

WILMINGTON GAZETTE.

THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

PUBLISHED (WEEKLY) BY ALLMAND HALL.—TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1804.

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THE Subscribers to the Wilmington Gazette are informed that on the 31st of December ensuing, the 8th year's subscription will become due, and that their accounts will be brought up to that period, and presented for payment. Those who live at a distance, are solicited to inclose the amount they owe (which will shortly be made known to them) by post.

After the first of January, 1805, subscription to the Gazette will be Three Dollars a Year, if paid in advance, or Four Dollars, payable as usual.

Advertisements will be inserted, as usual, at 75 cents a square for the first week, and 50 cents a square for each continuance.

A discount of 25 per cent. will be made to subscribers who advertise by the year.

To those who are acquainted with the labour and expences of newspaper printing and the present enormous rate of living in Wilmington, I would presume it unnecessary to say any thing on the propriety of this alteration in the terms of subscription; to others, however, it may be proper to observe, that the present expence of printing and circulating the Gazette, is at the lowest computation 1200 Dollars a year, (exceeding by one third its original expence) which must be paid in actual cash; and to meet this demand there is a subscription of but 1500 dollars, from which may be deducted at least 25 per cent. for bad debts—hence it is evident that the present proceeds are unequal to the imbursements. To sustain the Gazette on such terms, would be unwise in its proprietor, and could not be desired by its patrons.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge myself indebted to those of my subscribers and other customers who have been punctual and honest in their dealings; but I cannot agree with a certain honorable writer, that I am under obligations to those who refuse to pay after being indulged for several years, or to those who under specious promises of payment, ungenerously withhold from me the rewards of from three to eight years labour.

The Gazette will be continued to its present subscribers, on the proposed terms, unless countermanded by the first of January next.

Subscriptions are taken by the year only (except transient persons) and an order to discontinue the Gazette after the commencement of a new year, cannot be complied with until the end of that year.

ALLMAND HALL.

Printing-Office, Nov. 6, 1804.

The Wilmington Subscription Races

WILL commence on Thursday the 22d of November next, free for any horse, mare or gelding, as follows:

1st day—three mile heats, the best two of three—three years old hags to carry 86lb; four years old do. 100lb; five years old do. 114lb; six years old do. 124lb; seven years old do. 130lb; two years old do. catches.

2d day—Two mile heats, as above.

3d day—One mile heats—carrying catches.

The first day's purse is two thirds of a subscription of about 640 dollars; the second day's purse is the remaining one third thereof; and the last day's purse, or sweepstake, is the Entrance money of the three days' racing; which is—15 dollars for the first day, 10 dollars for the second day, and 4 dollars for the 3d day.

Wilmington, October 29, 1804.

THE Subscribers to the Wilmington Races are informed that the original subscription is deposited with the subscriber for the purpose of collection. The period for paying the same has already elapsed—it became due on the 1st inst. Those who do not wish their names returned to the winner's immediately after the Races, for the purpose of being legally compelled to perform a contract which they have voluntarily entered into, must pay their subscriptions before that period.

ALLMAND HALL.

Wilmington, October 29, 1804.

Will be Sold.

Under the Court-House in Wilmington, On Thursday the Fifteenth of November next, A Tract of Land,

SITUATED on the East side of Long-Creek, at the Bridge, containing Six Hundred and Thirty-eight Acres or thereabouts, with the improvements thereon.—ALSO, one other Tract adjoining the aforesaid tract, containing Five Hundred Acres or thereabouts, with the improvements thereon, known by the name of the Mulberry Plantation.—ALSO, two Tracts on the West side of Long-Creek, adjoining Timothy Bludworth, Esqrs. land, containing Six Hundred and Forty Acres each—to satisfy sundry executions in my hands against William Bludworth.

JOHN ALLAN, Coroner.
Wilmington, Sept. 7, 1804.

ALLMAND HALL HAS FOR SALE,

THE FOLLOWING

BOOKS & STATIONARY.

Wilmington, Nov. 6, 1804.

