Mr. BUTLER,

In reading over the Massachusetts Magazine for February last, I met with a bill of Enigmas, in one of which was introduced the goddess of History. Upon perusing it I lay down and wrote the following lines in great haste—but if you should think them, without amendment or correction, worthy of a place in your Gazette, you will be kind enough to insert them in your next. Your's,

N. H.

Proposed as an introduction to the history of ——, and particularly designed for the perusal of his Excellency J. H.

HISTORIA hail! *Saturnian* offspring design
To accept the tribute of an humble train,
Instructive goddess! of the historic page,
Whose growing precepts spread thro' every age,
Whose manly dictates strengthen with their end,
The past to venture and the future mend!
Imperial patroness! on the change of *times*,
Of *states*, of *manners*, *products*, *climes*, and climes,
Thro' whose perspective harmonious order runs,
[illegible] *rising* in their turns,
[illegible] with promising grade,
[illegible] *Empire* with their *vice decades*;
[illegible] *adorned* by ingenious art,
[illegible] *Tongues* of *foreign* from the heap,
[illegible] *succeeding* days,
Governments [illegible] *rise*, *decay*, *change* to *merit* pays;
[illegible] *nominated*,
[illegible] the *Patriot* with unerring hand;
[illegible] the laurel from the [illegible] brow,
[illegible] *greatness* and of worthiness war,
[illegible] *Lustre* of his glittering pride,
And [illegible] *native hue*:
[illegible] *ating* the *mysterious* whole
[illegible] *motives* of the soul,
[illegible] *ascending* sore,
[illegible] *covetous* made
By [illegible] friends who aid,
Conse[illegible] *reproach's* harsh sound,
Intently [illegible] *dishonest* wound,
And *slightly* [illegible] *Ingenuile nature*,
Contrite [illegible] *to* his *name*.

Northampton, April 3, 1789.

For the EXPRESS of RUSSIA.

CATHERINA Alexowna was born near Derpt, a little city in Livonia, and her to mother inherited from the virtue and frugality of her parents. Her father being dead, the lived with her aged mother, in their cottage on a farm with straw; and both, though very poor, were very contented. Here, retired from the gaze of the world, by the labour of her hands, the supported her parent, who was now incapable of supporting herself. While Catherina spun, the old woman would sit by, and read some book of devotion; thus when the fatigues of the day were over, both would sit down by their fire-side, and enjoy the frugal meal with vacant festivity.

Though her face and person were models of perfection, yet her whole attention seemed bestowed upon her mind; her mother taught her to read, an old Lutheran minister instructed her in the maxims and duties of religion. Nature had furnished her not only with a ready, but a solid train of thought, not only with strong but a right understanding. Such truly female accomplishments procured her several solicitations of marriage from the peasants of the country; but their offers were refused, for the loved her mother too tenderly to think of a separation.

Catherine was sixteen when her mother died—she then forsook her cottage, and went to live with the Lutheran Minister, by whom the had been instructed from her childhood. In his house she resided *as* a friend rather than as to his children, at once reconciling in her character, unerring prudence with supporting vivacity.

A gentleman who regarded her as one of his own children, and her accomplished innocence and modesty the more strongly attended the rest of his family—thus the continued to improve until the died, by which accident the was reduced to pristine poverty. The country of Livonia was at this time wasted by war, and lay in a state of confusion. Those calamities are ever most heavy upon the poor: whereof Catherina though possessed of so many accomplishments, experienced all the miseries of hopeless indigence. Provisions become every day more scarce, and her private stock being entirely exhausted, the resolved at last to travel to Neuhausel, a city of great plenty.

With her scanty wardrobe, packed up in a wallet, she set out on her journey on foot—she was to walk through a region miserable by nature, but rendered still more hideous by the Swedes and Russians, who, as each happened to become masters, plundered it at discretion—but danger had taught her to despise the dangers of the way.

One evening, upon her journey, as she had entered a cottage by the wat-side, to take up her lodging for the night, she was imbitted by two Swedish soldiers, who insisted upon quartering her, as they termed it, *to follow the camp*. They might, probably, have, carried their insult into violence, had not a subaltern officer, accidentally passing by, come to her assistance—upon his appearing, the soldiers immediately desisted; but her thankfulness was not greater than her surprise, when she instantly recollected in her deliverer, the son of the Lutheran minister, her former instructor, benefactor, and friend.

