

W. John Penn
REPUBLICAN  **JOURNAL;**
Printer
And Dumfries *Weekly Advertiser.*

PUBLISHED BY THOMAS THORNTON.

THURSDAY, May 26, 1796.

[No. 52 of Vol. 1]

per Ann.]

THE Subscriber intending in short time to enter into business must have all his public accounts fully adjusted, as well between his principals as his several securities, therefore gives this Public Notice to Captain John M'Million, and Mrs. Margaret Tyler, adm'x of John Tyler, dec'd. as principals, and Messrs. John Cannon, Langhorne Dade, Wm Farrow, and Ann Atwell, adm'x, and Charles Atwell, adm' of Thomas Atwell, dec'd. his securities, to meet him on or before the first Monday in next month, in order to have those heavy and old accounts finally investigated, that the proper steps may be taken by the subscriber in a satisfactory manner to all parties concerned, to endeavour to make the balance, if any, to be adjusted and settled by Gentlemen who will attend for that purpose at Mr. Williams's Tavern, on his part as for the subscriber, he flatters himself that his accounts being plain, short and concise, that they will not take up much of the Gentlemen's time, as he has endeavoured to be as explicit as the nature of the business would admit.

The Subscriber's tedious, and dangerous illness during the Winter and Spring has prevented him from attending to this or any other business, to the great and manifold injury of himself and family. Having partly recovered, and being determined to bring matters to a speedy conclusion, shall, in consequence thereof, pursue all proper means and methods that the laws of his Country has inserted him with, for the recovery of all balance of debts, levies and clerk's fees that may be due at the date hereof, with all costs, interest and damages that may arise thereon; therefore he requests those indebted to him to come and make speedy payment of their respective balance, or rely on the consequences. *Em, if any, he believes in this, as well in the adjoining Counties but what has heard, and some know what he has suffered from July 21, 1791, until Jan. 15, 1796, which put an end to his LAST.* Those who have accounts against him are desired to bring them in, that they may also be adjusted, and finally settled. As the Subscriber in a peculiar manner holds himself no longer under any debt or obligation whatsoever, from the date hereof, to either principals or securities aforesaid, he therefore hopes that due attention should be given to the above notice, for the sooner this business is finished the better for both parties.

Colin Campbell.

Dumfries May 21, 1796.

Horses, wanted.

It is the wish of Thomas Watts, Esq. to purchase a number of

horses,

not under four feet ten inches high. Cash will be given.—apply to

W. Glassell.

Perth, April 26th 96.

The Noted Horse



Mahomet.

Now in high perfection, will stand the ensuing season at Salisbury, in Loudoun County, every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from the first Monday in April, until the second Monday in July next, and every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, at my mill in Prince William from the date hereof until the first of August next, to cover mares at the moderate price of eight dollars each payable the first day of next October, but if six dollars is paid in thirty days after the first cover to Mr. Peter Jett, Junr. Centerville, or Mr. Samuel Love, at Backland, it will be received in full for the season of a Mare. Those who may incline to put by the leap, must pay three dollars and a half for each, on the day of covering, or the mare will be considered as going by the season.

MAHOMET will frequently be at Centerville on the alternation of the days he is to stand at Salisbury. Passage gratis, at my Mill, for Mares from a distance, but I will not be answerable for accidents or escapes.

John Love

Backland, March 25, 1796.

LANDS FOR SALE.

in the State of Kentucky.

ONE pre-emption of 1900 acres on the Ohio river, about twenty miles below the mouth of Limestone; on Locust creek five hundred acres about the mouth and five hundred below the said creeks, this creek is thirty yards wide and fifteen feet water at the mouth, and six feet water for near a mile up it.

Another tract of two thousand acres, an old military claim, near Col. Owen's forge—also a tract of Land of four hundred acres on Big Sandy-Creek, survey'd by Col. Morgan, in the year 1795.

One other tract of land, containing one thousand acres, Monongahela County, Virginia, which lands I purchased of Mr. Hedgesman Triplett, on Peters creek a branch of the Big Kenaway about 50 miles from the mouth of the said Kenaway.

JOHN HEDGES.

Dumfries, Virginia,

Month 16, 96

BLANKS.

For sale.

Miscellany.

FROM THE AURORA.

