

I request that the following poetical production, written by the celebrated Mr. JOSEPH GREEN, late of this town, may be inserted in your next Paper—the wit and humor it contains, will doubtless induce you to give it a place.

Your's, &c. &c. D. B.

IN David's Palms an oversight, Byles found one morning at his tea, Alas! why did not David write A proper Psalm to sing at tea.

Thus ruminating on his feat, Ambitious thoughts at length prevail'd, The hard d-stem'd 'em compleat, The part wherein the prophet fail'd.

He set a while, and Brock'd his muse, Then taking up his musical pen, Wrote a few stanzas for the use? Of his tea-faring brethren.

The task perform'd, the bard content, Well chosen was each flowing word, On a short voyage himself he went, To hear it read and sung on board.

Most serious Christians do aver, Their credit sure we may rely on, In former times, that after prayer, They us'd to sing a song of Zion.

Our modern parson having pray'd, Confess'd some fault and bawled, Sat down, took out his book and said, Let's sing a Psalm of Mather Byles.

As first when he began to read, The assembly heads they downwards hang, But he with boldness did proceed, And thus they read, and thus they sang.

The PSALM.

WHEN I halt amazement me survey, The wonders of the deep, Where mackerel swim, and porpoise play, And crabs and lobsters creep.

Fish of all kinds inhabit there, And through the dark abound, There laddock, bake and hounders are, And eels, and perch, and cod.

From raging winds and tempests free, So smoothly as we pass; The fining of Britons seems to be A piece of brittle glass.

But when the winds and tempests rise, And foaming billows swell, The vessel mounts above the three, And lower sinks than hell.

Our heads the tottering motion feel, And quickly we become Giddy as new drop'd calves and reel Like Indians drunk with rum.

What praises there are due that we Thus far have safely got, The Marrafocogin tribe to see, And tribe of Penobscot.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In Senate, November 17, 1788.

WHEREAS in and by an act of the General Court, passed March 12th 1784, entitled "an act defining the general powers and duties, and regulating the office of Sheriffs," it is enacted, that every Sheriff shall give sufficient security at the discretion of the Court of Common Pleas in his county unto the Treasurer of the Commonwealth, for his faithful performance of the duties of his office, and to answer the malefiance and misfeasance of all his deputies, and if any Sheriff shall neglect to give such security at the Court of Common Pleas which shall be held in his county next after his being commissioned, all services done by him afterwards, and before he shall give such security, shall be null and void; and whereas by another act of the General Court passed on the same 12th of March, entitled "an act describing the duty and powers of Coronors," it is enacted, "that Coronors shall give security before they proceed to act, in the same manner as Sheriffs by law are obliged to do." And whereas it appears that many of the Sheriffs and Coronors within this Commonwealth, have neglected to give security as directed by the acts aforesaid, by which neglect the services of such Sheriffs and Coronors are rendered null and void, which will

operate to the very great injury of all those persons in whose behalf such services have been made:

Be it therefore Resolved, That all services heretofore done by any Sheriffs or Coronors within this Commonwealth, or which shall be done at any time before the next session of the Court of Common Pleas, which shall be held in the county to which such Sheriff or Coronor respectively belongs, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, their neglect to give security, as directed in and by the acts aforesaid, notwithstanding.

Provided nevertheless, That if any Sheriff or Coronor, within this Commonwealth, who hath heretofore neglected to give security as directed by the acts aforesaid, shall neglect to give security at the Court of Common Pleas which shall next be held in the county whereof he is Sheriff or Coronor, for the faithful performance of the duties of his office in time to come, and to answer the malefiances and misfeasances, of himself and all his deputies, as well those which shall have been done or committed before such security shall be given, as those which shall be committed afterwards, the Sheriff or Coronor so neglecting, shall be liable in any action or suit in the same manner as if this resolve had not been passed, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sent down for concurrence. SAMUEL PHILLIPS, President. In the House of Representatives, November 17, 1788.

Read and concurred, THEODORE SEDGWICK, Speaker. Approved.

JOHN HANCOCK. True copy. Attest. JOHN AVERY, jun. Secretary.

LONDON, Sept. 13.

