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POETRY.

The Abbe Delisle, a French exile, who has taken refuge in England, has recently publiſhed a poem, entitled L'Hommes des Champs, ou les Georgiques Françoiſe, in four cantos; the general object of which is to deſcribe the enjoyments of a country life. The Engliſh Reviewers have denominated the author, "the moſt illuſtrious poet in Europe;" and have beſtowed uncommon encomiums upon his work. They have accompanied their extracts from the poem with tranſlations, in hopes of "giving ſome faint idea of the beauty of the original to thoſe who are not familiarly converſant with the French language." The following beautiful lines, which powerfully awaken the tender recollection of youthful ſcenes, are ſelected from the tranſlation of a paſſage in the fourth canto, in which are given the rules of rural poetry.

BUT well the pencil paints, when to our eyes
It bids fair ſcenes of pleaſures paſt ariſe;
I love the landſcape which your verſe pourtrays;
But when you add, "Here paſs'd my early days,
Here op'd my eyes to light; my heart to joy.
Theſe were my haunts, a gay and careleſs boy!"
Theſe fancy gives me back thy fields, Auvergne;
Bids me thy awful brow, Mont D'or, diſcern;
As, after twice ten years of abſence paſt,
Half veil'd in ſhadowy clouds, I ſaw thee laſt,
With rapture ſaw again each well known ſcene.
The wooded hills! the vales of ſmiling green!
Though ſcarce obſerv'd for my impatient ſoul
Outruns my courſers to the wiſh'd for goal.
I ſaw it! and a joy, unknown before,
Swells at my heart; I run each object o'er;
I wander long: where'er I turn my eyes
A croud of tender recollections riſe.
There is the tree, beneath whoſe ample ſhade
I oft have ſeen by breath of zephyrs fade,
With no ſmall grief, my palaces of ſand;
And there along the ſtream my little hand
Has often hurld the pebble, ſmooth and round,
To ſee it bound, now glide, and now rebound,
Skimming the ſurface of the glaſſy tide,
Whilſt I exulting ſtood, and watch'd beſide.
But with what language ſhall I ſeek t'impart
The joy I felt, when, claſping to my heart,
Diſſolv'd in tears, her, on whoſe tender breaſt
My infant frame was nouriſh'd and careſs'd;
And him, the good old man! who us'd to guide
My infant ſteps when tott'ring by his ſide?
When, to my eager ſight, at laſt appears
The reverend paſtor of my early years,
Impaſſion'd, I exclaim, "Scenes of my birth,
My firſt deſires, my hours of thoughtleſs mirth!
Oh! tell me, beauteous ſcenes, where ſhall I find
Thoſe dear, firſt pleaſures of my youthful mind?"
No more—theſe tender thoughts bear me aſide,
But to my ſubject, now my pen I guide.

[Our readers will be gratified with the ſound ſenſe and pleaſant vein of the following extract of a letter from Richard Peters, of Pennſylvania, to General Waſhington, occaſioned by certain enquiries and remarks made by Arthur Young.]

[Taken from a late Engliſh publication, entitled "Letters from his Excellency General Waſhington to Arthur Young."]

"*Obſervations on an extract of a letter, dated 17th January, 1793, from Arthur Young, Esq. to the Preſident of the United States.*

"1. "Your information has thrown me afloat on the *high seas.* To analyze your huſbandry, has the *difficulty of a problem.* Is it poſſible, that the inhabitants of a great Continent, &c. can carry on farming as a buſineſs, and yet never calculate profit by per centage on capital?" &c.

