# The National Intelligencer,

AND

# WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

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Five Dolls. per ann. FRIDAY, JULY 24th, 1801. Paid In Advance.

## A SCOW.

*To be Sold, if applied for immediately,*

AN excellent SCOW, 38 feet long, by 11 feet wide, lined throughout with 1 1-4th inch plank, and is now in thorough repair, and well calculated for carrying grain or sand, or six cords wood per load It may be seen at Dyer's ferry, Eastern Branch, where the terms may be known by applying to John L. Naylor, or to Benj. More, in the New-Jersey Avenue.

July 20, 1801 d3t

## Intending to leave the city in

October next, I am desirous of disposing of my Furniture, two Negro Men, one a cook, the other an ostler and coachman, and a pair of very well gaited Riding Horses.

It may be a convenience to any family removing here, and taking the house I now occupy upon rent, to take the Furniture (which is but little worn) by purchase. The house, one of the six buildings on Pennsylvania Avenue, is pleasantly and conveniently situated, and the furniture, which is tolerably well fitted to it, will be reduced in price in proportion to the wear and tare, and change of fashion, shall have made right.

ENJAMIN GRAYSON ORR.

July 20, 1801. ep4w

## Public Sale of Provisions

At the Navy Yard, Washington.

*On Monday next, the 27th inst. if fair, otherwise the next fair day, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, will be sold to the highest bidder,*

| | |
|---|---|
| 35 Barrels Beef, | 35 Barrels Pork, |
| 9000 lb. Ship Bread, | 10 Barrels Flour, |
| 4 Barrels indian meal, | 5 1-2 Quintals codfish, |
| 3 Puncheons molasses, | A quantity bread dust, |

Some bread, and a small quantity of cheese slightly damaged.—Notes at 60 days with approved endorsers, negotiable at the banks of Columbia or Alexandria, will be received in payment.

THOMAS TINGEY,
Superintendant, &c.

Navy-Yard, July 22, 1801. 5t

## For Sale and to Rent,

TWO elegant two story Brick DWELLING HOUSES, situate on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue, a little to the west of the President's Square. Each house contains two parlours and passage on first floor; on second, two rooms with fire-places, and well finished garrets, cellars and kitchens. In the front of the buildings extending to the avenue, is a neat yard planted with trees, palisadoed, &c. The situation, in point of health and contiguity to the public buildings, is equal to any in the city, and is well adapted for private families, or to accommodate genteel Boarders. The title is indisputable. The terms will be moderate for part cash or slaves For particulars inquire of OWEN ROBERTS, on the premises, or of

THOMAS HERTY, Conveyancer

City of Washington, May 25, 1801. 1y

## The subscriber respectfully acquaints the public,

that he has removed to the corner of Ninth and E streets, where he continues to manufacture and sell all kinds of Ornaments for Chimney pieces, Door Caps, Frontispieces, Metal Sashes, &c. which may also be had at his store No. 51, Barclay street, New-York, and at Mr. Wild's store, Market street, Baltimore.

*GEORGE ANDREWS.*

Who has gold leaf for sale by the package or book

May 8, 1801. 1y

*NAVY DEPARTMENT,*
*July 6, 1801.*

## Notice is hereby given,

THAT PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the Secretary of the Navy until the 31st inst. inclusively, for the supply of all Rations which may be required for the Marine Corps, from the 1st day of October next, to the 30th day of September 1802, at the City of Washington, at Baltimore, at Norfolk, or any other place or places, where marines may be recruited, marched or stationed, within the states of Maryland or Virginia:—The Ration to consist of eighteen ounces of bread or flour, or where neither can be obtained, of one quart of rice or one and an half pound of sifted or bolted Indian meal, one and a quarter pound of fresh beef, one pound salted beef, or three quarters of a pound of salted pork, and when fresh meat is issued, salt at the rate of two quarts for every hundred rations; one half gill of rum, whiskey or other ardent spirits; soap at the rate of four pounds candles at the rate of one and an half pound, and, vinegar at the rate of two quarts, for every hundred rations. The price of the several component parts of the ration, as well as substitutes and alternatives must be specified.

*H. DEARBORN,*
*Acting Secretary of Navy.*
ep3A

## A PORTRAIT of M. D'ALEMBERT,

BY HIMSELF.

M. D'Alembert has nothing remarkable in his figure, either good or bad. He cannot form a judgment of his own physiognomy; but it is said to be commonly ironical and malicious. It is indeed, strikingly marked with ridicule, for which, perhaps, he is not without some talent, and it would not be surprising, if corresponding impressions should sometimes be apparent in his countenance.

