COMMONWEALTH *of* MASSACHUSETTS.

In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

An act in addition to, and for repeating and altering part of an act, entitled "An act for limiting the time within which Suits may be prosecuted against Executors and Administrators, and for perpetuating the evidence of notice given by them, and by Guardians and others, respecting the sale of Real Estate."

WHEREAS in the third enacting clause of the aforesaid act, it is provided, that all claims of creditors to the estate of any person deceased upon which an Executor or administrator has already taken the administration, shall be exhibited and demanded of the Executor or Administrator of such estate, within three years from the passing of said act, or within three years after said claim may accrue, and not afterwards: and that no Executor or administrator who should after the passing of the said act, undertake that trust, should be compelled or held to answer to the suit of any creditor of his Testator or intestate, unless the same suit should have been originally commenced within the term of three years, next following his giving bond for the faithful discharge of his trust: And whereas from the shortness of said limitted term, from the want of a general knowledge thereof, many inconveniences may accrue to the citizens of this Commonwealth:

Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and house of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That all and every part of said enacting clause, which relates to the time within which claims may be exhibited, and suits prosecuted against Executors and Administrators, be and hereby is repealed.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all claims of creditors to the estate of any person deceased, upon which an Executor or administrator was appointed before the passing of the aforesaid act, shall be exhibited and demanded of such Executor or administrator, within four years from the time of passing the act aforesaid, and, and not afterwards; and that no Executor or Administrator who has been appointed since the passing the aforesaid act, or who shall hereafter be appointed, shall be held to answer to any suit that shall be commenced against him in that capacity, unless the same shall be commenced within the term of four years from the time of his accepting that trust: *Provided,* That he give notice of the appointment in the manner prescribed in the act before recited.

[*This act passed the Legislature, Feb. 14, 1792.*]

A true copy—Attest—
JOHN AVERY, jun. Secretary.

Description of the curious Bridge at Nismes, in the south of France.

THIS bridge to appearance was constructed by the Romans. The mortar and stone with which it is built, after being exposed for many hundred years, have become one cement as hard as marble. This superb monument of the Romans, as composed of three distinct bridges, one above the other: It joins two mountains, the river Gordon passing under it—the upper bridge serving as an aqueduct for the passage of the litter A'ran. This aqueduct, by its winding amongst mountains and rocks, is 27 miles long.

The first bridge is supported by 6 arches, the river passing through the 5th, which is 78 feet wide. This bridge is 498 feet wide, and 62 high. The second bridge is supported by eleven arches, being 25 feet high, and 800 long. The third bridge is only 24 feet high, and 819 long, being supported by 35 arches.

It is indeed a very curious circumstance to observe two rivers intersecting each other—the one being 151 feet above the other. Indeed by all the vestiges of the works of the Romans, it seems their minds and hearts were on a much larger scale than those of us modern pigmies, who are afraid to encounter what old Romans would have thought little of. To all appearance, succeeding ages of Americans will insensibly regain the dignified character of Romans. The genius of our government, and the happy situation of our county, will inevitably lead to this event.

(Philad. Paper.)

120 Dollars Reward.

Stop Theif!

WITHIN a few days last past, were stolen from the subscribers the following Notes, issued by the Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. No. 18721 Dec. 1, 1783, £. 72 15, payable to Phineas Lyman, No. 18379 Nov. 1, 1783, £. 36 4, payable to William Lyon. No. 1301 Dec. 1, 1781, £. 80 9, payable to Nathaniel Wright. No. 16239 Aug. 1, 1783, £. 78 16 No. 71 Oct. 1, 1781, £. 48 1, payable to Doct. Samuel Ware.

Whoever will apprehend and secure the THIEF, so that he may be brought to justice, shall receive a reward of *Twenty Dollars*, and whoever will produce the above Notes, and return them to the subscriber, shall receive a reward of 100 *Dollars*, and all necessary charges.——Precaution having been taken to prevent their ever being received and paid by the Treasurer abovementioned: All persons therefore, are cautioned not to purchase the above Notes—of any one offering them for sale.

EBEN. WRIGHT,
NATH. WRIGHT,
BILDAD WRIGHT.

Northampton, Feb. 29, 1792.

TO BE LET,

THIRTY-THREE Acres of improved Land, ten of which is mowing, and the remainder pasturing, in the town of Norwich, it being part of the farm lately improved by Capt. Oliver Lyman——For further particulars, apply to

TIMOTHY LYMAN.

