NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

Vol. II. WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. *No. CCXXIV.*

Five Dolls. per ann. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15th, 1802. *Paid In Advance.*

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.

Advertisement.

On Thursday the 18th day of November, if fair, if not the next fair day, will be exposed to sale on the premises, in the Town of Alexandria, the following parcels of land, late the property of John Fitzgerald, deceased, sold pursuant to the directions of his will, for the payment of debts, to wit:

One parcel of land lying upon the East side of Union street, and to the North of Wilkes street, being a wharf or made ground upon which there is a Frame Warehouse, it will be sold altogether or laid off into convenient lots, to accommodate purchasers—the ground is subject to an annual rent of £9 17 6. One half of a Brewery, commonly called Wales's Brewery, with the necessary instruments and utensils for carrying on that business, and the ground appertaining to the Brewery; the whole of the Brewery is now under a demise at 600 dols. per annum. A piece of ground immediately joining on the Brewery, fronting on Water street and a twenty foot alley, extending on Water street above forty feet, and upon the alley 150 feet. A piece of ground fronting upon Wolfe and St. Asaph streets—this will be laid off into convenient lots.—A piece of ground lying upon the South side of King street, fronting thereupon 22 feet, and extending 82 feet to a 12 foot alley, upon which is erected a two story brick house and a frame warehouse.

On the same day, if there be sufficient time after the sales of the above property, if not, on the next day will be exposed to Sale—also on the premises, a small tract of Land contiguous to the Town, containing 37 acres—this is subdivided and will be sold in small parcels, containing from four to six acres. The terms of Sale are one fourth of the purchase money in hand, one fourth in six months, one fourth in twelve months, and the remainder in eighteen months; the latter payments to be secured by a trust upon the land, which will be conveyed to the purchaser on payment of the last fourth part of the purchase money.

Thos. Diggs, } Acting executors of
Jas. Keith, } J. Fitzgerald, dec.

Alexandria, Oct. 22. ept18N.

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 fitting rooms; and, if preferred, have dinners &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 2 o'clock, by the public's obedient servant,

JOHN LOVETT.

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

April 21, 1802. eptf

CHARLES VARDEN,

Merchant Taylor from Philadelphia,
Capitol Hill, New-Jersey Avenue.

HAS received an assortment of summer goods consisting of the best superfine Cloths.

Cassimeres,
Silk Borrabes,
English Striped Nankeens,
White India Dimities,
White and printed Marseilles,

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

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

July 2, 1802. tf

LIME.

JUST Received and for Sale by the Subscriber, a quantity of Rhode Island Lime.

M. CLEARY.

Thomas Carpenter,

TAYLOR,

HAS just received an elegant and fashionable assortment of summer goods, consisting of London superfine cloths and cassimeres; India, Manchester, and silk striped nankeens; cotton cassimeres, baglepoor, Bengal elegant white chord for pantaloons, white and coloured marseilles, janes and satin crossovers, silk ginghams, black and other coloured striped satins, &c.—All which he will make up on the most reasonable terms, and in the most neat and fashionable manner—Pennsylvania Avenue, west of the President's square.

May 24, 1802. eptf

The George Town and Annapolis

STAGE,

WILL commence on the first Monday in October next to run three times a week; leave Annapolis every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and return from George Town every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday—Fare and allowance as usual.

JOSEPH SEMMES,
JOHN SMITH.

This is intended to accommodate such gentlemen and ladies as are going to and from Frederick and Hager's-Town.

October 11th, 1802. tf.

170,038 Acres of Land.

THIS body of land, in one entire and inclusive survey, is offered for sale to any individual or company, who may incline to purchase for the purposes of settlement and emigration. It is situated in the state of Virginia, on the Great Kenawha River, Montgomery county, and is distinguished by the name of "The Great Bent of the Kenawha," being intersected by the Piney river, Great and Little Bluestone rivers, Coal river, and uyandot river, as also by numerous other creeks and waters, running into said rivers. Numerous mill-seats, inexhaustible bodies of coal, and great appearances of ores, metals, salt springs and salt licks, are to be found on this tract, besides which, sugar may be made thereon to any amount, the sugar tree abounding in almost every part.

For fertility of soil, growth of timber, fitness for cultivation, salubrity of climate, and natural advantages, this body of land stands unrivalled by any tract of equal quantity in Western America; it will be submitted for sale to an entire purchaser, until the first day of June next, on very advantageous terms; after which, it cannot be disposed of at any price, the present proprietor being compelled to a division thereof. An indisputable title will be given, and for further particulars, as to terms of sale and payment, enquire of JOHN BECKLEY, Esq. Clerk to the House of Representatives of the United States, at the city of Washington.

