Hampshire Gazette.

PRINTED AT NORTHAMPTON (MASSACHUSETTS), BY WILLIAM BUTLER.

[—Vol. XI.—] WEDNESDAY, December 28, 1796. [—No. 539.—]

POETRY.

THE FALL OF THE LEAF.

SEE the leaves around you falling,
Dry and wither'd to the ground;
Thus to thoughtless mortals calling,
In a sad and solemn sound:

Sons of Adam, once in Eden,
When, like us, he blithed fell,
Hear the lecture we are reading—
'Tis alas! the truth we tell.

Virgins much, too much, presuming
On your boasted white and red;
View us, late in beauty blooming,
Number'd now among the dead!

Griping misers, nightly waking,
See the end of all your care;
Fled on wings of your own making,
We have left our owners bare.

Sons of honor, fed on praises,
Fluttering high in fancied worth;
Lo, the fickle air that raises,
Brings us down to parent Earth.

Learned sires, in system jadged,
Who for new ones daily call,
Cease, at length by us persuaded,
Every leaf must have a fall.

Youth, tho' yet no losses grieve you,
Gay in health, and manly grace,
Let not cloudless skies deceive you,
Summer gives to autumn place.

Venerable sires, grown hoary,
Hither turn th' unwilling eye;
Think amidst your falling glory,
Autumn tells a winter nigh.

Yearly in your course returning,
Messenger of shortest stay;
Thus we preach the truth concerning
Heaven and Earth will pass away.

On the tree of life eternal,
Man, let all thy hope be stay'd,
Where alone forever vernal
Bears the leaves that never fade.

From the VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

AT length we find Mr. Adet executing the atrocious threat for which Mr. Genet was execrated throughout America, and finally recalled by his nation; by appealing from the Executive Government of the United States, to the people themselves—by thus openly attempting to excite ferment in our country, and to force our government, by the popular voice, from that line of neutrality which it has hitherto so wisely and prosperously pursued. And I trust that this second attempt will be as unsuccessful as the first. The citizens of the United States must be sensible of their present condition; they must feel too much just pride and independence as a nation to suffer any foreign power whatever, to dictate to their government. It is much to be wished, that Mr. Adet's conduct had flowed from his own rashness, and not from the deliberate orders of his masters, the Executive Directory of France. But it is in the ... a people, who have always been friendly to his nation, and whose prayers have been continually offered to Heaven for the ultimate success of their heroic struggle for liberty. Little therefore, could they have expected from a nation, whose happiness, next to their own have been the object of their fervent wishes, at any time, so flagrant an outrage on their ... An earlier that has stirred my feelings ... It would now be done whether low-citizens! the French directory, or our own government, shall have the custody of our happiness?—Whether under the form of an independent nation, we are still to be held in ignominious bondage as a French province.—Was it for this, that thro' so many dangers and sacrifices we shook off the dominion of Great-Britain only to change masters? Forbid it sacred genius of Liberty!—We made ourselves an independent nation, because we justly thought our rights and our own interests safer under our own care. Have we been deceived in our expectations? No! unrivaled has been the course of our prosperity since the establishment of our independence, and so more particularly since that unequalled patriot, who presides over our government determined to maintain during the present European war, the neutrality of the states—A neutrality, wise in principle, and under all vicissitudes, as wisely and firmly maintained by him.

The public voice has supported and justified his conduct, not withstanding all the insidious practices of designing men to excite jealousies, suspicions and distrust of the whole government.—The public happiness and tranquillity, have still continued to refute the slanderers of his administration. Roused countrymen, rouse, the drama which has been so long acting amongst us, dark and obscure as it has hitherto been now begins to develope itself, and the catastrophe is approaching, which may in deed be a tragical one; if your good sense and patriotism do not assert it, our independence will be no more.—And can it be that American citizens have combined with a foreign government to reduce this brave and virtuous people to such an ignominious a condition? Can it be thought Virginia will countenance the daring attempt? Think of certain French principles in all their latitude exercised in our sister, and think of the devastations and massacres of St. Domingo. It is time to dismiss from our confidence men who prefer obedience to the will of a foreign country to the peace and happiness of their own. Let Virginia maintain its ancient rank, as the foremost defender of American liberty and independence, and never abjure the lustre of its fame by becoming the rallying point of the enemies of our peace and happiness whether foreign or domestic.

A VIRGINIAN.

ON MASONRY.

