

of it. I am, sir, your obedient hum-
ble servant,

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL.

Cadiz, Sept. 20, 1793.

THIS afternoon was brought into this port, two American ships at prize in a Spanish frigate, taken ten days from Seville, said to have French property on board. The people are detained on board the frigate, have been all stripped and plundered—no person suffered to go on board, or to write to them, on board their ships. They have been induced to undertake their defence, and make their situation known to you. Please to write me officially, on the subject. Please to lay the matter before the Spanish minister, to that those unfortunate people may be relieved, or represented here. By next post you shall have every particular circumstance.

Your obedient humble servant,

JOHN LAMB.

Ded., Sept. 23, 1793.

I wrote you last post concerning the two ships brought into this port—I was in hope to give you a more particular account of them: But it is impossible to have any advantage. I have been on board the Commodore, with the most reputable merchants of this place, begging leave to call on the Captains of our vessels, but was refused. The orders from the Captain-General is, that no boat shall approach the ships, nor letters sent on board; so that it is impossible to find their real situation; but the ships are large and valuable—and one, the ship *Crescent*, of Rodon, Capt. ANTON OAKMAN; and Capt. NATHANIEL JONES, of Portland, loaded with French manufactured goods. This information is the best I can give you, excepting that the Captains and people have been plundered of their clothing and money. Sir, I must beg you to do every thing in your power, and I dare say will, to relieve them from their distressed situation. I have hereunto encroached their bottoms, and am in great anxiety on the subject. Please to forward such authority as you can give, as far as possible you can; at least to have the officers and people liberated; as I find their situation is miserable at present. Your obedient humble servant,

JOHN LAMB.

W.M. CARMICHAEL, Esq.

Cadiz, Oct. 3, 1793.

I wrote you the 20th and 21st ult. concerning the two ships brought into this port. Did distress myself, that I should have had your answer by last post, but am disappointed. I beg you will not be silent, on the subject. The officers and people are still confined, and are in a very miserable condition. I have indifferently informed myself, by paying a small sum to the guard. Contrary to all neutrality it is the usage of our people. Even in war with the British, when I was commander of a ship of war, I took a number of British vessels, I never treated my prisoners with the severity, that the officers and people of these two ships, which I have before mentioned to you, are suffering: Therefore, I beg you, as their behalf to get such relief for them as is in your power. Is it possible the Spanish Court will suffer the Capt. General of this chapter, together with the Captain of the frigate, to give such orders, and have them exempted? Were our people pirates, no more could be done. If so, it is high time our neutrality was turned into hostility. Neither pen or paper is suffered; and they are stripped of money and clothing. If a boat attempts to approach their vessels, a cocked musket is presented into the boat; which was the case, the day before yesterday, with Capt. LOARNE of *Boscombe*. I am fully persuaded that such conduct as this will not do. I hope you are not afraid or ashamed to remonstrate against such conduct, without delay; for it is really a matter of consequence. I have sent the copy of my letter to the owners of the ships.

J. LAMB.

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL, Esq.

THIRD CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER 3.

YESTERDAY being appointed by the Constitution, for the meeting of the third Congress of the United States, fifty members of the House of Representatives, and a governor of the Senate assembled in the city of Philadelphia.

The House of Representatives made choice of Frederick Augustus Molenberg, for speaker; John Beckley, clerk; Joseph Atkinson, sergeant-at-arms; Giffard Dally, doorkeeper, and Thomas Claxton, assistant doorkeeper.

The two freshman senators committed to the president, and inform

him, that they were ready to receive such communications as he might have to lay before them. The president returned in answer, that he would meet both hours in the Senate chamber, this day at twelve o'clock.

The Secretary of the Senate announced, that the members of the Senate were ready to admit the members of the House of Representatives in the Senate chamber, in order to receive the President's communication.

