

LAND TAX.

From the HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

For the perusal of those who have not leisure to go into a calculation on the subject, the following statement is made of the tax on houses. It will be remembered, that the valuation is to include in it the building lot on which the house stands; not exceeding two acres, and out houses. If these are valued at 100 dollars, the tax is 20 cents. If

D.	D.	C.	D.	D.
200		40	4000	20
300		63	5000	25
400		80	6000	30
500	1	00	7000	43
600	1	80	8000	48
700	2	10	9000	54
800	2	40	10,000	60
900	2	70	15,000	105
1000	3		25,000	225
2000	8		50,000	500
3000	12			

This may easily be made more particular by comparing it with the second section of the tax act. It appears, for the consolation of the poorer sort, that the palace worth 50,000 dollars is to pay five times as much in proportion to its value as the cottage that is worth only five hundred dollars.

Thus—suppose there is in Boston or Philadelphia, a mechanic, whose house and shop are worth 500 dollars—he will pay a tax of one dollar. Suppose there are five hundred such mechanics—they will, of course, pay a tax of five hundred dollars.

Suppose further—that one man owns a house and out buildings worth 50,000 dollars—he then will have to pay a tax of five hundred dollars—that is, he will pay as great a tax for property worth only 50,000 dollars, as the five hundred mechanics will pay for property worth 250,000 dollars.

Or thus, my neighbour's farm house and barn are worth 500 dollars—my house and buildings (and I am a farmer too) are worth 5000 dollars—now my neighbour will pay a tax of one dollar; and I a tax of twenty five dollars—that is, I shall pay as great a tax for property worth 5000 dollars, as twenty five such brother farmers will pay for property worth 12,500 dollars.

And if the palace of the great and illustrious Farmer of Mount Vernon is worth 50,000 dollars, he will pay as great a tax for it, as five hundred other farmers, of the above description, will pay for property worth two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The foregoing statements shew clearly, that the federal government have consulted the interest of the poorer classes of citizens—and have aimed in this, as indeed they have in all their fiscal laws, to draw the public revenue from the purses of the wealthy; and if there is a Jacobin or Frenchified American who now bawls against the tax, as burthensome to the poor, I would beg leave to warn my fellow citizens to be on their guard, and in the language of inspiration, would say—*“Be sober—be vigilant—because your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”* A FARMER.

C O N G R E S S.

S E N A T E.

THURSDAY, January 10, 1799.
United States, vs. William Blount.
On motion of Mr. Stockton, seconded by Mr. Rose,

That William Blount was an officer of the United States within the meaning of the Constitution of the United States, and therefore liable to be impeached by the House of Representatives. That as the articles of impeachment charge him with high crimes and misdemeanors supposed to have been committed while he was a Senator of the United States his plea ought to be overruled.

The Yeas and Nays were as follows:

YEAS.

Messrs. Chipman, Davenport, Goodhue, Latimer, Livermore, Lloyd, Paine, Ross, Sedgwick, Stockton, Tracy. 11.

NAYS.

Messrs. Anderson, Bingham, Bloodworth, Brown, Foster, Gunn, Green, Hillhouse, Howard, Langdon, Marshall, Martin, Mason, Read. 14.

So it was carried in the negative, and the plea will of course be allowed, and the defendant discharged.

SAVANNAH, January 15.

By the arrival of the brig Vulture, captain Dawson, 19 days from Martinico, we have received the following intelligence, as current report at that Island, and at Grenada:—That the United States frigate, commodore Barry, had captured seven sail of French vessels, five merchantmen and two privateers; and that the British at Grenada, were seriously apprehensive of an invasion by the French, as two frigates with 700 troops had been seen off that island—that Victor Hughes had refused to acknowledge the commissioners from France, and had declared himself free from any dependence on the French Directory.

NEW-YORK, January 12.

