

found the most eloquent and subtle of his adversaries, to confirm the opinions of his friends, and to make converts of the unprejudiced who had opposed him. With a single observation, he has rendered of no avail an elegant and lengthy discourse, and determined the fate of a question of importance.

But he was not contented with thus supporting the rights of the people. He wished to render them permanently secure, which can only be done by making their cause properly known, and this must depend upon intraching and extending information to every class of men. We have already seen that he was the founder of the publick library, which contributed greatly towards improving the minds of the citizens. But this was not sufficient. The schools then subsisting were in general of little utility. The teachers were men ill qualified for the important duty which they had undertaken; and after all, nothing more could be obtained than the rudiments of a common English education. Franklin drew up a plan of an Academy, to be erected in the city of Philadelphia, suited to "the state of an infant country"; but in this, as in all his plans, he confined not his views to the present time only. He looked forward to the period, when an institution on an enlarged plan would become necessary. With this view he considered his Academy as "a foundation for policity to erect a seminary of learning, more extensive and suitable to future circumstances." In pursuance of this plan, the constitutions were drawn up and signed, on the 13th of November, 1749. In these, twenty-four of the most respectable citizens of Philadelphia were named as trustees. In the choice of these, and in the formation of the plan, Franklin is said to have consulted chiefly with Thomas Hopkinson, Esq. Rev. Richard Peters, then Secretary of the province, Tench Francis, Esq. Attorney-General, and Dr. Philip Bond.

"In case of the disability of the Rector, or any master, founded on the foundation by receiving a certain salary, though sickened, or any other natural infirmity, whereby he may be reduced to poverty, the trustees shall have power to contribute to his support, in proportion to his distress and merit and the stock in their hands."

The last clause of the fundamental rules, is expressed in language so tender and benevolent, so truly paternal, that it will do everlasting honour to the hearts and heads of its founders.

It is hoped and expected, that the trustees will make it their pleasure, and in some degree their business, to visit the Academy often, to encourage and countenance the youth, countenance and alk. the masters, and, by all means in their power, advance the usefulness and reputation of the design; that they will look on the student as, in some measure, their own children, treat them with familiarity and affection; and when they have behaved well, gone through their studies, and are ready to enter the world, they shall zealously unite, and make all the interest that can be made, to promote and establish them, whether in business, offices, marriages, or any other thing, fitting for their advantage, preferable to all other persons whatsoever, even of equal merit.

The Constitutions being signed and made publick, with the names of the gentlemen, proposing themselves as Trustees and Founders, the design was so well approved of by the publick spirited citizens of Philadelphia, that the sum of eight hundred pounds per annum, for five years, was in the course of a few weeks, collected for carrying it into execution; and, in the beginning of January following (A.D. 1750), three of the schools were opened, namely the Latin and Greek school, the Mathematical, and the English schools. In pursuance of an article in the original plan, a school for educating fifty boys and thirty girls, (in the Charter since called the Charitable School) was opened, and amidst all the difficulties with which the Trustees have struggled, in respect to their funds, hath still been continued full, for the space of forty years; so that allowing three years education for each boy and girl admitted into it, which is the general rule, at least twelve hundred children have received in it the chief part of their education, who might otherwise, in a great measure, have been left without the means of instruction. And many of those, who have been thus educated, are now to be found among the most useful and reputable citizens of this State.

The inflation, thus successfully begun, continued daily to mount, to the great satisfaction of Dr. Franklin; who, notwithstanding the multiplicity of his other engagements and pursuits, at that busy stage of his life, was a constant attendant at the monthly visitations and examinations of the schools, and made it his particular study, by means of his extensive correspondence abroad, to advance the reputation of the seminary, and to draw students and scholars to it, from different parts of America and the West Indies. Through the interposition of his benevolent and learned friend Peter Collinson, of London, upon the application of the Trustees, a Charter of Incorporation dated July 13th, 1753, was obtained from the honourable proprietors of Pennsylvania, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esqrs. accompanied with a liberal subscription of five hundred pounds sterling; and Dr. Franklin now began in good earnest, to plante himself with the hope of a speedy accomplishment of his original design, viz. the establishment of a perfect institution, upon the plan of the European Colleges and Universities; for which his Academy was intended as a nursery or foundation. To elucidate this fact to the memory and character of Dr. Franklin as a Philosopher, and as the friend and patron of learning and science; for notwithstanding what is expressly declared by him in the preamble to the constitution, viz. that the Academy was begun for "teaching the Latin and Greek languages, with all useful branches of Arts and Sciences, suitable to the state of an infant

