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From the Richmond ENQUIRER.

THE RAINBOW.—NO. I.

INTRODUCTORY ESSAY—Concluded.

On the utility of Miscellaneous Essays.

WHILE the nations of Europe are involved in war, distracted with factions, and overrun by oppression, we enjoy the blessings of peace, liberty, security and leisure. We rest in the shade while they are toiling in the tempest; we enjoy the sunshine, while they are pursuing a shadow; their sun is verging towards evening, while ours is ascending to his noon. All that seems wanting to ripen the harvest of national happiness, which exhibits so luxuriant a promise, and realises every hope which human nature can rationally indulge, is a more extensive diffusion of useful knowledge. May not the regular infusion of miscellaneous essays on useful subjects be employed with the happiest effects, for this important purpose? Periodical prints are more numerous, more extensively dispersed, read by a greater number of individuals and with greater avidity or attention in the United States, & particularly in Virginia, than in any other part, probably, of the civilized world. Does not this circumstance furnish the enlightened patriot with a great moral power for enlightening public opinion, and correcting anti-republican propensities and habits? By this means every intelligent citizen may communicate immediately and distinctly, his convictions, his feelings, his information, & may even propose his conjectures, enquiries and doubts on important subjects, to every other. The inviolable freedom of the American press; the sleepers vigilance of its guardians, and the general intelligence of the people, preserve the atmosphere of public opinion pure, clear and pervious throughout to the light of truth whatever quarter its irradiations may proceed, whatever facts they may reveal, and to whatever conclusions they may conduct to an enlightened mind.

May not periodical prints, hitherto devoted almost exclusively to the publication of facts, principles and sentiments relative to foreign and domestic politics, embrace a greater variety of topics and a wider range of usefulness? May not intelligent editors, with the assistance of their enlightened friends and compatriots, explore a richer field of enquiry, and accompany their political details, with information more elementary, miscellaneous and instructive? Were the public prints uniformly conducted by men of genius, integrity and information; were a few columns of every paper regularly devoted to the infusion of useful or elegant essays, composed by the editors themselves, or furnished by their literary friends, were permanent associations formed by men of talents for the purpose of preparing successively such essays for publication, how diffusive would be the influence of knowledge! how splendid the improvement of our national character! To how many noble purposes might not the judicious execution of a design of this sort be made subservient? Might not the composition of such essays and their extensive diffusion by the public prints operate as a temporary substitute for the agency and an auspicious preparative for the introduction, (on a purer and more comprehensive plan) of those public establishments, and literary institutions, from which the nations of Europe derive so many innumerable benefits? Might they not be employed to compare our codes, constitutions and legislative provisions, with the best existing standards of political truth; and thereby accelerate the removal of every imperfection which experience may unfold and the adoption of every improvement which sagacity may suggest, genius invent, or experience reveal for the progressive melioration of our political institutions? May they not be employed to review literary works of celebrity and importance to display the merits of books calculated to enlighten, and expose the pretensions and fallacious reasonings of such as have a tendency thus to corrupt the minds of young and inexperienced readers? Might they not thus contribute not only to increase the number and extent of public and private libraries, but, (with an infinitely greater moment) to facilitate the selection and circulation of useful books, and conduct ingenious and unformed minds to the genuine fountain of improvement? Might they not thus assist in confining to merited oblivion, those "volumes of delusion" which, whether from their antiquity or their novelty, the charms of meretricious eloquence, the artifices of venal sophistry or a conspicuous enthusiasm of conscientious error, are at present too extensively in vogue: which, unless strangled in their birth, or arrested in their progress, will in every condition of civilized society, and especially under a republican government, greatly abridge and adulterate the profits which the art of printing and the freedom of the press are so admirably