Additional Duties Tax upon News Papers

Upon the importance of these vehicles of information, especially in a country as extensive as this and comprehending so great a variety of interests, no remarks need be made. It will be recollected that the tax laid upon the transportation of them by post, tho' small, excited at the time some uneasiness, and printers have found that while it narrowed the circulation of their prints, it gave no additional security to their transmission. Now an additional duties tax is proposed to be laid upon them, by obliging the printer to dry his papers before he puts them in to the post-office.

At first view this operation of drying the newspapers may strike as very simple and very practicable, but it will not be found so upon reflection. The natural operation of the atmosphere will never be equal to accomplishing the object with sufficient expedition; fire must be constantly employed, summer as well as winter; and if they are to be stove dried it must be in a room set apart for the purpose, as workmen will be unwilling to labour in summer-time with fire in their work-shops. When the air is remarkably damp drying the papers by a stove, even will be found a tedious operation, as well as expensive and troublesome.

Expedition is the soul of a newspaper, therefore every moment that is lost in its transmission from the press to the hands of the reader diminishes its value. To dry them will at any rate create inevitable delay & occasion a certain injury. The injury from this source will be particularly felt by the morning papers, unless they make essential alterations in their present mode of conducting the business. Instead of closing their papers at dark of the preceding day, and thus keeping them open for the last breath of intelligence they must be closed at an earlier hour to its exclusion; by which arrangement the public cannot be as expeditiously served.

Thus, then, should this contemplated new regulation take place, an inevitable expense will be imputed on the printer, who must either bear it as an immediate loss, or shift it upon his customer, who, perhaps disgusted at the increased expense of the paper will give it up, ultimately to the Printer's loss. This new tax will then have in this point of view the same effect as the first, narrow the circulation of the Print, and this without adding to security in the transmission, as we shall shew by and by.—It will besides occasion an inevitable delay in the transmission from the press to the customer, and will operate partially upon the different Papers in this city.

Yet this expense and inconvenience might be borne with, if they secured to the Printers or to the Public any valuable advantages. But in this view they are delusive, and can only operate as a restriction upon the papers of the different capitals particularly, and upon the press generally. It is said, that if the papers are put to the stove dry, their directions will be less liable to be defaced and almost in the highest opinion

flowed by the jolting of the carriers; and also that being lighter, this will facilitate the transportation of the mails. The papers will undoubtedly be somewhat lighter, but not so much so as possibly to be an object, and probably the inconvenience of an increase in their bulk (for dry papers will never be so compact as moist ones) will more than counterbalance the advantage of a diminution of weight.

As the greater security in the transmission, the effect may be in a small degree produced, but not so much so as to balance the expense, inconvenience, and essential objections to the plan, the remedy would not be effectual, and if it was, it would be worse than the disease. It is not the natural and rational remedy for the inconvenience. Drying the papers will no doubt enable them to resist the friction, but the natural remedy is to do away that friction; and this is completely in the power of the Post-Office with one fourth part of the trouble and expense now proposed to be imposed upon the Printers. The Papers are now thrown without ordering port-manteaux, and all the packing they get, is—from the jolting of the waggon.—The portmanteaux, employed are ill calculated for the purpose, but if the papers were packed with a trilling degree of care in square leather wallets, so contrived as to bind the quantity of papers put in, whether great or small, the friction would be avoided of one paper against the other, and the object would be effectually accomplished. The wallets should be doable, so as to be carried conveniently across a horse when necessity required it.

As the business is now conducted there is no friction that can injure the several papers in the same packet, and if the packets were conjoined together as proposed, there could be no friction between them, that could injure the covers.

The greatest objection to the plan proposed has not yet been suggested; it is this: That it would establish a virtual censorship over the Press, and the different post-masters and judges their clerks would be the executioners.

The regulation would require that papers should be dry to be admitted into the post-office, any degree of moisture would then render them inadmissible and the Post-Office would be the sole judges of this.—What a scope then for partialities and favoritism! Post-Masters and their assistants have predilections and dislikes as well as other men and this would put it their power to say what papers should find a circulation and what should not. The printer might think his papers dry, it would be difficult often and some times impossible to make them absolutely so; and the Post Office alone would decide, and and would be warranted in refusing any in the least degree moist. Is this a discretion, that could be safely entrusted to them? Would it not be establishing them as virtual censors of the press?

The Aurora and papers of that cast, in this point of view would stand on very unequal ground; as it is well known that officers in general (and Post-Masters and assistants are public officers) consider themselves as bound to support their fellow officers, and therefore would feel very loath to permit a print to circulate that examines public measures & censures the conduct of public men with freedom, under such an arrangement the press,

