

Extracted from a manuscript Poem written by a young English gentleman travelling in America. AND now the lads, each with his honey, A and such as Pa could spare of money, With giddy transport seek the ball, Refolv'd till morn to hold the ball. The ball begins; the pairs are up; The fiddler in dance parade at top; But greater part in modes untaught Crowd down to get a place at bot— All fix—the fiddler strikes his strings; The hall with thundering thumping rings. The figure's kept with dubious pain; But fiddler plays by rule in vain. With screaming sweat, fatigue and rout, At length the set is bogged out; Now queer manoeuvres you might see, Each lad with honey on his knee; These with loud ha! ha! shake the dome; Those lay the plan 'gainst they get home. All now refresh'd with chat and punch, For second dance begin to hunch— When second, third and fourth are footed, "Ye fupper come," by all is shouted. This set retreat to hall is founded; Where vig'rous jigs o'er floor are bounded. A few more reels and country dances Bring morn'g night to late advances. The bill is call'd, each bears his share; And now dispute it if he dare. He dares not—though his purse is lean; Though too high charge is clearly seen; Though utter'd loud is voice of reason; And water and debt he's up to knees in; For should a frugal thought be hinted, Each eye, oblique is throw'dly squinted; Bala ridicule wafts round his fame; And on him's fixt the miser's name. Now all with free but empty puffs, Prorogue the ball by jigs and buffes. When home arriv'd, if night be gone, To next the sparkling they pollpone; But if one hour remains, and the's in Good trim—that hour is spent in Iqu—zing."

From the British Annual Register for 1786. Physical Observations on the surprising Efficacy of Salt in feeding, fattening, and multiplying CATTLE; and of course improving land for every other purpose. By a gentleman who subscribes himself W. W.

Looking over the first volume of the Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, I met with a paper entitled, "Physical observations on the effects of salt in fattening cattle." The title excited my curiosity; and on reading the memoir, the author's reasoning appeared to me not only plausible, but convincing. His views are certainly enlarged, and directed to objects of the more important kind, viz. the improvement of land and cattle. He lays down as an axiom, or self evident truth, that, by increasing cattle, land may be improved; and, by improving land, cattle may be multiplied.

The farmer, he says, who has a more than ordinary stock of working cattle, reaps a double advantage, one, by having his work done in season; the other, by enriching a greater proportion of his land by means of the additional manure; the only difficulty is, how to maintain an increased number without increasing the expence. This, he asserts, may be done by the use of salt; and advances the three following propositions:

- 1. That salt, given with the food of cattle, augments the nourishment of that food.
2. That, in proportion the quantity of salt eaten by cattle, the effects of that augmentation will be perceivable.
3. That no ill consequences will follow from excess of salt eaten by cattle, even though it should be given them without stint.

These propositions he endeavours to support by unquestionable facts. In the jurisdiction of Arles, in the country of Provence, there is, he says, a district called the Crau, extending in length about six leagues, and in breadth about three, the whole surface of which is covered with small rough stones, and not a tree or bush to be seen in the whole

District, except here and there on the borders; yet on this spot, so seemingly sterile, by the free use of salt, more numerous flocks of sheep are bred and reared, than upon any other common of equal extent throughout the whole kingdom; and what is no less remarkable, the sheep are healthier, and hardier, and endure the severity of the winter with less loss, though they have fewer sheep coats for covering, than those bred and fed on more copious pastures, and that have besides, the advantage of more convenient shelter. Add to this, that the wool of the flocks bred and brought up in the Crau, is not only the finest in the whole country, but bears the highest price of any in France.—From hence he concludes, that it is to the unlimited use of salt that these surprising effects are to be ascribed, for it frequently happens that the Crau is so burnt up in the summer, that the poor animals are forced to turn up the very stones to come at the few blades of grass that grow round them: and yet none perish for want of food. Let every excellence, therefore, that can reasonably be supposed inherent in the herbage, be allowed to it, yet the quantity of it is so small, that, without the abundant use of salt, a fourth part of the sheep kept in Crau, could not subsist in it.

But as a still further demonstration that this astonishing effect is solely to be attributed to salt, we have, says the writer, in Languedoc, on the borders of the Rhone, a spot of the same kind of stony land, in every respect similar to that of Crau; yet, for want of the free use of salt, that of Languedoc does not maintain a tenth part of the number of sheep that are brought up in the Crau, though in other respects it is no ways inferior, the wines and other fruits produced on the borders of both being, in their goodness and other essential qualities, equal.