adapted to dispense? For of all the forms which the demons of darkness can assume to corrupt and destroy mankind, sophistical speculation and venal fiction, are by far the most effectual. May they not be employed to accomplish (what is at present a desideratum in moral science) a correct analysis of the proper province and purpose of amuse literature, illustrating their reasonings on those important subjects, by critical remarks on the macianism and moral tendency of such literary productions, in poetry and prose, as may attract any considerable share of general curiosity and admiration? May not enlightened men, through the medium of periodic essays, inserted in the public prints, call the attention of parents and patriots to the solemn consideration of that momentous and neglected subject the education of public schools? Through this medium, may they not discuss with advantage the important question whether such establishments ought to be effected solely by the genius and enterprise of individuals, aided by the patronage and spontaneous contributions, or whether academies should be established and endowed by the public expense, the various departments distributed into professorships, and instructors appointed by trustees incorporated by the legislature? In other words, whether the demand for general instruction, like the demand for bread, should be supplied by the unregulated competition and unaided industry of individuals, or adequately provided for by legislative interference and national institutions?

May not periodical essays be employed with peculiar advantage to improve the minds and manners of women, to extinguish that rage for expensive fashions and foreign fashions, and that fondness for scandal which must necessarily occupy the attention and dissipate the activity of uncultivated minds; and by exciting a taste for literature, reflection and rational conversation banish those frivolous vanity and unamiable amusements, which are so prevalent so fatally fashionable amongst the fair? May not the reasonings of enlightened men through this medium, have a powerful tendency to divert the predominant passion of every generation, an enlightened spirit, the love of dissipation, into its natural channel, the acquisition of useful knowledge, the exhibition of liberal accomplishments, and the achievement of moral enterprise & expanded benevolence? In fine, might not an extensive commission and regular succession of such literary associations, speedily restore that simplicity of manners and dignity of life, that characterized the ancient republics, and eradicate from the minds of our people their predilection for those expensive luxuries, which constitute the bubbles of our colonial childhood, in badges of aristocratic distinction we have acquired, and the idols of the abominable passions, which we have sworn on the altar of the revolution to expunge from our souls?

Can the enlightened patriot conceive or conceive a plan fraught with more extensive benefits to his country than this! Can a generous and heroic ambition, pant for a purer glory, or a more splendid prize than is here proposed!

Were the writer of this Essay to conceive one of these tutelary divinities, to whom the fictions of classical mythology, and the credulity of primeval ages, assigned the superintendance of the destiny of nations, to inscribe on consecrated tablets, or reveal from "a sacred shrine" a prophetic oracle to the patriots of America it would be this!

In vain have the people, whose prosperity is committed to your care, and the fairest part of the New World, in vain are their liberties established on a basis as immutable by foreign invasions and domestic conspiracies, in vain do an unenterprising commerce extract from the colonies the industry of the world whatever can supply their wants or multiply their enjoyments; in vain does the accumulated wisdom of ages deposit its treasures at their feet. These advantages cannot secure the happiness which the genius of Columbia has promised to bestow, until through the medium of a purer and more comprehensive plan of juvenile education the rising generation shall adopt sentiments and habits suitable to the dignity of the characters they aspire to form and the glorious career they are invited to pursue

Notice is hereby given, THAT a book for subscriptions to the WASHINGTON JOURNAL, agreeably to the terms advertised by Benjamin Stoddert, Esq. of George-Town, is received by the subscribers, and will be opened on Saturday, the 1st day of December next, at the Counting-house of George Grundy & Nepean, and will continue open until 30,000 dollars are subscribed, or until the twelfth day of December next, when it will be returned with what subscribers may be obtained. A plan of the lots is lodged at Bryden's Coffee room. GEORGE GRUNDY, GEO. SALMON.

All subscriptions received here will remain in our hands, until Mr Stoddert's engagements are complied with—should the scheme not succeed, the money will be returned to the subscribers on the 1st of February next. November 23 dt12D

Teacher Wanted. A PERSON who can come well recommended, capable of instructing English grammar writing and arithmetic, will hear of a good situation by immediate application at this office. December 5 dt

ONE HUNDRED CASKS London refined Saltpetre, Are just received by the ship Mary, Captain Goodrich, and for sale by J. C. WHITE & SONS, East-street November 6 dt

Congress

OF THE United States of America.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, December 5.

