MATRIMONIAL DEAFNESS.

TWO ears at a time are too many for use,
As they're only the inlets of strife;
And some may be found, who (tho' wise) would refuse,
To possess these fair organs of life.

This deafness oft times of advantage is found,
Misfortunes may turn to a blessing
When nonsense dictates, or when tonnults abound,
They then lose their force of distressing.

I wisely am taught to be deaf with one ear,
While the other for use I employ;
One gate I shut up against trouble and care,
And the other keep open for joy.

When my consort begins her windpipe to clear,
With pearls that would read words asunder,
Serenely I sit and cock up my deaf ear,
Unnoticed midst the roar of her thunder.

Tother day comes a dun, with "Sir, you well know;"
"*What say you?—Speak louder a little;*"
"You know Sir, you borrowed full twelve month ago—"
"*Alas friend! I can't hear a tittle.*"

"You owe me TEN POUNDS,"—much louder he cries,
And repeats it as strong as he can;
Then I point to my ears, and stare with my eyes,
Till he scarcely believes me the man.

I, brave as a Don, cry "*My hearing's quite lost!*"
"And my money, (says he) too I fear:"
"Pox on him! 'tis folly to talk to a post;"
So he leaves me as mad as a hare.

Thus my life, night and day, in soft indolence flows,
Scolding, dunning, nor brawling I fear;
Ye married men all then, that wish for repose,
Mind, and always be deaf with one ear.

A MARRIED MAN.

From the AMERICAN MAGAZINE.

Extracts from a letter written by Mr. John Ledyard to Dr. Ledyard, of Queen's County, Long-Island.

IT may be necessary to inform the reader, that Mr. *John Ledyard* was one who accompanied Capt. Cook in his voyage round the world. After his return, he formed a design of travelling round the world by land. By the influence of the French minister, Count Vergennes, he obtained the countenance of the Empress of Russia, through whose dominions he purposed to pass. He had actually travased the vast regions of the north, through Russia, Siberia, and almost to the Pacific ocean; when through the jealousy of the Russian court, he was arrested by an officer dispatched for the purpose, hurried back through a country of six thousand miles extent, to the borders of Poland, and banished the Russian empire. He arrived in London the last summer, where he was introduced to a company of nobility and gentlemen, who wished to find a person willing to undertake to explore the interior parts of Africa. Mr. Ledyard immediately engaged in the hazardous enterprize, the society have advanced a sum of money to defray the expenses, and this bold traveller is now on his way through France to Alexandria, Grand Cairo, the banks of the Red Sea, and thence southward through the heart of Africa.

While this gentleman was in London, he wrote to his friend, giving some account of his travels, from which are extracted the following particulars.

"The two following observations are the result of extensive and assiduous enquiry. First, that the difference of colour in the human species, as the observation respects all but the Negroes, whom I have not yet visited, *originates from natural causes.*

"The second is, that all the Asiatic Indians, called *Tartars*, and all the Tartars that have formed the later armies of Zingis Chan, together with the Chinese, are the same people, and that the American Tartar" (so he calls the natives) "is also of the family: The most ancient and numerous people on earth, and what is very singular, the *most uniformly alike.*

"You have no idea of the excessive cold in the region of Siberia. By experiments I made at Yakutsk,* I found on the 19th of Nov. the mercury in my thermometer froze. In Dec. I found by repeated observations, that two ounces of clear quicksilver, openly exposed, froze hard in fifteen minutes by a watch. In strong Coniack brandy, coagulated by a thermometer graduated by Reaumer, and filled with rectified spirits of wine, I had 39½ degrees. On the borders of the frozen ocean, a Capt. Billings had the winter before last 47½ degrees by the same thermometer. I observed that in these severe frosts, the air was condensed, as is with you in a thick fog—the atmosphere is frozen—respiration is fatiguing—all exercise must be as moderate as possible—ones confidence is placed in the fur dress alone. It is a happy law of nature that in such intense cold, there is seldom any wind—when there is, it is dangerous to be abroad: Those who happen to die, lie down on the snow and thus secure themselves. In these seasons there is no chase—the animals submit themselves to hunger and security, and so does man. There are no wells at Yakutsk, for it is found by experiment that the water freezes at 60 feet depth. People of these regions therefore are obliged to use ice and snow. They have also ice windows—glass is of no use to the few who have it; the difference in the state of the air, within and without, is so great, that the glass is covered on the inside with several inches of ice, and in that situation, it is less luminous than ice. The timber of the houses splits and opens with loud cracks—the rivers thunder and open with broad fissures—all nature groans beneath the rigorous winter. Just at the turning of this cold season, I travelled last winter 2600 verstes, about 1800 English miles, on the river Lena."

