

The COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE, for NOVEMBER, 1786.

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The Early American Magazine Jared Gardner

The first “American” magazine was published in 1741, when Philadelphia publisher Andrew Bradford’s *American Magazine* beat Benjamin Franklin’s *General Magazine* to press by three days. For both Bradford and Franklin, the ambition was to create a colonial version of the first English-language magazine, the *Gentleman’s Magazine*, established in London ten years earlier. But where the *Gentleman’s Magazine* would last for almost two centuries, neither of these first two American magazines would survive more than a few issues.

When the *Columbian Magazine* was founded more than a half-century later by partners Mathew Carey, Charles Cist, William Spotswood, Thomas Seddon, and John Trenchard, the prospects for a new American magazine had not improved greatly. The colonial period had seen numerous magazines, the vast majority of which lasted only a few issues. The Revolutionary period had brought a new urgency to the project to found an American magazine, and the short-lived but influential success of Isaiah Thomas’s *Royal American Magazine* (1774-1775) and Robert Aitken’s *Pennsylvania Magazine* (1775-76) sparked a renewed interest in the form and its possibilities. Nonetheless it would not be until several years after the Revolution that the first truly successful magazines would emerge on the scene.

The *Columbian Magazine* led the way, publishing its first issue in September of 1786 and surviving until 1792, a previously unimaginable run for an American periodical. Despite this remarkable record, however, the magazine struggled to stay afloat almost from the start. Problems began shortly after the issue we have before us here, when the printer Mathew Carey left the magazine to found a rival publication,

The American Museum (1787-92). Without Carey's guiding energy, management of the *Columbian* would pass through a variety of controlling hands, first Spotswood (1787-88), then Trenchard (1789-90), and finally to William Young, who purchased the magazine in 1790 and operated it until its end. Similarly, the editorial work of the magazine passed through many hands, including the original proprietors, Francis Hopkinson, James Dallas, and a "society of gentlemen" in Philadelphia, who almost certainly included the prominent Philadelphia doctor Benjamin Rush among their number.

Several important magazines would follow in the final years of the eighteenth century, including Carey's *American Museum*, Isaiah Thomas's *Massachusetts Magazine* (1789-96), and *The New-York Magazine* (1790-97). In all cases they owed much in terms of both inspiration and aspirations to the *Columbian Magazine*, the first periodical in the new nation to aspire to be a truly *national* magazine. And in all cases, they learned quickly (if they did not already know it at the outset) what the *Columbian*'s publishers learned during their first year: that "success" would never be measured in terms "satisfactory to persons in business." This is how Spotswood put it in a somewhat despondent letter to Jeremy Belknap in early 1788, describing the "considerable loss" incurred by the first volume despite its unprecedented subscriber list (as many as 1,500 by one early account).

My research into the magazines of the early republic began with a seemingly simple question: what, exactly, motivated so many fiercely practical "persons in business" to devote energy and capital to magazines that brought with them, as Noah Webster put it in his own *American Magazine* in 1788, "the expectation of *failure*." In *The Rise and Fall of Early American Magazine Culture* I offered some potential answers to that question, but in the end some of it remains by definition beyond accounting. Towards the end of his long career, Mathew Carey described in detail the frustrations, the financial losses and the physical burdens of publishing a magazine; but he also acknowledged that he remained to the end "much attached to the work, and had a great reluctance to abandon it, unproductive and vexatious as was the management of it."

It is important, therefore, to keep in mind that the *Columbian Magazine* was not dedicated to short-term profits but to the approbation of posterity and the education of the young Americans of the present. Unlike the ephemeral newspaper or the sensational novel, the early magazine sought to provide something of value for everyone in the family, while at the same time preserving the important papers and debates of the moment for the future. And what that future would look like was never more uncertain than in the fall of 1786.

The Revolution was three years over, but the failure the Articles of Confederacy had proved how much there still was to accomplish if this new nation—

this unprecedented experiment— was to survive. The editors of and contributors to the magazine of the early republic saw themselves as shoring up the foundations of the new nation. In their more despairing moments, they also understood themselves to be gathering the sentiments, hopes and accomplishments of the present in a time-capsule in the event the experiment proved a failure, so that future generations might learn from their aspirations and their failures.

Readers of *Just Teach One* are already aware of one of the *Columbian Magazine*'s most unique features: its commitment to publishing fiction at a time when many magazines explicitly positioned themselves against the novel and imaginative fiction in general. *Amelia; or the Faithless Briton*, a potential candidate for “first American novel,” was originally published in two serial installments in the magazine in 1787. Jeremy Belknap's allegorical novel, *The Foresters*, another candidate, was serialized in the magazine in incomplete form between 1787 and 1788. America's first professional novelist, Charles Brockden Brown, began his career at the magazine in 1789, at the age of eighteen, with his first periodical series, “The Rhapsodist.”

However those coming to this, the third issue of the *Columbian Magazine* (one of the last produced in full by the founding proprietors), in search of original fiction will be disappointed. In fact, the experience of reading through an early American magazine is often at first somewhat disorienting for a modern reader, as the contents appear gathered at random. On closer inspection, however, we see how the apparent randomness of the magazine obscures the editorial hand. Indeed, this is the highest goal of these periodicals—modeling in their quiet but firm organization of the disparate elements a model of governance for a heterogeneous nation. The very motto for the new nation—*E pluribus unum*—adopted in 1782 had been borrowed from the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Even the 13 arrows clutched in the talon of the eagle mirrored the flowers clutched in the editorial hand in the title pages of that magazine. As the well-governed periodical goes, so goes the nation. Do not be fooled by the seemingly random and often playful contents assembled here: for the proprietors of the magazine the stakes could not have been higher.

Reading through the contents of our issue here, we see that the first four articles do share things in common. For one thing, they are all anonymous, as was the common practice on both sides of the Atlantic at the time. More specifically, they all discuss issues related to natural history: an account of ancient bones found near the Ohio River, a detailed description of the rattle snake, and articles about the American locust and the paddlefish. In fact, all describe fauna unique to the American continent, serving as a sampler of the natural inheritance of the new nation. Less obvious to a

modern reader (but instantly recognizable to one from the early national period), these articles also served as an articulate refutation to the influential French naturalist the Comte de Buffon, who had two decades earlier argued that in the New World the forces of nature were weaker and ultimately degenerative. From the 49-inch paddlefish to the immense dimensions of the ancient mastodon bones, Buffon's claims are disproved at every turn in the opening articles.

No sooner does this theme seem to emerge as an organizing principle for the magazine, however, than tone and topic shift dramatically with the next article, an account of largely satirical "phobias." While this essay was, like all the others, anonymous, we know today the correspondent to be Benjamin Rush. As a leading scientist of the period and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, his papers and writings would be collected and republished making such attribution possible, even as the vast majority of contributors to the early magazines remain forever anonymous. While Rush has been called the father of American psychiatry, here his interests are more humorous and chiding, describing, for example, "HOME PHOBIA" as the fear that drives men from the home to the tavern.

However, Rush's playful tone deflects, temporarily at least, more serious fears about fear itself, as we see in another essay a bit later in the issue dedicated to exploring "real and imaginary evils." As suggested earlier, this was an extremely anxious time for many, if not most, Americans. Just two months before this issue was published, delegates in Annapolis had called for a national convention to address the widely agreed-upon failings of the Articles of Confederation. It would not be until May of the following year that the Constitutional Convention would convene and not for more than a year after that, in June 1788, that the Constitution would be ratified by the required nine states. There were real and imagined evils everywhere in the early republic, and fears and phobias would increasingly divide the nation during the final decade of the eighteenth century.

Where the newspaper often sought to profit from the growing political divisions of the day by inflaming passions and attacking individual politicians in the opposition, the magazines studiously performed non-partisan citizenship, as modeled by the *Columbian Magazine*. The issue's extended meditations on fear and anxiety sought to diagnose and even cure the passions threatening the unity and resolve necessary for the new nation to weather the coming storms.

In addition to his contribution on "Phobias," Rush is also the author of at least two other articles in this issue: the history of Pennsylvania and "An Account of the Effects of the general Thaw." Such heavy reliance on Rush's pen reminds us of the paucity of contributors available to the early magazines. Repeatedly throughout the early periodicals the pleas for contributions from readers often outstrip the equally

urgent pleas for payment on subscriptions. The magazine was imagined as an engine for producing a native American literature, and readers were regularly encouraged to imagine themselves as partners in the periodical endeavor by writing in with their own essays, stories, and trivia. However, in an uncertain economic and political landscape, few had the leisure for authorship—especially an authorship that offered no hopes of fame or remuneration. So it is not surprising that so few were able to answer the call from editors to join in the work of collaborative production.

In fact, *more* surprising is that someone like Benjamin Rush—a man burdened with considerable responsibilities professional and political responsibilities—found the time and energy for such work. Several eighteenth-century editors found themselves tasked with not only compiling their magazine but writing much of it as well, as was the case for Noah Webster at his *American Magazine* (1787–88) or Brockden Brown at the *Monthly Magazine* (1799–1800). In the case of the *Columbian Magazine*, the editors at least had some outside help to draw on, including most notably Rush himself.

The challenges in securing contributors also help explain another feature of the early American magazine that might seem surprising to modern readers, given the public goals of producing an “American” literature. All of the fiction found in this issue was in fact reprinted or adapted from foreign sources, and all of it without attribution. When we recall that in 1786 there was still no novel by an American author, and that for the previous decade there had been virtually no local periodical outlets for original short fiction this lack of original fiction in the early issues of the magazine is less surprising. *Amelia* and *The Foresters* will follow soon, summoned forth by the magazine’s call to literary arms. But the reprinting of transatlantic materials will remain a common practice in the early magazine long after American writers begin to emerge on the scene in greater numbers (much to the consternation of local writers).

As you sit to read this magazine from almost 230 years ago, imagine yourself a young man or woman living in Philadelphia in 1786. You spent the Revolution in school, only dimly aware of the events roiling the landscape around you and transforming you from the British citizen you were born to the American citizenship you now assume. As you prepare to make your way in this new world, what comforts, pleasures and value might you find in this issue? Would you feel called upon to write in yourself, as the editors so desperately wished? What might you contribute?

THE COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE,

For NOVEMBER, 1786.

Description of BONES, &c. found near the RIVER OHIO.

EXPLORING the paths of nature, and tracing her thro' her numerous meanders, is certainly an occupation suited to intellectual beings, who cannot more gratefully acknowledge the blessing than by employing their faculties in contemplating the power and goodness of the Divine Giver, as exhibited in his works; nor has he only adapted, in a considerable degree, the mind of man to the task, but has likewise added a stimulus, by making many of our worldly enjoyments depend on an acquaintance with her; but were all other advantages wanting, there is one which would render the favour invaluable. Abstracted from the doctrine of revelation, which is as yet but partially believed by the world, the book of nature is the only record from which the existence, power, &c. of the Great Former and Governor of the universe can be deduced: contemplating the endless pages of this book, not only ultimately raises our

ideas to the Deity, but likewise has this superiority over all earthly enjoyments, that it never cloy; being, to us, boundless, and affording infinite variety.

The portion of the globe we inhabit, which was a few centuries since, in a manner a new creation to the eastern world, will doubtless supply naturalists with variety of curious and interesting objects, and afford an ample field for speculation and experiments, though little thereof has yet appeared; owing, I apprehend, to the following causes.—Not much more than the eastern border of the country has yet been inhabited by a civilized people; a border, probably, consisting in great part, of new lands, formed by alterations, in which few of the fossil productions of nature can be expected; nor have the other parts had fair play for exhibiting their curiosities, as little more than the surface has been examined, and that by persons attentive only to present subsistence, and future

provision for themselves and families, who, if chance laid any thing not conducive thereto, in their way, though ever so deserving of philosophic attention, passed it by unnoticed, as not affording any assistance to the principal objects; but the case has, for several years past, been beneficially altering, as easier circumstances have enabled some to make considerable advances towards inviting science to take up her residence among us. Nor can we doubt her compliance, if not wanting to ourselves; the means of acquiring knowledge daily improving, as well by the increase of people, which obliges many to resort to the countries from whence numerous subjects of admiration and contemplation may be expected, as by an increase of wealth flowing from an extensive commerce, which affords not only means of promoting liberal education, and of applying the abilities thereby acquired to the cultivation of science, but will likewise encourage and enable those favourites of nature, whom she has endowed with mental faculties sufficient to become their own instructors, and dispense with the assistance of preceptors to a more intense application.

Certainly the principal objects of our several literary societies for diffusing knowledge, are to foster and nourish the tender plants of science and natural knowledge in America, the fulfilling of which must not only promote the welfare of our country, but also redound to the honour of those who generously give their attention thereto. I have often enjoyed, by anticipation, the pleasure of contemplating the benefits that may be derived from their attention and labours; but a recent instance of inattention

makes me apprehensive, the full completion thereof is more distant than I expected, and has given me room to think that military and political considerations have not yet quitted that place in our minds necessity lately obliged them to occupy; but the cause being at an end, I hope the consequences will soon subside.¹

Though from causes already mentioned, America has not yet fully opened her treasure of natural curiosities, neither has she been entirely deficient; and the banks of the Ohio have exhibited specimens of petrifications, that have been thought worthy a place in some of the most famous museums in Europe, and occasioned a diversity of sentiments among philosophers; for though universal consent allows their origin to the animal kingdom, yet it is a controverted point to what species thereof; many circumstances have given room to deduce them from elephants, and other cogent arguments to support the contrary opinion. Dr. Hunter has embraced the latter and countenanced it by evidences exhibited in the fifth number of the 58th vol. of the Philosophical Transactions: if certainty can ever be obtained in this case, I apprehend it can be had only from a critical examination of various specimens, and these of different parts. An opportunity of assisting in this has lately been offered by an officer returned last summer from the western frontiers of this state, bringing a thigh bone, part of a jaw, with the grinders, and part of a tusk, all which have been, for several months, exposed to public view in the library of this city, which opportunity I expected would have been embraced by some well qualified person to have favoured the world with a description of, and

remarks on them; and I hoped such a piece would have been produced by some person better qualified; but am hitherto disappointed, and the removal of them into another, and less public room, making me apprehensive they would be forgotten or neglected, I have undertaken the task, though sorry it has fallen to my lot, as nothing more than a simple description can be expected, which might have been rendered more valuable by observations suggested by superior knowledge. Convinced that the eye can considerably assist the understanding, and remove doubts that may arise from words and typographical errors in figures, I requested Colonel De Brahm, to favour me with a drawing of them; and to render it as serviceable as possible, to do it from accurate measures, with which request he very readily and obligingly complied, and has laid them down by a scale of two inches to a foot, so that the representations are one-sixth of the size of the originals.

The length of the thigh bone from (a) to (b), Fig. I.² is 3 feet 8 ½ inches, breadth at (c d) 11 inches, at (e f) one foot, and at (i k) 7 ½ inches, but the diameter at right angles with this, but 4 inches; the side that appears here is much compressed, the other more prominent, the diameter of the head (g h) 7 inches, and its circumference 20 ⅛, the neck that unites it to the femur is short and much of the same thickness as the head; the transverse diameter of the condyle (l) 5 inches, and longitudinal 5 ¾, those of the condyle (m) 4 ⅛ and 4 ⅝, the weight of the whole 79 pounds; colour, a jet black, except in some places where the surface is damaged, which appear of a cinerous or light earth colour, with numerous small black spots.

Fig. II. Part of a tusk, length 2 feet 11 inches, greatest diameter 3 ¾ inches. The tooth, of which this is a part, was probably not much larger, as may be conjectured from the diameter of its thickest part, otherwise the whole must have been of an unusual length. The specimen under examination, has been much injured, but, I imagine, will be thought more valuable to a naturalist than in its perfect state, as its internal parts are thereby conspicuous, and its texture obvious. The whole consists of a number of conical cups, a little curved and inserted one into another, the internal ones 1, 2, 3, and 4, are very distinguishable from each other and from those which form the outward case, which is likewise composed of a series of cups to be distinguished by separations in a few places that appear like regular longitudinal cracks; the traverse crack (cd) renders the upper part separable from the lower, and exposes to view six inches of a cup inserted in the upper but adhering to the lower part, by its conical figure; the surface of the outer case appears fluted, the channels about half an inch broad, but not a line deep, and appear as if again fluted by a number of minute channels barely perceptible; in some places the enamel, well polished, still remains. At first view, I conceived this extraordinary texture, so different from the apparent one of ivory, was an additional argument in favour of Dr. Hunter's opinion; to remove all doubts as far as possible, I went to an ivory turner's³ and, with a glass that magnified considerably, examined several pieces of ivory, cut transversely, but could not perceive the least trace of sepa-

ration, such as might be expected from cups inserted one within another, till I saw some pieces thrown aside as useless, in which circular cracks, running regularly parallel to the circumference, appeared to the naked eye: these separations, the turner told me, were owing to the teeth having lain long soaking in water and exposed to the weather, which certainly must have been the case with the fossil tusk; consequently the matter appeared as dubious as before.

Fig. III. A grinder, separated from the jaw, in which I did not perceive any thing remarkable; except the covering of that part which was out of the socket, that appeared to me as an incrustation of sparry⁴ matter, from its grain. But Col. de Brahm, and others, were of opinion, it was only the ivory petrified; which is likely, as none of it spread over the fangs, which probably would have been the case had it been an incrustation. Its surface is very black; the inside white in some places, but dirty in others, as appears where a piece is broken off at (a); its thickness about two lines.

Major Craig, the gentleman who brought these fossils from the Ohio, says, there were others, of the same kind, much larger; and that he has seen thigh-bones full eight inches longer than that he brought.

Before I quit this subject, I beg leave to transcribe a passage in Dr. Hunter's paper, and make a remark thereon.

"If this animal was indeed carnivorous, which I believe cannot be doubted, though we may as philosophers regret it; as men, we cannot but thank Heaven that its whole generation is probably extinct."

This sentence, I apprehend, conveys an idea injurious to the Deity; who, at the creation, wanted neither foresight to discover how detrimental so powerful an enemy must prove to the human, as well as animal race, or benevolence to prevent the evil, without requiring or depending on experience. I believe our globe, and every part and particle thereof, came out of the hand of its Creator as perfect as he intended it should be, and will continue in exactly the same state (as to its inhabitants at least,) till its final dissolution. Particular species of animals may become extinct in some places, as wolves in the British Islands, but I cannot see any reason to suppose any, the minutest animalcule,⁵ even inferior to those discoverable by the microscope, has been, or ever will be, annihilated, before this heaven and earth are done away. I conceive, that wherever any species fails in a country it formerly inhabited, and that human agency, in the destruction thereof, is not apparent, we may attribute it to some unfavourable alteration in the climate, and scarcity of their accustomed food.

It may appear surprising, that those animal relicks in Siberia and America, are not found scattered over the face of the country, but deposited in particular places; but, I believe, this may be accounted for from the state in which they are found. We cannot doubt that bones, as well as other parts of animal bodies, are liable to decay, but, from their firmer texture, require more time; therefore we may reasonably conjecture, millions of such bones as those under consideration, have submitted to this general law, and that those now found would have suffered the same fate, had

not they fallen in places endued with petrifying qualities; which, by changing their osseous into a lapideous nature, has enabled them to resist the dissolvent: another difficulty remains, which is, to account for the number collected in one place; to which I shall offer the following solution, as far as relates to America. It is well known, that all the wild cattle of this country, such as deers, buffaloes, &c. are fond of salt, and frequently resort to where that mineral abounds, from which circumstances they are called *salt-licks*; these are often found in marshy ground, in which many beasts are at certain seasons swamped, and several unable

to extricate themselves; and, in a succession of years, or possibly ages, so many of the animals, which produced the bones now found petrified, may have perished in this manner; but those bones not decaying, may have accumulated to their present number. This conjecture seems countenanced by the name given to the place where those bones are found, and the nature of the surrounding ground; the first is *Big bone Lick*; the second a bottom surrounded with hills that have numerous springs, which, at some seasons, render the lower grounds very swampy.

Philadelphia, 1786.

FOR THE COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

A short Description of the CROTALUS HORRIDUS, or Rattle Snake,⁶ with an Engraving of a curious Rattle, full length, carefully copied from Nature.—See the annexed Plate, Figure IV.

“THE *Crotalus Horridus*, or Rattle Snake, in zoology, a genus belonging to the order of *Amphibia, Serpentes*. The characters of it are these: The belly is furnished with seuta, and the tail has both seuta and scales; but the principal characteristic of this genus is the rattle at the end of its tail.”—See Encycl. Brit. title *Crotalus Horridus*.

The rattle, which is of a brown colour, consists of several articulated undulatory fibulæ, which are hollow, and of a horny substance, together composing a number of membranaceous cells. Each fibula, or button, as it appears to the eye when joined with the rest, is of an elliptical form, with the conjugate or shortest diameter flattened, so as to be about two lines in diameter one way; and when taken the way which composes the thickness of the rattle, it is about four lines: the

transverse diameter of each fibula is about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch, as appears by the plate. When I say that the fibula, as it appears to the eye, is a flattened ellipsis, I do not consider the form of that part of each which is contained in the succeeding ones, of which the ellipsis before-mentioned is the basis. When a single fibula is separated from the others, and examined apart, it is of an oval pyramidal figure; but that part of the pyramidal fibula which has been sheathed in the succeeding ones, (for they all taper to the end of the tail) is not so large where it joins its base, or that part which always appears, by two lines diameter. These membranaceous cells are articulated within one another in such a manner that the point of the first from the insertion at the tail, reaches as far as the basis of the protuberant ring (or fibula) of the third, and so on. This articulation is so

wonderfully supported by the projection of the flat part of the fibula, over a protuberance in the pyramid, that it gives a freedom of motion to the whole rattle; so that the parts of the cells which are inclosed within the outward rings, by striking against their sides, cause that rattling noise which is heard when the snake shakes its tail.

The common number of fibulæ seldom exceeds 14 or 15 in a rattle—but

the one given is certainly a very great curiosity, even to a person who has seen a great number of this genus of snakes:—the fibulæ are 44 in number.—The snake from which this rattle was taken, was not, as might be expected, of a size proportionate to the prodigious length of its rattle, but rather a middling sized snake—It was killed some time in the summer of this year, near Fort Allen.

FOR THE COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

Further Observations on the Cicada Septemdecim, or Locust of North America.