A practice prevails with parents of entrusting infants to the care of children a little older than themselves, without ever reflecting upon the danger incurred from their gliding and want of attention. An accident occurred a few days ago, which should be a caution against it in future. A little girl of about six years of age, carrying a lineament in her arm, suffered her attention to be attracted by something in the street, and let it fall on the flag, by which its skull was broke, and it expired on the spot. The grief of the parents at such a tragical catastrophe, may easily be conceived—we hope it will have the effect of inducing others to guard against accidents.

We have received a confirmed account of nearly the total destruction of Serajo, the capital of Bosnia, by a fire which broke out there the beginning of this month in four different places at once. All that part where the Jews inhabited, with their magazines, shops & merchandizes, was destroyed; besides all the Christian houses, and above one thousand belonging to the Turks including ten mosques; in the whole about 7000 houses.

On Sunday died at the Bald Buck, in Litchfield, Andrew Shuffbottom, chaise driver; he was buried on Wednesday, and by his own request as near to the turnpike road leading to Buxton as possible, that he might (as he expressed himself) enjoy the satisfaction of hearing his brother whips pass and repairs. He particularly desired to have his corps carried to the grave by six chaise drivers (his late companions) in their leather jackets, the pall to be supported by the like number of hollers from different towns, and the mourners to consist of six publicans with their wives. The procession, in their way to the grave, were desired to stop at the Old Crown Inn, and to refresh themselves with each a glass of right Holland's gin, his favourite liquor.

The Subscribers for Mr. OSTERWALD'S Compendium of Christian Theology, are requested to call for their Books. A few Copies for sale, by the Printer hereof.

WE the Subscribers being appointed by the Hon. Judge of Probate, for the county of Hampshire, Commissioners to receive and examine the claims on the estate of JOHN HINSDALE, late of Deerfield, deceased, represented insolvent, and six months being allowed the creditors to bring in their claims—do hereby give notice, that we will attend said business at the house of Mr. David Hoyt, inholder in Deerfield, on the first Mondays of January, February and May next, from two to six o'clock, P.M. on each of said days.

JOHN WILLIAMS, JONATHAN ARMS, SAMUEL BARNARD. ALL persons indebted to, or that have any demands on said estate, are desired to settle the same without delay, with ELISHA HINSDALE, Adm'r. on said estate. Deerfield, Nov. 4, 1788.

Worcester, November 17th, 1788. PROPOSAL

for Printing by SUBSCRIPTION, By ISAIAH THOMAS, ELEMENTS OF GENERAL HISTORY. Translated from the French of the ABBE MILLOT.

Beginning with the Ancient Egyptians, and brought down to the Peace of 1763.

IN Three Volumes Large Octavo. CONTAINING TWO Volumes of ANCIENT, and THREE of MODERN History. A Work universally admired for its Consistency and Clearness, and composed with elegant Impartiality and Precision.

CONDITIONS. I. It will be printed with a fair Type on good Paper, page for page with the last London Edition.

II. The price to Subscribers will be only five shillings for the Five Volumes complete, containing in the whole about 2680 Pages, each volume neatly bound and lettered.

III. Those Gentlemen who incline to encourage the printing and publishing of valuable Books in this County by a generous subscription, will have a few each set gratis, if they subscribe for six.

IV. Should a respectable number of Subscribers appear, a List of them will be added to the last Volume.

V. The work shall specifically be put to press, and completed with all possible expedition.

Subscriptions for the above work are received by the Printer hereof.

For SALE, by the Printer hereof, ALMANACK, for 1789.

By the press, dozen, or single. An ESSAY on the Life of Gen. ISRAEL PUTNAM, by Col. D. Humphrey—Whittier's Institute, 18, 24, and 3d part—Psalm Book—Printers—Pike's Arithmetic—Stubbs's Military Exercise—An Essay on Hygiene—An Enquiry concerning the Design and Importance of Christian Baptism and Discipline—Account Books—Bonnet Paper—Blanks of various kinds—Writing Paper, &c. CASH, or any of the above articles, given for clean Cotton and Linen RAGS.

STOLEN from the subscriber a bright chestnut S lowered Colt, two years old past, with a white strip in his face, two or three white feet, a strip of white on his near fore leg, running to his knee, he is a Seed Horse, trot and paces. Whoever will take up said Colt and thief, and secure the thief so that he may be brought to justice, and return or secure the colt to the owner may have him again, shall have a handsome reward, and all necessary charges paid, by OLIVER SHATTUCK.

