

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JONAS GREEN, CHURCH-STREET, ANNAPOLIS.

POLITICAL.

From the Federal Republican. To the People of the United States.

In my last communication, I pointed your attention to the contract made in behalf of the general government with col. Jas. Johnson, of Kentucky, for the transporting of troops and provisions up the Missouri river, and the unjustifiable and shameful advance of public money directed to be made to that individual by Mr. Monroe, the president of the United States.

Public notice was not given (says the quartermaster-general, in his letter of 31st Jan. 1820) that proposals would be received for transporting these troops and provisions; although the law expressly declares that all purchases and contracts for supplies or services, which are or may, according to law, be made, by or under the direction of either the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of war, or the secretary of the navy, shall be made either by open purchase, or by previously advertising for proposals respecting the same.

Thus, the contract with col. Johnson was made, as it would seem, in secret—there having been no public notice whatever given of the intention or wish of the government to make such a contract; and thus, too, has the law of the land been set at naught and totally disregarded, for the purpose of giving to an influential personage of the West, a most lucrative and advantageous job, to the exclusion of others who would have undertaken it, as we shall presently see, for about one fifth part of the sum paid to this favourite and courtier. And let it be forever remembered, that this most unlawful contract with Johnson, was made with the knowledge, and under the immediate inspection and direction of President Monroe, whose constitutional duty it is to take care that the laws are faithfully executed.

It is a remarkable fact, that in this secret contract with col. Johnson, (for I must call it secret, since no public notice was given that any such would be made) there is no agreement as to the specific amount of money to be paid for the service rendered; but, says the contract, "the said James Johnson shall be allowed a reasonable compensation," etc. And what was this "reasonable compensation" allowed? Why, for articles conveyed in keel-boats, he was allowed 16 1/4 cents per lb. when no more than five and a half cents per lb. were paid by the U. States to other persons, performing, at the same time, similar services!

which is included the expense of transportation) was \$566,000, while the expenditures of that department, for the same year, amounted to \$749,248 67. This great excess of expenditure beyond the appropriation for the year, was, doubtless, owing to the exorbitant advances made to col. Johnson, under his secret contract—all of which advanced, from 24th July to 8th Nov. 1819, were made under authority of President Monroe's letter, dated 'Lexington, Kenty. 5th July, 1819,' a copy of which is inserted in my last number.

4. After giving col. Johnson credit for his exorbitant demands, as before stated, there still appears to be due from him to the United States, (not to mention his contract for supplying the army with provisions) the sum of \$76,372 65 cts. This, however, will not appear on the list of public defaulters for the next year, because the balance will not have been due "for more than three years prior to the 30th September last." And for the recovery of this sum, no legal steps appear to have been taken.

5. The only security taken for this money, appear to be the steam-boats referred to in Mr. Monroe's letter, which the Congress committee pronounce to be "broken, feeble, and subject to constant decay;" so that, from every appearance, we may calculate on a total loss of this sum, as well as between 1 and \$200,000 wrongfully paid under the secret contract before mentioned. But this was a case in which our chief magistrate took "very great interest" and in which he was willing to take "great responsibility." Therefore, the thing must be all right and just; and he that says otherwise, will be denounced as discontented, factious, and so forth. But if such acts as these can be committed with impunity, do not let us, I beseech, any longer object to that maxim in the British constitution, which declares that "THE KING CAN DO NO WRONG."

A Native of Virginia.

AGRICULTURAL.



From the Essex Patriot.

"In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat bread." Moses tells us that the disobedience of Adam bro't a curse upon the ground, and that thorns and thistles should be produced. The curse still continues. We will not meddle with the punishment of the woman. It is as much and sometimes more than she can bear. Man is annoyed by several things besides thorns and thistles, and it requires much of his vigilance, industry, and sweat of his face, to cause the earth to bring forth fruit. I believe, however, corrupted as we are, there could be nothing better for us. Should the earth produce spontaneously, and pour upon us a rich provision without our toil and labour, what would be the state of society? Idleness is a nursery from which many crimes shoot, and we find the soil congenial for them. We often find second crops.

