FOR THE STAR.

IT has now been many years ſince the ſcience of Medicine was firſt eſtabliſhed in the world, not merely as a vague and ſpeculative theory, unſupported by fact, unfounded in truth, or unproductive of any real advantage to the human family; but inconteſtibly proved by obſervation, practice, and experience to be a ſcience preſenting, not only the moſt extenſive and ample field of knowledge and true information, but as now conducted on the broad and laudable baſis of the inveſtigation of truth as to cauſes and effects of diſeaſes, to be a ſcience of the greateſt and moſt univrrſal advantage to mankind of any yet diſſeminated by ancient or modern philoſophers. Cleared by modern improvements and honeſt diſquiſitions from those clouds of darkneſs and myſtery with which it was deeply environed in remote ages by a combination of ſuperſtition, ignorance and cunning, whereby it was made ſubſervient to the purpoſes of impoſition and craft, and as a means of individual emolument, careſully concealed from public ſcrutiny, it now blazes forth with honeſt fame, acquiring additional renown from increaſed inveſtigation, and can now boaſt, ardent admirers and aſſiduous votaries, ſome of the greateſt philoſophers & moſt enlightened ſcholars of every civilized country. As ſoon as the light of truth, in medical purſuits, began to dawn on the world, and the veil which obſcured it to be drawn aſide, like the retiring miſt of a morning before the penetrating rays of the ſun, it was then clearly diſcovered how much miſchief the bold and uncertain doctrines of Quackery and Empiriciſm were calculated to entail on their ſubjects, and conſequently to call loudly for reformation and correction, that mankind might be reſcued from the baſe and dangerous deſign of a ſet of men unſupported by any other pretenſion than those of conſummate aſſurance and all the arts of impoſition, prepared for any acts how attrocious ſoever that could gratify their degrading avarice, for to no other paſſion could men ſo diſgracefully ſacrifice every principle of truth, rectitude and honor. To obviate this evil, it then became neceſſary for legiſlative interference, which, to the honor of its advocates and great benefit of the community, has been taken into conſideration by the legiſlature of this ſtate, and in ſome meaſure the neceſſary regulations to diſcountenance ignorance and impudence, and to encourage real worth and learning, have been adopted, that the phyſician who has been regularly educated, and has given legal and reaſonable teſts of qualification, ſhould no longer have to contend with the immenſe aqmen of bold and unſtart adventurers in the wide fields of medicine.

But, ſir, it has long been a matter of aſtoniſhment to me, that after ſo much labour and pains have been taken to clear the paths of medicine from those heaps of rubbiſh and filth with which they for ages before had been blocked up and impeded; that after ſo many and ſo good regulations have been adopted and executed; that after having publicly denounced vengeance againſt all the arts of quackery, impoſition and fraud in medicine; that after having effectually extirpated them in one claſs of men, they ſhould ſtill exiſt in all their verdancy and vigour in another; and one too, whom every idea of right, reaſon or common ſenſe, muſt condemn as far more raſh and ignorant, and conſequently more dangerous. I ſay there ſtill exiſts, even in this ſtate, where our regulations are peculiarly ſtrict, an immenſe number of perſons of this deſcription, who are not only tolerated, but encouraged by the applauſe and emolument which they receive from many ignorant members of the community; and men who, without knowledge ſufficient to write their own names, or read them when written, will not heſitate to undertake the cure of every complaint to which humanity is liable, and who, I have reaſon to believe, have quickly put an end to the moſt obſtinate as well as the moſt trivial diſeaſes, by inducing a complete and permanent ceſſation of what the great Darwin calls the four leading principles of the human ſyſtem, viz. The powers of Irritation, Senſation, Volution and Aſſociation. Aſtoniſhing I ſay it is that, though not quite ſo bold as ſome, yet not leſs a nuiſance, that they ſhould ſo long have eſcaped the notice of the public eye, and been permitted to commit their deliterious acts at leaſt with impunity.

That you may no longer be kept in ſuſpenſe, I will here inform you, that the perſons to whom I allude are a ſet of free blacks diſperſed through this ſtate, who, under the ſpecious titles of Doctors and Conjurers, have done the greateſt injury to ſociety, not only by the deſtructive arts of quackery and magic which they poſſeſs (and which in reality is nothing more than barefaced impoſition), but alſo by affording aſſiſtance and aſylum to all the runaways, rogues and raſcals with which the ſtate is unfortunately infeſted, as it is generally under their ſanction and aſſiſtance that the nefarious arts of rapine, miſchief and plunder are ſucceſsfully carried on. Many examples of the injurious conſequences ariſing to the community at large and to individuals, from the licentiouſneſs of those miſcreants, might here be adduced; but as almoſt every man's mind upon a little reflection will furniſh him with inſtances, they are here unneceſſary; ſuffice it then to ſay, that ſuch perſons are and have been for a long time exerciſing their nefarious impoſitions in many parts of this ſtate, to the diſgrace of that reſpectable character which they have had the inſolence to aſſume, and great detriment of ſociety, both by the real injuries they commit, and alſo by the bad example which their ſucceſs holds out to others.