* *On the banks of the great river Lena, which falls into the frozen ocean.*

Breck & Clarke,

HAVE just received a new supply of

GOODS,

suitable to the season—and have now as good an assortment as can be found at any Store,—their Customers and others are hereby assured, that they will sell them at the lowest possible rate for CASH. Wheat, Rye, Indian Corn, Pork, old Pewter and Brass, Geese Feathers, Bees-Wax, and all kinds of Shipping FURRS.

——They have a quantity of common proof, good flavoured West-India RUM—most excellent French BRANDY, and old Fayall WINE, which for the Cash they purpose to sell per barrel or by the ten gallons, as low as can be purchased in Boston or Hartford

——They have likewise the best of COTTON WOOL at 2/4 per single pound, and 2/2 by the dozen.

Northampton, Nov. 26, 1788.

NOTICE is hereby given to the non-resident proprietors of the town of Ashfield, in the county of Hampshire, that their lands are taxed for a minister tax on the list for the years 1781, 1784 and 1788, as follows, viz.

	f.	d.	q.		f.	d.	q.
Cap. Ben. Beals,	27	4	2	36	1	9	2
Eli Fuller	2	3	0	5th division,			
Hez. Stratten,	1	11	2	Lot No. 17	1	5	0
Mill lot,	4	3	0	18	1	5	0
Houselot No. 43,	2	10	0	32	1	5	0
2d division,				46	1	5	0
Lot No. 23	8	0	1	47	1	5	0
49	16	4	2	57	1	5	0
12	7	10	0	50	1	5	0
15	7	8	0	53	1	5	0
33	4	3	0	37	1	5	0
3d division,				15	1	5	0
Lot No. 17	12	1	2	19	1	5	0
33	12	7	2	47	1	5	0
18	8	0	0	39	1	5	0
25	11	11	0	30	1	5	0
37	16	4	2	16	1	5	0
38	8	2	2	12	1	5	0
53	4	5	2	24	1	5	0
59	3	9	0	22	1	5	0
63	7	8	0	Rights of undivided land,			
34	3	11	0	taxed on the list of 1781			
57	3	11	0	and 1784.			
59	3	11	0		f.	d.	q.
2	3	11	0	Lot No. 1	1	10	1
15	2	1	2	2	0	9	0
16	4	3	0	4	0	9	0
36	4	3	0	6	2	7	2
44	4	3	0	7	0	9	0
55	4	3	0	8	2	7	2
4th division,				10	2	7	2
Lot No. 2	1	9	2	11	1	3	0
3	1	11	2	13	2	7	2
5	0	11	2	14	0	9	0
6	1	11	2	15	0	9	0
7	3	9	0	16	1	10	2
8	3	9	0	18	1	10	2
10	1	11	2	19	1	10	2
11	3	9	0	21	2	7	2
14	0	11	3	22	2	7	2
15	0	11	3	24	1	10	2
18	0	11	3	25	1	10	2
19	2	9	1	26	1	10	2
21	2	9	1	28	2	7	2
23	2	9	1	29	2	7	2
24	2	9	1	30	2	7	2
25	2	9	1	33	1	10	2
29	0	11	3	36	0	9	0
30	0	11	3	37	1	10	2
32	2	9	1	38	0	9	0
37	2	9	1	40	0	9	0
39	0	11	3	41	2	7	2
40	0	11	3	44	2	7	2
42	0	11	3	46	2	7	2
44	0	11	3	47	1	10	2
47	0	11	3	48	0	9	0
48	0	11	3	49	2	7	2
49	0	11	3	52	0	9	0
50	2	9	1	53	0	9	0
55	0	11	3	56	0	9	0
58	0	11	3	57	0	9	0
59	2	9	1	58	1	10	2
61	2	9	1	59	2	7	2
62	0	11	2	61	2	7	2
63	0	11	2	62	2	7	2
41	0	11	2	63	2	7	2
46	1	9	2	9	1	10	2
43	1	9	2				

Unless said taxes are paid on or before Wednesday, the 21st of Jan. next, so much of said lands will then be sold at Public Vendue, at the House of Mr. Seth Wait, inholder, in said Ashfield, at 8 o'clock A. M. on said day, as will be sufficient to discharge the same, with intervening charges.

