

York, and are hawked at the low price of a cent each ; which placing them in the hands of the rabble, two many of them deal in the vilest scurrility ; since he who slanders most has the greatest sale. Thus, for these base purposes, the President of Congress has been denounced as a felon, and many of its members threatened with the gibbet. The Christian Advocate and Journal throws off 30,000 copies of each impression, the largest of any known ; and The Sun, daily paper, is the cheapest, being but \$3 per annum. There are no Sunday newspapers, but religious ones may be said to be peculiar to this country. The oldest publishing paper is the Newport Mercury, set up June 12, 1758, by the brother of Doct. Franklin. The father of the English press is the present editor of the York Chronicle, which he has conducted ever since 1777. Day compositors receive \$9, night ones \$12 weekly. Of the political papers 70 are in favor of the administration, and 80 against them. They have the privilege of exchanging free of postage. Foreign and native are mailed to all parts of America at 1½ cent each. Complaints against the tardy payments of subscribers, are a frequent subject of their leading articles : one that I took up casually finished thus " We cant live so and wont ; are willing to take any thing, from pine knots to potatoe parings."

28. The post office and exchange are in Wall-street, abounding in banks and insurance offices, one whereof, the *American*, last paid 16 per cent dividend—the windows fronting the Hall of the basement, have 1072 boxes numbered and rented to mercantile houses, at \$4 each per annum. It distributes and mails 15,000 letters daily, and commonly receives 40,000 ship ones monthly ; which are delivered, per hand, at the rate of 2500 per hour. Letter-carriers receive one cent per letter. The first Post-Office at New York was erected in 1692. Postmaster General has \$6,000, a messenger \$700, and lowest clerk \$800, per ann. ; no official clerk is paid less, which places those in the revenue above the temptation of bribe : in the distribution of salaries, no allowance is ever made for the support of mere dignity. Postage is 6 cents for 36 miles, 18 for 400, and 25 for any number whatever. There are 9,205 district post-offices : most of them are paid by a commission of 30 per cent on the first \$100, and 25 on the next \$300, etc. but the greater part receive \$300 a year, though not passing half so many letters in that time : sweeping changes are often made in this department ; thus, in 1830, upwards of 491 were dismissed. A Mississippi postmaster was lately fined \$500, for omitting, by his clerk, to deliver a letter. For some years past, the expenditure of the mails has exceeded their returns by some \$80,000. There are 120,000 miles of post roads. The postmaster of Paris in Maine, is daily receiving letters intended for Paris, in France : as pretension of name costs nothing, this state is over-run with Rome, Moscow, Vienna, and a hundred others. The word *present* is usually attached to the