

AN
ORATION,
ON THE
ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:
PRONOUNCED AT



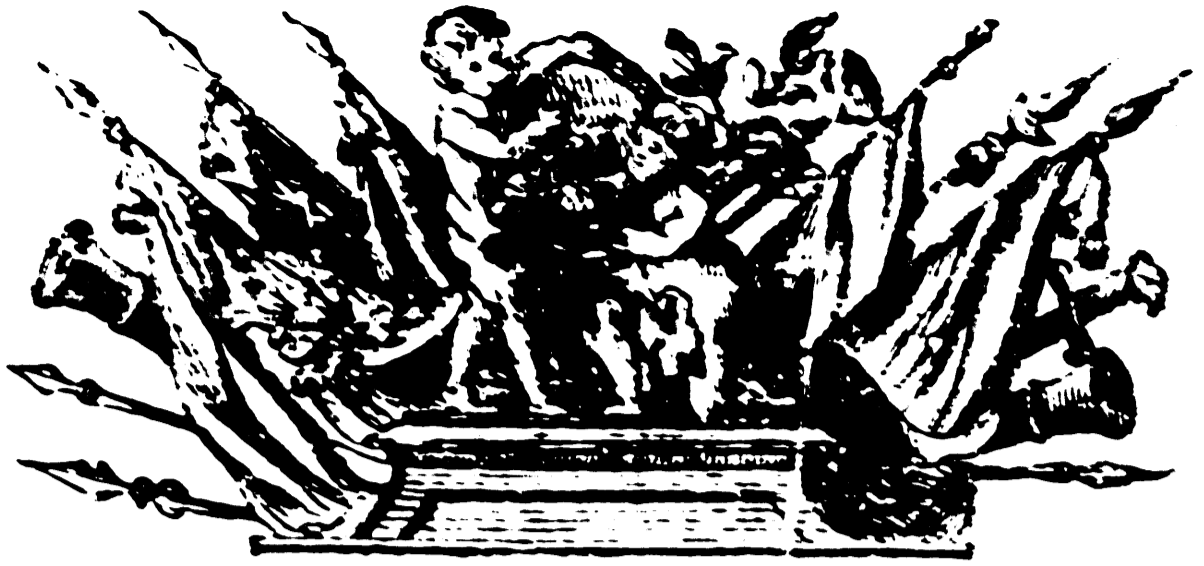
JULY 4, 1801.

—•••••
BY ISAAC STORY, A. M.
—•••••

Mare magis virtute facit, facit et alia. — Virg.

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.

—•••••
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS:
PRINTED AT THE PRESS OF ISAIAH THOMAS, JUN.
JULY — 1801.



AN
ORATION,
PRONOUNCED AT WORCESTER.

FRIENDS, CHILDS AND FREEMEN,



NCE more we are permitted to gather round the sacred altars of our country; and, with free hands and joyful hearts, thank the benign Ruler of the world, for perfecting a plan, which gave Freedom to millions, and INDEPENDENCE to an Empire. An event—wonderful, magnanimous and sublime.

WE have been accustomed, on this joyous festival—on this birthday of Freedom and Empire—to awaken gratitude to Deity, and warm our national devotion, by retracing some of those great and perilous scenes, through which the *divine hand* conducted infant America, to her splendid rank among the nations of the earth.

THOUGH the subject of our birth and fortunes includes events, which charity would forget, and generosity has forgiven—yet justice to our fathers, and duty to posterity, will not pardon an entire silence on this memorable day; a day which united the dispersed inhabitants of this widely extended territory, into a confederated Empire, and led them “to laurelled victory, to fame, to freedom.” The subject is ample, interesting and arduous. It involves in its origin, no less than the progress of reason through the wilderness of error; the triumphs of virtuous ambition over despotic power, and the superior energy of pure religion, contrasted with heathenish superstition, and daring infidelity. These considerations naturally emanate from the subject of this day’s joy, if we trace the parentage of Liberty, to the ever honored founders of this western world; and compare its event to scenes of re-

cent date. It has employed the genius of history, the energies of philosophy, and the fire of eloquence. It has arrested the wandering thoughts of youth, and fixed the marvelling eye of age. Every village, town, city, kingdom and country, has heard how America was born between contending powers; rose like Hercules from the cradle of oppression; quieted the roaring lion, and bid defiance to the factious hydra. The world has heard of her glorious achievements, and sang of her wisdom and valor; and, shall the partakers of these blessings, in solemn silence, meditate the theme?

