

figure, distinctly, in its proper shape; it produced however no other emotions but that kind of submissiveness which Physiognomists tell us is the expression on the countenance of a certain mental sensation, which I do not chide to name, and never fails of producing that effect.

With due respect, I am sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. ST. CLAIR.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 14.
Extract of a letter from Gibraltar, dated on board the U. States frigate John Adams, Dec. 4, to a gentleman in this city.

We arrived here the 30th November, to take in provisions for Commodore Morris, who is at Malta. We shall stop at Malta, and go up in company with the Conchellion. All our Squadron except the Adams, Campbell, winter at Malta, and we all live in hopes, that by the arrival of Spring, the Commodore will make an attack on Tripoli. Yesterday a store ship arrived in 24 days from New-York.

January 17.

From Cape-Francois.

By the Breeder, Lust, arrived here on Saturday, we have received very late advices from Cape-Francois. On the 23d of last month, a French brig, with a 165 troops on board arrived there from Brest. By this vessel they received information, that 20,000 men were in readiness at Brest to embark for St. Domingo, 10,000 of whom were to be ordered to Louisiana in case their services should not be required here. A merchant in Amsterdam wrote to his partner at the Cape, that he had received payment for the French government, Bills drawn by Le Clerc, at 7 per cent. discount. This news had a great effect at the Cape: and government Bills, which before were sold at 25 per cent. loss for goods, &c. were not to be had at 15 per cent. discount for each or 10 in exchange for merchandize. But it was expected that they would soon depreciate, as the government is continually emitting bills.

A circumstance took place at the Cape, about the beginning of December, which excited much uneasiness among the American merchants. The General in Chief, in want of money, levied the sum of 32,000 dollars on the merchants, and ordered the chamber of-commerce to assess the proportion. This chamber consists of French merchants, who accordingly divided the sum to be paid by themselves and the American merchants, but so unequally, that four American houses, viz. Messrs. Dodge, D'Arcy & Stevenson, Hiller and Williams, & Dawson, were taxed 1000 dollars each, and the other merchants from 5 to 800 dolls. not one of the French paying more than from 2 to 500. Those who paid their contribution received a receipt, to be repaid in cash in one month, or to be received for duties accruing thereafter. But there were many delinquents; in consequence of which Gen. Rochambeau issued a proclamation, declaring that all those who should neglect to comply with the aforesaid exactions for 24 hours should be arrested, their stores closed, and themselves dispatched to France. This compelled compliance in many. After three days, the general ordered that those who had persisted in disobeying his orders, should be arrested. Accordingly, in the course of that night, Messrs. Dodge, Stevenson, Carty and Tracy, American merchants, together with about 15 French, were seized and thrown into prison. They were here told, that unless they complied, they should be embarked on board a ship of war, and their property publicly sold. Preparations for executing these threats were actually made, when the friends of the prisoners paid the stipulated amount, and they were released.

In consequence of the foregoing occurrences, a general meeting of the American merchants had been held for the purpose of petitioning for redress. But it was believed the measure would be fruitless.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 22.

Copy of a letter, dated Cape-Francois, December 26, 1802, to a mercantile gentleman of this city, communicated to the editors of the American for publication.

Dear Sir,

An occurrence took place a few days since, in the Cape, which no doubt will cause much noise and alarm in the United States. In order to remove any unfavorable ideas with which exaggerated reports of this event may have impressed your mind, we beg leave to lay before you a concise and impartial relation of the facts, which if you judge expedient, you have our permission to make public.

The low state of the finances, little augmented by the reduced revenue arising from the declining commerce

of the colony, rendered it necessary, in order to meet the current expenses of the army, to anticipate by way of loan. To effect this, the general in chief called in three French merchants, from whom he demanded 37,000 dollars, for which he offered bonds on the treasury, payable in the course of the following month, either in cash or to be taken in compensation for duties; and the proof of his good faith in the present instance, is, that those who have had duties to pay, have been already reimbursed in that way, although it is but fifteen days since the loan was made. These merchants, as little versed in the science of finance, as they are ignorant of the dispositions of mankind, instead of convening the merchants, and opening a voluntary subscription, by which easy and simple means double the amount demanded would have been subscribed in half an hour, arbitrarily took upon themselves to tax each individual with the sum they thought fit, and demanded it in a peremptory manner. The necessity of the measure being obvious, many, although they disapproved of the mode of levying, immediately complied; others, for reasons best known to themselves, absolutely refused. The general in chief, after having given repeated notifications, during the space of twelve days, that vigorous measures would be resorted to in case of non-compliance, thought proper to enforce his measures, by ordering to prison four American and three French merchants, where they remained one night, and were liberated the next day on paying the sum demanded. In the present, as in every other instance that has come under our observation, foreigners have had no more reason to complain of this government than its own citizens. It is true, that a few obscure intriguers have continually held us up as objects of jealousy, but their measures are only calculated to defeat their object; and in our opinion, the persons and property of foreigners in this country, do now and will continue to enjoy as much security as they ever have done.