JOSEPH PORTER, Collector.

Ashfield, November 18, 1788.

Just Published and now selling by the Printer hereof
(Price Six-pence)

A SERMON, preached at the Execution of *Abiel Converse*, July 17th, 1788, by AARON BASCOM, A. M. Pastor of the Church in Chester.

Ebenezer Hunt,

HAS just received from London, (and now ready for sale at his Apothecary Store, opposite the Meeting-House in Northampton) a full and complete assortment of

MEDICINES,

Among which are the following articles, viz. HOOPER's, Anderson's, & Lockyers Pills, Bateman's Drops, Godfrey's Cordial, Frannces female Elixir, British Oil, Turlington's Balsam of Life, Balsam of Honey, Essence of Peppermint, James's fever Powders, Bergamot, Oil of Vitriol.——Also, Allum, Copperas, Ground Madder, Borax, Salt-Petre, Brimstone, &c.—Amputating Instruments, Surgeons Pocket Instruments, Syringes, Crooked Needles in Cases, Crown and Country Lancets, Bell Metal Mortars and Pestles, Grain Scales and Weights, Trocars, Catheters black lead Pencils, &c. &c.——He has likewise imported a large quantity of Painters Colours—such as White and Red Lead, Spruce Yellow, Spanish Brown, Spanish Whiting, Prussian Blue, Verditer Blue, Verdigreese, Vermillion, Rosepink Umber, Ivory Black, &c.—He has also for sale, West-India and New-England Rum, Lisbon and Malaga Wine, Bohea Tea, Nutmegs, Cloves, Cinnamon, Pepper, Ginger, Chocolate, Raisins, Figs, Sago, Salep, Indigo, Oil of Turpentine, Rosin, Pipes, &c.

N. B. Family Medicines put up in the best manner with directions.——The above articles will be sold at the most moderate advance, and the payment to the Purchaser made in every respect as easy as possible.

THE Subscriber, in the course of last summer called upon all persons indebted to the estate of Deacon EBENEZER HUNT, deceased, to make payment, or renew their obligations—very few have complied with that request—He now acquaints them that a speedy compliance alone, will prevent their Notes being put in suit.

EBENEZER HUNT.

November 18, 1788.

Levi Shephard,

Has just imported from London, a general assortment of

DRUGS and MEDICINES,
Painter's COLOURS, &c.

ALSO,

Is now opening at his Medical Store, a large assortment of European

GOODS,

suitable for the season—for which he takes most kinds of Country Produce, that will bear transportation.

He has likewise West-India and New-England RUM, by the large or small quantity—Lisbon, Malaga and Port WINE—all kinds of SPICES—SUGAR—CURRANTS—RAISINS, and almost all kinds of DYE STUFF, for Clothiers, and NAILS, &c. &c.

CASH and a generous price given at said Store for all kinds of Shipping FURRS and BEES-WAX.

Northampton, Nov. 26, 1788.

Hezekiah Hutchins,

INFORMS his Customers and others, that he has on hand a number pair

SHOES,

which he will Exchange for Wheat, Rye, or Indian Corn.

N. B. He has also a few Sides of upper and sole-leather, which he wants to exchange for green hides.

Northampton, Nov. 19, 1788.

To be Sold,

On reasonable Terms

A Lot of choice LAND, containing seven acres and an half, with a House, Barn, Orchard, and other conveniencies thereon, situate on the town street in Sunderland, about 60 rods south of the meeting-house, is a very good place for a tradesman. Also a lot of plough Land, about one mile and a quarter from the other, containing eight acres.—Conditions of sale will be make easy. For further particulars, enquire of

AMASA SMITH.

Belchertown, Nov. 21, 1788.

STRAYED from the subscriber, some time since, a Stallion COLT, six months old, large of his age, was of a sorrel colour when he went away, but it is thought likely to be changed a little; has some white in his face, and I think some white feet, paces and trots. Whoever will take up and secure said Colt, so that the owner may have him again, shall be well rewarded, by

ELISHA NASH.

Williamsburgh, Nov. 17, 1788.

