NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. III. | WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. | No. CCCCLV.

FIVE DOLLS. PER ANN. | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1803. | PAID IN ADVANCE

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

MR. SMITH,

Other avocations, have for some days, drawn my attention from the queries in your paper.

There are in Washington, a few more than nine hundred dwelling houses, of two stories, and upwards, principally of brick; and between one and two hundred temporary wooden buildings, of smaller size. The number of inhabitants cannot be accurately known, without an actual enumeration, but from the best information to be obtained, the population amounts to about five thousand persons of all ages. In this it is meant to exclude Gorge town immediately adjoining the west end of the city, which may contain four thousand. The population of both places must have nearly doubled, in the last three years.

The only query now remaining to be answered, is that which respects the prospects of Washington, in regard to health, as its population increases.

It is known to all, the least conversant in the public transactions of the United States, that the task of selecting the spot for the seat of empire, too delicate, and too difficult, for Congress, was assigned to the man whose public services and private worth, had inspired universal confidence—and it will not be supposed in any part of the European world, where his character is as justly estimated, as in his own grateful country, that his benevolent mind, could have been inattentive to a matter of such infinite importance, as the health of the unborn millions, whose destinies were to be involved in that of the great city, he was about to establish.

The ground plat of Washington is an extensive table of about 6000 acres, on the banks of the river Potomac, and its eastern branch, which lave three of its sides; the margin is from ten to thirty feet above the tide, and there is a gradual ascent to the higher parts of the city of upwards of eighty feet; the ground is beautifully diversified by gentle irregularities of surface, which resist the accumulation, and stagnation of water, and serve to discharge it, in all directions, into the rivers.

The country around Washington, and from its vicinity, capable of influencing its health, is free from marshes, stagnant pools, and every other source of malignant disease. The streams conducted to Washington by the bowels of the earth, pass through a high, gravelly country, well adapted to render them sweet and salutary, and pure water, so indispensible for health and comfort, nature has given to this favoured spot, in the most bountiful profusion.

But the most healthy situation by nature, may be rendered noxious to man, by his folly, or his avarice.

In forming the plan of this important city, no provision that human wisdom could devise to guard against the generation and propagation of disease, seems to have been omitted. Next to the water, there is to be an open quay of 160 feet wide for the landing and shipping of goods; between which and the nearest houses to the rivers, a street is to intervene of eighty feet. Thus there will forever remain a space of one hundred and 80 feet, between the nearest buildings and the water. The avoidance of slips inlets or coves into the quay, will produce a deep, regular channel & whatever nusance may be thrown into the river, will be immediately carried off, instead of being suffered to remain, as we find in too many of our large cities, where inlets are permitted, which soon become shallow by the deposit of whatever is thrown in, or carried in by the eddy water, and when the tide leaves them, they send forth their vapours to the annoyance, often to the destruction, of the wretched inhabitants planted so near them as to suck in their whole poison. This is a matter not depending on the whim or avarice of interested individuals; the power of regulating the wharves is not left to the water lot owner—nor with petty corporations, where he might acquire an influence—it is with the president of the United States, who is, and always will be bound by solemn duty, to protect the health of a city, belonging in a particular manner, to the whole people of the United States.

The streets that run north and south, and east and west, are from 90 to 160 feet wide; and they occur more frequently than in any other city in the world. These are every where intersected by avenues of still greater width, passing in all directions, and admitting the winds from every point of the compass. Wide streets, and an open quay, however, were not all the precautions taken, to secure pure air, and health to the city. There are numerous public squares in every quarter which are forever to remain open, each containing from three or four to 8 or ten acres of ground; much larger quantities are assigned to the places appropriated for the navy yard, the marine hospital—the military school, the judiciary and the National university—and the public gardens, and pleasure grounds adjoining the Capitol, and the presidents square, amount to many hundred acres. These different provisions, comprehending so large a portion of the ground in the city, there remained less than one half of the whole for building lots; and these are to be found in squares, generally so small, as to render it, almost impossible, that any buildings should be erected for the habitation of man, but on spacious and airy streets. The squares too, are so distant from each other, by the intervention of wide streets and avenues, and frequent occurrence of open squares, as to have the best tendency, not only to prevent the generation but to stop the progress of contagious malignant fever. In most of the cities of America, not more than a fifth of the superficies of the earth, is exposed to the sun and air, but in Washington, half the surface must forever remain uncovered by buildings, and capable of exerting its kindly influence upon the atmosphere, a process well known to be necessary to divest it, of its noxious contagious properties, when loaded with impure matter.