We remain sir,
With respect,
Your most obedient humble servant,

Taylor & Alexander,
Hillen & Williams.

WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 20.

Arrived in this city, AARON BURR, Vice-President of the United States.

JAMES MUNROE, Envoy Extraordinary to Madrid and Paris.

The following Report has been agreed to in the House of Representatives.

That between the latitude thirty-five, which is the southern boundary claimed by North-Carolina, and the northernmost boundary of Georgia, as settled by a convention between that state and South-Carolina, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, there intervenes a tract of country supposed to be about twelve miles wide, from North to South, and extending in length, from the top of the main ridge of mountains which divides the eastern from the western waters to the Mississippi. This tract, consequently remained within the limits of South-Carolina; and in the year 1787 it was ceded by the state of South-Carolina, to the United States, who accepted the cession.

On the eastern extremity of this tract immediately at the foot of the main ridge of mountains above mentioned, are situated the people whose petition is now under consideration.

By the articles of agreement and cession entered into on the 24th day of April, 1802, between the commissioners appointed on the part of the United States, by virtue of an act entitled "An act for an amicable settlement of limits with the state of Georgia, and authorizing the establishment of a government in the Mississippi Territory," and of the act supplementary to the last mentioned act, on the one part; and the commissioners appointed on the part of the state of Georgia by virtue of an act entitled "An act to carry the twentieth section of the first article of the constitution into effect," and of the act to amend the last mentioned act on the other part.

The United States in the second article of agreement and cession, cede to the state of Georgia whatever claim, right or title they may have to the jurisdiction or soil of any lands lying within the United States, and out of the proper boundaries of any other state, and situated south of the southern boundaries of the states of Tennessee,

North-Carolina and South-Carolina, and east of the Eastern boundary of the territory ceded by Georgia to the United States. This cession made by the United States to the state of Georgia, includes the residence of the petitioners. The committee are therefore of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners cannot be granted.

At a stated meeting of the American Philosophical Society held at their hall, Jan. 7th 1803. The following persons were duly elected officers.

President—Thomas Jefferson,
Vice-Presidents—R. Patterson,
Caspar Weller,
Benj. Smith Barton.

Secretaries—Adam Seybert,
John R. Coxe,
Thomas C. James,
Tho's T. Hewson.

Counsellors for 3 years.

Jonathan Williams,
Andrew Ellicot,
Samuel Magaw,
Nicholas Collin,

Counsellors for 2 years.

Tench Coxe.
Curators—Charles W. Peale,
Robert Leslie,
William S. Jacobs.

Treasurer—John Vaughan.

January 26.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Lancaster, dated Jan. 19, 1803.

"Mr. Dillas has been speaking all this morning, on judge Addison's impeachment; he will probably speak all to-morrow. The judge's case appears to be desperate. I think a conviction and removal inevitable."

Extract of a letter to Dr. MITCHELL, January 8, 1803.

SIR,

I see by the prints that you have laid on the table a resolution for repealing the law respecting copy right. As the subject is coming before the legislature, I take the liberty of suggesting to you and all the friends of letters, the propriety of extending the rights of literary property, and placing them on the footing of all other species of personal estate. It may seem strange at a first thought, that the property which a man acquires by purchase or by labour of the hands, should be exclusively his own and inheritable,