PHILO-NATURÆ, though he has minutely entered into the investigation of the History of the Cicada Septemdecim, has omitted some circumstances, which to me appear deserving of a place in your useful miscellany.⁷

The wings of this wonderful insect still remain as a subject of enquiry. When the insect relieves itself from the outer covering or grubworm case (for I approve Philo-Naturæ's term) the wings are of the hue of rich milk. In this state, the filaments, which add strength to them, are of the same white colour, and the transparency which they afterwards attain, appears, at this juncture, to be very unlikely ever to be acquired. But as soon as the moisture dries up from off the wings of the insect, these filaments become more firm, and have a dark brown colour, which approaches a black, as the locust becomes stronger.

The filaments of the wings are spread by nature in a lively and diversified manner; in some the strongest ones, which are near the base, resemble the letter W—in

others they display a form which must interest the dullest fancy.

The more inattentive and superstitious among mankind, have terrified themselves with strange forebodings from the sport of nature in the wings of this insect, and many are fully convinced that the curses of war are denounced from the wing of a locust, or that from this source peace is proclaimed with certainty. Some years, it is true, the letter W may be clearly distinguished by a fancy not remarkable for its activity. But I much doubt whether ever the happy letter P has spread itself on this strange canopy of peace. Be that as it may, the common people can by no means be persuaded to banish the idea that they prognosticate peace or war.

Whenever the insects appear in prodigious numbers, which, as Philo-Naturæ observes, is the case every 15, 16, or 17 years, the lower class are filled with apprehensions of war, famine, and distress; and, as if there were not real evils sufficient to employ their timid fancies, the purposely-forged sentiments of Philosophers, suited to their own

narrow ideas, are hackneyed round with uncommon diligence.

At the time of the astonishing flight of the Cicada, which appeared in 1782, previous to the late glorious peace, when the enjoyment of our civil and religious liberties was happily confirmed, the stronger filaments of the wing resembled the letter W, as before noticed. Yet the timid apprehensions of weak minds will still continue exerted in supporting a theory, as groundless as it is trivial.

Philo-Naturæ has not noticed that some of this same genus appear annually; these, I suppose, are merely *Lusus Naturæ*,⁸ and, as they appear out of the common course, they have some small distinctions in colour, but no characteristics which differ from the genus to which I have no doubt but they belong.

Those of the Cicada Septemdecim, which annually appear, are of a greyish cast; the dark-brown or amber colour which the others have, appearing in these mottled with a dirty white.

I presume the reason so few of them appear annually, is, that as Nature in general is confident in the various modes of

producing living creatures, these insects being, as I imagine, merely *lusus naturæ*, are produced from the worms which have fallen from the trees, and which early pass through the several changes which Philo-Naturæ supposes they undergo: and some appear in the locust or flying state the first year, some the second, third, &c. and so on to the fourteenth, and even fifteenth year—but this is merely hypothesis.—Certain it is, that few are introduced among us annually; and I believe the few which do appear, seldom meet with their mates. I have attentively remarked them for several successive years, and have never succeeded in my endeavours to take a female, though I have, in one day, taken two or three males.

The plains of North America, as also its forests, teem with animal, as well as vegetable life. The vegetable kingdom has been, in some degree, explored, and I sincerely wish its votaries may pursue their interesting inquiries. I could also enjoy the descriptive pen of the zoologist, and hope this branch will frequently bud, blossom, and bear its delightful fruit.

A GLEANER.

FOR THE COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

A curious Non-descript Fish. See the annexed Plate, Figure V.

THIS fish is termed, by those who caught it, a Paddle-fish.⁹ It is a spinous fish, both of the prickly finned and soft kind; it has two thoracic and two abdominal fins. The jugular fins are webbed, and appear to be capable of great expansion or close contraction. It has a swallow tail; on the upper ridge of the tail there are very strong spines or prickles; the fins, except the jugular, are of the soft kind. It

is 49 inches long in its present dried state. The mouth is very large, and the paddle very much resembles the blade of an oar. From the center of the paddle there is a strong bone which loses itself at the end in smaller ramifications; the remainder is cartilaginous. It was taken in the Alleghany River, near Fort Pitt, in the year 1785: one of the same kind was caught there about twenty years ago.¹⁰

To the EDITOR of the COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

SIR,

I Sometimes relax myself from a grave and dry study, by reading a page or two in a medical book.—In a visit to a gentleman of the profession of physic, a few days ago, I picked up a work written by the celebrated Dr. Cullen,¹¹ in which he has arranged diseases under distinct classes—orders—genera and species. My eye was caught with the word HYDROPHOBIA¹² which our ingenious author subdivides into two different species. The meaning of the word, my medical friend informed me, was “a dread of water”—and that the name of the disease is taken from the most predominant symptom which occurs in patients that are bitten by mad animals. Without detracting from the merit of Dr. Cullen, I cannot help thinking, that the genus of the disease which he has named Hydrophobia, should rather have been PHOBIA, and that the number and names of the species should have been taken from the names of the objects of fear or aversion. Impressed with this idea I returned home, and committed to paper the following new species of PHOBIA, which, if they should not be deemed worthy of a place in a system of nosology, I hope will find an humble corner in your Magazine.

I shall begin, by defining PHOBIA in the present instance, to be a fear of an imaginary evil, or an undue fear of a real one.

The *first* species of PHOBIA that

I shall name, is the CAT PHOBIA. It will be unnecessary to mention instances of the prevalence of this distemper. I know several gentlemen of unquestionable courage, who have retreated a thousand times from the sight of a cat; and who have even discovered signs of fear and terror upon being confined in a room with a cat that was out of sight.

2. The RAT PHOBIA is a more common disease than the first species that has been mentioned: It is peculiar, in some measure to the female sex. I know several ladies who never fail to discover their terror by screaming at the sight of a rat; and who cannot even sleep within the noise of that animal.

3. The INSECT PHOBIA. This disease is peculiar to the female sex. A spider—a flea—or a musquito, alighting upon a lady's neck, has often produced an hysterical fit. To compensate for this defect in the constitutions of certain ladies, nature has kindly endowed them with the highest degree of courage, with respect to the great object of religious fear. They dare “provoke even Omnipotence to arms,”¹³ by irreverently taking his name in vain in common conversation. Hence our ears are often grated by those ladies, with the exclamations of “good God,!”—“God preserve me!”—“O Lord!” &c. &c. upon the most trifling occasions. Dr. Young¹⁴ seems to have had this species of Insect Phobia in his eye, when he cries out,

“Say, O! my muse—say whence such boldness springs,—
“Such daring courage—in such timorous things?
“Start from a feather—from an *insect* fly—
“A match for nothing—but, the Deity!”

4. The ODOR PHOBIA is a very frequent disease with all classes of people. There are few men or women to whom smells of some kind are not disagreeable. Old cheese has often produced paleness and tremor in a full fed guest. There are odors from certain flowers that produce the same effects: hence it is not altogether a figure to say, that there are persons who “die of a rose, in aromatic pain.”¹⁵

5. The DIRT PHOBIA. This disease is peculiar to certain ladies, especially to such as are of low Dutch extraction.¹⁶ They make every body miserable around them with their excessive cleanliness: the whole of their lives is one continued warfare with dirt—their rooms resound at all hours with the noise of scrubbing brushes, and their entries are obstructed three times a week, with tubs and buckets. I have heard of women, afflicted with this disease, who sat constantly in their kitchens, lest they should dirty their parlours. I once saw one of those women in New-Jersey, fall down upon her knees, with a house cloth in her hand, and wipe away such of the liquid parts of the food as fell upon the floor from a company of gentlemen, that dined in her house; muttering, at the same time, the most terrible complaints, in low Dutch, of the beastly manners of her guests. I have heard of a woman in the same state, who never received a visit from any person who did not leave their shoes at her door in muddy weather. She always had a pair of slippers placed at the door, for her visitors to put on, till their shoes were cleaned by a servant.

6. The RUM PHOBIA is a very *rare* distemper. I have known only five instances of it in the course of my life. The smell of rum, and of spirituous

liquors of all kinds, produced upon these persons, sickness and distress. If it were possible to communicate this distemper as we do the small-pox, by inoculation, I would recommend to the faculty immediately to infect with it * * * * *

7. The WATER PHOBIA. This species includes not the dread of swallowing, but of *crossing* water. I have known some people who sweat with terror in crossing an ordinary ferry. Peter the Great of Muscovy¹⁷ laboured under this disease in early life. I shall probably mention the remedy that cured him in a future letter. As a variety of this species of Water Phobia, may be considered that aversion from drinking water, which we sometimes observe in some men, without being accompanied with a similar dislike to artificial liquors. I recollect once to have heard of a physician in this city, who told a gentleman that was afflicted with a dropsy,¹⁸ just before he tapped him, that he expected to draw off not less than three gallons of water from him—“Of wine you mean, doctor, said he; for I have not drank that quantity of water these twenty years.”

8. The SOLO PHOBIA; by which I mean the dread of solitude. This distemper is peculiar to persons of vacant minds, and guilty consciences. Such people cannot bear to be alone, especially if the horror of sickness is added to the pain of attempting to *think*, or to the terror of *thinking*.

9. The POWER PHOBIA. This distemper belongs to certain demagogues. It has been epidemic lately in Massachusetts Bay.¹⁹ Persons afflicted with it, consider power as an evil—they abhor even the sight of

an officer of government. All those people, who object to the enlargement of the powers of Congress, are afflicted with this malady.

10. The WANT PHOBIA. This disease is confined chiefly to old people. It is not the father of Tristram Shandy alone that wipes the sweat from his face,²⁰ and examines both sides of his coin every time he pays it away. There are few old men who part with money without feeling some of the symptoms of an intermitting fever. This distemper has arisen to such a height, as to furnish the most entertaining and ludicrous scenes in plays and novels. I have heard of an old gentleman in London, who had above £.20,000 in the funds, who sold a valuable library a year or two before he died; and gave as a reason for it, that he was afraid he should not have enough to bury him without making that addition to his fortune.

11. The DOCTOR PHOBIA. This distemper is often complicated with other diseases. It arises in some instances, from the dread of taking physic, or of submitting to the remedies of bleeding and blistering. In some instances I have known it occasioned by a desire sick people feel of deceiving themselves, by being kept in ignorance of the danger of their disorders. It might be supposed, that “the dread of a long bill” was one cause of the Doctor Phobia; but this excites terror in the minds of but few people: for whoever thinks of paying a doctor, while he can use his money to advantage in another way?—It is remarkable this Doctor Phobia always goes off as soon as a patient is sensible of his danger. The doctor, then, becomes an object of respect and attachment, instead of horror.

12. The THUNDER PHOBIA. This species is common to all ages, and of

both sexes: I have seen it produce the most distressing appearances and emotions upon many people. I know a man, whom the sight of a black cloud in the morning, in the season of thundergusts, never fails to make melancholy during the whole of the ensuing day.

13. The CHURCH PHOBIA. This disease has become epidemic in the city of Philadelphia, since the late war: hence we find half the city flying in chariots, phaetons,²¹ chairs, and even stage-waggons, as well as on horse back, from the churches, every Sunday in summer, as soon as they are opened for divine worship. In the winter, when it is more difficult to escape the horror of looking into an open church, we observe our citizens drowning their fear of the church, in plentiful entertainments. A short story will shew the prevalence of this distemper in Philadelphia. The Sunday after the inhabitants of Charleston arrived here, during the late war,²² they assembled to worship God in one of our churches. A young lady, (one of the company) was surprised at seeing no faces but such as had been familiar to her in her own state, in the church, but very kindly ascribed it to the politeness of the ladies and gentlemen of Philadelphia, who had that day given up their seats to accommodate the Carolina strangers.

14. The GHOST PHOBIA. This distemper is most common among servants and children. It manifests itself chiefly in passing by grave-yards, and old empty houses. I have heard of a few instances of grown people, and of men of cultivated understandings, who have been afflicted with this species of Phobia. Physicians,

who have sacrificed the lives of their patients through carelessness, rashness, or ignorance;—as also witnesses who have convicted by their evidence—judges, who have condemned by their influence—and kings and governors who have executed by their power, innocent persons, through prejudice or resentment, are all deeply affected with the Ghost Phobia. Generals of armies, and military butchers, who make war only to gratify ambition or avarice, are likewise subject to paroxysms of this disorder. The late king of Prussia,²³ upon a certain occasion, abused his guards most intemperately, for conducting him from a review through a grave-yard. The reflection on the number of men whom his power and sword had consigned to the mansions of death produced in his majesty, this Ghost Phobia in all its horrors.

15. The DEATH PHOBIA. The fear of death is natural to man—but there are degrees of it which constitute a *disease*. It prevails chiefly among the rich—the luxurious—and the profane. A man of pleasure in the city of New-York, used frequently to say in his convivial moments, that “this world would be a most delightful place to live in, if it were not for that cursed thing called death—it comes in

and spoils all.” The late king of Prussia always concealed his occasional indispositions from his subjects, lest he should be led after them to connect the idea of his sickness with that of his death. I have heard of a man, who possessed this death Phobia in so high a degree, that he never would see his friends when they were sick—avoided seeing funerals—and, upon one occasion, threatened to kick a sexton of the church out of his house, for inviting him to the burial of one of his neighbours.—It is remarkable, that even old age, with all its infirmities, will not subdue this disease in some people. The late Dr. Johnson²⁴ discovered the most unphilosophical as well as unchristian fear of dying, in the 73d year of his age: and the late Dr. Potterfield,²⁵ after living 84 years, went from Edinburgh to Padua in Italy, in order, by exercise and a change of climate, to protract the hour of his dissolution.

Thus, Sir, have I given a list of the principal species of Phobia. If it should be well received by your readers, I may perhaps send you, upon some future occasion, an account of the remedies proper for each of them. In the meanwhile, I am your humble servant,

_____.

FOR THE COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

A Short dissertation on Eclipses, by B. Workman of the University of Philadelphia.

FROM the earliest ages of the delighted world, the science of astronomy has deservedly claimed the superior attention and admiration of mankind.—A copious field is opened by the labours and perseverance of the penetrating astronomer; and by his enquiries we are

instructed and delighted. The pursuit yields us inexpressible pleasure; and its bounds cannot be overpassed, as the objects originate from an inexhaustible source. The sublimity of this science, its excellence, and its utility, must interest the human mind in the cultivation of so important a

subject; and the more closely it is pursued, the more lively do the sublime ideas it inculcates, animate the enquirer.

When we are persuaded that this earth which we inhabit, is at so great a distance from the sun, that, if viewed from

thence, it would appear but as a mere point, notwithstanding its circumference is known to be 25,020 English miles, the interesting train of ideas which overwhelm us in torrents, only allow us to exclaim,

“These are thy glorious works, Parent of good!
“Almighty, thine universal frame!
“Thus wond’rous fair! THYSELF how wond’rous then!
“To us invisible, or dimly seen,
“In these thy lower works; yet these declare
“Thy goodness beyond thought—and power supreme.”²⁶

As we pursue the enquiry, and discover that the sun’s distance, which is at least ninety-seven millions of miles, is really exceeded by the distance of the nearest fixed star from our earth a million times the sun’s distance from us, the magnitude of the discovery almost surpasses our comprehension.

The science of astronomy readily introduces a conviction that the frame of the universe is not confined to, nor does it depend upon, the order, motion, and revolutions of only one sun and its attendant worlds; but that an inconceivable number of suns, worlds, and systems, are dispersed through boundless space. Was it decreed by him who formed the glorious frame of the heavens, that our sun, with the planets which revolve around Him (including our globe) should be annihilated, their loss would be considered, by an eye that could take in the whole, as trivial, in comparison, as the loss of a grain of sand from the sea shore.

What interesting emotions does this reflection excite in our minds! in how solemn and awful a manner should our adorations be directed towards the supreme, infinite, and incomprehensible author of nature! From his hands hath he

poured numberless myriads of suns, with all their worlds revolving round them, in motions immensely rapid, yet calm, regular, and uniformly exact, each invariably keeping its path in the order prescribed by the eternal Fiat.

The foregoing cursory remarks on this exhaustless source of human enquiry appear necessary, in order to introduce in this dissertation, a short and familiar explanation of the nature and causes of the eclipses of the sun and moon, those two great luminaries, which are given as blessings to our earth.

No part of astronomy is involved in such difficulty as the doctrine of eclipses (especially when the calculation of the eclipse of the sun is limited and determined to a certain latitude and longitude) on account of the tedious computation of the moon’s parallax,²⁷ upon which principle the calculation of solar eclipses depend.

This branch is the most delicate and valuable part of astronomy: and so rare is it to be found amongst men, that not one out of 20,000 has attained it. “It is the very crown and highest pitch of science (says Leadbetter²⁸) and may justly challenge to itself the sovereignty and precedency of all

human learning whatsoever.” It is not only speculative, and thereby deserving the attention of those who merely desire to amuse themselves for a short period of leisure; but it is contemplative for the ingenious, and also predictive, as it points out to us what eclipse is to come, as well as what has already past.

Had not the laws of nature been in some degree unfolded by astronomy, where could we obtain the information that there will be an eclipse of the moon in October 1800²⁹, or I might have said, 18000 (supposing the world to continue so long)? Shall we turn over the historic page? Or shall we consult the subtle politician? Will the votaries of healing inform us? Can the logician resolve the question? These have their own peculiar provinces, and therefore this subject is referred for the astronomer alone.

A solar eclipse, that is, an eclipse of the sun, is caused by the interposition of the moon between the sun and earth, whereby some particular tract of the earth is deprived of the sun’s light during the eclipse, at which time other places of the world have the full light of the sun. An eclipse of the moon is produced from the earth coming between the sun and the moon; the moon in that case falling into the earth’s shadow, and having no light of her own, suffers a real eclipse by the earth’s intercepting the sun’s rays, and thereby depriving her of his light. In eclipses of the sun, the moon, by reason of her motion from west to east round the earth, first enters on the west limb of the sun, so that in solar eclipses, the beginning is always on the west side of the sun, and the ending on the east side. The contrary must happen in eclipses of the moon; for,

her motion round the earth (as was said before) being from west to east, the east part of her body must necessarily first enter the earth’s shadow, and therefore her eclipse always begins on the east side and ends on the west. The sun very seldom suffers a total eclipse, but the moon frequently does. An eclipse of the moon appears the same, as to quantity and duration, to every part of the world where it can be seen—An eclipse of the sun is not attended with the like circumstances, being at the same moment of time less in one place than in another. A solar eclipse may in one place be total, and, at the same time, in another part of the earth there will be no eclipse at all. This is caused by the moon’s vicinity to the earth, whereby to some of the inhabitants she will appear to be projected directly on the body of the sun, to others she will appear on the east side, and to some others on the west side at the same instant of time, &c. An instance of which we shall have June 15, 1787, when the sun will be totally eclipsed in the region of the north frigid zone: At the distance of 5° from the pole, 200 miles in diameter of the earth’s surface will then be involved in total darkness. In all the northern parts of Europe there will be more or less of the sun eclipsed, according as the place is situated in regard to its distance from the centre of the moon’s shadow. The exact time in Philadelphia will be at 50 minutes past 10 in the morning.—In America it will be visible to the northward of Quebec, but not to the southward, although the sun will then be many degrees above our horizon. The sun being immensely larger than the earth or moon, it necessarily follows that

their shadows are cones, which continually taper until they end in a point. The length of the earth's shadow is at a mean 859,200 miles; sometimes it exceeds this computation: at other seasons it is not so great. The shadow of the moon at a mean is 240,000 miles; this also varies as the earth's shadow does. The moon's distance from the earth is sometimes just equal to the length of her shadow, in which case should there happen to be a solar eclipse, the vertex of the shadow would reach exactly to the earth; but in other cases, wherein her distance is more or less than her shadow, it may either not reach the earth, or may extend beyond it. There are therefore certain eclipses of the sun, wherein no part of the earth's surface is absolutely dark, because the moon's shadow terminates in a point before it comes to the earth: In some cases, only one spot will be dark; but in some others (as in the case mentioned) 200 miles in diameter may be involved in total darkness.