SHALL no finger point to the dangers we have past, for fear conciliated opponents should think we tamper with the wounds of past offences? Will no voice warn against the intoxication of success, and the intrigues of ambition, lest ruling powers should accuse us of jealousy? Let us remember that the republics of Greece and Rome died in the agonies of democratic convulsion, when they lost sight of those virtuous principles which elevated them to empire and glory. That Switzerland, slumbering on the cap of Liberty, purchased by her valorous Tell, forgot to place a centinel at the gate—till her citadel was taken.

WHEN nonconformity to the precepts of bloated bigotry became penal, and persecution, like a hungry wolf, haunted the peaceful walks of industry, and eat up the bread of the fatherless—our brave and virtuous fathers rose, indignant, at the debasement of man. But it required more than one BRIARIUS to rend the temple of idolatry—more than one Browne to introduce and support, within the pale of the Romish cloister, the pure and unsophisticated doctrines of the great IMMANUEL. Conscious that the feeble arm of private virtue could not restrain the encroachments of lordly power; that divine right was often sacrificed by arbitrary will; and not wishing to war against the majesty of the sceptre, but against the corruptions of priestcraft, and the depravity of ignorance—they bid adieu to the delights of refinement; to the tender scenes of friendship; to every object and employment, which time, nature and habit had rendered doubly dear; and, like the righteous son of Lamech, with God for their guide, committed themselves to the fickle waves of an untried ocean. The fate of former adventurers was not forgotten; the furly genius of autumnal storms whistled through the threads of their unpropitious bark; no king patronised the hazardous attempt; but Liber-



ty, resting on the arm of Religion, pointed to an unknown inhospitable shore—it was enough. On this coast, when the wild abode of prowling beasts and more savage man, they pitched their tents, and raised to heaven the hymn of gratitude. Having escaped the wrongs of kings, the doctrines of passive obedience, test and uniformity acts—every hovel was a palace—every rood of land a garden.

WITH an ardor becoming men of sober habits and correct reasoning, they evinced no danger or difficulty could alter their determination of supporting liberty of conscience, and the rights of civilized man. Long and severe was the trial of their faith and fortitude; but the God of Abraham smiled upon their bold and laudable enterprize. It was crowned with glorious success, and opened an asylum for the poor and oppressed of every nation, kindred and tongue.

THEIR'S were not the efforts of unprincipled adventurers, or lawless liberty men; for in their small but energetic code of Laws—loyalty to their sovereign was only preceded by reverence to the Most High.

To found an Empire and give birth to a nation of patriots, it became indispensably necessary to protect the allegiance between Liberty

and Law. Guided by principles growing from this belief, they encountered the severest hardships; checked the roving, wild and discordant passions of their libertine companions, and encouraged every virtuous and manly sentiment. By such wise and prudent regulations, they soon rose above want, and conciliated the affections of their numerous, jealous and bloodthirsty neighbors. Till then, Greatbritain had been taught to view our fathers, as disobedient and headstrong children; who, having deserted their mother church, merited the tomahawk and scalping knife. Such is blindness of superstition, and the narrow views of unfeeling despotism. But no sooner had her enterprising sons converted the wilderness to a garden, and whitened distant waves, with the wings of their commerce, than she cast an avaricious eye on the fruits of their toil and suffering. Her minions and parasites thronged our shores, when the fig tree blossomed and grapes hung thick in clusters. Being treated with courteousness and liberal hospitality, and finding our fathers orderly, industrious, free from dissipation and strangers to vice—instead of returning impressed with gratitude, they sought their homes, like Haman, from the feast of Esther.