The articles of impeachment against Judge Chase were brought in enrolled.

Mr. Crowningshield, from the committee of commerce and manufactures, stated the necessity of making some provision for carrying into execution the 10th article of the Spanish treaty, which related to vessels forced into the ports of the United States by stress of weather, providing for the remission of duties upon their entry and that they may reload their cargoes on other bottoms to foreign ports without being subjected to duties; whereupon it was ordered that the committee have leave to report a bill on this subject.

The house resumed the unfinished business of yesterday, viz. the appointment of managers to conduct the impeachment of Samuel Chase, one of the associate justices of the United States, and having directed that the number should consist of seven, the House proceeded to ballot for the same, and upon examining the ballots the following six members were elected having a majority of the whole number of votes, viz.

- Mr. J. Randolph,
- Mr. Rodie,
- Mr. Nicholson,
- Mr. Early,
- Mr. Boyle, and
- Mr. Nelson.

The House then proceeded to ballot for the seventh manager, and it appearing that Mr. G. W. CAMPBELL had the plurality of votes given in, but not a majority.

Mr. Speaker, supposing that the rule of the House in the case of committees chosen by ballot was applicable to that of managers, desired Mr. G. W. CAMPBELL to be sworn.

A conversation arose respecting the precedents on this subject, in which it was apparent that on all former occasions a majority of the votes had been given in favor of each manager; but this appeared to be the outcome of the impeachment of Judge Pickens rather than from the resolution of gentlemen who spoke on the subject from the Journal. Mr. S. also did not recollect how the election was conducted, but he should not be retained an appeal to the House on his decision.

Mr. J. Randolph impressed with respect for the sentiments of the understanding and integrity of the Speaker, would be the last man to appeal from his decision, but for the purpose of preventing what either had heretofore taken place or what may hereafter take place, in cases of such decisions involving the House or individual members in very unpleasant situations, he would move an appeal to the House from the decision of the chair.

The question was immediately taken, and twenty five voted in favor of the Speaker's decision, fifty voted against it, of consequence the decision was reversed.

And the house proceeded to ballot a third time, but no member had a majority.

At a fourth ballot the result was the same.

On the fifth ballot Mr. G. W. Campbell had a majority, and was declared to be duly elected.

On motion of Mr. Nicholson it was Resolved, That the articles agreed to by this house to be exhibited in the name of the United States, against Samuel Chase in maintenance of their impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors, be carried to the Senate by the managers appointed to conduct the said impeachment.

It was also resolved, That a message be sent to the Senate to inform them, that this house have appointed managers to conduct the impeachment against Samuel Chase, and have directed the said managers to carry to the Senate the articles agreed upon by the house, to be exhibited in maintenance of their impeachment against the said Samuel Chase. And that the clerk do go with the said message.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, December 6.

Mr. Speaker laid before the house a letter from the governor of Virginia, including documents relative to the election of Alexander Wilson to a seat in the house—Referred to the committee of elections.

Mr. J. Clay presented the petition of Stephen Kingston, praying he may receive the drawback on goods shipped from Philadelphia, but which were not put on board the George Washington until she had passed the Delaware line in the year 1801.

Referred to the committee of Commerce and Manufactures, to enquire into the claims barred by the statute of limitation.

Mr. Claiborne from the committee appointed, presented a bill making further provision for the payment of the debts due by the United States—Referred to the committee of the whole on Monday next.

Mr. Nelson from the committee appointed on S. Carlon's petition reported in favor of allowing his application, and

recommended that a bill be brought in for that purpose—Referred to the same committee.