country, and laying a foundation for posterity to erect a seminary of learning more extensive, and suitable to their future circumstances;" yet it has been suggested of late, upon Dr. Franklin's authority, that the Latin and Greek, and the dead languages, are an inconvenience upon a scheme of liberal education, and that the engraving or founding a College, or more extensive seminary, upon his Academy, was without his approbation or agency, and gave him discontent. In the reverse of this does not already appear, from what has been quoted above, the following letters will put the matter beyond dispute. They were written by him to a gentleman, who had at that time published the idea of a College, suited to the circumstances of a young country (meaning New-York); a copy of which having been sent to Dr. Franklin for his opinion, gave rise to that correspondence which terminated about a year afterwards in creating the College upon the foundation of the Academy, and establishing the gentleman as the head of both, where he still continues, after a period of 36 years, to preside with distinguished reputation.

(To be continued.)

From the CONNECTICUT COURANT.
The P R O M P T E R.—No. X.

To the PROMPTER.

Six.

How should I work it?

A. Z. according to what is to be done. If you would do a great deal and do it well, write in large letters and pass up over the fire place of your keeping room, following the maxim of the great *De Wiz*, Peasantry of Holland, *As we live, so at a time*. Are you a farmer? keep each kind of work, as much as possible, by yourself. Don't run to half a dozen fields in a day and work a little in each—unless necessity obliges you to do it. That work which may be done at any time should be done in winter, or, when you have leisure. Get wood in winter, and cover it if it lies a man, as much as possible, forced to go after a load of wood, I am sure he has not worked it right. Keep a complete set of instruments or tools. When I see a man running to one neighbour after a fan, and to another after a shovel, I set him down, not only as poor, but as *designed* to be poor. His neighbour's fan or his shovel will do for the present, but the occasions for these occur often, and I know how much time and labour are lost in going after them. If you would work to advantage, keep a complete set of utensils for your business—keep them busied, that they may last longer, and in their place, that you may easily find them.

Do not run in debt to buy land. Land will not generally support a family, and pay taxes and interest on its value. If you have but a small piece of land, cultivate it well, make it produce as much as possible; and if you can get more than will maintain you from this little farm, lay out the surplus to buying more. If you cannot get more than a subsistence, it is time to think of lessening expenses, or selling out and having new land. Depend on it, farmers who pay interest, do *not* care it right.

Never do work to the helves. If you build a house or a barn, lay a plan that is within your power, and when first you begin. For want of the *last* half, the *first* is often totally lost.

Never buy corn credit, nor until you have laid up money enough to pay your year's taxes. Then the little sum will rate good. The man who drinks rum before it is paid for, does not work it right. His appetite runs away with his purse and his judgment too.

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, the consideration of the amendment to the constitution, heretofore proposed by Mr. Benson, was deferred until the next session of Congress, and ordered to be printed in the journals.

Mr. Secretary Otis informed the house, that the Senate had agreed to such of their amendments to the bill, as provided compensation for the officers of the judicial courts, and the bill to compensate George Gibson; that they had concurred with the house in the amendment to the reduction of the publick debt.

The house concurred with the Senate in these amendments.

A resolution proposed by Mr. Smith (S. C.) was agreed to, authorizing the marshals of such districts, as are unprovided with goals for the detention of prisoners, under the authority of the United States, to provide convenient houses to serve as temporary gaols for that purpose, until permanent provision shall be made by law.

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The house concurred with the Senate in these amendments.