When the dark shadow terminates before it reaches the earth, a beautiful luminous ring or *annulus* will appear round the edge of the moon, to those who are under the point of its shadow. This is called an annular eclipse. At other times, when the shadow extends to the earth, or beyond it, the sun will be

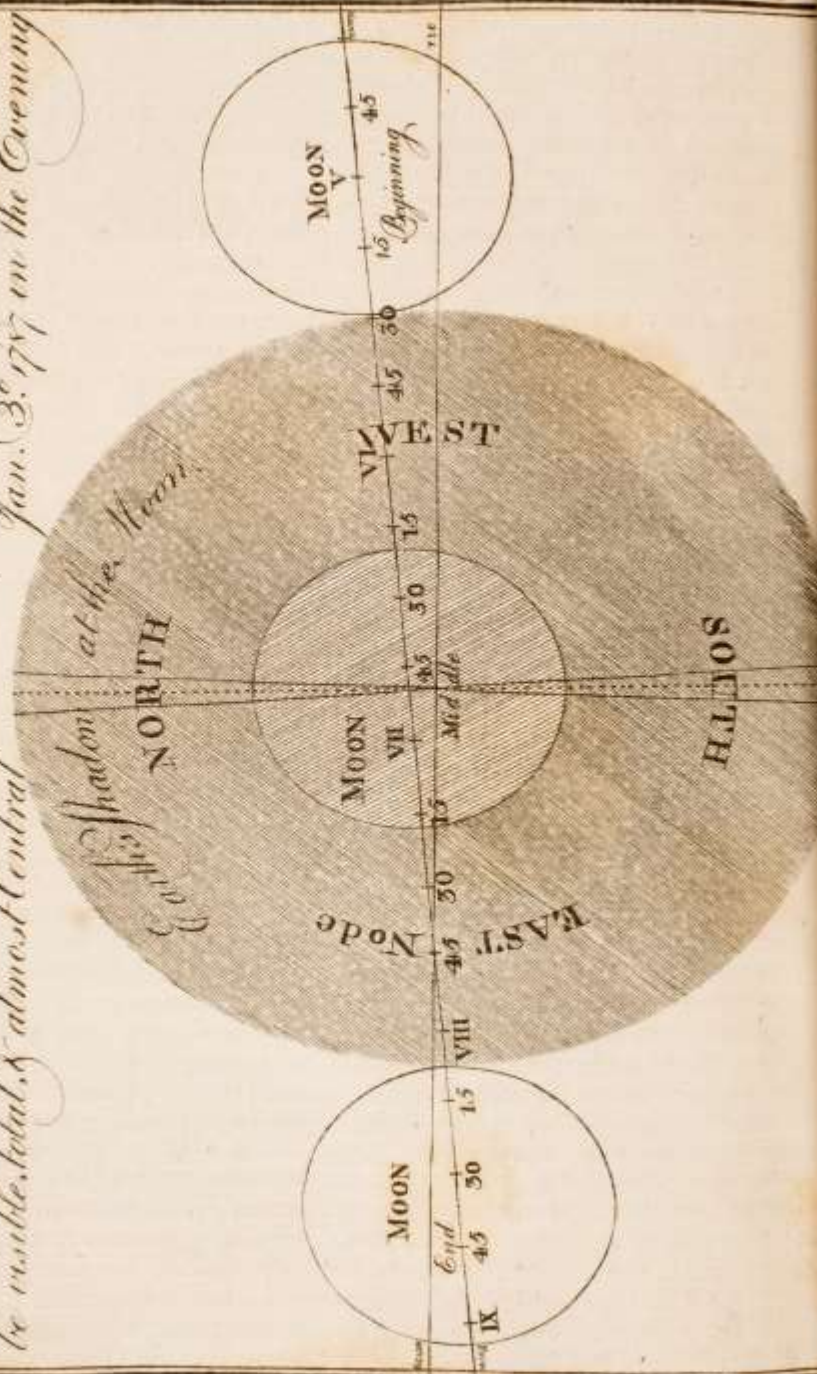
totally obscured to those in the centre of the shadow, though this effect may scarce remain an instant, or but for a very short space of time, according to the magnitude of the shadow at the earth.—The base of the earth's shadow being at the earth, its length is 8000 miles, viz.³⁰ the same as the earth's real diameter; but at the mean distance of the moon, it is only 5890 miles in diameter. Now the moon's diameter is 2192 miles, therefore the moon can be almost three times contained in the earth's shadow; and hence it appears, that the moon may pass through the earth's shadow at a considerable distance from its centre, and yet be totally eclipsed, being so much exceeded in magnitude by the earth. In the great and total eclipse of the moon, which will happen on the 3d of January, 1787, of which the annexed plate is an exact representation, the moon's centre passes within 200 miles of the center of the shadow, so that she will continue to be totally eclipsed for one hour and thirty-nine minutes.

N. B.³¹ The reason that we can see the moon in total eclipses, is, that the rays of light which pass through the atmosphere of the earth, are refracted or bent out of their strait course, and some of them falling upon the moon's orb, make her appear visible.

	Boston.	N York	Philad.	Charl.	Barba.	Lond.	
	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
Beg. of the Eclip.	5 18	5 4	5 0	4 38	6 0	10 0	} 3d P. M.
Do. of total Dark.	6 16	6 2	5 58	5 36	6 58	10 58	
Mid. of the Eclip.	7 5½	6 5½	6 47½	6 25½	7 47	11 47½	} 4th A. M.
End of total Dark.	7 55	7 41	7 37	7 15	8 37	9 37	
End.	8 53	8 39	8 35	8 13	9 35	1 35	
Total Duration, 3h. 35m.							

An

*A true Representation of the Eclipse of the Moon which will
be visible, total, & almost Central
Jan. 3. 1787 in the Evening*



An Account of the progress of Population, Agriculture, Manners, and Government in Pennsylvania, in a letter from a Citizen of Philadelphia, to his Friend in England.

SIR,

WHATEVER tends to unfold *facts* in the history of the human species, must be interesting to a curious enquirer.—The manner of settling a new country, exhibits a view of the human mind so foreign to the views of it which have been taken for many centuries in Europe, that I flatter myself the following account of the progress of population, agriculture, manners, and government in Pennsylvania will be acceptable to you. I have chosen to confine myself in the present letter to Pennsylvania only, that all the information I shall give you may be derived from my own knowledge and observations.

The *first* settler in the woods is generally a man who has outlived his credit or fortune in the cultivated parts of the state. His time for migrating is in the month of April. His first object is to build a small cabin of rough logs for himself and family. The floor of this cabin is of earth, the roof is of split logs—the light is received through the door, and, in some instances, thro’ a small window made of greased paper. A coarser building adjoining this cabin affords a shelter to a cow, and pair of poor horses. The labour of erecting these buildings is succeeded by killing the trees on a few acres of ground near his cabin; this is done by cutting a circle round the trees, two or three feet from the ground. The ground around these trees is then ploughed and Indian-corn planted in it. The season for planting this grain is about the 20th

of May—It grows generally on new ground with but little cultivation, and yields in the month of October following, from 40 to 50 bushels per acre. After the first of September it affords a good deal of nourishment to his family, in its green or unripe state, in the form of what is called *roasting ears*. His family is fed during the summer by a small quantity of grain which he carries with him, and by fish and game. His cows and horses feed upon wild grass, or the succulent twigs of the woods. For the first year he endures a great deal of distress from hunger—cold and a variety of accidental causes, but he seldom complains or sinks under them. As he lives in the neighbourhood of Indians, he soon acquires a strong tincture of their manners. His exertions, while they continue, are violent; but they are succeeded by long intervals of rest. His pleasures consist chiefly in fishing and hunting. He loves spirituous liquors, and he eats, drinks and sleeps in dirt and rags in his little cabin. In his intercourse with the world, he manifests all the arts which characterise the Indians of our country. In this situation he passes two or three years. In proportion as population increases around him, he becomes uneasy and dissatisfied. Formerly his cattle ranged at large, but now his neighbours call upon him to confine them within fences, to prevent their trespassing upon their fields of grain. Formerly he fed his family with wild animals, but these which fly from the face of man, now cease to afford him an easy subsistence, and he is compelled

to raise domestic animals for the support of his family. Above all, he revolts against the operation of laws. He cannot bear to surrender up a single natural right for all the benefits of government—and therefore he abandons his little settlement, and seeks a retreat in the woods, where he again submits to all the toils which have been mentioned. There are instances of many men who have broken ground on bare creation, not less than four different times in this way, in different and more advanced parts of the State. It has been remarked, that the flight of this class of people is always increased by the preaching of the gospel. This will not surprise us when we consider how opposite its precepts are to their licentious manner of living. If our first settler was the owner of the spot of land which he began to cultivate, he sells it at a considerable profit to his successor; but if (as is oftener the case) he was the tenant to some rich landholder, he abandons it in debt; however, the small improvements he leaves behind him, generally make it an object of immediate demand to a *second* species of settler.

This species of settler is generally a man of some property—he pays one-third or one-fourth part in cash for his plantation, which consists of three or four hundred acres, and the rest in gales³² or instalments, as it is called here; that is, a certain sum yearly, without interest, till the whole is paid. The first object of this settler is to build an addition to his cabin; this is done with hewed logs: and as saw-mills generally follow settlements, his floors are made of boards; his roof is made of what are called clapboards, which are a kind of coarse shingles, split out of short oak logs. This

house is divided by two floors, on each of which are two rooms: under the whole is a cellar walled with stone. The cabin serves as a kitchen to this house. His next object is to clear a little meadow ground, and plant an orchard of two or three hundred apple-trees. His stable is likewise enlarged; and, in the course of a year or two, he builds a large log barn, the roof of which is commonly thatched with rye straw: he moreover increases the quantity of his arable land; and, instead of cultivating Indian corn alone, he raises a quantity of wheat and rye: the latter is cultivated chiefly for the purpose of being distilled into whiskey. This species of settler by no means extracts all from the earth, which it is able and willing to give. His fields yield but a scanty increase, owing to the ground not being sufficiently ploughed. The hopes of the year are often blasted by his cattle breaking through his half made fences, and destroying his grain. His horses perform but half the labour that might be expected from them, if they were better fed; and his cattle often die in the spring from the want of provision, and the delay of grass. His house, as well as his farm, bear many marks of a weak tone of mind. His windows are unglazed, or, if they have had glass in them, the ruins of it are supplied with old hats or pillows. This species of settler is seldom a good member of civil or religious society: with a large portion of a hereditary mechanical kind of religion, he neglects to contribute sufficiently towards building a church, or maintaining a regular administration of the ordinances of the gospel: he is equally indisposed to support civil government: with high ideas of

liberty, he refuses to bear his proportion of the debt contracted by its establishment in our country: he delights chiefly in company—sometimes drinks spirituous liquors to excess—will spend a day or two in every week, in attending political meetings: and, thus, he contracts debts, which (if they do not give him a place in the sheriff's docket) compel him to sell his plantation, generally in the course of a few years, to the *third* and last species of settler.

This species of settler is commonly a man of property and good character—sometimes he is the son of a wealthy farmer in one of the interior and ancient counties of the state. His first object is to convert every spot of ground, over which he is able to draw water, into meadow: where this cannot be done, he selects the most fertile spot on the farm, and devotes it by manure to that purpose. His next object is to build a barn, which he prefers of stone. This building is, in some instances, 100 feet in front, and 40 in depth: it is made very compact, so as to shut out the cold in winter; for our farmers find that their horses and cattle, when kept warm, do not require near as much food as when they are exposed to the cold. He uses œconomy, likewise, in the consumption of his wood. Hence he keeps himself warm in winter, by means of stoves, which save an immense deal of labour to himself and his horses, in cutting and hawling wood in cold and wet weather. His fences are every where repaired, so as to secure his grain from his own and his neighbour's cattle. But further, he increases the number of the articles of his cultivation, and, instead of raising corn, wheat, and rye alone, he raises oats, buckwheat, (the *fagopyrum* of Linnæus³³)

and spelts. Near his house, he allots an acre or two of ground for a garden, in which he raises a large quantity of cabbage and potatoes. His newly cleared fields afford him every year a large increase of turnips. Over the spring which supplies him with water, he builds a milk-house: he likewise adds to the number, and improves the quantity of his fruit-trees:—his sons work by his side all the year, and his wife and daughters forsake the dairy and the spinning wheel to share with him in the toils of harvest. The last object of his industry is to build a dwelling-house. This business is sometimes effected in the course of his life, but is oftener bequeathed to his son, or the inheritor of his plantation: and hence we have a common saying among our best farmers, “that a son should always begin where his father left off;” that is, he should begin his improvements, by building a commodious dwelling-house, suited to the improvements and value of the plantation. This dwelling-house is generally built of stone—it is large, convenient, and filled with useful and substantial furniture. It sometimes adjoins the house of the second settler, but is frequently placed at a little distance from it. The horses and cattle of this species of settler, bear marks in their strength, fat, and fruitfulness—of their being plentifully fed and carefully kept. His table abounds with a variety of the best provisions—his very kitchen flows with milk and honey—beer, cider, and wine are the usual drinks of his family: the greatest part of the clothing of his family is manufactured by his wife and daughters: In proportion as he increases in wealth, he values the protection of laws: hence he punctually pays

his taxes towards the support of government. Schools and churches likewise, as the means of promoting order and happiness in society, derive a due support from him; for benevolence and public spirit, as to these objects, are the natural offspring of affluence and independence. Of this class of settlers are two thirds of the farmers of Pennsylvania: These are the men to whom Pennsylvania owes her ancient fame and consequence. If they possess less refinement than their southern neighbours, who cultivate their lands with slaves, they possess more republican virtue. It was from the farms cultivated by these men, that the American and French armies were fed chiefly with bread during the late revolution: and it was from the produce of these farms, that those millions of dollars were obtained from the Havanna after the year 1780,³⁴ which laid the foundation of the bank of North America, and which fed and clothed the American army, till the

glorious peace of Paris.—This is a short account of the happiness of a Pennsylvanian farmer—To this happiness our State invites men of every religion and country. We do not pretend to offer emigrants the pleasures of Arcadia—It is enough if affluence, independence, and happiness are ensured to patience, industry, and labour. The moderate price of land,* the credit which arises from prudence, and the safety from our courts of law, of every species of property, render the blessings which I have described, objects within the reach of every man.

From a review of the three different species of settlers, it appears, that there are certain regular stages which mark the progress from the savage to civilized life. The first settler is nearly related to an Indian in his manners—In the second, the Indian manners are more diluted: It is in the third species of settlers only, that we behold civilization completed—It is to the third species

*The unoccupied lands are sold by the state for about six guineas, inclusive of all charges, per hundred acres. But as most of the lands that are settled, are procured from persons who had purchased them from the state, they are sold to the first settler for a much higher price. The quality of the soil—its vicinity to mills, court-houses, places of worship, and navigable water—the distance of land carriage to the sea-ports of Philadelphia or Baltimore, and the nature of the roads—all influence the price of land to the first settler. The quantity of cleared land, and the nature of the improvements, added to all the above circumstances, influence the price of farms to the second and third settlers. Hence the price of land to the first settler is from a quarter of a guinea to two guineas per acre; and the price of farms is from one guinea to ten guineas per acre, to the second and third settlers, according as the land is varied by the before-mentioned circumstances. When the first settler is unable to purchase, he often takes a tract of land for seven years on a lease, and contracts, instead of paying a rent in cash, to clear 50 acres of land, to build a log cabin, and a barn, and to plant an orchard on it. The tract, after the expiration of this lease, sells or rents for a considerable profit. [Note in the original]

of settlers only, that it is proper to apply the term of *farmers*. While we record the vices of the first and second settlers, it is but just to mention their virtues likewise.—Their mutual wants produce mutual dependence; hence they are kind and friendly to each other—their solitary situation makes visitors agreeable to them; hence they are hospitable to strangers: Their want of money, (for they raise but little more than is necessary to support their families) has made it necessary for them to associate for the purposes of building houses, cutting their grain, and the like:—This they do in turns for each other, without any other pay than the pleasures which usually attend a country frolic. Perhaps, what I have called virtues, are rather *qualities*, arising from necessity, and the peculiar state of society in which these people live. Virtue should, in all cases, be the offspring of principle.

I do not pretend to say, that this mode of settling farms in Pennsylvania is universal—I have known some instances where the first settler has performed the improvements of the second, and yielded to the third. I have known a few instances likewise, of men of enterprising spirits, who have settled in the wilderness, and who, in the course of a single life, have advanced through all the intermediate stages of improvement that I have mentioned, and produced all those conveniences which have been ascribed to the third species of settlers; thereby resembling, in their exploits, not only the pioneers and light infantry, but the main body of an army. There are instances, likewise, where the first settlement has been improved by the same family in hereditary succession, till it has reached the third stage of cultivation. There are many spacious

stone houses, and highly cultivated farms in the neighbouring counties of the city of Philadelphia, which are possessed by the grandsons and great-grandsons of men who accompanied William Penn across the ocean, and who laid the foundation of the present improvements of their posterity, in such cabins as have been described.

I dare say this passion for migration which I have described, will appear strange to the European. To see men turn their backs upon the houses in which they drew their first breath—upon the church in which they were dedicated to God—upon the graves of their ancestors—upon the friends and companions of their youth—and upon all the pleasures of cultivated society, and exposing themselves to all the hardships and accidents of subduing the earth, and thereby establishing settlements in a wilderness, must strike a philosopher on your side the water, as a picture of human nature that runs counter to the usual habits and principles of action in man. But this passion, strange and new as it appears, is wisely calculated for the extension of population in America; and this it does, not only by promoting the increase of the human species in new settlements, but in the old settlements likewise. While the degrees of industry and knowledge in agriculture, in our country, are proportioned to farms of from 75 to 300 acres, there will be a languor in population, as soon as farmers multiply beyond the number of farms of the above dimensions. To remove this languor, which is kept up alike by the increase of the price, and the division of farms, a migration of part of the community becomes absolutely necessary. And

as this part of the community often consists of the idle and extravagant, who eat without working, their removal, by increasing the facility of subsistence to the frugal and industrious who remain behind, naturally increases the number of people, just as the cutting off the suckers of an apple-tree increases the size of the tree, and the quantity of the fruit.

I have only to add upon this subject, that the migrants from Pennsylvania always travel to the southward. The soil and climate of the western parts of Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia, afford a more easy support to lazy farmers, than the stubborn but durable soil of Pennsylvania. *Here* our ground requires deep and repeated ploughing to render it fruitful; *there* scratching the ground once or twice affords tolerable crops. In Pennsylvania, the length and coldness of the winter make it necessary for the farmers to bestow a large share of their labour in providing for, and feeding their cattle; but in the southern states, cattle find pasture during the greatest part of the winter, in the fields or woods. For these reasons, the greatest part of the western counties of the states that have been mentioned, are settled by original inhabitants of Pennsylvania. During the late war, the militia of Orange-county, in North-Carolina, were enrolled, and their number amounted to 3,500, *every* man of

whom had migrated from Pennsylvania. From this you will see, that our state is the great outport for the United States for Europeans; and that, after performing the office of a sieve, by detaining all those people who possess the stamina of industry and virtue, it allows a passage to the rest, to those states which are accommodated to their habits of indolence and vice.

I shall conclude this letter by remarking, that in the mode of extending population and agriculture, which I have described, we behold a new species of war. The *third* settler may be viewed as a conqueror. The weapons with which he achieves his conquests, are the implements of husbandry; and the virtues which direct them, are industry and œconomy. Idleness, extravagance, and ignorance fly before him. Happy would it be for mankind, if the kings of Europe would adopt this mode of extending their territories; it would soon put an end to the dreadful connection, which has existed in every age, between war and poverty, and between conquest and desolation.

With great respect,

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble servant,

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MORAL REFLECTIONS.

"WHEN we consider how very few there are for whose character and conduct we have what can be called a real esteem, we shall never be surprised at the few who have a real esteem for us."

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"WE are all ready to set our face against slanderers: Yet few indeed are they who do not

indulge in slander."

* *

*

"IN human life, there is not, perhaps, a more striking, nor, indeed, a more general absurdity than a man railing at those vices in others, of which he is himself guilty."

* *

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FOR THE COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

An Account of the Effects of the general Thaw, in March, 1784, upon the River Susquehannah, and the adjacent Country.

The winter of 1783-4 was uncommonly cold, insomuch that the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer stood several days at 10 degrees below 0. The snows were frequent; and, in many places, from two to three feet deep, during the greatest part of the winter. All the rivers in Pennsylvania were frozen, so as to bear waggons and sleds with immense weights. In the month of January a thaw came on suddenly, which opened our rivers, so as to set the ice a driving, to use the phrase of the country. In the course of one night, during the thaw, the wind shifted suddenly to the north-west, and the weather became intensely cold. The ice, which had floated the day before, was suddenly obstructed; and in the river Susquehannah, the obstructions were formed in those places where the water was most shallow, or where it had been accustomed to fall. This river is several hundred miles in length, and from half a mile to a mile and a half in breadth; and winds thro' a hilly, and in many places a fertile and highly cultivated country. It has as yet a most difficult communication with our bays and the sea, occasioned by the number and height of the falls which occur near the mouth of the river. The ice in many places, especially where there were falls, formed a kind of dam, of a most stupendous height. About the middle of March our weather moderated, and a thaw became general. The effects of it were remarkable in all our rivers; but in none so much so as in the river which I have mentioned. I shall therefore endeavour in a few words to

describe them. Unfortunately the dams of ice did not give way all at once, nor those which lay nearest to the mouth of the river, first. While the upper dams were set afloat by the warm weather, the lower ones, which were the largest, and of course the ice was most impacted in them, remained fixed. In consequence of this, the river rose in a few hours, in many places, above 30 feet; rolling upon its surface large lumps of ice, from 10 to 40 cubic feet in size. The effects of this sudden inundation were intolerable. Whole farms were laid under water. Barns—stables—horses—cattle—fences—mills of every kind, and in one instance, a large stone house, 40 by 30 feet, were carried down the stream. Large trees were torn up by the roots—several small islands covered with woods, were swept away, and not a vestige of them was left behind. On the barns which preserved their shape, in some instances, for many miles were to be seen living fowls; and, in one dwelling, a candle was seen to burn for some time, after it was swept from its foundation. Where the shore was level, the lumps of ice, and the ruins of houses and farms, were thrown a quarter of a mile from the ordinary height of the river. In some instances, farms were ruined by the mould³⁵ being swept from them by the cakes of ice, or by depositions of sand; while others were enriched by large depositions of mud. The damage, upon the whole, done to the state of Pennsylvania by this fresh,³⁶ was very great. In most

places it happened in the day-time, or the consequences must have been fatal to many thousands.

I know of but one use that can be derived from recording the history of this inundation. In case of similar obstructions of rivers, from causes such as

have been described, the terrible effects of their being set in motion by means of a general thaw, may in part be obviated, by removing such things out of the course of the water and ice, as are within our power; particularly cattle, hay, grain, fences, and farming utensils of all kinds.

FOR THE COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

Some Thoughts on real and imaginary Evils.