Having now, ſir, given you as good a deſcription of this claſs of men as the neceſſity of being brief would allow me, I muſt, though ſorry there is a neceſſity for it, proceed a little farther to ſay ſomething of their employers. But here I am at a loſs! Here truth ſtands abaſhed, ſenſe takes her flight, and folly uſurps the ſeat of reaſon—It is not ſo much a matter of aſtoniſhment that men, bro't up in ignorance, darkneſs and ſervitude, ſcarcely poſſeſſed of a ſingle idea of their own, and ſcarcely one grade ſuperior in knowledge to those brutes whoſe daily labour they attend or aſſiſt, ſhould thus be ſubject to any art or impoſition however ſhallow. Their extreme ignorance ſubjects them to deception, and they have an excuſe. But what ſhall I ſay when I come to ſpeak of men of a quite different ſituation in life? Shall I be credited when I tell you, they are white men? Men brought up in an enlighted age and country, nay men, many of them, who have themſelves enjoyed the ſuperior bleſſings of, at leaſt a moderate education, and even men who, from their ſtations in life, we ſhould have expected to find men of ſound information, and conſequently poſſeſſing the faculty of reaſon, have ſometimes been ſeen ſo far to degrade themſelves as to enter the houſes, aſk the advice, and ſubmit to the unmeaning and often filthy ceremonies of theſe baſe impoſtors; and all this too when ſurrounded by men who have given to the world reaſonable and indiſputable teſtimonies of medical abilities. What ſtrange infatuation muſt it appear that, though life is ſo dear, ſo uncertain, and ſo impoſſible to regain when once loſt, men ſhould thus in defiance of reaſon and common ſenſe, blindly expoſe themſelves to the greateſt danger, by ſubmitting implicitly to the fooliſh or dangerous preſcriptions of a ſet of men totally deſtitute of every ſentiment of virtue, integrity, or knowledge. I ſay fooliſh or dangerous, becauſe frequently under the moſt pompous titles, they will preſcribe things of no real efficacy, and frequently through ignorance or deſign, will not heſitate to adminiſter the moſt dangerous medicines; for their devoted patients ſhould know that there are many things under the title of medicines, which though in the hands of a real phyſician they may become ſubſervient to the beſt of purpoſes, yet in the hands of ignorance and raſhneſs, a few grains improperly adminiſtered, may enſure them a certain and ſpeedy paſſage to that unknown world from whence no traveller returns.—— Strange perverſion of reaſon too, that though many men are ſo ſcrupulouſly exact as to refuſe to receive one grain of medicine from the moſt reſpectable phyſician without being informed what it is, what good it will do, and how it is to operate, they ſhould yet conſent to ſwallow every farrago which theſe naſty noſtrum-makers may think proper to cram down their throats, compoſed they know not of what, given they know not for what, and to operate they not, and it ſeems, care not how. I would aſk those perſons what they can poſſibly expect from men, totally unacquainted with every principle moral or phyſical, ſunk in the loweſt abyſs of ignorance and obſcurity, and men generally of notorious bad characters: and that any one ſhould implicitly conſent to truſt their lives in the hands of those men with whom they could not truſt their coats, ſo far tranſgreſſes every idea of reaſon, common ſenſe and conſiſtency, as, in my opinion, juſtly to exclude them from the ſociety of rationals, and entitle them to a place among idiots and lunatics. I ſhould alſo be glad to be informed in what manner this univerſal phyſical knowledge is to be attained—The æra of miracles has long ſince paſt away; and how, independent of a miracle, men who know not the cauſe of one natural effect, ſhould be thus intimately acquainted with the movements of the human ſyſtem, the moſt nicely complicated machine that ever yet proceeded from the hands of the Creator, is to me, I confeſs, altogether a myſtery.

