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From the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

TO THE PEOPLE.

THE DEFENCE.

No. III.

Albert Gallatin was named secretary of the treasury. The duties of this station are in some respects scarcely secondary, while in others they are superior to those attached to the department of state, by the laws establishing the office, the secretary is required not only to superintend the collection and disbursement of the revenue, but likewise to present such new, or alterations in existing plans, as the public good requires. It will be perceived that this requires comprehensive knowledge of the resources of the country, united with habits of close application; and in addition to this rare union of qualities a stern integrity. In a government whose chief resource depends upon trade, which itself depends upon our relative situation with the European world, it is necessary that the secretary should superadd to these attainments, a sufficient knowledge of foreign powers, to anticipate the arrangements likely to be adopted by them and their effects upon the United States. For the discharge of these high and complicated duties the president named Albert Gallatin.

This gentleman, it is well known, was born in a foreign land; but it is likewise known that the air he there inhaled was that of liberty. The republic, in whose bosom he was educated, had, for ages, been no less distinguished by the justice of its laws, than the equality of its citizens. Uncontaminated by the avaricious passions of trade, the powers of the human mind sought the proud distinctions of science and refined art. Hence this little spot not only rivalled, but surpassed the fame of those small states, which, animated by a Grecian spirit, atchieved those prodigies of valor which were deemed by surrounding nations miraculous. There was, however, this difference between them. While the states of Greece exhausted their energies in invading the rights of others, the Swiss Cantons exerted theirs in defending their own. The one, therefore, was as much the terror as the other was the admiration of the world.

This was the school in which Gallatin was bred. It was here, that his earliest impressions inspired him with a love of liberty, instructed him in the subordinate estimation in which a virtuous mind should hold wealth, and taught him the value of industrious habits, as the only guardians of independence and true greatness. These were the instructions that prepared the *youth* for usefulness.—At an early period, he was animated by the feelings and views of the *man*. These at the age of nineteen, before he had formed any political or interested associations, offered to him the new world as a nobler sphere for those intellectual powers, of which he could not have been intirely unconscious. Perhaps, with prophetic sagacity, he pierced the dark cloud that hung over his country, and foresaw its liberty and happiness a prey to foreign violence. Be this as it may, the first act of manhood was an exchange of his native country for the United States. Here, he was the plain, laborious, and unoffensive citizen. He successively, instructed youth, bore arms, and cultivated the soil. No man impeached the regularity of his life, his honesty or his morals. He did not live a stranger among us. He immediately became a citizen, took the oath of allegiance, and married an American wife. At this period of his life, it does not appear that any ambitious views agitated his bosom. Like those around him, he enjoyed, with contentment, peace, liberty, and happiness.

His talents, however, could not be concealed. His neighbors marked them, and in the year '89, or '90, he was sent by his fellow-citizens to the convention that formed a new constitution for the state of Pennsylvania. It would appear, from his modesty and silence in this body, that a public station had been little in his thoughts; else he would have courted distinction by a more active participation of its duties. But neither in the records of that body, or co-temporaneous recollection, are traces to be found of a discharge of more than the ordinary duties of a member. His advice may have enlightened its deliberations, but if so, it was imparted in privacy and silence, and ministered to swell the fame of some less ostentatious legislator.

In the next, and for several succeeding years, he occupied a seat in the legislature of Pennsylvania. The period was troubled with the storms of party; and no man, not even himself, escaped its rage. It was impiously sworn, that if he dared to disturb the views of the dominant faction, he should be humbled; and such was the barbarous fury of the times, that one member, no less distinguished for his federalism than his private immoralities and pugilistic powers, doomed him to an early vengeance.

He took his seat, apparently regardless of the hostility that surrounded him. His principles were not the offspring of a temporising or timid policy. The path of duty lay plainly exposed to his view; and his purpose was to pursue it. Without, therefore, making any unnecessary and ostentatious professions of his faith, or invidious reflections upon the professions of others, he delivered his opinions with a simplicity and candor that disarmed hostility; while the strength of his arguments, and the variety and appositeness of his information insensibly and irresistibly produced a general conviction. An empty treasury, and a dilapidated state of the finances, required research and labor. He applied himself to their elucidation, with a vigor that soon dissipated the chaos in which a defaulting officer had involved them. Political attachment had united him to this officer. But with a virtue, not unworthy of the Roman school, he impeached, and ejected him from office. For this, there were those who called him cruel; but friendship had no claims on him that were not founded in virtue.