We should have little of the staff of life, few delicious fruits, roots and vegetables, without the plastic hand of man; and every farmer ought to know how to apply such an hand. Agriculture and commerce are said to be sisters. I love them both; but as I am a landsman, my affection is stronger for the former—still love the man who prospers the latter.

Many of our small grains & seeds succeed well by broad cast, others not. We must therefore use hill and drill planting: It is of importance for the farmer to know the proper management of each, for it requires all his diligence and industry to prevent the ravages of his enemies. In broad cast it is sometimes best to let the tares grow until harvest. By extracting them, especially in a dry time, you expose the roots of the wheat to a scorching sun, and your crops are injured. In a wet season it may be of use. Every farmer ought to know this—in hill and drill planting there is no danger in exterminating the weeds, for you can with the hoe cover the naked roots with fresh earth.

But I intended to confine myself to the culture of cabbage. This

plant is raised or attempted to be raised by most farmers. We are too apt to think it we put seeds into the ground when the tide suits, the sign in the right place, and the moon old or new, a different seeds require, we are sure of a crop without giving ourselves further trouble. We never examine the different state of soils. The first enemy we have to encounter in the cabbage plant, is a small fly almost imperceptible. Seeds sown on burnt ground escape in a great measure this insect, because the plants are impregnated with alkali. Still you may raise good plants in old cultivated gardens with the simple application of cold water. The little insect cannot withstand it, but is washed off and drowned. Use your watering pot. Cabbages from their oily nature never can be injured by cold water; but always flourish from a repeated application. This second enemy we have to encounter, is the cabbage worm. They commit their depredations in the night, and bury themselves in the day. I have read of, and tried many things said to be an antidote to their voracity; such as lime, ashes, birch bark, paper tied round the stems, &c. but no such things answer the purpose—Death and cold water are the best preventatives: They disappear generally about the middle of June. Something depends on the season. It is difficult to have early cabbage without great attention. Water your cabbage when this worm infests it, every night with cold water; which cannot bear the cold and will march off for other food; but should you find a plant cut off, search for and destroy the worm, and from your seed-bed set out another. This must be done in the morning. By this practice you may preserve most of your plants until the destroyer disappears. The third grand enemies are the lice, said to come from an egg or eggs deposited in the leaf by the utterfly. I have heard of many ways to destroy them: such as whipping the green elder, sprinkling them with a decoction of it, and sifting on ashes and dirt. I have tried all, but have found none of them succeed to my wishes. I find nothing so good as water from the watering pot. These insects rage in a dry season. By water you destroy them by thousands, and invigorate your cabbage. They generally attack weakly plants, or make them so by it. When a boy, I have heard it said autumn rains will kill the lice. My cabbage have been infested with them during the drought, many of them past recovery as I thought. If rain will destroy them, why not the watering pot? I tried it, and to my surprise, many which appeared nearly dead, are now flourishing. A farmer, morning and evening, can attend a cabbage yard, sufficient at least for the consumption of his family, in a few minutes. FARMER.

At last, one of the young men, remarking that it was impossible to combat with long and established prejudices, wheeled around, and with some familiarity exclaimed, "Well, my old gentleman, what think you of these things?" He said the traveller, a streak of vivid lightning had at that moment crossed the room, their amazement could not have been greater than it was with what followed. The most eloquent and unanswerable appeal was made for nearly an hour by the old gentleman, that he had ever heard or read. So perfect was his recollection that every argument urged against the christian religion was met in the order in which it was advanced. Hume's sophistry on the subject of miracles was, if possible, more perfectly answered than it has already been done by Campbell. And in the whole lecture there was so much simplicity and energy, pathos and sublimity, that not another word was uttered. An attempt to describe it, said the traveller, would be an attempt to paint the sun beams. It was immediately a matter of curiosity and inquiry who the old gentleman was. The traveller concluded it was the preacher, from whom the pulpit eloquence had been heard. But no, it was the Chief Justice of the United States.

