



PAGODA, NEAR PHILADELPHIA.

THE PAGODA.

Silent and sequestered and shady places, among the earlier and more imaginative, though less enlightened nations, have always been consecrated to a worship, however wild, most fanciful and sincere. Among all people—even the fastidious, by refined and intellectual of this century—eminences, whether natural or artificial, that command extensive views of picturesque and beautiful scenery, always present peculiar attractions of resort to the inhabitants of thronged and dusty cities. For whatever withdraws the heart from the bondage of self-interest and unsatisfied acquirement, should ever be held a blessing too great for possible exaggerated estimation—and nothing so much as the smile of nature, and the peace that pervades her lovely scenes, tends to compose conflicting interests, and hush into slumber, if not oblivion, the agitations of the heart.

Neither the Battery of New York, nor the Mall of Boston, nor the Bluff of Savannah, though each presents a various view, so fully verifies the truth of these suggestions as the coup d'oeil displayed from the towers of THE PAGODA. No other public place of resort and amusement exhibits a perspective so extensive and distinct of natural and artificial life—of town and country—of city grandeur and diversified rural beauty.

The lot on which it stands is situate on Francis's street, and yields in point of eminence to Fair Mount alone. About one hundred feet of front is occupied by a Chinese pavilion used as a place of public entertainment. Its exterior is completely in the light eastern style.

From the southern side of the Pavilion you descend by an easy flight of stairs to the labyrinth garden. Around the palisades is a broad gravel walk, forming an extensive and delightful promenade—it is ornamented by a bed of choice flowers. The Pagoda is in the centre of

the labyrinth, and each corner of the ground plot outside of the gravel walk is destined to be decorated with a Chinese temple upon a smaller scale.

When you enter the Pagoda, you are informed by a placard placed in the casement story, that it is "the Temple of Confucius," after the celebrated Chinese Philosopher of that name. You ascend, by a very easy winding stair case, from story to story, until you find yourselves at an elevation of 110 feet above the garden, which is, itself, nearly on a level with the eight windows of Christ Church steeple. With the aid of a telescope, with which the visitor is here provided, can take a survey of the country for a circuit of thirty miles, and enjoy all the pleasures accompanying country life, without subjecting himself to the diseases and perils incident to autumnal decay. He may trace with delight the romantic scenery that adorns the winding shores of the Schuylkill; the variegated woods that clothe and crown the swelling uplands on the south and west; the rapidly improving, yet already large and beautiful city of Philadelphia on the east; and the numerous public buildings of the metropolis of Pennsylvania, the farm-houses and the country-seats of wealthy proprietors on the north. Below him flows the calm, meandering river; its glassy waters roll in a sheet of foam over the artificial cascade of Fair Mount, and then continue their quiet course beneath two noble bridges, and through a fruitful country to the ocean.

The sights and sounds here presented to the eye of the contemplative observer, win their

way gently to the heart, and leave it both wiser, better and happier. The mind expands as it pervades the scene, and anticipates the future greatness, wealth and grandeur, of the city behind, and the country around this fairy spot. A single visit to THE PAGODA at sunset, or on a moonlight eve—and a single hour passed in the contemplation and enjoyment of the wild beauties of nature, and the signal triumphs of useful art—will better prepare the mind for its continual struggles in life than all the operas which refinement ever barbarously invented, or all the empiric prodigies which needy adventurers ever displayed to the insatiable gaze of unprofitable curiosity.

[Nov. 1828.

The pagoda and its ornamental appendages, attained no popular or permanent patronage. It was projected and owned by Peter A. Broun Esq, a lawyer of this city, whose genius also caused the present arcade in Chesnut-st- betw of Sixth street to be built. But neither enterprise added much to the fame or pecuniary advantage of the founder—except indeed, that he acquired the popular sobriquet of Pagoda Arcade Broun

The Pagoda was erected in the year and demolished,

See page 23—

The arcade was built,

PHILADELPHIA IN OLD TIMES.—“The Non-Importation Resolutions” of 1765, to which reference was made in last Tuesday’s Ledger, were published a few years ago in this city, and are curious as containing as a cause of aggressive oppression on the “Colonies,” “several acts of the Parliament of Great Britain placing restrictions on trade and commerce,” together with the “Stamp Act,” which at that period caused so intense an excitement. These resolutions bear the *fac simile* signatures of all the prominent merchants of that time, amounting to 375, beginning with the name of “Thos. Willing,” the President of the first National Bank of ten millions, and ending with that of “Thomas Mifflin,” the first Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, and other names “familiar as household words” to the people even of our own time in Philadelphia. It is a curious and interesting document of times antecedent to the Revolution, but procreative of revolutionary consequences.

