NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

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Five Dolls. per ann. MONDAY, MAY 16, 1803. *Paid in Advance.*

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 Marſelles, 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.

To be sold positively at public sale, on Tuesday the 26 of May, on the premises.

THE Subſcriber's life-eſtate in the Walnut Tree Farm, ſituate on the river Potomac, about 4 miles below Alexandria. The farm conſiſts of about 360 acres. The buildings and improvements very good, and the fiſhery attached to it very valuable.

Alſo will be ſold at the ſame time and place, a number of horſes, cattle, and ſheep, and a variety of farming utenſils as well as a quantity of houſehold furniture, conſiſting of mahogany tables, bureaus, bedſtead, chairs &c.

The terms caſh, for all ſums under one hundred dollars; and for all ſums above, approved notes negociable in the banks of Alexandria or Columbia, at 60 and 90 days.

TOBIAS LEAR.

May 4, 1803. ep24M.

Plank & ſcantling for cash.

Wanted for the Eastern Branch bridge, a quantity of the best HEART YELLOW PINE *plank and scantling, viz.*

2000 feet running, of 5 by 6 inches in lengths of 5 f. 3 inch.—10 f. 6 inch.—15 9 inch. or 21 feet.

3400 feet running of 5 by 6 inch. in lengths from 17 f. 6 inch. to 26 f. 6 inch.

3250 feet runing of 2 inch plank 8 inch. wide and 3200 feet running of 4 by 4 inch in lengths of 8 f. 6.—17 f. 0 inch or 25 6 inch. as most convenient.

Alſo 50 000 feet 4 inch plank in 17 feet lengths.

The whole muſt be found and entire heart —Apply ſpeedily to

WILLIAM BRENT.

Treasurer to the Eastern Branch bridge company.

Capitol Hill May 4. 1803. ep2w.

The ſubſcriber has for ſale,

A QUANTITY OF

Claret in bottles,	Jamaica Spirits,
Anchovies in boxes,	Whiſky in barrels,
Capers in ditto,	New-England cheeſe,
Olives in ditto,	Imperial Tea in cheſts,
Olive Oil in ditto,	Butter in Firkins,
Sugar in hhds. & bls	&c. &c.

WILLIAM BRENT.

Waſhington, May 11. tf

Carpenters and Labourers Wanted.

WAnted to work on the Bridge over the eaſtern Branch of Potomak, a number of tough Capenters, alſo a number of labourers by the month, to whom employment will be given during the whole of the ſummer. Their wages will be paid monthly, and the beſt prices will be given. Application to be made to the Subſcriber.

WILLIAM BRENT,

Treasurer of the Eastern Branch Bridge Company April 18th. ep 3w.

FOR SALE OR RENT,

THAT elegant three ſtory BRICK HOUSE on the corner of Falls & Frederick ſtreet in George Town, lately occupied by Mr. PICHON.

Likewiſe,

THE two well finiſhed three ſtory BRICK HOUSES, adjoining that occupied by Mr. SAMUEL H. SMITH, Printer, on the Pennſylvania Avenue, eaſt of the centre Market Houſe, City of Waſhington—Apply to

GEORGE THOMPSON,
George Town.

Geo. Town, Oct. 20. tf.

THOMAS CARPENTER, Taylor.

HAS juſt received by recent arrivals at Philadelphia, from England, and the Eaſt Indies, a handſome aſſortment of SPRING and SUMMER GOODS, of the beſt quality, alſo Patent water proof Cloth's and Caſſimere's, ſuperior NAVY BLUE and other colours; handſome NAVY & FASHIONABLE BUTTONS, &c,

Gentlemen of ARMY, NAVY and FASHION ſerved with expedition and taſte.

New Jerſey Avenue, ſeventh houſe from Capitol Square and Pennſylvania Avenue near the Preſident's ſquare.

April 13 1803. tf.

TO LET,

And be entered upon immediately, three well finished BRICK HOUSES,

NEARLY oppoſite Morin's Tavern, on Twelfth ſtreet very near Pennſylvania Avenue, built for the WASHINGTON BUILDING COMPANY.

