fear, and the more efpecially of that kind which they had experienced from their opponents, as much indifpofed to opprefs, as they had been indignant at oppreffion, they divefted the Speaker of a difcretion which, while it fubferved no ufeful purpofe, might be detrimentally exercifed.

French Convention.

On the 12th of January, the Prefident laid before the Houfe eftimates of the expences, amounting to 330,000 dollars, neceffary for carrying into effect the convention between the United States and the French Republic, which were fubfequently appropriated by law.

North Weftern Territory.

On the 19th of January, Mr. Fearing, delegate from the North Weftern Territory, prefented to the Houfe an act of the legiflature of that Territory, paffed December 21, 1801, declaring the affent of the Territory to an alteration in the ordinance for the government thereof.

By this act the exifting boundaries of ftates in the North Weftern Territory were altered, and three ftates were formed therein.

On the fame day, Mr. Giles prefented feveral petitions from a large number of the inhabitants of the Territory, in oppofition to the above act, confidering it as unconftitutional and directly repugnant to the articles of compact entered into by the Congrefs of the United States, the ftate of Virginia, and the people and ftates in the faid Territory, as expreffed in the ordinance for the government of the fame, paffed July 13, 1787.

The act and petitions were referred to a committee of the whole Houfe, in which they were difcuffed on the 26th and 27th of January.

Mr. Fearing fubmitted a refolution declaring the Territorial act to be conftitutional, which was fupported by himfelf and Mr. Grifwold; and oppofed by Meffrs. Davis, Giles and Bayard.

This motion being loft, Mr. Giles offered a refolution, "that the act paffed by the legiflature for the territory North Weft of the Ohio [above recited] ought not to be affented to by Congrefs;" which was agreed to in committee, and confirmed in the Houfe—Yeas 81, Nays 5.

On the 29th of January, Mr. Giles prefented petitions from 1200 inhabitants of the territory of the United States north weft of the river Ohio, praying that Congrefs will confider the prefent fituation of the petitioners, and difagree to any law or plan that may be paffed or devifed, contrary to their benefit and accommodation, and which may tend to a feparation of the territory into one or more divifions, in oppofition to the wifhes and intereft of the petitioners, and other inhabitants of the faid territory; alfo, that Congrefs will be pleafed to confider what meafures may, at this time, be proper to be taken for the eftablifhment of a ftate Government in the faid Territory, and its admiffion into the Union.

After the reading of thefe petitions, Mr. Giles moved a reference to a felect committee, of the cenfus of the inhabitants of the north weftern territory, with inftructions to report whether any, and what meafures ought, at this time, to be taken, for enabling the people of the Territory to form a ftate government for themfelves, and to be admitted into the union, upon the fame terms with the original States.

This motion obtained, and a committee of feven was accordingly appointed.

On the 4th of March, Mr. Giles, the chairman of the committee, made a report on this fubject, which ftated the fituation of the territory under the provifions of the ordinance of the old Congrefs, and concluded with the opinion that it would be expedient, on certain terms, to admit it as a ftate into the union.

On the 30th of M[illegible] the houfe went into a committee of the whole on the bill, accompanying the report, for the admiffion of the new weftern territory as a ftate into the union.

The provifions of the bill being numerous, the difcuffion of them was ramified to a great extent. Thofe who oppofed the terms of the admiffion into the union was oppofed [illegible] aimed all hoftility to the act of admiffion, provided it was effected in a regular and conftitutional way, and in conformity to the wifhes of the inhabitants of the territory. But they contended that, fhould Congrefs pafs the bill they would violate the conftitution, and ufurp the powers of the territorial government, which, as to internal concerns were as abfolute and complete as thofe of the exifting ftates; and that the fame reafons which warranted an exercife of thefe powers, would warrant a fimilar exercife of power in relation to ftates already in the union.—The territorial legiflature had recently decided againft admiffion into the union. The prefent bill, therefore, being in direct hoftility to that decifion, was unconftitutional and impolitic. Congrefs might give their confent to admiffion even before the population amounted to 60,000; but it refted with the territorial government to regulate all the details connected with the obtaining, through the means of a convention, a fair expreffion of the opinions of the inhabitants.

Various objections were made to the details of the bill. Conceding the right of Congrefs to admit the territory into the union, the right of fo dividing it as to leave a fection of it without the limits of the propofed ftate was denied; as was alfo the expediency of appropriating one twentieth part of the proceeds of lands fold by the United States, to the making of roads from the navigable waters emptying into the Atlantic to the Ohio.

