

process in the case of the *Patty* would make a volume larger than Coke upon Littleton.

Having mentioned some of the effects of the Spanish colonial laws, as they operate upon strangers in this island, I shall, in a few words as possible, notice the magistrates whose duty it is to execute them.

Don Toribio de Montes, Knight of Santiago, &c. &c. at present Governor Intendant and Captain General of Porto Rico, with whom, as I have already observed, every legal process must originate, is a man whose intentions are, I believe, always good; who wishes to do right in all cases; but unfortunately, he has hitherto been surrounded by a set of men, who with very few exceptions, are utterly unworthy of his confidence; who abuse the trust reposed in them, in other respects, and seem to consider it as a part of their duty, and as a privilege of their office, to deceive and lead him astray. He appears either to want resolution to cast them off, or penetration to discover their real characters; and has consequently, the air of being insensible to the injury they are likely to do to him, should he long continue to support their arts with his authority. I believe I may safely say that there is but one truly worthy person among the whole collection of those who fill the civil departments; that is, only one who has proved himself really honest. The Governor has the power of deciding in whatever may come before him; but as this would be incurring considerable responsibility, it is what General Montes very rarely does, and in no case within my view has done. His manner is to refer to the Auditor of War or of Marine, or sometimes to the party, who, as observed replies, by another petition, which with the first is handed over to one or other of the judges; upon whose decision he possesses the right of imposing his negative. This right is in the cases of the *Polly* and the *Mary-Ann*, he will exercise when the necessity is apparent; and it is only to be regretted that he has not more frequently manifested his prerogative; for I am well persuaded that were the meanings of his heart seconded by a sound and acutely discerning judgment, injustice would not with so much reason be charged against his government.

Montes came to the administration of the affairs of this colony when they were very much deranged by the malversation of the former governor, Don Ramon de Castro whose imbecility and venality were coequal. The finances were in utter disorder; and the recommencement of hostilities, by preventing the receipt of the expected and necessary supplies of money, has contributed to the continuance of the embarrassments in which he found himself and forced him into measures which he would not otherwise have adopted. The exchequer of the intendency is exhausted, the troops are neither fully paid nor fully watched, for want of the means; there is now owing to them half pay for four years. This absolute want of money, and the urgent necessity of deriving it from some source or other, was the true motive of opening the ports of the island to foreign vessels; from the duties on whose cargoes was hoped the only supply that could be obtained without forced contributions. To the same source may also be traced, in a considerable degree, the tardy and oppressive operations of the tribunals in prize causes. When a prize is brought into port, the first motion of the captor is to petition that the cargo may be sold; and as the king wants money, this petition (provided the captor is a Spaniard) is readily granted; because, when sold, the proceeds go into the Royal Treasury, and remain there until the final decision on the appeal, should any be made. In the meantime, His Majesty having the benefit of the cash his representatives are seldom in haste to take it out of his hands.

The next person of consequence in the administration of justice is the Auditor of War; who has the right of passing judgment on all subjects, not relating to the department of marine, upon which the governor does not assume the previous right of deciding in virtue of his prerogative; to this judge there also lies an appeal from the marine tribunal in particular cases. Don Francisco Diaz Yngoanzo, who fills this important office at present, is a man well advanced in years, and may be regarded as a kind of wonder or phenomenon, inasmuch as there never has been alleged against him a single culpable action; nor has it ever been said that any decree of his bore the slightest tincture of corruption. Indeed, he is supposed to be that strange animal, a man above all price. He is retired, and some what harsh in his manners, though he wishes to seem polite; in his judicial proceedings he is regular; and is said to be well read both as a scholar and a lawyer; but however profound & erudite he may be, it is certain that he is not gifted with quickness of perception, or vivacity of intellect; things which perhaps can be better dispensed with in a judge than in any other public character; as it is not so requisite for him to see things instantaneously, as to see them correctly. Don Francisco Diap, is slow in his judgments, but when they are pronounced you see in them the result of a reasoning and pure mind, anxious alone to know and confirm the mandates of truth. The only failing which I know him to have, is a species of antipathy against foreigners, more especially Frenchmen, whom he cordially dislikes; and against whom, I believe partly through his suggestion, a decree

banishment from the island was some time ago pronounced and partly executed. I cannot much censure the decree; for what reason has a Spaniard to like, but how many has he to make him hate; a Frenchman! Besides, the majority of French here are even worse than the Spaniards themselves—are idle, insolent, and as far as they dare be turbulent; they are in very few instances men of respectable characters; and most of them in the last war, and many of them in the present, having no other occupation than that of privateering. Therefore, although the French cry out against Yngoanzo, and abuse him, so long as I know this decree to be the only cause, I cannot join my voice to theirs, nor can I rank this among the crimes of that respectable and upright magistrate.