MISCELLANEOUS.

From the Winchester Republican.

INTERESTING ANECDOTE. It is frequently remarked that the most laudable deeds are achieved in the shades of retirement; and toils truth-history testifies in every page. An act of heroism, or philanthropy, performed in solitude, where no undue feelings can affect the mind, or bias the character, is worth, to the eye of an impartial observer, whole volumes of exploits displayed before the gaze of a stupid and admiring multitude. It is not long since a gentleman was travelling in one of the counties of this state, and about the close of the day stopped at a public house to obtain refreshment and spend the night. He had been there but a short time, before an old man alighted from his gig, with the apparent intention of becoming a fellow guest with him at the same house. As the old man drove up, he observed that both the shafts of his gig were broken, and that they were held together by withes formed from the bark of a hickory sapling. Our traveller observed further, that he was plainly clad, that his knee buckles were loosened, and that something like negligence pervaded his dress. Conceiving him to be one of the honest yeomanry of our land, the courtesies of strangers passed between them, and they entered the tavern. It was about

the same time that an addition of three or four young gentlemen was made to their number; most, if not all of them, of the legal profession. As soon as they became conveniently accommodated, the conversation was topped by one of the latter upon an eloquent harangue which had that day been displayed at the bar. It was replied by the other, that he had witnessed the same day a degree of eloquence, no doubt equal, but that it was from the pulpit. Something like a sarcastic rejoinder was made to the eloquence of the pulpit, and a warm and able altercation ensued, in which the merits of the christian religion became the subject of discussion. From six o'clock until eleven, the young champions wielded the sword of argument, adding with ingenuity and ability every thing that could be said pro and con. During this protracted period the old gentleman listened with all the meekness and modesty of a child, as if he was adding new information to the stores of his own mind; or perhaps he was observing with philosophic eye the faculties of the youthful mind, and how new energies are evolved by repeated action; or perhaps, with patriotic emotion, he was reflecting upon the future destinies of his country, and on the rising generation, upon whom those destinies must devolve; or most probably, with a sentiment of moral and religious feeling, he was collecting an argument which, (characteristic of himself,) no art would be able to elude, and no force resist. Our traveller remained a spectator, and took no part in what was said.

At last, one of the young men, remarking that it was impossible to combat with long and established prejudices, wheeled around, and with some familiarity exclaimed, "Well, my old gentleman, what think you of these things?" He said the traveller, a streak of vivid lightning had at that moment crossed the room, their amazement could not have been greater than it was with what followed. The most eloquent and unanswerable appeal was made for nearly an hour by the old gentleman, that he had ever heard or read. So perfect was his recollection that every argument urged against the christian religion was met in the order in which it was advanced. Hume's sophistry on the subject of miracles was, if possible, more perfectly answered than it has already been done by Campbell. And in the whole lecture there was so much simplicity and energy, pathos and sublimity, that not another word was uttered. An attempt to describe it, said the traveller, would be an attempt to paint the sun beams. It was immediately a matter of curiosity and inquiry who the old gentleman was. The traveller concluded it was the preacher, from whom the pulpit eloquence had been heard. But no, it was the Chief Justice of the United States.

EXTRACTS.

I speak not against learning in itself; it is a precious gift of God, and may be happily improved in the service of the gospel; but I will venture to say, in the spirit of the Apostle Paul's writings in general and of Gallatians 6:14, in particular, ACCURSED be all that learning which sets in opposition to the Cross of Christ! ACCURSED be all that learning which fills the room that is due to the Cross of Christ! and ACCURSED be all that learning which is not made subservient to the honour and glory of the Cross of Christ!

WITHERSPOON.