On motion of Mr. Smith (S. C.) from the said committee, a bill to carry into effect the confederal convention, and Mr. Smith (S. C.) from the said committee, reported a bill to that effect, which, after a first and second reading, was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Floyd, from the joint committee of enrolled bills, reported, and Mr. Speaker signed a bill making compensation to the committees of finance, &c.

A bill in addition to the act for establishing the salaries of executive officers, &c., and the resolutions above-mentioned, relative to the establishment of a mint, and the unappropriated lands. Adjudged not fit to be engrossed.

The house, pursuant to adjournment, met at six o'clock.

An engrossed bill, for carrying into full effect the convention between his Most Christian Majesty and the United States of America, was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Secretary Otis laid before the house a bill passed by the Senate, entitled, "An act to continue in force the act concerning the mint, and to make further provision for the payment of pensions to invalids, and for the support of lighthouses, beacons, buoys and publick piers."

The house immediately took the said bill into consideration, and after three several readings, passed it.

Mr. Floyd, from the joint committee of enrolled bills, presented the following bills, which were signed by Mr. Speaker:

A bill to constitute in force an act passed at the first session of Congress, for the temporary establishment of the post office.

A bill supplementary to the act making further provision for the reduction of the publick debt.

A bill providing compensation for the officers of judicial courts, and for jurors and witnesses.

A bill granting lands to the inhabitants and settlers in Vincennes in the Illinois country, in the territory northwest of the Ohio.

The house took up for a second reading, a bill for the relief of David Cooke, and the same was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. Being soon after brought in engrossed, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Secretary Otis delivered another message, informing the house, that the Senate had passed, with

amendments, the bill, making compensation to the unfortunate of New-York for extra military expences.

The house took the said amendments into consideration, and referred to concur.

Another message from the Senate, informing that they adhered to their amendments.

The question being put on receding, was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. Secretary Otis informed the house, that the Senate had passed the bill making further provision for the collection of the duties by law imposed on sea, and prolonging the term of the payment of the duties on wine. And also that they had passed with amendments, a bill, in addition to the act establishing the salaries of the executive officers of government, with their affidavits and clerks.

The house concurred with the Senate, in the above amendments.

A message was delivered by Mr. Secretary Lee, informing the house, that the President had this day approved and signed.

An act providing for the collection of the duties by law imposed on sea, and prolonging the term of the payment of the duties on wine.

An act to continue in force to a limited time the establishing the post-office.

An act supplementary to the act making provision for the reduction of the publick debt;

A resolution providing for the safe keeping of prisoners committed under the authority of the United States.

A message from the President of the United States, was delivered by Mr. Secretary Lee, informing the house, that the President had approved and signed.

An act providing for compensation for the officers of the judicial courts, and for jurors and witnesses;

An act making further provision for the collection of the duties by law imposed on sea, and prolonging the term of the payment of the duties on wine.

An act to continue in force to a limited time the establishing the post-office.

An act supplementary to the act making provision for the reduction of the publick debt;

A resolution providing for the safe keeping of prisoners committed under the authority of the United States.

A message by Mr. Secretary Otis, informing the house, that the President had approved and signed.

An act to continue in force an act therein mentioned, and to make further provision for the payment of pensions to invalids, and for the support of lighthouses, beacons, buoys and publick piers;

And act granting lands to the inhabitants and settlers in Vincennes in the Illinois country, in the territory northwest of the Ohio.

A message by Mr. Secretary Otis, informing the house, that the President had approved and signed.

An act providing for the payment of pensions to invalids, and for the support of lighthouses, beacons, buoys and publick piers;

And an act granting lands to the inhabitants and settlers in Vincennes in the Illinois country, in the territory northwest of the Ohio.

A message by Mr. Secretary Otis, informing the house, that the President had approved and signed.

An act to continue in force the act establishing the salaries of the executive officers, &c., and the bill for the relief of David Cooke; and the same was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Jackson, resolved, that the Speaker do communicate the thanks of the house to the Mayor and Corporation of the city of Philadelphia, and to the inhabitants of the country, for the elegant and convenient accommodations provided for their present stay.

