

FOR THE AMERICAN.

Messrs. Pechin & Frailey,
GENTLEMEN.

IT was with singular pleasure that I perused a piece in your paper of Wednesday last over the signature of "A Citizen," on the subject of a Botanic Garden, contiguous to this city;—a city, whose growing population, wealth and refinement bid fair to rival any other in the Western World.

The pleasures of the Botanic science, it is true, can only find admittance into the minds of scientific men; but its intrinsic value equally extends to all, and is pregnant with indefinite blessings unto civilized society; for it is certain, that the progress and perfection of the healing art, depend, in a very considerable degree, upon the knowledge of this science.

This idea must appear obvious to the most superficial mind upon a moment's reflection; but there is another which, though less obvious, is not less important;—I mean the profound and astonishing lessons of creative goodness, wisdom and power which a moderate knowledge of Botany must open to the pious and contemplative Christian:—For, if, (as Doctor Young remarks) "an UNDEVOU astronomer is mad," no less so, in my opinion, may it be said of an UNDEVOU Botanist.

The astronomer, it is certain, cannot help being struck with pious astonishment, at the number, motion and magnitude of all those mighty worlds, and systems of worlds, which are displayed to our view through the vast expanse of the material or outward creation of God;—but, the close and scientific observer of nature, is no less struck with sensations of devotion, which he is instructed by the skillful Botanist, in the astonishing vestibule of that delightful and no less important science, whereby the economy of vegetation—the physiology of plants, and the combined and wonderful operation of the elements of nature to effect their growth, together with their sexual nature, affinities and loves, are all disclosed to view! The finger of Omnipotence, I say, and of infinite wisdom and goodness, is no less displayed in the "Hyssop that groweth out of the wall," than in the production of the majestic Jupiter himself with all his splendid attendants.

So much may be said with respect to the scientific delight, and Christian devotion which are inseparably connected with a moderate knowledge of the Botanic art; but there are various other collateral pleasures, though of a more sensual grade, which would ineluctably attach themselves to a permanent and respectable Botanic Garden, if established in an eligible situation not far distant from the city, and subject to the government and controul of proper directors; for in a very few years it might become the evening walk, the still retreat, and the polite rendezvous of its respectable founders;—and their infant families, though yet unborn, would realise the various sources of rational pleasure which are now anticipated from such an institution by
A LOVER
Of Rational Amusement.

From the Boston Chronicle.

Mr. Ridwell, in his Speech delivered in the Senate of Massachusetts, upon Mr. Eley's proposition for an amendment of the constitution, speaking of union and harmony between the northern & southern States, asserted, "that during the Revolution, the north and south were thus happily united; that Massachusetts and Virginia pre-eminently harmonised on the momentous questions of opposition to Parliamentary Taxation, the prosecution of the war, and the Declaration of Independence."

The truth of this question must be felt by every one, who personally recollects the progress of the Revolution, or who reads Gordon's, Ramsay's or Marshall's history of it. The following observations and extracts are offered in proof.

The Parliamentary claim of a right to tax the Colonies was the very point of our Revolutionary contest, and the Stamp Act in 1765 was the memorable occasion of bringing the principle to a virtual admission or a determined opposition.

"The passage of this act, (says Judge Marshall in his 'Life of Washington') the operation of which was to commence on the first day of November, excited throughout the Colonies the most serious and universal alarm. It was believed sincerely to wound vitally the constitution of the country, and to destroy the most sacred principles of liberty. Combinations against its execution were every where formed; and the utmost exertions were used to render as diffusive as possible, a knowledge of the pernicious consequences, which must flow from admitting that America could be taxed by a legislature in which she was not represented."

The assembly of Virginia was in session when the intelligence was received,

The subject was taken up, & by a small majority, several Resolutions, which had been introduced by Mr. Henry, and second by Mr. Johnson, were agreed to, one of which asserts the exclusive right of that assembly to lay taxes and impositions on the inhabitants of that Colony, and that every attempt to vest such a power elsewhere "is illegal, unconstitutional and unjust, and has a manifest tendency to destroy British as well as American freedom."