The Houſes will be rented on very reaſonable terms.

Apply to THOMAS CARPENTER near the Preſident's Square. eptf.

Dec. 1ſt.

Extract from FISCHER'S *Travels in* SPAIN, *in 1797 and 1798.*

From among the numerous ſubjects, which, during the author's reſidence at Madrid, furniſhed employment for his pen, we ſhall ſelect his obſervations on that lovely portion of the ſpecies, whoſe influence over the habits and paſſions, the ſentiments and prejudices, of civilized man, is ſo irreſiſtibly powerful.

"If the men," ſays M. Fiſcher, "are diſtinguiſhed by their peculiar character, the Spaniſh women are diſtinguiſhable for the warmth of their conſtitutions. I will give you ſome account of them.

"A fanatical enthuſiaſm for the religious ſyſtem of their country, pride that would bend every thing beneath its yoke, a ſingularity that knows no law but its own will, a paſſion for revenge, in oppoſition to which nothing is held ſacred, and an unbridled love of pleaſure, are by no means an amiable aſſemblage of qualities; yet all theſe are compenſated in the Spaniſh women by a fidelity and an attachment that nothing can ſhake, by a ſtrength of mind and heroiſm carried to the utmoſt height. All their ſenſations are violent, but they have a character of energy and ſublimity that would carry you away in ſpite of your better judgment, and all your philoſophy.

"The phyſiognomy of a Spaniſh woman bears the ſtamp of ſenſibility. Her tender form, her majeſtic ſtep, her ſonorous voice, her black and brilliant eye, the vivacity of her geſticulation, in a word, the whole action of her perſon ſhews the temperature of her ſoul. Her premature charms are too ſoon diſplaced, and fade with equal rapidity. The climate, the heating aliments they uſe, exceſs in their amuſements, every thing contributes to produce this effect.

"A Spaniſh woman is ſincerely and irrevocably attached to her religion. Her tender veneration of the madonna, her devotion to her patron ſaint may occupy her infantine heart, the pomp of ceremony may amuſe her unpractiſed ſenſes; but theſe pious illuſions, this myſtical enthuſiaſm, and theſe ſacred tenderneſſes, certainly open her ſoul to the attacks of love. To love a ſaint naturally awakens a ſenſe of her ſexuality, and thus a voluptuous devotion becomes, from ſixteen years of age, the moſt important occupation of her life. In this view alone can the contradictions in her conduct be explained, and her continual alternation of penitences and aberration accounted for, as well as the phyſical influences exerciſed over her by the prieſts.

"Divided between religious duties and the pleaſures of ſenſe, a Spaniſh woman ſeems to be in a ſtate of continual warfare between her conſcience and her conſtitution. Yet, in ſpite of conſtraint, nature at length overcomes the rigour of her principles, and ſhe ends with quieting her conſcience with the idea of being able to expiate enjoyment by a maſs or a prayer. Hence it is by no means rare to ſee a beautiful woman quit the arms of love to kneel before a madonna, and being reconciled by this act of devotion, again haſten to give herſelf up to pleaſure.

"The Spaniſh women, however, are very far from delicate in objects of this kind. With a warm imagination and burning paſſions, they are ignorant of thoſe charms, thoſe ſweet illuſions which the fair ſex derive from delicacy. Hence the moſt unreſtrained language, and the moſt laſcivious looks, are incapable of making them bluſh; and what would excite the utmoſt indignation in a German or Engliſh woman, appears perfectly ſimple and natural to a native of Spain, who yields without reſerve to ſuch licentious images as the former would not dare to contemplate, even in ſolitude.