The following Discourse, translated from the original French, was lately pronounced at Brunswick, Lower Saxony, where Prince Ferdinand is Grandmaster, by the Count T. at the initiation of his son.

"I CONGRATULATE you on your admission into the most ancient, and, perhaps, the most respectable society in the world. To you the mysteries of Masonry are about to be revealed and so bright a sun never shed lustre on your eyes. In this awful moment, when prostrate at this holy altar, do you not shudder at every crime, and have you not confidence in every virtue? May this reflection inspire you with noble sentiments; may you be penetrated with a religious abhorrence of every vice that degrades human nature; and may you feel the elevation of soul which scorns a dishonourable action, and ever invites to the practice of piety and virtue.

"These are the wishes of a father and brother conjoined. Of you the greatest hopes are formed; let not our expectations be deceived. You are the son of a mason who glories in the profession; and for your fidelity and good conduct, your sa[fety] ther has already pledged his honour.

"You are now, as a member of this illustrious order introduced a subject of a new country, whose extent is boundless. Pictures are open to your view wherein true patriotism is exemplified in glaring colours, and a series of transactions recorded, which the rude hand of time can never erase. The obligations which influenced, the first Brutus and Manlius to sacrifice their children to the love of their country, are not more sacred than those which bind me to support the honour and reputation of this venerable order.

"This moment, my son, you owe to me a second birth; should your conduct in life correspond with the principles of masonry, my remaining years will pass away with pleasure and satisfaction. Observe the great example of our ancient masters, peruse our history and our constitutions. The best, the most humane, the bravest, and most civilized of men have been our patrons. Though the vulgar are strangers to our works, the greatest geniuses have sprung from our order. The most illustrious characters on earth have laid the foundation of the most amiable qualities in masonry. The wisest of princes, Solomon, planned our institution, as raising a temple to the eternal and supreme ruler of the universe.

"Swear my son, that you will be a true and faithful mason. Know, from this moment, that I centre the affection of a parent in the name of a brother and a friend. May your heart be susceptible of love and esteem, and may you burn with the same zeal your father possesses. Convince the world by new alliance you are deserving our favours, and never forget the ties which bind you to honour and to justice.

"View not with indifference the extensive connections you have formed, but let universal benevolence regulate your conduct. Exert your abilities in the service of your king and country, and deem the knowledge you have this day attained, the happiest acquisition of your life.

"Recal to memory the ceremony of your initiation: learn fast to bridle your tongue and govern your passions; and ere long you will have occasion to say, "In becoming a mason I truly became the man; and while I breathe will never disgrace a jewel that Kings may prize."

"If I live, my son, to reap the fruits of this day's labor, my happiness will be complete. I will meet death without terror, close my eyes in peace, and expire, without a groan, in the arms of a virtuous and worthy Free Mason."

STRAYED or stolen from the subscriber on the 17th inst. a light dun HEIFER, one year old last spring, marked with a hole in the left ear. Whoever will give information where said heifer may be had, shall be handsomely rewarded, by
ELIJAH NASH.
Hatfield, Nov. 28, 1796.

STRAYED from a drove about the 25th of October last, in Hatfield or Hadley, a two year old STEER, white and brindle, principally white, one of the ears rather smaller than the other. Whoever has taken up said Steer, and will give information to the subscriber where he may be found, shall be handsomely rewarded.
EBENEZER PARSONS.
Goshen, Nov. 25, 1796.

STRAYED from the subscriber, on the 9th inst. a red roan HORSE, four years old last spring, natural trotter, fifteen hands high, shod all round. Whoever will return said Horse to its owner, or give information where he may be found, shall have TEN DOLLARS reward and all necessary charges paid, by
CHESTER BARDWELL.
Shelburne, Nov. 12, 1796.

STRAYED from the subscriber, sometime since, a red STEER, two years old, marked with a swallow tail and a halfpenny in the right ear. Whoever will give information where said Steer may be had, shall be well rewarded.

TAKEN UP, on the 15th inst. a red and white yearling HEIFER, marked with a half crop and a slit in the left ear. The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges and take her away.
ELI EDWARDS.
Northampton, Nov. 30, 1796.

Strayed from the Subscriber

about the fore part of September last, a red STEER, marked with a half crop the under side of the right ear, two years old past.—Whoever has taken up the same, and will give information where the creature may be had, shall be well rewarded.
STEPHEN CLARK.
Northampton, Nov. 21, 1796.