Goshen, March 20, 1792.

To MOSES BLISS, Esq. one of the Justices of the Peace, in the County of Hampshire, and Commonwealth of MASSACHUSETTS.

WE the subscribers, three of the members of the corporation, entitled, "The Proprietors of the Locks and Canals on Connecticut river;" request your honour to grant a warrant, whereby the said proprietors may be notified to meet at the house of Mr. *Zenas Parsons*, in Springfield, on Wednesday the second day of May next, at two o'clock, P. M. to act on the following articles.

1st. To choose a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and any other officer or officers of the corporation.

2nd. To determine what number of shares the fund and property of the corporation, shall be divided into.

3d. To determine what deposit shall be made on each share, to discharge the expences of exploring and surveying Connecticut river and the Country adjacent, of purchasing lands and materials and other contingent expences, and when the same deposit shall be made.

4thly. To choose a committee to explore and survey Connecticut river, and the country adjacent, to purchase lands and materials for the use of the proprietors, and for regulating and ordering the affairs and business of the corporation.

5thly. To determine on the mode of calling future meetings of the corporation, and where the same shall be holden.

6thly. To transact all such other matters respecting the propriety as shall then and there be deemed expedient.

JOHN WORTHINGTON,
JOHN WILLIAMS,
THOMAS DWIGHT.

March 1, 1792.

COMMONWEALTH *of* MASSACHUSETTS.
HAMPSHIRE ss.

(L. S.) *To THOMAS DWIGHT, Esq. one of the Petitioners aforesaid, and one of the proprietors within mentioned.*

THE petition aforesaid, being preferred to me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace, for the County of Hampshire, you are hereby required to notify and warn the proprietors aforesaid, to meet at the time and place, and for the purposes abovementioned, for which this shall be your warrant. Given under my hand and seal, at Springfield, the first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

MOSES BLISS, Justice of the Peace.

THE Proprietors above mentioned pursuant to the above warrant, are notified to meet at the time and place, and for the purposes abovementioned.

THOMAS DWIGHT.

WANTED, Immediately.

A *Single MAN, that is honest, sober, industrious, and capable of rightly managing a Farm. One that can be well recommended shall receive good wages in Cash.*

Enquire of the Printer.

March 26, 1792.

Malt Works.

THE Subscriber informs the public, that he has, by the spirited exertions of his townsmen, for which they will please to accept his most grateful thanks, been enabled so far to re-build his Malt-Works, as once more to begin that business. Those who have Barley still to deliver, are requested to bring it as soon as possible.

BENJ. PRESCOTT.

Northampton, March 28, 1792.

BLANKS,
Of various kinds may be had at this Office.

TO BE SOLD,

SEVERAL valuable tracts of Land lying in Hatfield viz:—The home lot, lately occupied by Mr. Israel Williams, containing sixteen acres and an half nearly, of the best land, & under high cultivation: with a most valuable and commodious dwelling house, a large barn, a Merchants Shop and Warehouse and other useful out houses standing on the same, singularly accommodated for any large or genteel family, being within a few rods of the Meeting-house:

—ALSO,—

An excellent meadow lot of mowing and tillage, containing fifteen acres, nearly, within two hundred rods of the meeting-house:

—ALSO,—

Six acres of good land for tillage, in the great meadow:

—ALSO,—

Eleven and half acres of mowing and tillage lying on the great plain with avaluable orchard on the same:

—ALSO,—

A mountain pasture well in grass and under good fence within five miles of the meeting-house containing twenty eight acres:

—ALSO,—

Forty eight acres of woodland within three miles of the meeting-house.

Any person or persons inclining to purchase, are invited to look for themselves, and when suited with the terms may receive a good and effectual titleto either a part or the whole of the premises and enter upon possession of the buildings on or before the first of May next, and of the lands immediately.

Should any part of the abovementioned property remain unsold at the proper season to begin spring husbandry it will be rented to any suitable person who shall wish to improve it upon hire.

For terms of sale and other particulars enquiry may be made of Samuel Elliot, Esq. or of Mr. John Joy of Boston, or of Rev. Joseph Lyman living near the premises.

Hatfield, Feb. 28, 1792.

