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National Intelligencer.

To the Legislature of the United States.

Another object, which claims the earlieſt attention of Congreſs, is the propoſition of an amendment to the Conſtitution by which the votes hereafter given for Preſident and Vice-Preſident ſhall be deſignated.

As, to this amendment no rational objection can be made, while in its favor ſubſtantial arguments can be urged, it is hoped that no want of co-operation between different parties will fruſtrate its adoption.

It is acknowledged that every article of the conſtitution as forming a part of the palladium of our rights, is entitled to deliberate examination before it is pronounced defective or erroneous. But it is no derogation from the ſplendid talents of the convention that formed the conſtitution, nor any impeachment of the ſuperior luſtre of the conſtitution itſelf, that there are certain parts which experience has demonſtrated to be ſuſceptible of improvement. However tranſcendant the talents of thoſe who legiſlate for a nation, defects will unavoidably creep into the laws they deviſe; and we often ſee the ſame individuals, who had the chief agency in the formation of particular acts, the firſt to acknowledge, and the earlieſt to repair their defects, when expoſed by time, and their application to the caſes for which they were framed. So aware were the convention of this circumſtance, and impreſſed by its force, that they made particular proviſion for it, by an article eſtabliſhing the mode, in which amendments to the conſtitution ſhould be made. Let thoſe who in the abſtract object on all occaſions, however momentous, to the ſlighteſt alteration of the conſtitution, and who endeavour to repreſent the leaſt attempt to alter it as indicative of general hoſtility, recollect that ſo far as ſuch opinions are inculcated they defeat the efficacy of this very proviſion, and by defeating it, aim a wound at its vital part. Let them feel that, while they liberally charge others with a deſign to ſubvert it, they are themſelves proſtrating one of its greateſt, if not its ſtrongeſt bulwark, by rendering futile that important article which preſcribes the mode of rendering it conſonant to the will of the people cautiouſly and deliberately expreſſed, however different that will might thereafter be from that which exiſted at the period of its adoption.

Theſe remarks have been extended, becauſe they are conſidered as peculiarly applicable to the propoſed amendment. The great, if not the only, objection urged againſt it, is derived from the general perfection of the conſtitution, which is made to ſanction what otherwiſe would be acknowledged to be a defect.

From what has been already ſaid, it appears that the objection deſtroys itſelf, as the very perfection which it preſcribes as a rule, contains the proviſion for amendments to which it excepts. Let us then take the conſtitution as it is; and if defects are found, let them be fairly examined, and honeſtly corrected. On this point, there is little danger to be apprehended from the prevalence of prejudice, or the ſudden influence of impulſe. The conſtitutional proviſion amply provides againſt theſe ordinary dangers, by requiring in the firſt inſtance the ſanction of two-thirds of each branch of the federal legiſlature, and afterwards the approbation of three-fourths of the legiſlatures of the ſtates.

The only rational views which can be taken of the ſubject may be embraced in theſe enquiries:

Is there great inconvenience, and can there be no great injury in the preſent proviſion of the conſtitution that directs the voting for perſons, without diſcrimination, for Preſident and Vice-Preſident?

And, if there is ſuch inconvenience, and may be ſuch danger, is the propoſed amendment, directing a deſignation of the perſon voted for as Preſident, and the one voted for as Vice-Preſident, calculated to cure the preſent evil without producing a greater?

If both theſe queſtions can be anſwered affirmatively, it is hoped that no obſtacle will be interpoſed to fruſtrate the adoption of the propoſed amendment.

That there is a great inconvenience and may be danger in the preſent mode of electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, events have fully demonſtrated. It will not be denied that under our ſyſtem of government every political agent ſhould be a fair organ of the public will; and that before he is appointed to office, he ſhould be elected by a fair expreſſion of the public ſentiment. It is not ſufficient that his good conduct, when in office, entitle him to the eſteem of his country; it is alſo neceſſary that previous to his entrance into office he ſhould enjoy her confidence. Under the preſent proviſion, the Vice-Preſident, whoſe legiſlative duties have often been little leſs important than his proviſional executive functions, not only may be, but actually has been, in every caſe, excepting that of Mr. Burr, the repreſentative of a minority of the electoral votes. He may indeed be the repreſentative of a ſmall fraction of thoſe votes. Suppoſe this ſhould, on ſome future occaſion, actually be the caſe. Suppoſe the Vice Preſident elected by one-tenth part of the electors. Suppoſe the Preſident, elected at the ſame time, ſhould die, reſign, or be ejected from office. That theſe are not viſionary ſuppoſitions is evident from the proviſion of the conſtitution for their occurrence. The effect would be the diſcharge of Preſidential duties by a citizen, whoſe very election to the office of Vice-Preſident demonſtrated his want of the national confidence. On him, notwithſtanding, would devolve duties of the utmoſt magnitude; duties, on the diſcharge of which might depend the peace of the country; and on which certainly would depend a large portion of its political happineſs and character.

