

Card - HOSACK (D.)

Presented by
J. B. Joy Jeffries

Boston, Mass.

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MEDICAL.

From the (N. Y.) Commercial Advertiser.

Answer of Dr. DAVID HOSACK, to the letter which appeared in the Commercial Advertiser of last evening, from NOAH WEBSTER, Esq. on the subject of Yellow Fever.

New York, Sept. 13th, 1805.

Dear Sir,

I THANK you for your favor of the 10th inst. however we may disagree in our theories concerning the *origines* of the yellow fever, your opinions relative to the treatment of this disease are very consonant with those I adopted in the year 1795, and which have been confirmed by every succeeding return of that disease. As to the *seat* of yellow fever there is some difference in our opinions—I will take this opportunity of giving you an outline of my creed upon this subject; and as you are conversant in the doctrines of fever, it may be the mean of suggesting to you something new, and probably nearer the truth, than I have been able to approach.

The poison producing yellow fever, when introduced into the system, like that of other pestilential diseases, as *plague, small-pox, &c.* or perhaps like that of the *viper*, operates primarily upon the *nervous system*. Accordingly, it shews its effects first upon the brain, spinal marrow, and larger nerves—hence it produces pains of the head, back and limbs. Second, it excites irritation in the *stomach*. This organ, from the immense number of nerves distributed upon it, possesses great sensibility to exciting causes, to whatever part of the system they may be applied; inasmuch that it may almost be denominated a *second brain*. Hence, nausea, vomiting, and subsequently inflammation and black vomit, are the attendants upon this disorder.

Third. The *external surface*, like the stomach possessing great sensibility, also shares a large proportion of the irritation which this poison produces: accordingly it shows itself upon the skin, exciting a morbid action in its vessels: hence the most *erisipelatous* inflammation and redness of the surface of the body; hence the distension and redness of the eye, which in common with the skin, very soon from the debility which takes place in those preternaturally distended vessels, and probably some change in the properties of the general mass of fluids themselves assume a yellow colour, not unlike the yellowness which supervenes in a part that has been bruised, and which of course has undergone a preternatural distension of its vessels. This is the rationale I have adopted relative to the yellowness of yellow fever. You perceive I consider this disease as having nothing to do with *bile*, or *biliousness*—I agree with Dr. Jackson, when he observes that there is a *deficiency* of bile in yellow fever, whereas, in the bilious remittent, there is generally a *superabundance* of that fluid.

When the poison of yellow fever has thus produced its primary operation upon the nervous system, its next effects are manifested in the *blood vessels*—hence the engorgement of the vessels of the brain, stupor and hemorrhage—hence the inflammation of the stomach and bowels—hence the hemorrhages from the nose, mouth, stomach and intestines—and from the united effects of this virulent poison upon the nervous system, and upon the blood vessels, we account for the sudden dissolution which takes place in this disease, and which is unexampled in most other fevers, excepting the plague itself, to which, in my opinion, the yellow fever bears a much greater resemblance, than to any other disorder.

If this pathology be correct, it follows, that in the mode of treatment the indication must be to obviate the febrile systems by those means which at the same time that they are effectual, are the least debilitating. From time immemorial, the salutary effects of *perspiration* in removing fever, and in diverting the action of poisons from the vital organs of the body, have been acknowledged. To cite authorities, would be to quote every book of practice whether ancient or modern.

The experiments of Mr. Abernethy, relative to the functions of the skin, in excreting morbid matters from the system, also serve to confirm the propriety of this practice in preference to *bleeding* and *purging* too much employed in the treatment of the fevers of hot climates—I say too much because of the debilitated state of the body in hot climates & in hot seasons of the year—because of the very debilitating operation of those remedies, compared with other means equally effectual, and in yellow fever, the *indiscriminate use of the lancet*, is adding the sword to the pestilence. In this country its deadly effects are unhappily known, wherever the yellow fever has prevailed.

The practice of *purging*, in the extreme to which it has been carried, is, in my opinion, no less fatal by destroying the tone of the system, and thereby rendering it unable to sustain the irritations of the disease. I would also observe, that the means usually employed for this purpose, are especially debilitating in their operation.

Mercury and jalap compose the fashionable purge in this disease; the former of these medicines, *mercury*, has been so highly extolled in the treatment of yellow fever that it has been called “the Sampson of the materia medica.” In the yellow fever it has truly proved a Sampson for I verily believe it has slain its thousands. When salivation can be effected, doubtless it is an useful medicine; but that effect is not to be obtained in one case of ten, as far as I have had an opportunity of seeing this practice, and if it fails of producing a salivation, it so deranges the stomach, and destroys the vital functions of the system, that no hope remains of recovery from the use of other remedies.