The members of the house headed by their Speaker, preceded by their Sergeant at arms, proceeded to the Senate chamber, where the President, at 12 o'clock delivered to both houses the following address:

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

FELLOW-CITIZENS of the SENATE and of the HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES,

SIR, for which I have been again called into office, so fit occasion has arisen for expressing to my fellow citizens at large, the deep and respectful fears, which I feel, of the renewed testimony of Republican Government. They are incapable of abuse in the hands of the militia, who ought to possess a pride in being the depositary of the force of the republic, and may be trained to a degree of energy, equal to any military exigency of the United States. But it is an enquiry, which cannot be too solemnly pursued, whether the act "more effectually to provide for the national defense by establishing an uniform militia throughout the United States," has organized them so as to produce their full effect; whether your own experience of the several states has detected some imperfections in the scheme; and whether a military feature in an improvement of it, ought not to be, to afford an opportunity for the study of those branches of the military art, which can scarcely ever be obtained by practice alone?

The connection of the United States with Europe, has become extremely interesting. The occurrences which relate to it, and have passed under the knowledge of the Executive, will be exhibited to Congress in a subsequent communication. When we contemplate the war on our frontiers, it may be truly affirmed, that every reasonable effort has been made to arrest the course of diffusion with the Indians, north of the Ohio. The instructions given to the Commissioners evince a moderation and equity, proceeding from a sincere love of peace, and a liberality, having no restriction but the essential interest and dignity of the United States. The attempt, however, of an amicable negotiation, having been frustrated, the troops were marched to act offensively. Although the proposed treaty did not arrest the progress of the military preparations, it is doubtful, how far the advance of the forces, before good faith justified active movements, may retard them, during the remainder of the year. From the papers and intelligence, which relate to this important subject, you will determine whether the deficiency in the number of troops, granted by law, shall be compensated by a recruit of militia; or additional recruits shall be proposed to recruit.

The several subjects, to which I have now referred, open a wide range to your deliberations; and involve some of the choicest interests of our common country. Permit me to bring to your remembrance, the magnitude of your task. Without an unprejudiced coolness, the welfare of the government may be hazard; without a firmness, as far as conflicts with freedom of sentiment, its dignity may be lost.

In this posture of affairs, both new and delicate, I resolved to adopt general rules, which should conform to the treaty, and affect the privileges of the United States. These were reduced into a system, which will be communicated to you. Although I have not thought myself at liberty to bid the file of the prizes, permitted by our treaty of commerce with France, to be brought into our ports; I have not refused to cause them to be received, when they were taken within the portion of our territory; or by vessels commanded, or equipped in a warlike form within the limits of the United States.

It is well known to the world, that the wisdom of Congress to correct, improve & infuse this plan of procedure; and it will probably be found expedient, to extend the legal code, and the jurisdiction of the Courts of the United States, to many cases which, though dependent on principles, already recognized, demand some further provisions.

When individuals fall, within the United States, array themselves in hostility against any of the powers at war; or enter upon military expeditions, or enterprises within the jurisdiction of the United States; or usurp and exercise judicial authority within the United States; or where the penalties or violations of the laws of nations may have been indifferently masked; or are inadequate; these offenses cannot receive too early and close attention, and require prompt and decisive remedies.

Whatever other remedies may be, they will be well administered by the judiciary, who possess a long established course of investigation, judicial process, and officers in the habit of executing it.

In like manner, as several of the courts have *debatum*, under particular circumstances, their power to liberate the vessels of a nation of peace, and even of a false colour of being hostile property; and have denied their power to liberate certain captures within the jurisdiction of our territory; it would seem proper to regulate their jurisdiction in these points. But if the executive is to be the resort in either of the two last mentioned cases, it is hoped, that he will be authorized by the Congress, when, for own information, he shall request it.

I cannot recommend to your notice measures for the fulfilment of our duty to the rest of the world, without again prefixing upon you the necessity of placing ourselves in a condition of complete defence, and of exacting from her the fulfilment of their duty towards us. The president returned in answer, that he would meet both hours in the Senate chamber, this day at twelve o'clock.

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The first day of June, 1793, an indenture of one million of florins, became payable on the loan of the United States, in the center of a million of francs, because of the non-payment of the period of reimbursement, five per cent for the term of ten years, and the expenses of this operation were a sum of three per cent.