This evil, however, great as it is, and however radically oppoſed to the whole theory of republican government, is not the only one. There is an evil, unfortunately, of much greater magnitude; one, not diſcerned through the uncertain medium of conjecture, but realized by a mournful experience.

Who is there that regards the peace of ſociety, or the duration of the Union, that can review the late legiſlative election of a Preſident without alarm? Cold muſt that heart be which does not entertain ſome fear of the future from the experience of the paſt. We were then in imminent danger of having no Preſident, or one for Preſident not poſſeſſing the public confidence becauſe not contemplated by the people for that ſtation; or of loſing the government altogether; and, perhaps, of exchanging the tranquility it inſured for convulſion and civil war.

Theſe circumſtances, having once occurred, may occur again. The cauſes in which they originated are not likely without a ſpecial interpoſition to be removed by time. It is to be feared that as we advance in years, we will not advance in virtue. The ſame ſiniſter or miſtaken views, the ſame improper means, uſed on one occaſion, may be uſed on another; and a faction may in this way firſt proſtrate our government and then deſtroy our liberties.

This view, as it does not admit, ſo it does not require the refinement of argument, to exhibit it in its fulleſt prominence. Its neceſſary effects are ſuch as occur to the loweſt apprehenſion; and for a correction of them, we would rather truſt to the feelings of the patriot than the reflections of the philoſopher.

If it be acknowledged that the exiſting evil is ſo great as to call for immediate remedy, is that which is propoſed calculated to cure the preſent evil without producing a greater?

It is confidently believed that it is; becauſe it preciſely correſponds with every political analogy of our government, becauſe it is ſo ſimple that every one can underſtand it, and becauſe it is that which the public ſentiment demands. It correſponds with every political analogy of the government, inaſmuch as it gives effect to a fair expreſſion of the public will, and ſubſtitutes the voice of a majority in the room of that of a minority; it is ſimple, becauſe it is in conformity to the firſt principles of a republican government, with which our citizens are correctly acquainted; and it is in correſpondence with the national ſentiment, as appears by its expreſſion in various ways, by the votes of both Houſes of Congreſs at their laſt ſeſſion, by the acts of ſeveral of the ſtates, and by public opinion, eaſily collected in the ordinary intercourſes of ſociety.

To render the amendatory proviſion fully competent to the end contemplated, the conſtitution ſhould be further altered ſo as to provide that in caſe any two or more citizens voted for as Preſident ſhall have equal votes, and the Houſe of Repreſentatives, voting by ſtates, after a certain number of trials, ſhall have made no election, the Houſe ſhall thereupon proceed in its ordinary mode of voting to elect one of the citizens, and in caſe there be then an equal vote, the caſting vote of the Speaker ſhall decide the perſon elected.

As this is a point of primary importance, and one in which the whole community have equal intereſts, it is ſincerely hoped that all the members of the legiſlature will be animated by a common zeal. The people do expect that immediate proviſion will be made; and their diſappointment, ſhould it not be made this ſeſſion, will be proportioned to their expectation. We will entirely avoid the invidious taſk of aſcribing to any men motives for rejecting it, as we confidently hope that party ſpirit will not mingle its prejudices with a temperate diſcuſſion, and as we believe, if this ſhall be the caſe, there will be an undivided ſuffrag in its favor.

CHARLES VARDEN,
TAYLOR,
From Philadelphia.

HAS received from Philadelphia an elegant aſſortment of the beſt quality Superfine Cloths, Caſſimeres, Silk florintine, Black and fancy ſilk moleſkin velvet, white & figured Marſeilles, Swandowns, Toilinettes, Velveteens, Fancy cords, Coating, &c.