"On the passage of these Resolutions the Governor dissolved the Assembly, and writs for new elections were issued. But so entirely did the people take part with the opposition to the scheme of taxation proposed by ministers who had voted in favor of the Resolutions, were re-elected, while those who had voted against them, were generally excluded in favour of candidates who entertained popular opinions."

"The Legislatures of several other Colonies passed Resolutions similar to those of Virginia, and the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, contemplating a still more solemn and effectual expression of the general sentiment, recommended a Congress of Deputies from the colonial assemblies, to meet at New York the first Tuesday of October, to consult together on the present circumstances of the Colonies, and the difficulties to which they are, and must be reduced by the operation of the acts of Parliament, for laying taxes on them." 2 vol 87

This is the representation given by Judge Marshall. Dr. Ramsay is more particular.

"On its being suggested from authority, he observes, that the Stamp Officers would not be sent from Great Britain; but selected from the Americans; the Colony agents were desired to point out proper persons for the purpose. They generally nominated their friends, which affords a presumptive proof, that they supposed the act would have gone down. In this opinion they were far from being singular."

That the Colonies would be ultimately obliged to submit to the Stamp Act was at first commonly believed, both in England and America. The framers of it, in particular, flattered themselves that the confusion, which would arise upon the disuse of writings, and the insecurity of property, which would result from using any other than that required by law, would compel the colonies, however reluctant, to use the stamp paper, and consequently to pay the taxes imposed thereon. They, therefore, boasted that it was a law, which would execute itself. By the terms of the Stamp Act, it was not to take effect till the first day of November, a period of more than seven months after it passed. This gave the colonists an opportunity of leisurely canvassing the subject, and examining it fully on every side. In the first part of this interval, struck with astonishment, they lay in silent consternation, and could not determine what course to pursue. By degrees they recovered their recollection. Virginia led the way in opposition to the Stamp Act.—Mr. Patrick Henry brought into the House of Burgesses of that colony, the following Resolutions, which were substantially adopted. [The same as those described in the above extract from Marshall's history.

"Upon reading these Resolutions, the boldness and novelty of them, affected one of the members to such a degree that he cried out 'Treason! Treason!'—They were, nevertheless, well received by the people, and immediately forwarded to the other Provinces. They circulated extensively, and gave a spring to all the discontented. Till they appeared, most were of opinion, that the act would be quietly adopted.—Murmurs, indeed were common; but they seemed to be such as would soon die away. The countenance of so respectable a Colony as Virginia confirmed the wavering, and emboldened the timid. Opposition to the Stamp Act, from that period, assumed a bolder face. The fire of liberty blazed forth from the press. Some well judged publications set the rights of the Colonies in a plain but strong point of view. The tongues and the pens of the well informed citizens laboured in kindling the latent sparks of patriotism. The flame spread from breast to breast, till the conflagration became general. In this business, New England had a principal share." &c. 1 vol. 58—61.

"The expediency of calling a continental Congress, to be composed of deputies from each of the provinces, had early occurred to the people of Massachusetts. The assembly of that province passed a resolution in favor of that measure, and fixed on New-York as the place, and the second Tuesday of October as the time, for holding the same. Soon after, they sent circular letters to the speakers of the several assemblies, requesting their concurrence." 68.

The stamp act was repealed March 1766—but the repealing act declared the power and right of Great Britain to bind the colonies in all cases whatever; and in 1767 an act of parliament was passed for laying certain duties on tea and some other articles imported from Great Britain into the colonies.