"It would be an error, however, to infer from theſe remarks, the certainty of ſucceſs in the enterprize of a lover. They ſpeak, it is true, on theſe ſubjects with the freedom of men; their lips, their eyes, their ears, are alike ſtrangers to chaſtity; but their pride prevents their going farther. Such attempt from a man would ſhew a ſenſe of ſuperiority, whereas it is they muſt reign with uncontroled power. Every ſuch advance would therefore be rejected with diſdain. They muſt not be choſen, 'tis they muſt chooſe. 'Tis they that take upon themſelves the part of the man, to whom they only leave the duty of complying with their wiſhes, and giving himſelf up entirely to their will. Hence it is, that the moſt timid and the cooleſt of men are often more ſucceſsful with them than the moſt enterpriſing and impaſſioned lover. Their deſpotiſm forces the former to their charms, for their pride has fixed upon them as their ſlaves. The more indifferent theſe appear, the more ardor the woman ſhews; the more he ſhuns her the more ſhe purſues him. One would imagine ſhe loved him, yet ſhe only deſires to be the object of his love. She ſeems to give herſelf up to him, yet ſhe only ſeeks to reduce him to ſubmiſſion.

"They are, however, faithful and conſtant. The energy of their character preſerves them from levity, and their pride from baſeneſs.

"They are ſuſceptible of the moſt elevated ſentiments, of the moſt noble ſacrifices, of the moſt generous actions; but the ſource of theſe muſt be ſought, not ſo much in her attachment to the object ſhe loves, as in the high ideas ſhe intertains of herſelf. She conſiders her lover as her property, and uſes the ſame complaiſance towards him, that ſhe would feel for herſelf; but ſhe exacts in return the moſt abſolute devotion to her will.

"Nothing can be more burdenſome than the reſtraint attached to the title of lover; it is one uninterrupted ſucceſſion of minute cares and attentions. Chained to the arm of his cara ſpoſa, he muſt accompany her every where like her ſhadow. At the Prado, at maſs, at the threatre, at the confeſſional, never muſt he quit her, and the whole weight of her affairs, of every kind, reſts upon his ſhoulders. Never muſt he approach her empty handed, eſpecially on feaſt days. To him a wiſh, however ſlightly expreſſed, a caprice the moſt undecided is a command, while the moſt inviolable reſpect for her whims and fancies, and the moſt undiſturbed ſubmiſſion of temper are ſacred duties; in a word, he muſt in all things, be the paſſive agent of a woman, whoſe ardent imagination often commands what is impoſſible with the moſt impatient egotiſm.

"Such is the general character of the women of this country. We will now view them as relates to marriage.

"This engagement is formed ſometimes from an appearance of mutual inclination, frequently from mere convenience, and the nuptial benediction renders it indiſſoluble. The lover, however, who has hitherto appeared the moſt humble ſlave of his intended wife, ſuddenly becomes her maſter on the very day of her marriage. But while he endeavors to aſſert his forgotten rights, the wife defends her's with ſo much the more obſtinacy, and at the very moment when he is endeavouring to ſtrip her of her authority, ſhe increaſes her pretenſions. Thus marriage becomes a ſource of perpetual hoſtilities, which nouriſh a diſunion between the huſband and wife, and which is the principal cauſe of the continuance of the cuſtom of *cortejos*.

"This word expreſſes generally a lover, but more particularly that of a married woman. Very frequently this lover has nothing but the name, and might more properly be called a friend, on whom are laid all the cares before deſcribed. Cortejos are rarely found among the middle claſſes, and ſcarcely ever among the lower orders; they frequently only ſerve for etiquette, but more frequently they enjoy all the privileges of a huſband. This ſpecies of intimacy, however, is ſubject to ſuch rigorous laws, that the two parties, in ſome meaſure, inſulate themſelves from all other individuals of their ſex, and conſider the leaſt cauſe of ſuſpicion as unpardonable.

"Theſe ill aſſorted marriages ſometimes produce the moſt horrid acts of revenge. I will relate one of the moſt recent examples which took place during my reſidence at Madrid.