(To be continued.)

PHILADELPHIA, March 3.

On Saturday last, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock, A. M. a Fire was discovered in a building contiguous and belonging to the Brewery of Messrs. ROBERT HARE and SON, in Calowhill-street near Front-street; when the information was conveyed to the interior of the city—(which was not for a considerable time—an additional proof of the necessity of Alarm Bells) the Engine and Hose Company repaired to the place of conflagration with their usual alacrity, and notwithstanding the wind was remarkably strong from the North West, no other injury was sustained than the destruction of the contents of the upper story and roof of the building in which it originated.

American.

COMMERCIAL DAILY ADVERTISER.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 1806

The following comprehensive paragraph of important news, looks something like the late English bulletins of French disasters—and it will be recollected, Col. bet termed them, mere "heresy" articles!

The following is given, by a gentleman who arrived yesterday in 18 days from St. Kitts, as a summary of intelligence which he himself read (before he left St. Kitts) in a London paper of the 23d December. It differs very little from an article published in the Commercial Advertiser of Thursday, under the Basseterre head of Feb. 4th.

(N. Y. Com. Adv.) "General Craig from Malta, with about 6000 British troops and 30,000 Russians from Corfu, landed on the Venetian territory, and turned the right wing of Massena's army, who was pursuing the Archduke Charles; a bloody battle ensued, the French were defeated and Massena killed. Two Russian armies, amounting to 160,000 men, joined the Emperor of Germany near Olmutz. Bonaparte whose army were in great want of supplies, was retreating in the greatest confusion.—The King of Prussia has marched a large army into Franconia.—And, a considerable Prussian force had joined the British army in the Electorate of Hanover."

A bill has passed both houses of the Legislature of this state, extending the charter of the Philadelphia Bank ten years beyond the original period, and authorising the Governor to subscribe, on the part of the state, for stock in said bank to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars. (Lancaster Journal.)

Our readers must have noticed, for some time past, strong animadversions in several of the public prints, on the conduct of General Armstrong, our Minister in France, in the case of the New-Jersey; which has likewise produced a remonstrance to the President from the Insurance Company of New York. Of the communication of this remonstrance, Dr. Mitchell, of the Senate of the U. States, was some time since made the organ. An answer was made through him at an early day, by the President, expressive of confidence in the integrity of our Minister, and intimating that as soon as information had been received of the opinion ascribed to him, a letter disapproving it had been written to him, the reply to which, it was expected, would comprize the necessary explanations. The President added that having no doubt of the right of insurers to stand in the place of the insured, that right would be asserted and maintained on every proper occasion.

An explanatory letter having been since received from General Armstrong, and communicated to Dr. Mitchell, is now published, with the view of elucidating a subject which has excited so much sensation among mercantile men.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Armstrong, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, to the Secretary of State, dated Paris, November 26, 1805.

"I had the honor, within the last week, of receiving your letter of the 25th of August, expressing the solicitude of the parties interested in the ship New-Jersey and cargo, 'least their claim should be rejected on the idea, that the rights of the insured did not pass to the insurers;' and communicating also the opinion of the President, that 'Ameri-

can underwriters who had paid the loss to the original owners, citizens of the U. S. were entitled to the benefits of the treaty of 1803."

