

The North-Carolina Gazette; OR THE EDENTON INTELLIGENCER.

WEDNESDAY, December 19, 1787

[VOL. I.]

WHERE LIBERTY DWELLS, THERE IS MY COUNTRY.

To the Friends of Science.

It has been the universal wish, that the public might be furnished with an accurate Geographical and Topographical Grammar of the United States.

Geographers of foreign countries, not being possessed of the proper materials, and not equally interested in this part of their subject, have filled their accounts of these states with numerous inaccuracies. It is time that these inaccuracies were corrected. We are independent of Great Britain, and are no longer to look up to her for a description of our own country.

Several gentlemen of abilities have a detached piece, gratified the public with simple and accurate descriptions of several parts of the United States; but no collective description of the whole has been attended, except in a small duodecimo volume published by the subscriber 1780, which though imperfect, on the account of the infant state of geographical knowledge in America, was well received by a candid public, and an edition of 500 copies speedily sold.

This encouragement has determined him to publish again on the same subject. For the purpose of collecting more ample and accurate materials than he formerly possessed, he has travelled through all the states, and has been favoured with the communication of gentlemen well qualified to give information on so important a subject; and has likewise established a correspondence with several respectable characters in different states, from whom he has every reason to expect a valuable addition to the materials already collected; yet as all the information that may be obtained on a subject so extensive, varied and interesting, is greatly to be desired, and every man of science may have it in his power to contribute some observations which may be useful, the subscriber will feel himself particularly obliged to any gentleman who will be so kind as to furnish him with answers to all or any of the annexed enquiries: viz.

1. The boundaries and extent of the several states, and the latitudes and longitudes of the principal places.
2. Description of the rivers, their sources, courses, lengths, how far navigable, how high does the tide rise and what fish do they produce.
3. A description of mountains, lakes, harbours, capes and bays.
4. General face of the country, an account of its animal, mineral and vegetable productions, or its natural history.—What are the evidences to support the opinion that the flat country in the southern and middle states was formerly occupied by the waters of the ocean, and that the land below the hills and mountains has been made since the flood.

4. Natural and artificial curiosities, caverns, caltades, &c.

5. State of commerce, manufactures and agriculture, exports and imports, balance of trade. The number of vessels which annually enters at the custom-houses on the several sea-ports of the United States.

6. Civil divisions of the several states, the number of names of the several districts, counties and towns, their extent, latitude and longitude, number of inhabitants, and distance bearing from the capital of the state. Particular description of the principal towns are requested.

7. Population—from whence are emigrations; to what places, and how numerous. Of what nations are inhabitants of the state composed, or whence originated a proportion of the slaves.

8. Climate, diseases and their causes, longevity of the inhabitants, what proportion die in infancy.

9. Religion, number of churches of different denominations; by what method the offices of religion are supported.

10. State of the practice of the physic.

11. State of the sciences, the liberal sciences and humanity.

12. State of literature, colleges, academies, schools and their funds.

13. Characters, who have distinguished themselves in the late war by their patriotism.

14. An estimate of the damages sustained in the late war in the several states.

15. A description of the adjacent islands.

16. Manners, customs, diversions, and dress.

17. Constitution, policy, general account of law; what political principles predominate in the several states.

18. Military and marine strength.

19. Public revenue and expences, mode of levying taxes.

20. Indians, their tribes, their languages, numbers, characters and dispositions towards the United States.

21. The Society of Cincinnati, their law and influence, and the nature and political tendency of their establishment.

22. History.

N. B. The subscriber wishes to avail himself of the advantage of all the most accurate maps, and detached geographical pieces, which have been published respecting the United States, and will thank any gentleman to inform him where they can be procured.

Those gentlemen who may be so obliging as to favour the above design, by communications, are requested to send them to Mess. R. Aitkin or W. Spotswood, Philadelphia, Mess. Spotswood and Clark, Book-sellers, Baltimore, Rev. Mr. Keith, Alexandria, Dr. Hugh Williamson, Edenton, North Carolina, Mr. D. Ramsay, Mess. Wright and Co, Charleston, The N. A. Baldwin and Joseph

Clay, Esq. Georgia, Samuel Smith, D. D. Princeton, Mr Loudon Priner, New-York and the Rev. Samuel Austin, or Jedidiah Morse, New-Haven, with their names subscribed, and the places of their residence, that the author may have the pleasure of knowing to whom he is indebted for their friendly assistance.

JEDEDIAH MORSE.

If the several Printers in the United States feel disposed to favor the above design, and will give this Advertisement a place in their respective Papers, for a few weeks, and will receive and forward to New-Haven any communications which may be handed them by friends to the design, they may thereby contribute to the public good, and will peculiarly oblige their humble servant,

J. M.

Edenton, December 4, 1787.

This enquiry is made for the purpose of collecting the proper materials for a Gazetteer of the United States, which makes a part of the general plan in view, it is obvious that a book of this kind, compiled from accurate information, would be exceedingly useful. This might easily be done, if one well-informed gentleman in each town would spend one half hour for the purpose. In this time the gentleman might throw together every important circumstance relative to the towns in which they respectively reside.

Taken up,

By the Subscriber, in Perquimans County, in the Island of Sutton's Creek.

A Large Grey Steer HORSE, above fourteen Hands High, no Brand appears, but he has been worked either in Cart or in Plough; the persons who have lost the said Horse may have him again on proving property and paying Charges, by applying to

JAMES SUMMER.

Nov. 12th, 1787.

R A G S.

A GOOD Price will be given for Clean LINEN and COTTON R A G S, by the Printer hereof.

Wanted,

(IMMEDIATELY)

A N APPRENTICE to the Printing Business, Enquire of the Printer hereof.