His conversation is very unequal, sometimes serious, sometimes gay, according to the state of his mind; very frequently ill connected, but never tiresome or pedantic. No one who sees him can doubt that he has devoted the greater part of his life to profound study. The dose of wit which makes an ingredient in his conversation, is neither so strong nor so abundant as to give uneasiness, or to outrage the self-love of any person; and, fortunately for him, he has no more wit than he shews; for he would not fail to shew what he had from no other impulse than his absolute inability to repress his inclination in that particular. Every one therefore is at ease in his company, without any attempt on his part to interrupt; and it is apparent that he makes no such attempts, which procures him every where a kind reception. His gaiety, sometimes even to puerility, and the contrast of this boyish mirth with the scientific reputation, whether well or ill founded, which he has acquired, is another reason why he generally pleases, though he seldom makes this his object. He only wishes to amuse and divert those whom he regards.

M. D'Alembert rarely enters into argument, and never with acrimony: not that he is not sometimes disposed to maintain his own opinion; but he feels so little anxious to prevail over others, that he is not much concerned about bringing them over to his way of thinking.

Besides, very few subjects without the pale of the accurate sciences appear to him to admit such evidences as to preclude freedom of opinion; and his favorite maxim is, That a man may say what he pleases almost upon every subject.

Perspicuity and justness form the leading characters of his mind. In the study of the higher geometry he has acquired some ability and great facility, which procured him great reputation in investigations of that kind. This facility has allowed him some leisure to cultivate literature with some success. His style is concise, clear and precise, commonly easy, without pretension, though chaste, sometimes a little dry, but never uncouth, more energetic than ardent, more just than poetical, and more dignified than insinuating.

Having been devoted to retirement and labour till he had passed his twenty-fifth year, he entered very late into the world, and never was able to give it much pleasure. He could never bring himself to learning its usages and its language, and perhaps he is not free from a sort of little vanity which makes him despise them. He is not, however, on any occasion unpolite; because he is neither rude nor morose; but he is sometimes uncivil, from inattention or ignorance. Compliments embarrass him, because he has not always ready the formulary by which they are to be answered. His conversation possesses neither gallantry nor grace; and he says obliging things, only because he thinks them, and because those to whom he addresses them are agreeable to him. Thus the leading features of his character are frankness and truth, often somewhat clownish, but never offensive.

Impatient and choleric in a violent degree, contradiction and insult make on M. D'Alembert an impression so lively, that he is not always master of it; but it dissipates while he is expressing his feelings of it. At bottom he is very gentle, easily pleased, more complaisant than he appears, and governed with great facility provided he does not perceive that he is governed; for his love of independence rises to such a pitch of enthusiasm that he has often refused things which would have been agreeable to him, if he had not foreseen that they would have brought him under some constraint—a disposition which drew from one of his friends the well founded remark, That M. D'Alembert was the slave of his liberty.

Some people call him wicked, for no other reason than because he does not scruple to laugh at the foolish pretences which disgust him. But, if that be a wickedness, it is the only one of which he is capable. He has neither spleen nor patience to go farther; and it would make him miserable to think that any one, even of those who have taken the most pains to injure him, should be made unhappy by his means. Not that he forgets injurious attempts and actions; but he knows no other method of revenge than a constant refusal of his friendship and confidence to those of whom he has reason to complain.

His own experience, and the example of others, have taught M. D'Alembert that he ought to distrust mankind in general; but his extreme openness does not permit him to exercise his distrust with any one in particular. He cannot bring himself to believe that he is deceived; and this defect (for it certainly is such, though originating in a good principle) produces in him one still greater, namely, that of being too easily susceptible of the impressions intended to be made on him.

Without a family, and without connections of any kind, early abandoned to his fate, habituated from his infancy to an obscure and confined, but free manner of life; happily born with some talents and few passions, M. D'Alembert has found in study and in his natural gaiety, a remedy against the state of desertion in which he was placed. He has preserved a sort of existence in the world without too much anxiety about it, and without the assistance of any person. As he owes nothing, except to nature and to himself, he is ignorant of low cunning and management, arts so necessary to men who make their court to the great in order to arrive at wealth; nay so great is his contempt of names and titles, that he had the imprudence to prefix that sentiment to one of his works.—This made him so many enemies among the haughty and powerful class of men, that they wished him to be thought the most vain being upon earth; but he is only high spirited and independent, and more apt to appreciate himself below than above his real value

Although his vanity is by no means so excessive as many people think, he is not insensible to its influence; he is even very sensible to the first impression, both of praise and reproach; but in a moment reflection restores the balance of his mind, and makes him regard panegyric with indifference, and satire with contempt.