Strange, ſir, as it may appear that there ſhould ſtill exiſt in this ſtate ſuch a ſet of men as I have deſcribed, and ſtranger ſtill that there ſhould yet be found men who have not heſitated to extend a foſtering hand for their ſupport, not by connivance alone, but by approbation and reward, (and indeed I can ſee but little difference between those who introduce a public nuiſance and those who endeavor to perpetuate it) ſtrange I ſay as it may appear, 'tis not leſs true than ſtrange. Numberleſs are the inſtances of it, and but a common occurrence to ſee their doors crouded with ſilly votaries, offering up incenſe at the ſhrine of ignorance and impoſition. And even the preſent obſervations offer themſelves to your notice excited by a melancholy proof both of their exiſtence and evil tendency:—A worthy and reſpectable man of my acquaintance, not long ſince, for ſome trifling indiſpoſition, applied to one of the fountain heads of this never-failing ſource of health, who reſided in the neighborhood—who, after gravely informing him that he was poiſoned, confidently in a ſhort time to eradicate every complaint, and accordingly ſet about it and made ſuch rapid advances towards a final termination of the diſeaſe, that in the ſhort period of a few days, his deluded patient had approached very near to that barrier which bounds the earthly ſufferings of mortality, and though now by ſad experience aroused to a mournful contemplation of his own dangerous ſituation, his baſe impoſtor diſcarded, and a gentleman of medical ſkill and abilities called to his aſſiſtance—'twas now alas too late! Nature fatigued with unavailing efforts to retain her ſeat, now no longer tenable, was faſt retiring, and the vital ſpark returning to that God whoſe Almighty word firſt called it into exiſtence, and though for a time prolonged by every aſſiſtance which ſkill and prudence could ſuggeſt, 'twas all to no avail—he ſunk an untimely victim to the grave, leaving a family to lament the loſs of huſband, father and friend, and a numerous circle of acquaintances the loſs of a reſpectable citizen and worthy neighbour.

I would ſay more, but 'tis now time to beg pardon for the intruſion I have committed, and retire, earneſtly hoping at the ſame time, that among the numerous regulations for civil improvement, the few imperfect hints I have ſuggeſted may not be conſidered as totally unworthy of regard; that they may be improved upon by ſome abler pen, and those abuſes which they depict, expoſed in all their nakedneſs and deformity to that ſcorn, contempt and correction, which they undoubtedly merit; and that I may live to ſee the day, when cleared of this and every other "opprobrium Medicinæ" with which the wheels of medical ſcience have ſo long been clogged, it ſhall ſhine forth the undiſputed friend of truth, knowledge and public utility.

Scientiæ Amicus sed fraudi Hostes.

NEW YORK, April 28.

MURDER!!!

The Britiſh frigates which, on a former oceaſion, blockaded our port, and plundered the property of our citizens, have not been contented with the ſpoils which they then gathered, but have again BESIEGED us. Having captured ſeveral outward bound American veſſels, within the American juriſdiction, they have at length conſummated their wickedneſs by the MASSACRE of a peaceable AMERICAN.

IN COMMON COUNCIL,

April 26, 1806.

The Mayor laid before the Comman Council two affidavits reſpecting the atrocious conduct of the Britiſh in murdering John Pierce, one of our fellow citizens, while on board the ſloop Richard, one of our coaſting veſſels, near Sandy Hook. And alſo in violating the juriſdictional rights of the United States.

Therefore—*Reſolved*, That in teſtimony of the lively indignation which this board feels reſpecting the atrocious murder of a citizen of the United States, and this daring aggreſſion upon our national rights, that the ſaid John Pierce be interred, with the aſſent of his relatives, at the public expence, on Monday next, at 12 o'clock; that Alderman Farlie, Mott, and Mr. John D. Miller, be a committee to make the neceſſary arrangements on this occaſion; that all the captains of American veſſels in the harbour, be requeſted to hoiſt their colours half maſt on that day; that the bells be tolled during the ſolemnity, and that our fellow citizens generally be invited to unite with us on this melancholy occaſion.

The Mayor having informed the Common Council that he had immediately communicated to the Preſident of the United States a ſtatement of the improper conduct of the Britiſh ſhips of war off our coaſt.

Reſolved, That the board approve of the Mayor's prompt attention to the intereſts of our city, and that he be requeſted to obtain ſuch further information as may be practicable reſpecting illegal captures, impreſſments and detenſions off our port by the ſaid ſhips, and to tranſmit the ſame to the national executive, in full confidence that proper meaſures will be adopted for the vindication of our national honor and intereſts.

By the Common Council,
T. WORTMAN, City Clerk.