I know not where to land Mr. Young from his ſea-voyage, unleſs facts, well known and *felt* here, ſerving as pilots to guide him into a ſafe harbour, will enable him to arrive on a ſhore, pleaſant in its proſpects, and abundant in its reſources; not ſo much indebted to Art as to Nature, for its beauties and conveniencies. Let him but realize his propoſals of coming among us (I preſume as a viſitant), and judge for himſelf. He will not be embarraſſed with unavailing conjectures, or laborious calculations: he will find, that, added to our ſituation as a new country, where much land is to be had for little money, our political arrangements contribute to our happineſs, and to our moderate, but competent wealth. We have no princes, to indulge the grades more immediately beneath them, in their pleaſures and their paſſions, that they may themſelves be ſupported at the expence of the nation, in their ſchemes of ambition and luxury—no over-grown nobles, to wanton on the hard earnings of an oppreſſed yeomanry! He will find a reſpectable *clergy,* choſen by their reſpective congregations, and reputably ſupported by the voluntary contributions of their hearers. But theſe are not eccleſiaſtical drones! —*fruges conſumere nati*:—they do, *themſelves,* the duties required of them! they act not in the affairs of heaven by deputies, whoſe poverty is truly apoſtolical; the penurious ſtipends allowed them by their graſping ſuperiors, compelling them to be converſant only in the *faſts,* while their principals revel in the *feaſts,* of the church. In a word, he will not ſee a ſable hoſt of ſuperfluous and pampered prieſts (maintained by numbers who do not hear, or belive in their doctrines), who fatten on the property of the people; and, while they fetter and terrify men's conſciences, to mould them to their purpoſes, eat out their ſubſtances, under the ſanction of law. Theſe deſcriptions of characters, in other countries, create and increaſe taxes; while they render their ſubordinates leſs liable to pay them, by enormous rents, made neceſſary by their diſſipation and extravagance, and by their capricious terms of leaſing lands, of which they are the principal engroſſers. *England* has, perhaps, leſs reaſon to complain, on theſe accounts, than ſome other European countries: but, if we had no other ſtatements to rely on than thoſe given by Mr. Young himſelf, we ſhould know enough to be convinced, that, even there, ſome of theſe cauſes produce misfortunes in ſufficient plenty. Not having the leaſt inclination, if it were in my power, to diſturb the ſyſtems of other nations, and wiſhing the happineſs of mankind in their own way, I do not mention either our poſitive or negative proſperity, with a view to draw odious or diſagreeable compariſons. The world will never agree about forms of government. Let thoſe who think well of grades in ſociety, be happy in the poſſeſſion of ſuch arrangements. We conſider it fortunate, and feel it beneficial, that we have them not.

Taxes, it is ſaid by ſome, ſtimulate to induſtry; and, therefore, the higher the tax, the greater the exertion, and the more employment. But, if this were a more tenable doctrine than it is, I ſee not that man ſhould labour not for himſelf—or for himſelf too hardly: nor ſhould he be compelled, by artificial neceſſity, like a criminal immerged to the chin in water conſtantly flowing in upon him, inceſſantly to pump, or periſh. *Taxes* we have, but the greater part are imperceptible, and all of them light. The moderate expences of our government, and the mediocrity of our public debt, do not require heavy and ruinous taxation. The backs to bear it, increaſe faſter than the burthen; and we are too far removed from the ſcenes of ruinous and unneceſſary wars, to dread any ſudden or fatal increaſe of it. Wars are generally produced by the pride, vanity, intereſt, or ambition of hereditary rulers.

The great body of an induſtrious people are inclined to peace; and from theſe, our government will always take its tone. As to our wars with the ſavages, they are, for the time, embarraſſing, locally diſtreſſing, and, generally, expenſive; but are not *nationally* formidable, or dangerous. Diſputes with them muſt gradually diminiſh, and, at no diſtant period, end. Though the reflection be painful to humanity, it is juſtified, in point of fact, by experience, that the nations in contact with the whites, always have been, and ever will be, exterminated. The approaches of our ſettlements, always baniſh the Indians.

