

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, A U G U S T 29, 1805.

Miscellany.

FROM THE VERMONT POST-BY.

VERMONT DIVORCES.

IT cannot be denied, that the facility of obtaining bills of divorce, has greatly tended to render us contemptible in the eyes of our neighbours; and the little respect our Judges entertain for the sacred institution of marriage, has encouraged the dissolute of both sexes in every quarter of the union to repair to our State, and make our laws subserve their wicked and immoral purposes.—Every libertine who is tired of his wife, or who, from base and corrupt motives, is desirous to transfer his property and worthless affections to another woman; and every woman, who is infamous enough to abandon her husband and children, may fly to Vermont; and by circulating a libel in the form of a petition, as far as a country paper will convey the notice, and paying the necessary fees (which constituted a very considerable emolument to our judges) can obtain a decree of our court, dissolving the bands of matrimony. The statute indeed requires that one of the parties should have resided in this State at least one year, previous to granting a divorce; but there are several instances, on record, of bills being granted without even requiring proof to establish any previous residence. We shall soon have business enough of this kind in our courts, when it is known to the people of Carolina, or any other remote State, that a short visit of two months from home, will be quite sufficient to free a man from a disagreeable companion, and the incumbrance of a family, during the remainder of his life. “Do we not publish a citation, says our judges, in some of our newspapers, and afford an opportunity to the other party to appear and resist any improper attempt to impose on our courts.” Pretty reasoning this!—How shall an innocent wife, five hundred miles distant, living perhaps in the interior of the country, become acquainted with every advertisement in every one of our village papers? The first sight of the advertisement is perhaps accompanied with a copy of the record of that decree, which strips her of property; deprives her of a husband; and separates her from her children!—On this solemn, this awful subject, it is impossible for a wife or virtuous man to reflect without being agitated by alternate emotions of horror and indignation. It is really opening Pandora's Box, and giving wings to every evil that can poison the felicity and morals of society. It casts a ridicule on the sacred institution of marriage; produces a confusion of progeny; creates discord in families; corrupts public and private decency; and introduces a depravity of manners, which every man of feeling and sense ought to repel as an enemy to the honour and happiness of his wife and daughters. In such a state of things, where shall we look for that faithful and dutiful devotion of the heart, which is the most powerful inducement to a state of wedlock? where find that perfect confidence and security, which are inspired by a belief that death only can sever that religious bond which unites individuals of different sexes together, and impels them by the irresistible influence of affection, and the consciousness of a common indivisible interest, to maintain all the tender relations of father, son and brother?

THE SEDUCER.

“AYE, so you serve us,
“Till we serve you; but when you have our roses,
“You barely leave our thorns to prick ourselves,
“And mock us with our baseness.”

SHAKESPEARE.

WHO is yon meagre, ruined wretch, pressed down by disease and covered with shame and confusion? Sure it is no human being. The Almighty never stamped his image on a form so forbidding. Hush stranger! cease thy cruel animadversions on the victim of villainy. Turn thine eye for a moment, and behold the reverse. Seest thou yon sprightly coxcomb, glittering in the sunbeams of prosperity and basking with eagerness from pleasure to pleasure? He is her seducer: in an unguarded moment he triumphed o'er her virtue, he broke his faith and left her to brood o'er her misery in penury and want. Disease, like a corroding canker preys on her vitals, and the will e'er long be added to her native dull. Stranger you weep at her misfortune, your tears are unavailing. Her fate is determined.—Her penitence is accepted, and she shall yet be happy. Go warn thy prating innocents of their future danger! Go show them this picture of misery; and when they inquire the cause, tell them a lordly brute fixed his cruel fangs on the object of their pity; tell them the coxcomb was as gay, as lovely, as innocent, and as happy as they now are; but she was betrayed and her fond expectations blasted forever.

TEMPERANCE.

THE reader will smile at the pleasantries, as well as approve the good sense, of the following thought on Temperance, taken from *The Invalid*, by the late venerable nonagenarian, the rev. R. Graves:—

“It has been observed, that all other animals besides man are contented with one species of food; flesh, fish, or fowl, or vegetables; and never encroach on that of a different species.

“The lion, though invested with sovereign power, and living in regal style, is content with the leg of a calf, or the haunch of a stag; never thinks of a second course, or of a desert, or even of a sauce, cauliflower, or carrot, pickled cucumber, or the like.

“The eagle also, king of the birds, feasts himself and the royal family, the young princes and the infants, on a brace of pheasants, a turkey, or a dozen pigeons; but would not debase himself by stooping to a nest of larks or robin-red-breasts, for a second course.

“But man, as lord of the creation, by his prerogative, falls foul on whatever comes in his way, and ransacks the universe to gratify his voracious appetite; the fowls of the air, the fishes of the sea, the beasts of the forest, with vegetables of every genus and every species; not only herbs, which were intended for the use of man, but roots, which seem reserved for the food and the snouts of hogs; nay, even the excrescences of nature, mushrooms, and truffles, indigestible substances, which, if they were ever intended to be eaten, it must probably have been by the inhabitants of the infernal regions.

“If temperance, however, regulated our use of these various articles of food with which Providence indulges us; if we killed the animals without cruelty, and cooked them with plainness and simplicity, they might be, what Providence intended them, instead of what we too often make them, a blessing, and not a curse. But when we torture them in taking away their lives, as we often do, and scarify, carbonate, and be-devil their flesh, not only with pepper and salt, as we do the gizzard of a turkey, but adding a little nutmeg, a little cinnamon, a blade of mace, with chalon and onions, &c. and eat it with oil, vinegar and mustard; such a heterogeneous mixture, instead of producing a lacteous chyle, flowing through the alimentary canal, like the gentle stream of Arno, must become a caustic fluid, rushing like the fiery torrent of Vesuvius, harrowing up and tearing the vessels; or at least generate fever, calentures, and every disease incident to the human body.”