SELF-tormenting is so general, as to have raised a doubt among many, whether mankind do not suffer more from imaginary ills than real? The question is very important, as a full resolution of it points out the means of lessening the misery of human life. To do this, it is necessary, first to determine the nature of imaginary evils—It is very wrong to suppose good and evil seated merely in external objects, independent of our senses, and to distinguish those by the appellation of real, in opposition to others which are regarded as existing only in our opinion, fancy, affections, and feelings of whatever kind; because good and evil signify pain and pleasure, and cannot exist without some feeling being, but are so only with respect to the senses of that being. The sweetness of sugar does not consist entirely in its own form and texture, but in the correspondence of this with the structure of our palates. Certain figures and colours please, because adapted to our eyes: In like manner, science and virtue are agreeable to our intellectual and moral faculties. If this was not the case, every species of good and ill would affect all beings, and in the same degree; whereas the highest enjoyments of one class, are often insipid or nauseous to another. The salutary and grateful food of

some animals, is present poison to others; the sentimental delights of a man of refined taste, are not conceived by his lower fellow-creatures. Individuals of the same species are very unequally affected by the same objects, and often the same person at different times. Some men have no ear for music, or no eye for many species of beauty; others no taste for mathematics, or no admiration for the grand and heroic virtues. Every person knows how much he differs from himself, in health and sickness, leisure and business, good and ill humour. Imaginary evils may then be defined to be such as are created by our own fancy, without any real foundation. A full enquiry into the nature of these, and the proper remedies, would be ample matter for a philosophical treatise. My narrow limits admit only a sketch of the outlines. As in a sound constitution the passions are not merely sources of pain; we ought not therefore to endeavour entirely to suppress them. Such as appear so, are either in their effects instrumental to our happiness, or so interwoven with the pleasing affections and active principles, as to impair them if too much weakened. Anger, for instance, prompts to self defence, animates our zeal for

injured worth, friends, and a good cause, inspires fortitude, and gives new ardour to ambition:—In fact, noble and vigorous minds seldom want a proper degree of spirit, and persons too easy and gentle, are often, with the best dispositions, deficient to themselves, their friends, to God and their country.—Fear, often averts the ill we apprehend; in a proper degree, it is then nearly allied to prudence. The fool-hardy is a despicable and dangerous character—a rational being cannot help reflecting on his present misery, nor regretting the happiness lost:—A bosom incapable of sorrow can feel no raptures, and phlegmatic tempers are by no means the happiest; this disposition for grief is also very beneficial.—The reflecting mind represents its feelings in an eventual situation, recoils, with horror, from it, and exerts every means of an escape. The pang of sympathy gives an energy to every office of humanity: A certain mixture of sadness adds a peculiar sweetness to love, friendship, and all the tender affections; which, even in raptures of joy, are attended with the heaving sigh, and the starting tear. The action of heroic virtues lies in scenes of distress—they wear deep mourning, and appear in majesty of woe; and are, consequently, most admired by such minds, as, with a noble fortitude have a cast of tender solemnity:—For the preservation of the body, a sensibility of pain is spread over all its parts, which quickly takes the alarm at the approach of ills: The necessary appetites are also uneasy until moderately gratified; as hunger and thirst, desire of rest and sleep, &c. but this very uneasiness heightens the gratifications.—In many cases, the most important parts of the body, internal and

external, have the quickest and keenest sensibility of a disorder, to prompt us the more to remove it.—A moat in the eye leaves us no rest—the smallest degree of a tooth-ach is very painful; medicines which, in their nature, are poisons, are generally nauseous to the palate; pleurisies, and the like distempers, that attack the seat of life, are agonizing. If these salutary warnings were less urgent, they would often be neglected in the lap of ease, the hurry of business, and the keen pursuit of wealth and pleasure—as it is, they often are, when unassisted by reason;—children get their limbs frozen in their frolics on the ice; misers pine with want, among their immense stores; and the mad voluptuary rushes into loathsome tormenting, incurable diseases.

But all the senses and affections, which are the immediate subjects of pain, however useful or necessary they may be in a certain degree, must be restrained; when indulged, they imbitter human life; as we evidently see, by too many examples. A morose, choleric mind is vexed with every trifle, and even when no accidents ruffle it, becomes as it were, choaked with its own gall, and must vent it on some innocent object. Timorous prudence fills the heart with anxiety, and, by habit, degenerates into a despondent pusillanimity, which always forebodes the worst;—for the ideas of evil naturally lay hold of the mind, and it is dangerous to view it with too scrupulous attention.—How many excellent female characters distress themselves and their dearest connections by a strange timidity—they feel a presentiment of the death of a child, from the slightest ailment; and have no rest while

their husbands are on a journey, lest a tree should crush them, the horses should start, and a hundred very improbable accidents happen. Many wealthy persons have lost their reason from an improper apprehension of want—and what numbers are, every day, robbed, cheated, plundered, in their own imagination!—the coward dies a thousand times; and every agonizing death an affrighted fancy can create:—Pleurisies, fevers, dropsy, gout, flux, &c. kill him in their turn—he is gibetted, shipwrecked, beheaded, drowned, burned, starved, devoured by a shark, or bit by a mad dog. Sadness, whether constitutional or acquired, should be prudently checked. Not to be happy when we can, is folly; nay, a crime against our great benefactor; to brood over sorrows however real, and to increase their bitterness, is weakness. Let us confider that every indulgence of grief impairs the natural cheerfulness of the soul, and dread that greatest of evils, *a broken heart*, which cannot be healed by any medicine, nor the balm of friendship—by no enjoyments in this life, nor the blissful hope of Heaven.

A delicacy of constitution, that sinks under fatigue, melts in the cheering

ray, shivers with the refreshing breeze, and is quickly disordered by trivial external and internal accidents, is a severe misfortune, especially in some personal and local circumstances. Every means should then be devised to harden the body, and fortify every sense against the attacks of pain. Much may certainly be done. Poor children go barefoot, and half naked in the dead of winter, yet grow hardy as a pine knot; whereas the darlings of the rich are too often reared in such effeminacy, as if they were to spend their lives in the nursery. Eminent physicians have discovered excellent expedients for strengthening the inward parts, and blunting the sensibility of pain—A future day may behold improvements, that at present appear impossible, if the great masters of the healing art direct their inquiries to this object, which is the greater, as to prevent ill is much better than to lessen or even remove it. Bodily pains are indeed real, and so are the pangs of the mind; both are imaginary (that is, without a natural necessity) so far as we can lessen our sensibility of them.

(To be continued.)

To the EDITOR of the COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IN your Magazine for September, you published the Prizes proposed on the 5th of April, 1785, by the Philadelphia Society for promoting Agriculture.³⁷ I now send you four additional prizes, proposed by the Society, on the 14th of February, 1786.—It is necessary to inform the Public, that the Society have agreed to continue all the Prizes proposed in 1785; allowing the claims for such of them as should have been presented by the 20th of December, 1785, to be delivered by the 20th of December, 1786.

I also inclose Mr. J. B. Bordley's account of his and Mr. Singleton's Experiments, designed to ascertain from what quantities of Seed, and at what distances sown, Wheat grows best.

THESE Papers you will be pleased to publish as soon as shall be convenient. I am, &c.

T. PICKERING, *Secretary.*

Philad. Nov. 9, 1786.

*PRIZES proposed by the Philadelphia Society for promoting Agriculture, the
14th of February, 1786.*

1st, THE society believing that very important advantages would be derived from the general use of oxen, instead of horses, in husbandry and other services; and being desirous of facilitating their introduction into all these states: persuaded also that the comparative value of oxen and cows must very much depend on the quality of their sires and dams; and, that by a careful attention to the subject, an improved breed may be obtained: they propose a gold medal for the best essay, founded in experience, on the breeding, feeding, and management of cattle, for the purpose of rendering them most profitable for the dairy, and for beef; and most docile and useful for draught; and for the next best, a silver medal. To be produced by the first of January 1787.—N.B. Among other things, the essay should notice the different breeds of cattle and their comparative qualities.³⁸

2d. It is a generally received opinion, that horses in a team travel much faster than oxen;—yet some European writers on husbandry, mention many instances, in which it appeared not only that oxen would plough as much ground as an equal number of horses; but travel also as fast with a loaded carriage; particularly when, instead of yokes and bows, they are geared in horse-harness, with such variations as were necessary to adapt it to their different shape. To ascertain the powers of oxen, in these particulars, and the expence of maintaining them, the society deem matters of very great moment; and are therefore induced to offer a gold medal for the best set of experiments undertaken

with that view:—And, for the next best, a silver medal.—In relating these experiments, it will be proper to describe the age and size of the oxen, their plight, the kinds and quantities of their food, the times, manner, and expence of shoeing them, in travelling; the kinds of carriages used, and weights of their loads; the seasons of the year, and the length and quality of the roads:—And in ploughing, the size and fashion of the plough, the quality of the soil, the depth of the furrows, and the quantities ploughed—and, in every operation the time expended, and number and sorts of hands employed in performing it; with any other circumstances which may more fully elucidate the subject. These experiments will enable the essayist to determine what will be the best form and construction of yokes and bows—and what of ox-harness, to enable oxen, with the best carriage of their bodies and heads, the most ease, and quickest step to draw the heaviest loads; a description of each of which sorts of gears, explained on mechanical principles, must be subjoined to the accounts of experiments: To be produced by the first day of January, 1787.

3d. For the best method, within the power of common farmers, of recovering old gullied fields to a hearty state, and such uniformity or evenness of surface, as will again render them fit for tillage; or, where the gullies are so deep and numerous as to render such recovery impracticable, for the best method of improving them, by planting trees or otherwise, so as to yield

the improver a reasonable profit for his expences therein, founded in experience, a gold medal; and, for the next best, a silver medal; To be produced by the first of January, 1790.

4th. For the greatest quantity, not less than 500 lb of cheese, made on one farm in any of these states, equal in dryness, richness and flavour, to the Cheshire cheese usually imported from England, and which

shall be produced to the society by the first of January, 1788, a gold medal; and for the next greatest quantity, not less than 250 lb of like quantity, a silver medal. Besides which the society engage to pay for the cheese so produced, at the rate of ten per cent. more than the then current wholesale price at Philadelphia, of Cheshire cheese of the same quality.

Mr. BORDLEY's Account of his own and Mr. SINGLETON's Experiments, designed to ascertain, with what Quantity of Seed sown, and at what Distances, Wheat grows best.

EXPERIMENTS prove, that wheat sown every way equidistant, yields the greatest crops; and, that a number of grains dropped close together, forming clusters, are better than only one or two grains to each cluster: But what is the best distance and number of grains to be dropped together, for forming clusters, are not quite so well ascertained. In Europe it has been proved by experiments, that the crop is increased in proportion to the number of grains sown for each cluster, as far as 15 grains. Mr. Singleton's experiment below, proves the like as far as 13 grains; further he did not try it: I proved it as far as 9 grains, the extent of my trials.

In England, seed wheat set at 4 inches distance, every way, with one grain for each cluster, proved better than broadcast, yet much inferior to what was set at greater distances, with more grains to a cluster. Experiments made in Maryland, taught me to prefer clusters at 6 inches by 6 inches apart, with 6 to 8 or 9 grains (more grains were not tried by me.) Mr. Singleton's experiment confirms these points. I should also prefer placing the

grains of each cluster close together. Dropped into holes made with a dibble,³⁹ they were touched by each other; yet these produced equal to what were set near to the extremity of circles of three inches diameter, the centres of the circles being 8 inches by 8 inches apart; when those dropped into the dibbled holes were only 6 inches by 6 inches apart, all being set at the same time, in ground adjoining and allotted for each method.

Next to a high and perfect cultivation of ground, the quantity of seed and method of sowing it, are the most important for producing line crops of wheat. Every one has his manner (a thoughtless habit in some) of sowing, and proportion of seed; and every one thinks he prepares his ground sufficiently, if not better than his neighbour: But a real, true, and proper proportion is no where practised in this country. What is the best method of sowing is too generally neglected to be enquired into; and scarcely any seek the knowledge of it thro'

experiment—the only faithful instructor. It is wished that farmers would try, in small, comparative experiments, various proportions of seed and methods of sowing, in small pieces of ground, ploughed, some shallow, some deep, and twice, thrice, to four, five, and six times ploughed.

Mr. Singleton set seed wheat, on the 31st of August, 1785, in clusters, 9 inches by 9 inches apart; and adjoining to it, at 6 inches by 6 inches, in a soil good and proper for wheat, a clay loam.⁴⁰

Turkies destroyed some clusters, and many heads; whence there was great irregularity in the produce of heads, &c. yet it appears in this, as in the European, and my experiments made in Maryland, that produce, generally, is in proportion to the nearness of the clusters, as low as 6 inches by 6 inches; and to the number of grains dropped for each cluster, as high as thirteen grains. Such part of Mr. Singleton's table of his experiment as is applicable to what I have said, follows:

	CLUSTERS		GRAINS to each Cluster	HEADS pro- duced.	
	Seeded	Growing			
DISTANCE OF CLUSTERS, 9 inches by 9 inches.	6	6	1	104	Heads.
	6	5	2	102	
	6	6	3	134	
	6	5	4	117	Average, 128.
	6	6	5	161	
	6	6	6	94	Average, 145.
	6	6	7	173	
	6	6	8	162	
	6	5	9	152	Average, 181.
	6	6	10	161	
	6	6	11	190	
	6	6	12	167	
	6	6	13	207	
	78	75	—	1924	{ Equal to 2,000,000 heads an acre.
DISTANCE OF CLUSTERS, 6 inches by 6 inches.	9	6	1	44	Heads.
	9	8	2	90	
	9	7	3	136	
	9	7	4	79	Average, 103.
	9	8	3	109	
	9	7	6	90	Average, 119.
	9	9	7	138	
	9	8	8	96	
	9	9	9	153	Average, 160.
	9	9	10	200	
	9	8	11	166	
	9	8	12	127	
	9	8	13	145	
	117	102	—	1573	{ Equal to 2,687,000 heads an acre.

The

The deficiency in heads, of some of the clusters, 6 inches by 6 inches, is remarkable; and is in such order as to convince us it must be owing to some accident:—They were the most exposed to the turkies, &c.

An acre sown 9 inches by 9 inches, contains, 77,000 clusters; but if sown 6 inches by 6 inches, it would contain 174,000 clusters. If then, the growth of the plants is not lessened by their being too close, the produce, in the

August 15, 1786.

To the Society of Agriculture, at Philadelphia.

latter case, must far exceed that of the former; and although the branching should not be so great, yet the crop must be greater; as appears from the above instance; where the produce of (heads equally full of grain) is above a fourth more from the cluster of 6 by 6 inches, than from those of 9 by 9 inches, notwithstanding their being reduced by poultry so much more than the clusters of 9 by 9 inches.

J. BEALE BORDLEY.

*The Contemplant.*⁴¹ *An Eastern Tale.*⁴²

MAAN Benzaid, Soldan⁴³ of Egypt, commonly stiled Abubeker, the Faithful Witness,⁴⁴ as resembling him, had spent many tranquil and happy days in the bosom of pleasure and contentment. Every morning did he anoint his head with the oil of gladness, when his only son Kitchtab, in favour of whom he had amassed great treasures, and extended his conquests, was wounded, amidst the ardours of the chase, by an arrow shot from an unknown hand, and instantly expired.

Maan Benzaid delivered himself up to all the gloomy horrors of the deepest heart-felt grief; he refused to enter again his palace, and retired into a grot,⁴⁵ the darkest and most dismal he could find in a neighbouring mountain. There he rolled about on the dust, rent his garments, tore away the hairs of his venerable beard, and would not taste of the cup of consolation from the hands of patience. He did not permit his domestics⁴⁶ to approach him, and heard nothing but the lugubrious⁴⁷

cries of nocturnal birds fluttering about his dark cavern. “Can God be called a beneficent Being, said Maan Benzaid to himself without ceasing, he, who takes pleasure in wounding the soul by unexpected blows; he, who destroys his creatures by remediless misfortunes? Ye impostor Imans, speak to us no more of the goodness and justice of a Providence that directs all events, and loves mankind. He, whom ye pretend to reign in the heavens, is so far from protecting the wretched children of men, that he rather seeks amusement in blasting the sweetest and gayest flowers in the garden of hope; and, as a pitiless giant, in levelling with the dust the strongest towers of happiness, with the iron club of his wrath. If that being had the goodness his priests sing the eulogies of, he would undoubtedly be prevailed on to banish those evils, which make this world a prison of anguish, and a valley of vanity and misfortune.—I cannot, will not longer remain in it.”—He then stretched out, with rage, his

hand, which despair had armed with a poignard,⁴⁸ and was ready to pierce his heart, when suddenly his cave flashed with lightnings—A being of a beauty and stature more than human, clothed with a robe of celestial azure, crowned with amaranths, and waving a palm tree branch he held in his right hand, stopped short the trembling and astonished Soldan's arm, and addressed him, saying with a majestic smile, "Follow me to the top of this mountain."

When they arrived there, "I am Gabriel, the angel of peace, said this respectable conductor to him; turn thy eyes towards the valley." Maan Benzaid saw a desert barren isle, overspread with burning sands: In the midst of it he perceived a meagre, pale, and ghastly figure. It was a merchant, who was perishing of hunger, and was making dismal lamentations by not finding herb, grain, or spring of water in that desert; he was also imploring the protection of heaven against the tygers, which were ready to devour him. He held in his hands a casket of jewels, which he threw on the sand as useless to him, and with great difficulty crawled along towards an eminence⁴⁹ to which he every evening repaired, to espy and give signals to the first ship chance might direct to the island. "Ye masters of the heavens, said Maan Benzaid, do not permit that distressed and forlorn wretch to be devoured by wild beasts!"—"Keep thy tongue silent," said the angel, "and observe."—He looked about him, and saw a ship putting in at this desert island. The joy of the merchant, almost ready to expire for want of food, was not to be expressed, when the captain offered to carry him to his country, if he would give him some reward. The merchant offered

him the half of his jewels, and the captain, having accepted it, held council with his people to seize upon the rest, and abandon him to his deplorable fate; they did so, accordingly, and the unfortunate merchant in vain strove to move them to pity, by his supplications and by his tears.

"O Heaven! wilt thou permit so atrocious an injustice," cried Maan Benzaid! "Take notice," said the angel; "behold that ship, into which thou didst wish that wretch had been received, dashed in pieces by a rock on which it has just now struck; do not you hear the lamentable cries of the seamen! Leave the world to be governed by the great and wise dispenser that has created it! Soon will he relieve that famished man by the provisions that will float ashore to him; he impresses awe on the wild beast before him, and he will deliver him out of that horrid desert by means known only to himself. His heart having been influenced and engrossed by avarice, he was not only the most contemptible, but the most unhappy of men. He imagined that there was in riches some transcendent charm, by the help of which he should gratify all his desires, and should never have any thing to fear. This day he has not only began to despise, but even to have riches in horror, by scattering his jewels on the sand, he has been sensible of their inutility, and the behaviour of the seamen has shewn him how pernicious they may be; he is now conscious to himself that they are good or bad, useful or hurtful, according to the temper of the possessor. Happy the man, who has learned wisdom in the school of

adversity! Now turn thy eyes on that side, and thou wilt see a sight far more affecting to thee than that to which thou hast been a witness.”

At the same instant the Soldan saw a magnificent palace, adorned with the jasper⁵⁰ statues of his ancestors; its ivory doors, turning on hinges of Golconda gold,⁵¹ presented to view a throne of diamonds, environed by the rajas⁵² of fifty nations, and by ambassadors clad in robes of all sorts of colours. On this throne sat Kitchtab, the son of Maan Benzaid, whose death he so bitterly bewailed; and by his side was a princess, more beautiful than a Houri,⁵³ one of the delectable nymphs of Paradise.

“O beneficent Allah! ’tis my son,” cried the Soldan;” “ah! let me take him into my arms, and bring him close to my heart!” The angel answered him: “Thou canst not embrace a being that has no substance; this is merely a vision; I only shew thee what might have been the destiny of thy son, if he had lived longer.”—”And why,” cried Maan Benzaid, “was he not permitted to live longer? Why have I not the satisfaction to see him enjoy so much happiness and power?” Wait a moment, replied the inhabitant of the fifth heaven. Maan Benzaid, continuing to look attentively, perceived that the face of his son, on which he was accustomed to see an agreeable smile, and the sprightly colours of health, sometimes indicated the perturbations of rage, and sometimes the intoxications of drunkenness he had indulged; he saw likewise painted on it, disdain, terror, and all the wretched symptoms of a debauched life; his hands were imbrued in blood; his heart seemed rent with the violence of rage; the palace,

where before sparkled all the pomp of the east, was all of a sudden changed into a dark dungeon: His son lay extended on the ground, bound, shackled, fettered, and his eyes plucked out: soon after he saw the favourite sultaness, whose beauty he had so much admired, present Kitchtab with a poisoned cup, which she forced him to drink, and he saw her directly after married with his successor to the throne.

“Happy,” said the angel of peace,” is he, whom Providence has delivered from a criminal state by the angel of death, and from whom Providence has taken a power that would have brought upon him the extremity of wretchedness!”

“Enough, cried Maan Benzaid, I adore the impenetrable designs of the Almighty Power! From what dreadful evils has not my son been preserved by that death for which I have cried so many tears! It is a death of innocence and peace which has left on the earth his memory as a blessing, and has consigned his soul over to an immortality of happiness in heaven.”

“Throw away the dagger,” said the celestial messenger to him, “with which thou didst intend to smite thyself; change thy complaints into a respectful silence, and thy doubts into profound admiration; can a mortal, without confusion, and without giddiness, look into the immense abyss of eternity? Can a mind that sees only at an infinitely short distance, descry the whole chain of events? Can the canals thou hast caused to be dug, for receiving the annual inundations⁵⁴ of the Nile, contain the waters of the ocean? Remember, that perfect happiness cannot be given to a creature: Perfect happiness is the attribute of a great being, which

can be no more communicated than infinite power and eternity.”

After thus speaking, the angel expanded his wings and flew towards the

*Perrin and Lucetta, or Rural Probity.*⁵⁶

PERRIN was born in Britany,⁵⁷ in a village near Vitré. When he came into the world, Poverty received him into her cold embrace; he lost his father and mother before he could pronounce their names; he owed his subsistence to public charity; he learned to read and write; this was the utmost extent of his education. At the age of fifteen he hired himself to a farmer; he was entrusted with the care of a flock. Lucetta, a young girl of the neighbourhood, at the same time tended her father's sheep. She led them to pastures, where she often met Perrin, who paid her all the little services and assiduities that were possible at his age and in his situation. Their custom of being together, their quiet occupations, their goodness of heart, their officious attention to each other, produced a mutual attachment: They were fond of each other's company; they waited with impatience for the hour at which they usually met in the meadow; they quitted it with regret; because, when they were to leave it, they were to separate. Their young hearts were susceptible; they already felt the passion of love, though they were ignorant of its nature and its tendency. Five years glided away in innocent amusements; their sentiments grew more animated and ardent; they never met now without the warmest emotions, which were heightened by the artless expressions of their love. Lucetta frequently checked Perrin's passion, not without regretting the constraint to which she was subjected by her conscious and ingenuous modesty; Perrin sighed, and imitated her cautious behaviour. They both wished to be united by wedlock, and communicated to each other their mutual desire. Marriage is the final object of rural love. Seducement is not known in the innocent village; the coquette and the man of intrigue are characters not to be met with there. Perrin intended to ask Lucetta of her

Empyreum.⁵⁵ Maan Benzaid returned to his palace, and found in the angel's words the principles of true happiness.

father; he communicated his intention to his mistress, who blushed at the proposal, yet frankly acknowledged that it gave her a very sensible pleasure. She did not, however, choose to be present at the interview betwixt him and her father; she told her lover that she was to go to the neighbouring town the next day; she desired him to avail himself of her absence, and to acquaint her in the evening of his success.