"Our laws are generally liberal in their policy. We have no narrow arrangements, which, under falſe notions of national convenience, or ſhadowy and miſcalculated political reſtrictions, palſy agriculture and commerce, by preventing thoſe who poſſeſs the products of the country, from diſpoſing of what their labour has created, *when, where,* and *how* they pleaſe. Free from ſuch reſtraints, and from the preſſure of heavy rents, *church*-dues, and taxes, our farmers are the proprietors of the ſoil they cultivate: they gather the honey, ſhear the fleece, and guide the plough, for themſelves alone. It is not the "*sic vos non vobis*" of Europe. They increaſe the value of their capital, while they labour for their ſuſtenance. They do not, indeed, *receive* an annual intereſt, or revenue, on their capital; but they *pay* none: yet, by their exertions for their own ſupport and accommodation, and the growing population and improvement of the country, to which every one, ſtranger as well as native, contributes, more than an European per centage is added to their principal; inſomuch, that farms will increaſe, in very many parts of the country, tenfold in their value, in leſs than 20 years. Immenſe tracts of new lands have been recently ſold by the ſtate of Pennſylvania, at leſs than an Engliſh ſhilling per acre. Great and extenſive bodies of theſe lands can be now procured, at ſecond hand, at leſs than half Mr. Y's calculation for mountain-lands. I know valuable tracts, of great extent, within a few days ride of Philadelphia, which may be had at from 3 to 9s. ſterling per acre. Theſe are not "mountain-lands," tho', like all the face of our country, they are cut, in ſome places, by ridges. They are, for the moſt part, level, and ſo luxuriant in paſturage, that maugre our winters, cattle now paſs that ſeaſon in prime order, without cover, or artificial forage. They command both the New-York and Philadelphia markets, and are ſituated in a ſafe country, which will, ere long, be as great for grazing as any in America. Other ſtates have ſimilar advantages. Mr. Y's farm, or even his 60 acres, and the ſheep he ſummered on it, will buy him a little territory; and his capital, in 10 years, will be increaſed 500 per cent. This is not a bad per centage, nor is it a viſionary calculation. I wiſh not to throw out fallacious temptations, but to relate facts, merely to ſhew why our farmers need not make nice calculations about per centage. They have now, and always have had, a ſure reſource for the wear of their ſea-board farms, &c. the growth of their families. Children, in Europe, are often a burden and expence. The wealth of a great part of the American farmers grows with the additions to their families. The children aſſiſt in the labour of the old farm, or in the eſtabliſhment of the new one. This ſuperſedes the neceſſity of calculating on hired labourers, the work being chiefly done within themſelves: they are paid by the increaſed value of the *common stock.* Our laws, contrary to the feodal injuſtice of Europe, encourage and direct equality of diſtribution among the children of inteſtate deſcendants; ſo that many parents purpoſely omit making wills, contented with the diſtribution made by law. And though every man has the right, at his pleaſure, to diſpoſe of his eſtate by will or deed, yet the habits of thinking on ſuch occaſions, take their bias from the ſpirit of our laws. Many, who have large families, and want room, or are tired of their old farms, think it better to ſell, and remove to places where Nature is in her prime; leaving to their ſucceſſors, the toil, *calculation,* and expence of renovating lands exhauſted by bad tillage. The worn farms always find purchaſers; and the price paid for them, buys a ſufficient quantity of new land, beſides leaving a ſurplus in caſh, for improvement. One day this muſt have an end; but that is far diſtant. When it arrives, the proprietors of old lands will adopt better ſyſtems of agriculture, which are now faſt advancing. Theſe will add to the products of their lands, and procure more wealth, but poſſibly not more happineſs, in our more ancient ſettlements. Our old lands are capable of renovation, having a good ſtaple, as has been proved in numberleſs inſtances.

I condemn not *calculation,* which is prudent and proper in every buſineſs—"*Ego sum pictor.*"—I am ſometimes ſeized with the faculty of calculating, but not always ſucceſsful in the practical proof of it. I need not, however, be diſcouraged; for I often read, with pleaſure, Mr. Y's writings: I admire his genius, and reſpect even his enthuſiaſm; in which he often ſtrikes out fine thoughts: but I venerate his candour, while he frequently acknowledges, that ſucceſs does not always crown his own calculations, or invariably durable conviction, his opinions. We have here innumerable inſtances of farmers who get forward, without ever ſpending a thought on per centage, or other nice calculation. And however "*problematical*" this may ſeem, it is an obſervation as old as the firſt appearance of the redoubtable *Hudibrass,* that

"No argument like matter of fact is."