The friends of the bill avowed their great object to be, to refcue the government, agreeably to the wifhes of a great majority of the inhabitants, from the hands of men, who confefs that their power depended on the territorial government, wifhed to prolong its duration; that this was their motive was evident from the extraordinary propofition lately made by them, fo to divide the territory, as to remove to a very diftant day the period of admiffion into the union.—Congrefs had with becoming fpirit, rejected the propofition, under the conviction that the prefent government, two branches of which emanated from the Prefident of the United States, did not correctly convey the wifhes of the people. They contended that the territorial fyftem, however unavoidable in the infancy of population, being repugnant to the genius of a free government, and hoftile to the interefts and feelings of freemen, ought to be difcarded at the earlieft practicable period. From this confideration the expediency of the meafure could not be doubted; and ftill lefs could its conftitutionality be queftioned. The conftitution confers on Congrefs the right to admit ftates with their approbation; and the ordinance for the eftablifhment of the North Weftern Territory prefcribes the mode in which this power fhall be exercifed. Nor did the prefent bill in the leaft interfere with the rights of the citizens. It did not direct that they *fhall* come into the union, or that they *fhall* form a conftitution; it only authorifed them to do that, which, the permiffion of Congrefs being given, it is allowed on all hands they have a right to do.

With refpect to the divifion of the territory contemplated in the bill, that arofe, not from choice but from neceffity, from local confiderations which could not be overcome. Tho' it was to be regretted that the whole population could not be embraced by the new ftate, yet it would be obferved that the portion excluded was inconfiderable, and would continue to occupy the fame political rights which they now poffeffed. It was contended that the devotion of one-twentieth part of the proceeds of public lands to making new roads was equally liberal and politic, which, while it conferred a great good upon the territory and the union at large by the facility to intercourfe effected by it, would be amply remunerated by the exemption of the public lands from taxation.

After an oppofition vigoroufly fuftained for feveral days to all the leading features of the bill by the federal fide, it paffed the Houfe by a majority of 47 to 29.

In Senate it received the fame oppofition, experienced in the other branch, and in which Mr. Governeur Morris took the moft diftinguifhed part. But all oppofition was unavailing, and it paffed that body on the 28th of April by a majority of 16 to 6; and a few days thereafter received the final fanction of the Prefident.

It often happens in a deliberate body, whofe difcuffions are public, that motives different from thofe which influence the conduct are avowed. It fo happened in this cafe. Viewing the expanded field of weftern territory, and forefeeing its rapid progrefs to a vaft population, the late adminiftration had evinced a peculiar folicitude to diffufe thofe principles which fhould be beft fitted to extend to that quarter of the Union, the empire of federalifm. Realifing the maxim "juft as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined," it had conferred the honors of the government exclufively on one defcription of citizens devoted to its views, who, in their turn, had, with equal circumfpection, ramified fubordinate appointments to the fame clafs of individuals. Thefe appointments had been fo multiplied as to enlift a numerous corps of well difciplined troops in the fervice of the government. Though little profit attached to thefe lower grades of appointments, yet the univerfal love of diftinction courted the fainteft image of power. By thefe means the governor, the dependant of the federal executive, had flattered himfelf with the uncontrolled enjoyment and fecure poffeffion of authority, and the late adminiftration had placed implicit reliance on the fubferviency of the territory to the promotion of federal views.

Fortunately, however, every furrounding circumftance of nature or affociation in the regions of the weft infpires a lofty fpirit of independence. The facility with which fubfiftence is acquired, and the habits of hardihood and activity infeparable from a refidence in a new country, diminifhing the fources of dependence, and drawing out with unufual energy both intellectual and corporeal powers, break thofe ignoble chains that in other periods of fociety, and under different local circumftances, fubjugate the human character. It became every day more arduous to keep down a fpirit of felf government which thofe, who poffefs equal rights, will ever lay claim to. The government, alarmed at the progrefs of this fentiment, began to fortify itfelf againft a fair expreffion of the public will, in which it too well fucceeded, fo far as related to the legal organs of it. Meafures were carried hoftile to the wifhes of the people, which were only acquiefced in until a favourable occafion fhould offer for efcaping from the burthen. That occafion prefented itfelf in the change of the federal adminiftration, emboldened by which the people came forward to pray for a ftate government, while the territorial government, by a ftep of unprecedented boldnefs, propofed to divide the territory, fo as to keep down the population of each fection, and thereby protract for many years the admiffion of either into the union. This collifion produced the crifis which iffued in the adoption of the above bill.