NOTICE is hereby given, to those who are indebted to JOSEPH——LAZELL,—on Book, or note of hand, that if the book accounts are not settled by the first of March next, and notes of hand by the first of April next, they will be committed to Samuel Hinckley, of Northampton, Attorney at Law, to collect without any further notice. Also all Persons that have any demands on the subscriber, are desired to call at his Store in Cummington, on or before the above mentioned dates, and receive their due.

J. LAZELL.

N. B. Any Person who wishes to Purchase about 40 Acres of Land, with a good House, Barn, Stoop and Potash, with about 2000 bushels of ashes in it, desired to call on the subscriber,—likewise 100 acres of land in the town of Windsor, 10 acres under improvement. Reasonable credit will be given for the same.

Cummington, Jan. 24, 1792.

ALL Persons indebted to the subscriber, either by Note or Book, are hereby notified, that unless their Notes and accounts are paid on or before the first of March next, they will be lodged in the hands of an Attorney to collect.—He will receive most kinds of produce in payment.

GAD SMITH.

Whately, Jan. 11, 1792.

ALL Persons who have accompts of more than a year's standing, are desired to make immediate payment to the subscriber. And others, if it can be made convenient, in so doing, will much oblige their humble servant.

ROGER WINDS.

Williamsburgh, March 7, 1792.

WANTED,

IMMEDIATELY, two active LADS, as apprentices to the House Joiner and Cabinet making business, one about 15 or 16 years of age,—the other about 10 or 12 years of age.——*Enquire of the Printers.*

THE Subscriber being appointed, and having accepted the trust of Administrator, on the estate of JONATHAN WARNER, late of Hadley, in the county of Hampshire, deceased, hereby requests all indebted to the said estate, or to the said Warner and Son, in Company, to make immediate payment—and who have any demands against said estate, requested to exhibit their claims for settlement.

NOADIAH WARNER, Administrator.

Hadley, March 19, 1792.

TO BE SOLD, OR LET,

FOR one year, two thirds of that part of the Farm in Chesterfield, (which belonged to the late Benj. Mills, Esq.) that lies on the south side of the County road.——For terms enquire of the subscriber.

ELIJAH HUNT.

Northampton, March 7, 1792.

TO BE SOLD,

ON very reasonable terms, a FARM, laying within two miles and an half of the center of Hatfield, which contains one hundred acres of Land, with a dwelling house and barn; said Farm belongs to Capt. Israel Chapin——For terms of sale enquire of Doct. WILLIAM AUGUSTUS WILLIAMS, of Hatfield.

Hatfield, March 7, 1792.

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HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1792.

NORTHAMPTON, (MASSACHUSETTS) Published by WILLIAM BUTLER.

FROM THE PHENIX.
On the CULTURE of SILK.

Mansfield, June 1, 1791.

DEAR SIR,

AS I have taken the trouble to observe the operation of the Silkworms in their several stages, until they transmigrate, I have undertaken to give you a short history of the business.

On the first of June the eggs or seed are brought out of the cellar, having been carefully deposited there to prevent a previous hatching—as the eggs will hatch if they are suffered to remain in a moderately warm place. The eggs are placed on a table in an upper room to hatch out; and in ten or twelve days the small worms may be seen making their way out of the eggs. At this period it will be necessary to lay the tenderest mulberry leaves on the papers where the eggs are laid as the small worms will crawl upon the leaves and begin to eat; and when the leaves are devoured, lay fresh leaves for the worms.

The method to keep them clear from dung & other filth, is to lay fresh leaves over the worms, & when they have crawled a top of the leaves, take the leaves with the worms, and place them on a clean table, or board, previously rubbed over with wormwood and vinegar.

It is very necessary for the worms to have fresh air at all times; but they must not be exposed to the rays of the sun, as it will prove fatal. This is a circumstance not easily accounted for; as it must be supposed that the silkworms originally fed on the mulberry trees, hung their balls on the limbs; and likewise laid their eggs on the bark; and it would be impossible for them to keep out of the rays of the sun, as they move very slow.

The sound of thunder, and the ringing of bells, is very detrimental to them. The person who attends them must not eat onions, or the like, as the scent will be a damage to the worms. When they are distempered and die, the dead ones must be removed soon, & care must be taken to broil bacon in the room where they are kept, as the scent will revive them. From the time of their hatching, until they wind, they shed their skins three times; when they are about to shed, they will eat at other times; but with themselves down among the old leaves, and in a short time crawl out of their old skins: Then they will grow apace, as new tender skins will dilate with the rapid growth.