Antimonial emetics are no less exceptionable, as they are not unfrequently followed by a vomit-

ing, which only terminates in the death of the patient. Emptying the stomach where it is indicated, by means of a few grains of ipecacuanha, or by the infusion of chamomile or bonefet, will, no doubt, comport with the general plan of cure, in removing any irritating matters from the stomach, at the same time that it produces a relaxation of the surface of the body.

The poison of yellow fever, like that of the small-pox, in its operation, has a definite period; its operation can be moderated, but not immediately destroyed by the use of any medicine, hitherto discovered; the object of the physician, therefore, is to remove every other source of excitement, and thereby to moderate the action of the poison of the disease, until like the dose of opium, or of arsenic, it shall cease to operate. But if the operations of nature be disturbed by the interposition of violent or debilitating remedies, the body suffers from the conjoint effects of the disease, and the remedies prescribed. If, in the eruptive fever of inoculated small-pox, the physician should have recourse to the depleting means usually recommended in the first stage of yellow fever, I believe, instead of a mild disease it would be rendered no less fatal than the natural small-pox—very few would probably escape.

I believe the yellow fever, in like manner, when thus “taken out of the hands of nature,” is rendered a much more mortal disease than it would prove, if treated by less violent remedies.

The practice I have found most effectual, corresponds with these principles—when called to a patient in the commencement of the disease, my first object is to empty the bowels by the use of the mildest remedies, viz, injections, castor-oil, rhubarb and magnesia, salts, in small doses, accompanied with warm drinks, calculated at the same time to excite perspiration—this being accomplished the next object of my attention is to relax the surface of the body, & to induce a free discharge by perspiration. In some instances, this salutary discharge takes place before or immediately after the bowels are emptied, and is readily continued by the use of warm drinks—but for the most part it becomes necessary to have recourse to other means of inducing perspiration—for this purpose, herb teas, such as camomile, (nepeta cataria) sage and foakeroor, aided by the spirits of Mindererus, are usually sufficient—at the same time to retain a uniform temperature, it is necessary to cover the body with a blanket, whereas with a lighter covering, the perspiration can rarely be continued such a length of time as is necessary to procure a solution of the fever. I have also, with the same view, found great benefit by introducing under the bed-clothes, bricks, heated, and inclosed in flannel cloths, wet with vinegar—The steam thus emitted has sometimes a wonderful effect in softening the skin, and exciting sweat. In some instances have kept the lower extremities immersed in a vessel of warm vinegar and water, for half an hour or upwards; at the same time supplying my patient with warm drinks, until the surface of the body becomes relaxed.

Another circumstance of great importance in this mode of treatment, is, to continue the perspiration without the least intermission, until the fever is entirely removed; for the least check that is given to this discharge is very apt to produce irritation at the stomach, which, if not speedily removed by the use of blisters, &c. is followed by that distressing, & for the most part fatal symptom, the *black vomit*.

Speaking of herb teas I am inclined to place great confidence in one lately introduced in this city, and in the neighboring country—it is the infusion of the stem and leaves of the “*Eupatorium Perfoliatum*” of Linn. vulgarly called Bonefet. If I was disposed to believe in the existence of a specific, for this formidable disease, I should consider the bonefet as possessing all those virtues—its sensible qualities are those of a stimulant and bitter; it belongs to a family of plants, much esteemed & cultivated as antidotes to poison—the infusion if made strong, and given warm excites vomiting, but without debilitating the stomach, as after the use of antimony, or mercury—it proves gently cathartic, & at the same time powerfully sudorific. When taken cold it is no less tonic than most of the bitters employed in practice. In the vicinity of this city, it is very much made use of by the common people, and very successfully in the treatment of fevers. In the hands of physicians, I have no doubt it will become a valuable addition to the *Materia Medica*.

John Stevens, Esq. of Hoboken, some time since published an account of its good effects, in some cases of yellow fever, which fell under his notice among his neighbors. The praise he has bestowed upon this herb, I am satisfied, is just. I intend to give it a fair trial, and hope my brother practitioners will do the same. I wish I could see that communication re-published—it is calculated to do good. Where we fail in inducing perspiration by the use of the above remedies, I know of no application which promises to be so useful as the warm bath, and that frequently repeated in the manner you recommended it, until it produces the effect intended. I acknowledge, that in the early stages of the yellow fever, I have not made use of it to the extent you have prescribed it; having trusted to the application of the steam applied in the manner before mentioned; but the good effects derived even from this local application of it, and the benefits of the steam bath, at Bellevue, under the care of Dr. Brown, sometime since published, satisfy me that perhaps still greater advantages are to be obtained from warm bathing; it at least deserves a candid trial in a disease that so frequently baffles all medical skill. I hope the medical gentlemen of the Board of Health will avail themselves of the use of it in the present season in their practice at Bellevue, and at our quarantine ground.

