dear Sir,

War is expected. A message from the king this day to the house of that tendency—Militia expected to be called out to guard against invasion—Stocks down to 4 per cent.—Mr. Pitt, it is supposed, will return soon to power. I've time to add no more, it being 6 o'clock.

Another letter speaks of the improbability of the recommencement of hostilities.

LOUISIANA AGAIN.

Capt. Green, of the brig *George Clinton*, arrived at New-York from New-Orleans, had ordered all the pilots to proceed down the river, to be in readiness to receive the French fleet, which was hourly expected there. In corroboration of the foregoing, we have been favoured with the following,
Extract from a letter dated New-Orleans, 17th March.

"This morning it is reported, and I believe it is true, that about 4000 Frenchmen have arrived at Havana, and that they will proceed for this place immediately."

PHILADELPHIA, April 12.

Latest from England.

By the John and Alice, captain Whitesides, in 29 days from Liverpool, arrived on Saturday, we have received London papers to the 5th of March, from which numerous extracts of an interesting nature, are made for this day's gazette. In future numbers we shall continue our selections.

The Sun of the 2d March has the following paragraph:

"We have received letters from Dover, which state that the pestilential disease which has been raging in France, has reached that port and Deal; but we are desirous of hoping that our information may be erroneous. Should it be true, we trust immediate means will be taken to prevent it from spreading."

BALTIMORE, April 14.

A private account from France (published in a London paper of the 2d March) mentions another plot to assassinate the chief consul. A letter from Rouen, of the 24th February, states that on the 21st, a Frenchman, by the name of Bourgeois, just returned from England, was, with a number of his accomplices, arrested by the government, in consequence of information that they had entered into a plot to assassinate the chief consul and afterwards to seize on the reins of government. A number of papers were found upon him which are said to develop the diabolical scheme, and to implicate a number of persons in England, emigrants from France. M. Bourgeois went over to England in the month of July last, with recommendations to several respectable families to procure him a situation as a tutor. He did not succeed in this, and the account is, that he was drawn into the conspiracy by some of those emigrants resident in England, who still cherish the thoughts of a counter-revolution by the means of tumult and anarchy.

From the *Federal Republican*.

Extracts from a very valuable French book, little known in America, entitled, "*The Agronomer or the Farmer's Pocket Dictionary*."

To multiply the increase of corn of any kind.

Take of the dung of the cow, goat, sheep and pigeon, and of saltpetre, each, one pound, put them all into two or three gallons of water, and let them stand covered for several days; strain the liquid through a sieve or coarse cloth, and let your seed corn moisten therein for eight hours; take it out and put it in a convenient corner of your granary; stir well and often during several hours after. This receipt is adapted to 160 pounds weight of corn.

ANOTHER.

Put twenty pounds of lime into a barrel, and pour on it ten gallons of rain or river water. Then put one hundred and twenty pounds of corn into a basket, and let it remain eight hours. Take it out, plunge it into another vessel, in which there is a quantity of water in which you have previously dissolved three pounds of common salt or saltpetre.

ANOTHER.

Take as much of the water of your richest dunghill as you choose. Soak your seed in it 24 hours, dry it in the shade, and then (when dry) sow it.

TO PREVENT THE SMUT IN WHEAT.

Moisten it well with a liquor composed of lime water, in which ashes, common salt and pigeon dung have been infused several hours. A light solution of allum and verdigrease has also been used for this purpose.

TO PREPARE SEED TO BE SOWN ON POOR AND SANDY LANDS.

Take twelve or thirteen pounds of sheep dung, which you will boil, dregs and all, in a good deal of water. Dissolve three or four pounds of saltpetre, and infuse in this pickle for eight hours a bushel of new wheat, &c. dry it in an airy place, not much exposed to the sun. Repeat this operation several times, and sow your grain thinly.

The author of the book from which these receipts are extracted, asserts, "That from experience it is known that every grain of the prepared seed produces seven or eight stalks, and each of the stalks produces ears of more than fifty grains of corn in each." He also informs, "that more than sixty stalks have been counted in one shoot."—He continues:

"1. Grain thus prepared starts sooner than when sown in the usual methods.

"2. The birds are not so fond of feeding on it.

"3. It grows thick and large, but ought to be sown thinner than usual. Grain produced from seed thus prepared, is not so liable to blast, to smut, or mildew, as unprepared corn."

Annapolis, April 21.

FOR THE MARYLAND GAZETTE.

The Critic—No. IX.

Ficta voluptatis causa. HOR.