After this bright display of integrity and talent, his enemies united with his friends to raise him to the senate of the United States; exhibiting in this act, a rare, and almost an unprecedented triumph of principle over prejudice. Here he found himself in the strong holds of federalism. That body, at that time concealed in darkness, had asserted a daring irresponsibility to public opinion. Gallatin, impressed with the power of truth and reason, did not abandon himself to an inglorious ease. Here too, however unpromising the state of affairs, he did his duty, and in the short time, during which he was a member, carried dismay into the ranks of his opponents. He did not shake the leaders of party, but he shook those honest, easy souls, who had hitherto upheld their power; and he surprised no less his friends than his enemies by actually carrying some important points. It was this alarm that dictated his exclusion from the body.—It was pretended that he was not qualified to hold a seat; a majority declared the pretence valid; and he was excluded.

These unworthy measures of his opponents only served, by rendering his talents more conspicuous, to increase his popularity; and he was, at the ensuing election chosen a member of the house of representatives of the United States. He here found a field for the display of all his powers; and he displayed them in a manner that placed their depth and variety beyond the reach of question.—He opposed the adoption of the British treaty and upheld the memorable call for papers; he opposed the alien and sedition bills; he supported the enquiry into the conduct of Mr Adams in the case of Jonathan Robbins; he opposed the prodigal expenditures of the government; and above all, he opposed the rash measures that pointed to war. On these several occasions he was generally unsuccessful in frustrating the measures proposed by the administration. The most sanguine mind could not flatter itself with this triumph. But, what was of infinitely greater consequence, he succeeded in awakening the public mind, in illuminating it, and in eventually accomplishing the great revolution atchieved in public opinion. His speeches on the above great constitutional questions were read by the nation. In diction they were perspicuous and easy of apprehension, in style temperate and exempt from all personal allusion, in argument profound, in fact various and instructive. Attacked with fury by violent partisans eager to crush him, he, on no occasion, suffered the calmness of his judgment and his respect for the body he addressed to be disturbed by the fiery abullitions of the Daytons, the Harpers, and the Sedgwicks of the day. He did not content himself with opposing the leading measures of the administration; like a good citizen he gave a helping hand even to his enemies. No man in congress so well understood the principles of finance, and no one was better acquainted with the national resources and wants in all their details. He assisted the formation of correct plans, and exposed errors whose effects might have been no less injurious to the reputation of the administration than fatal to the welfare of his country. To him we are indebted for the existing system for the sale of public lands. Secretary Hamilton proposed opening the land office on low terms It is believed his idea was to sell the public land at 25 cents an acre. The effect of this plan would have been the immediate monopoly of the public lands by a few of the leviathan speculators, and a scene of speculation more extensive, and of course more injurious, than all the pre-existing sources of speculation taken together. Gallatin arrested this portentous evil by obtaining the sanction of congress to the present plan; under which the *minemum* price of land is fixed at two dollars an acre. By comparing the present state of things, with that which would have existed under the system of Mr. Hamilton, had it prevailed, we may form an incompetent idea of the evils which have been averted; and by estimating the gain derived from the sale of lands for two dollars, instead of twenty five cents, we shall perceive the extent of the national advantage, when we recollect that the unlocated territory of the United States is computed at five hundred millions of acres.

These are the talents, and these the services, which recommended and justified the elevation of Gallatin.

With the public career of Gen. *Dearborn*, we do not profess to be intimately acquainted. We know, however, that he was a warm and efficient advocate of the revolution; that during the whole of its vicissitudes, he was actively engaged in the councils or the armies of the country; and that he invariably sustained the character of a brave and able officer. For several years previous to the presidency of Mr. Jefferson, he was a member of the House of Representatives; in which he took a distinguished lead in all the military arrangements. He has been, without intermission, the decided whig, the firm republican, and the strenuous adversary of all invasions of liberty. Possessed of a spirit, that disdains to yield to circumstances, he never wavered in his political faith, even in the days of the greatest infatuation. But his manliness was tempered with a moderation that, while it asserted its own rights, left undisturbed the rights of others. Quick in his preceptions, and prompt in his decisions, he had been long considered as the man of business, and, of consequence, so far eminently qualified for the discharge of duties not admitting of delay.