I know it will be objected to the treatment above mentioned, that it is too much of the old al-chemic system, and that it is calculated to aggravate, instead of diminishing fever. It might equal-

ly be objected to the application of a blister, in a pleurisy, or, in an inflammation of the brain that its stimulating effects upon the skin, will add to the inflammation already existing; but its good effects, notwithstanding the temporary excitement it produces, is not now questioned by physicians. I am also convinced that the benefits derived from perspiration in the treatment of yellow fever, counteract all the disadvantages of the heat and temporary stimulus, employed to obtain it.

The successful practice of Dr. Warren, in the yellow fever of Barbadoes, and the benefits of perspiration induced by the use of warm oil, frictions and fomentations in the treatment of the plague, as recommended by Count Berchtold, also serve to confirm the propriety of this practice; and, I think it very possible, that the stimulating effects of the warm bath, applied to the whole surface of the body and frequently renewed, may be no less useful in transferring the excitement of yellow fever to the surface of the body, than the operation of a blister in removing the inflammation from the pleura, or from the membranes of the brain. The advantages of warm-bathing in rheumatism—the salutary effects of the warm bath, rendered stimulant by the addition of bark and spirits, in the latter stage of typhus fever, and confluent small-pox—the benefits of blisters, stimulating cataplasms, and spiritous fomentations, in the latter stage of yellow fever, also teach us to expect much advantage from the warm bath, in different stages of that disease. I could adduce many other facts from practice in support of the plan of treatment you propose, but I must have already wearied your patience and therefore subscribe myself.

Your Friend,
DAVID HOSACK.

Noah Webster, jun, Esq.

REPLY.

NEW-HAVEN, Sept. 17, 1805.

DEAR SIR,

I thank you for your favour of the 13th, and the trouble you have taken to express to me your ideas fully on the mode you have pursued in the treatment of the malignant fever. In that letter you consider the fever as proceeding from poison introduced into the system. This I believe to be often, perhaps generally true—not so generally the poison of morbid excretions from the sick—but the poison of a vitiated atmosphere. Sometimes, however, I believe the same poison generated in the system, from a torpid state of the vessels, or morbid action—for I hold it to be found philosophy that the excruciating matter of the human body, may, by heat and a torpor of the secreting vessels, become poison of the most deleterious kind. There are also sporadic, single, unconnected with any external cause, in our country towns, 40 miles from the sea, in the healthiest situations in New-England, of men seized with fever, turning yellow and dying in 3, 4 or 5 days.—In one instance lately, a man died, in such a situation after 17 hours illness, and with black vomit.

But while we differ as to the origin of this malignant and fatal disease, our ideas seem to accord in general, on the subject of the proper mode of treatment.

I will only add, what may possibly be of some use, the ideas and practice of our oldest masters of vessels in the West-India trade, whose experience I deem better than theories.

Some of the more judicious of these gentlemen inform me, that they rarely bleed, and never give violent pukes or drastic purges—On the other hand, they are careful to irritate the stomach as little as possible. A puke upon an empty stomach, or a gentle purge or injection is the first application. Then the warm bath, if practicable—and one of these gentlemen informs me, he carries his bathing tub, as much as his compass—Then copious drafts of warm liquors—such as infusions of herbs or tea acidulated with a little juice of tamarinds, lemons, &c. It is with a view to the copious use of these drinks, that they are cautious not to irritate the stomach—they pour down gallons of these liquors, and keep up perspiration till the fever is subdued.—One of these captains assures me that he does not lose a patient in twenty, under this mode of treatment.

With sincere wishes that some mode of treatment may be devised which shall subdue this formidable enemy of our peace, happiness and commerce.

I am, Sir,
Yours,
N. WEBSTER.

Dr. David Hosack.

