

tion proposed to be made by that enlightened statesman, between original holders and the purchasers of the evidences of the public debt, was reprobated as unjust, arbitrary and wicked, subversive of public credit, and derogatory to the public interest. Amidst the noisy clamours and the mock patriotism of an interested set, who with remorseless avidity stood ready prepared to vote to themselves 20 shillings of the public money, for every 2/6 which they possessed of the public debt, there were a few who attempted to justify such a barefaced proceeding, by declaiming in the Socratic style of reasoning, and, secure in their majority, triumphantly demanding, *Who were the friends of government, and supported its credit? Who held their confidence in the government, when none other did? Who assisted the poor creditors of the government in their necessities?*—And in short, as the conclusive argument, what complaints will purchasers make?

It happened that a friend of mine, who was present on the occasion, undertook to paralyze the dogmatical reasoning of those declaimers, in a manner to forcibly just, and pointedly true, that conceiving it to be a fair exposition of the principles of the funding system, and as such to merit preservation, I committed it to writing at the time, and now send you a copy for publication in your useful gazette.

"What complaints will purchasers make? The, may say—

We were the friends of your government, and have supported its credit.

We had confidence in your government, for we have raised its credit at 2/6 in the pound.

We have assisted your poor creditors in their necessities, for we have asked of them only 700 per cent. premium on the capital we advanced them on your credit, and 48 per cent. annual interest."

Ye are knaves—for you refuse us this moderate profit.

Ye are knaves—for ye allow us only the pitiful compensation of 300 per cent. on our capital, and 24 per cent. interest.

Ye are knaves—for you had no more laudable motive, than barely that of putting something into the pockets of men from whom you had a full discharge:

Of men, whom you had only robbed of 17/6 in the pound.

Of men, who had served you 7 or 8 years without pay or interest allowed.

Of men, who were able to bear all the hardships, of sickness, inclemency of seasons, wounds, imprisonment, cruelty of enemies, want of every comfort under which thousands perished—and therefore may now easily bear that of robbery.

Ye are knaves—for ye have disappointed our reasonable expectations, to satisfy the unreasonable wishes of those miscreants.

BELISARIUS.

July 30, 1792.

From the NATIONAL GAZETTE.
E X C I S E.

Observing the notification of the Excise Officers stuck up in every quarter of the United States, puts me in mind of the conduct of a negro in one of the West-India islands. His master, a mere tyrant, could not get a white man sufficiently severe for an overseer; and knowing that too frequently a man is more so and cruel to his fellow creatures, in proportion to the *lowliness of his origin*, determined him to make a negro Coffee his overseer; the poor fellow not being able to change his colour, by which he might be distinguished from the herd of slaves, and having no coat to the button hole of which he could suspend an eagle, a cross, or some other token of his exalted station and superior blood, he besought himself and placed over the door of his cabin the following notification. *Dis be at house of overseer Coffee's, no white negro eat any ting on de plantation, widout Overseer give leave!*—

The yeomanry of the United States are reduced to the situation of slaves on West-India estates, constituting nine tenths of the inhabitants, as they dare not make use of their own industry without being subject to heavy penalties upon the information of a pimping exciseman, placed in every quarter of the

country to watch the private actions of the free citizens—O tempora, O mores!
Philad. Aug. 13. H. B.

L O N D O N, June 12.
RIOT AT EDINBURGH.

The strongest apprehensions were entertained that a riot would take place here on his majesty's birth day. An effigy of Mr. Dundas had been prepared, with an intention to be burnt at the cross, by some people who were displeased at his conduct in proposing only a gradual abolition of the Slave Trade, and opposing the Scots Borough reform.

The magistrates understanding that such a measure was intended, issued orders to prevent any mob from assembling, and commanding all persons to keep their servants and domestics within doors on the king's birth day. But at the same time they had ordered a *feu de joy*, illumination, and such other demonstrations of public joy, as could not fail to excite the public curiosity to witness them: The consequence, it is easy to imagine, was a total disregard of the orders issued to keep people at home.

An anonymous letter, it is said, was sent to the Provost, threatening to shoot him if he persisted in opposing the burning of the effigy. Whether this was the reason we know not, but a regiment of dragoons was brought to town to keep the peace.

In the evening the people became riotous. The Magistrates paraded the streets attended by the city guard, and a part of the 53d regiment, now quartered in the castle here. The mob increased, and the dragoons were ordered to clear the streets, in performing which service, several people were rode down, which excited the people to still greater outrages.

A fire was kindled, and several sentry-boxes committed to the flames. The riot act was then read, and about 14 people taken prisoners, & conducted to the castle, which restored order for the night, but a spirit of discontent still seemed to manifest itself.

Friday night several people assembled in a disorderly and tumultuous manner, in New-Gravel-lane, Ratcliff Highway, with a fiddler playing before them, and a union jack hoisted upon a pole, and proceeding into Elbow-lane, attacked the house of a Publican, against whom, it is supposed, they had some private pique, which they threatened to pull down and demolish, and which probably they would have effected, had not a party of runners and peace officers from the public office, Chadwell, arrived time enough to prevent any serious mischief. They secured about eighteen or nineteen of the ring leaders, and brought them before Justice Bland.