The federal fide of Congrefs exerted every mean in their power to fruftrate the act, for two reafons, the one, that their friends, at prefent in the exclufive poffeffion of territorial power would, in the event of admiffion, be extruded by the public fentiment from their places; the other, that a new ftate, under the aufpices of republican convictions, and indignant at federal oppreffion, would throw its weight againft the federal fcale, and tend to confolidate the growing ftrength and profperity of the prefent adminiftration.

Extracted from the London Monthly Review, on Essays and Notes on Husbandry, &c. By J. B. Bordley.

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(Concluded from our last.)

To the very antient practice of *treading out corn*, mentioned in Scripture, the Americans are very partial. Mr. Bordley thus delivers his opinion on this fubject, under the article *Treading-floor.*

'Though but *six* to eight horfes fhould tread on it, yet it ought not to be of a lefs diameter than 80 or 90 feet. But the track and bed of wheat is narrowed to 12 or 15 feet. I was long and greatly prejudiced againft *treading* wheat. But experiencing the advantages of getting out the croops with *speed*, and very *clean* when on a permanent well preferved floor, with horfes gently trotted in ranks, diftant and airy each rank from the others, the preference in my opinion is in favour of treading, over the moft expert thrafhing with flails. So much fo that, confidering the greater opportunities of pilfering, and lengthy troublefomenefs of thrafhers, I would prefer treading to having my large crops thrafhed for nothing.'

He farther obferves,

'To hire thrafhers or put my labourers to thrafh it out with flails, the time fpent would give abundant opportunity for thieving, which is avoided by the fpeedy method of treading, when in about a fortnight three thoufand bufhels may be fecured, inftead of near a hundred days that flails would require.'

Clover is ftrongly recommended as an ameliorating crop; and here the author's remarks apply as well to Europe as to America. Clover, he fays, "is fo effential that without it the foil, the cattle, and the corn crops would greatly fuffer. Its power of amelioration is not very inferior to that by dung. In fome refpects it is preferable. With dung, innumerable feeds of weeds are carried on and fown on the fields: not fo clover, when the feed has been properly cleaned. Clover is the beft preparative for a crop of wheat. Dung inclines wheat to run more into ftraw than full grain. Wheat on clover has the beft grain and the fulleft crop."—We have often feen thefe obfervations verified in our own country.

An idea is fuggefted refpecting a mode of gathering and cleaning clover-feed, which may merit general attention: 'The heads of clover are rippled off, by a fimple machine moved by a horfe, at the rate of 5 acres of them in a day. The heads are carried to an oil mill, having two ftones rolled in the manner of a tanner's bark-ftones, which feparates from the haulm five bufhels a day.'

The effay on *Hemp* contains the following remarks, by which it will be feen that Mr. B. prefers the culture of this crop to that of tobacco:

'The extenfive ufefulnefs of hemp, the little interference of its culture with the other work of farmers in America; and *when water-rotted*, the eafe with which it is prepared for *rope*, as well as the general certainty of the crop with a good price, led me to admire it in preference to other common articles of crop.'—

'If the ground be good and well prepared, no crop is more certain than hemp, fowed in time, and when the foil is moift. But, how uncertain is the tobacco crop! Failure of plants from froft, drought, or fly; want of feafonable weather for planting; deftruction by the ground-worm, web-worm, horn-worm; buttoning low, for want of rain; curling or frenching, from too much rain; houfe-burning or funking whilft curing; froft before houfed; heating in bulk or in the hogfhead; infpection, culling, &c. Cultivating tobacco cleans, but expofes foil to exhalation and wafhing away. It is only about a month that it fhelters the ground: but hemp fhades it from May till about the firft of Auguft; and from early Auguft it would be advantageoufly fheltered with a growth of buckwheat, till this bloffoms; and then during a temperate ftate of heat, it is plowed in as a manure.'—

'A planter gaining 20 hogfheads of tobacco from 20 acres of ground, value 800 dollars, might exceed 12,000 or 16,000 lbs. of hemp from the fame ground, value 1000 or 1200 dollars. But, if the income from the hemp fhould be a fourth lefs than from the tobacco crop, yet I would, on feveral accounts, prefer the hemp culture.'