It is the curse of crowned heads, to be obliged to view every thing, through a false and flattering medium ; and to the thick fog, raised by the warm breath of venal adulation, may justly be attributed the shortsightedness of the royal eye. Such was the fate of George ; from thence sprang the misfortunes of Britain. Oppressed with want and burdened with debts, contracted in the hour of wantonness, her wrongly imbibed notions of America were fostered with zeal and delight. Her flatterers taught her to believe, that a decree was the only requisite, to make the colonies tributary to her extravagance.

In the first ravings of political frenzy, she blotted our charter, and presented the ever detestable Stamp Act.—What were the feelings of our enlightened civilians, on this daring occasion ?—You, my venerable fathers, must remember with delight. America pitied the hallucination of Parliament ; and, with modest intrepidity, presented a petition to the crown, fraught with good sense, incontrovertible truth and manly principles. The effect was, ultimately, an abolition of that offensive bill. But the daring spirit and intriguing ambition, which proposed, matured and insisted on such an unjustifiable act, though disappointed, could not

be subdued. Even while the guardians of our country were willing to consider its repeal, as a *quietem* to the sad remains of undue influence, and generously forgave the insult, as the natural doings of a venal court—Ministerial Faction, like a quiet volcano, was only collecting fresh combustibles for a fatal explosion.

THE crooked and avaricious politicians, who, under the crown, held the first offices of dignity in this commonwealth, were continually speculating on the happiness and prosperity of the people; to enrich themselves and gratify the inordinate desires of the minister, who promoted their appointment. Pampered with dainties from the royal larder, and accustomed to the servile homage of dependent vassals, they could ill brook the plain hospitality of industrious labor; or the honest independence of American manners. There was but one way to correct these offences; namely, to destroy the liberties of the people; to take away their right of estimating the value of public services, and place in the king the sole power of appointing and paying every officer of state. But to effect this base reformation, a revenue must be drawn from America, more than adequate to the support of her government; that the ministry may feel interested in destroying her chartered privileges,

and countenancing the vile plans of her governors and judges. Our *lofty* speculators were well convinced of the necessity of this desideratum, and engrafted into their secret system of reform, such articles as indicated the right in Parliament to tax America in all cases whatsoever; without allowing her even the appearance of representation. As the mother country engrossed our Commerce, she only claimed the privilege of imposing such duties on our exports and imports, as public necessity, or private extravagance should require. Who could complain of such mild requisitions? Who but admired the polity of a Hutchinson, an Oliver and a Bernard? Who forgets the administration of a Bute, Mansfield and North? Who can calmly look back to that day, when trial by jury was abolished, and a barrier was erected between crime and punishment?

To prevent the adoption of these outrageous plans, our patriots assisted by an illustrious band of the most distinguished Peers and Commoners, with intreaties, arguments and eloquence, advocated the justice of our fears; exposed the measures of our enemies, and predicted the dreadful catastrophe. But the decree had gone forth, and the molten calf of Despotism was erected in our capital; bearing this

inscription; “WAR, OR UNCONDITIONAL SUBMISSION.”

IN vain did honor, nature and religion plead—the bewildered parent plunged a dagger into the bosom of her child; and the doorstep of the church was sprinkled with the blood of innocence.

THE calm but resolute spirit of virtuous Liberty, which animated our illustrious fathers, and till then only appeared in cool and dispassionate reasoning, shot forth like the thunderbolts of heaven. The whole continent flew to arms; and the cry of vengeance, rolling to the western lake, was echoed back to the Atlantic, by the horrid warwhoop of the indignant savage.

UNUSED to scenes of carnage; destitute of the very means for defence; without money and without friends—we dared the mighty contest.