AMONG the various intellectual amusements with which genius has diversified the avenues of pleasure, novel reading should not be esteemed the least; but like all other gratifications when pursued to an excess it is replete with disadvantage. Those who are accustomed to reject whatever is attended with pain, though united with pleasure, from the number of their pursuits have altogether discarded these productions of the imagination, not reflecting that the most adored virtues, by an indiscriminate use, may degenerate into as detested vices. Charity, though deservedly ranked amongst the most ennobling, may by an undistinguishing humanity become the supporter of all those vicious qualities which degrade human nature, and deprecate it to an equality with the inferior brutes of creation. But who among the good will not applaud the generous heart that kindly extends the hand of benevolence to the unfortunate, and by timely assistance dries the tear of affliction, though sometimes dilated by a tale of distress, told with all the eloquence of real woe, it may err in the object of its mistaken compassion. Such errors may be pitied, but may easily be forgiven. Philosophy, when viewed abstracted of its utility, presents a science deformed by cruelty, at whose insatiable shrine numbers of harmless insects and innocent animals daily expire under the most execrating torture. But shall philosophy be dismissed from the dignified station she has so long maintained among the arts and sciences? Certainly even the bosom glowing with the most refined sensibility would exclaim, No! The principal objection against novel reading is, that the time dedicated to perusing these flights of the imagination might be bestowed with more advantage on history. There can be no doubt which of the two is to be preferred, and if either were to be expelled the libraries of the literati, there could be no hesitation which should be the victim. Man is so incessant that the pursuit which yesterday afforded pleasure, to day is turned from with disgust; even the most exalted authors by a frequency of repetition, will acquire an insipidity, which will not be felt by him who sometimes follows the pen of the historian down the tract of time, and sometimes sports amidst the enchanting fields of fancy. The mind of man requires something gay and lively to wipe away the tear which fell over the bloody page of history, and calm those sensations which have been excited. The great advantages to be derived from this source of amusement are an improvement of style, a polish of language, and an attraction towards the path of virtue. Youth is openly susceptible to every impression which the seal of nature or of art may give, and their influence is often as durable as life itself, terminating only with the grave. Novels are written with an elegance of composition, an harmony of diction, and purity of style, seldom to be met with in other works; the youthful reader as he investigates them, is pleased, is delighted, he enters with avidity into the story, dwells with extacy on its beauties, culls the rhetorical flowers spread before him, and becomes master of its charming eloquence; he sees virtue displayed in its most pleasing form, and vice held up in its most odious light; as either predominate he feels the successive sensations of pleasure or of pain, and experiences as much interest in the triumph of the virtuous hero, as if he were himself the actor. Amyntor is a remarkable example. When young his principal desire was to become acquainted with history; as an empire rose to the summit of glory he rejoiced or trembled in its successes or defeats, and as it again returned to an equality with other states, or sunk beneath the victorious arms of some more successful potentate or nation, he traced the cause of declension, and with the observing eye of Philosophy discovered the internal causes which drew it from its meridian splendour and obscured its once transcendent lustre. Amyntor disdain the perusal of a novel, he considered them as mere bubbles floating in the literary world to catch the attention of children, or men weak as children, but unworthy the notice of the man of science. Under these impressions he accidentally looked into one, the sentence which met his eye was one that would have honoured the pen of Tacitus or Hume. It pleased him. He began it; as he proceeded new attractions rose upon the attentioned Amyntor, and when he closed it he had become a proselyte to its charms. From that moment Amyntor sought the most admired productions of that kind, and when fatigued with the study of more obtrusive treatises would recover the elasticity of his mind by the bewitching novel-writer. He has often told me the eloquence for which he is now so conspicuous in the councils of his country is drawn from them, that some of those ideas, so sublimely grand, which adorn his inimitable orations, were first suggested there, and I am confident he never would have been ushered to the notice of fame, with such auspicious success, if he had not taken that mode of smoothing an oratory naturally nervous. But, cries the