A citizen of COLUMBIA.

Foreign Intelligence.

LONDON, July 26.

At a very numerous meeting of merchants, bankers, traders and other inhabitants of London, and its neighbourhood, held on the royal exchange this day, in consequence of public advertisement, the following declaration was proposed, and unanimously resolved upon:

Declaration of the merchants, bankers, traders, and other inhabitants of London and its neighbourhood.

We, the merchants, bankers, traders, and other inhabitants of London and its neighbourhood, deem it our bounden duty, at the present momentous period, to make public our unanimous determination to stand or fall with our king and country.

The independence and existence of the British empire—the safety, the liberty, the life of every man in the kingdom, are at stake. The events perhaps of a few months, certainly of a few years, are to determine whether we and our children are to continue freemen and members of the most flourishing community in the world, or whether we are to be the slaves of our most implacable enemies—themselves the slaves of a foreign usurper.

We look on this great crisis without dismay. We have the most firm reliance on the spirit and virtue of the people of this country. We believe that there exists a firmer as well as nobler courage than any which rapine can inspire; and we cannot entertain such gloomy and unworthy apprehensions of the moral order of the world, as to think that so admirable a quality can be the exclusive attribute of free-booters or slaves. We fight for our laws and liberties—to defend the dearest hopes of our children—to maintain the unspotted glory which we have inherited from our ancestors—to guard from outrage and shame those whom nature has entrusted to our protection—to preserve the honor and existence of the country that gave us birth.

We fight for that constitution and system of society, which is at once the noblest monument and the firmest bulwark of civilization! We fight to preserve the whole earth from the barbarous yoke of military despotism! We fight for the independence of all nations, even of those who are the most indifferent to our fate, or the most blindly jealous of our prosperity!

In so glorious a cause—in the defence of these dear and sacred objects, we trust that the God of our fathers, will inspire us with a valour which will be more than equal to the daring ferocity of those who are lured by the hope of plunder to fight the battles of ambition.

His majesty is about to call upon his people to arm in their own defence. We trust, and we believe he will not call on them in vain—that the freemen of this land, going forth in the righteous cause of their country, under the blessing of Almighty God, will inflict the most signal chastisement on those who have dared to threaten our destruction—a chastisement, of which the memory will long guard the shores of this island, and which may not only vindicate the honor and establish the safety of the British empire, but may also, to the latest posterity, serve as an example to insulted and oppressed nations.

For the attainment of these great ends, it is necessary that we should not only be an unanimous, but a zealous, and ardent, and unconquerable people—that we should consider the public safety as the chief interest of every individual—that every man should deem the sacrifice of his fortune and his life to his country as nothing more than his duty—that no man should murmur at any exertions or privations which this awful crisis may impose upon him—that we should regard Faintness or Languor in the common cause as the basest treachery—that we should go into the field with an unshaken resolution to conquer or to die—and that we should look upon nothing as a calamity compared with the subjugation of our country.

We have most sacred duties to perform—we have most invaluable blessings to preserve—we have to gain glory and safety, or to incur indelible disgrace, and to fall into irretrievable ruin. Upon our efforts will depend the triumph of liberty or despotism—of national independence over projects of universal empire—and finally, of civilization itself over barbarism.

At such a moment we deem it our duty solemnly to bind ourselves to each other, and to our countrymen, in the most sacred manner, that we will employ all our exertions to rouse the spirit, and to assist the resources of the kingdom—that we will be ready with our services of every sort, and on every occasion, in its defence—and that we will rather perish together, than live to see the honor of the British name tarnished, or that noble inheritance of greatness, glory, and liberty destroyed, which has descended to us from our forefathers, and which we are determined to transmit to our posterity.

JOSEPH BOSANQUET, *Chairman.*

At a meeting of the merchants and principal inhabitants of Liverpool for the purpose of considering the best mode of defending the town, it was agreed that a battery should be erected on the Red Nose, near the Rock Perch, and another on the Lancashire shore, with gun boats, and also to raise two regiments of 560 men each, and 600 men for the use of the great guns.