STRAYED from the subscriber, some time in ... two LAMBS, marked with a crop ... Whoever will give information where said Lambs may be had shall be rewarded.
EBENEZER CLAPP.
Northampton, Dec. 12, 1796.

TAKEN up by the subscriber, on November 3, a HEIFER, last spring's calf, she has an earmark. The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges and take her away.
BENJAMIN POMEROY.
Williamsburgh, Nov. 29, 1796.

Robert Breck, and Son,

INFORM their friends and customers, that they have imported from Europe in the last vessels, and are now opening at their store, a large and universal assortment of

Hard Ware Goods.

The particulars being much too numerous for an advertisement; they can only say, they have all kinds Sadlers Ware, Carpenters, Joiners, Masons, Shoemakers and Husbandry tools.—

Hangings,	Horsemens and Infantry Sword Blades,
Hinges,	
Latches,	Spice and Coffee Mills,
Locks,	Japand Trays, Waiters,
Bolts,	Baskets and Canisters,
Knives and Raisors,	Quart and pint Jacks,
Shears and Scissars,	Princess Metal and Brass Candlesticks,
Files and Rasps,	
Handles and Escutcheons,	Iron and Japan'd, do.
	Old Sable and Swedes Iron, per ton,
Shovels and Tongs,	
Tacks, Brads and Clouts,	German and Blistered Steel—
Screws, and	
Saws of all kinds.	ALSO, Tea, Chocolate, Rice, Indigo, Cinnamon, Allspice & Pepper, Salt, &c. &c.
Sad Irons,	
Brass Kettles and Skillets,	
Iron and Copper Tea-kettles,	THEY have likewise and extensive assortment of Crockery Ware, of all kinds.
Brass Skimmers,	
English Cart and Waggon Boxes,	A variety of Paper Hangings.
Anvils and Vices,	
Warming and Frying Pans.	A large quantity of London Pewter.
Best English Shovels,	An assortment of European & India Goods, which will be sold uncommonly low for Cash, or approved credit.
Crown Window Glass,	
All sizes,	
Chasing Dishes,	
Mill and Crosscut Saws,	
Horsemens Pistols, with	
Iron and Brass Barrels,	

They sincerely thank such of their customers as have made them punctual payment; and in order to settle with them one year standing, if not very speedily paid, will indiscriminately be sued to January Court.

Northampton, Dec. 18, 1796.

FASHIONABLE & FANCY GOODS.

Daniel Butler,

AT HIS STORE UNDER THE PRINTING OFFICE,

HAS just received and now opening, a large & extensive assortment of *European and India*

GOODS,

which he has carefully selected from the latest importations; and are for sale, on as eligible terms for the purchaser as at any Store in town—Among which are

Black,
London Brown, } SUPERFINE B. CLOTHS
Light and Dark
Mix'd

Coatings, Baize, Flannels, &c.

A L S O,

A large assortment of Rose Blankets of every size, from eights to ten-4ths, which will be sold at the New-York price, for cash in hand.

Northampton, 13th Dec. 1796.

Jonathan Lyman

HAS just received at his store in Charlemont, a general assortment of EUROPEAN & WEST INDIA GOODS.

Charlemont, November 1796.

Samuel Clark, Jun.

HAS just received, in addition to his former assortment, Wethersfield Rum, French Brandy, Cyder, do. Aloes, Loaf and Brown Sugar, Coffee, Bohea Tea, Nutmegs, Pepper, Allspice, Ginger, Raisins, Poland Starch, German Steel, Swedes Iron, in bars suitable for sleigh shoes or Chaise tyres—Sale English and American Glass—English and American made Iron Shovels, Brass Kettles, Warming Pans, Pewter Dishes, Plates, & Basons, Powder and Shot—Nails—Window Glass—Crockery and Glass Ware—6 by 8 and 7 by 9 Window Glass—Pipes and Sleigh bells—Also, some made Earthen Ware, such as Milk pans, large Pail Pots for Cream, milling size, do. for Baking—Also, Flat Irons.

Nov. 30 1796.

NOTICE is hereby given to the non-resident proprietors of lands, lying in Montague, that their lands are taxed in a state, town and minister tax, for the year 1795, as follows, viz.