A gentleman arrived last night from Philadelphia informs, that a report was circulating there that the frigate United States, commodore Barry, had captured a French ship of war of 44 guns, and carried her into St. Thomas's.

Important Information.

Yesterday the 17th inst. arrived the brig Sea Nymph, 66 days from Gibraltar, the capt. of which has favoured us with the following:

The day before he left Gibraltar, his majesty's ship Colossus arrived from Naples, and brought information that Buonaparte and his army were entirely destroyed by the Turks, after a severe action, and that the Turks lost 17,000 men in the engagement.

On the 21st of October 4 sail of the line and 14 transports, with 8000 men sailed from Gibraltar on a secret expedition, it was supposed they were going to take Malta.

Since writing the above, the editor of the Mercantile Advertiser made considerable exertions to find out capt. Odlin, that he might learn from him, if possible, the particulars of an event so important in the politics of Europe, and so materially interesting to all civilized society. In captain Odlin, the editor recognized an old and esteemed friend, who favoured him with the following statement for publication, with an assurance that it might be depended on as authentic.

“On Sunday the 11th November, capt. Odlin dined at the house of Messrs. Robert Anderson & Co. of Gibraltar, in company with judge Morrison, of the court of vice-admiralty of Gibraltar, who informed the company, that earl St. Vincent had informed him, that the British ship of war Colossus, which arrived the day preceding from Naples, brought dispatches from admiral Nelson at Naples, to earl St. Vincent, which contained information of the Turks having attacked the army of Buonaparte, with a formidable force consisting of 200,000 men.

“At the commencement of the action the French demanded quarters—this being refused them by the Turks, the French had no alternative, and they fought like madmen. The carnage was dreadful on both sides. The Turks lost 17,000 men; and of the French, only 400 escaped by flight.

“What was the fate of ‘the hero of Italy’ himself, whether he was amongst the fallen or the fugitives, had not transpired.”

The French ships which had arrived at Gibraltar were shattered like honeycombs. The expedition from England, arrived there about the 16th October, under the command of sir Sidney Smith and sailed from thence in great haste, on the 21st. The fleet consisted of four sail of the line and fourteen transports—having 8000 men on board. Its destination was by some supposed to be for Malta, and by others for Minorca.—It was seen three days afterwards beating to windward with an easterly wind.

In consequence of this expedition all the merchantmen were debarred from a supply of water.

By the ship Two Friends, captain Gardner from London.

NORFOLK, Feb. 2.

An officer on board the Canada, in a letter to his friend in Dublin, states the number of troops on board the French fleet defeated on the coast of Ireland, to amount to 7000.

We understand, that the house of Barings of London, have made propositions to our executive for advancing the money for the whole of the loan of five millions, which it was authorized by a law of the last session to borrow on the credit of the United States.—The terms or whether they will be accepted, we have not learnt.

From a London paper of Nov. 16.

The American agents are at this time very busy in buying up ships to be converted into ships of force; several of the French, Dutch and Spanish prizes, lately taken, have been purchased by them, and are with permission of government, gone into private docks to be repaired, and fitted out with all possible dispatch.

NEWBERN, February 9.

It reflects great honour on Benjamin Hawkins, Esq. superintendent of Indian affairs south-west of the Ohio, who has lately travelled through the Cherokee country and encouraged those people to a considerable progress in agriculture and manufactures. He has influenced them to quit their towns and fence in their fields, and attend to raising stock, particularly cattle and hogs, and has inspired them with confidence in the justice of government towards them. The Creeks also, thro' his persuasions, are at length brought to a serious reflection of their situation. They begin to see their poverty and the unproductiveness of their lands and have applied to Mr. Hawkins for one hundred ploughs, who instead of pecuniary pretents, with these, has introduced the loom and wheel, with which they have promised an industrious use. They are beginning to fence their grounds, and are getting into a more social order both of hunting and tillage.