"I aſk your forgiveneſs for the multifarious, and perhaps tireſome, ſcope I have taken. The eaſy ſituation of an induſtrious, full-handed American farmer, is the pleaſing reſult of a combination, produced by all the cauſes I have mentioned. Inſtead of calculating, he labours and enjoys. And though I do not profeſs to have a good opinion of the ſtyle of American huſbandry, yet even this ſhews the happy ſituation, in other reſpects, of our country. With ſuch farming in Europe, the farmers would ſtarve, and leave their children common labourers, or beggars. And yet, here, they live well, and leave their deſcendants the means of obtaining the comforts and conveniencies of life.* This is the problem I have endeavoured to ſolve. And I could not, but by this circuitous route, arrive at the anſwer to Mr. Y's queſtion, "Is it poſſible that the inhabitants of a great Continent, not new ſettlers, who, of courſe, *live to hunt, to eat, and to drink,* can carry on farming as a buſineſs, and yet never calculate the profit they make by per centage on their capital?"—The phraſeology "*who, of courſe, live to hunt, to eat, and to drink,*" I do not perfectly comprehend. Our *hunters* are only a few borderers, and not to be counted upon as farmers; nor are our farmers, though they have not the beſt ſyſtems, *idle.* I therefore think, that (without meaning a *critique*) "*who, eat and drink to live,*" would have been a more juſt arrangement of language."

* There is much good ſenſe in many of this gentleman's obſervations.—A. Y.

For the National Intelligencer.

A VIEW

Of the relative STRENGTH OF PARTIES *in the United States in the years* 1800 *and* 1802.

It is aſſerted in the Federal prints that ſince the commencement of the Preſidency of Mr. Jefferſon, the republican party has been loſing ground, and that the loſs ſuſtained by them is ſo great as to create a probability that the next Preſidential election will reſtore the government to the Federal party. This declaration is made in a great variety of ſhapes, accompanied by much ſlander caſt upon the preſent adminiſtration. It is not my intention to repel calumny by the ordinary weapon that is made uſe of for that purpoſe. I ſhould feel myſelf degraded were I capable of inſulting the public with the language of a blackguard or the falſehoods of a liar. I ſhall, on the contrary, in as plain language as I can, ſtate facts, and truſt to the good ſenſe of my readers to make the proper inferences.

I know no fairer criterion of the relative ſtrength of party at the cloſe of the year 1800, than the votes then given for Preſident and Vice-Preſident. That election was one of great intereſt, called forth the entire ſtrength of party, and reſpects intimately the point, ſo warmly diſputed, whether the preſent Preſident has or has not loſt the public confidence. It has been ſaid by the federaliſts that ſome of the electoral votes given to Mr. Jefferſon were not the reſult of a fair expreſſion of the public will, which was in ſuch caſes decidedly in favour of his predeceſſor, Mr. Adams. This is not believed: But if true, it would, by operating to the diminution of the ſtrength of the republican party in 1800, exhibit, on compariſon, a proportional increaſe in 1802, and would of courſe in this view, as far as it went, produce a concluſion unfavourable to the federaliſts. In making a compariſon between the two propoſed periods, we ſhall exhibit the reſult of the political ſtrength of each ſtate, firſt by the number of votes given in 1800 to Mr. Jefferſon; ſecondly by ſtating from the beſt exiſting authorities, the votes that would be now given, were an election to take place.

The votes given for Preſident and Vice-Preſident at the cloſe of the year 1800, were as follow:

	Republican.	*Federal.*
New Hampſhire	0	6
Maſſachuſetts	0	16
Rhode Iſland	0	4
Connecticut	0	9
Vermont	0	4
New-York	12	0
New-Jerſey	0	7
Pennſylvania	8	7
Delaware	0	3
Maryland	5	5
Virginia	21	0
Kentucky	4	0
Tenneſſee	3	0
North Carolina	8	4
South Carolina	8	0
Georgia	4	0
	73	65
Federal	65	
Majority in 1800	8	

Were an election of Preſident to take place now, under the new Cenſus, the votes would ſtand as follow:

	Republican.	*Federal.*
New Hampſhire	0	7
Maſſachuſetts	0	19
Rhode Iſland	4	0
Connecticut	0	9
Vermont	6	0
New-York	19	0
New Jerſey	8	0
Pennſylvania	20	0
Delaware	3	0
Maryland	6	5
Virginia	24	0
North Carolina	10	4
South Carolina	10	0
Georgia	6	0
Kentucky	8	0
Tenneſſee	5	0
	129	44
Federal	44	
Majority	85	

Or nearly three votes to one.