	Acres.	Dol.	Cents.
Heirs of Francis Shaw, Esq.	1000	2	12
David Dickinson,	8	0	69
Land lately owned by Benjamin Whitney,	29	0	12
Daniel Smith's heirs,	17	0	47
Jonathan and Jesse Ride[r]	200	1	39
Lot No. 24 in the east division laid out to Wm. Adis	50	0	45
Nicols	50	0	16
Levi Newton,	5	0	13
Lands laid out to Ezekiel Smith on Sawmill river, near Sawyer's mill place,	60	0	40

Unless said taxes are paid on or before the first Monday in January next, so much of said land will then be sold at public vendue, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Edward Ruggles in said Montague, as will discharge said taxes with intervening charges.

MARTIN GUNN, Collector.

Montague, Nov. 21, 1796.

[illegible] ... hereby given public notice, that she is appointed Administratrix, on the Estate of Charles Brown, late of Belchertown, Deceased, and therefore, requests the creditors to said estate, to bring in their claims for a settlement. Debtors are requested to call and settle their accounts immediately with her, at her house in Belchertown.

HANNAH BROWN, Administratrix.

Nov. 3, 1796.

Just Published, and for sale at this Office,
(PRICE—TWO DOLLARS)

DISSERTATIONS ON THE PROPHECIES,

WHICH HAVE REMARKABLY BEEN FULFILLED, AND AT THIS TIME ARE FULFILLING IN THE WORLD.

BY THOMAS NEWTON, D. D.
LATE LORD BISHOP OF BRISTOL.

N. B. SUBSCRIBERS for the above work, are requested to call for their Books.

FOR SALE, AT THIS OFFICE;

PRICE 2s/ PER GROSS—2/3 PER DOZEN, AND 4d. HALF PENNY SINGLE.

Beers's Almanack for 1797;

CONTAINING,

THE Lunations; Conjunctions; Eclipses; Judgment of Weather; rising and setting of the Planets; length of days and nights; Courts, &c. Also,—the character of Dick Wildgoose; account of lazy Charles; the Whimsical Sailor; the power of Love, Mirth and Money; the Pumpkin and Paddy; account of a man *going to the Leeward*; curious Advertisement of Bartholomew O'Flaherty; Jonathan's Courtship; friendly advice to the industrious poor, or how to make much of little, in times of scarcity; Consolation for an Old Bachelor; a variety of amusing Anecdotes—A table, shewing the value of any number of cents in Lawful money, from one to one hundred—a table shewing the value of any number of Pence from one penny to six shillings, in cents and milles; a table shewing the value of English and Portuguese Gold, in dollars, cents and milles, throughout the United States—Value of French and Spanish Gold in dollars, cents and milles; Tide Table for New-Haven; Table of interest at per cent, &c.

Also, THOMAS's Almanack.

Take Notice.

TO BE SOLD, a Tenement in Conway, in the County of Hampshire, about one hundred rods north of the Meeting House, standing contiguous to and near the intersection of the two great Roads, which run North and South & East and West, through said town, with about two acres of good land, which is likewise a good Store, a convenient Black-Smith's Shop, and a Barn-Yard and Tan House constantly supplied with plenty of water, from a never failing source, by means of aqueducts, wrought and tested by approved Workmen, and is as good a stand for either of the occupations above alluded to as any in these Parts. The House is large and convenient, and well supplied likewise with water without drawing or pumping, and is in addition to all the rest, very commodious for an Inn. Likewise a fine Orchard consisting of about four acres, half a mile distant. Also if the purchaser (if any appear) should chose, he may be accommodated with five acres of mowing land not far distant. For any terms ... and an indisputable title given
ASA FRARY.
Conway, Nov. 16. 1796.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the power of the Commissioners appointed by the Hon. Judge of Probate, for the County of Berkshire, to receive, and examine the claims of the several Creditors of the Estate of *Joseph Collis*, late of Washington, deceased, is insolvent; have six months from this date; we hereby notify said Creditors, that we will attend at the House of *Asher Sedgwick* in Lenox and County aforesaid, for the said purpose on the third Tuesdays of January and February next, from Nine o'clock in the morning until five in the afternoon on each of said days; and exhibit as shall be properly attested.

BENJAMIN TRASK,
ASHER SEDGWICK, } Commissioners.
CORNELIUS LUCE,

Lenox, Dec. 6. 1796.

Medad Lyman,

HAS removed from Easthampton to Charlemont. Those that he has left his Books with Mr. Joseph Clap, jun. of said Easthampton, with whom any who are indebted to him are requested to make a speedy settlement, or they will be sued.

Nov. 23. 1796.

To be Sold, on advantageous terms to the purchaser, a good building LOT,

convenient for a tradesman, laying near the centre of Northampton, containing about seven rods in front.—Enquire of

SILAS STRONG.