Egypt about the early part of April crossed the desert of Barca in the midst of astonishing difficulties, and arrived in the latter end of April before Derne, on the frontiers of Tripoli, and on the sea coast, in long. 22, 45, E. lat. 32, 55, N. It was defended by an army of 5 or 6000 Arabs. Not deterred, however, by the difficulties of the undertaking, the ex-Bashaw and Eaton, on the 27th of April, attacked the town in different quarters at the same time, whilst Capt. Hull in the Argus, Capt. Dent in the Nautilus, and Lieut. Evans in the Hornet bomb ketch, played off on the sea side, against the only fort which defended the town.—Derne was captured.

This victory was, however, succeeded by a second action. The Bashaw of Tripoli having had intelligence of the march of the enemy, had dispatched about 2000 Arabs to the defence of Derne, under an expectation that they would arrive there before the enemy. They did not, however, arrive till two days after Derne was taken.

On the 15th of May a battle was fought between the forces of Sidi Hamet and those of the reigning Bashaw. For a long time the victory was doubtful, but at length Hamet's troops were forced to give way. The enemy pursued them into the town, until Gen. Eaton very judiciously turned the guns of the fort where he was stationed, upon the Bashaw's troops, and compelled them to retreat in a most disorderly manner, and under the destructive fire of the American vessels in the harbour. It was expected by Gen. Eaton, when he reached Derne, that he should receive a large reinforcement of men and money from the navy of the United States; with these he intended to march to Braganza, another Tripolitan town on the sea coast, after which he expected that his army would be conveyed in the American vessels across the gulph of Sydra, the much celebrated Syrtis of antiquity. But these reinforcements were not wanting, on account of the events which afterwards occurred.—That we may lay open the secret spring of these events, let us once more return to the Divan of Tripoli.

It was one of the customs of the Bashaw to have the most important parts of the American newspapers, which were sent over to the captives, regularly translated for his own inspection. Among other articles of considerable importance, he was particularly struck with that part of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, which mentions the duration and probable amount of the Mediterranean fund. A tax which was estimated to produce not less than 550,000 dollars, and was intended to continue until the expiration of the war with Tripoli, affected him with surprise and apprehension. He saw that the spirit of the American nation was yet unbroken: He saw that they were determined to carry on the war until they could bring it to an honorable accommodation. What efforts could he expect to make in opposition to a nation, which would thus contribute "millions for defence, but not a cent for tribute?" Such were the reflections that passed through the Bashaw's mind, and such, according to the opinion of our captive countrymen, were the first inducements that prompted him to make propositions for peace. The reader will remark that these propositions were made before Gen. Eaton commenced his daring enterprise, and before Derne was taken. They were made by the Bashaw as early as the month of February. But Mr. Lear, who it may be supposed was commissioned with full power to negotiate, did not conceive that the proper moment of negotiation had arrived.—He consequently refused to listen to the propositions of the Bashaw; nor did he deviate from his resolution until the capture of Derne struck an awful alarm into the heart of the Bashaw, and induced him to repeat his propositions for a peace. This was the critical moment for acceding to his terms: The Bashaw of Tripoli had been alarmed for the prosperity of his dominions; his cruisers were blocked up in his harbors by the American Squadron; his treasury had been drained of no less than 4 or 500,000 dollars, for carrying on the war; but now a more serious cause of alarm had seized upon him—He trembled for the very safety of his dominions. Derne had been captured; an army of 2000 men had been defeated by an invading enemy. Had he been able to ascertain the precise number of that army, he might perhaps have learned to despise their power. But it was the interest of the bey of Derne to justify his own cowardice by exaggerating the force of his opponents. He had multiplied the amount, and magnified the valor of the American forces, and to the apprehensive imagination of the Bashaw, there seemed to be an army hovering over the very capital of his dominions. Our informants are not certain whether he had gone so far as to adopt any ultimate precautions for his safety. They do not recollect to have heard that any proposals had been thrown out, that the moment of Gen. Eaton's approach should become the signal of death, not only to the American, but all the christian captives. But they recollect to have received some information from Mr. Cowdry that the Bashaw had collected together his jewels and his women, and that he intended in case of the most urgent danger, to retire with the American captives into the deserts of Barca.

poli now in the power of the U. States, shall be delivered up to him, and as the number of Americans in the possession of the Bashaw of Tripoli, amounts to 300 men more or less, and the number of Tripolitan subjects in the power of the Americans, to about 100, the Bashaw of Tripoli shall receive from the United States the sum of sixty thousand dollars, as a payment for the difference between the respective prisoners.