Deerfield, Nov. 15, 1788.

TAKEN up by the subscriber, a red STEER, with a white face, both hind feet white—Also, a red HEIFER, with some white on her back, they are both marked with a crop in the right ear, and a swallow's tail cut in the same. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges and take them away, by SILAS BILLINGS.

Hatfield, Dec. 8, 1788.

STAYED from the subscriber, some time since, a Stallion COLT, six months old, large of his age, was of a foal color when he went away, but it was 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.

Willsamburgh, Nov. 17, 1788.

STAYED from the subscriber on the 14th instant a blackish HORSE, about 9 years old, fourteen hands high, a large star in his forehead, stood before his near hind foot white, his near fore foot cracked. Any person that will secure said Horse, so that the owner may have him again, shall be handsomely rewarded, by DANIEL AYER.

Norwich, Nov. 12, 1788.

BROKE into the inclusive of the subscriber, on the 5th of September last, a brindle HEIFER, two years old last spring, has no artificial mark. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges and take her away, by JOSEPH SMITH.

Hatfield, Nov. 26, 1788.

Just Published and now selling by the Printer hereof (Price Six pence) A SERMON, preached at the Execution of Aaron BARTON, on the 17th of July, 1788, by AARON BARTON, A. M. Pastor of the Church in Chester.

ALL Persons indebted to the Printer hereof, are requested to make payment immediately.

HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1788.

NORTHAMPTON, (MASSACHUSETTS) Published by WILLIAM BUTLER.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In the House of Representatives, June 3d, 1788.

Whereas the mode of administering justice in the Judicial department, should be established on permanent principles, and by standing laws; Therefore

Ordered, That the Committee of revision requested, to revise the several laws, proposing for the administration of justice, and to report as soon as may be, for the consideration of the General Court, one or more bills, providing for the administration of justice, within this Commonwealth, upon safe and constitutional principles, and in a manner convenient, and as little expensive to the citizens of this Commonwealth, as may be consistent with the constitution, and the public interest.

Sent up for concurrence. THEODORE SEDGWICK, Speaker. In Senate June 5, 1788.

Read and concurred. SAMUEL PHILLIPS, jun. President. A true copy. Attest. SAMUEL COOPER, Clerk Senate.

A LETTER, from the Committee for revising the Laws, to the Honorable Legislature, upon the subject of a System reported by them, for the Administration of Justice within this Commonwealth.

Boston, October 30, 1788.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: THE Committee for revising the Laws, in pursuance to your Honours orders, dated the fifth day of June last, have reported a number of bills, which form a system for the administration of justice, different from what has been heretofore practiced. A number of considerations have induced the Committee to make those alterations. If it was intended only to return back to the old forms of administering justice, nothing more was necessary, than to repeal the judiciary act, and the several acts passed to remedy its defects. The present mode of instituting suits before Justices of the Peace has been attended with such perplexities, expenses and inconveniences, that it was thought impracticable to form a system on that plan, which would meet the ideas held up in your Honours order to the Committee. Moreover, it seems to the Committee hardly consistent with the Constitution: for if the defendant makes default before the Justice, he must make up his judgment for the damages, and the plaintiff has no remedy to get his damages ascertained by a Jury, which in some cases may be an important injury.

In addition to which, the demands made by the plaintiff before the Justices, appear when they come forward to be crude and unjustified, that new declarations must very frequently be made before the plaintiff can safely proceed to trial, occasioning great delay and expense, and the records by that means, if examined, will frequently appear very absurd and give posterity a contemptible idea of the jurisprudence of their ancestors.

The Committee have further considered, that the delays and expenses attending suits through the Court of Common Pleas, have lately occasioned considerable clamours in many parts of the country. That the Court of Sessions has also for many years past been

complained of, on account of the expenses of so many Justices attending there, and the uncertainty of the judgments, where before the case is over, there may be nearly a new set of judges from those who were present at the beginning.