Having proved his first proposition incontrovertibly, he proceeds in the proof of the second, to recommend an easy experiment, which it is in every farmer's power to make; and that is, to give to one half of his cattle salt, to the other half none. By this simple trial, he says, in less than a month, the difference will be discernible. The cattle to whom salt is given will show it in their looks, in the sleekness of their coats, in their growth, and in their strength and fitness for labour. He adds, that little more than half their usual food all these effects will be produced.

To establish his third proposition, he appeals to the practice about Arles, where the cattle have as much salt as they will eat, and none are so healthy or thrive so fast, as those that eat the most of it.

From these observations, there cannot remain a doubt of the good effects of salt in the feeding and fattening of cattle; but it is much to be regretted, that the writer is totally silent with respect to the method of giving the salt to the labouring cattle. He has, indeed, informed his readers, that in eight days his flock of 300 sheep eat 15 lb. of salt, being one pound to every score; and it should seem by his manner of expressing himself, that he gave them the whole quantity in one day, as he cautions the farmer against suffering his sheep to drink on the same day the salt is administered, apprising him at the same time how much it sharpens their appetite; and that he had seen them not only browse upon stubbles after eating the salt, but even gnaw pieces of wood of a surprising bigness.

REMEDY for the JAUNDICE. Extracted from a publication of the inge-

nious and worthy Dr. WHITE, of Manchester, in England. THE attention I have paid to jaundiced patients of both sexes, and of every age, who have been cured by frequently taking raw eggs in cold spring water, has inclined me much in this opinion. My supposition is that eggs act as a dissolvent of the gluten, obstructing the mouth of the duct, thereby opening a free passage for the bile into the duodenum. We know that yolks of eggs will destroy the tenacity of gums and resins, and not only them, but also oils, and natural balsams miscible with water.

The first trial I had of this remedy was upon myself about fourteen years ago, when I had been afflicted with the jaundice many weeks, and was much reduced, no bile having for a long time passed into the intestines, when my skin was almost black, and after I had in vain taken large quantities of soap, madder, steel, rhubarb and aloetic medicines. An officer of marines told me that if he might be allowed to prescribe, he would immediately cure me. I laughed at his proposal, when he informed me that some years before, in the mediterranean, he was troubled with the same disorder to as great a degree as myself, and that after he ineffectually tried all the remedies the Surgeon of the ship could think of, a Spanish Physician at Minorca had assured him he could cure him in a few days, by this simple prescription only,—two raw eggs, the whites as well as the yolks, to be taken every morning in a glass of water, fasting, with the addition of an egg every four hours during the day. That in three days, after following this advice he began to perceive the bile in his stools, though none had appeared in them for many weeks before; that he immediately began to recover, and was very soon effectually cured. Upon considering the dissolvent property of yolks of eggs and the eggs must at least afford a nourishment totally void of acrimony, I began to entertain a more favourable opinion of the recipe.

I tried it and found it had exactly the same effect which he had promised me. Though I was certain no bile had passed through me for six weeks before, upon taking the eggs only three days it began to flow, and in one day more in as great plenty as I could wish. I continued however, to take them several months, and have never since had a return of the disorder.

I have recommended the use of them to many persons under the same complaint, and have always had the satisfaction of finding their success, except in cases where the disorder was occasioned by a diseased liver, or by stones in the gall bladder."

NEWBURY PORT, (Mass.) Aug. 1. A letter from Mr. Benjamin Pearson, at Norton, in this Commonwealth, to his brother in this town, dated June 29th, 1787, contains the following remarkable account, viz.

"Two or three men being at work in a field at Mansfield, were obliged by a shower, to take shelter in an uninhabited house near by. While there to their great surprise, they saw five or six white mice run from under the hearth and back again. One of the men proposed taking up the hearth, upon doing which they found six infant's bones and skull, together with a knife laying by the side of the bones, the handle almost rotten, the back very rusty, but the edge quite bright.—It is thought from what information they have been able to obtain, that the murder was committed about thirty years ago.—Strange noises had been heard by a family which formerly lived in the house."

HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1787.

NORTHAMPTON: PRINTED BY WILLIAM BUTLER, A FEW ROADS EAST OF THE COURT HOUSE.

For the HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE. POLITICAL and MORAL ENTERTAINMENT. NUMBER V.