The 3d. article declares, that upon the conclusion of the peace aforesaid, between the United States and the regency of Tripoli, all the forces of the United States which have been or may be in hostilities against the Bashaw of Tripoli in the province of Derne, or elsewhere within the dominions of the said Bashaw, shall be withdrawn therefrom, and no supplies shall be given by or in behalf of the United States, during the continuation of peace, to any of the subjects of the said Bashaw who may be in hostilities against him or any part of his dominions; and the Americans shall use all the means in their power to persuade the brother of the said Bashaw, who has co-operated with them at Derne, &c. to withdraw from the territory of the Bashaw of Tripoli, but they will not use any force or improper means to effect that object, and in case he shall withdraw himself as aforesaid the Bashaw engages to deliver up to him his wife and children now in his power.—Signed June 3d, 1805.

These preliminary articles were of course entered into before the General treaty, of which they form the basis, as concluded. The articles of the general treaty consist of such only as have been made with the most favourable and powerful nations, with one exception as honorable to us as it is unprecedented in the history of Tripolitan treaties; that in case of a future war, the prisoners shall not be considered or treated as slaves, but be exchanged man for man according to rank, or redeemed at a very low stipulated rate.

By this treaty, we have not violated our compact with the exiled Bashaw, or even disappointed any expectation, which he could reasonably have formed. The United States had always held out to him the idea, that we should have complete liberty to make a peace, whenever our own interests should demand it. Our connection with him was always considered as a matter of co-operation, not as a compact of alliance. We have already alleviated his misfortunes by obtaining the restoration of his wife and family, which is represented to have been the most formidable obstacle in the way of negotiation. And perhaps it may be incumbent upon the honor or humanity of the United States to make some provision for his subsistence and accommodation.

The characters of the two brothers is represented by our countrymen in very different colours. The deposed Bashaw, endowed with little capacity, and addicted to sordid propensities; the ruling monarch possessed of a strong understanding, capable of perceiving and estimating merit wherever it is to be found, of elevated sentiments and of aspiring ambition.—His prime minister is a Russian, not remarkable for the vigour of his talents. His minister of foreign affairs, a Tripolitan by birth, with endowments which would adorn any of the cabinets of Europe, is the man upon whom devolves the great burden of the government.

We have formed the most erroneous ideas of the treatment, which our countrymen received in Tripoli. There was a marked and honorable distinction between them and the other christian captives. The common seamen were not compelled to work upon the fortifications of the town longer than 4 o'clock every day; after which hour, they were permitted to seek their own amusements, or rather their own emolument. The officers were confined, but not chained, and they had every accommodation with which their own purses could supply them. From the consuls of most of the European states, they obtained all those polite attentions which are so grateful at all times, and more especially in a season of adversity. The cook of the Danish Consul was their purveyor in the market.

His Tripolitan majesty seems to have conceived the most exalted opinion of the American bravery, resources and honor; and in every instance conducted himself towards them with the most distinguished politeness. When Colonel Lear landed at Tripoli, he was saluted with 9 guns, instead of 7, which had been hitherto the usual tribute of respect. When our countrymen left his city forever, he gave them an adieu full of politeness and sensibility.

A few more desultory facts will close this hasty sketch. Scarce had the treaty of peace been concluded, when some of the Corsairs of Tripoli once more resumed their usual occupation, repeated their incursions upon Sicily and Naples, and carried off whole families into captivity.

It has even been said that it was the fear of encountering this danger, which induced the king of Naples to refuse us the loan of his gun-boats during the present campaign.

The principal part of our squadron is now on a visit to the Regency of Tunis, with which we have some points of difference to adjust.—It will probably take the tour of the Barbary states. Should they not receive any orders to leave the Mediterranean, they winter at Syracuse. May they soon be safely moored within our own harbours!

FROM THE HUDSON BALANCE.

It has been known for some time past that there exist within and near the corporation of the city of Hudson, several saline or mineral springs.—As the waters of these springs take their qualities from the mineral productions through which they pass, it may not be improper, in mentioning the former, to give some account of the latter: The soil in and about Hudson consists for the most part of clay, with which are intermixed mechanically, large portions of calcareous and magnesian earths, and every where are to be seen traces of iron and sulphuric acid; these are sometimes discovered chemically combined in various mineral substances; specially a fine specimen of pyritous stone, termed bliftered marcasite, is often found washed out by the rains in the deep gullies of this vicinity. That hepatic waters should result from the decomposition of such materials, and that Epsom waters should abound in such a soil, might naturally be expected. We accordingly find here, with some interruption, a continuation of those springs, some partaking more of one quality and some of the other, for miles in extent; they are to be met with

bursting through its bed, how high water marks and trickling down the sides of the high clay banks, called the Clavers, about two miles to the north of the city, leaving behind them a very austere and bitter salt, which during the summer season in dry weather gives these banks a distance, a white appearance. Although these waters are characterized principally by the sulphurated hydrogen gas and the sulphit of magnesia, yet some of them possess other qualities in an inferior degree, but one or two excepted, none of them appear to be highly charged with those materials.

