The following Extracts are from the Letters of Fabius written in 1797, by JOHN DICKENSON, *author of the celebrated* FARMER'S LETTERS.

Of all national powers, that which is chiefly derived from commercial reſources, ſeems to be the moſt precarious. It depends too much on extraneous ſupport. It muſt be exercifed not only with great wiſdom, but alſo with great virtue; that is, it muſt be beneficial to others, as well as profitable to the people poſſeſſing it, or it cannot be permanent. Our creator never made individuals or nations, to be kind to themſelves only. When attended with eminent ſucceſs, it is apt to generate a ſpirit of pride, diſſipation, inſolence, raſhneſs, rapacioufneſs, and cruelty. The eagerneſs for wealth, increaſes with amaſſment. It rages. It is a peſtilence. Altered nations preſerve ſcarcely a reſemblance of themſelves. Hardly a feature of their promiſing youth, remains in their debauched manhood. They, who were worthily diligent and decently frugal, become wickedly active and impudently avaricous: and, they who nobly defended their own liberty, deem it glorious to deſtroy the liberty of others. With them, juſtice is a reſtraint: Benevolence a weakneſs. To uſe an expreſſion of *Thucydides*, "Nothing is thought diſhonorable that is pleaſing, nothing iniquitous that is gainful.

Let us beſtow our attention for a moment, on *Athens*, *Carthage*, *Venice*, and *Holland*. Each of theſe ſtates, by the force of commerce, has been predominant over conſiderable tracts of the world; and to each of them might many nations ſay, with the old *Roman*——"*By our wretchednes thou art great*." Thus commerce calculated by its nature to be an inſtrument for encreaſing the felicity of mankind, has in many inſtances become a ſcourge.

If a concluſion may be drawn from a multitude of events delivered down to us by unprejudiced hiſtorians, the monitory reſult is—that the conduct juſt mentioned will be found ultimately to produce conſequences directly the reverſe of the purpoſes intended by the ſhort-ſighted perpetrators—and that where nations raiſe themſelves, by proudly trampling upon others, although they may by bravery and management obtain the moſt conſpicuous eminence, yet, *by the immutable law of nature that forbids the exiſtence of happineſs without virtue*, the cauſes of declenſion conſtantly intermingle with their criminal ſucceſſes —— "Grow with their growth and ſtrengthen with their ſtrength"—and at the period when their guilty glory reaches its greateſt height, then preciſely are they near to their fall.

Each of the republics lately mentioned was deeply guilty. Could the murdered and the miſerable, the victims of their crimes, riſe from their beds of death, and move in ſilent proceſſion before our eyes, we recollecting the delicacies, the virtues, the tender affections, the generous ſenſations, that in their perſons had been violated and racked into the utmoſt exarcerbation of human woes—though conſcious to ourſelves that their ſufferings were paſſed, how would our brains burn with anguiſh, if floods of tears ſhould not relieve us?

For what were theſe crimes committed? For no better purpoſe than——

"To drink from gems and ſleep on *Tyrian* dyes."

ON WAR—*By Wm. Paley*, M. A.

The *inſufficient* cauſes, or *unjuſtifiable* motives of war, are, the family alliances, the perſonal friendſhips, or the perſonal quarrels of princes; the internal diſputes, which are carried on in other nations; the injuſtice of other wars; the extention of territory, or of trade; the misfortunes or accidental weakneſs of a neighbouring or rival nation.

There are *two* leſſons of rational and ſober policy, which if it were poſſible to inculcate into the councils of princes, would exclude many of the motives of war, and allay that reſtleſs ambition which is conſtantly ſtirring up one part of mankind againſt the other. The firſt of theſe leſſons admoniſhes princes to "place their glory and their emulation, not in extent of territory, but in raiſing the greateſt quantity of happineſs out of a given territory." The enlargement of territory by conqueſt is not only not a juſt object of war, but, in the greater part of the inſtances in which it is attempted, not even deſirable. It is certainly not deſirable where it adds nothing to the numbers, the enjoyments, or the ſecurity of the conquerors. What commonly is gained to a nation, by the annexing of new dependences, or the ſubjugation of other countries to its dominion, but a wider frontier to defend; more interfering claims to vindicate; more quarrels, more enemies, more rebellions to encounter; a greater force to keep up by ſea and land; more ſervices to provide for, and more eſtabliſhments to pay; And, in order to draw from theſe acquiſitions ſomething that may make up for the charge of keeping them, a revenue is to be extorted, or a monopoly to be enforced and watched, at an expenſe which coſts half their produce. Thus the provinces are oppreſſed, in order to pay for being ill governed; and the original ſtate is exhauſted in maintaining a feeble authority over diſcontented ſubjects. No aſſignable portion of country is benefited by the change: and if the ſovereign appear to himſelf to be enriched or ſtrengthened, when every part of his dominion is made poorer and weaker than it was, it is probable that he is deceived by appearances. Or were it true that the grandeur of the prince is magnified by thoſe exploits; the glory which is purchaſed and the ambition which is gratified by the diſtreſs of one country, without adding to the happineſs of the other, which at the ſame time enſlaves the new and impoveriſhes the ancient part of the empire, by whatever names it may be known or flattered, ought to be an object of univerſal execration; and oftentimes not more ſo to the vanquiſhed, than to the very people whoſe armies or whoſe treaſures have atchieved the victory.