The time they wind their balls commences in about six weeks. It will be necessary to procure small limbs or twigs, with leaves on, and fasten them up on the boards where the worms are fed, for them to wind their balls on.—Some people hang up blankets and other cloths, for them to wind on; but any thing that they can fasten their web on will answer. In a short time the balls may be plucked from the leaves to be reeled.

The honour found in the body of the worm, approaches to the nature of silk, as on being rubbed on the hand it leaves a solid crust behind. In the sides of the belly, all about the ventricle, there are deposited a vast number of vesicle, which contain a silky juice: These run with various windings and meanders to the mouth, and are so disposed that the creature can discharge its contents at pleasure, at the mouth. It has been observed, that the worm discharges the silky substance through a small hole, below the mouth, designed on purpose to gage the thread that is spun.

It is a thing which cannot be easily accounted for, why the small thread that is spun out by the worm, from the silky juice, should not dissolve again into the same matter, by boiling and scouring and undergoing the many operations, to prepare it for the manufacturer. But the small thread remains as firm as gold wire, drawn of the same bigness.

As soon as the worm has arrived to the size and strength to begin his cod, he makes his such: This is what they call the slight silken, which is the beginning and ground work. This is his first day's employment—on the second he forms his ball and covers himself almost over with silk—the third day he is quite hid, the following days he is employed in thickening and strengthening his ball: Always working from outside to inside, which he never breaks by his own strength, and which is so fine and so long that those who have examined it, say, that each ball contains silk enough to extend two thousand feet.

Care must be taken after the balls are procured from the bushes, to prevent the insect from perforating thro' them: this is done by reeling or exposing the balls in the sun two or three times; or baking them in an oven. Those balls that you intend for seed, must be strung on a thread, and hung up, to have the transmigration take place; and in a short time there will appear a miller on the out sides of the balls, having made his way through. These millers must be carefully placed in a box or drawer, with papers laid on the bottom, for the eggs to be laid on; and in a week's time they will lay their eggs. The papers with the eggs, are laid in the cellar for the next season.

To reel silk from the balls, two machines are necessary: The one a furnace, with a copper; the other a reel or frame, to draw the silk. The reel is so contructed as to reel four skeins at once. The winder sets down near the furnace, throws into the copper of water over the furnace, (first heated and boiled to a certain degree which practice alone can teach) a handful or two of balls, which have been first purged of all their loose furry substance. The whole is then stirred very briskly about, with birchen rods, bound and cut like brooms; and when the heat and agitation have detached the end of the silk or the pods, (which are apt to catch on the rods) the winder draws them forth, and joining ten or twelve or even fourteen of them together, the forms them into threads, according to the bigness requisite for the work they are intended for. Eight ends for ribbands, velvets, &c.—some work requires no less than twenty or thirty threads. The ends thus joined, are passed into the holes of the iron rods in the fore part of the reel, then upon the bobbins or pullies, and at last drawn out of the reel itself, and there fastened—each thread to an arm or branch of the reel. Thus disposed, the winder gives motion to the reel, by turning the handle; guides the thread; substitutes new ones when any are broken, or any of the balls are wound out; strengthens them where necessary, by adding others, and taking away balls that are wound out, or that are full of water. In this manner two persons will reel three pounds of silk in a day; which is done with greater dispatch than is made by the spinning wheel and distaff. Indeed all silk cannot be spun and reeled after this manner, either by reason of the balls having been perforated by the silk-worms themselves, or because they are double, or too weak to bear the water; or because they are coarse, &c. Of all these together they make a particular kind of silk called Floreta; which being carded or even spun on the distaff, or on the wheel, in the condition it comes from the balls, make a tolerable cloth.

The people find great advantage in pursuing the business, as chief of the labour is performed by women and children. Not less than 150lb. of raw silk was raised in Mansfield last season: This made into sewing silk would amount to 450l. and if manufactured into any other silken stuff, would raise a much larger sum. It is thought that the town of Mansfield will produce 1000lb. of raw silk in a few years.

Mr. *Nathaniel Mitchell*, formerly of this town, has made it his business to cultivate and sell the Mulberry tree in almost every state; and if the raising of silk becomes general in the States, it may be principally attributed to his industry.

Proceedings of Congress.

HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.

MONDAY, MARCH 5.