STRAYED out of a drove, the latter part of October last, a dark bay Horse COLT, two years old, with a long tail, large of his age.——Also, a sorrel Horse COLT, two years old, with a long tail, lately shod before, a small blaze in his face. Whoever will take up said horses and return them to the subscriber, or give information where they may be had, shall have a handsome reward, and necessary charges paid.

WILLIAM MOORE.

Greenfield, Nov. 19, 1788.

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HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1788.

NORTHAMPTON, (MASSACHUSETTS) Published by WILLIAM BUTLER.

*** ALL Persons indebted to the Printer hereof, are requested to make payment immediately,——especially those whose accounts have been due one year, or more.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In *SENATE*, November 19, 1788.

RESOLVED, That the Commonwealth be divided into eight districts for the purpose of choosing eight persons to represent the people thereof in the Congress of the United States, each district to choose one Representative, who shall be an inhabitant of such district, and that the districts be as follows, viz.

The County of *Suffolk*, be one district.
The County of *Essex*, one district.
The County of *Middlesex*, one district.
The Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire*, one district.
The Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable*, one district.
The Counties of *York*, *Cumberland* and *Lincoln*, one district.
The Counties of *Bristol*, *Duke's County* and *Nantucket*, one district.
The County of *Worcester*, one district.

And be it further Resolved, That the Selectmen of the respective towns and districts in several districts before described, shall in manner as the law directs for calling town-meetings, cause the inhabitants thereof, duly qualified to vote for Representatives to the General Court of this Commonwealth, to assemble on Thursday the eighteenth day of *December* next, to give in their votes, for their respective Representatives, to the Selectmen, who shall preside at such meeting: And the Selectmen or the major part of them, shall open town-meeting, sort and count the votes, and form a list of the persons voted for, with the number of votes for each person, against his name and shall make a public declaration thereof in the said meeting, and sign in the presence of the inhabitants, seal copies of the said list, and transmit the same to the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on or before the first Monday of *January* next: And the Clerk of each town and district, shall make and fairly transcribe in the records thereof, the list aforesaid: and the Secretary shall lay the same before his Excellency the Governour and the Council. And in case of any election for any district by a majority of all the votes returned, his Excellency the Governour is hereby requested forthwith to transmit to the persons so chosen, a certificate thereof. And in case no person shall have a majority of votes, the Governour is hereby requested, to cause precepts to issue, accompanied with a certificate of the names of the two persons who had the greatest number of votes in the first return, to the Selectmen of the several towns and districts within the district for which no person shall have been chosen as aforesaid, to assemble the inhabitants of their respective towns and districts, qualified as aforesaid, on a day in such precept to be appointed, to give in their votes for a Representative, and the like proceedings shall be had thereon; as are herein before directed; and the Selectmen shall make return thereof, in manner as aforesaid, to the Secretary's office, on or before, a day in such precept to be prescribed. And the Secretary shall lay the same before the Governour and Council; and in case any person shall have a majority as aforesaid, the Governour is requested forthwith to transmit to the person so chosen, a certificate thereof: And in case no person shall have a majority of votes, the Governour is requested to issue like precepts as often as the case may require.

And be it further Resolved, That when the inhabitants of the several towns and districts qualified as aforesaid, shall be assembled on the said eighteenth day of *December* next, they shall also give in their votes for two persons, who shall be inhabitants of the district in which such town or district may be, as candidates for an Elector of the President and Vice-President of the United States; and a list of the votes so given in as aforesaid, shall by the Selectmen of the several towns and districts, or the major part of them, be transmitted to the Secretary's office, on or before the first Monday in *January* next. And on the Wednesday following, the General Court then in session, shall examine the said returns, and from the men who shall be found to have the greatest number of votes in each district, the members of the two Houses assembled in one room, shall by joint ballot elect one who shall be the Elector for the district, to which he belongs; and in case it should so happen, that more than two persons voted for as Electors should have an equality of votes among the highest voted for, the members of the two Houses as aforesaid, shall out of such number choose the Elector. And if any in case the aforesaid returns from a district, shall not be received at the Secretary's office, on or before the first Monday in *January* next, the members of the two Houses of the Legislature shall, on the first Wednesday of *January* next, appoint some person, being an inhabitant of such district, for an Elector of the President and Vice-President.