- HUTTON's Logarithms
- Conic Sections
- Simpson's do.
- Elements of Euclid
- Reid's Essays on the intellectual and Active Powers of Man
- Stewart's Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind
- Priestley's Lectures on History and General Policy
- Goldsmith's Natural History
- Gordon's History of the American Revolution
- Jefferson's Notes on Virginia
- The Life of Robert Lord Clive
- Zimmerman on Solitude
- Oldcastle's Remarks on the History of England
- Brydon's Tour through Sicily and Malta
- British Antiquities
- Wallace's ancient Peetages
- The Spectator
- Johnston's Rambler
- The Minstrel, or Anecdotes of distinguished Personages in the 15th Century
- State Trials
- Somerville's Political Transactions
- Spirit of Despotism
- Morse's Universal Geography
- Universal Gazetteer, the latest edition
- Nicholson's Navigator
- Hamilton Moore's Epitome
- The Seaman's Daily Assistant
- The American Coast Pilot
- The North-American Pilot, being a collection of Sixty accurate Charts and Plans
- The American Practical Navigator
- Charts—General, English Channel, Coast of Spain and Portugal, Cayenne, Barb and River of Cape-Fea, &c. &c.
- Cape Fear Pilot
- English Grammars
- Latin do.
- Horace—Virgil—Cornellii Nepos—& Clark's Sallust
- Schrevelii Lexicon
- Ovid's Metamorphoses
- Young's Latin and English Dictionary
- French Prosodical Grammar
- Chambrault's French and English Exercises
- Family Bibles,
- School do.
- Testaments and Psaltars
- Brown's Concordance
- Whitfield's Life
- Blair's Sermons
- Watts's Thoughts
- The Christian's Guide
- Church Government
- Large and Small Prayer Books
- Psalms & Hymns, elegant and common
- Sacramental Directory
- A Treatise on the Sanctification of the Lord's Day
- Sacramental Catechism
- Origin of Evil
- American Preceptor
- Lee's American Accountant
- Scott's Lessons
- Frazer's Assistant
- School Master's Assistant
- Spelling-Books
- New-England Primers
- Cavalry Discipline
- Songster's Magazine
- Tale of the Times
- Charlotte Temple
- Eggar Boy
- Force of Quality
- Adelaide de Sancerre
- Perplexities
- Robinson Crusoe
- Theodore Cyphos
- George Barnwell
- The Infidel Father
- Ortenburgh Family
- A Collection of Hymns and Spiritual Songs, for the Methodist Society.
- A variety of Political and other Pamphlets
- Graydon's Digest of the Laws of the United States
- Martin's Duty of Executors and Administrators
- Martin's Justice,
- A complete Revisal of the Laws of North-Carolina, to 1803
- Haywood's Reports
- Taylor's do.
- Evans's Essays
- Latch's Cases
- Fitzherbert's Natura Brevium
- Pothier on Obligations
- Gilbert's Distresses
- Proctor's Practice of Law
- Hunter on the Blood
- A Treatise on the Plague and Yellow-Fever, Edinburgh Pharmacopoeia.
- A variety of Blank Books
- All kinds of Shipping, and other Blanks
- Paper—Thick post folio—thin do.—quarto post—foolscap—Pott, and Blotting.
- Wafers, red and black Sealing Wax, Shining Sand, Ink-Powder of the best quality, Pounce, Pencils, best Dutch Quills, &c. &c.

FROM THE AURORA.

SPANISH AGGRESSIONS.

No. IV.

The second proposition of the letter from Madrid, that Spain conquered the country east of the Mississippi in 1780, and was confirmed in the possession by the peace of 1783, may be admitted in its fullest latitude; but what does this prove; does this conquest from the British, (by the bye with the aid of Americans) shew that the French did not previously possess that country? Does it prove what were or what were not the boundaries of Louisiana, under the French? In a word does it prove any one fact upon which the question of the limits of Louisiana at all depends?

The first argument of this proposition is, that all those countries before 1712, were all called Florida. That Crozat gave the name of Louisiana to part of the country, the limits of which never have been accurately defined to this hour—That France possessed the countries of Louisiana and Florida until the secret convention of Pardo, of November, 1762, when she conveyed to Spain a part of those countries, on both sides of the Mississippi, and that the remainder was by the 7th article of the treaty of 1763, ceded to Great-Britain; and that Spanish force combined with an American force, expelled the British in 1780.

This is the whole value of the proposition, it neither settles limits nor defines the extent of one or another territory—it could amount to nothing, it would amount to more than is pretended to be asked, for while the British possessed the Floridas during our revolution, they did not confine themselves to the provincial boundaries which they had originally fixed in 1763, but extended their rule over the country as far as Natchez; and called that West Florida, which had before been known by the name of Florida, in common with Louisiana, and by the name of Louisiana, after it had been granted to Crozat and settled by him.

The question then wholly depends upon a correct examination of the import and value of the third proposition of the Madrid letter—which is to be found more fully expressed in this paragraph:

"In 1768, we (Spain) conquered from Great-Britain all the country east of the Mississippi, then divided into E. and W. Florida, which conquests were confirmed to us by the definitive treaty of peace of 1783. It is here to be observed that West Florida, has ever since retained that name, and formed no part of Louisiana, as originally ceded by France to Spain; but having been conquered by the latter, it remained a separate government as when under the dominion of England, and independent of Louisiana, in possession of a Governor appointed by the Crown, who was in a certain degree as well as the Governor of Louisiana, dependant on the Governor of Havana."