In my next dispatches I shall furnish you with documents from which you will see, that the difficulties in this case, have in no stage of it, arisen from the cause to which they have been ascribed; that its admission by the American Board was long suspended under col. Mercet's objections, "no evidence had been produced of the insolvency of the captors," that its rejection, by the council general of liquidation proceeded from the belief, that "the ship and cargo were partially, or altogether, British property; and from certain other causes"—and that when this belief concerning the national character of the property was done away by production of certain policies of insurance, which had been effected in different parts of the United States, (but which till then had been carefully kept out of sight) the claim so far from being opposed on the principle that "the rights of the insured did not vest in the insurers," or indeed on any other principle, was on my suggestion sent back to the council, relieved from the first and apparently the principal objection, and left the subject only to the "other causes" mentioned in the rejecting arrêté of the 28th of Frumaire. These "other causes" are fully exhibited in the report of the Director of the 4th division, dated on the 15th Germinal, and may be digested into the following heads.

1st. That the judgement of the 17th Prairial, year 6 pronouncing the confiscation of the New-Jersey and cargo, is still subsisting, inasmuch as it has not been annulled by the decree of the council of prizes, which directs only, the restitution of the sum deposited by the owner with Gen. Hecouville.

2d. That the claimants having neglected to prosecute their appeal within six years after the capture, were precluded, by the laws of France, from a right of appealing.

3d. That the New-Jersey not having a role d'equipage, as provided by the treaty of 1778, was excluded from the provisions of the 4th article of the treaty of 1800.

4th. That the captain and agent of the privateer not having been heard in their defence, nor even summoned to appear before the tribunal, the decree of the council of prizes was illegal.

5th. That no evidence having been produced of the abandonment of the ship and cargo to the underwriters, and the agents having even denied the right of either government to question them with regard to an abandonment of the property, and having besides acknowledged that the original owners, or a part of them, had acquired the New-Jersey by a new title; by yielding to the underwriters, "un droit convenable de reprise dans le depot," it may be fairly inferred, that the loss never was paid by the insurers, and that receipts (which by the way do not correspond in number with the policies) are merely fictitious, and,

6th. That were it in proof that the owners had abandoned, and that the underwriters had paid, still the limit of the latter could not be admitted, inasmuch as it could not now be liquidated under the rules prescribed by the treaty—the American commission having no longer an existence.

You will readily perceive that in all this there is not a single syllable pointed at the rights of insurers, who have paid the loss of the original owners. It only remains for me, therefore, to shew, that in no other act either of the Council or of Mr. Marbois and myself, was the broad principle which has given so much alarm to our underwriting citizens, or even the qualified one to be found in the President's opinion, adapted or applied to the case of the New-Jersey. The report of which I have already given you the substance, not having been agreed to by all the members of the council, and the liquidator general not choosing to decide the difference, transmitted the case a second time to the treasury, with a wish that Mr. Marbois and myself might determine it. We complied with this wish—we did determine it, and admitted it for its full proportion of the marginal fund. It is true that Mr. Marbois and I differed somewhat concerning this proportion. He would have given 333,000 francs whereas I thought that 300,000 were quite as many as fell to its share; & that you will think as I did, I have no doubt when I inform you, what there are claims amounting to more than three millions, as sound in point of principle, less objectionable in point of form, and better recommended by the pecuniary circumstances of the claimants, for which I have not yet got a single sou."

From the Louisiana (N. Orleans) Gaz. MILITARY ASSOCIATION.

The critical situation of our foreign relations, at the present moment, had induced many of our fellow-citizens to form themselves into a military association. Several papers of which the following is a copy, are now in circulation, and which we doubt not will be very generally signed.

Whereas the existing state of our public affairs leads to an apprehension, of our being drawn into a war with some foreign power; we the subscribers, not now members of any military corps, do solemnly agree to form ourselves into a military association, for the purpose of learning the use of arms, and of being at all times ready when called upon by the constituted authorities, to support the government of the U. States and to defend ourselves, liberty and property."

Important Discovery.

The ship Ocean, which was launched at Woolwich last October, is built on a very peculiar construction, namely, the total extinction of knees, which not only

gives a great deal of room between decks, but relieves the ship of near sixty tons weight of timber, and what is most extraordinary, we are given to understand the ship is much stronger than any of those built upon the ordinary principle.

The above improvement (for which His Majesty has granted his letters patent) is the invention of Mr. Dundas, of Newcastle. It is intended by government to adopt the plan very generally, nor is it to be doubted that it will be adopted in the merchant service, as it will not only make room for stowage, but save in the building of a 400 ton ship at least 500l.

(London paper.)

Port of Baltimore.