Lysimachus, for extreme thirst, offered his kingdom to the Getæ, to quench it—His exclamation is wonderfully striking: Ah! wretched me, who, for such a momentary gratification, have lost so great a kingdom! How applicable this to the case of him, who, for the momentary pleasures of sin, parts with the kingdom of Heaven! Horne

The energy of the Cross of Christ, is beyond the force of thunder; and it is more mild than the dew on the tender grass. MacLaurin.

God can give us no greater gift than himself. We may say as one said to Caesar, This is too great a gift for me to receive.—But it is not too great for me to give.—answered Cæsar. Dyer.

PRINTING.

A German account of the Invention of Printing.

At the time when this art was invented, Harlem was surrounded with beautiful woods; which the principal citizens made a practice of frequenting daily in fair weather, after dinner, for pleasure and recreation, and particularly Lourence Koster, who from his youth had a taste for engraving, and often visited the shops of such mechanics at that place, with a view of imbibing a knowledge of the art. In one of his wanderings in the woods, Mr. Koster took a piece of oak or bass wood, and having smoothed it, cut certain letters thereon with his knife, and wrapping a paper around it put it in his pocket. Whether from afterwards sitting on moist ground, or from his getting into a perspiration, tending to communicate moisture from the wood to the paper wrapped in his pocket, was not ascertained—but so it was, that when he took the wood and wrapper from his pocket, he found the letters he had cut in the wood impressed on the paper. He then made new experiments, and having found them successful, he improved on the art by finally making the letters of a harder substance—and thus by being enabled to sell books cheaper than those who had manuscripts, he made immense sums of money. But he met with a misfortune which ruined his business. A servant in his employ, named Jan Faustus, after having sufficient experience of the art, which his master had taught him, both in reading and making letters, embraced the opportunity when Koster was at Church with his whole family on Christmas day, to pack up and steal the chief part of his type foundry, and fled therewith to Mentz, where he opened a printing office with one Johan Van Guttenburg, goldsmith of Stratsburg—and from thence all Europe and the world derived the further knowledge of this art. When Koster returned from church, and found his shop thus plundered, he is stated to have been much distressed—but being a man of wealth and far advanced in years, he never attempted to repair his office.

Our author concludes the rule of the city of Harlem, have, with much justice, erected a monument to the memory of Koster, near the market, representing a printing press, with the following inscription:

Memoria Sacrum Typographia Ars Artium Omnium Conservatrix, Hic Primum Inventa L Costore, Harlemensis, MCCCXXXIX, signifying: to the everlasting memory of the art of printing, the preserver of all arts, here discovered by L. Koster, a Harlemer, &c.

Cork Tree.—It is generally believed that cork is the bark of the cork tree; on the contrary, it is an excrement formed by exudation on the cuticle, or outer bark of the tree. The trees are stripped the first time before they are twenty years old, and generally once in eight or ten years after. It would appear that this contributes to their health and vigour, for if left unstripped they begin to decay in a few years, and in 5 or 6 years, a whole plantation, that is neglected, is destroyed; but those repeatedly peeled, live and thrive more than 200 years.—When the cork is removed an exudation takes place, which requires consistency by the action of the air, and thus the succeeding layer of cork is formed.

Wolves, we understand, have lately rendezvoused at Lachenay and environs. One of them, as large as a full sized Newfoundland dog, a few days ago had the audacity to pass close by the door of one of the inhabitants, in broad day light.—Canada paper.

Died, lately, at his lonely hovel among the hills 12 miles S. E. from Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Wilson, who for many years endeavoured to be a solitary recluse from the society of men, except as far as was necessary for his support. His retirement was principally occasioned by the melancholy manner of the death of his sister, by which his reason was also partially affected. She had been condemned to die near Philadelphia, for a crime committed in the hope of concealing her shame from the world, and the day of execution was appointed. In the mean time, her brother used his utmost means to procure her pardon from the governor. He had succeeded and his horse formed and bled as he spurred him home ward, but an unpropitious rain had swelled the stream; he was compelled to pace the bank with hurrying brain, and gaze upon the rushing waters that threatened to blast his only hope! At the earliest moment that a ford was practicable, he dashed thro', and arrived at the place of execution just in time to see the last struggles of his sister! This was the fatal blow. He retired into the hills of Dauphin county—employed himself in making grind-stones—was very exact in his accounts, but appeared frequently to be estranged; and one morning was found dead by a few of the neighbours, who had left him the evening previous, in good health.