The young man, at the appointed time flew to Lucetta's father. He opened his mind to him without reserve. Studied persuasion and art are not the talents of rustic orators. He frankly told him that he loved Lucetta.—You love my daughter, answered the old man abruptly!—You would marry her?—Are you in earnest, Perrin?—How do you propose to live? Have you clothes to give her? Have you a roof to cover her? Have you food to support her? You are a servant; you have nothing. Lucetta is not rich enough to maintain herself and you. Perrin, you are not in a condition to keep a wife and family. I have hands, replied Perrin; I have health and strength; a man who loves his wife never wants employment; and what industry would I not exert to maintain Lucetta! Hitherto I have gained five crowns every year. I have saved twenty; they will defray the expences of the wedding. I will work more diligently; my savings will augment; I shall be able to take a little farm; the richest inhabitants of our village have begun as poorly as I shall set off in life, why may I not succeed as well as they? Very true, Perrin; you are young; you may wait yet for some time; when I find you a rich man, my daughter is yours; but till then, make me no more absurd and romantic proposals.

Perrin could obtain no other answer; he ran to meet Lucetta; he soon found her; he was deeply affected with his

disappointment; she read on his face the tidings he was going to announce. My father then has refused you!—Ah Lucetta, how unhappy I am to have been born poor! But I have not lost all hope; my situation may change: Your husband would have spared no pains to procure you a comfortable subsistence; will not your lover do as much to have the happiness of one day possessing you? We shall yet be united; I will not quit the delightful prospect. I conjure you to keep your heart for me; remember you have pledged it to me.—Should your father propose a match for you—Lucetta!—That is the only misfortune I can fear: Your compliance would terminate my life.—And could I, Perrin, marry any one but you? No? if I am not your wife, I will be the wife of no other man upon earth.

They held this conversation on the road to Vitré. Night advancing, obliged them to quicken their pace. The evening was dark. Perrin's foot hits against something in the road, and he falls. He searches for what occasioned his fall; he finds it; 'tis a heavy bag; he takes it up; and, curious to know what it contains, he goes with Lucetta into a field where a fire, which the peasants had lighted, in the day-time, was yet burning. By the light of this fire he opens the bag, and finds gold in it.—What do I see? cried Lucetta. Ah! Perrin, you are become rich!—Is it possible, replied Perrin, that it is now in my power to possess you? Can Heaven have been so propitious to our love as to bestow upon me what will procure your father's consent to our marriage and make us happy! This idea infuses joy into their souls. They view the gold with eagerness, almost distrustful of their eyes; sometimes they quit the shining object, and look upon each other with tenderness and transport.—Their first surprise being abated, they count the sum, it amounts to twelve thousand livres. They are enchanted with their immense treasure.—Ah, Lucetta, cries Perrin, your father can no longer oppose my happiness.—Lucetta cannot find words to answer him; but her eyes are animated and eloquent; she presses her lover's hand with

rapture. Perrin is now certain that his bliss will soon be ratified: He embraces his mistress with ardour and ecstasy? He is absorbed in the idea of his approaching felicity. Amiable Lucetta, cries he, how dear is this fortune to me; for I shall share it with you!

They tie up their treasure, and proceed towards Lucetta's father's; for they were determined to shew it immediately to the old man. They were now near his house, when on a sudden Perrin stopped.—By this gold, says he, we must expect to be happy; but is it ours? It undoubtedly belongs to a traveller: The fair of Vitré is just ended. Some merchant has probably lost it in his return home; at this very moment, whilst we are giving up ourselves to joy, he, perhaps, is a prey to despair.—Your reflection is terrible, answered Lucetta; the unhappy man, without doubt is in the utmost distress; can we enjoy what belongs to him? You make me tremble.—We were carrying this money to your father, replied Perrin; through its influence, he would unquestionably have consented to make us happy: But could we have been happy in usurping the property of another? Let us go to the rector of our parish: he has always shewn me great humanity; he recommended me to the master whom I serve; I should take no material step without consulting him.

The rector was at home. Perrin gave him the bag which he had found. He owned that he at first looked upon it as a gift from Heaven; He acquainted him with his love of Lucetta, and with the obstacle which his poverty had proved to their union. The good man was all attention to the story; he gave them looks of paternal affection; their behaviour awoke the sensibility of his soul; he saw the ardour of a mutual passion glisten in their eyes; he admired their passion; but he more admired their probity. He applauded their generous conduct. Perrin, said he, cherish these sentiments as long as you live. The consciousness of them will make you happy; and they will draw down from Providence a blessing on your endeavours. We shall find the owner of this

money; he will recompense your integrity; to his reward I will add a part of the money I have saved; Lucetta shall be yours; I will take upon me to obtain her father's consent; you are worthy of each other. If the money which you have deposited with me, is not reclaimed, it belongs to the poor; you are poor; in restoring it to you, I shall think that I act in obedience to Providence, who, by your finding it, and lodging it with me, has already marked you out as an object of his favour.

The two lovers retired, satisfied with having done their duty, and enlivened with the hope of being yet united. The bag was proclaimed in the rector's parish; advertisements of it were posted up at Vitré, and all the neighbouring villages. It was claimed by many avaricious and selfish persons; but none of them gave an accurate account of the sum, the specie, and the bag which contained it.

In the mean time the rector did not forget that he had promised to espouse Perrin's interest. He took a little farm for him; he bought him cattle, and implements of husbandry, and, two months after, he married him to Lucetta. The hearts of the fortunate couple, who had now arrived at the summit of their wishes, daily overflowed with gratitude to Heaven, and to the rector. Perrin was industrious—Lucetta was attentive to her domestic affairs. They paid their landlord with the most rigid punctuality; they lived moderately on their profits, and were happy.

Two years expired, and the money was not reclaimed by the owner. The rector thought it superfluous to wait any longer; he took, it to the virtuous pair whom he had united. My children, said he, enjoy the bounty of Providence without abusing it: These twelve thousand livres are dead with me; employ them to your honest advantage. If you should discover the lawful owner of them, you ought undoubtedly to restore them to him: Dispose of them in such a way, that, though you change their substance, you may retain their value. Perrin followed his advice; he resolved to purchase the farm which he rented. It was to be sold; it was estimated at

more than twelve thousand livres: But for ready money Perrin hoped to buy it for that sum. The gold which he found he only looked upon as a deposit; it could not, he thought, be better secured: And the rightful possessor, if ever he should meet with him, could not be a loser.

The rector approved the project, and the purchase was soon made. As Perrin was now proprietor of the land which he had farmed, he bestowed more pains in the cultivation of it. His fields, kept in better order, and more improved, yielded a larger produce; he lived in that ease and abundance which he had been ambitious to obtain for Lucetta. Two children successively blessed their union; they rejoiced to see themselves renewed in those tender pledges of their love. Perrin, in returning from the field, was usually met by his wife, who presented his children to him; he embraced them with transport, and then clasped Lucetta in his arms. The children were eagerly officious about their father: one wiped the sweat from his face; the other attempted to ease him of the spade. He smiled at his feeble efforts; he caressed him again, and thanked Heaven for having given him an affectionate wife, and children who resembled him.

Some years after, the old rector died. Perrin and Lucetta lamented his death; their minds dwelt afresh on what they owed to his humanity; the reflection made them contemplate their own situation. We, too, shall die, said they, and we shall leave our farm to our children. It is not our property. If he to whom it belongs should return, he would be deprived of it forever; we shall take the right of another with us to the grave. This idea they could not support. Delicate in their integrity, they could not be happy while their consciences charged them with the least appearance of fraud. They immediately had a declaration drawn, and signed by the principal inhabitants of the village, which set forth the tenure by which they held their farm. They lodged the declaration in the hands of the new rector. This precaution, which

they thought necessary to enforce a restitution that justice might exact of their children, set their minds at ease.

Perrin had now been settled ten years in this farm. One day, after a forenoon's hard labour, as he was going home to dinner, he saw two men overturned in a chaise⁵⁸ on the high road, at a small distance from his house. He ran to their assistance; he offered them his draught horses to convey their baggage; he begged of them to go with him, and accept such refreshment as his humble roof afforded. The travellers were not hurt by their fall. This is a very unlucky place to me, said one of them, I cannot pass it without some misfortune. A great mischance befel me here about twelve years ago: I was returning from the fair of Vitré, and near this spot I lost twelve thousand livres in gold. But did you neglect, said Perrin, who heard him with attention, to make proper enquiries for your money? It was not in my power, replied the stranger, to take the usual ways to recover it. I was just going to make a voyage to the East Indies; the vessel in which I was to sail, would not have waited for me; all the expedients I could have fallen upon, to regain my money, would undoubtedly have been fruitless; and the delay which they would have occasioned, would have been more prejudicial to me than the loss of it.

This discourse made Perrin's heart leap for joy: he repeated his invitation with more earnestness; he entreated the gentlemen to accept of the asylum which he offered them; he assured them that his house was the nearest and most commodious habitation of the place: They complied with his request: he went of the first, to shew them the way: He soon met his wife, who, according to custom, came to meet him. He desired her to hasten home, and prepare a dinner for his guests. On their arrival at his house, he brought them a refreshment, and renewed the conversation on the loss of the twelve thousand livres. By the sequel of the traveller's discourse, he was convinced that he was the man to whom he owed a restitution. He went to the new

rector, informed him of what he had learned, and begged he would do him the favour to dine with him. He accepted his invitation, and accompanied him; admiring, as he went, the joy of the peasant on a discovery which would be his ruin.

Dinner is served up—the travellers are charmed with the hospitality of Perrin—they admire his domestic œconemy—the benevolence of his heart—the frankness of his behaviour—the engaging and ingenuous manner of Lucetta—her assiduities, and her kindness—they caress the children. After dinner Perrin shews them his house, his garden, and his cattle; he informs them of the situation, the fertility, and the produce of his fields, all this, added he to the traveller, on whose account he was so particular, belongs to you. The money which you lost, fell into my hands; when I found that it was not likely to be reclaimed, I bought this farm with it, which I always intended to give up to him who should convince me that he had a right to it—I now resign it to you; if I had died without finding you, the rector has a deed which confirms your property.

The stranger was for some moments lost in amazement—He read the writing which the rector had put into his hand. He looked earnestly on Perrin—on Lucetta, and their children. Where am I, at length exclaimed he! and what have I heard! What an uncommon manner of proceeding! What virtue, what nobleness of soul, and in what a station of life do I find them! Have you nothing to depend⁵⁹ upon this farm? added he?—No; but, if you do not sell it, you will need a farmer, and I hope you will give me the preference. Your probity deserves a different recompence. It is now twelve years since I lost the sum which you found: In that time God has blessed my commerce—it has been greatly extended—it has prospered—it is long since I ceased to feel the effects of my loss. Your restitution now would not make me richer. You merit this little fortune: Providence has made you a present of it: I could not take it from you without

offending my Creator. Keep it; it belongs to you; or, if I must have a right to it, I give it you. You might have kept it; I should never have reclaimed it: What man would have acted like you!

He immediately tore the deed which the rector had given him. The world, said he, should be acquainted with your generous action. A deed to ratify my resignation in your favour, your right to the farm, and that of your children, is not necessary; However, it shall be executed, to perpetuate the remembrance of your disinterestedness and honour.

Perrin and Lucette fell at the feet of the traveller. He raised and embraced them. A notary was sent for; he engrossed the deed: he had never drawn one of such noble contents. Perrin shed tears of

gratitude and joy. My children, said he, kiss the hand of your benefactor. Lucette, by the generosity of this worthy man, the farm is now become our own; henceforth we may enjoy it without anxiety, and without remorse.

Perrin and Lucette, in their vacant hours, often paid encomiums to the memory of the old rector, the guardian of their innocence, and the first promoter of their happiness. While they dwelt on the pleasing subject, they felt the best emotions of human nature; tears of gratitude and affection started from their eyes. His precepts had made an indelible impression upon their minds, and, by their constant observance of them, they hoped to rejoin him in a better world.

The DISCOVERY.

CAPTAIN Ingoldsby was a soldier of fortune; the younger son of a younger branch of a great and respectable family: but his sword was his patrimony; and having entered early into the profession of arms for a maintenance, he pursued it with that enthusiastic spirit of honour, which is dictated by the considerations of family pride, the hope of fame, the dread of disgrace, and the most ardent love of glory, and of one's country.

He married, too, like a soldier: interest made no part of his composition. He saw and admired his Emma; he formed an acquaintance with her; and found her mind the counterpart of her person: young, handsome, and gallant, he met with no difficulty in inspiring mutual regard, or in obtaining the consent of her father, a

venerable, respectable, unbeneficed⁶⁰ clergyman.

Happiness is neither confined to fortune or condition: the amiable couple loved, and love supplied all deficiencies. Love restrained the gaiety of Mr. Ingoldsby's disposition; and taught his amiable partner the prudence necessary to regulate expences, which were to be bounded by the pay of a lieutenant of foot.⁶¹

Nor did the increase of their family, (for heaven blessed them with a female infant within the first year after their marriage) add to their difficulties; it served only to augment the attention of the father, and the circumspection⁶² of the mother; and they rejoiced in the participation of their scanty possessions, to the offspring of love, the pledge of the tenderest affection.

In the care and superintendence of their darling daughter, did their years roll on in peaceable and humble content. If they heaved a sigh, it was for their Miranda's future welfare; if they breathed a wish, it was to see her placed in a situation which might guard her against the attacks of poverty, and the designs of iniquity: from the former, they were aware, beauty and accomplishments would prove no shield; and they trembled, when they reflected, that they might prove the most powerful incitements to the latter.

The sweets of life are not to be enjoyed without its accompanying embitterments. These disquietudes were augmented by a circumstance as unexpected as it was alarming: they were in a moment destined to be torn from each other's arms; or to put chase a continuance of the joys they had experienced in sixteen years society, by incurring an expence they were unable to support, and risking dangers and difficulties, which female delicacy is little calculated to encounter. The regiment in which Mr. Ingoldsby served, received orders to embark for America, in transports already prepared for their reception.

On the communication of this intelligence, so subversive of their little plans of economy and felicity, Mrs. Ingoldsby earnestly intreated, that she and her daughter might be the companions of his voyage; she enumerated, in the most lively and affectionate terms, all the advantages that might be derived from keeping their little family together; and she displayed, in all the eloquence of feeling grief, the horrors that must await her and her daughter at the moment of their separation. No arguments were necessary to convince him that what she wished must be right; he folded his Emma and Miranda to his bosom; and whilst he wept over the distresses to which all he held dear might be exposed, a smile of approbation burst thro' the manly cloud, and he exulted in such a wife, and such a daughter. All the difficulties which the narrowness of their finances suggested, were obviated⁶³ by a thousand arrangements, the ingenious devices of love; and the command of a company, which was conferred on Mr. Ingoldsby before the embarkation, left them no other anxiety than what concerned a future provision for their Miranda.

Few events, differing enough from the common occurrences of life to be worth recording, happened either in the course of their voyage, or on their arrival at Boston; except that the assiduities⁶⁴ of a young officer of another regiment, who accompanied them in the same transport, seemed to have made some impression on the heart of the

gentle Miranda; who listened to tales of love sanctioned by the approbation of her parents, and sighed out her own confession in strains of artless and irresistible harmony.

Mr. Monson was formed on the model which Captain Ingoldsby had an idea fixed on for the husband of his Miranda. His manners were as mild as his soul was brave; he carried command in one hand, and affection in the other; and his orders were obeyed with that mingled fear and love, with which inferiors in every station look up to those who neither exert their powers in tyranny, nor suffer them to fall into contempt by imprudent and ill-timed indulgence. To the qualifications of a soldier he added those which most highly adorned private life; he was lively, yet steady; generous, without profusion; and, if his expences ever exceeded the strictest limits of prudence, the excess might be attributed to some acts of benevolence, to which his heart and his purse were always equally open. Nor was his income limited; for he was the only son of a gentleman of fortune, who had indulged his propensity to arms at the expence of the most acute and agonizing sensations; and who, with a parental affection as laudable as it is uncommon, subjected him to no restrictions but in the choice of a wife, and in this grand object of the happiness of his life, had only enjoined him to consider birth, education, and virtue, as the most valuable possessions she could bestow on him.

But both Captain Ingoldsby and Mr. Monson were too regardful of decency and propriety to hasten an event of so much importance, till the father of the young gentleman had been acquainted with the attachment: and letters from Mr. Ingoldsby and the lover, were prepared to be dispatched by the first ships which should sail for Europe; and the young soldier conquered his impatience, by the suggestions of conscious dignity and rectitude in this discharge of his filial duty.

But, alas! these precautions were soon rendered fruitless, by events which dissolved the bands of affection; rent asunder the ties of mutual love; darkened the fairest prospects of future happiness; and involved in a gloom, apparently everlasting, connubial⁶⁵ joys, present and promised.

On that day, which will ever be marked with horror in the remembrances of those who feel for their country; and which will never revolve without renewing the most acute anguish in the bosoms of those whose fathers, husbands, brothers, or relatives, suffered in the dreadful conflict—on that day, when the attack on Bunker's Hill⁶⁶ occasioned

a carnage, which thinned the British ranks, and laid her heroes in the dust—Captain Ingoldsby and Mr. Monson stood foremost in the bloody contest: accident had placed them in the same brigade, and they fought and fell together; the body of the young officer being carried off by the Americans, and the mortally wounded captain conveyed to the habitation of his wretched wife and daughter.

To attempt a description of such a scene, would require a pen inspired by Pity herself: let those who wish to paint it, figure to themselves a brave officer, unstained by a single act in life which he could possibly recollect with regret, expiring of wounds received in the service of his country; and, with all the dignity of virtue, administering consolation to the objects of his latest affection! Let them represent the wife sinking under the load of accumulated woe, on the bosom of the dying possessor of her heart, and calling back his fleeting spirit to guard her against giving way to the impulses of grief, and the impressions of despair! Let them pourtray youth, beauty, and virtue, stabbed with a double blow; and bereft, in one moment, of a father unequalled in affection, of a lover unrivalled in fidelity, exclaiming by turns for each, and with all the frenzy of inarticulate rage, arraigning the justice of Heaven, and the villainy of man! And if they desire to revel in all the luxuries of woe, let them attend to the heart-piercing shriek, which announced the departure of the brave, the regretted Ingoldsby.

We shall not follow the unfortunate mourners through the various progressions of grief, from keen and piercing anguish, to silent and corroding melancholy: In the last state they embarked for England, after having received every attention which the governor and garrison could offer, as a tribute to the memory of the deceased, and to the virtues and excellencies of the survivors.

On their arrival in England, their case being made known to their gracious and benevolent sovereign, they were soon relieved by his bounty from the apprehensions of indigence; and, on a pension granted to the mother, and continued to the daughter in case of her death, they retired to a village very remote from the metropolis, and rendered desirable to them by its being the residence of a maiden sister of Capt. Ingoldsby, who possessed a considerable portion of the virtues of her brother, and an affection for her niece, which could only be exceeded by that of her mother.

As the fortunes of this lady, though large enough to gratify her wishes, were limited, she and the widow agreed to join their narrow incomes; and as Miranda was their mutual care, so it was the

earnest wish of the aunt, that she might be accommodated at their mutual expence; and they entered on their little plan with the most affectionate intentions of rendering it as agreeable and comfortable to each other, as the nature of a situation, in which they each felt, though in different degrees, the pangs of softened but unabated grief, would admit.

But as no retirement will conceal the charms of beauty, nor any circle, however confined, prevent the fame of accomplishments from spreading beyond its limit—Mr. Maxwell, a neighbouring gentleman of fortune and character, was soon captivated with the reports of Miranda's excellencies; and as he was a widower, not much past the prime of life; and had yet an inclination again to wear the silken chains of matrimony, he determined to visit the fair; and if he found her worthy of his heart, to offer his hand; an offer, which he doubted not would be accepted, as his person was far from being disagreeable, his manners polished and elegant, his character unexceptionable, and his fortune very far above any expectations which orphan indigence could form.

To a man of Mr. Maxwell's consequence, few excuses were necessary for a liberty, which, however improper among people of equal fortunes, custom has unworthily commissioned the possessors of wealth to take with those whose situations in life are less eminently favored by the smiles of the blind and undistinguishing goddess.

But Mr. Maxwell was not of a disposition to avail himself of this unmerited superiority; he languished for a proper introduction, and suffered all the pains of impatience, till accident threw in his way the gratification of his wishes. The house which the ladies inhabited was advertised for sale; and, under pretence of an intention to purchase, he obtained permission, in consequence of a proper request, to inspect it on a particular day, which at his instance had been named by the fair tenants.

On that day Mr. Maxwell hastened to the village; and in the earliest moment that had been mentioned, he alighted at Mrs. Ingoldsby's door, not without the most flattering expectations that the politeness of the ladies would prove instrumental to the attainment of the only object he had in view.

Nor were his hopes disappointed. After he had viewed the house and gardens with the air of an intended purchaser, the refreshment of tea was proposed to him, and being accepted without hesitation, he was

introduced to the fair, the amiable, the still mourning Miranda.

Prepared by the universal voice to admire, love was the immediate consequence of a visit, which he requested leave to repeat in terms with which civility could not refuse to comply; and a very few days confirmed Mr. Maxwell the ardent and the professed lover of Miranda.

But her heart was still engaged, nor could she abandon even an hopeless passion; she wished to indulge her regrets through life, and was averse to every proposition which tended to turn the edge of her melancholy, and most to those which offered a new object for her affections.

Yet the character, the fortune, the unobjectionable person of Mr. Maxwell, were urged to her by her only friends, with such energy, but mildness of persuasion, that enforced by the declarations of her admirer, that he hoped not to inspire her with love, but to engage her friendship; and an opinion, that in accepting the hand of a man advanced in years, she offered less violence to her former engagement, than if she yielded to the solicitations of a young and pleasing lover—she was prevailed on to promise Mr. Maxwell the accomplishment of his wishes; and a day, at no very considerable distance was named for the completion of his happiness.