MASONRY IN FRANCE.

Extract of a letter from Paris, June 14.

You have doubtless heard that Free-masonry is again in vogue in all parts of France. It is true, that not only the emperor's brothers, but likewise the marshals, senators, and literati of the first distinction, attend the lodges. I enclose you the complete printed lists. You will find that the following are the most celebrated names belonging to the principal lodge:—

- Grand Master—Prince Joseph.
- Assistant Grand Master—Prince Louis.
- Chief Administrator—Marschal Massena.
- Grand Conservator—Senator de Choiseul Praslin.
- First Grand Superintendent—Prince Murat.
- Second Grand Superintendent—De la Cepede,
- Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour.
- Grand Orator—De Lalande, Member of the National Institute.
- Chief Secretary—De Jancourt, Senator.
- Grand Treasurer—Magonde Medine, Rear-Admiral.
- First Grand Expert—Bournonville, Ambassador.
- Second Grand Expert—General Macdonald.
- Grand Keeper of the Seal—General Sebastiani.
- Chief Keeper of the Archives—Marschal Kellermann.
- Grand Architect—Senator De Luynes.
- First Master of the Ceremonies—Duranteau, Member of the Legislative Body.
- Second Master of the Ceremonies—Girardin, Member of the Tribunal.
- Grand Hospitaller—Marschal Angereau.
- Grand Almoner—Marschal Le.Fevre.

TURKEYS.

THE following curious method of rearing Turkeys to advantage, is translated from a Swedish book, entitled *Rural Oeconomy*.

Many of our housewives, (says this ingenious author) have long despaired of success in rearing turkeys, and complained, that the profit rarely indemnified them for their trouble and loss of time; whereas, continues he, little more is to be done, than to plunge the chick into a vessel of cold water, the very hour, if possible, but at least the very day it is hatched, forcing it to swallow one whole pepper-corn; after

which let it be returned to its mother.—From that time it will become hardy, and fear the cold no more than a hen's chick.—But it must be remembered, that this useful species of fowls are also subject to one particular disorder while they are young, which often carries them off in a few days. When they begin to droop, examine carefully the feathers on the rump, and you will find two or three, whose quill part is filled with blood.—Upon drawing these the chick recovers, and after that requires no other care, than what is commonly bestowed on poultry that range the court yard.

The truth of these assertions is too well known to be denied, and as a convincing proof of the success, it will be sufficient to mention, that three parishes in Sweden have for many years used this method, and gained several hundred pounds by rearing and selling turkeys.

FROM THE LANCASTER JOURNAL.

Somerset, (Pen.) 1st August, 1805.

No. 1.
Habeas Corpus by the act of assembly. Issued on the 31st July, 1805. Returnable forthwith before Robert Phillon, Esquire, an associate Judge of Somerset county; commanding the defendants to bring before him the bodies of twelve negroes, to wit, Henry, Moses, Abraham, John, James, George, William, Benjamin, Henry, Susanna, Hagar, and Susanna; together with the day and cause of their being taken and detained.

ON the above writ the defendants endorsed the following return, viz.

To the honourable judge within named, we the undersigned respectfully return—That we are the agents of Lewis Evans and George Overacre, who are the owners of the negroes within named, though some of them by different names therein stated; which negroes they hold as slaves, and are now brought from the state of Maryland, and are taking on to the Mississippi territory after their masters. The waggons containing household furniture and other goods of the said masters, are on their way to Wheeling, in Virginia, to take boating for said territory, and the evidence of the property in the said negroes is in the possession of the said masters who are now at Wheeling aforesaid as we expect.

So answers (Signed)

JOSEPH KERR, ABRAHAM KELLY.

A large crowd of spectators attended the trial, and manifested great zeal and interest in having the negroes liberated. The counsel for the masters replied upon the exception contained in the eighth section of the act of 1st March 1780, as to “persons passing through, or sojourning in this State, and not becoming resident therein;” but this was over-ruled. The counsel then moved a postponement for ten days, giving security for the appearance of the negroes, until the masters could have time to return from Wheeling (about one hundred miles.) This was also over-ruled, and the twelve negroes discharged by the following order, to wit:

“On motion and argument of Mr. Selby and Mr. Ward for the commonwealth, the within named negroes are discharged from their confinement 31st July, 1805.”

(Signed)

ROBERT PHILSON.

DEAFNESS.

Professor Blumeneach states a fact, which must be interesting to all who have the misfortune to be afflicted with defective hearing: “About fifty years ago, a merchant at Cleve, named Jorison, who had become almost totally deaf, sitting one day near a parpichord while one was playing, and having a tobacco pipe in his mouth, the bowl of which rested accidentally against the body of the instrument, he was agreeably and unexpectedly surprised to hear all the tones in the most distinct manner. By a little reflection and practice, he again obtained the use of this valuable sense, which as Bonner says, connects us with the moral world; for he soon learned, by means of a piece of hard wood, one end of which he placed against his teeth, while another person placed the other end in like manner, to keep up a conversation, and to be able to understand the least whisper.”

IT SNAWS AWHILES.

IT was at Inverary, Scotland, a disappointed traveller, who had been confined to his inn three or four days by the wet, peculiarly exclaimed, at his departure, “What does it rain here always?” “Hoot, na,” answered the landlord, with great simplicity, “it snaws awhile.”