THE articles of confederation between the United States and the constitution of Massachusetts, are the supreme law and rule of jurisdiction and government in this Commonwealth. From these all officers of state derive their authority, and by them are limited to the particular mode and extent of exercising it. The general Court possesses the legislative power under the constitution, and in consequence of the federal authority of the United States in Congress; and is commissioned, "to make, ordain, and establish all manner of wholesome and necessary ordinances, laws, &c."

That all state legislatures are subordinate to Congress, so far as power is delegated to the federal government, is fully determined and established, as well by conclusive reasoning as by authority, in the circular letter to the states on the subject of the treaty made with Great Britain. The extent of this limitation of state jurisdiction is worthy to be observed, as stated in a formal order, "That the legislatures of the several states cannot of right pass any act or acts, for interpreting, explaining, or construing a national treaty, or any part or clause of it; nor for restraining, limiting, or in any manner impeding, or counteracting the operation and execution of the same; for that on being conditionally made, ratified and published, they become, in virtue of the confederation, part of the law of the land, and are not only independent of the will and power of such legislatures, but also binding and obligatory on them." The power which a law of the land has over all the Legislatures of the United States, the constitution of the Commonwealth has to bind the General Court and all other officers of government in it.

To explain a law by an act of legislation, is to assume authority above that with right to alter it in pleasure, by giving such interpretation as the Court explaining it chooses to establish. And such act when made, is to be considered as a new law superseding the one which it explains. But whatever cause come before any judicial Court, respecting facts prior to it, they must forever be decided by the law, as it existed at the time when the facts took place, which must be interpreted by the constitutional interpreters of law, independently on any after enactment or act of the legislative Court; otherwise the legislators would be judges as well as makers of law. But says the constitution, "In the government of this Commonwealth, the legislative department shall never exercise the executive and judicial powers, or either of them: The executive shall never exercise the legislative and executive powers, or either of them: to the end it may be a government of laws and not of men." Declaration of Rights, Art. 30.

Upon the principles on which this article is founded, it may be supposed the Congress formed their determination, that all doubts concerning a national treaty, and for the same reasons it may be supposed, being in the first instance made judicial questions, are to be heard and determined by the courts of justice having cognizance of the causes in which they arise. And it is an instance of the completeness of the frame of government provided for this Commonwealth, that as it forbids the legislative and executive departments to exercise the powers of the judicial, it authorizes each branch of the General Court, as well as the Governor and Council, to require the opinions of the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court on important questions of law and on solemn occasions; "that all doubts concerning the meaning of laws may be removed, and each branch of government keep within the limits prescribed to it in the constitution."

lary of that office? It has been proved that the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court are the constitutional interpreters of law; it may also be justly conceived that all officers of government, they are the best qualified for this service; it being the business to which they have been particularly educated, and which has long engaged their study, and for years afforded them experience.

Should it be objected, that their being in a like situation with the Governor, respecting a fixed salary, disqualified them to be impartial determiners of this question; I answer, that as they hold their offices by public tenure—by annual election, they by appointment during good behavior, the question respecting his salary does not affect theirs, it not being pretended that his can be lessened for the time he is already in office; which being applied to them, shall continue to be judges. Beside, were it true that a small inconvenience would attend their being made the determiners of the question, it would be better to have business done in its proper department, than by deriving from its constitution the occasion much greater evils. If the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court are concerned to have the salary of the Governor continue undiminished, left their own in turn should be lessened, can it be said that all the members of the General Court will decide the question impartially and uninfluenced by a desire to save themselves and their constituents the expence of paying so large a salary, at a time when, in several parts of the Commonwealth, a cry of the people, or rationally expected to obtain a re-election to their present honorableness? This is not the only reason why the General Court should not continue for themselves the salary of the Governor's salary, after having explained it to answer their purpose. The Governor is the representative of all the people of the Commonwealth, which renders it unsuitable that he should be dependent on a body of men, that are only representatives of towns or counties, and liable to the influence of local interests, which may be different from the good of the whole. And should it be allowed that his salary is fixed several degrees too high, which is an allowance that reason and facts do not require to be made, the continuance of it undiminished, would be a small evil compared with that of having the dignity or emolument of his office, and his expectation of being re-elected to it, subjected to the arbitrament of individuals, or to the body of another department of government. This the public good requires, he should not be under the undue influence of the members of the General Court, by a dependence on them for his support, stands foremost in the reasons offered in the constitution, why it is necessary that he should have an honorable fixed salary of a fixed and permanent value, established by standing laws. It is not the person of the Governor, that is liable to abuse to the injury of the people, so much as the office, by making the emoluments of it dependent on another branch of the government; which would put it into the power of one department to derogate at pleasure from another, and if it think proper, or convenient for its own purposes, wholly to take away the responsibility of it.