This article merits discussion. And the first question to be examined is, whether the incidents of a war, the capture of a country, a temporary retention and a subsequent expulsion, of any power can give validity to the acts of the invader after his expulsion? The import of the third proposition depends upon the affirmative. But what are the real merits? Britain had taken possession of the country of Florida; with a view to the annoyance of Spain, newly embarked in the war of our revolution, and to create such a diversion of our force on the south, as would weaken our resistance towards the centre of the Union. Spain had with us then a common interest; she had Cuba and her part of St. Domingo to protect against the cruizers of the British, which hovered in the bays of Apalachee and Mobile; she had to protect her frontier of Mexico from British ambition; and we had to cooperate in self defence with an ally become of some importance to us from the hostility which she had experienced from our common enemy. By common efforts we succeeded, and it no longer became a consideration whether the convenience which had dictated the peace of '63, and the secret cession of 1762, still prevailed or not; it was not for the name of the country, but its possession, the ousting of the British was made; and that the country should during the remainder of the war, do no more than adopt the system of government practised by their predecessors was in the ordinary nature of things so unfertile.

That the peace of 1783 transferred the Floridas to Spain, we apprehend does not

alter the nature of the case, which does not at all depend upon the peace of 1763, nor upon any measure or event subsequent thereto. The convenience of the belligerent powers might adopt new limits or bestow new names at discretion on territories uninhabited by civilized man, but these new and temporary regulations, always subject to the mutation of fortune, cannot be urged against a definite principle established upon a pre-existing state of those countries; and which those subsequent changes, never constant nor consistent in themselves, could neither alter nor abrogate.

Spain, by the joint operation of her own force and ours, came into possession of the whole of Florida and Louisiana, according to its ancient limits. As parties in the war, France and the United States consented to her possession of those territories; but that consent neither altered the pre-existing facts, with relation to the original possession by France; nor did it prevent Spain from re-occupying Florida with Louisiana, had Spain chosen so to have done.

These considerations then lead to the true ground, or that upon which possession of Louisiana was made by Spain to France, the terms of which are—"the colony or province of Louisiana, with the same extent that it actually has in the hands of Spain, that it had when France possessed it." These words, it should be particularly remembered, are the words of the treaty of St. Ildefonso of the 1st October, 1800, concluded between Spain and France, which was confirmed and enforced by another treaty, of the 21st of March, 1801; and under the operation of these treaties, it was that France transferred the sovereignty of Louisiana to us, and in the express words, "Louisiana with the same extent as it had when France possessed it," it is our right to claim, and to maintain it, which, by the help of God, we trust our government are determined to do.

The question then would seem to be what was the extent of Louisiana when France possessed it?

A slight knowledge only of the enmities and jealousies which prevailed for 30 years before our revolution, between the rival powers of France and England, is required to be able to arrive at a correct opinion on this subject. The French had formed a very splendid project of empire, which was to embrace the whole range of our western lakes from Canada to the Mississippi. The British perpetually cavilled at the French inroads on their territory; and their disputes and stratagems to circumvent each other, were incessant until the conquest of Canada by the British annihilated the hopes of France in that quarter; only to leave their successors in pursuit of the illusions which France had raised to captivate their ambition.

The French described their boundary of Canada, by a line drawn along the western waters through the south west angle of lake of Huron, thence into Michigan, and thence down the Illinois to the Mississippi; comprehending all to the westward in Canada.

The negotiations of M. Buffy and Mr. Pitt on this subject in 1761, exhibit a disgusting picture of political wickedness, and considering what has since happened, the folly of both negotiations—and nations!

However these documents and the papers of M. Vandreuil and Governor Powell, place the question concerning "the extent of Louisiana when France possessed it," out of all question.

The French minister in his first general memoir, proposed that all which did not belong to Canada should appertain to Louisiana; and that Louisiana should be considered as extending to the frontier of Virginia.

The British minister, on the other hand, declares he cannot submit to this; that only what lies west of the Illinois, but what lies west of the Ohio, shall be Canada! Nay more; that some other countries, (as described but by the word *intermediale*) shall form a neutral barrier, "even admitting them to have been previously included in Louisiana."

The French minister gave in his ultimatum on the 17th August, followed by a note on the 18th. In which he agreed to the proposition concerning a neutral intermediate territory "between Canada and Louisiana, as also between Virginia and Louisiana;" and fixed the boundary of Louisiana at the river Perdido.

The British minister, however, rejected this proposition, and upon this extraord-