That this ſtatement is as correct, as any one which is hypothetical can reaſonably be expected to be, will appear from the following expoſition.

With regard to,

New Hampshire, the whole votes being given to the federaliſts, there can be no controverſy.

Massachusetts and *Connecticut*—the ſame.

Rhode Island, the election being made by general ticket, which is the ſame mode purſued in 1800, the recent election of members of the legiſlature, who are choſen by the ſame voters as the electors, is an unequivocal evidence of the public ſentiment. The republican votes given were about three times the number of the federal.

Vermont, the electors are choſen by the legiſlature, whoſe Republicaniſm is manifeſt from their choice of Mr. Bradley, as federal ſenator, by a very reſpectable majority.

New-York, by a permanent law, the electors are choſen by the legiſlature. In the preſent legiſlature there are 78 republican, and 28 federal members.—Of the members of Congreſs recently choſen 10 are republican, and 7 federal.

New-Jersey, the preſent legiſlature is decidedly federal.

In this ſtate the electors are choſen by the legiſlature.

Pennsylvania, In this ſtate, federaliſm has ſo little ſtrength that it is not believed that at the enſuing election in October for members of Congreſs, there will be a ſingle federaliſt elected in the whole delegation of eighteen. In both branches of the legiſlature there is a great majority republican. It is not known whether there is any fixed mode of choſing electors, but the reſult would be the ſame in any mode.

Delaware, the reſult is not abſolutely certain, but there is every probability that the ſame majority that choſe a republican governor will choſe alſo a republican aſſembly.

Maryland, five federal electors out of ſix are allowed, to avoid the imputation of partiality, though of the preſent legiſlature, the Senate is entirely republican, as are two thirds of the other brach.

Virginia, no human being entertains a doubt of her vote being entire. Nine tenths of her legiſlature are republican.

North-Carolina, the election is in diſtricts. A new legiſlature has been juſt choſen, which is decidedly republican: the preciſe numbers on each ſide are not known.

South-Carolina, the election is by the legiſlature, which, being choſen only every two years, is the ſame that voted for electors in 1800. There has, therefore, been no new regular expreſſion of the public will; but accounts that may be relied on, furniſh indiſputable evidences of the growth of republicaniſm in that ſtate.

Georgia, Kentucky, and *Tennesse,* there never have been entertained the leaſt doubts.

After this ſtatement can there be a doubt of the preſent adminiſtration poſſeſſing more fully the confidence of the people than has been the caſe at any antecedent period? They who proclaim their doubts muſt be deeply deluded themſelves, or diſpoſed miſerably to delude others. This ſtatement exhibits not the ordinary complexion of public opinion, derived from vague information, or unfound premiſes, on the accuracy of which an honeſt contrariety of ſentiment may exiſt; but the decided, regular, *conſtitutional expreſſion of the national will* on the election of a chief magiſtrate. It is in vain to ſay the people are deluded, and their verdict is good for nothing. This may do extremely well for cloſet declamation, but it does not touch the point; for from every ſymptom of growing republicaniſm, if to be republican be madneſs, then are the people mad beyond all cure. Should we extend our views to the next Preſidential election, and allow to the federaliſts the full extent of their viſionary dreams, not one of which promiſes realiſation, we ſhall ſtill find that an election of a federal Preſident is morally impoſſible.

It will be remarked that the republicans have two ſtrong holds of which they have not availed themſelves, and of which they may not perhaps avail themſelves unleſs compelled by the intrigues of their opponents. Theſe are to be found in the ſtates of Maryland and North Carolina, where the election of electors is held by the people in diſtricts, the conſe-