anti-novelist, they are false, to burthen the mind with falsehood is puerile. True, they are produced in the realms of fiction, but so are the admirable epic poems of Homer and must be consigned to oblivion, and no longer be held in the hand of wisdom. Even Milton, the divine Milton, will undergo the same fate; his beauties, his morality, will be obscured, and the admiration of past ages be succeeded by the superior sagacity of the present. Even history itself is subjected to the same charge, the early ages of all nations are involved in intricacy, and perplexed with doubt, times of confusion which contending and interested factions have maintained, until intervening time renders it almost impossible to remote the clouds of error, and ascertain the truth. Novels are so fascinating that the reader is apt to neglect business of more importance, and while he pleases himself with the morality and the beauties of the book, passes by studies of a more serious and intricate complexion. This may be considered as unanswerable, as it is true. The blandishments which every page displays to lure him on, requires fortitude and caution to guard against them, but the person who is weak enough to yield to the pleasing impulse, would not possess self-existent resources to counteract the allurements of the billiard table, or some more pernicious gratification, and instead of being the prey of a novel, would be the victim of some more detested practice. Another evil originating from the same source is, that the female mind imbibes such romantic ideas, that the unhappy person is rendered unfit for the discharge of her duties. This also is true. Amelia, when young, was handsome, she was universally admired, and an acquaintance with her was generally productive of the best passion; but Amelia had long been a votary of novel reading; she fancied herself equal to an heroine, and her soul was capable of being with all the fervour of one. She looked with anxiety for the moment to arrive when a lover should present himself, who felt an attachment equal to what her mind pictured. Mary came, but their addresses were thought cold, their love esteemed apathy. Florio perceived her feible, and was determined to take advantage of it. His patrimony had been great, but the follies of her father's extravagance had reduced it to its lowest ebb, and the dreary horrors of confinement threatened him. He was artful and insinuating, but he was immoral. Such was the character of Florio. Amelia was rich, and he fancied a passion might be lighted in her breast if he would condescend to assimilate himself to her manners. He did so, and he proved too successful. Having now obtained possession of her person and fortune, he again began the same wild career of dissipation, and soon ended an extremely puerile. His only hope of safety was in flight, he embraced the earliest opportunity, and left the wretched Amelia to lament her own sad fate, and stem the torrent of remorseful creditors. The storm so long impending now burst, and she was turned a wretched serf to an un pitying world. For a long time she remained an object of the lowest misery and want, her former friends passed unheeded by, relishing the small scanty pittance which she asked. Unable to support existence, she rushed unbidden to the presence of her Creator, and terminated a life of wretchedness and woe. But instances of this nature are rare. Amelia is the only one that has come within the sphere of my observation, and indeed the only one I ever heard of. Since then the advantage resulting from novel reading more than counterpoise its prejudicial qualities, it should not be entirely reprobated; though to give it an unlimited scope would be extremely injudicious.

The following important letter has been this day sent by express to New-Orleans.

OFFICIAL.

SIR,

I have the pleasure to impart to you, without a moment's delay, that by dispatches which I have just received from my government, brought by a brig of war of the king's master, dispatched for this purpose alone, I see confirmed all the assurances which I gave you on various preceding occasions, when I received information of the difficulties which the citizens of the United States experienced in consequence of being deprived of the place of deposit on its Spanish banks of the Mississippi, by decree of the intendant of New-Orleans. His Catholic majesty, as just in his resolutions as desirous of living in the greatest harmony with the United States, has provided that the deposit should continue at New-Orleans until the two governments shall come to an agreement about another equivalent place; and to the end that this royal provision may be promptly and punctually carried into effect, the necessary orders are communicated to the intendant and to the captain-general of Louisiana, of which I transmit you the originals in order that you may be pleased to forward them to New-Orleans.

I hasten to acquaint you of it with much satisfaction, in order that you may communicate it to the president of the United States, as soon as possible; and I pray God to preserve your life many years.

I kiss your hand.

Your most obedient, and faithful servant.

THE MARQUIS OF CASA YRUJO.

Washington, April 19, 1803.

James Madison, Esquire.

[National Intelligencer.]

In COUNCIL, ANNAPOLIS, April 19, 1803.

ORDERED, That the act to alter, change and abolish, such parts of the constitution and form of government as relates to the establishing a general court and court of appeals, be published once in each week, for the space of three months successively, in the Maryland Gazette, at Annapolis; the Baltimore American, the Telegrapher, the Federal Gazette, at Baltimore; the National Intelligencer; Mr. Smith's paper, at Easton; the Republican Advocate, at Frederick-town, and Mr. Grievess's paper, at Hagerstown. By order,
NINIAN PINKNEY, Clerk.

An ACT to alter, change and abolish, such parts of the constitution and form of government as relate to the establishing a general court and court of appeals.

BE it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the first day of March, eighteen hundred and four, there shall be a court of appeals, composed of three persons of integrity, and sound judgment in the law, who shall be styled in their commissions Judge of the Court of Appeals, whose judgment shall be final and conclusive in all cases of appeal from the court of chancery, county court or orphans court; and that the court of appeals shall hold two sessions on the western shore and two on the eastern shore in each year, at such times and places as the future legislature of this State shall direct and appoint.