It may amufe our agriculturifts to read a defcription of a Penfylvanian barn; and they may fpeculate on the hint which is annexed refpecting Manure:

'Farmers in Penfylvania have a commendable fpirit for building good barns, which are moftly of ftone. On the ground floor are ftalls in which their horfes and oxen are fed with hay, cut ftraw, and rye-meal; but not always their other beafts. Roots are feldom given to their live-ftock, and are too little thought of. The fecond floor, with the roof, contains their fheaves of grain, which are thrafhed on this floor. A part of their hay is alfo here ftored. Loaded carts and waggons are driven in, on this fecond floor; with which the furface of the earth is there level; or elfe a bridge is built up to it, for fupplying the want of height in the bank, the wall of one end of the houfe being built clofe to the bank of a hill cut down. For giving room to turn waggons within the houfe, it is built thirty-fix to forty feet wide; and the length is given that may be requifite to the defign or fize of the farm. But if the waggon is driven directly into the barn, it may be as directly drawn back without turning it; a great faving of room; and the houfe need not be fo wide as for the fake of turning waggons in it.' If waggons carry more to the barn at a time, yet carts are brifker: their loads are fhot down in an inftant, and they turn fhort. Waggons are tedioufly unloaded.

'I have feen a barn, in Chefter county, Penfylvania, which had a cellar under a floor of planks on joifts, on which horfes and oxen ftood; and their dung was daily fhovelled into the cellar. The farmer faid, this dung is the better for being thus kept dry: but, may it not be there *too dry?* Dung drowned with water muft be much injured. But if a large mafs of dung receives no more water than what falls on its furface from the clouds, and is well fheltered from the fun, is it then injured? Is it better or worfe for being rotten before it is applied to the ground as a manure? If firft rotted, it will fpread and mix with the foil more perfectly. If but partly rotted, and then fpread and plowed into the ground, inftantly as it is carted out, will it not be ftronger—more powerful in opening and enriching the foil? It there finifhes its heat and fermentation, which precede and bring forward rottennefs, whilft it is in the ground: provided its lying too thinly difperfed or fcattered in the ground is not againft its fermenting.'

Of the advantages of *Soiling Cattle*, in preference to pafturing them, much is faid; and the objection that it creates peculiar labour gives the author an occafion for declaiming againft the diffipation of the American Farmer.

'In many parts of America (he fays) are idle improvident people, mafters of farms, who fpend their time in taverns or other places of wafteful amufement: any where rather than at home. Thefe haunts are at the expence of their *domestic* happinefs. Sooner or later they bring on them debts, wants and grating claims of creditors. Such a people can never be brought to foil cattle, or at all improve their farms. Where is folid comfort to be found if not at *home?* The meannefs, the felfifhnefs, and the folly of thefe *husbands, fathers,* or *masters*, are confpicuous, degrading and fhameful; who, regardlefs of *wife, child*, and *dependents* claiming their protection, their affections and their attentions, and even regardlefs of the true interefts of their precious felves, fly from their own happinefs in the moment when they mount their horfes and hurry to the tavern, the race, nine-pins, billiards, excefs upon excefs of toddy, and the moft nonfenfical and idle chat, accompanied with exclamations and roarings, brutal and foreign to common fenfe and manners as the mind of wifdom can conceive of depraved man. Had thefe men, fo deficient in character, been trained but a few years among the orderly, thoughtful good farmers of fome neighbouring diftrict, they would have learnt valuable leffons for conducting their farms, themfelves, and their domeftic affairs, greatly to their comfort and advantage, and to the comfort due to their families and dependents; to whom they owe more than they are accuftomed to feel for them. There are on the other hand, thofe who with induftry aim at providing for their families, but it is not with an honeft mind and fairnefs of reputation. The ftrength of thefe is in low cunning. If indeed they wifh to be perfect in that deteftable of all qualities, *country cunning*, they need not go far from home; unlefs for the fake of embellifhing the fyranical talent with fome variety. They might then go among the thoughtlefs clafs of people in neighbourhoods diftinguifhed for more of this bafe quality than of provident induftry, fairnefs and honeft candour.