Northampton, Nov. 28. 1796.

TAKEN up by the subscriber, on the 18th inst. a dark red COW, with no artificial mark. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges and take her away.

OLIVER SPRAGUE.

Easthampton, Nov. 28, 1796.

ALL persons indebted to WILLIAM EDWARDS, by book or note, are requested to make payment immediately—Those who neglect this notice, may expect to have their notes and accounts lodged in the hands of an attorney to collect by the 15th of December next.

Northampton, Nov. 16. 1796.

TAKEN up, on the 21st Nov. last, a black Mare, with a bay Colt.—the mare has a star in her forehead, one white hind foot, natural trotter. The owner is desired to pay charges and take her away.

JOSEPH BARTLETT.

Southampton, Dec. 7. 1796.

Broke into the inclosure of

the subscriber a two year old brindle STEER, with a white face. The owner is desired to prove property pay charges and take him away.

LUKE DAY.

Northampton, December 1. 1796.

Wanted,

TWO first rate New-Milch COWS, Enquire of the Printer.

Dec. 7. 1796.

From the (Massachusetts) MERCURY.

Messrs. Young and Minns,

Please to publish the following ingenious essay on the culture of wheat, communicated to the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for promoting Agriculture, by the Rev. Reuben Holcom, of Sterling, to whom the Trustees have granted the Gold Medal of the Society.

I am,
Your most humble servant,
OLIVER SMITH,
Corresponding Sec'ry,

To the Massachusetts Society for promoting agriculture.

Gentlemen,

HAVING received the laws and regulations of your society, I am highly gratified, not only from their benevolent design, but also the great utility which may arise to our country from the generous rewards you have held up, as an incitement to exertion, in the most essential branches of agriculture. I have always considered the cultivation of the ground, not only as a very ancient but honorable employment, greatly tending to bodily and mental improvement, to the prosperity of individuals and the community at large. From these considerations, I have paid some attention to the principles and practice of agriculture, and agreeably to your proposal, present you with a treatise on the cultivation of wheat.

I have much regretted that the cultivation of wheat, which is the most generous of all farinacious grain, should be so much neglected in Massachusetts, being fully persuaded that it might be cultivated to as great advantage as any other kind of grain.—From actual experiment for 8 or 10 years, I am satisfied what kind of wheat is most suitable for this climate, and what method of cultivating it would be attended with the best success. There are in this country two kinds of winter wheat, there is the red and the white bald winter wheat, I think that the best kind I ever experienced, is the white bald winter wheat; there is evidently a considerable difference between this and the red bald wheat, both in the fineness of the straw, and the color and size of the kernel.—The kernel of the white wheat is more full and plump, than the red wheat, and is not so much exposed to blast.

The white bearded wheat is in my opinion the best kind of spring wheat, as it is not so much exposed to smut and blasting as any other. I have sowed the white with the red bearded spring wheat, side by side, on land of the same quality and treated in the same manner, without the least partiality, and I have found that the white wheat is much the best. It is the heaviest and produces more flour than the red. I have also a bald spring wheat, but I prefer the white bearded to all other kinds of spring wheat that I am acquainted with. I would now give you my mode of cultivating wheat to the best advantage.

Wheat does not require the richest soil; so far from it, that manure from barn yards is injurious, when applied for the purpose of raising winter wheat. It renders vegetation so rapid, that the fibres of the straw will most certainly be broken by the ascending nutriment, and the crop is much ruined; and the same fate will attend spring wheat, unless a crop of corn precede, for corn exceeds all other vegetables in exhausting the strength of land. The most proper soil for wheat is a kind loam, on the side of a gentle declining hill, fairly exposed to the western and north western winds, and a flat or meadow ground, is not suitable for wheat. On such land it will be a mere accident if you ever have a crop, with the best cultivation. In some parts of the U. States wheat will flourish upon such soil, but not in Massachusetts. A coarse gravelly soil is not good for wheat, nor is clayey ground. There is an happy medium of soil peculiarly agreeable to wheat land, which is natural to the production of walnut and chesnut timber, and when cleared produces clover to advantage, you may depend upon, is the right soil for wheat. In the cultivation of wheat, two inconveniences are to be guarded against, the one is what is called winter killing, and the other blasting. The winter killing or perhaps more properly speaking, spring killing of grass, is owing to the heaving of the ground, and the standing of water upon it; but land in the position, and of the quality I have described, is more secure from these inconveniences. Land should be on a declivity or gentle descent, that the waters both from the dissolving of snow and falling showers, might moderately drain off, and consequently the wheat be neither drowned, nor its roots be broken by the heaving of the ground, one or other of which will commonly take place in the course of the winter or spring, where the ground is flat or of a clayey quality.