To behold a peaceful race of hardy and industrious laborers quitting the plough, counting room, hod and hammer; and, with one heart and hand, preparing for those dreadful scenes of bloodshed and cruelty, which mark an unjust and unnatural war, was a phenomenon in the history of man—a proof that virtuous Liberty was the gift of heaven, and that

the God of Armies would lead them to Peace, Freedom and Independence.

EUROPE and the world stood astonished at the firmness and magnanimity of the American character. Even our veteran enemies, who were crowned with the crimson laurels of many a slaughtered foe, shrunk back—appalled at the cool, intrepid and daring bravery of our patriots and warriors.

THE present occasion will not permit a display of those brilliant and mighty events, which gave us a name among the nations of the earth. They exist, however, in the minds and memories of Americans; stand recorded on the brightest page of history, and will never cease to be commemorated, while Liberty shall be considered a blessing, or bravery a virtue.

WHILE our souls swell with divine enthusiasm, in the retrospect of those glorious achievements, which gave birth and stability to our independence and national character; let us not forget the price of these inestimable blessings; but turning aside from the rich fruit of our freedom; from the hilarity of exultation; visit the mournful cypress, which shadows the consecrated dust of those glorious warriors, and immortal patriots, who died in the tented field. Sacred be their memories! May the warmest acknowl-

edgments of a grateful country transmit to posterity their venerable names, with the brightest deeds of their illustrious lives.

HAVING gained our liberty and the acknowledgment of our independence, we found ourselves linked together only by our sufferings; bleeding at every pore, and protected from intestine broils, and national bankruptcy, by the single tie of virtue. Dismal indeed was the prospect of America—like sailors who had escaped destruction on a shattered raft, we looked on every side, and poverty stared us in the face. Our commerce was annihilated—the arts, sciences and manufactures of peace, lay buried in the bloody ruins of war. In such a state of national beggary and wretchedness; when man looked suspicious on his brother, and the hireling found no recompense for his labor—what fate was too dreadful for our enemies to predict? What were the well grounded fears of our distinguished politicians?

LET it be remembered, in eternal honor to those, who fought our battles, that they returned peaceable, though penniless, to their homes. In the exultation of victorious soldiers, they did not forget the duties of citizens; and possessing Liberty, trusted futurity for a recompense. Let it also be remembered, in

gratitude to divine providence, that though our patriots were warm and divided in their political sentiments, they were determined to secure to their fellow sufferers and citizens, every enjoyment consistent with reason, liberty and religion. After long and mature deliberation, we adopted our present inestimable Constitution. A constitution sublimated from the purest codes of ancient and modern jurisprudence ; giving energy to virtue, protection to innocence, promotion to merit, and life to liberty. Under its benign influence and glorious administration, we have risen to such a splendid height of national greatness, and individual prosperity, as to become the astonishment and envy of the world.

EVERY thing conspired to add dignity, and insure success to the new formed government of United America. For however just and intelligible may be the chartered rights of a people ; however wise and free may be their system of polity and laws, yet experience loudly declares, that on the character of the first magistrate depends much of the happiness and respectability of a nation : Even though he is President of freemen, and dependent on the vote of millions. For while the human mind is a compound of passions, desires and prejudices—reason may

become the dupe of sophistry, and virtue fall a sacrifice to infamy and interest. Though, we trust in God, the experiment will never be realized in a country, whose fame is wisdom—whose vitality is virtue.

To this high and most eligible office was unanimously elected a man, whose life was covered with glory; whose exalted virtues drew tears from envy, and a blush from calumny; whose active benevolence, wisdom and patriotism left nothing for the eulogist—but preserves the brightest picture of human greatness, in the character of our immortal WASHINGTON.

Much has and more may be said of the peace, prosperity and happiness we enjoyed, under the mild, firm and impartial administration of that unrivalled patriot and his illustrious successor: For the exalted virtues of ADAMS will stand with those of the immortal WASHINGTON, to brighten the dark page of futurity, and prove that the apex of human greatness does not reach beyond the dense atmosphere of ingratitude. But as the subject meets us, at every view, in the most lively colors; and has grown up under the expanding gratitude of this respectable audience, it would be only recapitulating those events, which warm every heart; reciting those deeds, which will con-

ture the pride of Americans, till tyranny and democracy destroy the last vestige of freedom.