On the subject of Cattle, Mr. B. very sensibly remarks:

'Farmers are impofed on by butchers; who by praifes prevail on them to prefer the breed having large bones, and that are deep fore-quartered heavy looking beafts; whofe fore quarters outweigh their hind quarters, with the aid of their [illegible]. Why do butchers recommend this beaft of bone? Why do farmers comply with their fubtle recommendations? Is it becaufe the appearance is agreeable to the farmer's paffion for what is *big?* The choiceft beef is on beafts having fmall bones. The Bakewell cattle and fheep have not the heavy appearances of the clumfy, big boned, and ill-fided beafts preferred by retailers of meat: but they are greatly fuperior in their meat, and fo cheap feeding.'—

'The firft great error in improvement of live ftock, in America, is in their paffion for the *largest kinds*. The *largest* and the *smallest breeds* are the very worft; and ought to be avoided in cattle, and generally in all animals. The huge big-boned dray horfe, what is he on a farm? The Spanifh-ribbed, flat-fided lubberly big-legged cattle, what are they other than exceffive maffes of unimportant bone, with an inferior portion of coarfe meat dearly obtained in the fatting.'

Refpecting *Hogs*, as well as in *Horned Cattle*, Mr. B. is not an advocate for immenfe carcafes: but his countrymen do not all agree with him; and they allow the qualities of their beafts to have a preponderating influence in political matters:

'It is faid by farmers in Penfylvania, the lumps of fat of the coarfe flabby meat hogs fooneft cloy labourers. This may continue to be an irrefiftible motive with fome claffes of folks; whereto others it will be difgufting and contemptible. Yet if we can oppofe 715 lb. hog by one of 715, though it fhould be a mafs of inferior meat, we fhall have a fomething to give us confequence—the biggeft hog! At a Nifi Prius court, in Maryland, a perfon was introduced to me, whofe hog had lately won a race. This victory, as I was told, recommended him, though not before thought of, as being qualified to reprefent the people in their legiflature. An election foon followed; and the hog—if you pleafe his influence—carried the election for his mafter, all hollow. So might 715 of even the coarfeft flaggy pork fucceed againft 715 of better meat. Quality with fome country people is unimportant.'

Who could imagine that apprehenfions of a fcarcity of timber, and even of fire-wood, already fo affect the mind of the American hufbandman, as to induce him to turn his thoughts towards obtaining permanent live fences inftead of thofe of wood? Mr. B. would have a monument erected to the memory of the man who, on the main road near Newcaftle, fet a pattern to his countrymen, of an excellent *thorn-hedge fence.*

From the author's effay on *the Principles of Vegetation*, we muft content ourfelves with two fhort extracts; tho' the whole is not unworthy of perufal. In his remarks on Manures, he fays:

'Manure promotes the growth of plants, by its fermentation and warmth opening the foil for readily admitting humidity from the air with its nutritious contents; and for facilitating the extenfion of the tender fhoots of roots; or by attracting moifture with its combinations from the earth and atmofphere; or by its depofiting matter, that if not of itfelf nutritious to plants, at leaft promotes the accefs of fuch as is nutritious to it.—It is faid ground is fometimes exhaufted by a ftimulus from manures. The plant is a more likely fubject of ftimulation, as having life; and a ftimulus to the plant may be a mean of promoting its growth. It alfo is faid, lime exhaufts land by its ftimulus. It indeed has injured ground when applied in two great quantities; which tends to reduce foil, in fome degree, to a mortar; and the cauftic quality of lime when applied immediately may, fo will falt, deftroy plants, and alfo a part of their nutrition depofited in the foil. But in fact, it is nearly altogether repetitions of exhaufting crops taken from the ground which effect the mifchief. The farmer gives once, and takes for ever. If lime exhaufts ground by deftroying the nutriment depofited there, it muft be without having promoted any growth in the plants. The injury done by lime, is faid to be from ftimulating the ground, and with a kind of violence forcing it to yield great crops; whereby the foil is exhaufted; and indeed at length it is exhaufted—by the crops—not by the manure. It is better to give the ground a moderate portion of lime at a time, and apply it more frequently.'

'Plants receiving a large portion of their nourifhment immediately from the air, rather fertilize than impoverifh foil, where they are not carried off from the ground, or fuffered to ripen feed. There are ftrong marks of plants meliorating ground by their leaves and other offal depofit, and probably from their perfpiration; efpecially of the pulfe kind.