The Committee therefore concluded to report bills founded on the following principles. That the Commonwealth be divided into three districts or circuits. That the Supreme Judicial Court, consist of nine Justices, any two of whom to make a quorum on circuits, and any one in case of emergency to adjourn until the quorum can be made. That three of those Justices be assigned every six months for each circuit. That not less than one, nor more than two, who attended the former circuit. That there be three Terms annually in each of the four middle counties, viz. Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex and Worcester, and two Terms in each of the other counties except Duke's County, and Nantucket, where there shall be one Court in each, to be held on for both those counties at the same time.

That the Justices at each Term in the several counties have the same powers and jurisdiction that the Supreme Judicial Court now has in all matters civil and criminal, and also original jurisdiction by process immediately to that Court in all civil actions, except as hereafter mentioned; so that all acts respecting Courts of Common Pleas may be repealed. A Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court is to be appointed for each county to reside therein, and for the ease of the people the records to be kept there. That all the records of the Court of Common Pleas be removed over to the new Clerks of the respective counties and to be in their custody. That a review by former acts is allowed in all civil causes any time within two years, but execution, except where bonds are given agreeably to law, may issue in twenty four hours after judgment.

That two Terms of the said Court, called Law Terms, be held at annually, wherein not less than six other Justices be a quorum (any two of said Justices in case of emergency may adjourn until the quorum is complete) for the purpose of determining difficult points of law arising in the circuit on writs of error certiorari, special verdicts, demurrers, bills of exceptions, motions for new trials, and causes continued for advancement any of which may be referred to the same Terms by order of the Justices in their several circuits.

That a court be created by the name of the County Court, to consist of five Justices, three to make a quorum, any two of the said Justices in case of emergency may adjourn until the quorum is complete, which is to be held three times a year in each county, and to have all the jurisdiction, civil and criminal, and all the other powers that appertain to the Court of Sessions, with an appeal in all criminal matters to the Supreme Judicial Court, in all civil matters, to be subject only to review by certiorari, writ of error, and such other examination as has been heretofore practiced. That the records of the Courts of Sessions in the respective counties, where they can conveniently be separated from the records of the Courts of Common Pleas, be removed into the Clerk's office of the re-

spective County Courts; and therefore all the acts for establishing Courts of Sessions may be repealed.

That Justices of the Peace in each county have the same jurisdiction in all civil cases under four pounds value, wherein the title to real estate is not concerned, as they have heretofore had, with an appeal immediately to the Supreme Judicial Court: and the usual jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in criminal causes.

That the Supreme Judicial Court, and County Court, have the same power for taking the acknowledgment or confession of debts, making a rule of reference, either by the parties voluntarily coming into Court, and submitting to such rule, or inflicting in the bond or agreement of submission a desire that the same may be made a rule of Court and that without any suit or action brought. The Committee have further revised the aforesaid act, and made such alterations as will in general, much lessen the expense of suits on that act, and shorten the time of carrying on the suit.

The Committee are pretty well assured that the expense of carrying on a suit to execution through the Supreme Judicial Court, will not much, if any thing, exceed the expense of carrying one through the Court of Common Pleas.

The Committee have further reported two bills for determining the Times and Places of holding the several Supreme Judicial Courts, and County Courts; and have made such arrangement of them, as they judge will give sufficient time to complete the business—but experience only can determine whether any, or what alterations may be expedient.

As this arrangement will require a new fee bill in part, the Committee have formed one, as an amendment to the former; thereby raising a small revenue for the purpose, in some considerable degree, of supporting the whole Judicial department. The sums to be paid to the Clerks are set down in gross, how, and to whom paid out, specified; so that the fees will be the same through the State.

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Though in some counties the fees paid down for the Clerk may amount to a large sum, yet in other counties the fees will be small and trifling when together. If the fees were lessened, so that Clerks in the larger counties could obtain a complete maintenance only, it would be impossible to get any in the smaller counties to accept the office, that are capable of aright discharging the duties of it. Therefore by the bill they are made accountable for all the fees, and are to pay over what surplus, beyond a reasonable maintenance shall be received.

This state of the matter is now humbly submitted to the Honourable the Legislature; and if it appears to them, as it does to the committee, "To be upon life and constitutional principles, as convenient and as little expensive to the citizens of this Commonwealth, as is consistent with the Constitution and the public interest;" they hope the bills here exhibited, will meet with their approbation; but if on the contrary, the system does not meet the approbation of the Legislature, the Committee are of opinion, that it will be to no purpose for them to spend any time in considering particular parts of the