OUR prosperity, however; has not been interrupted; but this must be attributed to the shameful policy, intrigues and depredations of the old and *reforming* world. It has given us severe lessons of *national friendship*; and taught us, in the most forcible manner, that complete defence is the surest pledge of peace.

TIME has marked but thirteen years, in the register of Federal America; yet, in this short period, what victories, revolutions, murders, disgrace and glory, have crowded the page of history? Nations, trembling under the lash of despotism, and millions groaning with the heavy burdens of tyranny, have waded through the blood of their sovereigns, priests and fathers, to liberty and oppression; while others, free as the mountain air they inhabited, have fallen sacrifices to rapacious ambition and dazzling parade.

THE world, as if shook by some tremendous earthquake, has been jostling its inhabitants together, in strange confusion; while nothing of America, but her commerce, has felt the dreadful convulsion. Thus it is to be virtuous, and ruled by men, who prefer justice to wealth, and peace to punctilio.

THOUGH the bulwark of our rights has not been battered down, by foreign engineers ; or the foundation of our fair political fabric hove up by domestic miners—yet, let no one slumber on his post, for the foul spirit of anarchy is abroad on the earth. It would be strange indeed, if America is without a foe, when more than half the civilized world is in arms. It would be wonderful, and without a parallel, if in this age of jealousy, intrigue, plot and dissimulation, no ambitious disorganizer, princely courtier, or frantic revolutionist, should attempt to prostitute Columbia, or blast her fame.—But in feeling alive to our duty, interest and glory, let not fear degrade our reason, or jealousy disgrace our neutrality : Let us keep the steady, penetrating eye of unbiassed observation, on every object within our political vision. It is not one nation, who would share our laurels ; or one people, who would reap the field of our fathers. No, fellow citizens, every power in Europe, Asia and Africa, have a watchful eye on the administration and cabinet of America ; and would equally rejoice in trampling on the sacred privileges of freedom. These are not the immatured sentiments of youth ; the false colorings, and unfounded suggestions of a zealous declaimer ; they are the words of

truth—they are the sentiments of WASHINGTON. Hear then the last admonition of that fainted patriot.—

“ AGAINST the insidious wiles of foreign influence, (I conjure you to believe me, fellow citizens) the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake ; since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of a republican government. But that jealousy, to be useful, must be *impartial* ; else it becomes the instrument of the very influence to be avoided, instead of a defence against it. Excessive partiality for one foreign nation, and excessive dislike of another, cause those, whom they actuate, to see danger only on one side, and serve to veil, and even second the arts and influence on the other. Real patriots, who may resist the intrigues of the favorite, are liable to become suspected and odious ; while its tools and dupes usurp the applause and confidence of the people, to the surrender of their interests.”

LET us then, in our political patrol, throw aside all local prejudices ; every unjustifiable attachment and accidental dislike. Discard the odious epithets of Jacobin and Aristocrat—the vile and illiberal language of disappointed ambition and restless faction. Let us aim to prac-

tice what we preach ; to become nominally and virtually Constitutionalists and Americans. Not like the fanatic apostles of Christendom and Barbary, glory in fighting our way to heaven and happiness through blood and barbarity : Or wage war, like the butchers of Rome, in support of peace and benevolence. If there are doubts in the minds of good men, respecting their conduct as christians ; there can be no doubts in our minds, respecting the deportment of citizens ; while science receives encouragement, and the letter of our constitution is American.

WITHOUT morality, and a conscious belief in the doctrine of future rewards and punishment, the iron arm of tyranny cannot check the depravity of passion—preserve the rights of individuals, or the laws of neutrality. Seeing such is the savage temperature of atheism—such the harmonizing power of religion ; let it be the first pursuit of our minds, the dearest object of our lives, to cultivate the pure principles of christianity ; to act up to those immutable commands, which were instituted for our felicity in this world, and our eternal happiness in that which lies beyond the grave. A good christian was never an enemy to his country, a partizan in politics, or a friend to disorder.