MR. *Grove* from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill for finishing the light house on Bald Head, at the mouth of Cape Fear river, in the State of North Carolina.—Referred, after a first and second reading, to a committee of the whole House on Tuesday the 13th instant.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the officers of the levies late in the service of the United States, made a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A message was delivered by Mr. Secretary *Otis*, notifying, that the Senate had passed the bill for the relief of certain orphans, widows, and invalids,—with amendments, in which they requested the concurrence of the House.

In a second message, Mr. *Otis* informed the House, that the Senate insisted on all their amendments in the bill to ascertain and regulate the claims to half pay and invalid pensioners;—that they desired a conference, and had on their part appointed managers, to confer with such managers, as might be nominated on the part of the house.

The House having agreed to the proposed conference, Messrs. *Livermore, Murray,* and *Ritchell* were appointed for the purpose.

Mr. Secretary *Lear* delivered a message notifying the House, that the President had this day approved and signed an act to make further and more special provision for the protection of the frontiers of the United States.

The house took up for consideration the amendments proposed by the committee of the whole, to the militia bill; adopted some, disagreed to others, made some further amendments, and ordered the bill to be engrossed for a third reading.

Among other amendments made, was the addition of the following section, which had been before proposed by Mr. *Barnwell*, and rejected in the committee of the whole.——viz.

"AND be it further enacted, that nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent any state from establishing such further regulations for the more effectually training their militia, according to the foregoing rules of discipline, as the legislature thereof shall think proper to direct."

When Mr. *Barnwell* renewed his motion for the introduction of this section,

An honorable member observed, that Congress, in making such a declaration, assumed an air of importance, rising above the constitution.——The States (said he) know and feel themselves possessed of the right of training their own militia;—and it is so be supposed, that they will, without a smile, read a license from Congress to exercise that inherent right?—When we talk of taking to ourselves powers, which are vested in the states, and then with great complaisance giving them a something which the free spirit of America will never brook.

To this was answered, the clause in question implied only a recognition, not a delegation of power.

In reply, it was said, that since the states possess constitutional power, in the case under consideration, it was a work of supererogation in Congress to recognize it.——Neither the Congress, nor the President of the United States, has a right to control or command a single individual of the militia men; all that Congress is authorised to do in this case, is to point out a rule, by which the militia are to be trained; but the right of training and exercising them in conformity to that rule, is by the constitution clearly referred to the states; and Congress would shew a very improper officiousness, in prescribing to the state legislature what their own judgement and prudence would naturally suggest to them.

It was further observed, that it is adding insult to injury, to deprive the states of their constitutional rights, and then to tell them, that if they can find any thing further, they are welcome to keep that.

The section was adopted;—yeas 35—nays (*not counted*) about 20.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6.

A Letter was read from the Legislature of North-Carolina, instructing the representatives of that state, to require that Congress will do justice to the claimants of certain western lands, and discharge the arrears due to the army.

Mr. *Parker* laid on the table a resolution, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report, what money, if any, now remains in the Treasury, of the appropriations made prior to the year 1791, distinguishing, under the different heads of appropriation, such monies as remain unapplied agreeably thereto.

Mr. Williamson laid on the table, a resolution for the appointment of a committee, to prepare and bring in a bill to amend the act, entitled an act to provide for collecting the duties on goods, wares, and merchandize, so far as to permit the landing of salt, under certain regulations, at the ware-houses belonging to the several Fisheries, and to allow a drawback on the exportation of salted provisions, equal to the duty paid on the salt used in preserving the same.

The committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill for reducing the rates of postage on newspapers, which was read a first and second time and ordered to lie on the table.

The postage proposed is half a cent, for any distance not exceeding one hundred miles, and three quarters of a cent for any greater distance.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a report from the Secretary of the Treasury respecting the excise law, which was read and ordered to be printed.

The militia bill, being brought in engrossed,

Mr. *Giles* moved for a re-commitment.

This occasioned a fire to a debate of some length, after which, the question being taken, and passing in the negative—yeas 27—nays 28—the blanks were filled up, and the bill passed—yeas 31—nays 17—and was sent to the Senate for their concurrence.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7.

A Bill for reducing the rates of postage on newspapers, was read a second time, and referred to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

Mr. Page, from the committee appointed, reported a bill to enable John Churchman to prosecute certain observations for the discovery of the variation of the Magnetic Needle;—and also a bill increasing the penalties for copying charts, maps, &c.—which were read a first time.

Mr. Vining, presented a memorial, signed with the names of near forty respectable merchants of this city, in opposition to the memorial lately presented from the