And here I would observe, that as wheat suffers great inconvenience from freezing and thawing of the ground in the month of March, I have chosen its situation on a spot which is not greatly exposed to the rays of the sun, the snow by lying on the ground till late in the spring, might defend the wheat from the pernicious effects of two opposite qualities, frost and heat; also, land which hears a little to the north in its declivity, is not so much exposed to snow drifts, which often suffocate and destroy the grain, as when it bears to the opposite direction. It is observable, that low drifts with us, are most commonly on the south-eastern side of hills and fences, and when they happen on fields of wheat, especially, the consequence is often its destruction, and furthermore, a good air is as necessary for wheat as a good soil. A clear north-western air prevents unwholesome damps and fogs from lighting on the wheat, and by that prevents its mildew and blasting. Easterly are frequently attended with pernicious to wheat, perhaps they have a saline quality in them, which lighting upon the tender grain, crushes and hardens the straw, so that not giving communication to the ascending sap it must of course burn, and become pale or prematurely ripen. But when the ground bears to the west and north-west these inconveniences are in a great degree prevented. These observations, in as far as respects the blasting of grain, are as applicable to spring as to winter wheat.—Having chosen a proper piece of ground of the nature, quality, and situation above mentioned, let it be covered with trees, if a feeding pasture, plough it in well to get clover in the month of June.—If you design land for pasturing, let your clover be sowed in the fall; spring in your land. This is by far the best mode for wheat, & let the ploughing be repeated a month until sowing time, which ought to be in the latter end of August; let no harrow come upon your ground; it is worse than one, as it extends the fermenting vegetables, leaves the land heavy.

Three ploughings will suffice for a light soil, and when land has been ploughed within a few years; let it be thoroughly subdued, and the furrow the last ploughing, should be in a direction to the ascent and descent of the land, to favor draining off the water as the thaws come on in the spring.

A military academy may be likewise rendered wheat, which is the most generous of all ... it would be well to feed it with calves. In the month of September; one bushel of winter wheat is sufficient for an acre thus cultivated, and previous to sowing it should be well washed in water, then soaked in brine, twelve or fourteen hours, and having died off the brine, apply as much ashes or line as, as will adhere to the wheat, sow it carefully and plough it in with a small plough as soon as may be, and if you chose that your land be smooth, go over it with a slight bush, which may be drawn by one horse, after you have ploughed in your grain, and one horse is sufficient for the last ploughing. In the beginning of August, 1795, I set a piece of ground of the nature, quality and situation above directed; it had been laid down with clover two years.—Immediately after the I collected my second years crop of clover, I ploughed the ground; this was on the beginning of July; on the beginning of August I cross ploughed, and on the last day of the same month, I ploughed in my seed in the manner aforesaid, as above mentioned, and at the rate one bushel per acre; I fed it as above directed and from one acre and thirty four rods, I had 33 bushels and an half of the best wheat.

It is the white and red wheat mixed together, tho' chiefly white; my spring wheat I have not threshed, but it is good, and will probably yield me at least 20 bushels per acre. If winter wheat can be preserved from spring frosts, it is much best, both for quality and quantity, and also it is not so liable to blast as spring wheat. But this is not always the case, spring wheat does very well on ground cultivated as above, for winter wheat, or after corn, but in this case the ground should be ploughed as soon as the frost is out, and sowed as early in the spring as the ground will admit of, and with one bushel and a peck of wheat to an acre; this is necessary, because it does not spread like winter wheat. My wheat in general does not yield less than 20 bushels per acre, and ... not so much as to be preferred ... Indian corn, and which is so preferred cannot be a matter of doubt, either a point of profit or pleasure. Many people in Massachusetts content themselves with coarse bread when they might be fed with the finest of wheat and at less expense.

If, upon examination, I shall say no more upon the present subject, and I have merited the gold medal ... yet, I am sure of enjoying the pleasure of having contributed my mite with a view to the promotion of agriculture.

With considerations of respect,
I remain,
Yours kind and humble serv't,
O. SPEIROON.

Massachusetts, Sept. 25, 1796.

THE ANSWER OF THE SENATE,

To the President's address to both houses of Congress, presented by the Vice-President, accompanied by the Senate in a body.