NEXT to fulfilling these great duties of life, let us devoutly honor the government of our country. As the *Constitution* is the palladium of our union, rights and national prosperity, let us do every thing in our power, to ennoble its virtues. By assisting its energy and protecting its ministers, we shall guard against the treachery of a *Helena*, and the intrigues of an *Ulysses*. We shall give an encouragement to merit, and reward to fidelity. We shall prove to the children of royalty, and the minions of licentiousness, that the government of United America is not the offspring of weak, infamous, or crazy politicians; not the effect of blind zeal, or restless ambition; but the fair, nervous and flourishing progeny of Virtue and Wisdom.

THE Tree of Liberty, which shadows the temple of American Independence, was not planted by the hands of assassins; or watered with the blood of Abels. It is the spontaneous growth of bravery and innocence. It was planted in the field of honor and watered with the blood of usurpation. Its foliage is peace, its fruits prosperity. Such is the Liberty of Americans; and while it is encircled by the arm of law and guarded by the sword of justice—

To preserve inviolate the blessings we inherit; to perpetuate that Union, which was cemented by mutual dangers, bravery and success—let us cultivate a friendly and generous intercourse between every section of this widely extended and prosperous Empire. As we are all members of one glorious Republic, let us glory in asserting and supporting the character and credit of the Union; for it is an axiom, clear as truth, that—“*United we stand; but divided we fall.*” Hence the policy of our enemies, in exciting local prejudices; by false descriptions of the manners, morals and political views of the Southern and Northern States.—They have more than suggested that our interests are different; that our pursuits are contrary to a uniform system of revenue, and that Nature, in kindness to our different tempers and objects, has marked a divisionary line with the waters of the Suiquehannah. Such a poisonous belief, encouraged by falsehood, foreign intrigue and jealousy, will unnerve the arm of government, blast the Tree of Liberty, and subject us to the servile homage of triumphing despots. Aware of this fatal catastrophe, let us receive every discordant insinuation with abhorrence; and cling to the Constitution as the ark of our political salvation. Let us do every

thing to harmonize what little of misunderstanding, hasty partisans may have excited ; and nobly sacrifice partial views, to the general good of the common empire.

“AMERICA stands, comparatively, like the sun in the heavens—the centre of light, and wonder of the admiring world, who feel the influence of its rays ;” and would glory to bask in the shine of its prosperity. Mean and execrable must be the wretch, who would blur its splendor ; weaken the energy of its laws, or debase its authority ; who, with a vile and cowardly heart, goes about among the weak and credulous, disputing the requisitions of its government, ridiculing its measures, and defaming its ministers.

No people, government or country can promise themselves prosperity or peace ; if the firebrands of sedition are placed at the footstool of authority ; or Defamation is permitted to hold up her black and disfigured mask, before the fair features of a magistrate. Our representatives may be wise and patriotic ; our senators grave, sententious and circumspect, and our President pure as an angel of light—yet, it will avail us nothing, if foreign quacks are permitted to administer the anodynes of tyranny, or inoculate our yeomanry with the virus of de-

mocracy. But in this age of innovation, and in a country, which has become the rendezvous of every wayfaring theorist and political adventurer, we must expect to hear a jargon of doctrines, a medley of political reasoning. Every foreigner brings with him national pride, as well as personal ambition ; and however good may be his heart, or wise his head, yet his ideas of government and law will be tinged with the politics of his country ; and embody the principles of education. An old man never forsakes his habits, till he bids adieu to action ; and young men feel too much the *amor patriæ*, to find fault with its system of policy ; especially when they are beyond the influence of its oppression. Every man has a right to his own sentiments ; and in a free country, like ours, may publish his opinions, if they do not militate with the laws of the land—but it is for us, Americans, to weigh every political doctrine, in the balance of our Constitution. To strip sophistry of her gaudy mantle, and compare theory with practice. To prefer indigenous merit, to exotic address ; home bred virtue, to imported cunning. To reason, not from our affinity to one country, but from our relationship to the world. We should consider every well disposed power, prince and potentate as