This was an happy interview for Catharina: The little stock of money she had brought from home was by this time quite exhausted; her cloaths were gone, piece, by piece, in order to satisfy those who had entertained her in their house—her generous countryman, therefore, parted with what he could spare, to by her cloaths—furnished her with an horse, and gave her letters of recommendation to Mr. Gluck, a faithful friend of his father's and superintendant of Marienburgh.

Our beautiful stranger had only to appear to be well received—she was immediately admitted into the superintendant's family, as governess to his two daughters; and though yet but seventeen, shewed herself capable of instructing her sex, not only in virtue, but politeness. Such was her good sense and beauty, that her master himself, in a short time, offered her his hand, which to his great surprise she thought proper to refuse. Actuated by a principle of gratitude, she was resolved to marry her deliverer only, even though he had lost an arm, and was otherwise disfigured by wounds in the service.

In order, therefore, to prevent further solicitations from others, as soon as the officer came to town upon duty she offered him her person, which he accepted with transport, and their nuptials were solemnized as usual. But all the lines of her fortune were to be strifing: The very day on which they were married the Russians laid siege to Marienburgh—the unhappy soldier had now no time to enjoy the well earned pleasures of matrimony—he was called of before consummation, to an attack, from which he was never after seen to return.

In the mean time the siege went on with fury, aggravated on one side by obstinacy, on the other by revenge. This war between the two northern powers at that time was truly barbarous. The innocent peasant and the harmless virgin often feared the fate of the soldier in arms.—Marienburg was taken by assault—and such was the fury of the assailants, that not only the garrison, but almost all the inhabitants, men, women and children, were put to the sword—at length, when the carnage was pretty well over, Catharina was found hid in an oven.

She had hitherto been poor, but still was free—she was now to conform to her hard fate, and learn what it was to be a slave: In this situation, however, she behaved with piety and humility—and though misfortunes had abated her vivacity, yet she was cheerful. The fame of her merit and resignation reached even Prince Menzickoff, the Russian General—he desired to see her, was struck with her beauty, bought her from the soldier, her master, and placed her under the direction of his own sister. Here she was treated with respect which her merit deserved, while her beauty every day improved with her good fortune.

She had not been long, in this situation, when Peter the Great paying the Prince a visit, Catherina happened to come in with some dry fruits. The mighty monarch saw, and was struck with her beauty. He returned the next day, called for the beautiful slave, asked her several questions, and found her understanding equal to her perfect than her person.

He was captivated, when young, to marry from motives of state—he was now resolved, to marry pursuant to his own inclinations. He immediately inquired the history of the fair Livonian, who was not yet eighteen. He traced her through the vale of obscurity, through all the vicissitudes of fortune, and found her truly great in them all. The meanness of her birth was no obstruction to his design.—Their nuptials were solemnized; the Prince assuring his courtiers, that virtue alone was the properest ladder to a throne.

We now see Catharina, from the low mudwalled cottage, Empress of the greatest kingdom upon earth. The poor solitary wanderer is now surrounded by thousands, who had happiness in her smile.—she, who formerly wanted a meal is now capable of diffusing plenty upon the whole nation. To her fortune she owed a part of this pre-eminence, but to her virtue more.

She ever after retained those great qualities which first placed her on a throne; and while the extraordinary Prince, her husband laboured for the reformation of his male subjects, she studied in her turn the improvement of her own sex. She altered their dresses, introduced mixed assemblies, instituted an order of female knighthood—and, at length, when she had greatly filled all the stations of Empress—friend—wife—and mother, bravely died without regret—regretted by all.

Ran-away from the Subscriber,

on the 22d inst. a Boy named Denison Billings, in the 19th year of his age, about 5 feet 6 inches high, dark complexion, black eyes, dark brown hair. Had on when he went away a white linnen shirt, brown waistcoat, grey surtout, light blue stockings, black silk handkerchief, felt hat.—Whoever will take up said runaway and convey him to the Subscriber shall have four pence reward and no charges paid.

AENER LULL.

N. B. All persons are forbid harbouring or trusting said boy, on my account.

Williamsburg, March 25, 1789.

WE the subscribers, collectors of taxes for the town of Deerfield, in the county of Hampshire, having had the taxes for the years 1780, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87 and 88, on the following lands, committed to us to collect, the same belonging to non-resident proprietors of said town, and the sums hereafter mentioned yet remain due, viz.

James Flint's heirs and others, for lot No. 45, first division of inner common—part of lot No. 35, part of lot No. 23, and part of lot No. 28, all in the east mountain division, a grant Northam's Holt, so called.