WE thank you sir, for your faithful and detailed exposure of the existing situation of our country; and we sincerely join in sentiments of gratitude to an over ruling Providence, for the distinguished share of public prosperity, and private happiness, which the people of the United States so peculiarly enjoy.

We are fully sensible of the advantages that have resulted from the adoption of measures (which you have successfully carried into effect) to preserve peace, cultivate friendship, and promote civilization, amongst the Indian tribes, on the western frontiers;—feelings of humanity and the most solid political interests, equally encourage the continuance of this system.

We observe with pleasure, that the delivery of the military posts, lately occupied by the British forces, within the territory of the United States, was made with cordiality, and promptitude, as soon as circumstances would admit; and that the other provisions of our treaties with Great-Britain and Spain, that were objects of eventual arrangements, are about being carried into effect, with entire harmony and good faith.

The unfortunate, but unavoidable difficulties that opposed a timely compliance with the terms of the Algerine treaty, are much to be lamented; as they may occasion a temporary warfare; at the same time, the lively impressions that affected the public mind, on the redemption of our captive fellow-citizens, afford the most laudable incentive to our exertions, to remove the remaining obstacles.

We perfectly coincide with you in opinion that the importance of our commerce demands a naval force for its protection against foreign insult and depredation, and our solicitude to attain that object will be always proportionate to its magnitude.

The necessity of accelerating the establishment of certain useful manufactures by the intervention of legislative aid and protection, and the encouragement due to agriculture, by the creation of boards, (composed of intelligent individuals) to patronize this primary pursuit of society, are subjects which will readily engage our most serious attention.

A national university may be converted to the most useful purposes—The science of legislation, being so essentially dependent on the endowments of the mind, the public interests must receive effectual benefit from the general diffusion of knowledge; and the United States will assume a more dignified station among the nations of the earth, by the successful cultivation of the higher branches of literature.

A military academy may be likewise rendered equally important. To aid and direct the physical force of the nation, by cherishing a military spirit, enforcing a proper sense of discipline and inculcating a scientific system of tactics, is consonant to the soundest maxims of public policy; connected with, and supported by such an establishment, a well regulated militia, constituting the natural defence of the country, would prove the most effectual, as well as economical, preservative of peace.

We cannot but consider, with serious apprehensions, the inadequate compensations of the public officers, especially of those in the more important stations. It is not only a violation of the spirit of a public contract, but is an evil so extensive in its operations, so destructive in its consequences, that we trust it will receive the most pointed legislative attention.

We sincerely lament, that whilst the conduct of the United States has been uniformly impressed with the character of equity, moderation, and love of peace, in the maintenance of all their foreign relationships our trade should be so harassed by the cruisers and agents of the republic of France, throughout the extensive departments of the West-Indies.

Whilst we are confident that no cause of complaint exists, that could authorise an interruption of our tranquillity, or disengage the republic from the bonds of amity, cemented by the faith of treaties, we cannot express our deepest regrets, that official communications have been made to you, indicating a more serious disturbance of our commerce. Although we cherish the expectation, that a sense of justice, and a consideration of our mutual interests, will moderate their councils; we are not unmindful of the situation in which events may place us, nor unprepared to adopt that system of conduct, which, compatible with the dignity of a respectable nation necessity may compel us to pursue.

We cordially acquiesce in the reflection, that the United States, under the operation of the federal government, have experienced a most rapid aggrandizement and prosperity as well political as commercial.

Whilst contemplating the causes that produce this auspicious result, we must acknowledge the excellency of the constitutional system, and the wisdom of the legislative provisions;—but we should be deficient in gratitude and justice did we not attribute a great portion of these advantages, to the virtue, firmness and talents of your administration, which have been conspicuously displayed in the most trying times, and on the most critical occasions. It is, therefore, with the sincerest regret, that we now receive an official notification of your intentions to retire from the public employments of your country.

When we review the various scenes of your public life, so long and so successfully devoted to the most arduous services, civil and military;—as well, during the struggles of the American revolution, as the convulsive periods of a recent date, we cannot look forward to your retirement, without our warmest affections and most anxious regards accompanying you; and without mingling with our fellow-citizens at large; the sincerest wishes for your personal happiness, that sensibility and attachment can express.

The most effectual consolation that can offer for the loss we are about to sustain, arises from the animating reflection, that the influence of your example will extend to your successors, and the United States thus continue to enjoy, an able, upright, and energetic administration.