Funeral Proceſſion of J. Pierce,

Who was murdered by a ſhot from the Britiſh ſhip of war Leander, Henry Whitby, commander, *within a quarter of a mile of Sandy-Hook*, on Friday, five o'clock, P. M. 25th inſt.

The committee appointed by the Common Council to ſuperintend the funeral of JOHN PIERCE, have concluded on the following arrangement:—

The maſters of American veſſels in port, are requeſted to diſplay their flags half-maſt, from ſun-riſe till ſun-ſet.

The funeral proceſſion to move from the City Hall precitely at 12 o'clock.—The bells of all the churches to be tolled until the arrival of the corpſe at St. Paul's Church, the place of interment.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The Reverned Clergy.

Four Paul Bearers — Four Pall Bearers

Maſters of Coaſting Veſſels. — Maſters of Coaſting Veſſels.

Brother to the deceaſed.

Crew of the ſloop Richard of Brandywine, to which the deceaſed belonged.

Mayor, and Members of the Common Council.

Civil officers four deep.

The proceſſion to move through Wall-ſtreet, Pearl-ſtreet, Whitehall-ſtreet, and Broadway to St. Paul's Church.

The Reverend Clergy are reſpectfully requeſted to attend at the Common Council Chamber, City Hall, at 11 o'clock, A. M. and our fellow-citizens are generally invited to aſſemble in front of the City Hall, at the ſame hour.

The committee feel confident that the demeanor of every citizen who attends the funeral will be ſuch as the ſolemnity of the melancholy occaſion demands.

James Fairley,
Jacob Mott, } Committee.
John D. Miller,

City Hall, April 27, 1806.

Patriotic Reſolution—In General Committee of Republican Citizens, Saturday April 26, 1806.

Whereas it is repreſented to this Committee, that the Britiſh ſhip Leander has wantonly fired upon one of our coaſting veſſels, and thereby inhumanely taken the life of one of our fellow-citizens and that the Corporation of this city, taking the ſubject under their conſideration, have requeſted the relations of the deceaſed to permit them to inter the body at the public charge: And whereas this Committee view the aforeſaid aſſault upon our neutrality with the moſt pointed indignation, & highly approve of the aforeſaid patriotic and humane act of the Corporation.—*Therefore, Reſolved*, That this Committee do invite their *Republican Fellow-Citizens*, to attend with this Committee, the funeral of the deceaſed, not only as a mark of their appropriation of the laudible conduct of the Corporation in this particular, but as an evidence of their deteſtation of the conduct of the Britiſh ſhips of war that infeſt our coaſts.

ALD. DRAKE, Chairman.
G. GILBERT, Sec'ry.

FEDERAL PROCEEDINGS.

At a meeting of Federal Republicans at the Tontine Coffee-Houſe, called on Saturday to take into conſideration the defenceleſs ſtate of our harbor, Cornelius Ray, Eſq. in the Chair.

On motion Reſolved, That Rufus King, Ebenezer Stevens,—Oliver Wolcott,—William W. Woolſey and William Henderſon, be a committee to prepare and report to this meeting, as to the ſubjects on which they were convened: which committee reported the following:

Resoved, That the citizens of the U. S. are of right, and according to the Conſtitution and Laws of the land, entitled to the enjoyment of life, liberty and property and that it is the primary and moſt important duty of government to defend, preſerve and protect the ſame.

Reſolved, That upon the ſtrength and reſources of the U. S., that we can alone, under Providence, rely for national ſafety, & the maintainance of national rights.

Reſolved, That the repeated outrages committed by foreign ſhips of war at the mouths of our harbors merit the reſentment and indignation of every friend to his country.

Reſolved, That an adminſtration which conſents to pay money to avoid foreign inſolence, to prevent the violation of national rights, while it ſells and diſmantles its naval forces inſtead of increaſing and preſerving it for the defence of our ports and commerce, proſtrates the national honor, endangers the public ſafety, and invites both injuſtice and inſult.

Reſolved, That the ſuffering of foreign armed veſſels to ſtation themſelves off our harbor, and there to ſtop, ſearch, and capture our veſſels, to impreſs, wound, and murder our citizens, is a groſs and criminal neglect of the higheſt duties of Government, and that an Adminiſtration which patiently permits the ſame, is not entitled to the confidence of a brave and free people.

Resolved, That the body of Merchants who foreſaw the impending danger, and petitioned Congreſs and the ſtate Legiſlature to afford protection to this city and its lawful commerce, have merited the approbation of their fellow citizens.