radii, in the circle of our friendship. As our commerce is the prolific parent of wealth, the nurse of arts and patron of husbandry, we should wish well to the whole family of man; and offer, on equitable and honorable terms, an exchange of benefits, with every nation and people of the earth. It is happy for us, that our interest is connected with our duty; that our national faith is linked with our commercial prosperity. It will produce liberality of opinion, without destroying circumspection; and cause us to cultivate neutrality, without degrading our dignity.

As we are free, sovereign and independent, we should never be destitute of the means for defence; unless we prefer private ruin, to public spirit; petitions to preparation, and humility to honor. There is an economy so parsimonious and niggardly, as to spoil the fruits of industry, and blast the buds of expectation. It is next to prodigality, in its destructive influence. A country, whose extensive borders are left defenceless, in time of danger, must be inhabited by more prophets than politicians. A people, whose wealth circulates through every channel of the mighty deep, must expect insults and robbery; unless they are prepared to answer indignities, with a tongue of iron, and to

mark their property, with the point of a bayonet. A nation, without the means of defence, will always be the sport of contending powers. It is happy for America, that her citizens are soldiers; that they know the use of warlike instruments, without wishing to try experiments on their kinsmen and neighbors. But military tactics is only the defence of a people, who plough the field, and dress the vineyard—commerce demands a navy. The former administration acknowledged its utility; the present is too wise, to permit the piratical Mahometan, in his cockboat and yacht, to shut up the Straights of the Mediterranean, while the Potowmac is burdened with the fruits of the land tax.

THE faithless and revengeful Turk is used by powerful nations, like an Italian bravo; and must we submit to the shameful policy, because starveling prudence says, “you had better give your purse to the robber, than ride with a carbine?”

THE love of peace is as dignifying to a nation as it is honorable to an individual. On her virtuous lap, we nurse the finer feelings of benevolence and humanity; cherish the refinements of reason, and imbibe the pure spirit of christianity. But I trust we are not so meek

and lowly of temper, as, when smitten on one cheek, peaceably to present the other ; so debased by luxury, and poor in spirit, as to purchase peace, at the expense of our fame, freedom and independence. If there is but one way of acquiring this blessing, and the price is slavery—the purchase never will be made by an American. No, fellow citizens, if the voice of honor calls to war, and justice cannot parry the sword of iniquity—

• • • • • “ Will you
Shrink from the hopes of the expecting world :
Bid your high honors stoop to foreign insult,
And in one hour give up to infamy
The harvest of your father's glory ?”

COMMODORE DALE bears the answer of our President, in language more forceful than the voice of a consul.

Who can take an impartial survey of the United States, from their first settlement, to the present period, and examine the blessings produced by the efficiency of the Federal Constitution—and believe the voice of murmuring is heard in our streets ? But we are informed, by some man, that disputation is the parent of political happiness ; that republics would consolidate into monarchies, were their materials not kept in agitation by the unsteady hand of faction. Let us rather believe we have listen-

ed too quietly, to the false rumors of offended pride and intriguing ambition ; that we have bore, too tamely, the opprobrious aspersions, which Foreigners, Aliens and Americans, have published against the rulers and government of these United States. If we continue to heed the surmises of political jealousy, to credit anonymous impeachments of administration, we shall give birth to a credulity, destructive to our political faith ; deter good men from office, and strike a paralytic blow which our Constitution can never survive.

