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THE TABLET.—No. XXXIX.

"Good citizens seldom have bad magistrates."

IN an elective government, men in office furnish a just portrait of the people, whose affairs they manage. A virtuous, enlightened nation has no substantial evils to fear from the bad management of its rulers. The representatives must bear the image of their constituents. Among a free people, it is not owing to the administration of bad men, that the State is not happy and flourishing. Those who attribute public misfortunes to the misconduct of a few individuals stop short of the mark.

When the people reproach their rulers it may with propriety be retorted upon them, and said, they are with greater propriety reproaching themselves. Because there are few instances where the people do not elect into office those men, whose opinions and manners are most likely to coincide with their own. It is not pretended that all men in public employment make the public good the main object of their views. The introduction of characters into public office, who are deficient both in knowledge and honesty, may easily happen, while those who elect them are destitute of either of those qualities. Ignorant rulers will not be countenanced by a sensible people; vicious rulers can only come from a vicious people. When by deception an improper person finds his way into authority, a change in the election will remove him before he can do much mischief.

The public opinion is the great hinge upon which public affairs must turn. Too much pains cannot therefore be taken to instruct the mass of the people in those sentiments and virtues which will lay the foundation of a just way of thinking and feeling. The government of a country may do much towards correcting the errors of the public mind, by a system of laws that militate as little as possible with natural justice and equity. Such laws by their operation will gradually lead people to an honest, industrious way of living. When this is produced, the popular sentiment will react upon the government and reform its abuses.

There is in every community a set of men, who make it their business to keep the people uneasy with their rulers. By exciting an indefinite kind of clamor, they prevent those calm and patient investigations which might reach the true source of disorders. Many motives prompt men to scrutinize and censure the conduct of public officers. Perhaps this propensity produces, upon the whole, more good than evil. But it would be equally beneficial, and better accord with truth, if the people would divide the blame with their rulers.

My neighbor TURBIDUS charges all the calamities, which he ever feels or sees, on the particular misconduct of persons in authority. He is an indolent, imprudent man, and therefore must be supposed poor and involved in debt, but he attributes his bad circumstances solely to the government. How can one, says he, have money to pay debts, when taxes run so high, and public officers have such enormous salaries? He loses more by idleness and neglect in one week, than the government exacts of him in taxes for a whole year. Is it not to be wondered at, that this same Mr. TURBIDUS makes many good sort of people, very unhappy and dissatisfied with public affairs? So lazy and worthless a fellow, one would imagine, could not have any influence in society. He is despised in every thing he says or undertakes, except when he is arraigning the measures of the government; and on this occasion he seems to acquire some degree of consequence. We should therefore restrain our proneness to listen to clamor, or we may be so accustomed to alarm, as to be off our guard when real danger approaches.

To FARMERS.

To the PHILADELPHIA COUNTY SOCIETY, for the Promotion of AGRICULTURE and DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is with pleasure I communicate an experiment I lately made, to discover the best method of raising young hogs: Having frequently been informed that pigs would thrive best to be turned into a good clover field with the sow, but which was never verified by my own observation, I was induced to make the following accurate experiment.

A sow two years old, of the English and Guinea breed, had seven pigs; at a month old, in a state proper to make good roasters, I selected three of the best and put them with the sow into a field of ten acres, very luxuriant with red and white clover, with some little timothy and blue grass; in short they could not be in better pasture, to this

they had the advantage of shade, a fine spring of water to drink or wallow in at pleasure, and the common wash of the kitchen; their weight when turned out was 11, 12 and 13 lb. the remaining four were put into a stable by themselves, they had plenty of clean straw and as much skimmed milk as they could drink, the weight of three of them was 9, 10 & 13 lb. the result of the experiment was, that in three weeks time from their being put up, those with the sow with all the advantages above-mentioned, and the milk of the seven, weighed 16, 17 and 19 lb. the three in the stable, 25, 22, and 19 lb. which together make 14 pounds weight in favor of the latter, to which we should also add the four pounds against them when first put up, which added make 18 lbs. superior to the former.

Our farmers, in general, are too negligent of their young stock of every kind, it is customary for them to suffer the mother and young to shift for themselves; all animals grow in the inverse ratio to their age, and therefore the younger they are, the more necessary to give them plenty of food, if you desire them to acquire the full growth of which their nature is capable. An animal stunted when young never thrives afterwards equal to those which have had justice done them. I am satisfied from a little experience, that a stricter attention to the raising of our cattle and stock of all kinds would give us a breed on our farms equal to any in the world, and would at the same time add greatly to our own wealth and that of our country.

I am Gentlemen,  
Your friend,  
GEORGE LOGAN.

Stenton, June 25, 1789.

To the PUBLIC in general, and the MANUFACTURERS of POT and PEARL-ASH in particular.

THE price of pot and pearl-ash for several years past has been much reduced, and does not afford the manufacturers a due compensation for their trouble, besides their being deprived of one half the profit that might be made of those ashes that are exported, called the second and third qualities. It is attended with a disadvantageous consequence to export any of them, or to let the English import any except of the first quality, as they have got into a method of refining salts and bad pot-ash in England of late, which has reduced the price of our first kind of ashes at least five pounds sterling pr. ton, besides the duty they demand of us. It is well known to be the greatest branch of manufacture that we have in the five northern States, and as the duty and freight are the same on the second and third as on the first quality, and we have works prepared for the purpose, and are ready to pay the cash for the second and third qualities, it behoves us in season to prevent foreigners from receiving three quarters of the profits of our most material cash article.