Resolved, That the Memorials of the Merchants and Citizens to Congreſs have been neglected, and that we have not perceived on the part of the members of the Senate and Aſſembly from this city, ſuch exertions and zeal as were expected of them to engage the interpoſition & influence of the ſtate Legiſlature with Congreſs for the protection of our defenceleſs city.

Resolved, That ſo long as the Britiſh ſhips of war which have aſſumed a ſtation at the entrance of this port are ſuffered to remain there, it is earneſtly recommended that no ſupplies, proviſions or ſuccours of any kind, ſhould be offered them from our markets, nor any intercourſe held with them in any ſhape whatever, and that our pilotboats ſhould abſtain from viſiting them.

Resolved, That the murder of John Pierce one of our fellow-citizens, by a ſhot from a Britiſh ſhip of war, at the entrance of our harbor, and within half a mile of the ſhore, while he was engaged in peaceably navigating a coaſting veſſel, laden with proviſions for our market, was an act that excites our deteſtation and abhorrence, and calls upon our Government for the adoption of prompt and vigorous meaſures to prevent a repetition of ſuch wanton and inhuman conduct, and ſo flagrant a violation of our national ſovereignity.

Resolved, that this meeting approve the conduct of those perſons who intercepted the ſupplies which were ſent from this city to those veſſels who now blockade our harbor, and who have murdered our fellow citizen, John Pierce.

Resolved, That we will attend the funeral of the deceaſed, and that it be recommended to the ſhips in the horbour to diſplay the cuſtomary ſigns of mourning.

Resolved, That John B. Coles, Ebenezer Stevens, Samuel Manſfield, Robert Bogardus, and Samuel Gedney be a committee to confer with the friends of the deceaſed, and make neceſſary arrangements in behalf of this meeting relative to his funeral.

Resoved, That the proceedings of this meeting be publiſhed.

CORNELIUS RAY, Chairman,
SAMUEL BOYD, Sec'ry.

*** The Subſcribers being the committee appointed at the meeting of the Federal Republicans, on Saturday evening laſt, to make the neceſſary arrangements in behalf of that meeting, for the funeral of J. Pierce, murdered by a Britiſh ſhip of war at the mouth of our harbor, give notice, that they have waited on a committee of the Corporation, in whoſe hands they found the corpſe of the deceaſed, and were informed that the Corporation had directed the ſame to be interred at the expence of the city, this day at 12 o'clock. The ſervices of the committee for this purpoſe, have therefore become unneceſſary; but they earneſtly recommend to all claſſes of their fellow-citizens to unite in performing the laſt offices of humanity towards the deceaſed, not only for the purpoſe of manifeſting the public ſorrow, but as a ſolemn and impreſſive teſtimony againſt that ſyſtem of adminiſtration, which, regardleſs of humble petitions withholds all adequate protection from our city and ſea-faring brethren, and thereby leaves us and them defenceleſs and expoſed to the violence and depredations of the Free-booters of the ocean.

EBENEZER STEVENS.
SAMUEL MANSFIELD.
SAMUEL GEDNEY.
ROBERT BOGARDUS.

April 28th, 1806.

A pilot-boat full of men, well-armed, ſailed on ſaturday afternoon in queſt of the veſſels which had been captured at the entrance of ſandy Hook by the Britiſh frigates who have commenced an actual blockade without any formal declaration of war. This expedition is undertaken at the expence of ſeveral commercial gentlemen, who have alſo volunteered their ſervices on the occaſion.

A large petiauger, which had ſailed early on Saturday morning, with proviſions for the blockading ſquadron, was intercepted by the above pilot-boat, and compelled to return. The populace aſſembled at the wharf, took out the proviſions, loaded ſeveral carts therewith, and paraded through ſome of the principal ſtreets to the alms-houſe, where the meat was depoſited for the uſe of the poor.

Tammany Society, or Columbian Order.

Brothers!

The die is caſt!—The diſturbers of the world's peace have ſpilt the innocent blood of your countryman, *John Pierce.* The Standard of the Nation will be hoiſted half-maſt at ſun-riſe on the Great Wigwam. The Society are requeſted to attend this morning, preciſely at nine o'clock, with buck's tails in their hats, & crape edged with red on their left arms, in order to joint the Corporation and the reſt of their fellow-citizens, in paying a tribute of reſpect and honor to the manes of their murdered countryman.

Brothers—On this ſolemn occaſion you will appear without your tomahawks, your bows and your arrows—Nevertheleſs you will have the tomahawks well ſharpened, the arrows pointed, & the bows well ſtrung. The enemy are on our borders! The black belt of Wampum ſtained with American blood is ſent