while the productions of the mind, which require equal exertion, and have the most peculiar characters of property should be secured to the author for a limited time only. Yet the fact is not of difficult solution. The common law originated in periods of barbarism, before the invention of printing, when books were all written with pens, and it was not easy nor profitable to trespass on the author's right—an author was also secured from trespass by the fewness of purchasers. Hence it has been considered, that if I mistake not, adjudged, that by common law the rights of an author are not secured. The truth is, the common law could never contemplate a species of property that did not come under its cognizance; but on natural and social principles, a man's right to his book and his farm stands on precisely the same ground, and I have no hesitation in saying that the common law ought to secure the one as well as the other. The common principles of justice, on which all common law is founded, ought, the moment literary property becomes an object of plunder and a subject of trespass, to interpose and protect that species of right as well as all others; and I beg leave to say it is a remarkable proof of the imperfect ideas of law and property, as well as of the force of attachment to the remains of barbarism, that any difference still exists in the duration of the different kinds of rights. Why should a piece of land, or cattle, horses and books purchased, descend to a man's heirs, while the work of his genius, in which, above all other property, he has the most exclusive ownership, is secured to him and his heirs for 14 years only—or in case he survives the first period, then for another term of 14 years? And why the distinction between a man's surviving that period, and his decease?—Why, if he unfortunately dies, within the period, must his widow and children be deprived of the fruits of his labor, at the very time when, by his death, they are placed in a condition to want them most? In truth, we have copied the British statute—a statute that was made when literary property was in its infancy, and when its principles were not well understood nor appreciated. Surely policy ought to dictate a more liberal extension of ownership in this species of property; but I place the argument on right. I claim and demand, that my property as the fruits of my studies may be placed on the same ground as every other kind of personal property or chattels—that it may be secured to me and to my heirs and assigns, without limitation of time. When I say I claim it, I speak only as

a citizen entitled to equal justice and protection with all others, not as making demands on Congress. I hope you will consider this subject, and that the legislature will wipe away the reproach of making a discrimination where no difference of principle exists; and of having one class of citizens with partial protection, for reason and an enlightened view of public policy forbid the distinction.

I am, Sir, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

A Holder of Literary Property.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 25.

A Medical View of the 90 days Subterraneous Residence of the Person who lately made an attempt on the South-Carolina Bank.—Extracted from Dr. David Ramsay's Charleston Medical Register for 1802, just published.

On the night of the 9th of October, 1802, William Withers, a horse dealer from Kentucky, descended through a grate into one of the covered arch drains that pervade the streets of Charleston, and passed along the same, till he was opposite to the South-Carolina Bank. He then began operations to make a subterraneous passage across from the drain to the vaults, in which the cash of the Bank was deposited. In prosecuting this business, he passed ninety days and nights underground, and in a prone posture. For the first twenty-two days after his descent, it was so uncommonly warm, as to be on an average nearly seventy-nine. For the last sixty-eight days, the heat varied from seventy-four to thirty-three. In the first period, yellow fever, intermitting, and other fevers of warm seasons, were common among the inhabitants. In the last period, pleurisy, colds and catarrhal complaints, were, in like manner, frequent; yet, all this time, Withers enjoyed good health, with exceptions of a few slight head-aches and pains in his bones, which generally went off with perspiration in the course of his next repose. His situation, in the drain, was distressing; but it was tolerable after passing through it, he was surrounded with earth. He had no blanket, nor covering of any kind, but his light ordinary apparel, which he never put off. His usual time of sleeping was, when he judged it to be day from the noise he heard over his head. His signal for recommencing work was the receipt of provisions, dropt by his accomplices, in the night, through a grate. He was some time exposed to serious danger from the springing of water; and his bed was earth, which was often damp. His food was mostly bread, butter, and cheese, and (with the exception of one bottle of wine) water was his only drink. Butter burning in a lamp afforded him light. Three days frequently passed without discharging the contents of his bowels.

The enjoyment of so much health, for so long a time, under such circumstances, was, in part probably owing to the following causes:

1. A strong constitution, inured to hardships in every period of his life.
2. That constitution suited to the air of Charleston, by a very recent seasoning. He had but just recovered from a severe fever, when he entered the drain. Though relapses are not uncommon, yet a new and distinct fever scarcely ever attacks in the same summer, in which they receive their first serious impressions from our climate.
3. The effects of moisture, must have been in a great degree parried by his labour, and the moisture itself moderated by the dry sandy nature of the soil, through which he had to work, & by the absence of rain: For the first fifty days after his descent, the whole quantity of rain that fell, did not amount to two-tenths of an inch; and in the last forty, was only five inches eight-tenths; besides simple moisture, without heat, or miasmata, is comparatively harmless.
4. The absence of several of the exciting causes of diseases. The heat of well water, and of the earth, a few feet below the surface, is generally the same in all countries, as the medium heat on an average of the different seasons in these countries respectively. This, in Charleston, is sixty-five or at most sixty-six on Fahrenheit's thermometer. Withers must have enjoyed a steady unvarying atmosphere of this temperature, while the inhabitants above ground were panting under a heat of eighty, or distressed with the cold of thirty-three, and subject to all the changes of an atmosphere, vibrating from one extreme to the other. That something in the air of Charleston, which is so destructive to strangers in the summer, and autumn, is too volatile to descend below the surface. Miners, and colliers in all countries are generally healthy. The experiment is not recommended; but it is probable, that a Subterranean residence might be so constructed, as to afford security against our local diseases.