	£.	s.	d.	q.
Lot No. 27, in East Mountain division,	0	1	8	1
No. 30, in do.	0	6	11	1
No. 23, in the second division, inner commons, recorded to E. Sheldon,	1	4	8	3
No. 45, in do.	0	1	0	0
No. 29, in do.	0	7	9	1
No. 15, in do.	0	11	3	0
No. 44, in the first division of inner commons,	0	4	3	0
No. 52, in do.	0	9	4	1
No. 20, in do.	0	1	0	0
No. 19, in do.	0	1	5	2
No. 32, long hill, west division, recorded to John Sheldon,	3	13	3	1
No. 48, east mountain division,	0	2	11	4
No. 44, first division, inner commons, recorded to Samuel Allen.	0	10	4	1
No. 54, in do.	0	9	2	1
No. 9, first division, No. 43, second division, inner commons, recorded to Samuel Dickinson,	10	19	5	1
Part of Lot No. 26, east mountain division, and part of Lot No. 19, long hill, east division, recorded to John Catlin,	0	13	7	1
Samuel Green's heirs,	0	10	2	1
John Sadler's heirs,	3	5	6	1
Amasa Nims's heirs,	1	2	5	0
Isaac Amsden,	0	5	3	0
Lot No. 20, east mountain division,	0	5	8	1
James Graves, part of lot No. 15, second division, inner commons, recorded to E. Hinsdale,	1	15	2	1
Lot No. 14, first division, inner commons, recorded to Mary Wells,	0	12	11	3
Noah Wells,	0	17	4	3
David and Joshua Jones,	1	2	7	3
Jeremiah Williams,	0	1	4	3
William Shattuck,	0	2	10	1
Capt. Knap,	0	9	9	1

Notice is hereby given, that unless said taxes are paid to the subscribers, on or before the 27th day of April next, so much of said lands, will be sold at Public Vendue, at the dwelling house of Mr. DAVID HOIT, innholder in said Deerfield at ten o'clock, A. M. as will be sufficient to discharge the same, with intervening charges.

Joseph Stebbins, jun.	Collector	for 1780, & 1781
Ebenezer Wells,	do.	for 1782, & 1783
Moses Chandler,	do.	for 1785.
Simeon Harvey,	do.	for 1784.
Joseph Barnard,	do.	for 85, 86, & 87.

Deerfield, March 10, 1789.

CASH,

And a generous price given, for all kinds of

SHIPPING FURR

and

BEES-WAX,

by LEVI SHEPHARD.

Northampton, Dec. 1788.

WE the subscribers being appointed commissioners by the Hon. Judge of Probate for the County of Hampshire, to receive and examine the claims of the creditors to the estate of ISAAC DANIELS, late of Conway, deceased, represented insolvent, and four months from the 3d of March inst. being allowed the creditors of said estate to bring in and support their claims—We hereby give notice that we shall attend said business at the house of Mr. AARON BILLINGS, in said Conway, on the 3d Thursdays of April, May, and June next, from one to six o'clock on each day. No accounts will be allowed after said term.

JOHN CLARY, OLIVER ROOT, } Commissioners.

Conway, March 23d, 1789.

SPRING.

WHile I with lofty lay employ,
To sing of cheerful Spring's great joy,
The Birds in accents nobler still,
Praise its return from every hill.
Each warbler flies from spray to spray,
Salute the Morn's returning day.
The Meads bedeck'd with vernal flow'r,
That bloom and fade in the same hour;
Declare "the Winter gone and past,
And beauteous SPRING return'd at last."

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HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1789.

NORTHAMPTON, (MASSACHUSETTS): Published by WILLIAM BUTLER.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

By HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN HANCOCK, Esquire,

GOVERNOUR of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A Proclamation,

For a DAY of FASTING and PRAYER.

IT being the Duty of all Men publickly to Acknowledge, their Dependence upon ALMIGHTY GOD, and by Prayer and Supplication, to seek unto HIM, for those Blessings and Favours, which the returning Seasons of the Year, render necessary to their Support and Comfort: And it being the incumbent Duty of the Rulers of a People professing Christianity, as well to cultivate amongst them by Public Acts, a Temper of Piety and Devotion, as to recommend upon particular Occasions their uniting in earnestly an Humbly imploring the Divine Blessings, upon their Public and Private Concerns; & it having been the laudable Practice in this State, to set apart one Day in the Opening Session of the Year, for Fasting and Prayer.