CONFIDENCE is the nerve of republicanism ; and to whom can we look for guidance, instruction and protection, if we cannot rely on the virtue, wisdom and integrity of those men, whom we voluntarily have elected to office ? This is a question which reason blushes to ask ; but sophistry and vice have made it necessary. It is a question, which the crazy babbler, and lunatic politician have not foresight, or virtue to examine. They have changed circumspection to jealousy, arguments to satire, reason to ribaldry ; and, in the frenzy of fear, have bel- lowed wolf so loud and frequent, that a stran- ger must believe the good shepherd has for- saken his fold. Let such men confess, with Iago—

* * * * * It is their nature's plague.
 To spy into abuse ; and oft their jealousy
 Shapes faults that are not, save in their distemper'd
 Minds. Oh ! beware, my friends, of jealousy ;
 It is a green ey'd monster, which doth mock
 The meat it feeds on.
 It is a never dying worm, that lives
 Upon the brain ; changing the soul's fair seat
 To a foul den of false suspicions.

THOUGH our means for obtaining knowledge
 are great and extensive ; though useful learning
 is fostered by our various governments, and
 circulated through every rank of life ; so that
 the humble cottager may ascend to eminence,
 talents and merit being the only avenues to
 promotion ; yet there are many good citizens
 of advanced years and secluded industry, who
 cannot recur to the fountain of information ;
 but are dependent on the common channels of
 intelligence ;—who believe newspapers are ve-
 hicles of truth, and that every measure and can-
 didate is recorded with the pen of fidelity. We
 should, therefore, be extremely careful, that
 they are not imposed on by malicious and art-
 ful deceptions ; that these useful channels of
 information are not choaked up with party
 strictures ; that they are not contaminated with
 shameful sarcasms against the officers and meas-
 ures of Federal America. Newspapers should
 be the repositories of "*things as they are* ;" with-
 out metaphysical commentations, or quibblings.

the records of facts and plain reasoning; not like an alehouse, the scene of malicious slander and personal abuse. The effects of newspaper calumny and misrepresentation have been severely felt through every branch of civil society. They have perverted the freedom of election, by misguiding the unlettered, but well meaning, members of community; and caused them to vote and act inconsistent with every principle of virtue and wisdom. This is not "the exercise of those equal rights, which equal laws must protect, and to violate would be oppression." It is a tolerance as wicked, and as capable of bitter and bloody persecutions, as disgraced the Irish catholics, in the reign of the unfortunate Charles. But these are the means, which the enemies of order will always take, when they can find a printer base enough to assist their designs. Unfortunate for the peace of our Union, there are too many of this description within the perlieus of our cities. It is by this corrupted process, disorganizers have realized their expectations; and artful ambition has risen to popularity.

IN the luminous language of President JEFFERSON—

"LET us then, fellow citizens, unite with one heart and one mind, let us restore to social

intercourse that harmony and affection, without which liberty, and even life itself, are but dreary things. Every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all republicans; we are all federalists."

WHY then so much acrimony in our disquisitions; such sour looks, and debasing language—unless, like attraction and repulsion, we are equally the ornament and support of the *federal system*?

THAT great man further informs us—"absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, is the vital principle of republics, from which is no appeal, but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism."—— This teaches us, that though a free press is essential to Liberty, a licentious press is poisonous to morals and destructive to government. It is the instrument of Faction, to unhinge administration; the tool of infidelity, to record the rancid dogmas of atheism, and scatter the seeds of libidinous philosophy.

If we love our country, if we are attached to the constitution, if we venerate the christian religion—let us guard against modern philosophy, that whore of Babylon, "who is deter-

mined to make all nations to drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornications.”

SINCE the world existed, no people ever had a more solemn and important charge committed to their hands. The welfare of millions, for ages unborn, rests on the persevering virtue and quiet spirit of the present generation. Though we are informed by some philosophers that our government is the strongest in the world; yet, let us not forget that the virtue of the people is its *flamen vite*—its life and support. We have hitherto exceeded expectation, and if we continue to tread in the glorious steps of our fathers, we shall continue to merit the benedictions of Heaven, and prove to the world—that the Dove of our Peace sleeps not under the paws of the growling lion, or perches on the gaudy bosom of the Flower de luce—but coos under the covering wings of the COLUMBIAN EAGLE.