"The General Court of Massachusetts says Marshall, met early in December, and very early in the session, took under their consideration several acts of parliament, which during the recess, had been transmitted to the colony. They perceived plainly that the claim to tax America was revived, and they deter-

mined to oppose it with all the means in their power." After stating their letters to Earl Shelburne, Gen. Conway, and other members of Parliament, their petition to the King, and their circular letter to the assemblies of the other colonies, the historian proceeds; "The circular letter of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts was extremely well received in the other colonies. They generally approved the measures of opposition, which had been taken, and readily united in them. They too petitioned the King against the obnoxious acts of parliament, and instructed their several agents to use all proper means to obtain their repeal. Virginia transmitted to her sister colonies a statement of her proceedings, and in the letter to Massachusetts, communicating the representations made by the House of Burgesses to parliament, they say, 'that they do not affect an independency of their parent kingdom, the prosperity of which they are bound, to the utmost of their abilities to promote; but cheerfully acquiesce in the authority of parliament to make laws for preserving a necessary dependence, and for regulating the trade of the colonies; yet they cannot conceive, and humbly insist it is not essential, to support a proper relation between the mother country and colonies transplanted from her, that she should have a right to raise money from them without their consent, and presume they do not aspire to more than the rights of British subjects when they assert, that no power on earth has a right to impose taxes on the people, or take the smallest portion of their property, without their consent given by their representatives in Parliament.—This has ever been considered as the chief pillar of the constitution; without this support no man can have the least shadow of liberty; since they can have no property in that, which another can by right take from them when he pleases, without their consent.' 2 vol 112.

The General Court of Massachusetts were required to rescind the resolution, on which their circular letter was founded, and in which the House of Burgesses of Virginia had concurred, but refused to rescind it, and were dissolved by the Governor. Riots ensued in Boston, and the British government adopted measures to coerce Massachusetts to a compliance.

"To give a more solemn expression to the sense of parliament on this subject," says Mr. Marshall, "joint resolutions of both houses were at length entered into, condemning, in the strongest terms the measures pursued by the Americans; and an address was likewise agreed on, approving the conduct of the crown, giving assurances of effectual support to such further measures as might be found necessary to maintain the civil magistracy, in a due execution of the laws within Massachusetts Bay; and beseeching him to direct the governor of that colony to obtain and transmit to his majesty information of all treasons committed in Massachusetts since the year 1767, with the names of the persons who had been most active in promoting such offences, that prosecutions might be instituted against them within the realm, in pursuance of the statute of the 35th of Henry VIII.

"These threatening declarations, which seem to have been particularly directed against Massachusetts Bay, in the hope that the other provinces might be deterred from involving themselves in her dangers, made no impression on the colonies any degree favorable to the views of the mother country. Their resolution to resist the exercise of the authority claimed by Great Britain not only remained unshaken, but manifested itself in a still more determined form.

"Not long after these votes of the British Parliament, the Assembly of Virginia was convened by Lord Botetourt, a nobleman of the most conciliating and popular manners, who had recently been appointed Governor of that colony. A copy of the proceedings having already been received, the house took into their immediate consideration the state of the colony, and passed unanimously several resolutions asserting, in the most decisive terms, the exclusive right of that assembly to impose taxes on the inhabitants within his majesty's dominion of Virginia, and their undoubted right to petition for a redress of grievances, and to obtain a concurrence of the other colonies in such petitions. Alluding particularly to the joint address of the two houses to the King, they also resolved, that all persons charged with the commission of any offence within that colony, were entitled to a trial before the tribunals of the country, according to the fixed & known proceedings therein, and that to seize such persons and transport them beyond sea for trial, derogated in a high degree from the rights of British subjects, as thereby the inestimable privilege of being tried by a jury from the vicinage, as well as the liberty of summoning and producing witness on such trial, will be taken away from the party accused.

"An address to his majesty was also agreed on, which states in the style of loyalty and real attachment to the crown, the deep conviction of the House of Burgesses of Virginia, that the complaints of the colonies were well founded.

"Intelligence of these proceedings having reached the Governor, he suddenly dissolved the assembly, the members of which then convened at a private house, and having chosen their Speaker, moderator, proceeded to form a non-import-

ing association, which was signed by every person present; and which being recommended by them to the people, was subscribed almost universally, throughout the Province." 2 vol. 128—131.

"The proceedings of the House of Burgesses of Virginia which took place very soon after the intelligence of those Resolutions and that address [of the British Parliament] had reached America, were, by order of the House, transmitted by their Speaker to the Speakers of the several assemblies throughout the Continent. The occasion seemed, in the opinion of the neighbouring Colonies, to require measures of greater energy than had heretofore been adopted; and an association similar to that which had been formed by their elder sister, was entered into by Maryland, North and South Carolina." Marsh. 2 vol. 132.