The necessary preparations now engaged the attention of Mr. Maxwell, and the two matron ladies; whilst Miranda, like a sacrifice adorned with garlands⁶⁷ for the altar, passively yielded to the assiduities of her friends, and suffered the ornaments of her person, and the intended provisions of settlement to be adjusted, without interfering in the management, or participating in the result.

But, a very few mornings before the appointed day, when the intended nuptials were to take place, as Miranda was at breakfast with her mother and aunt, a servant put into her hands a letter, which being known by the superscription⁶⁸ to be from Mr. Maxwell, she immediately delivered it to Mrs. Ingoldsby, who, to the utter astonishment of both her auditors, read aloud the contents of it, as follow:

MADAM,

THAT your heart is not at all interested in the intended event, you have, with that candour which renders your character the object of universal admiration, frequently acknowledged to me; you will not therefore even wish to receive an apology for my releasing you from an unsuitable engagement:

But as my heart still holds you dear, and your virtues and beauties will ever possess my mind with unalterable regard, so I think it my duty to explain to you the motives by which I am influenced; in a conduct which, however censurable it may appear in the public eye, will, I am persuaded, find a full justification in your goodness of heart, and in the sensibility of your worthy relations.

My long lost son! my son, whom I had for years resigned to Heaven, is restored to me—and Providence, which has bestowed on me this consummate happiness, will not permit me to add to it a wish which concerns myself.

But I have another explanation to make, in which I am to bespeak your forgiveness for an imposition, which, however innocent with respect to myself, I must confess to have been rather improper with regard to you. My real name is not Maxwell, which I assumed upon the supposed death of my son, when I retired from my usual place of residence, in a distant part of the kingdom, to avoid the importunities of some worthless and disagreeable relations; and this secret I entrusted to only one friend in the metropolis, from whom my son procured directions to his concealed and almost forgotten father.

It is at the particular instance of this son, that I take the liberty to enclose an order on my banker for three thousand pounds, which I entreat you to accept as a small tribute of my gratitude, for your intended goodness to him, who, till he has the honour to disclose to you in person his real name, begs leave to subscribe himself,

Madam, Your most devoted,
Obliged, and obedient servant,

J. MAXWELL.

P. S. Let me entreat you to suffer me to introduce my son to you in the course of our morning's ride.

Before the three ladies could recover from the surprise which this extraordinary epistle had occasioned, the arrival of Mr. Maxwell and another gentleman was announced, and, as the former entered the room, he presented his son to Miranda; who, having uttered the words, 'My Monson!' fell motionless into the arms of his father.

The conclusion of the story is obvious. He who held the welfare of his son in higher estimation than his own happiness, could have no objection to a match which Heaven itself had ordained; and where worth, honour, beauty, virtue, and fortune, are united, happiness must be the sure, the constant attendant.

The COLUMBIAN PARNASSIAD⁶⁹

A POETICAL EPISTLE⁷⁰, *addressed by a LADY of New Jersey, to her NIECE, upon her Marriage, in this City,*

WELL! my lov'd Niece, I hear the bustle's o'er,
The wedding cake and visits are no more;
The gay ones buzzing round some other bride,
'While you with grave ones grace the fire's side.
Now with your usual sweetness deign to hear,
What from a heart most friendly flows sincere:
Nor do I fear a supercilious⁷¹ smile—
To pay with gay contempt the muse's toil.
For be assur'd, I never will presume,
Superior sense or judgment to assume;
But barely that which long experience brings,
To men and women, those capricious⁷² things,
Nor do I once forget how very sage
Th' advice of Aunts has been in ev'ry age:
On matrimonial themes they all debate—
Wiseacres too who never try'd the state.
And 'twould, I own, appear as truly vain
For me, but to suppose I could attain
New light, upon a subject worn out quite;
And which both Aunts and Authors deem so trite.
But all the nuptial virtues in the class
Of spirit meek, and prudence, I shall pass;
Good nature—sense—of these you've ample store,
And (Economics you have learnt before.
But there are lurking evils that do prove
Under the name of trifles—death to love. —
And from these trifles, all the jarring springs,
And trust me, child, the're formidable things.
First then—with rev'rence treat in ev'ry place,
The chosen patron of your future days;
For when you shew him but the least neglect,
Yourself you rifle of your due respect.—
But never let your fondness for him rise,
In words or actions to the prying eyes
Of witnesses—who claim a right to sneer
At all the honey'd words, "My life,—my love,—my dear."
Nor from your husband should you e'er require
Those epithets,⁷³ which little minds admire—
Such short restraints will constantly maintain
That pow'r which fondness strives to reach in vain.
And give new joy to the returning hour,
When sweet retirement bars the op'ning door.
Nor do, —nor say, before the man you love, —
What in its nature must offensive prove:
However closely drawn the mystic ties,
Yet men have always microscopic eyes;
And easily advert to former time,
When nice reserve made females all divine.
"Would she to Damon or Alexis⁷⁴ say,
"A thing so rude? and am I less than they?"
Whene'er your husband means to stay at home
Whate'er th'occasion—don't consent to roam;
For home's a solitary place to one
Who loves his wife, and finds her always gone.
At least consult the temper of his mind,

If vex'd abroad, he finds himself inclin'd
From public business to relax awhile;
How pleasing then the solace of a smile—
A soft companion to relieve his care,
His joy to heighten—or his grief to share?
Unbend his thoughts and from the world retire,
Within his sacred home and round his chearful fire;
Nor let him know you've made a sacrifice,
He'll find it out himself: And then he'll prize
Your kind endeavours to promote his ease,
And make the study of your life to please.
Another rule you'll find of equal weight,
When jars subside, never recriminate;
And when the cloud is breaking from his brow,
Repeat not *what* he said—nor *when*—nor *how*.
If he's tenacious, gently give him way—
And tho' 'tis night, if he should say, 'tis day—
Dispute it not—but pass it with a smile;
He'll recollect himself—and pay your toil—
And shew he views it in a proper light;
And no confusion seek—to do your right;
Just in his humour meet him—no debate,
And let it be your pleasure to forget.
His friends with kindness always entertain,
And tho' by chance he brings them, ne'er complain;
Whate'er's provided for himself and you,
With neatness serv'd, will surely please them too.
Nor e'er restrict him, when he would invite
His friends in form, to spend a day or night:
Some ladies think the trouble is so great,
That all such motions cause a high debate;
And madam pouts and says, I would not mind
How much to company you were inclin'd,
If I had things to entertain genteel;
And could but make my table look as well,
As Mrs. A. and Mrs. B. can do;
I'd be as fond of company as you.—
And oft a richer service bribes the feast,
Than suits his purse, and makes himself a jest;
And tho' the good man gains his point at last,
It damps convivial mirth, and poisons the repast.
But you, my dear— if you would wish to shine,
Must always say,—*your* friends are also *mine*.
The house is your's, and I will do the best,
To give a cheerful welcome to each guest.
Nor are those maxims difficult to cope
When stimulated by so fair a hope,
To reach the summit of domestic bliss;
And crown each day with ever smiling peace.
Now if these lines one caution should contain,
To gain that end, my labour's not in vain;
And be assur'd, my dear, while life endures
With every tender sentiment, I'm your's,
EMELIA.

To AMELIA.

FROM love and friendship's fond desires, again
 You fly Amelia, to the distant plain.
 But ah! that plain no more a charm can boast,
 Fall'n are its honours, and its verdure lost.
 Thro' bending groves the northern blasts resound,
 And fade each varied beauty of the ground.
 Their loves forgot, the feather'd songsters fly
 To seek some happier clime and milder sky:
 While dark brow'd storms in dreadful pomp appear,
 And low'ring winter shuts the tardy year.
 Our hopes and wishes wave the hasty wing;
 And fly to antedate returning Spring.
 And scarce enjoy'd its gentle, pleasing reign,
 When circling seasons close the year again.

E'en thus, my friends, 'tis thus thro' life we go,
 Pursuing bliss and still possessing woe.
 Anxious our wishes to their period haste,
 Contemn'd the present, and disprov'd the past.
 Happy the savage, who, all wild, untaught,
 Proves not the mental misery of thought;
 His utmost wish to triumph in the course;
 His noblest glory in corporeal⁷⁵ force;
 Or hap'ly mounting fame's ensanguin'd⁷⁶ car
 He rolls the terrors of successful war;
 Enough that thro' th'admiring tribes around,
 His name and actions, transient meed, resound,
 Nor covets to transmit his well-earn'd praise,
 To rising heroes of succeeding days;
 Contented that one pang alike shall close
 The period of his triumph and his woes;
 Blest that, 'mid present joys, he does not bear
 The painful prescience⁷⁷ of a future care:
 Boasting the sweet refinement not to know,
 By which our pleasures sublimated⁷⁸ flow.

O sensibility! what charms are thine,
 Sweet smiling sadness, sorrow, all divine!
 Rous'd to thy praise, no more I give the strain
 To flow prolific of imagin'd pain.
 Parent of friendship, joy-dispensing pow'r,
 By thee what blessings cheer the adverse hour!
 By thee the spring does balmy sweets exhale,
 And songs of gladness swell the vernal⁷⁹ gale;
 By thee light-wing'd pleasures frolic round,
 While blooming flowrets variegat⁸⁰ the ground;
 In vain, without the joys which you afford,
 Might bounteous autumn crown the loaded board
 And soft'ning even sullen winter's reign,
 Thou giv'st the solace of our ev'ry pain.

Trust me, Amelia, were I doom'd to dwell
 The tenant of some lone, sequester'd⁸¹ cell;
 No gentle friend, to whom I might impart
 The woes and pleasures of a social heart;
 Some beauteous tree or blooming flow'ret near,
 Should sway my passions, and divide my care.
 By this I'd pass each slow-retiring day;
 Joy in its rise, and sigh in its decay;
 And when dark clouds the face of heav'n deform,
 For this I'd tremble at the threat'ning storm.

The Lover's Complaint.

ONE morning by the early dawn,
 I, lonely, pensive, stray'd,

Beside a gentle murm'ring stream,
 That edg'd a fragrant mead⁸²:—

A red-breast on a neighb'ring bough,
 Devoid of anxious care,
 Warbling a soft and am'rous lay
 To please his fav'rite fair.

Attentive to his strain she sat
 Hard by within his view,
 And now and then she strok'd her breast,
 To give a brighter hue.

He saw, delighted, what she did,
 And rais'd his love-wrought song.
 For her alone he wish'd to bless,
 Of all the feather'd throng.

Sing on, sweet warbler, sing, I said,
 You've got a grateful task,
 Whilst you can please the fair you love.
 You need no more to ask.

I could be happy, too, and sing,
 Was she I lov'd but near,
 But, ah! I have no heart for that—
 Since she's not by to hear.

Sometimes I fancy her with me,
 And, thoughtless, raise an air:
 Then stop, when round about I look,
 And find she is not there.

But when she comes, we'll walk this way,
 And take the fav'rite tree,
 You on the topmost bough with yours,
 And mine beneath with me.

We'll strive the tend'rest strains who'll raise,
 And happiest make his love.
 Echo shall judge between our lays
 And tell from yonder grove.

An INDIAN ECLOGUE⁸³.

Scene, the BANKS of the OHIO.
Time, MORNING.

SCARCE had the morn her orient⁸⁴ course begun,
 Or early breezes fann'd the rising sun,
 When Mingo⁸⁵ on Ohio's⁸⁶ margin stood,
 And told his sorrows to the gliding flood;—
 "With love of glory would the chiefs inflame
 "My breast; —and lead me to the field of fame:
 "In vain with glee, they shew their scalps and scars,
 "The glorious trophies of their former wars,
 "On me their praises and reproofs are lost,
 "No flame but love, —but scorching love, — I boast,
 "The nimble Lawrah does my breast inspire,
 "Wakes every sense, and sets me all on fire:
 "Enraptur'd⁸⁷ while I view her yellow neck,
 "As soft as bear-grease, and as beaver sleek,

"From her grey eyes the living lightnings rush,
 "Like the fresh dew-drops glitt'ring thro' a bush.
 "But vain my songs re-echo thro' the shade,
 "Nor vows, nor tears, can move the haughty maid.
 "E'en late I met her fainting in the track,
 "Her child and blanket dangling at her back;
 "Scarce mov'd her feet beneath the heavy load,
 "And drops of sweat bedew'd the groaning road.
 "Yet other nymphs with fruitless ardor⁸⁸ burn,
 "And feel a passion I can ne'er return.
 "In vain with gifts of fish, Agolla strove
 "To shake my constancy and win my love,
 "Her rough advances like a skunk I shun,
 "And from her face with eager footsteps run,
 "But vain my songs re-echo thro' the grove,
 "Nor vows, nor tears, the haughty maid can move:
 "Then cease these fruitless complaints, I'll take my spear,
 "And thro' the forest chace the shaggy bear;
 "The bounding buck shall own my oft try'd art,
 "And feel this arrow rankling in his heart.

Burlington.

A*****.

To the EDITOR of the COLUMBIAN MAGAZINE.
SIR,

THE minuteness of the observations made by your correspondent, Philo-Naturæ, on the *coitus*, the *travail*, and the *delivery*⁸⁹ of the locust, to some of which, I presume, he acted as accoucheur,⁹⁰ induces me to request a place in your Magazine for the following lines, imitated from a humorous piece of satire lately published in London. I would not wish to hurt the feelings of your correspondent, the merit of whose Essay I readily acknowledge. However, these lines will probably excite an innocent laugh, in which he will have no objection to join.

"—So great a Nat'ralist was he,
 "That to a frog he'd midwife be;
 "Could even couch a dew-snails eye;
 "Could shoe a gnat, or shave a fly;
 "Could cut musquetoe's feet for corns,
 "Could pare their nails or sharp their horns;
 "He'd trim ephemerae⁹¹ for sight,
 "And set their heels and crests aright.

ZOILUS.

Address to the Owner of a Singing-Bird

THE tuneful strains that glad thy heart,
 From whence, Horatio, do they flow?
 Thy warbler's song, unknown to art,
 But breathes his little soul of woe.

His life of pleasure but a day,
 That transient day how soon it flies!
 Regard, my friend, his plaintive lay,
 Restore him to his native skies.

'Erewhile a tenant of the grove,
 And blithest of the feather'd train,
 He gave to freedom, joy and love.
 The artless tributary strain.

Indignant see him spurn the cage,
 With feeble wings it's wires assail,
 And now despair succeed to rage,
 And sorrow pour the mournful tale:

"Oh you, whose fond parental care,
 "First bade my grateful song arise,
 "First taught me how to wing the air,
 "And range abroad the boundless skies.

"My grief for you, ah! who can tell?
 "Who now each duteous right performs?
 "And when you bid the world farewell,
 "With leaves shall shroud your lifeless forms?

"But oh! still deeper than the rest
 "For thee, dear partner of my love,
 "Do anxious cares assail my breast:
 "Ah! whither, whither dost thou rove?

"What clime, what distant region hears
 "Thy tender song of sorrows flow?
 "Who now thy pensive moments cheers,
 "And soothes or shares thy ev'ry woe?

"For thee I tun'd the tuneful lay;
 "Then tuneful lays farewell to you,
 "To all that's charming, all that's gay,
 "And thou dear flatt'rer, Hope, adieu!"

To AMANDA.

WHEN first I saw thee graceful move,
 With ev'ry winning beauty blest,
 Each look, each smile, awakened love,
 And hope, and fear, by turns possess'd.

Cytherea,⁹² pleas'd, beheld the scene,
 And gave thy cheeks the blushing rose,
 The graces join'd a heav'nly mien,
 But Virtue's worth superior flows.

A mind adorn'd with ev'ry charm,
 Where sense, improv'd by goodness, reigns;
 Such merits fix, as well as warm,
 Affording happiness in chains.

Each fair one has the power to snare,
 By various methods (as we're told)
 "Some captive with a single hair,"
 But thou with chains more sure than gold.

J. B.

Martial's 34th Epigram, Book III. imitated.
To Miss M. WHITE.

MY lovely maid, I've often thought,
 Whether thy name be just or not;
 Thy bosom is as cold as snow,
 Which we for matchless white may show.

The COLUMBIAN PARNASSIAD.

But when thy beauteous face is seen,
Of brunettes thou'rt the charming queen.
Resolve our doubts, let it be known,
Thou rather art inclin'd to *brown*.

J. Brown

The BALLOON.

WHEN Homer's* mouse heroic, left the strand,
And, boldly plunging, lost his native land;
His gen'rous soul his country's wonder mov'd,
At once they wonder'd, envy'd and approv'd.

This bright example oft before his eyes,
The brave Pilatre† dares attempt the skies;
Thro' pathless regions urge his casual way,
New worlds explore—from thence the old survey.

Ye nine! who gay on Ida's summit rove,
Or play and wanton round the throne of Jove,
Descend one moment from th' Olympic hill,
Inspire my bosom, and direct my quill.
But far, far hence, ye dry pedantic rules,
The scorn of genius—dull resource of fools.

Now swiftly bounding thro' the yielding air,
'Midst shouts of triumph rose the rapid car,
Thus some strong bird by force superior bound,
Lies prone on earth, and panting beats the ground,
Should some kind hand unloose the galling strings,
From the low dust, with conscious joy he springs,
And mounts exulting on triumphant wings.

What wall, what barrier can the force withstand,
Of man's presumptuous sacrilegious hand?
Long since from earth's remotest caves he bore
The glitt'ring diamond and the golden ore,
Long since, rough Boreas check'd his rudest frost,
And Neptune now his matchless car has lost;
Yet discontented with this ample sphere,
This middle field of ocean and of air.

Who knows in time, but proud and restless man
May form some project and invent some plan
Thro' Ætna's‡ horrid womb with ease to go,
Where liquid flames and fires eternal glow?

§Ariel long strove, with pensive thoughts opprest,
For sacred passions laboured in his breast;
With grief and rage he saw aspiring man
Invade his realm, and thus the chief began:
"Ye various sylphs who flit thro' ambient air,
"Who guard your monarch, or attend the fair;
"These fears give o'er—your sev'ral tasks pursue,
"This dreadful monster, Ariel will subdue,
"Be his the danger, his the glory too."—
Thus spoke the chief, and bow'd his rev'rend head,
His subjects heard him, and his voice obey'd;
Repeated plaudits from the croud arise,
Float on the gale, and die amid the skies.

Now slowly rising on th' obsequious wind
Mov'd the fam'd car, nor left a track behind:

*Vide Homer's *Betrachomyomachia*.

†Mons. Pilatre de Rosiere, who, with another gentleman, mounted in a balloon, near Boulogne, in France; when they had ascended to a vast height, the balloon took fire, and they fell and were dashed to pieces.

§The genius of the air.

Then to the globe flits Ariel, tho' unseen
By the brave master of the vast machine,
A dreadful flambeau from its case he drew,
(The sad event th' aeronaut then knew)
The fatal weapon was a blazing spoke,
Which from the wheels of Sol's⁹⁴ bright car he broke.
Stay—stay thy hand, O Ariel, spare the car;
We yield thee all the honours of the air.
Can such strong passions set thy breast on flame,
And dost thou envy brave Pilatre's⁹⁵ name?
All—all is vain, by pow'rful vengeance mov'd,
Ariel regards not how Rosiere⁹⁶ was lov'd.
The fatal torch applied, not even thy pray'r,
O wretched aeronaut! can save thy car,
Descend humanity, and spread thy veil;
For sympathy must deeply feel the tale.

But erring man, to truth for ever blind,
To casual causes these effects assign'd:
"Yet trust the muse, she saw it thro' the skies,
"Tho' mark'd by none but quick poetic eyes."
And hence let distant future ages know
What dire effects from mad ambition flow,
Learn hence to curb each wild presumptuous dream,
Each foolish project, each aerial scheme;
To keep their veins within their proper sphere,
Nor cars, nor castles launch into the air.

1786.

A SIMILE.

THE longest age is but a winter's day,
Some break their fast, and then depart away:
Others stay dinner, and depart full fed:
The longest age but sups, and goes to bed.

TO PHILELIOS.

What, can't *Philelios*, the discerning!
Find out so much by his learning?
Can he not see as clearly quite,
While in the dark, as without light?
He, whose pure rays outshine defect,
Can't he what's faultless e'en "correct?"
If not, whene'er the "sun's" too bright,
He's welcome to use "candlelight"
Of any "date,"—no odds a cooper,
So it but make his "*answer proper*."

PHILASTER.

QUESTION.

Square numbers two, ye curious, pray declare,
Whose sum is cube. And triple diff'rence square.

PHILASTER.

INTELLIGENCE.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

BERLIN, August 19.

THE King of Prussia,⁹⁷ having at intervals fallen into a kind of lethargy for the two preceding days, expired on the 17th of this month, at three o'clock in the morning, in the 75th year of his age, having reigned 46 years, 2 months, and 17 days.

Some hours afterwards, this event was publicly announced to the garrison of Berlin by the Governor (the gates being shut) who at the same time caused the oaths of allegiance to his present majesty to be tendered to the different regiments.

The funeral pomp is to take place at Potsdam, on the first of September, with the same ceremonies that were performed at the death of his late Majesty's father.⁹⁸

London, Sept. 11. We learn from Amsterdam, that a meeting was held there, composed of eighty magistrates of the cities and states of the Seven United Provinces.⁹⁹ The domestic affairs of the Republic have been the important subject of their deliberations. These truly patriotic regents have drawn up a contract of association, which may be justly called, "The act of patriotic confederation." The fathers of the people have bound themselves publicly and solemnly to endeavour, at the expence of their fortune, if that should become necessary, to obtain the redress of the abuses that have crept into the constitution, to the prejudice of civil liberty. They even pledge their lives in the pursuit of it, if that becomes necessary. The foundation of this salutary reform rests upon four principal points: First, the destruction of an aristocracy; secondly, to establish checks to a licentious democracy; thirdly, the maintenance and protection of the stadtholdership,¹⁰⁰ but according to the principles of the constitution; fourthly, the supremacy of the reformed religion, at present the reigning religion of the State, which has a right by this title to enjoy all the privileges annexed to it: Nevertheless, without encroaching upon the natural privileges of citizens, professing a different religion.

A letter from Paris, dated August 18, says, "The confederacy, lately formed in Holland against the Prince Stadtholder,¹⁰¹ may very possibly disturb the tranquillity of Europe, by the

part which the other powers will, in the end, take in this intestine division, which, under pretence of re-establishing the constitution of the United Provinces on its true basis, may change the form of it, and substitute democracy for aristocracy: Prussia and England have too much interest in maintaining the Stadtholdership, not to come to the assistance of their relation and ally; on the other hand, those who call themselves the patriotic party are highly extolled."