In addition to the above, the following has been transmitted to us by a correspondent.

"S I R,

"On Monday, the king's birth day, it was known to be the intention of many to shew their dislike to Dundas, by burning his effigy. Our sympathetic magistrates, to prevent this disgrace to their patron, and to gain his favor, had 3000 of horse parading the streets by ten in the morning. Thus the peaceable inoffensive inhabitants, while going about their lawful business, found themselves under military law. At a time when there was no crowd in the street, nor a disposition to riot, the horse rode with great speed and with drawn swords cutting and flashing on each side to make the people disperse, they even rode on the foot pavement. Many people could not get out of the way time enough; one man was trampled to death and several wounded. One gentleman, while in custody, was cut on the shoulder by a dragoon. One old man by the name of Guile, selling milk on the foot pavement, was thrown down and had both his legs broken. A little boy sitting on the pavement with his legs on the street, had his legs and feet jammed to a jelly by the horses.

"On Tuesday night some people assembled in George's square, to effect their purpose of burning the effigy of Mr. Dundas; but they were interrupted. This drew together a mob. The sheriff read the riot act, and, on their refusal to disperse, he ordered the soldiers to fire. Four men, a painter, a glazier, a mason, and another, were killed on the spot. Many were much wounded, several in the infirmary, two of whom are thought beyond recovery.

"On Wednesday night the mob assem-

bled in great numbers, again to make another endeavor to express their hatred of Mr. Dundas; and whether the magistrates were tired of killing, or the soldiers of coming, they were allowed to effect their purpose without interruption. On which they very quietly dispersed.

"Thus, Sir, five people have lost their lives, many their limbs and comfort through life, to prevent that, which after all was not prevented—the burning of a few rags stuffed with straw, under the title of the representative of Mr. Dundas.

Edinburgh, June 3, 1792."

PHILADELPHIA, August 18.

The celebrated Mr. Paine, it is said, has quitted England. Since which his third pamphlet has been suspended.

By a gentleman from Kentucky (says the *Pennwmac Guardian*, a paper printed at Martinsburg) we learn, that 500 warriors of the Cherokee Nation, with their squaws, horses, &c. had gone into Kentucky, and joined the white inhabitants, with an intention of taking part in the ensuing campaign.

By the *Pittsburg Gazette* of the 11th inst. we learn that information had been received at that place, that two parties of Indians were approaching towards the frontiers of Westmoreland county—and that Major McCudy, and Capt. Guhrle were out with a party intending to fall in with them if possible.

A detachment of troops from New-Jersey, under the command of Ensign Hunter, had arrived at Pittsburg.

A soldier by the name of Henry Hamilton, was condemned to suffer death for mutiny, in attempting to take the life of Ensign Devine, by sticking him with a bayonet in the breast. He was carried to the gallows, and every preparation made for his execution, when a reprieve arrived from the Commander in Chief.

On the 12th inst. a detachment of 100 fine troops left Fredericktown, under the direction of Ensign Grex, destined to join the army at the Westward.

There is now living in Lanfingburgh, state of New-York, a child of black parents, 18 months old, whose skin is as white as the whitest children in the place, the eyes bright blue, the hair sandy, but short, harsh and curly as that of any negroe; its nose, mouth and lips, and every other feature like those of its nation.

August the 2d the Methodists had a conference at Lynn, Massachusetts, being the first ever held by that denomination in that state—Bishop Ashbury and several Elders were present.

A correspondent informs us, that at a meeting of the President and Managers of the Delaware and Schuylkill canal, on the 14th inst. the following interesting resolutions were entered into by that board, viz.

Whereas the board have with great attention examined the ground from the mouth of Stony creek down, with a view to determine where the west end of the canal shall unite with the river Schuylkill, and finding that it will be practicable to cut a canal on the east side of the river last mentioned, from the most northerly point allowed by the law, and that the fall from thence to high-water mark at the Delaware, at the north bounds of the city of Philadelphia, amounts to about fifty feet; and that various and multiplied advantages will result from taking the water from the Schuylkill at the mouth of Stony creek:

Therefore resolved, That the canal shall commence as high up the river as the law permits.

It was further resolved, That Doctor Rittenhouse be requested to lay out and stake off the ground for the canal; and that he be empowered to employ such assistants and workmen as he may find necessary in the business.

The board also agreed to appoint a superintendent, in order to commence the work without delay; and proposals for such an appointment were directed to be published, so that we may expect the business to be carried on with vigor.

August 29. A Paris paper of June 9, mentions a late indisposition of the king and queen; and at the same time their convalescence. The prince royal is also mentioned as very ill, and daily declining in health and spirits.

Extract of a letter from Fort-Knox, (Vincennes) dated June 15, 1792.

"I am afraid, my friend, that we shall