In consequence of the remonstrance made by the American ambassador, the state prisoners in the several galls received official notice from government, stating that they could not go to any part of the United States, as has been proposed. Government has it now it is said, in contemplation to send them to his Majesty's possessions in Canada.

The following address was transmitted by his excellency the governor to the president of the United States, agreeably to the resolution of the general assembly of the 24th of Dec. last.

To the President of the United States, the address of the Legislature of the State of North Carolina.

At this interesting period of the affairs of the union, we feel it a duty which we owe to ourselves and to our country, to make to you as the chief magistrate, a free and explicit declaration of our sentiments upon the measures which lately have been taken by our general government, more especially as they regard our foreign relations.

At the commencement, and during the progress of the present war in Europe, a war unparalleled almost in the annals of nations, it was to be expected that many difficulties would occur from our connection with the belligerent nations, in establishing and observing that neutrality which both justice and policy pointed out as proper to pursue.—We have the satisfaction to declare, that we believe a correct outline of our duties and rights in a neutral station was formed by the federal executive at an early period, in the proclamation of neutrality; and that since that period no measures have been taken a

foreign powers, not consistent with those duties and conformable to the indispensable rights of sovereignty.—We lament however, that difference, and of a serious nature too, the causes of which it is unnecessary to retrace, have arisen between the United States, and the republic of France.

To adjust these by fair and amicable negotiation, the measures taken since your administration, with pleasure we express it, have in our opinion been wisely calculated.

The instructions to our envoys to France appear eminently to be founded in impartiality, sincerity and candour. In them it is declared, if wrong has been done to France, and her citizens, it was as well the object of the government to do justice to them as to obtain it for the injuries which had been sustained by the people of these States.

It was not without the utmost astonishment therefore, after the extensive depredations on our commerce, committed by the citizens of France, and after the repeated overtures for conciliation made by our government, that we heard, not only that redress was denied to our wrongs, but by a procedure as undeserved as unwarranted by the practice of civilized nations, even a hearing to our messengers of peace was also refused, except on terms totally incompatible with national dignity and honour.

Be assured, that conduct like this in the French government, has strongly excited in us those feelings which naturally arise in the minds of men conscious of the rectitude of their own intentions, and sensibly alive to injuries committed by those with whom we had indulged the hope of maintaining a long and sincere friendship.

Notwithstanding the strong desire of peace we have hitherto entertained, and still do entertain, we are at the same time profoundly impressed with the fullest conviction, that national honour and national safety are essentially if not inseparably connected; that the former cannot in any degree be impaired without eminent danger to the latter. If after the moderation almost unexampled which our councils have displayed, after the defensive measures which have been pursued, shall not be done to us, but further aggression shall be attempted, we hope under God, that again it will be reserved to United America to restrain the arbitrary strides of injustice, and curb the unbridled spirit of domination.

Separated from the immediate scenes of contention in Europe, by a vast and friendly ocean, we wish not to be involved in her intrigues and quarrels; but if any train of events shall make it necessary to depart from this desirable policy, and to embark in the conflict, we for ourselves, and coming from different parts of this State, have full confidence that we express the sentiments of our fellow citizens and constituents, assure you that we will not patiently suffer any foreign interference with our national concerns; and we pledge to you our sacred word and honour, that we will with our lives and fortunes, to the last extremity, support, maintain, and defend, all the constitutional measures of our federal government.

In the house of commons, Dec. 24, 1798. Agreed to,
M. MATTHEWS, S. H. C.

By order,
J. HUNT, C. H. C.
In Senate, Dec. 24, 1798. The foregoing address was read, and unanimously concurred with.
BEN. SMITH, S. S.

By order,
S. HAYWOOD, C. S.

Philadelphia, Jan. 11, 1799.
S I R,

I have received the letter you did me the honour to write me on the 30th of last month, inclosing an elegant, masterly and patriotic address from the legislature of North-Carolina. I pray you sir, to accept of my thanks for the very polite and pleasing manner in which you have communicated to me the important expression of the sense