ENTERED, Norfolk
Schr. Lively, Smith, Norfolk
CLEARED, Havana
Brig Alliance, Martin, Martinique
Schr. Ohio, Wheeler, New Orleans
President, Ulrich,

An error occurred in the signature of Mr. Hunt's advertisement in yesterday's American. Instead of T. W. Hunt, it should have been T. H. Hunt.

First rate Potatoes

FOR seedling, for sale at the Hanseatic Hotel, by MORNEWECK & CO. co4t
March 5

SAIT.

NINE hundred bushels of clean, white Exuma SALT, suitable for the fisheries, for sale—Apply to FRANCIS JOHONNOT. det
March 5

Red Clover Seed

A large supply of RED CLOVER SEED, of superior quality, just received and for sale at the GROCERY STORE of GERARD & Wm. HOPKINS, 1, County wharf. co
3d mo. 5.

GREEN COFFEE.

William & Hu. Neilson, No. 3, O'Donnell's wharf. OFFER for sale, 90,000 wt. Green COFFEE, suitable for retailing. ON HAND, Wool and Cotton Cards, Codfish in boxes, Russia and American Cordage, and A quantity of superior quality Port Wine in bottles. co8t
March 5

For Hamburg.

(Will sail on the 9th of March.) The Ship FRIENDS H.I.P. CAPTAIN PETER PASCAL. A small quantity of goods will be taken on moderate freight, if applied for in time, to JAMES BLAYS, or D. L. THOMAS, Broker; No. 25, Commerce, corner of Pratt-street. d
March 5

For Sale,

The new, elegant and superior built ship WHAMPOA, Burthen 356 71-95 tons, copper fastened to her bends, has elegant accommodations, and it is believed she will be one of the fastest sailing vessels belonging to this port. For terms of sale apply to OLIVER COCK, 15, Peck-slip. New-York, March 5. 2w

Notice.

AN Election for thirteen Directors of the Union Insurance Company of Maryland, will be held at the office of the Company, on MONDAY, the 31st instant, from 9 to 12 o'clock, agreeably to the charter of said Company. The transfer books will be closed from the 10th instant to the 1st April. By order of the Board. HENRY COUTENAY, Secretary. co1stA
March 5

Lost,

DURING the fire in the office of the Telegraph, &c. or in removal, a bound FILE of the TELEGRAPHE, commencing January 1, 1804, and extending to the 30th day of June in said year—As it is of particular utility to the subscriber, he will give a suitable reward on its being returned to his office, No. 164, Baltimore-street. THOMAS DOBBIN. d4t
March 5

To be Let,

THE dwelling part of a HOUSE, No. 244, Baltimore-street, well calculated for the accommodation of boarders.—The greatest part of the rent may be paid, by boarding one or two gentlemen. For terms apply to SMITH & STEENE. 2aw6tV5
March 5

10 Dollars Reward.

RAN-AWAY on Sunday last, an apprentice boy, by the name of THOMAS MERRIDITH, a stout made, dark complexion, and brown hair. He had on when he went away a blue coat and striped olive fancy-cord pantaloons, his inside jacket of a green and yellow. The above reward and all reasonable charges paid if brought home. GEO. HUDSON, Ruxton Lane. d4t
March 5

5 Dol'ars Reward.

RAN-AWAY with the above described boy, my apprentice lad, named PEREGRINE ELLIOTT, about 19 years of age, 5 feet 11 inches high—had on a long blue cloth coat, white vest, olive velvet pantaloons, and a white hat pretty much worn. The above reward and all charges will be paid if brought home to VALENTINE SHALLY. Masters of vessels and others are forewarned harboring or carrying off said boys at their peril. d4t
March 5

A Watch was Found

ON Fell's-Point, on Saturday last. The owner may get it again on proving property, and paying charges, on application at this office. March 4 d4t

Sale by Auction. TO-MORROW MORNING, The 6th inst. at 10 o'clock, at the Vendue Warehouse, corner of Second & Frederick-streets, will commence the sale of DRY GOODS, PLATED WARE, &c. d4t

30 blis. } Mustard SUGAR
35 barrels }
40 boxes }
27 blis. }
14 pps }
200 }
60 boxes }
8 pps }
A few quarter chests young Hyson Tea, of the Parisian's cargo
4 quarter chests gun-powder E & B
30 blis }
500 Grind Stones of various sizes, in lots of 50 each
MARCH 5
THOMAS CHASE, Auc'r.