His maxim is, That a literary man who wishes to raise his reputation on a durable basis, should attend very much to what he writes, sufficiently to what he does, and moderately to what he says. M. D'Alembert regulates his conduct by this principle; he says many foolish things, writes but few, and does none.

No man carries disinterestedness to a greater length. But as he has no wants or caprices to gratify, those virtues cost him so little, that he deserves no praise for them; for they are rather a diminution of vice than an increase of goodness.

As there are but few persons whom he truly regards, and as to those few he makes no parade of affection; those who do not thoroughly know him suppose him to be incapable of friendship. No man, however, takes a more lively interest in the happiness or the misfortunes of his friends. Their interests deprive him of sleep, and on their account he thinks no sacrifice too great.

His soul, naturally sensible, loves to entertain agreeable sentiments, and hence it is at once inclined to be gay and melancholy. To this last impression, indeed, it surrenders itself with a sort of delight; and this natural bias of his mind to a pensive mood very much qualifies him for writing on mournful and pathetic subjects.

With such a disposition it will not appear surprising, that in his youth M. D'Alembert was susceptible of the most lively, the most tender, and the most delightful of all the passions; but solitude and different pursuits for a long time kept him a stranger to its impressions. The sentiment slept, so to speak, in the bottom of his soul—and its resuscitation was terrible. Love has been his bane, and the torment he has suffered from it long made him sick of the world, of life, and even of study itself. After having consumed the early years of his life in meditation and literary labour, he has seen, like the ancient sage, the vanity of human knowledge, which cannot fill the capacity of the soul, and has exclaimed with Amyntas in Tasso, "I have lost the time which I have passed without love!" But as he was not easily subdued persuaded that he was himself the object of that passion. Too long a resistance discouraged him, not by offending his self-love, but because the simplicity and candor of his mind would not allow him to believe that a continued resistance could be only apparent. Ris soul requires to be replenished, not tormented; to be soothed with agreeable emotions, not to be worn with mortifying agitations.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### LONDON, May 12.

Bonaparte, exerting every means of reinforcing his army of Egypt, intends sending an expedition thither from Leghorn. A letter from Genoa, of the 20th of April, mentions, that an embargo has been laid on all the vessels at Leghorn, for the purpose of making use of them on a secret expedition.

*EGYPT.*—The following are the observations which a Paris paper, considered as half official, makes upon the bulletin accounts of the battle of the 21st. "The more we reflect upon the news circulated in London, and upon Lord Carysfort's dispatch, the less we can give credit to it. We will add the following observations: The English have in Egypt only an inconsiderable number of cavalry; they can have but few—the French cavalry is numerous, and mounted upon excellent horses. We must suppose that General Abercrombie must have been guilty of great imprudence, before we can believe that he had not reflected, that in advancing into the country before he had made himself master of Aboukir and Alexandria, he exposed himself, in case of non-success, to the total loss of his army, which would soon have been surrounded by the French cavalry, who would not have let a man escape.

"The author of this intelligence has not explained how the English army could exist in the desart of Bahire: but in order to give consistency to the story in the eyes of those who are acquainted with the country, he should have explained how that army passed the Lake Maadreh, which it must cross to proceed to Ramanhie? Did General Abercrombie create by enchantment the immense means of embarkation that were necessary?

"On the other hand, had the French army been destroyed—had their defeat, as was said, given rise to a capitulation surrendering Egypt to the English—had these great events taken place on the 21st March, would not a frigate or other vessel (independently of the advices which Gen. Abercrombie would have sent to England) have been dispatched to France as a flag of truce, in order to carry an account of that capitulation, which would have arrived at the latest by the 5th or 6th April?—upwards of a month has elapsed since."

The emperor of Russia has recalled, by a special ukase, all such persons as have fled from his dominions for crimes short of murder, and has assured them and their families of his protection.

An article from Berlin, of the 29th April, says that Lord Carysfort has officially informed the Prussian government, that the British government would continue to respect the Prussian flag, and the Prussian merchandise on board neutral ships.

It is generally reported, that the bishoprics of Wurtzburgh and Bamberg will be given to the house of Orange, and that Prussian troops will occupy them provisionally.