Massachusetts heartily adopted the non importation association.

In prosecuting their claim of taxation the British Parliament passed a Bill for blocking up the Port of Boston; another, abridging the Charter of Massachusetts Bay, and another new modelling their Judiciary. Marshall says, "It was expected, and this expectation was encouraged by Mr. Hutchinson, then in England, that by directing these measures of punishment, particularly against Boston, not only the union of the Colonies could be broken, but Massachusetts herself could be divided." 2 vol. 160.

[To be Continued.]

LONDON, November 29.

Private letters are said to have been received from Paris, which contain very extraordinary reports; among others it is said that the agents of government in Paris have lately held language of a pacific nature, and even the outline of a treaty of peace has been privately hinted about. It is not at all improbable that Bonaparte may have ordered his creatures to propagate these kind of reports, in order to amuse the people of Paris to put them in good humour before his coronation, and to console them for the disappointment which they must feel on finding that England has neither been conquered by the arms, nor terrified by the menaces of France. The following are the principal articles of the outline to which we allude; but we by no means pledge ourselves to their authenticity.

1st. France consents to evacuate the Kingdoms of Naples and Etruria, the Papal territory, and the Republics of Liguria, Helvetia, and Batavia, together with the Electorate of Hanover, and all places occupied by her on the right Bank of the Rhine.

2d. England consents to restore all her conquests in the West Indies, and to give up Malta to the King of Sardinia as a part of the indemnities defined this Sovereign.

3d. The remainder of the indemnities to his Sardinian Majesty are to be taken from the kingdom of Etruria, round Siena.

4th. France promises, in return, to give up to his Etrurian Majesty the duchies of Parma and Piacenza.

5th. Russia is to evacuate the seven Islands, and all other places occupied by her troops in the Mediterranean. The seven Islands are in future to be under the protection of the Ottoman Porte.

6th. The differences between Spain and England, as well as those between Russia and Rome, are to be settled in an amicable manner immediately, without the interference of the congress according to the decision of the respective Mediators.

7th. The differences between Spain and America are to be settled by the sole mediation of the Emperor of the French.

8th. The Emperor of Germany and Austria, and the King of Prussia, are by all parties acknowledged as Mediators.

9th. France promises for the future, during a Peace, to respect the Independence of those Kingdoms, States and Republics, evacuated by her troops, in consequence of the peace.

10th. As France allows the late grand master of Malta, Baron Hompesch, an annuity of 300,000 livres (12,000*l.*)—England is to assign and pay an equal and annual sum to the present Grand Master, who resigns his sovereignty over the Island of Malta to the King of Sardinia, whose heirs or descendants are for the future to be Hereditary Grand masters of the Maltese Order."

The Paris papers announce, with a degree of triumph, that the German Princes are successively breaking off their connections with the Cabinet of London, & that soon there will be no British Ambassadors accredited at the courts of Vienna and Berlin.

The Paris papers say that the Emperor has appointed the Generals of Divisions, Clerk and A. O'Connor, Commanders of the Legion of Honour. The General of Brigade, O'Neil, is made a member of the same Legion.

December 8.

Government have requested the King of Prussia to claim the papers seized by Bonaparte's banditti, in the house of Sir George Rumbold; and orders were in consequence sent, on the 20th November from Berlin to the Marquis Lucchese, the Prussian ambassador at Paris, demanding that every thing belonging to, or taken at the house of the English agent at Hamburg, should be returned. As it is hardly probable that the Marquis Lucchese could have received the orders of his Sovereign on the day when the Monitor was published that announces the intent of the revolutionary emperor, aggraving

his violation of the laws of nations, by making known the secrets of cabinets, which he had obtained in such illegal and outrageous manner; we may still hope, that these papers will be restored to their lawful owner.