The annual circulating meeting of the people called Quakers, for the Seven Western Counties, was held the 10th instant at Gloucester. The number of these peaceable friends assembled, was very great, and their demeanour is such as tends to promote a regard to decency and good order, among all ranks of people, who have a continual and striking instance of these virtues, and their happy influence, in the conduct and appearance of this very large and respectable Society.

September 16. A letter from Amsterdam, dated September 4, says, "Our yesterday's letters from Elburgh, contain the most alarming intelligence. The inhabitants, as well as those of Hattern, are preparing vigorously to oppose the oppressive scheme of the States of Guelderland, to whom they have declared, by their deputies, that as they understood it to be the former's intention to send troops against the respective towns, they were determined to repel force by force, and preserve their freedom unshaken, even at the peril of their lives and property, protesting before God and the world, against all that hath been, or may hereafter be undertaken against them, and making the States answerable for all the blood that may be spilled on the occasion.

"The above two towns are only about eight miles distance from each other. The troops marching against Elburgh, have two large pieces of ordnance, and make every preparation for a siege. On the other hand, several reinforcements of men, ammunition, and stores, have been safely conveyed to Elburgh by the burgesses and armed society of this city. Thus far yesterday's post: we dread every instant to hear of some more disagreeable event."

The death of the late king of Prussia, has brought the State of Holland to an

alarming crisis; the republican party are now openly arising in opposition to the Stadtholder's authority, so that a civil war is no longer to be averted!

Some letters were received in town yesterday from Cadiz, which mention the very sudden and unexpected order which had arrived only two days before Madrid, for the fitting out seven men of war, two of which, La San Isidore, and El Castellane, are of the line. Part of this force is intended for South America, and the remainder for the Philippine Islands, for the protection of which the Spaniards are become exceedingly jealous.

One mode of traffic adopted by some adventurers in this country, is to ship off a freight for America. The ship and cargo, on her arrival, are immediately converted into American property, and sent on to the East Indies, where her lading is bartered for India goods, which supply the American markets, to the detriment of this country.

Petersburgh, (Virg.) Nov. 3. A letter from a Delegate in the Assembly to a gentleman in this town, dated Richmond, November 1, says, "To the glory of this commonwealth, a vote has passed this day in the House of Delegates, upon two petitions, presented to us, for the emission of paper money to this effect, viz. That the emission of paper money is unjust, impolitic, and destructive of that virtue which is the basis of Republican Government.—Eighty-four in favour of this resolution, and seventeen against it."

Richmond, Nov. 8. A letter from Kentucky,¹⁰² dated October 8, says, "From the wilderness we have an account of a most melancholy disaster that happened between Laurel-river and Racoon-creek, on the 3d instant; about 25 Chickamoga Indians¹⁰³ rushed on a camp of travellers, killed 16 persons on the spot, and wounded several more, who are not yet heard of; took 5 young women prisoners, and carried away all the horses, cattle, and most of the dry goods; 50 men well armed from this district are in pursuit of the Indians.

"General Clarke,¹⁰⁴ with the troops, arrived safe at Post St. Vincent, was reinforced with 53 Americans and 150 French inhabitants of that place; he took about 60 of the Piankeshaw¹⁰⁵ tribe prisoners, who were at that post; hath detached col. Legreau with 250 men to cut off the Indians in a village adjacent; left a garrison in the town: and hath marched with 600 men towards the Wia¹⁰⁶ town on the Wabash.

November 9 A report is now current, that General Clarke had gone on an expedition against the Indians, who, having intimation of his design, removed their corn and other property, together

with their women and squaws to some of the Chippewa¹⁰⁷ towns; but that Colonel Logan was dispatched to destroy their stores, while General Clarke was to attack the Indians in the front: In both these enterprizes our arms were successful. Colonel Logan burnt their towns and above 4000 bushels of corn, and took some prisoners, and General Clarke routed the party which he attacked, after a short engagement, making great slaughter amongst them, and capturing 60 prisoners.

New-York, November 6. Saturday morning the Roman Catholic church in this City was privately consecrated to the service of the Almighty God, by the Reverend Mr. Nugent, rector of said church; when further progress is made in the building, it will then be dedicated with the usual solemnities. There were present at the consecration, His Excellency Don Gardoqui, and his son, his Excellency's Secretary, and several other gentlemen of distinction.

November 7. The following deposition has been published by order of Congress.

Westmoreland County. ff.

The deposition of George Brickell,¹⁰⁸ of the county aforesaid, taken the 13th of September, 1786--Deposeth and saith, that he left Ottaway River, about fifty miles below the Lower Sandusky, the 6th of this instant September; that there were 1700 Indian warriors assembled at the Shawanese¹⁰⁹ towns, and that their number in a short time would be 2000; that their intention was to strike first the Wheeling Settlement and lower down the Ohio; that all the nations were joined and held a treaty on the 5th at Lower Sandusky, which began early in the morning and lasted till after dark; that they had lately brought into the Shawanese towns thirteen or fourteen scalps and four prisoners, two of which were women, whom the Indians burned before the men's faces: The men were to share the same fate in a few days: That the women's names were Moore, one the wife of a Captain Moore, the other her daughter: That Samuel Bealer, who had this summer removed to the Indian Country from Wheeling Settlement, and his family, were all killed: That a Captain Caldwell read his papers among the Indians, particularly land-warrants, as he told this deponent: That this deponent believes from these and other circumstances, and from the information given him by every person in that country, the whole of the Indian Nations are determined to strike in the fall when they get their corn secured, excepting the Cornplanter, who has refused to join them as yet: That there has been a reinforcement of troops at Detroit, this Fall, in three vessels, but does not know the number:

That one Williams, a half-blooded Indian, told this deponent and the others with him, that if the Indians knew they were informed of what was going on they would be killed before they got home. And further this deponent saith not.

(Signed) GEORGE BRICKELL.

Sworn and subscribed before

GEORGE WALLACE.

Elizabeth-Town, Nov. 1. It must give every lover of this country pleasure to be informed that the nail manufactory is brought to such perfection throughout the United States of America, as to stop the importation of that article; and there remains not a doubt but this and many other branches of manufacture, if countenanced by Government, would soon rival the British.

Albany, Nov. 2. We have it from good authority that the governor of Canada has forbidden the Canadian and Nova-Scotia refugees,¹¹⁰ who have had lands granted them by this State on Lake Champlain, settling at Point O'Fair on said Lake; as it is a British garrison, which he alleges he has orders not to evacuate or surrender.

November 9. A gentleman who arrived in town on Monday last from Canada, informs us, that on the 22d of October arrived at Quebec, his excellency lord DORCHESTER, (formerly Sir Guy Carleton) Governor-General of all His Britannic Majesty's possessions in North America. The British newspapers say he has full powers to treat with the Congress of the United States touching the surrender of the Frontier Posts, which ought to have been given up so long ago.

Those ports are yet held by the British, in the most daring violation of the Treaty of Peace, to the great detriment of this state's commerce, and to the eternal disgrace of the United States.

By means of the Forts which the British hold to the Westward, they are enabled to assist the Indians with their counsel and otherwise, in the depredations which they have already commenced on the frontiers of Virginia.¹¹¹

Hartford, Nov. 6. By a gentleman of undoubted veracity from the county of Hampshire, we are informed, that Mr. Shaise,¹¹² who commanded the late mob at Springfield, has enlisted 1700 men, who have engaged to protect him, should Government attempt to do him justice; and that he had the impudence to write, the week past, to the selectmen of Springfield, ordering them to see that their militia hold themselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning, to join his party; and that each man must be properly arm'd, and carry sixty rounds of cartridges. "If these things are done in the green tree, what will be done in the dry!"

Providence, (R. I.) Nov. 9. The following proceedings were had by the Society of the Cincinnati¹¹³ of this state, at their meeting in this town, on Thursday last, viz.

"This society, taking into their most serious consideration the situation of the United States, are convinced, that the present disturbances in the several parts of the federal government and the depredations of the Savages upon their frontiers, are excited by the joint exertions of daring emissaries and disaffected citizens:

"That the jealousies existing in the states tend to the subversion of their most essential liberties, and are dangerous to the national compact;— therefore the virtue, the firmness, and the activity of every class of people, are necessary to meet the impending evils:

"Wherefore it was resolved *nem. con.*

"1st. That we have ventured our lives and fortunes to obtain sovereignty and independence—we pledge ourselves, in the most sacred manner, to defend and support them against foreign invasions and internal enemies.

"That therefore we will render our best services, whenever the cause of our country shall require them, consistently with those great principles which first inspired our general order."

PHILADELPHIA, *November 1.*

The honorable Arthur St. Clair, Charles Pettit, William Irwin, Samuel Meredith, and William Bingham, esquires, were yesterday elected delegates in Congress for this state for the ensuing year.

A letter from an officer at Fort M'Intosh, dated September 29, says:

"Our tawny brethren are like to be very troublesome; they have killed several people lately; the last a boy, about twelve miles below Wheelen, on the Virginia side of the Ohio; they took another boy and four horses, but being pursued by the inhabitants, four of them mounted the horses and swam the river, the remaining three, with the boy, got into a canoe, when the pursuers came to the banks of the river and fortunately killed the three Indians and retook the boy, whom the Indians had wounded in the arm. All the settlers on the south side of the Ohio below Wheelen, a distance of forty miles, have fled to that place, and stockaded themselves. The people opposite to us are much alarmed and talk of withdrawing to the more settled parts of the country. It is really distressing to think how these poor people have suffered, and are likely to suffer, unless the Savages are brought to peaceable terms, to accomplish which, Congress must adopt vigorous and proper measures, and trust no longer to treaties with such people."

November 6. List of the members of the present general assembly of this state.”

Those in *Italics* were not in the last assembly

CITY OF PHILAD.

William Will,
Robert Morris,
Thomas Fitzsimons,
George Clymer,
Jacob Hiltzbeimer.

CO. PHILAD.

Thomas Mifflin,
Isaac Gray,
William Robinson,
John Saker,
George Logan.

BUCKS.

Samuel Foulke,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Valentine Upp.

CHESTER.

James Moore,
Richard Willing,
Robert Ralston,
Samuel Evans,
Richard Thomas,
Townsend Whelen.

LANCASTER.

Samuel Atlee,*
Alexander Lowrey,
Adam Hubley,
Emanuel Carpenter,
Joseph Work,
George Ross.

YORK.

David M'Conaughty,
Michael Schmyer,
David M'Clellan,
Joseph Lilly,
Henry Tyson,
Adam Eichelberger.

CUMBERLAND.

Robert Whitehill,
Thomas Bale,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Mitchell.

BERKS.

Joseph Heister,
Philip Kreemer,
Gabriel Heister,
David Davis,
Daniel Clymer.

NORTHAMPTON.

Peter Trexler,
Thomas Mawhorter,
Robert Brown.
Peter Burkhalter.

BEDFORD,

John Piper,
John Cannon,

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Frederick Antis,
Samuel Dale.

WESTMORELAND.

William Finlay,
James Barr,
Hugh Brackenridge.

WASHINGTON.

Alexander Wright,
John M'Dowell,
John Flanagan,
James Allison.

FAYETTE.

Theophilus Philips,
John Gilchrist.

FRANKLIN.

Abraham Smith,
James M'Calmont.

MONTGOMERY.

Charles Moore,
Samuel Wheeler,
James Hockley,
Jacob Risse.

DAUPHIN.

Robert Clark,
Jacob Miley.
John Carson.

*Since dead.

November 8. On Saturday last his excellency Benjamin Franklin, Esquire, was unanimously re-elected president, and the honourable Charles Biddle, Esq. was re-chosen vice-president of the supreme executive council.

A letter from a gentleman in Lisbon to his friend in Alexandria, dated August 21, says, “Several American ships have lately arrived here from America, within a few days past, without receiving any damage from the Algerines. Indeed no Algerine cruiser has been seen on this coast this year, owing to the Portuguese men of war and frigates being very vigilant in their cruises off the coast; consequently I apprehend no danger.”¹¹⁴

November 11. On Monday, the 6th inst. five Light Infantry companies, a detachment of artillery, and the light dragoons of the county, assembled on the Commons of this city, took up a line of march, proceeded to a field on the Germantown road, performed several evolutions and firings, returned to the Commons in the evening, (making a detour or circuitous march of near nine miles), expended the residue of their ammunition, prepared for the purpose, and thus concluded the parade exercise for the season. Col. Mentges, inspector-general was honoured with the command on the occasion.

November 22. On Friday, the 17th instant, arrived in town from the western circuit over the mountains, the chief justice and judge Rush, having held courts of oyer and terminer and nisi prius¹¹⁵ in the counties of Franklin, Fayette, Washington, Westmoreland, and Bedford. The same judges have, in the course of the last year, held courts in every county beyond the Susquehannah, and travelled near a thousand miles; and it will doubtless please the friends of virtue and humanity to hear, that in their progress through so great a part of the state, not a single person has been capitally convicted before them.

Last Saturday arrived in this city from London, Phineas Bond, Esq. his Britannic majesty's consul for the states of New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, and commissary for commercial affairs within the dominions of the United States.

This day the two following resolves were agreed to by this state, on motion of Mr. Fitzsimons.

“Whereas it is the duty of the freemen of this commonwealth, to apportion the public burdens as equally as possible—and to lessen the expences of assessing and collecting the taxes, as far as is consistent with the interest of the state:

“Therefore, Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and lay before this House a plan for the more equal assessment and collection of the public taxes.

“And for the enabling the committee to obtain the necessary information, for their government,

“Resolved, That the commissioners of the respective counties be, and they are hereby directed to furnish the said committee, with all such information as they may find it necessary to apply to them for, touching the assessment and collection of taxes within their respective counties.”

Nov. 29. A letter from a gentleman in Danville (Kentucky) to his correspondent in Richmond, dated October 27, says. “The troops under the command of General Clarke

returned the 15th instant, and I am informed the greatest disorder prevailed among them from the time they marched from Clarkesville; some of the officers were arrested and broke by a court martial on their march to Post St. Vincent's, which occasioned an uneasiness among the soldiers, but was made easy in some measure by the General's re-instating them again to their former commands: Thus they arrived at Post St. Vincents, where they made prisoners, 42 Indians, who were with the French and Americans at that place, in a friendly manner; they were kept in confinement but a short time before they were set at liberty; and enlisted 300 men from the Post with him, and appointed officers to command them, to keep garrison at Post St. Vincents for one year; this business detained them ten days. In this time the soldiers began to be very uneasy, and wished to return home; however the General prevailed with them to march from that place towards the principal towns on the Wabash River, assuring them, the business which they came on could be effected in a few days. On the third day's march towards the towns, about 200 of the men were very clamorous, and in the afternoon refused to march any further: On the first information the General received of it, he ordered a halt, and in the most pressing manner, begged them only to march with him three days more; in which time, he had reason to believe, the Indians would either be received in a hostile manner, or they would make application for peace: No argument the General could make use of had any effect with them: The General thought it most adviseable to collect his officers in council when it was agreed upon to return, and they accordingly set off. The General himself staid at Post St. Vincents, with a view of holding a treaty with the Indians, provided they were inclined for it.

"Colonel Logan marched from the Mouth of Limestone about the 1st instant, with 800 men, (600 of whom were on horseback) against the Shawanese towns on the Head of the Miami, and had it not been for a deserter that got in and informed the Indians of their approach, in all probability the whole army would have been in their towns before they had known any thing of their coming. It appears that before the deserter had got in, most of the warriors had gone out in order to meet General Clarke, not knowing of any other party marching against them; so that by the time Colonel Logan appeared in sight, most of the Indians had left the towns. They made prisoners 32 women and children, and killed 11 men, among them was their chief, King Melantha, who gave himself up without any resistance, with his wife and children, and afterwards was murdered by a Colonel M'Gary. They burnt 10 towns and villages and all their corn; brought off several horses and a quantity of plunder.

The squaws and children prisoners arrived here the 21st instant, where I expect they will continue until exchanged.

MARRIAGES.

In Wilmington. Rev. Dr. C. H. Wharton, to Miss Polly Weems.

In New-York. Colonel John Pierce, to Miss Nancy Bard.

In Baltimore. Mr. Cumberland Dugan, to Miss Peggy Kelso.

In Boston. Rev. T. H. Chipman, to Miss Jane Harden.

In Philadelphia. Mr. Isaac Wharton, to Miss Rawles—Mr. John Field to Miss Deborah Williams—Mr. Jesse Waterman, to Miss Phœbe Parvin—Mr. Thomas Morgan to Miss Wall.

DEATHS.

In Philadelphia Mr. Charles Mason, astronomer—Colonel Samuel J. Atlee, member of the General Assembly of this state for Lancaster county.

In Burlington. Miss Ackey Butler.

In New-York. Mr. Cornelius Bradford.

In Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Mr James Holliday.

In Charleston, South Carolina. Dr. Ladd, of a wound received in a duel—Mr. Joseph Vincent Burd, printer.

In Richmond. Mrs. Betsey Randolph, wife of Mr. Harrison Randolph.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The morals of Chefs—A dialogue of the dead—Particulars of the natural history of the Ostrich—Letter from a gentleman at Bethlehem to his friend in this city—Mathematical question by a sea commander—and several other pieces, shall appear in our next.

Letter said to be written by Mr. Voltaire—Zumbollo—A long story—Some remarks on a liberal education, from experience, by M. W. of Lewes—Character of Dr. Johnson—Cecilius on the power of sound, or the influence of melody over the human heart for the advancement of religion, &c. &c. are under consideration.

We have received the favour of our learned correspondent Jck. We are desirous, as far as in our power, to gratify every class of our readers: But etymological discussion in the learned languages, more especially the Hebrew, being necessarily suited to the taste of a very small number, we have been obliged to prescribe bounds for them, which this piece exceeds. If the writer can reduce it to one page, and one and an half, it shall appear in due course.

A Note on the Text.

As we prepared this edition of the November issue of the *Columbian Magazine*, we discovered that two different printings of the magazine exist with slight variations. According to archivists' notes at the American Antiquarian Society, "Issues for Sept. 1786-Feb. 1787 were also reissued from a different setting of type. The caption title on the issues from Oct. 1786-Feb. 1787 issues is *Columbian magazine* and the type ornament at the head of the caption title varies. In the originals it is a leafy vine and tendrils, with the ones on the ends in the shape of the letter "W." In the reissue for Sept. 1786 the type ornament at the head of the caption title is a series of lyre shaped devices. The ornament for the issues for October 1786 to Feb. 1787 is an arrangement of various ornaments within a rectangular frame. This then becomes the ornament for all the issues from March-Dec. 1787." As Jared Gardner notes in his introduction, the *Columbian Magazine* was an ambitious undertaking, and the editors were likely struggling both to produce the magazine and to insure that enough copies were available for their ever evolving list of subscribers. As a result of this, it seems multiple print shops were involved in producing the early editions of the magazine. Our transcription (with one exception) follows the corrected second printing published under the title the *Columbia Magazine*. For the poetry section entitled "The COLUMBIAN PARNASSIAD," we have transcribed the earlier and slightly longer version from the first printing, which used the title *Columbian Magazine or Monthly Miscellany*.

Notes.

Description of Bones, &c....

The mastodon, the animal described here, was a subject of intense controversy throughout the eighteenth century, as Paul Semonin has demonstrated in *American Monster: How the Nation's First Prehistoric Creature Became a Symbol of National Identity* (NYU Press, 2000). (See also <http://www.common-place.org/vol-04/no-02/semonin/>) The Dr. Hunter mentioned here was William Hunter, physician to the British queen, who in 1767 had argued that mastodon bones belonged to an extinct species he called the "American incognitum." The bones in question in this essay were gathered by Major Isaac Craig, with illustrations prepared by Ferdinand De Brahm; they were on informal display at the studio of the painter Charles Willson Peale, who eventually made them the foundation for a museum; and they became the subject of a paper by Lewis Nicola delivered at the American Philosophical Society, one of the "literary societies for diffusing knowledge" mentioned in the essay. Thomas Jefferson was writing about the mastodon at the same moment, incorporating a discussion of bones into the first circulated draft of his *Notes on the State of Virginia*, drafted in the early 1780s. The discussion in this essay in part prompted the first—unauthorized—publication of excerpts from Jefferson's work in the April, 1787, issue.

¹ The reference is to the end of the War of Independence.

² See Plate prefixed. [Note in original.]

³ *Ivory turner*: a professional craftsman working with ivory

⁴ *Sparry*: containing crystalline matter

⁵ *Animalcule*: a micro-organism

A short Description of the CROTALUS HORRIDUS, or Rattle Snake...

⁶ *Crotalus Horridus*, which is today called the Timber Rattlesnake, was found throughout what is today the eastern part of the United States. Fort Allen, mentioned in the last paragraph, was located in western Pennsylvania.

Further Observations on the Cicada Septemdecim, or Locust of North America.

⁷ The reference here is to the “Natural History of the Locust of North-America,” which appeared in the preceding (October) issue of the magazine, pages 86-90.

⁸ *Lusus naturæ*: freaks (or more accurately whims) of nature

A curious Non-descript Fish.

⁹ This has subsequently been the name of this fish, classified as *Polyodon spathula*

¹⁰ Fort Pitt was in western Pennsylvania, near present day Pittsburgh. The fish in question seems to be that which ended up in Charles Willson Peale’s museum in Philadelphia, one of the first museums in the United States.

To The Editor of the Columbian Magazine.

This contribution was written by Dr. Benjamin Rush (1746-1813), a prominent scientist, writer, and political figure of Pennsylvania and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. A practicing physician, he had also served as the Surgeon General for the Middle Department of the Continental Army during the early years of the Revolution, was a professor of chemistry and medicine at Philadelphia, and eventually served as the treasurer of the US Mint from 1797 until his death. He was additionally active in the Pennsylvania Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery from 1787 until his death. In the early 1780s he wrote widely on a range of social and scientific issues, including new methods for small-pox inoculation, religious “test-law” requirements in effect in Pennsylvania, the dangers of alcohol consumption, the latest research on tetanus, and the importance of public education. He was an important contributor to the *Columbian Magazine*. The following essay on phobias was followed, in the December issue, by a similar essay on manias.