A message from the president informed that he had approved and signed the bill making further appropriation for the contingent fund, and made them also a communication in writing, including the report of the Superintendent of the public buildings at Washington.

The house went into committee of the whole on the bill for preserving peace in our ports and harbors and waters under the United States.

Mr. Dawson in the chair. After some time spent in debating and amending the same, the committee rose, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

NEW-YORK, December 6.

Captain Burgess, who arrived at Salem a few days since from Malaga, says, it was there computed, that the terrible disorder which ravaged that city had destroyed two-thirds of the inhabitants who had not fled into the country. This if too large a calculation, will still show that it is most destructive.

Of the two persons whom captain Burgess lost by the Malaga fever, one was a John West, about 30 years of age a native of Bremen, but 10 years past a resident in America, and had formerly sailed out of Baltimore. He informed captain B. that he was carpenter of one of the U. S. vessels, which destroyed the frigate Philadelphia, and was engaged in that desperate enterprise. He described the access to the town of Trinidad as very difficult on account of the shoals or floats, without passing under the guns of heavy batteries and was therefore very apprehensive that commander B. would not be able to produce any considerable effect in attacking the place.

Dugan, a renegade, at Tortosa, and Clark, an associate of his at St. Kitts, who under pretence of the blockade of the French islands, had fitted out privateers for the express purpose of capturing American vessels, have relinquished business and absconded, the trade having become unprofitable since the English took off the blockade.

PHILADELPHIA, December 6.

On Tuesday the legislature of this commonwealth convened at Lancaster; a quorum of both houses was formed at an early hour. The first business which occupied the attention of the legislature, of course, related to the state of the board of electors of president and vice president of U. S.

Gen Montgomery, one of the electors, informed the legislature, through his son, who had been deputed for the purpose, that indisposition would prevent his attendance at the electoral board; in consequence, it was moved to supply the vacancy by appointing Gen Montgomery's son which was agreed to, and the necessary powers given to that gentleman to exercise the duties of an elector.

On Wednesday morning, the electors having assembled, according to law, proceeded to form their board, when Charles Thompson, Esq. was chosen chairman. The necessary arrangements having been made, the votes of the electors were delivered—we understand that there were 20 votes for Thomas Jefferson as president, and twenty votes for George Clinton as vice president, the board being unanimous.

It was next suggested that it would be expedient to appoint some person to be the bearer of the return of the election to the seat of the general government. Col. Robert McMiller, and Gen Francis Swaine, two of the board of electors were nominated—the question, which of the two gentlemen should be the bearer of the return, was determined by ballot—Col. McMiller had 12 and Gen Swaine 6 votes; the former was of consequence deputed.

We have not been able to present our readers with details: in a day or two, however, we shall have a complete statement.

The legislature had not sufficiently organized itself on Wednesday to be ready to receive the communication of the governor—but we understand it was to have been made yesterday.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of respectability Alicant, 18th September 1804.

"SIR, It is now about three weeks since the appearance of some slight bilious fevers was observed at this place; it has not only become more general but has taken the appearance of the contagious yellow fever; it is not however highly malignant, the greatest number of attacks having been eleven in one day, and of one hundred infected persons, from eighty to ninety recovered."

Governor's Address.

LANCASTER, December 7.

Yesterday at noon, his excellency the governor of Pennsylvania delivered in the chamber of the house of representatives, the following ADDRESS, to both branches of the legislature.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and Gentlemen of the house of representatives.

The constitution of the state, by directing an annual session of the legislature, recognizes the policy of frequent enquiries into the operation of the existing system of our laws, and into the means suggested by experience for promoting the welfare of the community. It is our lot however, under the auspices of a beneficent Provi-

DENCE, to find, that, whether we view what has been done, or consider what remains to do, there is little to lament in the past or to apprehend for the future. As a member of the Union, Pennsylvania eminently participates in the estimation which the American character has attained abroad, and in the prosperity which the national government has produced at home. As a distinct commonwealth, her institutions offer ample encouragement to virtue and industry; afford perfect security to person and property; exact from her magistrates the essential qualifications of probity and wisdom; and confer upon her citizens the inestimable blessings of liberty and order: This scene, the practical development of the principles of our revolution, every republican must contemplate with gratitude and delight; every patriot will be solicitous to preserve and perpetuate.