The ſecond rule of prudence which ought to be recommended to thoſe who conduct the affairs of nations is, "never to purſue national honour as diſtinct from national intereſt." This rule acknowledges that it is often neceſſary to aſſert the honour of a nation for the ſake of its intereſt. The ſpirit and courage of a people are ſupported by flattering their pride. Conceſſions which betray too much of fear or weakneſs, though they relate to points of mere ceremony, invite demands and attacks of more ſerious importance. Our rule allows all this, and only directs that, when points of honour become ſubjects of contention between ſovereigns, or are likely to be made the occaſions of war, they be eſtimated with a reference to utility, and not by themſelves.—"The dignity of his crown, the honour of his flag, the glory of his arms," in the mouth of a prince, are ſtately and impoſing terms; but the ideas they inſpire are inſatiable. It may be always glorious to conquer whatever be the juſtice of the war, or the price of the victory. The dignity of a ſovereign may not permit him to recede from claims of homage and reſpect, at whatever expenſe of national peace and happineſs they are to be maintained, however unjuſt they may have been in their original, or in their continuance, however uſeleſs to the poſſeſſor, or mortifying and vexatious to other ſtates. The purſuit of honour, when ſet looſe from the admonitions of prudence, becomes in kings a wild and romantic paſſion; eager to engage, and gathering fury in its progreſs, it is checked by no difficulties, repelled by no dangers: it forgets or deſpiſes thoſe conſiderations of ſafety, eaſe, wealth, and plenty, which in the eye of true public wiſdom, compoſe the objects, to which the renown of arms, the fame of victory, are only inſtrumental and ſubordinate. The purſuit of intereſt, on the other hand, is a ſober principle; computes coſts and conſequences; is cautious of entering into war; ſtops in time; when regulated by thoſe univerſal maxims of relative juſtice which belong to the affairs of communities, as well as of private perſons, it is the right principle for nations to proceed by; even when it treſpaſſes upon theſe regulations, it is much leſs dangerous becauſe much more temperate than the other.

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Nov. 17th, 1800.

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1800.

RETURN OF VOTES,

For Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.

	Adams.	*Pinckney*	*Jefferson*	*Burr*	*Scattering*
New-Hampſhire					
Maſſachuſetts	16	16			
Rhode-Iſland					
Connecticut	9	9			
Vermont					
New-York			12	12	
New-Jerſey	7	7			
Pennſylvania	7	7	8	8	
Delaware	3	3			
Maryland	5	5	5	5	
Virginia			21	21	
Kentucky					
Tenneſſee					
North Carolina	4	4	8	8	
South Carolina			8	8	
Georgia			4	4	
	51	51	66	66	

By letters received from Louiſville (G.) dated ſubſequent to the Election of Preſident and Vice-Preſident, we are enabled to inform the public that the votes of the ſtate of *Georgia* are as follow:

For Thomas Jefferſon 4 votes.
Aaron Burr 4

The General Aſſembly of Virginia have choſen PHILIP N. NICHOLAS, Attorney General of that State.

FEDERAL MASSACHUSETTS REPRESENTATIVE.

First Eastern District.

	Lee.	*Dearborn.*	*Sca*
32 towns,	473	477	21

The election for Congreſſional Repreſentative in the eaſtern diſtrict of Vermont, was on the 2d inſt. We have heard from a few towns in the diſtrict, in which Gen. Morris has a very large majority.

	Morris.	*Paine.*	*Niles.*
Rockingham	103	2	0
Cheſter	90	1	0
Weſtminſter	43	0	27
Grafton, about	40	1	0

Windſor, nearly all for Morris.

The law preſcribing the mode of chooſing electors in Virginia provided, in caſe of the abſence of any of the electors which might be appointed by the People, that the legiſlature ſhould appoint others to ſupply ſuch vancancies; accordingly Edmond Pendleton, ſen. of Caroline, Carter B. Harriſon, and Andrew Moore being abſent, Daniel Coleman of Caroline, Dr. John Shore of Peterſburgh, and John Bowyer, of Rockbridge, were elected.