Newport, August 12, 1789.

WELLINGTON, (ENGLAND) JULY 23, 1788.

IT being now a wet season for hay, I request the following method may be recommended to farmers in general, in order to make their hay serviceable to their cattle, horses, &c. No person, whose hay has been out a long time, and received much damage thereby, should put it together before made dry, and the water quite out of it, and when putting together, take, to every three hundred weight of hay, one pound and a quarter of salt, and throw it into the rick, or hay-mow, as often as you well can, so that all the hay may receive the virtue from it. In the winter, the grazier will see the good effects, by the cattle, &c. liking the hay, and even giving it the preference to other. Wishing well to the public, is my motive.

N. W.

SKETCH OF PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

In the HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1789.

[Debate on the Amendment of the Senate to the Bill for providing for the expenses of Negotiations and Treaties with the Indians, &c.]

MR. BALDWIN observed, That the matter is left undetermined, whether the treaty with the Wabash nation is to be included in the provision as reduced by the Senate or not: If it is, according to the account given by the Governor of the Western Territory of the actual expenses attending treaties at which he has been present—it will fall very much short of what will be absolutely requisite to ensure the object, which the House appear to have in contemplation. He moved to amend the amendment, by adding these words, "for holding treaties with the Indians south of the Ohio."

Mr. SHERMAN said, that from information he had received, there was a large sum, forty thousand dollars, granted by the late Congress for the business of holding treaties, which has not been accounted for, and great part of which is now on hand: He supposed that the Senate had this in view when they made the amendment.

Mr. FITZSIMONS replied to Mr. Sherman, and observed, that there is some mistake respecting the gentleman's information on the subject before the house: In order therefore that they might act understandingly, and obtain an accurate state of facts, he moved that the amendment might lie on the table till to-morrow.

Mr. SEDGWICK said, when this business was before under consideration, I was surprized to find the majority of the house in favor of the sum then moved for, as The President in his message appeared to have in contemplation a treaty with the Creek nation only—and why we should exceed the sum necessary for that purpose, without any previous estimate, is to me perfectly incomprehensible: To vote a sum of money in this stage of the government, double to what is necessary for the immediate object, and when the circumstances of our Treasury are such, that we cannot make any provision for the public creditors, is a very extraordinary appropriation: It very rarely happens that a government exceeds in economy—the sum in the amendment will be amply sufficient—and if we were to vote the largest sum, we have reason to suppose that the business would be protracted till the whole is expended.—I hope the house will concur with the Senate.

Mr. SUMPTER was in favor of a concurrence, as he thought that 20000 dollars would be fully competent to the object.

Mr. MADISON replied to Mr. Sedgwick: He controverted his sentiment with respect to economy, as applied to States—he doubted the assertion that government may not exceed in the practice of it—and he was not sure that in the present instance it would not eventually appear, that unnecessary additional expence was incurred by too great caution not to exceed in the grant: He seconded Mr. Fitzsimons' motion to defer the decision till to-morrow.

Mr. BOUDINOT was opposed to the motion—It is a principle with me (said he) from which I do not mean to deviate, that in all our appropriations we ought to have special regard to the state of the treasury.—What estimate have we to shew that so large a sum as 40,000 dollars is necessary for this business? I presume none.—The number of Indians to be provided for, is much beyond the number requisite to give the treaties all possible validity: In the former discussion of this subject, the gentleman from South-Carolina (Mr. Sumpter) fully convinced me that so large a number is quite unnecessary.—We ought to consider upon this occasion, that such large grants will influence in future appropriations.—If the sum mentioned in the amendment should be found insufficient, the PRESIDENT will give us notice accordingly, and the deficiency may be supplied—but if we appropriate a sum that is more than sufficient in the present state of our treasury, we shall find that we subject ourselves to very great inconveniences, and cannot justify such a step. I am of opinion that 20,000 dollars will be found fully sufficient with what is now on hand: I hope therefore, that we shall not agree to the motion for postponement—the time fixed for holding the treaty is the fifteenth of September, that is fast approaching: What would be the consequence should the warriors return home after appearing on the ground, and not find the commissioners there to meet them?—To lose a single day, may be attended with fatal effects.

Mr. LAURANCE was in favour of the motion for postponement: He wished, he said, that accurate information may be obtained, respecting several circumstances which had been mentioned: Time must be allowed for this; and by to-morrow the house may be in possession of such facts as will enable them to act more understandingly in the business. I trust Sir, said he, that I am as averse as any member in this house, to taking money profusely, or unnecessarily out of the public purse; but this is an important subject: The house appear to be fully sensible of this, and therefore making such provisions as may be commensurate to the object in the first instance, is the most likely way to ensure that object, and will turn out to be the most saving method in the end.

The motion for postponement being put, was negatived.

Mr. BALDWIN's motion to insert the words south of the Ohio was then taken up.

Mr. SCOTT: It may perhaps be wondered at, Mr. Chairman, that as I live upon the frontiers, and may be supposed to know something of the