November 1, 1802. tf

TO RENT,

And possession given immediately,

A TWO STORY brick house on F street near the War Office, containing two parlors, six bed rooms, and a kitchen, with an excellent garden, coach house, stable, &c.—The house is newly painted and papered; it was formerly occupied by Mr. Dexter, and lately by Mr. John Brown. Enquire of Clement Dorsey, Esq. George-Town; or of the subscriber, who has for sale a well finished three story brick house opposite the Six Buildings, and a variety of City Lots in the most eligible situations. The above House will be sold for less than any gentleman could build it. The payments will be made easy on the whole of the above property.

WILLIAM DYER.

April 7, 1802. eptf

☞ Building Materials will be taken in part payment. W.D.

ADVERTISEMENT.

By virtue of a Deed of Trust from Owen Roberts to the Subscriber, will be exposed to Sale, for ready money, on the Premises, on Wednesday the 18th day of November, if fair, if not, then the next fair day,

ONE half of that LOT OF GROUND in the city of Washington, lying in square No. 256, and designated in that square by the No. 10; the moiety intended to be sold fronts upon the open area on the Pennsylvania Avenue, and joins upon the lot No. 11 in that square, has a front of 24 feet 2 inches and an half, and 93 feet 5 inches deep; upon it is erected a frame Dwelling House.

JAMES KEITH, Trustee.

Oct. 15. ept18N.

PUBLIC SALE.

IN Pursuance of a second order of the Orphans Court for the County of Washington, in the District of Columbia will be exposed to public Sale, on Thursday the 25th day of November, at ten o'clock in the morning, at the corner of South E Street and New-Jersey Avenue, in the City of Washington—

ALL the personal property of JASPER DE CARNAP, late of the City of Washington, deceased, which remained unsold at the Sale in June last—Consisting principally of Household Furniture—Also, one Negro Girl about 13 years of age, who has been accustomed to House work. Terms of Sale Cash.

HENRY INGLE, Admstr.
ELIZABETH DE CARNAP, Admtx.

Nov. 3. ept25N.

From the Monthly Magazine.—1802.

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIRS

OF THE LATE

Dr. DARWIN.

(CONCLUDED.)

II. As a Philosophical Agricultor. Dr. Darwin must ever be intitled to the highest consideration; in order to profit by the multitudinous experiments of Hales, Grew, Mulphigi, Bonnet, Du Hamel, Bullon, Spallanzani, Priestly, &c. collected in the Phytologia, it is not necessary to take possession of the air-built theory of vegetation which is there constructed, and securely inhabit it as an edifice whose solidity is equal to its elegance. Whether the analogy is in fact so close between the parts and functions of animal and vegetable beings; whether the anatomy of the one so strictly corresponds with that of the other, as to induce a belief that the latter are in reality an inferior order of the former, possessed of a brain, uterus, muscles, and compleat nervous system, is an inquiry, which, however curious, must surely be subordinate, otherwise than as it may possibly lead to a more succesful culture of those vegetable products which immediately or remotely are essential to the subsistance of man. And this does not always appear to be the case: whether the ascent of sap is owing to capillary attraction, facilitated by an expansion of the gaseous fluids, or to certain irritative motions of the absorbent—whether the spiral vessels of a vine are in fact, the bronchia of Malpighi and Grew, or the nurture bearing absorbents of Darwin—whether the motions of the Dionæa Muscipula, the Mimosa, the Hedysarum gyrans, &c. are the exercise of a muscular power, or the effect of some external excitement acting on an irritable organ—whether, as the leaves of vegetables are supposed to serve them as lungs, so the corol or petals of a flower are to be considered as a pulmonary organ belonging to the "amatorial parts," the anthers, and the stigmas—and whether the leaves of both are furnished with a venous and arterial apparatus the one distributed over the upper surface, exposing its contents under a thin moist pellicle to the action of the light and air; the other receiving them thus oxygenated, and conducting them on the under surface to the leaf-bud in the one case, and to the anthers and stigmas in the other—these, and many other similar questions, however curious in themselves, and whatever physiological skill and delicate analogies may be displayed in the investigation of them, must, as before observed, be ever considered as subordinate in comparison with those grand and indisputable discoveries which the application of chemistry to agriculture has brought to light.