Public Sale. By virtue of an order of court of Anne Arundel county, scriber will offer at public premises, on Friday the 17th member next, the personal estate of Mary Callahan, deceased, consisting of a HOUSE AND LOT subject to a ground rent, Household and Kitchen Furniture, &c. &c. Terms of sale a credit of six months for all sums above twenty dollars, the purchaser giving bond and security, bearing interest from the day of sale—all sums under twenty dollars, the cash to be paid. William S. Green Esq. Auctioneer Oct. 25

Dissolution of Partnership.

The partnership heretofore existing between George and John Barber has been mutually dissolved. All persons indebted to the said firm are requested to settle, either by bond or note, and those who have claims are requested to present them for payment to George Barber, who is authorised to adjust the concerns of said firm. George Barber, John T. Barber.

The public are informed, that their Packets will run as usual. Merchants and others, who send Goods, &c. are requested to designate particularly the names of the persons for whom they are intended, and the places where to be sent. They will not be responsible for letters sent in the packets, but every attention will be paid to their delivery. They have an Extra SCHOONER, which will take and carry Freights to and from any port in the Chesapeake Bay.

The editors of the Federal Gazette and American, Baltimore, are requested to insert the above once a week for six weeks, and forward their accounts to this office. 26 6w

50 Dollars Reward.

Absconded from the farm of Mrs. Sarah Clements, on the South side of Severn River, near Annapolis, on the 8th instant, a negro man named

JACOB,

He is about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, and his person though slender is muscular; his colour is not remarkably black nor lighter than usual; he has a stern, sulky, bold expression of countenance; speaks promptly when spoken to, and is rather more intelligent than plantation negroes generally are; his motions indicate considerable activity and strength, and he walks remarkably fast and with great ease to himself. He has large nostrils and a flat nose; he has lost two of his front teeth, and has a small scar on his left hand just below the third finger. He has a wife living in Baltimore named Delilah, the property of Mrs. Cave W. Edelen, whither it is likely he has gone. The above reward will be paid to any person who will deliver the said slave to the subscriber at the before mentioned farm, or who will secure him in the Annapolis goal. Benjamin Scott, Manager. Sept. 13.

JUST PUBLISHED

And For Sale at Geo. Shaw's Store, THE FIRST VOLUME OF HARRIS & JOHNSON'S REPORTS Of Cases Argued and Determined in the GENERAL COURT AND COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND From the year 1800 to 1805, Inclusive. PRICE—\$6 50. Sept. 27.

Fifty Dollars Reward.

Ranaway from the subscriber living near Brookville, Montgomery County, Maryland, on the 31st July last, a Negro Man who calls himself

JOHN TRIP,

Aged about 19 years, thin face and high thin nose, light made, straight, black, and very active, looks down and stammers when spoken to, about five feet eight inches high, had on a cotton shirt, oil hat and linen trousers. He was raised on the Eastern Shore near Cambridge, and will probably endeavour to get there by the way of Baltimore or Annapolis. I will give the above reward for securing said negro, if taken out of the state, so that I get him again, and Twenty Dollars if taken in the State, and in either case I will pay all reasonable expenses if brought home. Ephraim Gaither.

N. B. All owners of Vessels, and others, are forewarned from receiving, harbouring, or carrying off said negro at their peril, as they will be dealt with according to law. E. G.

August 16, 1821. The Eastern Gazette will copy the above six times, and forward their account.