The appointment of the head of the Navy department produced considerable difficulty. It was successively offered to three citizens respected for their talents; whose declension evinced the disinterestedness of their patriotism. *Robert Smith* was, at length named.

This citizen had distinguished himself by his talents as a lawyer and a legislator. In the city of Baltimore, the seat of great commerce and wealth, he had early gained an equal eminence with any member of the bar, and had by the reputation of talent and integrity, raised himself above the frowns of fortune. Notwithstanding, however, the laboriousness of his profession, he had, for several years, accepted a seat in the legislature of Maryland. During the greater part of this period, he was in the minority, and although the period was marked with unusual violence on the side of the dominant party, he manifested a dignity and moderation that earned the esteem even of his opponents. It is true, that this moderation was shielded by spirit, and that while he scrupulously respected the feelings of others, he compelled others to respect his own. No man, perhaps, had a more powerful agency in accomplishing the revolution in public opinion which took place about the period of the Presidential election. To powers of mind highly cultivated by study, he added habits of the closest application, with which he united manners of the greatest urbanity and politeness.

Levi Lincoln, a citizen of Massachusetts, was appointed attorney-general. This gentleman had just received an evidence of the confidence of his fellow-citizens, by an election as their representative in Congress. The short period, during which he held his seat, had not admitted of a developement of his talents. But he entered the body with the reputation of eminent talents. The competence, acquired by his legal labors, proved the estimation in which they were held in a state distinguished by an eminent bar. Without invidious comparison, he had long stood along side of a Parsons and a Sullivan. These qualifications for the first legal officer of the government were crowned with manners the most simple, and a disposition the mildest that ever fell to the lot of man. The spirit of liberty and reform often inspires the heart with austerity; in the heart of this man the purest philanthropy was mingled with the sweetest amenity.

Such was the administration, which the chief magistrate formed as the depositary of his confidence, and as worthy to guide the great departments of the republic. On a late occasion, Mr. Nicholson, on the floor of the house of representatives, has pronounced this the *strongest government in the world*. How far this is the award of truth, the review of the proceedings of the government, which we are about to commence, will shew.

It is sufficient, for our present purpose, to have sketched the characters and prominent services of the members of the cabinet that came into office. By this inadequate delineation, it will appear that the motives which guided the president, in the selection, were pure, patriotic and enlightened. There is not a better criterion of true greatness, than the nomination by the chief executive magistrate of the high officers of state; and when these officers necessarily become his confidential friends, accessible to him at all times and on all occasions, and thus become observers of his frailties as well as his accomplishments, the ordeal becomes still more decisive. If he appoint men of loose morals his own virtues become questionable; and if he appoint men of feeble minds, it may be permitted to doubt his talents or patriotism; talents which can alone enable him to discern the merit of others, and patriotism which can alone impel him to divide the government with men of sense.

Mr. Jefferson composed his cabinet of men of unsuspected virtue, and of acknowledged talents. In this act he presented the nation with the strongest pledge of his determination to be directed by an upright policy, and to call to his aid the best talents of the country.—Had he been prompted by the jealousy of a grovelling mind, he would have surrounded himself with men of moderate powers and of plastic tempers. Then he would have enjoyed the distinction of wielding the government alone; and might have governed with an absolute sway. But, above the petty ambition of tyrants, with his eye fixed on the public welfare, he called to his aid men incapable of seduction, or of sacrificing their independence.

CURTIUS.

To the Public.

THE Vacation having terminated, *EASTON ACADEMY* is again opened for the instruction of youth in the classics, mathematics and other branches of education.

Parents who wish their children to progress in the mathematics, and at the same time, to acquire a knowledge of English grammar, may have them instructed in the latter, by sending them during the forenoon into the classical school, and paying an adequate proportion of the sum allotted for tuition to each department.