Comparatively speaking, therefore, a small portion only of the Phytologia is devoted to that fanciful system of vegetable physiology in the illustration of which Dr. Darwin has displayed such a wantonness of conjecture, and apparently such a waste of ingenuity.

The second part of the Phytologia treats on the economy of vegetation: the first section is a very elaborate and interesting one on the growth of seeds, buds, and bulbs; in which a curious analogy, interspersed with much useful matter, is instituted between animal and vegetable propagation. A very important chapter succeeds on "Manures:" this subject had already been treated by Mr. Kirwan, and the Earl of Dundonald, in a very masterly manner, but was not exhausted. The question which Dr. Darwin first asks himself is.—What is the food of vegetables? The embryon plant in the seed or fruit is surrounded with saccharine, mucilaginous, and oily materials, like the animal foetus in the egg or uterus, which it absorbs and converts into nutriment: the embryon buds in deciduous trees are supplied with a saccharine and mucilaginous juice by the roots or sap-wood of their parent trees. Adult plants, having no stomach enabling them to decompose by a chemical process either animal or vegetable substances, must wait for that decomposition which is continually going on in those soils and climates, and those seasons of the year which are most friendly to vegetation. For the purpose of supplying adult vegetables with a larger portion of nourishment than they could obtain without our assistance, the philosophical agricultor first considers what kinds of matter are most prevalent, or most necessary in their composition: secondly, what of these substances they can absorb without previous decomposition: and lastly, how to expedite that process when it becomes necessary. A valuable section succeeds on draining and watering lands; here some useful hints are thrown out for detecting the situation of springs, and for conveying away the water from those plains and morasses where there is no obvious channel for its escape: the benefits of flooding land enlarged on; some necessary cautions introduced respecting the process, and suggestions made for the extension of the practice, not only by taking advantage of the natural falls of brooks and springs, and by occasionally damming them up to supply higher situations, but by the use of various machinery.

A section on the aeration and pulverization of the soil succeeds, in which the uses of fallowing are philosophically estimated, and the management of the wheat crop enlarged on. The transplantation of wheat is here recommended in a very unqualified manner; we have ourselves tried it, on a scale of between four and five acres, with complete success.

The succeeding section treats on light, heat and Electricity: under the last of these three heads one cannot but smile at the "*profitable* application of electricity," which is intimated to the gardner of the agricultor, as the oxygen of hydrogen gasses may exist in the summer atmosphere in a state of mixture, but not of combination, and as the electric spark or flash of lightning may combine them and produce water instantaneously, "it is probable that in dry seasons the erection of numerous metallic points on the surface of the ground, but a few feet high, might in the night time contribute to precipitate the dew by faciliating the passage of electricity from the air into the earth; and that an erection of such points higher in the air, by means of wires wrapped round tall rods, like angle rods, or elevated on buildings, might frequently precipitate showers from the higher part of the atmosphere." An interesting and valuable section on the diseases of plants, concludes the second part; these diseases are divided into those which appear to originate from internal causes, those from the external elements, and those from the nidification or depredations of insects: to which is added, the destruction by vermin. Under the third head is given a very curious account of the aphis, together with various methods for destroying it; and the ingenious one is suggested of propagating its greatest enemy, the larva of the aphidivorous fly, and thus devouring one insect by the means of another.

The third part of the Physologia, on agriculture and horticulture, is divided into six sections, the first treats on the production of fruits; in which the four methods are inlarged on of procuring fruit trees for the purpose of horticulture, by seeds, by rootsulterts, by planted scions, and ingrafted scions: the author next preceeds to shew how a tree may be necessitated to increase the number of flower-buds, in preference to its leaf buds. The means of perfecting, inlarging, and preserving fruit, are then severally insisted on. The important subject of the production of seeds, occupies the next section; in which rules are laid down for producing them early, and in great quantity—for ripening them—for generating the best kinds—for collecting good seeds and determining their goodness—for the preservation of seeds, and for sowing them advantageously. The two next sections treat, one on the production of roots and barks, and the other on the production of leaves and wood; and the last contains a plan for disposing part of the vegetable system of Linnæus into more natural classes and orders. The plan here suggested, of adopting the situations, proportions or forms, with or without the numbers of the sexual organs, as criterions of the order and classes, are well worth the attention of botanists. While the number of stamina and pistilla are subject to variation, both from luxuriant & deficient growth, implicit confidence cannot be placed on that alone, as indicative either of an order or class. As the proportions and figures and purposes of the stamina and pistilla are immutable, Dr. Darwin imagines they would form a preferable standard, both for classical and ordinal arrangement.