A letter received by the Ruby from Bengal, dated the 30th of January says, nine ships belonging to the Dutch, are loading at Batavia for Europe. It is to be observed, that nearly the whole produce of Java, for some years, (that is during the last war,) has been warehoused at Batavia, with very few exceptions, of some cargoes, which were landed at the Mauritius.

A letter from Elsineur, July 12, says, "The homeward bound ships are still detained by contrary winds—those for the Baltic have all proceeded with a very fine wind. The Unicorn and Carysfort frigates arrived yesterday with above 200 sail from England. The frigate and cutters will join the Amethist, so that the trade for the North Sea will have good protection. It is expected that the Unicorn will convoy the fleet to the Nore, the Amethist those for Leith, and the Carysfort those round the land."

The Hague, June 20.

In three weeks we have sent four extra ambassadors to Paris: they were, however, not admitted to an audience, but sent back with contempt, and with threats if they returned, *that the dungeons of the temple were ready for their reception;* the impatience of the Corsican is as great as his suspicion; and he has written the most ridiculous, the most impertinent *orders* to our government, to recall our ambassador from England, and to force the English ambassador to quit Holland. All our arsenals, all our dock yards, are now taken possession of by Frenchmen; all our naval, military, and commercial stores are put in requisition and registered to be at the disposal of France. The magazines and depots of military stores belonging to individuals are under French seals; and all arms whatever of armourers and individuals are registered, and cannot be disposed of without a written permission from general Dessolles. All the ships in our harbours, all the schuits in our rivers, and even the boats in our canals, are registered to be in requisition; all our sailors and mariners are enrolled to be ready at a moment's notice, and their parishes, parents, and property are to answer for their absence or desertion.

Six of our most respectable citizens, who proposed to sign an address for the preservation of our neutrality, have been arrested by French soldiers, and carried away by French *spies,* to receive in French dungeons, the reward of Dutch patriotism. After the rolls of our municipality, 20,000 passes have been delivered this last fortnight for America, Russia, Denmark, and Sweden, and 5000 more are demanded, which want of time has not permitted them to expedite.

In an ordinance of the French commander in chief, it is said, every person who speaks in favour of England, is to be punished as a spy; *every* person who speaks against France, is to be punished as a rebel; and any one presuming to speak against the first consul, is to be punished as a conspirator.

At the same time that we are suffering all the oppressions Frenchmen can inflict, and all the cruelties their Corsican sovereign can invent or command, we hear their boasts and their threats of what they intend to do when in England; and the following words were used by general Victor, at the table of one of our directors last week, "the English nation shall be dispersed round the globe like the tribes of Israel; Englishmen shall be found every where, but England no where." They talk of an army of England, of which Bonaparte is to be commander in chief; generals Belliard and Andreossi are to command the centre; Dessolles and Mortier the right wing; Murat and St. Clere the left wing; and talk of an invasion at the same time of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

The French officers say, that 30,000 Frenchmen are at present in our country; but I know there are not so many; but on the Rhine, in Brabant, and in other neighboring countries, there are collected 60,000 men. Our government has been forced to appoint general Victor commander of our troops, which are to be equipped, and to live at the expence of the Hanoverians, but for which we are to pay France more than it would cost us here.

An incorporation with France is now looked upon as the only termination of our sufferings; and if the report of the French generals can be depended on such a measure will take place as soon as Russia has consented that the prince of Orange should get Hanover.

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.

From London papers to the 5th ult. received at the office of the Daily Advertiser, by the ship Two Friends.

LONDON, July 30.

Government have received dispatches from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, stating the complete extinction of the rebellion in the metropolis, and the hopes entertained that it would not lead to any dangerous consequences in the provinces. The messenger who brought them arrived yesterday, and left Dublin on Tuesday morning. The accounts which have been given of the insurrection tho' exaggerated with respect to the force and number of the rebels, and the loss sustained on both sides, do not differ materially on other points. The report of a rising in Belfast is unfounded. It does not appear that any engagement of consequence has taken place in the county of Kildare. Some private letters mention that the rebels had taken possession of Celbridge and Maynorth on Saturday night, but that they withdrew to the hills the following morning, in consequence of the ill success of their associates in the metropolis. Little importance is to be attached to the insurrection in this quarter, as all the mails had arrived safe in Dublin on Tuesday morning.