¹¹ William Cullen (1710-1790), known for his four volume nosology (classification of diseases), *First Lines of the Practice of Physic* (1777–84).

¹² *Hydrophobia*, a common eighteenth-century designation for what is today known as rabies.

¹³ Likely a reference to John Milton’s *Paradise Lost*, book I, line 49, “Who durst defy th’Omnipotent to arms.”

¹⁴ Edward Young (1683-1765), one of the most popular English poets for eighteenth-century Anglo-American readers; the lines that follow are from his early *Love of Fame, the Universal Passion*, Satire VI (1728).

¹⁵ The lines are from Alexander Pope’s “An Essay on Man” (1734-35).

¹⁶ *Low Dutch*: from the Netherlands, as opposed to “High Dutch,” from the German states.

¹⁷ *Peter the Great*: ruler of Russia from 1682 to 1725, and a regular subject of fascination for British readers. See Anthony Cross, *Peter the Great through British Eyes: Perceptions and Representations of the Tsar since 1698* (2001).

¹⁸ *Dropsy*: the accumulation of watery fluid in some body cavity; *tapping* would be a process of bleeding off that fluid.

¹⁹ A reference to the Massachusetts Regulation, or Shays’ Rebellion, a yeomen’s anti-governmental movement that became increasingly active in the summer of 1786.

²⁰ A reference to the well known character Walter Shandy, father of the title character of the extremely popular *Tristram Shandy* (1759-67) by Laurence Sterne.

²¹ *Phaeton*: a light, four-wheeled, open carriage.

²² *The inhabitants of Charleston*: in 1781, a prisoner exchange resulted in the relocation of Charlestonians to Philadelphia and Virginia. According to David Ramsay, a contemporary historian, “More than a thousand persons were exiled from their homes, and thrown on the charity of strangers for their support.” See *The History of South-Carolina...* (1809), volume 1, 464.

²³ *Late King of Prussia*: Frederick II, who had died in the summer of 1786.

²⁴ *Late Dr. Johnson*: the British author Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

²⁵ *Late Dr. Potterfield*: possibly the Scottish medical professor William Porterfield

A Short Dissertation on Eclipses...

Relatively little is known about Benjamin Workman. He may have been an Irish immigrant, and it is believed that, under the name Philadelphensis, he was an active opponent of ratification of the US Constitution in 1787, criticizing the concentration of power among elites and the possible threat to a free press. He published a study of arithmetic in 1788, a handbook for accounting in 1789, and a geography textbook in 1790, the latter incorporating some of this study of eclipses.

²⁶ The lines are from John Milton’s *Paradise Lost*, Book V, lines 153-55, 157-59. Line 156—
”Unspeakable, who sitst above these heavens”—has been removed, and the end of line 159 has been changed from “and power divine” to “and power supreme.”

²⁷ *Parallax*: the difference in an object’s position, or its angular location, as measured from two different points.

²⁸ Charles Leadbetter, the British author of *A Treatise of Eclipses for 26 Years...* (London, 1717), which tried to calculate eclipses within the next generation.

²⁹ The NASA Eclipse website confirms that a lunar eclipse occurred in October of 1800, and that a solar eclipse occurred in June, 1787, as noted below. See <http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/>.

³⁰ *Viz.*: Latin abbreviation for *videlicet*, “that is to say.”

³¹ *N. B.*: abbreviation for Latin *nota bene*, “note well.”

An Account of the Progress of Population, Agriculture, Manners, and Government...

This essay was also written by Benjamin Rush. A shorter version was written in 1785. The letter was frequently reprinted subsequently, and was included in Rush’s *Essays, Literary, Moral & Philosophical* in 1798. The theory of three types of settlers may be an answer to J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur’s *Letters from an American Farmer* (1782), which ventured a similar account of different stages of settlement but with different conclusions and judgments.

³² *Gales*: periodic payments, especially of rent

³³ *Linnaeus*: the Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) who developed the modern system of nomenclature for classifying plants and animals. *Fagopyrum* here is the genus designation for various buckwheat species.

³⁴ *Those millions of dollars*: a reference to a large loan from Cuba that helped finance French and American military action for the final years of the Revolution.

An Account of the Effects of the general Thaw....

This short piece was also written by Benjamin Rush, and later appeared as a footnote to a long essay entitled “An Account of the Climate of Pennsylvania, &c.”

³⁵ *Mould*: topsoil

³⁶ *Fresh*: flood

To the Editor of the Columbian Magazine

³⁷ The Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture still exists today: see their website at pspaonline.com. Timothy Pickering, the society’s secretary in 1786, had served as the US Quartermaster General at the end of the Revolution, and would later serve the federal government—in the Washington and Adams administrations—as a diplomat with the Six Nations, as Postmaster General, as Secretary of War, and as Secretary of State. He also served in the Senate and House of Representatives, and was later prominent in a New England secession movement.

Prizes proposed by the Philadelphia Society...

³⁸ Several essays did appear later in the *Columbian Magazine*, including “On the Use of Oxen in Husbandry” (February, 1787) and “The general introduction of working-oxen, on our farms, a most desirable and highly beneficial event” (July, 1787).

Mr. BORDLEY’s Account...

In 1770, John Beale Bordley inherited Wye Island near the mouth of the Wye River on the Eastern Shore of Maryland on which he established a farm of about sixteen hundred acres called “The Vineyards.” Like many other large estate farmers in the Tidewater and Piedmont regions of Maryland and Virginia in the mid to late 18C, Bordley oversaw the transition of his farm from tobacco production to wheat cultivation. Bordley was a leading innovator of this transition in the U.S. context, and he corresponded with both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson about his agricultural experiments. He was elected as a member of the American Philosophical Society in 1783, and in 1785 was instrumental in founding the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture and long served as that organization’s vice-president. He was the author of numerous magazine essays, and at least two treatises on agriculture including *Crop-Rotations* (1784) and a longer compendium of his writings collected as *Essays and Notes on Husbandry and Rural Affairs* (1799). He was a leading proponent of domestic agricultural reform, and a voracious student of agricultural practices from around the globe. This brief sketch is emblematic of his work in the *Columbian*

Magazine, and demonstrates his commitment to sharing the results of his experiments in order to promote more profitable and sustainable agricultural practices in the United States. The Singleton to whose experiments Bordley refers here is most likely John Singleton, an English farmer and neighbor of Bordley in nearby Talbot County, Maryland.

³⁹ *Dibble*: An instrument used to make holes in the ground for seeds, bulbs, or young plants.

⁴⁰ *Loam*: soil, in this case likely meaning fertile moist soil.

The Contemplant...

“The Contemplant. An Eastern Tale” was published in the *Universal Magazine* in 1772, and reprinted in *Lane’s Annual Novelist* in 1786; *The Columbia Magazine’s* source for the tale was the latter. The tale typifies the late eighteenth century popular genre of the eastern tale (sometimes referred to as the “oriental tale”). Edward W. R. Pitcher notes that the tale was “perhaps translated from an eastern language.”

⁴¹ *Contemplant*: One who contemplates.

⁴² *Eastern Tales*, sometimes referred to as “Oriental Tales,” were a popular 18C genre, often somewhat gothic or fantastic, and marked by a romanticized orientalism.

⁴³ *Soldan*: sultan.

⁴⁴ *Abubeker, the Faithful Witness*: Abdullah ibn Abi Quhafah, also commonly known as Abu Bakr, is known as “the faithful witness,” as he was the first person outside of Muhammad’s family to convert to Islam. After his conversion he became instrumental in converting others to Islam, and in 623 his daughter Aisha was married to Muhammad.

⁴⁵ *Grot*: A crypt under a church.

⁴⁶ *Domestics*: household servants or slaves.

⁴⁷ *Lugubrious*: sad, mournful.

⁴⁸ *Poignard*: a small dagger.

⁴⁹ *Eminence*: a lofty or elevated position.

⁵⁰ *Jasper*: an opaque quartz aggregate usually red in color.

⁵¹ *Golconda*: a medieval city in India known for the famous mines which surrounded it. The Hope Diamond is from this region.

⁵² *Rajas*: a monarch, or princely ruler.

⁵³ *Houri*: one of the virgin companions of the faithful.

⁵⁴ *Inundations*: an overflowing, or flooding of water.

⁵⁵ *Empyreum*: the highest reaches of heaven; the abode of God and the angels; paradise.

Perrin and Lucetta, or Rural Probity.

The Perrin and Lucette story circulated widely in the late eighteenth century. It appears to have originated as a French tale, “La Probité Villageoise,” in the January, 1770, periodical *Mercur de France*. This work was frequently reprinted in France and, in 1774, turned into a short opera, *Perrin et Lucette*, written by Bertin Davesne with music composed by the Italian Giovanni Cifolelli. Multiple English translations appeared as well, including the 1770 version, “Rustic Honesty,” which appeared in *The Lady’s Magazine* (December); a 1771 version entitled “Rural Probity,” which was published in *The Gentleman’s & London Magazine*, *The Literary Register, or Weekly Miscellany*, and *Hibernia Magazine*;

and a 1773 version, also titled “Rural Probity” but featuring Perkin and Lucette, which appeared in the *London Magazine* among other places. This latter version additionally appears to have inspired a 1774 German-language dramatic adaptation entitled *Der redliche Bauer, und großmütige Jud* [*The Honest Farmer and the Generous Jew*] by Josef von Pauersbach. The first version of the story to appear in the United States—in the 1784 *Boston Magazine* (January)—was a much abridged rendition frequently reprinted thereafter.

⁵⁶ *Probity*: integrity, decency

⁵⁷ *Brittany*: a region on the west-northwest coast of France.

⁵⁸ *Chaise*: a carriage

⁵⁹ *Depend*: spend

The Discovery.

“The Discovery” was originally published in the *British Magazine* in July, 1782. The story may have been written by the English writer Thomas Potter, who reprinted it in his collection of “partly original” tales, *Nouvellettos*, in 1785. The version which appears here was taken from *Lane’s Annual Novelist* (1786). The tale was later reprinted under the title “Miranda, or The Discovery” in the *Impartial Gazetteer*, and *Saturday Evening Post* (later renamed the *New York Weekly Museum*) in 1798. The themes of the tale--the complexities of war-time romance, the foundation for happy marriages--were popular on both sides of the Atlantic in the late eighteenth century.

⁶⁰ *Unbeneficed*: living without the benefit of church support, i.e. a self-supporting clergyman.

⁶¹ *Lieutenant of foot*: an officer in an infantry battalion.

⁶² *Circumspection*: vigilant and cautious observation.

⁶³ *Obviated*: removed.

⁶⁴ *Assiduities*: constant attention of.

⁶⁵ *Connubial*: of or pertaining to marriage.

⁶⁶ *Bunker’s Hill*: one of the earliest skirmishes of the Revolutionary War, the Battle of Bunker Hill took place on June 17, 1775 on the outskirts of Boston. The British sustained heavy casualties, especially among their officers; while the Revolutionary forces were forced to retreat, they suffered few casualties.

⁶⁷ *Garlands*: a crown or wreath made of flowers.

⁶⁸ *Superscription*: the name of the addressee, in this case the handwriting on the outside of the envelope.

The Columbian Parnassiad.

The poems collected here represent a range of genres, from occasional poems (advice to a newlywed) to the more humorous math related couplet of the final verse. The first poem, “A Poetical Epistle, address to a lady of New Jersey,” was written by Annis Boudinet Stockton (1736-1801) one of the foremost poets in 18C North America. Stockton published approximately 120 poems in magazines and newspapers in her lifetime, although her authorship of many of them was not known until the 1980s. An 1836 collection attributes “An Indian Eclogue,” to Samuel J. Smith, characterized by his descendants as “a lost poet” of New Jersey.

- ⁶⁹ *Parnassiad*: Parnassus is a mountain in Greece sacred to Apollo and the Muses, and thus associated with poetry and poetics.
- ⁷⁰ *Epistle*: A letter, especially one with a literary, formal, or public nature.
- ⁷¹ *Supercilious*: haughty or contemptuous.
- ⁷² *Capricious*: guided by whim or fancy.
- ⁷³ *Epithets*: The use of an adjective to indicate some attribute which the speaker regards as characteristic of the person described.
- ⁷⁴ *Damon or Alexis*: stock names for shepherds or pastoral lovers in Virgil's poetry.
- ⁷⁵ *Corporeal*: bodily, material.
- ⁷⁶ *Ensanguin'd*: blood-stained, bloody.
- ⁷⁷ *Prescience*: Knowledge of events before they happen.
- ⁷⁸ *Sublimated*: to divert the expression of a feeling into a socially acceptable format.
- ⁷⁹ *Vernal*: Spring-like.
- ⁸⁰ *Variegate*: of various colors and hues.
- ⁸¹ *Sequester'd*: separated, or cut off from contact with others.
- ⁸² *Mead*: meadow.
- ⁸³ *Eclogue*: a short pastoral poem.
- ⁸⁴ *Orient*: to the east.
- ⁸⁵ *Mingo*: a member of the Susquehannock people or of any of several related Northern Iroquoian groups of interior Pennsylvania.
- ⁸⁶ *Ohio's*: The Ohio River.
- ⁸⁷ *Enraptur'd*: Rapturously delighted; entranced, ravished.
- ⁸⁸ *Ardor*: heat of passion.
- ⁸⁹ *coitus, the travail, and the delivery*: The mating, labor, and birthing habits of the locust.
- ⁹⁰ *Accoucheur*: a male midwife.
- ⁹¹ *Ephemera*: ephemera, an insect that lives for a single day.
- ⁹² *Cytherea*: another name for Aphrodite, the ancient Greek goddess of love.
- ⁹³ *Ætna's*: Mount Etna, the volcano on the east coast of Sicily.
- ⁹⁴ *Sol's*: The Roman god of the sun.
- ⁹⁵ *Pilatre's*: Jean-François Pilâtre de Rozier (1754-1785) was a French chemist and a pioneer in the field of aviation. In 1784, he took part in some of the first manned balloon flights, and died in 1785 attempting to cross the English Channel in a balloon.
- ⁹⁶ *Rosiere*: A Rozière balloon (named after its creator Jean-François Pilâtre de Rozier) is a balloon which has two chambers, one filled with heated gas (typically helium or hydrogen) and one with non-heated gas.

Intelligence.

The "Intelligence" section of the *Columbian Magazine* is fairly typical of the reprinting practices of late eighteenth century periodicals. These brief clippings (often reprinted verbatim from other sources) are intended to highlight stories that were considered to be of lasting importance to the magazine's readers. The collection gathered in this issue is, perhaps, particularly telling for how it highlights the instabilities of the late eighteenth-century Atlantic world. On the international front, the reports of the death of the King of Prussia, the potential of civil insurrection in the Netherlands, the deployment of more Spanish warships to South America and the Pacific Ocean, and the muted references to Algerian piracy in the Mediterranean, evince the uncertainties of circum-Atlantic

mobility and trade in the era. The lengthy attention to violent encounters between U.S. settlers and Native Americans along the western frontier highlights the tensions surrounding early efforts of U.S. based settler colonialism; similarly, the stories about Nova Scotian refugees, the British refusal to decamp from forts in upstate New York, paper currency, and the Shays Rebellion in Massachusetts, all point to domestic unrest, civil and economic turmoil, and the porousness of national borders. Perhaps the most optimistic report in this issue is the news that “that the nail manufactory is brought to such perfection throughout the United States” that a reliance on the importation of foreign manufactured items might no longer be necessary. Given the instabilities contained in the surrounding stories, this sense of optimism concerning domestic manufacturing is perhaps less surprising than it might at first seem.

In order to demonstrate just how widespread the practice of reprinting news reports was in eighteenth century U.S. periodicals we offer the following (far from exhaustive) brief catalog. Verbatim reports of the death of the King of Prussia also appeared in *The American Recorder*, and *Charleston Advertiser* (MA) on 10 November 1786, in the *Providence Gazette and Country Journal* (RI) on 11 November 1786, in the *Independent Journal* (NY) on 18 November 1786, in *The Middlesex Gazette* (CT) on 27 November 1786, and in the *Pennsylvania Herald* on 29 November 1786. The same coverage of General Clark’s campaign against Native Americans in the Northwest Territories appeared in the *Daily Advertiser* (NY), *The Independent Gazetteer* (PA), *The Middlesex Gazette* (CT), *The Independent Chronicle and the Universal Advertiser* (MA), *The American Recorder* (MA), *The Connecticut Gazette*, *The Massachusetts Centinel*, and *The Freedom’s Oracle* (NH) in late November and early December of 1786. Three Philadelphia based newspapers (*The Pennsylvania Evening Herald*, the *Pennsylvania Packet*, and *Daily Advertiser*, and *The Independent Gazetteer*) all printed the same news item about Spanish ships across the week of 22 November 1786. Coverage of the insurrection in Massachusetts may have been the most widely covered of these stories, appearing in at least 14 newspapers (from Portland, Maine to Washington, D.C.) in the weeks surrounding the printing of this edition of the *Columbian Magazine*.

⁹⁷ *The King of Prussia*: Frederick the Great (Frederick II) was the King of Prussia from 1740 until his death on 17 August 1786. In 1785, Frederick signed a Treaty of amity and commerce with the United States of America, which officially recognized the independence of the Republic. This treaty was one of the very first signed by the United States with a European power after the Revolutionary War.

⁹⁸ *Late Majesty’s father*: Frederick William I who died in 1740.

⁹⁹ *Seven United Provinces*: The Dutch Republic, also known as the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands.

¹⁰⁰ *Stadholdership*: the chief magistrate of the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands.

¹⁰¹ *Prince Stadholder*: William V, Prince of Orange. In the last quarter of the eighteenth century, the Patriot movement in Holland struggled for economic and political reforms, inspired in part by the decline of the influence of the Dutch East India Company and the Revolutionary War in the United States. They were largely defeated by in 1787 by the Prussian army commanded by Charles William Ferdinand, Duke of Brunswick.

¹⁰² *Kentucky*: In 1786, the area referred to here as Kentucky was still technically part of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Kentucky became the fifteenth state to officially join the Union in 1792.

¹⁰³ *Chickamoga Indians*: Many of the Chickamauga Cherokee, also known as the Lower Cherokee, had supported the British during the Revolutionary War. Forcibly dislocated by American settlers, the Chickamauga moved south and west in order to avoid the encroachment of new U.S. settlements.

¹⁰⁴ *General Clarke*: George Rogers Clark (1752 – 1818) was a soldier from Virginia and the highest ranking American military officer on the northwestern frontier during the Revolutionary War. After the war, he remained in the Kentucky territory as the leader of the militia fighting for U.S. expansion in the Northwest Territories. His younger brother, William Clark, famously accompanied Meriwether Lewis on the voyage of the Corps of Discovery into the Louisiana Purchase.

¹⁰⁵ *Piankeshaw*: The Piankeshaw (or Piankashaw) had allied themselves with the Americans during the Revolutionary War, and thus actively resented the encroachment of U.S. settlers into their territories in the mid-1780s. While they did not formally take part in the Northwest Indian Wars, U.S. settlers and militiamen did (as this story suggests) aggressively move against the Piankeshaw despite their non-alignment with the Native American's Western Confederacy. President Washington authored a proclamation forbidding harm to the Piankeshaw, although U.S. settlers did not adhere to its dictates.

¹⁰⁶ *Wea*: The Wea were a Miami-Illinois-speaking Native American group originally located in what is now western Indiana, closely related to the Miami. They actively resisted U.S. encroachment into their territory.

¹⁰⁷ *Chippewa*: The Chippewa or Ojibwe (also Ojibwa) are among the largest First Nations in North America.

¹⁰⁸ *George Brickwell*: An American trader in the Northwest Territories. His testimony about having witnessed the execution of two female prisoners by Native Americans widely circulated in 1786, and this deposition soon became a means of justifying increased U.S. military aggression in the Northwest Territories.

¹⁰⁹ *Shawnee*: The Shawnee or Shawnee nation are an Algonquian-speaking tribe at this time present and active on the US's western frontier.

¹¹⁰ *Canadian and Nova-Scotia refugees*: After the Revolutionary War, many British Loyalists, and in particular Black Loyalists (the British emancipated any slaves who left their Patriot masters and fought on their side), were resettled in Nova Scotia by the retreating British Army. Political tensions between these Loyalists, settlers sympathetic to the American cause, and indigenous peoples continued throughout the late eighteenth century. These tensions were exacerbated by the continual debate between England and the United States about the borders established by the Treaty of Paris.

¹¹¹ Border disputes and land claims between England and the United States lingered well after the Treaty of Paris concluded the Revolutionary War, and the British used the forts in question here to trade arms for furs with the Native Americans resisting U.S. expansion into the Northwest Territories (the "frontiers of Virginia" in this case would include modern day Kentucky). Thus, in effect, the British occupation of these forts was a double cause of alarm for the Republic.

¹¹² *Mr. Shays*: Daniel Shays was an American soldier, revolutionary, and farmer famous for being one of the leaders of Shays' Rebellion, a populist uprising against oppressive debt collection and tax policies suppressed in Massachusetts in 1786 and 1787.

¹¹³ *Society of the Cincinnati*: The Society of Cincinnati was founded in 1783 to preserve the ideals and fellowship of the officers of the Continental Army who served in the Revolutionary War. They derived their name from Lucius Quinctius Cincinnatus, who left his farm to accept a war time appointment as a Roman Consul. When the battle was won, he returned power to the Senate and went back to plowing his fields. George Washington was often imagined as modern day Cincinnatus.

¹¹⁴ *any damage from the Algerines*: This brief notice references the potential dangers of U.S. merchant vessels in the Mediterranean Sea in the late eighteenth century. Since the U.S. had no standing navy (until the passage of the Naval Act in 1794) to protect U.S. merchant ships and since the U.S. refused to pay tribute to the so-called "Barbary pirates," U.S. ships were often seized by Algerian

privateers. These privateers impressed and enslaved American sailors, and ransomed the ships' cargoes. This situation culminated in the Barbary Wars of the early nineteenth century.

¹¹⁵ *oyer and terminer and nisi prius*: In English law “oyer et terminer” (literally “to hear and determine”) designates criminal courts convened four times a year. “Nisi prius” (“unless first”) denotes a hearing for a question of fact before one judge or possibly a jury.