September 18, 1804.

☞ There is a vacancy for a boarder not exceeding 12 years of age, in the house of the principal.

Barren Creek Races.

WILL be run for over a handsome course at Barren Creek Springs, on Thursday the 4th of October next, a purse of *fifty pounds*, three mile heats repeated—free only for membeas of the club.

On Friday the 5th, a purse of *thirty pounds*, two mile heats—for colts and fillies—free as above.

On Saturday the 6th, a purse. sum not yet ascertained—free for any mare, horse, or gelding, carrying weight agreeable to the rules of the club.

NATHAN C. NEWTON,
Secretary pro tem.

September 18, 1804. 3

On a lengthy Credit.

Will be offered for Sale, at Public Vendue,
On FRIDAY the 5th day of October next,

AT the place commonly called *Hibernia*, within about one mile of Centreville in Queen-Ann's County, on a credit of 6, 9 and 2 months. The Sale to begin at 10 o'Clock.

Several very Valuable

Full bred brood Mares,

One of which is in foal by Maj. Forman's celebrated *Ranger*; two by Mr. Richard Jones's fine horse *Suwarrow*; and two by my country horse *Lancaster-Ball*, that is equal if not superior to any horse of the kind on the Eastern Shore of Maryland—CATTLE, SHEEP and HOGS, with impliments of Husbandry.

Bonds, or Notes with approved sureties, will be required from the day of Sale, and attendance given by

JOHN DAMES.

N. B. From 1 to 500 barrels of *Corn*, will be offered at the same time, which shall be ready for delivery by the 15th December next, at farthest.

Queen-Ann's County, Sept. 11, 1804. } 3

Notice.

The most elegant and fastest sailing

SCHOONER, called the

LOUISIANA,

that has ever sailed from this Port, sails from *Easton* for *Baltimore* on *Wednesdays* about nine or ten o'clock, and from Baltimore for Easton on *Saturdays*, about the same hour.

—ALSO—

A NEW, elegant, and fast sailing Schooner, will sail for *Baltimore* on *Saturdays* from *Easton*, about nine or half past nine o'clock, and from *Baltimore* to *Easton* on *Wednesdays* about the same hour. Any person or persons wishing to embrace this conveyance will please to attend at the places above mentioned.

SAMUEL THOMAS.

Easton-Point, September 11, 1804. } 4

Notice.

IS HEREBY GIVEN to all whom it may concern that I intend petitioning the next general assembly of Maryland for an act to relieve me from debts, which through misfortune and otherwise, I am unable to pay.

NATHAN C. NEWTON.

Sept. 18 1804. 6

NOTICE.

I Intend to petition the General Assembly of Maryland, at the ensuing session, for a law to discharge me from payment of all debts due from myself, or contracted in co-partnership—and to exonerate me from payment of all Notes, or other obligations on which I am endorser or otherwise security, on surrendering all my property for the benefit of those concerned.

HENRY DOWNES.

Queen-Ann's County, Sept. 18, 1804. } 39

Ten Dollars Reward.

RANAWAY from the subscriber sometime in June last, a Negro Woman named *JUDE*, about 40 years of age, she is decripped in her left hand, which hangs down, she also limps when she walks fast, her cloathing I cannot describe as it is likely she changed them. I am informed she is likely to be found in the vicinity of Collin's Cross Roads in Caroline county. Any person who will take up said negro woman and deliver her at my house, shall receive the above reward and reasonable charges paid by

MOSES PASSAPAE.

Dorchster County, Nichols's Cross Roads, Sept 18 1804 39

NEW-MARKET JOCKEY CLUB RACES.

ON WEDNESDAY the 10th Oct. next, will be run for over the New-Market course, the Jockey Club purse of *Two Hundred Dollars*, four mile heats, free for members of the club.

On THURSDAY the 11th, a Colts purse of *One Hundred & Twenty Dollars*, free as above.

And on FRIDAY the 12th, a town's purse, the amount of which is not yet ascertained, free for any Horse, Mare, or Gelding; subject to the rules and regulations of the club.

By Order,

CLEMENT SULIVANE, *Sec'ry.*

Sept. 18, 1804. 4