The water which has hitherto attracted most attention, is that of a large sulphur spring, recently discovered on the farm of Berry Chase, about four miles to the northward of Hudson. It boils up through perforations in a rock, at the bottom of a low bog or morass; this water is unquestionably possessed of valuable medicinal qualities; besides the sulphurated gas and Epsom salt, it also contains a slight proportion of the carbonic acid gas; tho' very transparent, it resembles both in smell and taste the runnings of a foul gun barrel; it readily loses its hepatic smell by being kept in an open bottle, but thereon deposits no sediment: its temperature is cold, the thermometer standing it at 54 degrees, and in the atmosphere at the same time at 75 degrees; when taken in sufficient quantity, it often operates as a gentle emetic, but is more commonly diuretic and purgative. Not more than two months have elapsed since it first began to be visited, and the concourse of people which daily throng to it is numerous and increasing. It is said to afford complete and speedy relief in all cutaneous affections. The writer of this has known many obstinate cases of Erysipelas, Itoh, Herpes, and two cases of Rheumatism, where cures have been obtained by drinking it.

Boston:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1805.

Messrs. Editors,

The following extract of a letter from a gentleman of respectability, contains some facts not generally known; you will publish them if you think fit.

A CUSTOMER.

"I can now state to you positively, that the Ex-Bashaw in a formal note to Mr. Eaton, has expressed his acquiescence in the treaty, and in strong unequivocal language has made his acknowledgments for the services rendered him by the American government, admitting at the same time that, failing in every thing that was expected on his part after they had reached Derne, he could not reasonably and therefore did not expect a continuance of their co-operation. His note concluded with thanking the Chief of America and all his servants for their friendly aid and intentions. This note was sent to ——— in order to defeat any insinuations injurious to the honour of the United States in their relations to the Ex-Bashaw."

"With respect to the ransom, Mr. Lear held out ten days, and until it was finally believed that without it the 300 prisoners would not be released. The Bashaw admitted that he could not contend with such a force and that he should be compelled to abandon his city, but repeatedly and vehemently declared that if the Americans were bent upon destroying his town, his fortifications, his shipping, his fame and every thing that was Tripolitan, they must expect in return that he would destroy every thing that was American within his power—adding and repeating in a ferocious manner that after having killed his father and a brother he should not have any scruples in killing a few infidels. The officers I have seen who were prisoners are all clear and decided in the opinion that the Bashaw could not consistently with his own safety have delivered up the prisoners without a ransom; and that if Mr. Lear had persisted, very little resistance would have been made to our Squadron; but amidst the desolation of the bombardment and cannonade, the prisoners would all have been massacred."

Other Facts.—A few years since the Batavian Republic paid to Tripoli for a continuation of peace, and when there was not a prisoner to be redeemed, 80,000 dollars. Admiral Dewinter who was the negotiator was at the time before Tripoli with five ships of the line.

Denmark paid about three years since 60,000 dollars for a peace. Sweden paid lately 170,000 dollars for a peace; and these powers pay besides Consular presents, tribute, &c.

The President of the United States has appointed John Breckenridge, Esq. attorney general of the United States; and John Coburn Esq. judge of the territory of Orleans.

The Legislature of Orleans have established a company for the improvement of inland navigation, by canals, &c. The company is to have a capital of 200,000 dollars. After their interest shall exceed fifty per cent, the residue is to be paid into the territorial treasury.

The Major Generals of Georgia propose as the militia uniform, green, faced and edged with black, and yellow buttons, with a rattlesnake engraved thereon.

On Saturday morning about daylight, a fire was discovered in the spacious building owned by Edward Pennington, as a sugar refinery in Brewer's alley, above Vine street, in Philadelphia. The flames had gained such an ascendancy, previous to the alarm, as to defy every effort to subdue them. This extensive building, and adjoining apartments, together with all the menfils and a large stock of materials, were entirely consumed. The loss thus in one hour sustained by a single individual is said to amount to between 50 and 60,000 dollars. It is not satisfactorily understood how the fire originated.

We are concerned to add that a possibility of preserving this valuable property was frustrated by the want of a supply of Schuylkill water.