The successful labors of your predecessors having thus gentlemen, engaged the subjects, and diminished the cares of legislation, it is our left arduous though important task to perform with vigilance, prudence and fortitude, the palladium of our political and social happiness. The necessities of an expanding population, the varying influence of external commerce, the gradual augmentation of internal wealth, and, in short, the inevitable vicissitudes of human affairs, will forever claim from the guardians of the public weal a pure and zealous attention.—The good works of our ancestors should not be suffered to moulder into decay. The imperfections of our legal code should be amended with a respectful though steady hand. The charms of novelty should not be permitted so far to fascinate as to give to mere innovation the semblance of reform.—And in transacting the business of ages, in framing laws for posterity as well as for ourselves, we disregard the precepts of wisdom, interest and honor, unless we diminish the defultory passions and prejudices of the day.

Under just impressions of public duty I am confident, gentlemen you are now assembled, and, in obedience to a constitutional injunction, proceeded to communicate more particularly such information of the state of the commonwealth as appears to merit a place in your deliberations.

The affliction to which Philadelphia has been repeatedly exposed, naturally excited a sympathizing interest at the opening of every legislative session for several years; and therefore, I derive peculiar pleasure from the present opportunity to announce that the health of our commercial capital has been uninterrupted by any pestilential calamity during the late summer and autumn.—The circumspection and firmness of the board of health have undoubtedly contributed, in a great degree, to prevent, and to retard the approaches of disease; and the plans of the board, which are still in operation, will, it is hoped, justify at a period not very distant (at least as long as the wars of the nations with whom we trade shall terminate) a relaxation in the rigor of the existing law of quarantine. In the mean time a prompt and uniform acquiescence in its provisions, but to necessary, a restraint upon commerce, affords an additional proof of the public spirit of our merchants.

The commission, which issued under the authority of an act of the general assembly, to settle the claims of property and commutation within the seventeen townships of Luzerne county, will soon be brought to a fair, a satisfactory and a salutary conclusion. The reasons which led to that conciliatory course of proceeding do not, however, exist in the case of the lawless attempts throughout the neighboring country under a spurious title, to seize the soil, and brave the authority of the state. It has been intimated, that a returning sense of honesty and duty promises to supersede the obligation of enforcing, in that quarter, obedience to the law by the power of the government; but, if this hope is not speedily realized I shall again press the subject upon your attention, least a longer forbearance should be deemed a dir-lection of the right, or an acknowledgment of the imbecility of the commonwealth.

During your recess I have transferred the sum of three hundred thousand dollars of the six per cent. stock of the United States, the property of this state, to the Philadelphia Bank, in conformity to the act of the fifth of March last. Fifteen field pieces of brass have been purchased for the Militia; and generally, the duties devolved upon the Executive Magistrate, by acts of the legislature, have been punctually performed. A communication from the Governor of Massachusetts, transmitting a legislative proposition for an amendment to the constitution of the U. States; and a communication from the Governor of the State of Kentucky, relative to the improvement of the navigation of the river Ohio have been received by me, and will be presented for your consideration.

There are many other subjects upon the journals of the two houses that will undoubtedly engage your attention; but it is incumbent on me to treat the most favorable interposition of your authority for those cardinal institutions (I mean the courts and the militia) from which principally result the happiness and the independence of the people. It is impossible to add to the sense, or to my former declarations of the sense that I feel of the necessity to invigorate the administration of justice by a radical change in the organization of the county courts; by an immediate augmentation of the number of the judges of the supreme court and by a con-