"Donna Antonia, a charming woman, about 29 years of age at moſt, was married to a merchant, a man of mild temper, but capricious, and of a weak conſtitution. This lady had always lived a very retired life, till a young man from Valencia, who came to ſtudy the law at Madrid, was recommended to her huſband, and had acceſs to her. Donna Antonia was pleaſed with his perſon, which procured him her favor, and all the privileges attached to it. The huſband, however, perceived their intimacy, and by means of the offers and honorable means he employed, ſucceeded in diſmiſſing the young man, without affording Donna Antonia an opportunity of oppoſing the meaſure.

"The letters, however, of Donna Antonia, purſued her lover wherever he went, and love and revenge, rendered them ſo eloquent that the young man ſome months after broke his word, and returned ſecretly to Madrid. He then renewed his interviews with her at a private houſe, and his paſſion daily increaſed. At length the time arrived that Antonia ventured to communicate to him a plan ſhe had long ſince formed, of aſſaſſinating her huſband, and offered him, on that condition, her hand, and her fortune. Don Juan ſhuddered with horror at the propoſal, begged her to abandon the idea, ſhewing her the dreadful conſequences of ſo black an action, which he abſolutely refuſed to perpetrate. Hereupon, at firſt, ſhe treated him with the moſt profound contempt, and then gave herſelf up to all the extremes that could be ſuggeſted by deſpair. She employed, alternately, menaces, prayers, and imprecations, then recurred to all the artifices that revenge, or love, could contrive; till at length Don Juan conſented, and the death of the huſband was reſolved. They were engaged in contriving the means of effecting this, when the following circumſtance occurred to haſten its execution.

"Donna Antonia had preſented one of her watches to Don Juan, but her huſband ſoon miſſing it, ſhe accuſed the cook of having ſtolen it, and under that pretext diſcharged her. The huſband meeting the woman, upbraided her with her conduct, but ſhe juſtified herſelf by revealing to him the whole ſecret. He then brought her home, concealed her in an alcove, called his wife, and made the pretended theft the topic of converſation. The remainder of this interview may eaſily be imagined. And now all was loſt, and nothing but the death of her huſband could ſave her. The grief of her huſband for the infidelity of his wife, brought on a fever, and he was obliged to confine himſelf to his bed. It was, therefore, determined to ſend all the ſervants out on the following Sunday, and leave the patient alone. The opening the door of the balcony was the ſignal agreed on, and thus the plot was executed. The lover entered the apartment with a poignard in his hand, fell upon the ſick man, gave him ſeveral ſtabs in the belly, and made his eſcape. But the unfortunate huſband calling for help, a young woman, who was with her aunt, Donna Antonia, heard him. The noiſe of Don Juan, in eſcaping, alſo attracted her attention, as ſhe ran to the apartment of her uncle, whom ſhe found weltering in his blood, and immediately called her aunt. It may eaſily be conceived that the latter did not fail to cry out for help too, and to feign the deepeſt deſpair. Meanwhile the young man had gained the gate of Toledo, and was going to quit Madrid, when he recollected he had no money: he therefore turned back, and went to his apartment to get ſome, but ſtrongly impreſſed with the embarraſſment, in which he imagined the object of his love to be, he went to a woman of his acquaintance, and there waited to receive ſome tidings of her.

"Two days paſſed on, the report of this aſſaſſination ſpread over Madrid, and in the interval, the perſon who was in the ſecret of their connection, revealed it to her confeſſor, who adviſed her to go, and inform the alcaldemayor. The ſuſpicion was confirmed by an intercepted letter, and the culprits were arreſted. Don Juan immediately confeſſed, and Donna Antonia, who had at firſt denied her crime, was convicted. The proſecution continued four months; after which they were both condemned, and ſentenced to ſuffer death. All the intereſt, and the moſt conſiderable offers were made in vain. At firſt Donna Antonia flew into a rage, when ſhe was informed that her lover had confeſſed, and loaded him with reproaches, and with abuſe; but in her laſt moments her love ſeemed to be renewed with encreaſed ardor, and when her ſentence was read to her, ſhe aſked.—"And will Don Juan ſuffer the ſame fate?" Which being anſwered in the affirmative, ſhe replied—"I am much more grieved, gentlemen, for him than for myſelf," and immediately fainted.