I HAVE THEREFORE THOUGHT FIT to appoint, and by, and with the ADVICE of COUNCIL, I do appoint THURSDAY, the *Seventh* Day of *May* next, to be observed as a DAY of HUMILIATION, FASTING and PRAYER, throughout this Commonwealth. And I do recommend it to the people of every Religious Denomination, to assemble themselves upon that Day, and with true Contrition of Heart, to confess their Sins, and to implore Forgiveness of GOD, through the Merits of the SAVIOUR of the World; and most fervently to beseech the ALMIGHTY RULER of the UNIVERSE, that it will please HIM, to Smile upon and Bless the United States of America; to give Wisdom, Virtue, and Firmness, to the General Councils of our Confederated Republic; to Bless this Commonwealth and to Guide and Direct its Government; that HE will continue to Save and Protect us from all external Enemies, and to Bless us with internal Peace and Security; That HE will continue to Bless upon the People, the Blessings of Health; That HE will Bless the Labours of the husbandman, and make the Earth to yield her expected Increase; That HE will prosper Manufactures, Trade, Navigation and Fishery; and that HE will pour his Spirit and Grace, upon the People of this Land, under a Wise Administration of Government, to lead Quiet and Peaceable Lives, in all Godliness and Honesty: And still continue to them the Blessings of Religious and Civil Liberty; that HE will Bless and Prosper our Allies, and make the Religion of JESUS CHRIST, to be extended, and the whole Earth filled with the Glory of GOD.

And I do earnestly exhort the People of this Commonwealth, to cease from all Labours and Recreations on that DAY; and to observe it with Seriousness and Devotion.

GIVEN at BOSTON, *the Sixteenth Day of* March, *in the Year of our* LORD *One Thousand seven Hundred and Eighty-nine and in the* Thirteenth *Year of the* INDEPENDENCE *of the* United States *of* AMERICA.

JOHN HANCOCK.

By his Excellency's Command,
With the Advice and Consent of the Council,
JOHN AVERY, jun. Secretary.

GOD *Save the Commonwealth of* MASSACHUSETTS.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the year of our LORD one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

AN ACT to regulate the Trial of Siezures of Goods and Merchandize for breach of the Laws of Impost and Excise.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, That all goods, chattels and merchandize which have been seized, or which may at any time be seized in any of the counties of this Commonwealth, for breach of any act of the same for laying duties of impost or excise, or for any regulation of commerce or manufactures, shall be libelled, before the Court of Common Pleas in such county where the same shall be seized, and the libel being filed in the Clerk's Office of the same Court, the said Clerk shall give public notice thereof, by publishing the same in one or more of the weekly news-papers in the county where the seizure was made, (if such paper there be) and in the Independent Chronicle, fourteen days at least before the trial of such seizure, which proceedings shall be sufficient to bring the same cause to a trial and determination, whether the seizure be made, and the libel filed before or after the same Court begins to sit for the usual term, and such causes shall be tried, and the Justices of the Courts of Common Pleas, in the several counties, are hereby empowered to hear, adjudge, determine, and award execution on all such causes now depending before them, or that may hereafter be brought, as in other causes; And an appeal shall be allowed to the libellant or claimant from a judgment of any of the said Courts of Common Pleas, to the Supreme Judicial Court as in other causes, and the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court are hereby empowered to receive, hear, adjudge, finally determine and award execution on all appeals in causes now depending or that hereafter may be brought before them.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person shall claim any goods, chattels or merchandize seized and libelled for any of the causes aforesaid, and shall not support his claim, he shall be liable to pay the costs arising on such prosecution.

In the *House of Representatives*, Jan. 14, 1789.

This bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.

WILLIAM HEATH, Speaker, pro tem.

In *Senate* January 14, 1789.

This bill having had two several readings passed to be enacted.

SAMUEL PHILLIPS, jun President.

Approved,

JOHN HANCOCK.

A true copy. Attest.

JOHN AVERY, jun. Secretary.

COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS.

AN ACT to prevent the Destruction of Salmon and Shad, in Connecticut-River.

WHEREAS it has been represented to this Court, in sundry petitions from the inhabitants of several towns in the county of Hampshire, that by reason of the great number of fishers and nets, which are constantly used during the fishing season, in taking salmon and shad in Connecticut-River *they have decreased for a number of years past, and there is great danger the fishery in said river will be destroyed.*

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That no person or persons from and after the passing this act, shall catch any salmon or shad in any part of Connecticut-River, within this Commonwealth, or in any stream running into the same, oftener or more than four days in a week, the days to be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, in each week, namely, from sunrise on Monday, to sunrise on Wednesday, and from sunrise on Thursday, to sunrise on Saturday.

