

NOTES TO LETTER THE FOURTH.

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1

Yet still in confidence fair Newark stood.

The destruction of Newark was one of those wanton deeds of unfeeling cruelty which cannot be palliated by the nation, as the unauthorised act of an individual. General McClure, who commanded on the frontier, writes to the Secretary of War thus: "This step has not been taken without counsel, and is in conformity with the views of your Excellency, disclosed to me in a former communication."

2.

Which they declare, were left for swine to eat.

General Drummond lost no time in retaliating for the destruction of Newark, by the burning of Black Rock and Buffalo, at the same time taking Fort Niagara. For these proceedings the English were of course abused, and amongst other things they are charged with leaving the dead Americans for the hogs to eat.

3.

*Towards that end their interest may require,**Or to glut vengeance, or appease desire.*

To elucidate this, innumerable instances might be adduced; among many others, the following have come within my own knowledge:

I have heard it boasted by men, called of the most respectable characters, that they had been able, by giving a fee of ten pounds, to prevent the passage of an Act through their State Legislature.

I have known several instances of Sheriffs being murdered with impunity, in the proper discharge of their duty, the culprits having only to transport themselves into the next State, to avoid punishment.

I knew a General Officer who having lost a horse, went in pursuit of him, with one of his relations, they overtook a man on his back, and shot him dead on the spot, took the horse and returned home, no question ever being made as to the propriety of the act.

A Judge abscond, for stealing some articles from a silver