But it is time that we should consider Dr. Darwin in his third character, namely, as a Poet. Dr. Darwin lately said to a friend, that in his poetical works his great aim was to present an object to meet the eye, and that he was not anxious to touch the heart. A more severe criticism could scarcely have been pronounced: there is, notwithstanding, a justness in the remark which is not to be disputed, and we are happy that himself has relieved us from the pain of making it. It must be observed, however, in mitigation of the censure, that a Didactic Poem, and as such we must consider the "Botannic Garden," is rather addressed to the understanding than the heart: it is not to be expected that we should be fired at the description of an ardent *stamen*, or melt with sympathy at a languishing *pistillum*: where the author's own feelings were excited, he fails not to touch a corresponding chord. If an imagination of unrivalled richness—a felicity of allusion to whatever can throw lustre on his subject—to ancient mythologies and modern discoveries—to the works of nature and of art; if these are some of the essentials of poetry, Dr. Darwin may certainly claim them as his own. No man, perhaps, was ever happier in the selection and composition of his epithets, had a more imperial command of words, or could elucidate with such accuracy and elegance the most complex and intricate machinery.

Who but Dr. Darwin would have thought of describing a porcelain manufactory in verse; the enormous powers and curious construction of a steam engine! the delicate mechanism of a watch; and the infinite complexity of a cotton-mill? These and many similar descriptions to be found in the "Botanic Garden," are inimitable in their way; and that they do not "touch the heart," is attributable to the subject, and not the poet: the sweet simple music of an old Scotch air is infinitely more affecting than the rapid complex movements of a modern concerto; but a vagrant minstrel could compose the melody of the one, though it requires the scientific hand of a master to combine the various harmony of the other.

After all, we are quite ready to acknowledge that Dr. Darwin is not a poet who stands very high in our estimation; the ear is fascinated and seduced by the mellifluence of his numbers, but there is a hardotry in his embellishments which is to us unchaste—His cadences are not sufficiently varied for a poem of such length as the "Botanic Garden;" indeed there is an evident mechanism in the construction of his lines, which it is by no means pleasant to detect; one half of the verse is frequently a perfect equipoise to the other.* We are even so fastidious and delicate as to be cloyed with the uniform sweetness of his versification; the current of Dr. Darwin's poetry is unruffled and serene; its surface smooth and polished—"Still as the sea ere winds were taught to blew;" but oftentimes we would gladly transport ourselves to where

"The rich stream of music winds along,
Deep, majestic, smooth, and strong."

Dr. Darwin is peculiarly happy in some of his minor effusions: the beautiful little song "to May," is exquisitely finished; and it would be difficult to find thirty lines in the "Botanic Garden," to rival in dignity and pathos the "Address to Swilcar's Oak," introduced in the Phytologia, XVIII. 2. 16.

There is a noble and indignant eloquence poured forth in the translation of a few lines from the eighth satire of Juvenal (*Stemmata quid faciunt, &c. See Zoon. Vol. II. class iii.* 1. 2.) which seems to flow immediately from the heart. These (particularly the two last) and some detached passages in the "Botanic Garden," possess a chastness and simplicity of colouring, the want of which can never be compensated by the temporary lustre of any varnish: it is this artificial gloss, the too lavish use of this deceitful varnish, which displeases us in the poetry of Dr. Darwin. As a prose writer, Dr. Darwin was incorrect: his grammatical errors are numerous. He was even deficient in orthography; his faults in spelling were sometimes corrected by his son the attorney. He gave early evidence of a poetical genius and a philosophical turn of mind: whilst he held the appointment of Lord Exeter's scholarship, he distinguished himself by his poetical exercises, and acquired an uncommon facility in the composition of them. In the year 1758, he published in vol. L. of the Philosophical Transactions, "an attempt to confute the opinion of Henry Earl, concerning the ascent of vapour;" and "an account of the cure of a periodical hæmoptoe, by keeping the patient awake." This was followed by "Experiments on Animal Fluids in the exhausted Receiver."

Dr. Darwin printed in the Derby Mercury, an elegy written at Matlock, and addressed to Mrs. Darwin; another piece was inserted in the same paper, occasioned by the appearance of a most fatal distemper amongst horned cattle at C..le, near Derby. It consisted of instructions to give an immediate stop to its rapid and alarming progress. A third article was

* *These and some other peculiarities were admirably imitated in the "Loves of the Triangles," a parody which appeared in the Anti-Jacobin.*