With a variety of other articles ſuitable for the winter ſeaſon.

N. B. Ladies Habits, Regimentals and Navy uniforms made in the firſt ſtyle of faſhion.

New-Jerſey Avenue, the ſecond Houſe from the Capitol Square.

December 8, 1802. tf.

Thomas Carpenter,
TAYLOR.

HAS received a very handſome aſſortment of goods, conſiſting of ſuperfine cloths, caſſimeers and coatings of all colours.

Patent water proof Cloths,

Silk and woolen Moleſkins, Toilinettes, velveteens, &c. of ſuperior quality.

From which, and an acquiſition of the neweſt faſhions and the beſt workmen, he can aſſure whatever commanded.

Pennſylvania Avenue, near the Preſident' Square, and New Jerſey Avenue, about eigh houſes from Capitol ſquare.

Dec. 1, 1801. tf.

FOR SALE
By Edgar Patterſon,
GEORGE TOWN,

BEST old London Particular Madeira Wine,
Sherry, ditto.
4th proof Cogniac Brandy,
1ſt Proof Bordeaux Ditto,
Cherry Bounce,
Wine and cyder Vinegars,
Sugar Houſe Molaſſes,
Spermacity Oil,
Spaniſh Segars of a very ſuperior quality,
Eaſt India, ditto,
Hyſon, Young Hyſon & Hyſon ſkin Teas,
Loaf, Lump and Brown Sugars,
Green and white coffee,
American Cheeſe of ſuperior quality,
Raiſins and Lemmons,
Rice and Chocolate,
Pearl and common Barley,
Oat Meal and Sago,
Spermaciti, Wax, and Tallow Candles,
Brown Soap, by the box only,
Demijohns, Liquor Caſes, &c. &c.

Dec. 23d. ep|3w.

The Dey of Algiers.
This beautiful native Arabian Horse,
IS NOW FOR SALE.

The proof of his age and origin may be inſpected, and the noble animal himſelf may be ſeen, by applying to Charles C. Jones at his farm, ſeven miles from this town: he is young, healthy and in fine ſpirits, and condition, and the trial of laſt ſeaſon, (the only one he has ſtood in this part of the world) proves him a ſure foal getter. As to his form, let thoſe judge who are inclined to purchaſe.

The beſt judges have pronounced him perfect; his color is white; he is of full ſtature for his race, meaſuring exactly 14 hands 2 and an half inches,

As, if not ſold, he will be advertiſed to cover on the 1ſt February. I cannot receive propoſitions later than that day.

JOHN MASON.

George-Town December 22, 1802, ep4w

FOR SALE.

Stock and Common Bricks,
Scantling,
Firewood,
Slate,
Coals.

Apply to JAMES O'BRIEN, Carrollsbur
Oct. 29. pcam

FOR SALE.

BETWEEN two and three thouſand ACRES OF LAND in the county of Loudoun, being part of the Gooſe creek tract of land, purchaſed of the late Col. Charles Carter. On Little River, which runs nearly thro' the middle of the tract there is between two and three hundred acres of rich low ground. The high land excellent for ſmall grain, and the production of graſs; particularly timothy. About one half the land is in the occupation of tenants, and on that part untenanted, one hundred and ſeventy ſix buſhels of wheat are ſown. All the tenants are well watered have good ſprings, and a ſufficiency of woodland and timber for their ſupport. In a pleaſant ſituation on that part not occupied by the tenants, there are neceſſary improvements for the accommodation of a ſmall family, all built within a few years paſt. I will treat for the whole, or (if preferred by a purchaſer) that part which is not in the poſſeſſion of tenants. Stock of the bank of Alexandria will be received in payment. For terms apply to

JOS. JONES.

Loudoun, Dec. 20. Jan. 5. 2aw3w

For the National Intelligencer.

TO CONGRESS.

Whoever devotes a portion of his time to objects of public utility, actuated by the *amor patriæ* and diveſted of any perſonal views, is at leaſt entitled to a reſpectful attention; whatever may be the fate of his projects. The writer of this eſſay devoted ten years of the early part of his life in travelling throughout the United States of America, and in various parts of Europe.