The following instalment of the loan of two millions of dollars from the Bank of the United States, has been paid, as was directed by law. For the sum is in itself, it is hard to say what is the amount of the public debt: On no day can it be known, that we are at all times ready for war.

The documents which will be presented to you, will shew the amount, and kind of arms and military stores now in our magazines and arsenals; and yet an addition even to these supplies cannot with prudence be neglected; as it would leave nothing to the uncertainty of procuring a warlike apparatus, in the moment of public danger.

The products of the public revenue hitherto, has continued to equal the anticipations which were formed of it; but it is not expected to prove commensurate with all the objects, which have been foreseen. Some auxiliary provision will therefore, it is presumed, be required; and it is hoped that these may be made, sufficiently with due regard to the convenience of our citizens, who cannot but be sensible of the true wisdom of encountering the fury of the enemy.

This march was executed upon the 24th Lieutenant General Ehrlich, with two battalions of Austrian and two of Hessian Infantry, and four squadrons of British Cavalry, under the command of Major General Harcourt, was ordered to advance the same day to Rondeau. Upon the 15th the main body of the army advanced to Rondeau, and Lieut. General Ehrlich's corps, accompanied by his Royal Highness, intention to attack the enemy, and force the Lys. Information was received at Rondeau of the Prince of Cobourg's being to march towards Lille with a large body of troops, which his Sirene Hohenzollern, put in motion as soon as he had learnt that Menin was evacuated.

During the march of the Army, the enemy had attacked General Beaufort's advanced post, but the enemy had been repelled before his arrival.

This appears to have been only intended to cover their retreat, as they had begun to evacuate Menin early in the morning. In the course of the day they entirely abandoned that important post, which was taken possession of in the evening by Lieutenant General Ehrlich. Yesterday the Army marched again: A camp was taken near Menin and the advanced post pulled off to Werwick, which the enemy had likewise abandoned; so that by these movements Austria Flanders has been protected, and that part of it recovered. I have the honour to be

JAMES MURRAY.
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When we contemplate the war on our frontiers, it may be truly affirmed, that every reasonable effort has been made to

arrest the course of diffusion with the Indians, north of the Ohio. The instructions given to the Commissioners evince a moderation and equity, proceeding from a sincere love of peace, and a liberality, having no restriction but the essential interest and dignity of the United States. The attempt, however, of an amicable negotiation, having been frustrated, the troops were marched to act offensively. Although the proposed treaty did not arrest the progress of the military preparations, it is doubtful, how far the advance of the forces, before good faith justified active movements, may retard them, during the remainder of the year. From the papers and intelligence, which relate to this important subject, you will determine whether the deficiency in the number of troops, granted by law, shall be compensated by a recruit of militia; or additional recruits shall be proposed to recruit.

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On the 5th day of June, 1793, an indenture of one million of florins, became payable on the loan of the United States, in the center of a million of francs, because of the non-payment of the period of reimbursement, five per cent for the term of ten years, and the expenses of this operation were a sum of three per cent.

The following dispatch from Col. Sir James Murray, Adjutant General to the forces under the command of His Royal Highness the Duke of York, in which he advised the president to make a stand upon Maestricht. What the plan for the rest of the campaign might be, cannot be determined until a general muster of the combined troops is taken.

September 24.—From the present situation of the Combined Armies, it would seem that they are relieved now, to resume the plan which the Prince of Saxe Cobourg first recommended viz. to keep possession of the places they have taken, to put the men into cantonments, and early in the next campaign to push forward to the Seine, by which they hope to penetrate to Paris, without the expense of more than fifteen miles of land carriage. This is what an Irish writer would call the *imperial project*.

MURRAY,
Right Hon. Henry Dundas, &c. &c.

Whitchurch, Sept. 21.

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The Prince of Saxe Cobourg, by his junction with the Duke of York, must reinforce, for some time, with his intended army, upon Maestricht. What the plan for the rest of the campaign might be, cannot be determined until a general muster of the combined troops is taken.

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