JOHN ADAMS,
Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

The following is the reply of the President.

GENTLEMEN,

IT affords me great satisfaction, to find in your address, a concurrence in sentiment with me on the various topics which I presented for your information and deliberation; and that the latter will receive from you, an attention proportioned to their respective importance.

For the notice you take of my public services civil and military, and your kind wishes for my personal happiness, I beg you to accept my cordial thanks.—Those services, and greater, had I possessed ability to render them, were due to the unanimous calls of my country; and its approbation is my abundant reward.

When contemplating the period of my retirement, I saw virtuous and enlightened men among whom I relied on the discernment and patriotism of my fellow-citizens, to make the proper choice of a successor: Men who would require no influential example to ensure to the United States "an able, upright and energetic administration." To such men, I shall cheerfully yield the palm of genius and talents, to serve our common country; but at the same time I hope I may be indulged in expressing the consoling reflection, (which consciousness suggests) and to bear it with me to my grave, that none can serve it with purer intentions than I have done, or with a more disinterested zeal.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

LAWS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Commonwealth of *Massachusetts*.

In the Year of our LORD, one Thousand seven Hundred and Ninety Six.

An Act to incorporate John Bacon and others for the purposes therein mentioned.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, That John Bacon, Daniel Rathbun, Jonathan Holly, David Hall, Jabez Brooks, Samuel Dewey, Nathaniel Reddington, Thomas Becker, John Bacon, jun. and Cyprian Branch, all of Richmond in the County of Berkshire, and such other persons as are or may be associated with them, be, and they and their Successors hereby are constituted a corporation by the name of the Proprietors of the Aqueduct in Richmond for the purpose of conveying water by pipes into such parts of the said Town of Richmond as they may judge expedient; provided however that nothing in this Act contained shall authorize said Corporation to enter upon or use for that purpose the land of any Person without license therefor first had of the Proprietors of such land.

Be it further enacted, That any three of the persons above named, may, by notifications to be posted at the respective dwelling Houses of Daniel Rathbun and Thomas Becker in said Richmond, call a meeting of the said Proprietors to be holden in said Richmond at any suitable time, seven days at least after posting such notifications. And the said proprietors, by a major vote of those present or represented as is herein after provided at said meeting, or according the rule to such share, shall choose a Clerk, agree upon the mode of calling future meetings of the said Proprietors, and may also elect any other officers which to them may seem necessary for carrying into effect the object of their Incorporation.—And the said Proprietors, at the same or any subsequent meeting of the Corporation, may enjoin and order fines and penalties for the breach of any of their rules and bye laws, not exceeding thirteen Dollars for any one breach. And all persons appearing at any of said meetings to represent any of the said Proprietors, shall have therefor an appointment in writing signed by the person to be so represented, which shall be filed with or recorded by the Clerk of the Corporation, whose duty it shall be fairly and truly to enter and record in a book or books, to be for that purpose provided and kept, this Act and all the rules and bye laws, votes and proceedings of the said Corporation: which book and books shall at all times be subject to the inspection of any person or persons for that purpose appointed by the Legislature. And the Clerks of the said Corporation shall be sworn by a Justice of the Peace of the said County of Berkshire, to the faithful discharge of the duties of their office.

Be it further enacted, That the said Proprietors be and they hereby are authorized to enter on and dig up any high way or town road, for the purpose of placing such pipes as may be necessary to complete said Aqueduct or of repairing the same when requisite: provided they in no case obstruct the passing of such persons as may have occasion to use such road or highway.

Be it further enacted, That the mode of transferring shares in said corporate property shall be by deed acknowledged before a justice of the peace and recorded by the Clerk of said proprietors in a book to be kept for that purpose. And when any share or shares in said property shall be attached on mesne process, an attested Copy of such process shall at the time of the attachment, be left with the Proprietors' Clerk; otherwise such attachment shall be void. And such shares may be sold on execution in the same manner as is or may be by Law provided for the sale of personal property by execution; the Officer making the sale, leaving an attested Copy of the Execution and of his return thereon with the Clerk of the Proprietors, within ten days after such sale.

Be it further enacted, That any person injuring said Aqueduct, shall be subject to the same penalties as are provided in the second Section of the act entitled "An Act for the more effectually preventing of Trespasses in divers cases," passed the twenty third day of November one thousand, seven hundred and eighty-five; and shall also be liable to make good all damages so done to the said Proprietors.

Approved, November 21, 1796.

SAMUEL ADAMS.