Since his return to his native country, he has the pleaſing ſatisfaction of ſeeing many projects, ſuggeſted by him, of public utility, brought into ſucceſsful operation.

Among others, he firſt ſtarted the plan of Turnpike Roads in the northern ſtates, where experience has evinced their great importance; in conſequence they are extending in all directions in all the ſtates north of Maryland, particularly in the New-England ſtates, and in the ſtate of New-York. The moſt extenſive line of turnpike now in operation in America extends from Boſton through Albany to the Niagara falls, a diſtance of about 500 miles—two-thirds of which is nearly compleated, and the reſidue bids fair to be done by the different incorporated companies now in being for the greater part of the diſtance, in two or three years. About 70 or 80 years ago Turnpike roads were firſt commenced in England; previous to which their roads were extremely bad the greater part of the year; they now extend in all directions throughout that highly improved kingdom. The preſent roads in England, and facility of prompt communication is not equalled in any other country. In France their beſt roads are paved—they have as yet no Turnpike roads, although the Duke de Chartres with his prodigious fortune contemplated their commencement previous to their revolution. In moſt parts of Europe, particularly in Spain—Portugal and Germany, the roads are in a ſhameful ſtate of neglect.

Thus much being premiſed on the ſubject of Turnpike Roads in general; and as experience has fully evinced their great utility in America, and with light tolls their productiveneſs to the ſtock-holders; I have for ſeveral years been ſtrongly impreſſed with an idea of the neceſſity and propriety of extending a line of Turnpike Roads FROM PORTSMOUTH IN NEW-HAMPSHIRE, TO SAVANNAH IN GEORGIA.

It is unqueſtionably a great national object; and will accelerate a prompt, ſafe, and eaſy communication along the whole extent of our ſea bord in the firſt inſtance; and by degrees other Turnpikes will diverge from the main Atlantic Road, in different directions to our Weſtern extremities. Independent of ſhortning the time required for communication at leaſt one-half, double the quantity may be tranſported on ſuch a road with the ſame cattle it requires on the preſent ſhameful roads. It will tend alſo to the comfort, pleaſure, and ſafety of travellers, and their greater facility, by multiplying beyond all calculation the number and the convenience of carriages, and of conſequence a great improvement of the inns, horſes and drivers.

It will alſo greatly promote travelling from ſtate to ſtate; and of neceſſity our ſcattered fellow-citizens will intermix more, become better acquainted, and the edge of ill founded, unjuſt prejudices will wear off by degrees. In a word, it will greatly conduce to our national reputation, to take the ſecond rank among all the nations of the earth, in reſpect to the excellence of our roads, and the conſequent convenience of travelling. England now ſtands confeſſedly pre-eminent in theſe reſpects. But ſhould we, in addition to the Turnpike, add a line of trees of ornament on each ſide of the road, to protect man and beaſt from the intenſe rays of the ſun in the ſummer months, as in Italy, we ſhould in this caſe juſtly aſſume the firſt rank, by combining the excellence of the Engliſh with the ornament of Italian roads. I confeſs I cannot contemplate this important enterprize diveſted of an enthuſiaſtic national pride.

The execution I am perſuaded will not be found ſo gigantic an undertaking as may be ſuppoſed at firſt view. If individual enterprize can, in a few years, execute ſeveral hundred miles of Turnpike on the route from Boſton to Niagara, beſides a vaſt number of others of inferior magnitude, what mighty difficulties can attend this immenſe object, when it is contemplated as a national one, and the national arm is extended to effect it?