And whereas the fishing on or near the falls, in the said river, called South-Hadley-Falls, *tends greatly to obstruct the fish in going up the said falls:*

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the passing this act, no fish shall be taken on the falls, called *South-Hadley-Falls*, or within one mile below the falls, except on Tuesday and Wednesday in each week, and from sunrise on Tuesday to sunrise on Thursday. And if any person or persons shall catch any salmon or shad, in *Connecticut-River*, or in any river or stream running into the same, or shall drag any seine or dragnet, to use or set any scoop-net, or any other net or machine for the purpose of catching any of the said fish, at any other time or place, than by this act is allowed, in the said stream, within this Commonwealth, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence, the sum of *ten pounds*.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That no person or persons whatsoever, from and after the passing this act, shall catch any salmon or shad, with seines or nets, more than twenty rods in length, in the said *Connecticut-River*; and if any person shall presume to fish in the said river, with a seine or net exceeding the length of twenty rods, he shall for each offence, forfeit and pay the sum of *ten pounds*.

And be it further enacted, That all fines and forfeitures incurred by any offence committed against this act, shall enure, the one moiety thereof, to the use of the county of *Hampshire*, and the other moiety to him or them who shall make information of the same, shall be recovered by action of debt or information, or by indictment or presentment in the Supreme Judicial Court, or Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the said county.

(This act passed *June* 20, 1788.)

The following is a letter from an Indian Chief to his friend in the state of New-York.

Dear Sir,

YOUR letter came safe to hand. To give you an entire satisfaction I must, I perceive, enter into the discussion of a subject on which I have often thought. My thoughts were my own, and being so different from the ideas entertained among your people, I should have certainly carried them with me to the grave, had I not received your obliging favour.—You ask me then, whether in my opinion civilization is favourable to human happiness. In answer to the question it may be observed that there are degrees of civilization from Cannibals to the most polite European nations; the question is not, whether a degree of refinement is not conducive to happiness, but, whether you, or the Natives of this land, have obtained the happy medium. On this subject we are at present, I presume of very different opinions; you will, however, allow me in some respects to have had the advantage of you in forming my judgment. I was, Sir, born of Indian parents, and lived while a child among those you are pleased to call Savages; I was afterwards sent to live amongst the white people, and educated at one of your schools; since which period I have been honoured much beyond my deserts, by an acquaintance with a number of principal characters both in Europe and America. As ye all this experience, and after every exertion to divest myself of prejudice, I am obliged to give my opinion in favour of my own people. I will now, as well as I am able, collect together and set before you some of the reasons that have influenced my sentiments on the subject before us.

In the governments you call civilized the happiness of the people is constantly sacrificed to the splendor of empire; hence your code of civil and criminal laws have had their origin; from hence your dungeons and prisons. I will not enlarge on an idea so singular in civilized life, and perhaps disagreeable to you; will only observe, that among us we have no law but that written on the heart of every rational creature by the immediate finger of the great Spirit of the universe himself. We have no prisons—we have no pompous parade of courts, and yet judges are as highly esteemed among us as they are among you, and their decisions as highly revered; property, to say the least, is as well guarded, and crimes are as impartially punished. We have among us no splendid villains above the controul of that law which influences our decisions; in a word, we have no robbery under the colour of law—daring wickedness is never suffered to triumph over helpless innocence—the estates of widows and orphans are never devoured by enterprising sharpers. Our fachems, and our warriors, eat their own bread, and not the bread of wretchedness. No person, among us, desires any other reward for performing a brave and worthy action, than the consciousness of serving his nation.—Our wise men are called fathers—they are truly deserving the character; they are always accessible, I will not say to the meanest of our people, for we have none mean but such as those that render themselves so by their vices.

Civilization creates a thousand imaginary wants, that continually distress the human mind. I remember to have read, while at one of your schools, the saying of a philosopher to this purport, "*The real wants of human nature are very few*;" on this maxim our people practise, without ever having read. We do not hunger and thirst after those superfluities of life, that are the ruin of thousands of families among you. Our ornaments in general are simple, and easily obtained. Envy and covetousness, those worms that destroy the fair flower of human happiness are unknown in this climate.

The palaces and prisons among you, form a most dreadful contrast. Go to the former places, and you

[illegible] family rely in this particular. Fish-curing, and [illegible] engaged to [illegible] prompts honesty without disguise, are his known char- [illegible] all sides, that he loses sight of [illegible] ed round the country, [illegible] have been employed to [illegible] the publick interest.