A cabinet council was held yesterday morning, and a second met last night, when the suspension of the Habeas Corpus, and the martial law bills, which received the royal assent, were sent off to Dublin. It is now perfectly understood, that the insurgents have had no connection whatever with the French government. We have been favored with a copy of the manifesto, as it is called, of the rebels, under the head of, "*The provisional government of the people of Ireland,*" and an address to the citizens of Dublin, calling upon them to unite against English oppression. They are both wretched compositions, more calculated to expose the folly and madness of those who acted under their influence, than to convince a single person possessing but a slight portion of intellect and reason. As a specimen of the whole manifesto, we insert a few paragraphs of the commencement.

"You are now called on to shew to the world that you are competent to take your place among nations, that you have a right to claim their recognizance of you, as an independent country, by the only satisfactory proof you can furnish of your capability of maintaining your independence, your wresting it from England with your own hands.

"In the development of this system, which has been organised within the last eight months, at the close of internal defeat, and without the hope of foreign assistance; which has been conducted with a tranquility mistaken for obedience; which neither the failure of a similar attempt in England has retarded, nor the renewal of hostilities has accelerated; in the developement of this system you will shew to the people of England, that there is a spirit of perseverance in this country beyond their power to calculate or to repress; you will shew to them, that as long as they think to hold unjust dominion over Ireland, under no change of circumstances can they count on its obedience; under no aspect of affairs can they judge of its intentions; you will shew to them that the question which it now behoves them to take into serious and instant consideration, is not whether they will resist a separation, which it is our fixed determination to effect but whether or not they will drive us beyond separation; whether they will, by a sanguinary resistance, create a deadly national antipathy between the two countries, or whether they will take the only means still left of driving such a sentiment from our minds, a prompt, manly, and sagacious acquiescence in our just and unalterable determination."

In another part of the manifesto the rebels pledge themselves "to put no man to death in cold blood." Let the assassins reconcile this pledge with the horrible assassination of lord Kilwarden and his nephew! The following is their address to the inhabitants of the capital:

CITIZENS OF DUBLIN,

"A band of patriots, mindful of their oaths, and faithful to their engagements as united Irishmen, have determined to give freedom to their country, and a period to the long career of English oppression.

"In this endeavor they are now successfully engaged, and their efforts are seconded by complete and universal cooperation from the country, every part of which, from the extremity of the north to that of the south, pours forth its warriors in support of our hallowed cause. Citizens of Dublin, we require your aid; necessary secrecy has prevented to many of you notice of our plan, but the erection of our national standard, the secret, though long degraded Green, will be found sufficient call to arms, and rally round it, every man in whose breast exists a spark of patriotism, or sense of duty; avail of your local advantages; in a city, each street becomes a defile, & each house a battery; impede the march of your oppressors, charge them with the arms of the brave, the pike, and from your widows and roofs, hurl stones, bricks, bottles, and all other convenient impliments, on the heads of the satellites of your tyrant, the mercenary, the sanguinary soldiery of England.

"Orangemen, add not to the catalogue of your follies and crimes; already have you been duped to the ruin of your country, in the legislative union with its ——; attempt not an opposition which will carry with it your inevitable destruction; return from the paths of delusion, return to the arms of your countrymen, who will receive and hail your repentance.

"Countrymen of all descriptions, let us act with union and concert; all sects, Catholic, Protestant, Presbyterian, are equally and indiscriminately embraced in the benevolence of our object, repress, prevent, and discourage excesses, pillage and intoxication; let each man do his duty, and remember, that during public agitation, inaction becomes a crime; be no other competition known than that of doing good; remember against whom you fight, your oppressors for six hundred years; *remember their massacres, their tortures, remember your murdered friends, your burned houses, your violated females;* keep in mind your country, to whom we are now giving her high rank among nations, and in the honest terror of feeling, let us all exclaim, that as in the hour of her *trial* we serve this country, so may God serve us in that which will be last of all!"

This morning we received Paris papers to the 27th inst.