The frigate United States is ordered to the Windward Iſlands. The owners and commanders of veſſels, bound thither, who wiſh to avail themſelves of the Convoy, will take notice, that the frigate ſails the firſt fair wind.

NEW CENSUS,

FOR THE COUNTY OF BENNINGTON.

	Cenſus of 1791.	Cenſus of 1800.
Pownal,	1746	1700
Stamford,	272	380
Reedſborough,	64	230
Woodford,	50	138
Bennington,	2377	2337
Shaftſbury,	1999	1929
Gloſtenbury	34	52
Arlington,	991	1578
Sandgate	773	1009
Sunderland,	414	588
Mancheſter,	1276	1395
Winall,	155	198
Landgrove,	31	140
Bromley,	71	127
Dorſet,	958	1280
Reuport,	1033	1651
	12,254	14,732
		12 254
Increaſe,		2, 478

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, Dec. 15th, 1800.

The petition of Nicholas I. Roſevelt, and aſſociates, praying for an act incorporating a company for the proſecution of Schuler's Coppermine was read and referred to the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

The Houſe went into a committee of the whole on the bill for the relief of Robert Hooper, Mr. Morris in the chair.

After being read by the chairman the bill was reported to the houſe without amendment, and on the queſtion of engroſſing it for a third reading, *Mr. Griswold* ſaid he wiſhed to be informed wherein the facts, on which the committee at the preſent ſeſſion had founded a favourable report, differed from thoſe on which the committee in 1797 founded a different report, which then ſtated that the loſs of the petitioner had ariſen from a want of care on his part.

Mr. S. Smith ſaid he had been a member of both committees. In 1797 the petitioner ſupported his claim only by his own aſſertions; he was therefore againſt allowing it, the report was unfavourable, though he believed it had never been acted upon by the houſe. During the preſent ſeſſion full proof had been exhibited that the loſs of the petitioner did not ariſe from any miſconduct of his, but from the inattention of the cuſtom houſe officer.

Mr. Otis thought the caſe one of the plaineſt that could occur. The petitioner had imported certain ſpecified goods; had declared his intention to export them; and had applied to the proper officer for coaſt wiſe certificates and clearances, and all other papers neceſſary for effecting his purpoſe. It was well known that the deputy collector was generally ſupplied with blanks which he filled up as the caſe required. The petitioner, after expreſſing his wiſhes, and receiving from the deputy collector certain papers, aſked "Have I got all my papers" the anſwer was "yes"—Afterwards, when too late to retrieve the error, he found that he had not one.

Mr. Waln, on a former occaſion, had been oppoſed to the claim, becauſe proof had not been produced of landing the goods in a foreign country. Proof of this fact was now furniſhed. As he had no doubt of the exportation of the articles, & of their having been landed in a foreign country, which is all the law requires to entitle the exporter to drawback, he thought the claim ought to be allowed.

On the queſtion for engroſſing the bill for a third reading to-morrow, it was agreed to without a diviſion.

On motion of Mr. Leib the Houſe went into a committee of the whole on the report of the committee of Claims on the petition of William Nichels, late Marſhal of Pennsylvania, Mr. Morris in the chair.

The Report was read, which allows the claim made by William Nichols for the expences of the attendance of jurors and witneſses on the trial of inſurgents in '95 before the circuit court of Pennſylvania.

Mr. MACON obſerved that the money ſtated by the petitioner to have been paid by him, was not warranted by any law exiſting at the time. The reaſon aſſigned by the petioner for paying the ſums he wiſhed to be reimburſed was that at the time he was young in office. The ſum allowed by the report, was the higheſt allowed in any ſtate to jurors and witneſſes, and was even higher than that paid in Pennſylvania. Under theſe circumſtances he moved that the committee ſhould riſe, and report progreſs.

Mr. WALN ſaid that the judges had ſanctioned the ſums allowed in the report; and though there was no law that authoriſed it, the meaſure was juſtified by the neceſſity of the caſe. The allowance made was to individuals in the double capacity of jurors and witneſſes. It was thought equitable that they ſhould be compenſated in both characters. The ſums allowed were the ſame as thoſe that were allowed in the Supreme Court of Pennſylvania. Theſe conſiderations made him friendly to the report.

The queſtion for the committee's riſing was loſt.

The committee then concurred in the report of the Committee of Claims, which concurrence being reported to the Houſe, was confirmed by them, and the Committee of Claims inſtructed to report a Bill.

Mr. COOPER, after ſome prefatory remarks, moved the appointment of a committee to enquire into the expediency of repealing an act for the valuation of lands