The Subscriber

INTENDING to remove to the Western Country, offers for sale, the following PROPERTY, viz: The Farm he now resides on, containing seventy-one acres, there is a comfortable Dwelling House, Kitchen, Stabling and a young Orchard of about 130 Apple Trees best of other Fruit Trees, and a large nursery of Apple and Pear Trees; also about 12 or 15 acres in Grass, and more may be made at a small expense, with a proportional share of Wood Land. This place is within six miles and a half of Baltimore, and extends at one part to the old Harford road near Mr. Fisher's tavern. Also, a tract 115 acres adjoining Major M'hes, on same road, 8 miles from Baltimore. Also, a Lot 6 miles from Baltimore on same road, containing 3 acres, with a two Log Dwelling, House, Kitchen, Garden, and the Lot enclosed; there is on the above Farms excellent never-failing Springs of water. A credit will be given for one half the purchase money, and an indisputable title will be given, guaranteed by government. Apply to WILLIAM SCHARF. W. Law 44t
March 5.

PEAS.

550 bushels of BLACK-EYED PEAS put up in barrels, in shipping order, for sale by the subscriber; who continues to furnish country merchants and others with GROCERIES, on moderate terms. WM. HASLETT, No. 14, Chesapside. d4t
February 17.

A FEW BOXES, for sale by

WM. VANCE, Broker, Who has on Hand, Havana and St. Jago SEGARS. d4t
March 4.

Dividend and Dinner.

Maryland Insurance Office, MARCH 4, 1806. THE STOCKHOLDERS in the Maryland Insurance Company are hereby informed, that the Directors have this day declared a Dividend of Fifty Thousand Dollars, being one hundred dollars on each share of Stock, and that the same will be paid to them or their legal representatives, on or after the 20th inst. Thursday. The Dinner will be at Evans's the same day. By order of the Directors. JOHN HOLLINS, President. d4t
March 4

New Rope-Store

ON FELL'S POINT. THE Subscriber has just opened on Mr. Waters's wharf, and adjoining his counting-room, a ROPE-STORE, where he offers for sale cordage of the first quality, manufactured only of Russia Hemp, at his rope-walk, near this city. Mr. J. Starr, who has long been in this line of business will, with the subscriber, pay punctual attendance to the completion of those orders that are left. Particular attendance shall be paid to furnish the best Cordage, and keeping up at all times, a complete assortment of the different sizes. To render it still more convenient for those who will favor him with their orders, he still continues to keep up a very general assortment, at his warehouse, No. 88, Bowly's wharf. JAMES PIPER. d4t
March 4

W. L. & I. Barney

HAVE imported in the brig Paragon, from Leghorn, Marbled and White Soap, Sweet Oil in Flasks and Bottles, Capers, Olives, Anchovies, Smyrna Figs, Saffron, Filberts, Leghorn Halls, and Bristone in Rots. d
March 3

For Sale,

JUST arrived from Newburyport, in the schooner John, William Davis, master, and now lying at Bowly's wharf, New England Rum, in barrels, Molasses, in blids, and tierces, Beef Mena, in barrels and half barrels, Ditto No. 1, Dried Cod Fish, Clover and Timothy Seed, Cider and Potatoes, Mould and Kipt Candles, Saffron, in blids, Shoes and Boots, Cheese, Rounds of Beef, spiced, Sail Cloth and Sheetting, Cherry Bounce, n barrels, 2 boxes & Hats.—Apply to the Master on board. February 28. co4t

To Merchants.

A PERSON well acquainted with commerce in general, and capable of keeping books, and corresponding in the German, Italian, French and English languages, is willing to engage with any merchant requiring such a person, as a Book-keeper, or to go as supercargo to Europe, the East or West Indies.—Satisfactory proofs can be given as to abilities and integrity. Letters addressed to A. B. and left at No. 12, Harrison-street will be immediately attended to. February 24. co4t

Elias Glenn

ATTORNEY AT LAW, HAS opened his Office in Second-street, in the next house but one to South-street, and adjoining the dwelling of Mr. Jacob Rogers, (H. tter.) February 17. law4t