The following is also interesting. It is a copy of the original subscription to the first dancing assembly held in Philadelphia, in 1748, twenty-eight years previous to the Declaration of Independence:

A list of subscribers for an Assembly under the direction of John Inglis, Lynford Lardner, John Wallace and John Swift: Each subscription, forty shillings, to be paid to any of the Directors at subscribing:
 Alex Hamilton, Jno Kearsley Jr, Samson Levy
 T Lawrence, Jr., Wm Plumsted, Lynford Lardner,
 John Wallace, Andrew Elliot, Rich'd Hill, Jr.,
 Phineas Bond, James Burd, Benj Pries.
 Chas Willing, James B. Amston, John Francis,
 Joseph Shippin, Ro Mackimien, Wm McLivaine,
 Sam'l McCall, Jr., Wm Allen, Wm Humphreys,
 George McCall, Ach'd McCall, Wm Peters,
 Edward Jones, Jos Turner, James Polyocean,
 Sam'l McCall, Sr., Thos Hopkinson, Wm Franklin,
 R Conyngnam, Rich'd Peters, Henry Harrison,
 Joseph Sims, Adam Thomson, John Hewston,
 T Lawrence, Sr., Alex Stedman, Daniel Boites,
 David McLivaine, Patrick Gard, Thomas White,
 John Wilcocks, John Sober, John Lawrence,
 Chas Stedman, David Franks, Thomas Godms,
 John Kidd, John Inglis, John Cottenham,
 Wm Bingham, R Wisheart, John Moland,
 Buckridge Sins, Abram Taylor, Wm Cuzzens,
 John Swift, James Trotter.

The foregoing is a true copy of the original subscription list to the first Dancing Assembly held in Philadelphia, 1748. R. WILLING, February 18th, 1822.

MANAGERS:
 John Inglis, John Wallace,
 Lynford Lardner, John Swift.

Sedger—March 7—57—7

On a visit to the General Post-office, this morning, I was shown the original “Ledger” of that department. It was kept by Benjamin Franklin, Postmaster General. Curiosity led me to ascertain the amount of business then done at the Philadelphia Post office. It was as follows: For the quarter ending April 5, 1776, £31 12s 8d. I guess the yield of the last quarter of '79 is \$33,000. Trenton yielded in the year ending 5th October, 1776, £10 16 11. Princeton, same period, £12 10 1; Bristol, £69 2. Wilmington, Delaware, ditto, £2 14.

Wed—Feb. 10—57—1

Philad. Monthly Magazine.

No. 1—New Series.

This day is published and for sale by J. DOBSON,

No. 103 Chesnut street.

The Philadelphia Monthly Magazine, No. 1, Vol. 1. New Series; for November, 1828.

CONTENTS—The present state of Literature. Progress of Literature in Pennsylvania.

The Younger Brother,
 Poetry—Native Home,
 The Outlaw of Shimish,
 The Reconnoiterer—No. 1.
 Review—The pleasures of Friendship.
 Poetry—Satan,
 Critical Notices—Atlantic Souvenir—Pearl,
 List of New publications,
 Notices,—To Correspondents.
 Price 5 dollars per annum—subscription received as above Oct 3—mwf

[Nov. 11—1828—

The above Mag. was edited by Dr. Snowdon—a gentleman, of admirable qualities, with whom I had the pleasure of intimate acquaintance—But a few nos of the work were issued when he died—

The northern face of the new clock, in the State House steeple was last evening illuminated for the first time. The dial is of rough glass, and 7 feet 6 in diameter. The figures and minute marks are copper gilt. The figures and position of the hands could be clearly distinguished, and we have no doubt the whole will be found to answer, to the fullest extent, the purpose designed.—Aurora.

[Nov. 26—28—

IMPROVEMENT.—The old building formerly belonging to the estate of the late Peter Duponceau, at the N. E. corner of Chesnut and Sixth street, is now undergoing repairs and alterations. It is to be altered into a store, and will be occupied by the American Sunday School Union.

Jan 12. 46,