On motion of Mr. Jackson, resolved, that the Speaker make a speech to the inhabitants of the city of New-York, on the occasion of the arrival of the British fleet.

Mr. Vining moved the following resolution, which was unanimously agreed to:

Resolved, That the thanks of the House of Representatives of the United States be presented to Frederick Awes, Mrs. Maria L. A. T. in testimony of their approbation of his conduct in the chair, and in the execution of the difficult and important trust reposed in him, as Speaker of the said house. To this Mr. Speaker made the following reply:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

This unexpected mark of your approbation of my conduct has made to deep an impression on my mind, that I can find words to express the high sense of gratitude I entertain on this occasion.

I have not vanity sufficient to suppose, that my feeble, though well meant endeavours, merit so great a reward.

But it was your kind indulgence and support alone, which enabled me to go through the duties of the chair, which you were pleased to assign to me. But that does not confer this distinguished and honourable estimation, as the most fortunate circumstance of my life.

Gentlemen, I most sincerely thank you!—many a very pleasurable happiness attend you & every individual of this body! And may your zealous endeavours to promote the welfare of our beloved country, which I have long & often been a witness to, be crowned with success.

Adjourning sine die.

LONDON, Jan. 21.

A few weeks since some persons were passing the evening at the Hercules, behind the Change, when a black clerk darel'd a Jew, that was present to eat a pork chop, offering him a guinea as a compensation; the Jew, however, had the fear of God too much before his eyes to be easily tempted; the clerk finding him up to that far, went up one by one, till he had laid his guinea on the table; here poor human nature gave way, the Jew calmly swept the money into his pocket, called for his pork chop, and eat it. The laugh going rather against the clerk, and on reflection, finding his money but hardly lost, he insisted on its being returned, talked of only joking, &c., but Molo was in rags; he had earned the money, and would keep it. An attorney, a friend of the clerk's, here interposing, they threatened to charge a constable with him, and sent him to the comptier, if he did not refund it; all would not do; he remained obdurate, and after much treatment, in which the attorney struck him, they procured a constable and sent him to the comptier. It being Saturday, he was obliged to remain till Monday. On hearing before the Lord Mayor, he was immediately set before the court. He commenced his action against the clerk for false imprisonment, and against the attorney for an assault yet came to trial before Lord Longborough; from the first he obtained full damages, from the last, &c.

Extract of a letter from Exeter.

The Thynne Parker, Capt. Wolfe, (arrived at Exeter from Quebec) on the evening of the 6th of November last, went to, owing to one of the spokes of the wheel giving way, while he was paddling before a heavy wind, under a heavy fall of rain.

The iron spoke, bent, and was afterwards washed overboard; but provident, by the way of the stanchions, was saved.

Mr. Bailey, the master of the packet, was one of those who perished.

He had just looked at his watch, to see if it was time to relieve the watch (being near eight o'clock) and was struck, with the sea and water washed over him.

He left a wife and seven children. The number of children left fatherless by this melancholy event in Falmouth, are forty-five. Captain Wolfe had quitted the deck only a few minutes before this accident happened.

D. U. S. L. I. N. January 15.

A few days ago, a young woman coming to town, was flogged near the second lock of the grand canal, by a footpad, in the middle of the day, armed with a pistol. With horrid imprecations he demanded what money had about her, which being but a guinea, and being not ready to be ill used, the scoundrel gave him the. The villain, spilt his buckles in her shoes, which he likewise demanded. The poor young woman, in the greatest fright, readily condescended and proceeded to take out of her stockings to give to the robber.

As soon as she had taken out one, the villain dropped down to exchange it for his own, and put it in his hand, leaving the scoundrel in his hand at the same time to the ground near his foot.

The young woman instantly seized the opportunity, and whilst he pretended to be taking out the other, she snatched the pistol, set on the stock, and shot the robber through the head.

An allusion to the fable of the dog who bit the man who beat him.

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