"The day of execution at length arrived, for which a ſcaffold had been erected in the Plaza-mayor. The two culprits having received the ſacrament in the Chapel of the Dominicans, were conducted to the executions by the confraternity del Refugio. They were both dreſſed in black, and Donna Antonia wept. She would have embraced her lover for the laſt time, but he turned away his head, till the confeſſor at length reconciled them. She had begged as a favour to be ſtrangled firſt, but the ſentence was that both ſhould be executed at the ſame moment. They were each on a ſeparate ſeat; Don Juan fainted at the moment when the cord was put round him, but Don Antonia ſat with great decency; caſting her eyes upon her lover. They were diſpatched in about a minute.

"According to cuſtom the bodies remained till ſunſet. Twelve candles of yellow wax burned near them on black ſtands, and ſome of the executioner's attendants kept guard. The whole ſquare ſwarmed with people from four in the morning, and continued ſo throughout the day. The obſervations, and judgments of the ſpectators, all bore the national character. The faces of the deceaſed being black, in conſequence of the reflux of blood during ſuffocation, the people of courſe attributed this to the violence the devil had done to their ſouls. They compared the two countenances. The men made excuſes for Don Juan, and the women took up the defence of Donna Antonia. The majority pitied their unhappy fate. This probably it was that induced a curate ſome days after to ſay in his ſermon "That he knew for certain, that Madrid contained thouſands of women one half of whom had been guilty of ſimilar crimes and the other meditated the perpetration of them."

Paſſing the winter of 1797-8, at the capital, our traveller ſeems to have directed a conſiderable portion of his attention to the ſtate of Spaniſh literature at that period. He introduces an extenſive notice on this ſubject, and a catalogue of the principal Spaniſh works, both original and tranſlated, that have appeared ſince the year 1790.

Taking leave of the metropolis, he proceeded by way of Badajoz, to Cadiz, viſited Seville, Valencia, and Barcelona, and embarked at the laſt mentioned town for Genoa on his return to his native country.

We ſhall conclude this article with Mr. Fiſcher's deſcription of a popular part of the theatrical diverſions of the inhabitants of Cadiz.

"When the play is ended, the ſtage is converted into a magnificent apartment, the orcheſtra again ſtrikes up, the caſtagnettes are heard, and a dancer and his partner come forth from oppoſite ſides, each in the graceful Andaluſian coſtume, which ſeems invented for dancing, and dart towards each other as if they had been long ſeeking each other. The lover ſeems about to embrace the object of his paſſion, who appears ready to throw herſelf into his arms; but ſhe ſuddenly turns round, her partner half angry does the ſame, and immediately the muſic ſtops, generally in the middle of the bar. The art of the dancers conſiſts in a rapid, equal, and neat poiſe, and ſtopping ſo accurately together, as to ſeem rooted to the ground oppoſite to each other. They now appear undecided, but preſently the muſic which begins again, re-animates and quickens their motions. The lover now grown more ardent, endeavors to expreſs his deſires, and his beloved receives him with more tenderneſs, her looks become more languiſhing, her boſom palpitates with more force, and ſhe extends her arms towards him. Vain hope! too timid to meet him, ſhe flies off again, till a new pauſe, gives them freſh courage.

"The muſic now more lively, gives wings to their feet, and inebriated with paſſion, the lover again darts towards his miſtreſs, who tranſported with ſimilar ſenſations, flies with ardour to meet him. They join their arms, the lips of the fair dancer open, and ſhe ſeems ready to ſurrender at diſcretion. The muſic now gives louder and ſtronger ſounds, a more rapid melody, and the motions of the dancers are redoubled. 'Tis a kind of intoxication of delight, and the ſame ſenſations ſeem to animate them both; each muſcle is alive, and every pulſation is accelerated, when ſuddenly the muſic ſtops, and the dancers at the ſame inſtant become motionleſs, and diſappear: The curtains fall, and the illuſion of the ſpectators is diſſolved."

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