From Portſmouth to Savannah the diſtance may be eſtimated about 1200 miles. As part of the rout is already executed a moſt of the way from Portſmouth to New-York, and will probably be compleated as far ſouth as Philadelphia within two years by individual enterprize, I will ſuppoſe that it will leave 900 miles to be executed. The roads in New England and in New-York have coſt on the average about 1000 dollars each mile; but as they are for the moſt part not ſufficiently ſpacious, nor ſo well executed as they ſhould be, admit the contemplated 900 miles to coſt 2000 dollars a mile, bridges and cauſeways included. It will of courſe require a ſum of one million 800,000 dollars to accompliſh it. The moſt natural reſource which preſents itſelf to my mind to effect this great object, is either a National Road Lottery, to be continued by claſſes till the whole ſum is raiſed, or the neat avails of the Poſt-Office, which may probably be eſtimated at 100,000 dollars per ann. on the average for ſeveral years to come. If, therefore, an enlightened and patriotic legiſlature ſhould be diſpoſed to purſue the object and adopt the latter reſource for its accompliſhment, 18 years would be required to compleat the road. But as 50 miles would be effected each year; and as the finiſhed road would yield a neat product on the expended capital of at leaſt 5 per cent. per ann. with moderate tolls; hence it will reſult that from the increaſing yearly product applied to its progreſs it will require only 13 years to compleat the whole line, admitting no other reſources ſhould be applied as an auxiliary aid; although I am convinced the plan may be ſo organized as to call forth individual aid, to a great extent, probably one half. Should the plan of the lottery be found preferable, it would doubtleſs accelerate its progreſs, ſo as it would be complete in a few years, with the important advantage of its becoming, in conſequence, a free national road, except a trifling toll to keep up repairs. As I only preſume to offer hints, I will ſuppoſe the road to commence at the city of Waſhington, progreſſing thence 25 miles each year north and ſouth from the capitol till the northern line ſhould meet the line then compleated, and thence forward progreſſing ſouth 50 miles each year. Should the lottery plan however prevail, the whole rout could be compleated with certainty in 4 or 5 years.

PROJECTOR.

City Hotel,
BROADWAY NEW-YORK.

THE Subſcriber moſt reſpectfully informs his friends and the public, that the above Hotel will be opened on the firſt of May enſuing, when their patronage is earneſtly ſolicited. He avails himſelf of this opportunity to return his ſincere and grateful thanks to thoſe ſocieties, parties, and gentlemen, who have given him their ſupport, and aſſures them that a continuance of their favors will be a ſtimulus to future exertions to pleaſe; and that the utmoſt attention ſhall be given for their comfort and accommodation.

Boarding may be had by the day, week, month, or year. Families travelling, may be elegantly accommodated with lodging and ſitting rooms; and, if preferred, have dinner &c. in their apartments.

The Hotel being ſo well known, it is almoſt uſeleſs to ſay, that it is ſituated in one of the moſt healthy and pleaſant parts of the city; commanding an extenſive view in every direction, not only of the city itſelf, but alſo of the Narrows, the North and Eaſt Rivers, the ſtate of New-Jerſey, York and Long-Iſland &c. &c.

A handſome coffee-room will be fitted up in the principal ſtory; where gentlemen may have tea, coffee, chocolate, ſoups, and refreſhments in general, at the ſhorteſt notice. All the leading newſpapers in the union, will be regularly taken in.

Public dinners and ſuppers in a plain or elegant ſtyle either for large or ſmall parties. Alſo, beef ſteaks, oyſters, &c. regularly furniſhed. An ordinary every day at half paſt 3 o'clock, by the public's obedient ſervant,

JOHN LOVETT.

N. B. Rooms to let by the month or year.

April 21, 1802. eptf

The Subscriber has for sale,

London particular Madeira

Wine, in pipes and quarter caſks; Weſt-India Rum in hhds. and barrels; Brown Sugar of excellent quality; and 55 bbls of Cargo Beef

WM. BRENT.

Waſhington, Nov. 12. tf.

IN CHANCERY, Dec. 17, 1802.

ORDERED, That the Sales made by WILLIAM STEWART, as ſtated in his report, ſhall be ratified and confirmed unleſs cauſe to the contrary be ſhewn before the 20th day of March next, provided a copy of this order be publiſhed in the National Intelligencer, at leaſt once in each of three ſucceſſive weeks, before the 20th of March next. The ſales were as follows:—A tract of Land in Allegany county, called "Suck" 212 acres ſold for £497 0 0. "Addition to the Spring Bottom" 95 acres ſold for £ 216. Workmans deſire, 76 acres ſold for £225. "Johnſons Fancy" 50 acres ſold for £111 10 0. Lot no. 8 in ſquare 674, and no 8 in ſquare eaſt of ſquare 664 in the City of Waſhington, ſold for £141 13 6.

Teſt,

SAMUEL H. HOWARD.

Reg. Cur. Can.

Dec. 27. law3t.