

HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1791.

NORTHAMPTON, (MASSACHUSETTS) Published by WILLIAM BUTLER.

FROM THE UNIVERSAL ASYLUM.

History of the Life and Character of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, L. L. D. &c. &c. (Continued from our last.)

FRANKLIN'S fondness for reading, and thirst for improvement, did not forsake him when he left Boston. He soon formed an acquaintance with some young men who loved reading. They met frequently, and communicated to each other their little productions. Commenting and criticising upon these afforded them entertainment and instruction.

His friend Ralph had accompanied him to London, and they were inseparable companions. Poor Ralph could find no employment. He wished to try the stage, but the managers would not encourage him.

When I was a young man, I knew an attorney who was attached to what is called a family; that is, whose family, by good luck, had stripped off their woollen flirts and checked aprons, just one generation before, and kept themself, until their companions who had associated with them in their woollen dresses, were mostly dead.

After a sitting about 18 months in London, Franklin returned to Philadelphia with Mr. Denham, the old quaker who had accompanied him to England.

upon the death of Mr. Denham, which happened soon after his return to America, he returned to Keimer, whose office he found better supplied than when he left it. With him he continued some months, conducting the office entirely, and instructing his inexperienced journeymen and apprentices.

From the CONECTICUT COURANT. THE PROMPTE R, No. VII. Every one is in his station.

MOST certainly, and the Prompter's his notion of course. If a man is a little odd in his way as we vulgarly phrase it, or what the French call *eccentric*, his friends say he is a natural creature, or full of nature.

Love is the most affectional passion; not excepting ambition and superstition. I once knew a woman, who had a very amiable daughter, declare it was necessary to have a young lady to love a man.

Ashbel Wells, jun. RESPECTFULLY informs his friends, that he has just received a large and general assortment of Crockery & Glass Ware.

STONE WARE of all kinds, Virginia Manufactured Tobacco and Snuff, Indigo—Corns—Flaming Soap, &c. &c.

RYE. Part CASH paid for RYE, by DANIEL BUTLER. Northampton, Feb. 14, 1791.

HUDSON and GOODWIN. Have for Sale, near the Bridge HARTFORD, CLOTHES Press Papers, by the gross or dozen; Cartridge Paper, by the Ream or Quire; Bonnet Papers by the gross or dozen; Wrapping Paper, by the Ream; all parts of Waller's Institute, in large or small quantities; Writing Paper by the Ream; Marble Paper; Account-Books of various fash; Wafers; Sealing Wax, &c. &c.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Heirs of John Turner, Esq. deceased, and Charles of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, L. L. D. &c. &c. that their lands are taxed in the bills committed to me to collect for the year 1790, as follows, viz.

Table listing land tax details for John Turner and Benjamin Franklin, including acreage and tax amounts.

NOTICE is hereby given to the following exempt proprietors of land lying in the town of Wendell, in the County of Hampshire, that their lands are taxed in the following manner, viz.

Table listing land tax details for exempt proprietors in Wendell, including names like T. Fairweather and M. Turner.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Non-resident proprietors of lands, in the town of Ashfield, in the County of Hampshire, that their lands are taxed in the following manner, viz.

Table listing land tax details for non-resident proprietors in Ashfield, including names like Lott, Jr. and Dr. Johnson.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Heirs of John Turner, Esq. deceased, and Charles of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, L. L. D. &c. &c. that their lands are taxed in the bills committed to me to collect for the year 1790, as follows, viz.

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 of the estate of Ashbel Wells, late of Warrington, deceased, do hereby give notice, that they will attend the business of our appointment, at the late dwelling house of the deceased, on the first Tuesday of March, April, May, and the last Tuesday of October next, from ten o'clock on each day, to see and hear being allowed by the said Judge for the creditors to bring in their claims—No account allowed unless legally attested to.

TIMOTHY MEACH, ENOS SMITH, ELISHA BREWSTER, MOSES ROSE, jun. Warrington, Feb. 1791.

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ABOUT the latter end of 1773 Franklin and his friends formed a society for mutual improvement in morality, politics, and natural philosophy, which, from the accounts handed down to us, appears to have been an admirable institution, founded on a good plan, and well conducted.

There was at this time but one newspaper in Philadelphia, the American Mercury. This was executed in a careless manner, and was almost entirely devoid of entertainment or instruction.

Keimer being gone, Franklin had no one to contend with but Bradford, who was neither able nor disposed to oppose him actively. He had already become wealthy, and his abilities were very limited.

Franklin's extraordinary application to business soon rendered his prospects of success very flattering. An event occurred which had nearly crushed all his rising hopes. Meredith's father had paid for the printing materials in part, but was unable to advance the remainder of the price.

Before Franklin went to England, he had solemnly attached himself to Miss Read, and their affection was mutual. Whilst in London he seemed to have forgotten her.

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PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

THIRD SESSION.—PHILADELPHIA.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MONDAY, February 7.

A Letter was received from the Secretary of State, including a report on the memorial of Andrew Brown, Printer, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Leonard presented the memorial of the mechanics of Bedford, in the State of Massachusetts, praying an alteration in the postroad, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. White, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill to amend an act, entitled an act to promote the progress of the useful arts, which was read a first time.

The House then proceeded to the order of the day, proceeded to the bank bill, and after some debate thereon, adjourned.

TUESDAY, February 8. A bill to amend an act, entitled an act to promote the progress of the useful arts, was read a second time, and referred to a committee of the whole House on Monday next.

Mr. Tucker from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill to ascertain the time for the commencement of the next session of Congress, which was read the first and second times; and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow.

Mr. Sedgwick, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill to continue in force for a limited time an act passed at the first session of Congress, entitled an act to regulate processes in the courts of the United States, which was read the first time.

Mr. Bondin gave notice, that he would move for the appointment of a committee, to report a bill, respecting in much of the act, providing for the collection of the duties of import and tonnage, which taxes the six dollar of Denmark at two cents.

On motion of Mr. Smith (S. C.) a committee consisting of Messrs. Smith, (S. C.) Williamson, and Stone, was appointed a committee, to prepare and bring in a bill, supplementary to an act, incorporating the subscribers to the bank of the United States.