It cannot fairly be argued, that an attempt made by any members in the General Court to lessen the Governor's salary, though it be only for future years, will not effect his mind, or make him feel dependence on such members for his support; unless it be supposed, that he so fully limits his views to the present year, as to have no regard to any future election to the office. And if this be supposed, can it be said that the diminution of his salary, though it take place only in reference to the succession, will not touch his feelings, as being disrespectful to the station in which he was then placed?

There are other considerations that ought to come into view. People, unacquainted with living on a salary, and that do not know the value of their income, or the sum of their expences, almost universally rate them below what they are. They do not recollect all the smaller articles of living, which they ought to form an accurate judgment of their whole amount. A number of articles, singly of small value, make a larger total when put together, than is imagined

before the computation of them is actually made. In the extent of the Commonwealth, a large proportion of the people are unacquainted with the necessary expences of the first magistracy, and altogether incompetent judges of the sum needful for an honorable salary. This has two effects. Men are frequently sent to the General Court, who are prepared to act for lessening this salary, merely because they are ignorant of the proper sum for it. In addition to this, the incapacity of people to form an adequate judgment upon the question, renders them liable to imposition from designing men; who by pretending to have a full knowledge of the matter, by using false reasonings, and frequently by telling untruths and inflaming the minds of distressed persons, find means to excite a clamour against it as too high, when all the noise is occasioned by ignorance, folly and design. But however ill grounded such clamours are, they have great effects upon the minds and judgments of most men; as if the common opinion must be right, though in things beyond their means of knowledge, it is frequently observable that nothing can be more absurd and irrational.

In all societies there are men very much the humble servants of those that converse with them, and eager to stand well in the public esteem of their town or country; who by seeming to assent to the popular opinion, at length imbibe it, though at first nothing could be more distant from their real judgment. And such is the state of the world, that there are men who can, upon occasion, devote a little from their own opinions to please others when they feel themselves dependent, and whose interest they need to favour their design of promotion. It is to be expected that representatives will be so. Their constituents; and that government will take its complexion from the people, so far as it is liable to the influence of popular elections. As little as possible of their accessions should be left to annual elections and division in popular assemblies; especially of things which the public good requires to be fixed and stable. In an imperfect state of virtue in a nation, a guard should be placed against the arts of a designing and ambitious man. And it is manifestly improper that any such in the General Court should have opportunity at any unfavourable conjuncture of events, to attack the independence of the head of the executive department of government.

A few men of intrigue and scheme, that can hide from others their real designs, being enemies either to the liberie of the Commonwealth, or to the person of the Governor, by artfully attacking his salary in pretence of its being too high, at a time when a clamour has been raised against it in many parts of the State, may naturally expect to gain a majority of the legislature to vote that it shall be lessened. The act may then be carried to the Governor for his approbation. Should he conceive the bill to be unconstitutional, or should he from his knowledge of the expences of his station determine it to be unreasonable; and it is possible that both these may attend it, how shall he act? Shall he with honest resolution return the bill with his objections against it; or shall he feignly comply and sign his approbation, to please the members of the General Court and secure their interest at the next election? In such management is the Governor in a situation that does not expose him to be under the undue influence of any of the members of the General Court.

I have a high esteem of the wisdom and patriotism of the General Court of the last year; and do not think that we have reason to expect a better legislative body for the Commonwealth, until we become a better people. But I view it not to be any reflection upon them to suppose they were individuals, whose designs were not equally good with those of the whole considered together. And no more need be said to account for the event, when the question was introduced into the house respecting the Governor's salary. How far the issue and consequences of that measure may be considered to show that it derogates from the wisdom of the constitution, to suppose that it allows such attacks upon the office of first magistracy, let the judicious and candid try; bringing into view at the same time, how decidedly the constitution speaks upon the subject.

I am a well wisher to this country, N U M A.

Vertical handwritten text on the right margin, likely a signature or note, partially obscured and difficult to read.