Letters from Madrid, by the Lisbon mail, mention the following particulars, which evince the tyranny of the Corrican to be as great at Madrid as at Paris:—On the 6th of November the news of the capture of the Spanish frigates by our cruizers reached Madrid; and on the same day our minister, Mr. Frere, had a long conference with the Prince of Peace, who is said to have acknowledged the justice of the explanation given on our part, or, at least, of having consented to put off the final determination until further explanation was obtained from the Spanish ambassador at our court. On the 7th, in the evening, a French courier brought Bonaparte's charge d'affaires, M. de Vaudreuil, a note, which was delivered the next day. In the afternoon of that day the Prince of Peace invited Mr. Frere to another conference, when the language of this peaceful prince breathed nothing but war, or a demand of satisfaction, as impertinent to be asked on the part of Spain, as it would have been degrading on the part of England, if contended to. On the 9th, Mr. Frere had another conference, in which he was informed that the demands in the conference of the day before were the ultimatum of the Spanish court; he, therefore, on the 10th asked for his passet, which, as we have stated before, were sent to him on the 12th. The note delivered by the French charge d'affaires is said to have been written in such insolent and threatening language, as would have been unbecoming in an official correspondence between the usurper and one of his slavish prefects. Twenty four hours were only allowed the court of Madrid to determine between a rupture with England, or immediate war with France. Degraded as the Spaniards have become by their connections with revolutionary tyrants, this new insolence and humiliation, is reported to be severely felt by the proud Dons, who murmur loudly, and call for vengeance against the ignorant and contemptible favorite the Prince of Peace who has reduced them so low by his weakness, avarice, ambition and incapacity.

We understand that the public entre of lord G. L. Gower into St. Peterburgh, was one of the most splendid exhibitions of this kind ever witnessed in that city.—The moment his lordship's arrival at Cronstadt was known, his secretary of legation at St. Peterburgh, dispatched all his carriages to meet him, with the whole of his retinue. The carriages were six in number, each drawn by six horses, most elegantly caparisoned, and ornamented with ribbons, &c. and filled or attended by his numerous servants, in state liveries. The cavalcade entered St. Peterburgh at six o'clock in the evening, and his entry was announced by the ringing of bells and a discharge of artillery. The military were drawn up to receive him, and every street through which he passed shewed demonstrations of joy and satisfaction. These circumstances are of importance, as they prove the zealous friendship of the cabinet of St. Peterburgh for England, and the popular feeling in that city. His lordship and suite occupy the same noble Hotel in which his predecessor resided.

December 11.

Another experiment has been tried against the enemy.—On Saturday last lieutenant Stewart, a very skilful and active officer, was dispatched with an explosion vessel to destroy some of the works which have lately been erected at Calais to annoy our cruizers when close in shore—he carried the vessel in, in the middle of the night, placed her bowsprit right in between the piles of Fort Roux, or the crown battery, and made her fast with two graplines—the enemy were taken by surprise—at half past three in the morning the vessel blew up, knocked down the west end of the fort, and the platform giving way, the guns were precipitated down between the piles. Lieut. Stewart, and his brave comrades, after they had set fire to the vessel, returned on board the Monarch, without receiving the least injury.

A Gottenburgh mail has arrived this morning, by which we have confirmation of what was stated in accounts brought by the Hamburg mail, namely, an embargo upon Swedish ships in the ports of France. This measure is most probably the precursor of war between the two countries.

The most important article of intelligence brought by this mail is that the king of Sweden will go to St. Peterburgh to pass the winter. For this step we are unable to account; but whatever may be its object, it is important, inasmuch as it indicates an entire concert between Russia and Sweden.

We learn from Rome, that madame Bonaparte, the mother of the emperor, with her daughter Lucien, will not attend the coronation.

PARIS, November 27.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

Extract from the Registers of the Conservative Senate, Tuesday, November 6, 1804.

Napoleon, by the Grace of God, and the constitution of the Republic, Emperor of the French, to all whom these presents shall come, greeting:

The Senate having declared as follows:

SENATUS CONSULTUM.
"The Conservative Senate assembled, to the number prescribed by the 90th Article of the Constitution.