And be it further Resolved, That the members of the two Houses of the General Court, shall in a manner as aforesaid, appoint at large, two Electors for the President and Vice-President, not voted for by the districts as aforesaid.

And be it further Resolved, That the said Electors be, and they are hereby directed, to meet on the first Wednesday of *February* next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at the State-House in the town of *Boston*, for the purpose of voting by ballot, for two persons, for President and Vice-President, of the United States, agreeably to the Constitution of said United States: And that for their travel and attendance, they shall receive the same compensation as members of the Senate are entitled to.

Sent down for concurrence.

SAMUEL PHILLIPS, jun. President.

In the *House of Representatives*, November 20, 1788.

Read and concured.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, Speaker

Appoved.

JOHN HANCOCK.

A true Copy—Attest,

JOHN AVERY, jun. Secretary.

AN ENQUIRY into the JUSTICE and POLICY of punishing MURDER by DEATH.

By the celebrated Doctor RUSH, *of Pennsylvania.*

"THOU SHALT NOT KILL."

IN an essay upon the effects of publick punishments upon criminals and upon society, which I had the honour of reading in the society for political enquiries convened at the house of his Excellency Benjamin Franklin, Esq. on the 9th of March, 1787, I hinted, in a short paragraph, at the injustice of punishing murder by death.——I shall attempt in the following essay, to support that opinion, and to answer all the objections that have been used against it.

I. Every man possesses an absolute power over his own liberty and property, but not over his own life.—When he becomes a member of political society, he commits the disposal of his liberty and property to his fellow citizens, but as he has no right to dispose of his life, he cannot commit the power over it to any body of men. To take away life, therefore, for any crime, is a violation of the first political compact.

II. The punishment of murder by death, is contrary to reason, and to the order and happiness of society.

1. It lessens the horror of taking away human life, and thereby tends to multiply murders.

2. It produces murder, by its influence upon people who are tired of life, and who, from a supposition, that murder is a less crime than suicide, destroys a life (and often that of near connexion, and afterwards deliver themselves up to justice) that they may escape from their misery by means of a halter.

3. The punishment of murders by death, multiplies murders, from the difficulty it creates of convicting persons who are guilty of it. Humanity, revolting at the severity and certainty of a capital punishment, often steps in, and collects such evidence in favour of a murderer, as screens him from justice altogether, or palliates his crime into manslaughter. If the punishment of murder consisted in long confinement, & hard labour, it would be proportioned to the measure of our feelings of justice, and every member of society would be a watchman or a magistrate, to apprehend a destroyer of human life, and to bring him to punishment.*

4. The punishment of murder by death, checks the operation of universal justice, by preventing the punishment of every species of murder. Quack doctors—friends of various kinds—and a licentious press often destroy life, and sometimes with malice of the most propense nature. If murder was punished by confinement & hard labour, the authors of the numerous murders that have been mentioned, would be dragged forth, and punished according to their desers. How much order and happiness would arise to society from such a change in human affairs! But who will attempt to define these species of murder, or to prosecute offenders of this stamp, if death is to be the punishment of the crime after it is admitted, and proved to be wilful murder?—Only alter the punishment of murder, and these crimes will soon assume their proper names, and probably become as rare as murder from common acts of violence.

5. The punishment of murder by death, has been proved to be contrary to the order and happiness of society, by the experiments of some of the wisest legislators in Europe. The Empress of Russia, the King of Sweden, and the duke of Tuscany, have steadily extirpated murder from their dominions, by converting its punishment into the means of benefiting society, and reforming the criminals who perpetrate it.

III. The punishment of murder by death, is contrary to divine revelation. A religion which commands us to forgive and even to do good to our enemies, can never authorise the punishment of murder by death. "Vengeance is mine," said the Lord; "I will repay." It is to no purpose to say here, that this vengeance is taken out of the hand of an individual, & directed against the criminal by the hands of government. It is equally an usurpation of the prerogative of Heaven, whether it be inflicted by a single person, or by a whole community.

Here I expect to meet with an appeal from the letter and spirit of the gospel, the law of Moses, which declares that "he that sheddeth a man shall surely be put

* *In proportion as sentiments of justice, humanity, and policy, prevail upon the subject of capital punishments for murder, acquittals will take place, contrary to law and evidence. The consequences of this, will be destructive to all government.—Inasmuch as such acquittals cannot take place without perjury.*