The great excitement of Withers,

mind from the prospect of accumulating wealth, must have counteracted the effects, that otherwise would naturally have resulted from his situation. The energies of human nature, when in pursuit of a great object, (especially if invigorated with the hope of obtaining it) are beyond all calculation. The weakly wife and tender mother, will undergo watchings and fatigues in nursing the objects of their affection, far beyond the power of human nature to bear, when in a state of indifference. The high toned state of Withers' mind must have had a decided influence in preserving his health: It is much to be regretted that it was not excited by worthy objects.

Jan. 18.

A letter received from Havre, dated 15th, November, states, that port has been made a free port, where all kinds of goods can be landed for exportation. Colonial produce, particularly sugars, were in demand, and rising daily; white Havana was from 105 to 110 francs per cwt; brown, 75 to 77; that an article deserving attention is upland cotton, which sells at 34 and 35 cents per pound; any quantity will meet with a ready sale, the demand being very great; duty being 34 sous per hundred; the 100 lbs. is equal to 108 lbs. Carolina weight.

January 10.

On Monday last the trials of William Weathers and William Butler came on in the court of sessions, charged with an attempt to rob the South-Carolina bank. As no person lived in the bank house, the attorney general could only indict them as a misdemeanour. The trial took up upwards of eight hours; the jury remained out for a considerable time on Monday night, and yesterday morning returned a verdict of William Weathers, guilty; William Butler, not guilty. We understand that an arrest of judgment will be moved in favor of Weathers, on the ground that the verdict is contrary to law.

Abner Robinson, who was apprehended on suspicion of being an accomplice, was discharged, nothing having appeared against him on which an indictment could be grounded.

PETERSBURG, January 28.

Mr. Monroe's appointment has been confirmed by the senate. It appears he is to have full powers to treat at Madrid and at Paris, in conjunction with our present ministers at those places. The following is the state of the votes in the senate of the United States on this nomination:

Yeas—Anderson, Baldwin, Bradley, Brackenridge, Clinton, Cocke, Ellery, T. Foster, Franklin, Jackson, Logan, Nicholas, Sumpter, Stone, Wright, 15.

Nays—Dayton, D. Foster, Hillhouse, Howard, J. Mason, Morris, Ogden, Olcott, Plumer, Tracy, Wells, White, 12. [Aurora.]

FOR SALE by

Joshua Potts,

WILMINGTON, Feb. 3, 1803.

TOBACCO,	COFFEE,
FLOUR,	PEACH BRANDY,
SAWED LUMBER,	APPLE BRANDY,
COTTON,	LARD,
BUTTER,	TALLOW,
26 puncheons of RUM, from St. Lucia,	20 Hhds. SUGAR,
	Spirits of TURPENTINE,

Two new Moses Boats.

Just imported,

And to be sold at reasonable prices for Cash or Produce.

BARBADOES, Moselle, Rat, and St. Croix } RUM
Sugar in hhd. and barrels,
Coffee in barrels and bags,
Surinam Molasses,
Russia Iron, by the ton or cwt.
N. E. Rum, &c.

JOEJIN, GAUTIER, & Co.
December 30.

Sheriff's Sales.

On the Tenth Day of March next, WILL BE SOLD

Under the Court-House in this town.

TWO valuable Lots of Ground; one situated on the east side of Front-Street, adjoining John Martin and Dr. De Rossett; the other on the west side of said street, just below Mr. John Bradley's white house and adjoining Major John Walker's Lot, on the wharf—the property of John Blakely, deceased; to satisfy sundry executions to me directed.

ALSO,

A House & Lot on Third-Street, the property of Michael Kenan, deceased, to satisfy an execution, the Executor of Hugh Campbell, deceased, vs. said Kenan.

WM. BLUDWORTH, Sheriff.
Wilmington, Jan. 27.