ell friend and chief magistrate; with such abusive language—and that to his very face—and in his own country—and surrounded by all the glory and greatness which the love, confidence and admiration, of a great and grateful nation could possibly confer? Who could believe that any power on earth, or person in station however exalted, could protect such a man, especially a foreigner, from the most immediate and personal resentments of a government and people, so daringly insulted?

Sir, what would the French government and people say and do, if our minister at the court of France should call the directory to their faces, dissemblers—which is nothing else than a milder term for liars and villains? Answer this—and then tell me how you ought to be treated in America.

I hope, Sir, your government will call you home—I wish they may never send another minister, until they have made a suitable atonement for the improper conduct of you and your predecessors. I rather wish we had no treaties, nor any ministerial relations whatever, with any nation, but special ones for the particular occasion. I am persuaded we should be spared much trouble—intrigue—and villany—and be of course a less divided and necessarily more happy people.

Wm. WILLCOCKS.

Dec. 1, 1796.

AMERICAN CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, December 5, 1796.

This being the day to which Congress adjourned from their last session, the House of Representatives met, and having assembled, proceeded to business; Mr. Davenport from Connecticut, Mr. Craig from Maryland, and Mr. Jackson from Tenessee, new members, being first qualified to take their seats according to law.

Mr. W. Smith moved that a message should be sent to the Senate, to inform them that the House had formed a quorum, and was ready to proceed to business.

Agreed, and a message accordingly sent.

The Speaker announced that he had learnt the Senate had not formed a quorum, and had adjourned till to morrow.

"Mr. W. Smith presented a petition from Thomas Lloyd, praying to be appointed Stenographer to the House, at a salary of 1000 dollars per year; in consideration of which he proposed to deliver to the House daily 500 copies of the proceedings of Congress, printed in demy 8vo. at the price paid for printing only (the House finding paper) which he estimated would not amount to more than 540 dollars for the session, or in proportion for any greater quantity. He promises faithfulness, and to avoid all appearance of being appointed officially.

The petition having been read,

Mr. W. Smith said an application of a similar kind had been made last session which proved unsuccessful, and he apprehended the present petition would meet with a like reception. He would however move that it should be committed to a select committee.

It was accordingly committed to a committee of three members.

On motion the House adjourned.

Tuesday, December 6.

The speaker informed the house that as there were several new elections come to hand, it was necessary that a committee of Elections should be appointed. On motion, a committee of seven members was accordingly formed.

On motion of Mr. Macon, a committee of revisal of unfinished business, consisting of three members was appointed.

A message from the Senate, informing the house that a quorum of their body were assembled and ready to proceed to business, having been received, a resolution to the following effect was agreed to.

"Resolved, that a joint committee of the two houses be appointed to wait upon the President of the United States, to inform him that a quorum of the two houses are met and ready to receive any communications which he may be pleased to make to them."

A message was received from the Senate, informing the house, that they concurred in the Resolution which they had entered into, and had appointed a committee accordingly.

Mr. W. Smith said that an act had been passed for promulgating the laws of the United States. It was desirable that that act should include the laws of the present session, so as to complete the whole of the laws of the fourth Congress, and of the present Presidency. A bill was brought in to this effect in the last session, which was agreed to in the Senate, but negatived in this house, as likely to effect the contract which had been made for Printing. He had made inquiries on the subject, and believed there was no difficulty in the way of its accomplishment. He therefore moved a resolution to the following effect.

"Resolved, that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to amend the act for promulgating the laws of the United States."

Agreed, and a committee of three members appointed.

On motion of Mr. Bradbury, a resolution was agreed to authorising the Clerk of the house to cause every member to be served with three newspapers, such as he should chuse.

Mr. Ames, from the committee appointed to wait upon the President, informed the house that the joint committee had waited upon him, and that he had appointed to meet the two houses tomorrow at 12 o'clock in the house of representatives.

On motion, the house adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

Wednesday, December 7.

The house being assembled, a message was sent to the senate, to inform them that they were ready, agreeable to appointment, to receive any communication which the President of the United States might think proper to make to them. The senate accordingly attended, and precisely at twelve o'clock, the President, entered, and after having taken his seat, delivered the following

ADDRESS:

Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Representatives,

IN recurring to the internal situation of our country, since I had last the pleasure to address you, I find ample reason for a renewed expression of that gratitude to the ruler of the universe, which a continued series of prosperity has so often and so justly called forth.

The acts of the last session, which required special arrangements, have been, as far as circumstances would admit, carried into operation.

Measures calculated to insure a continuance of the friendship of the Indians, and to preserve peace along the extent of our interior frontier, have been digested and adopted.—In the framing of these, care has been taken to guard on the one hand our advanced settlements from the predatory incursions of those unruly individuals, who cannot be restrained by their tribes; and on the other hand, to protect the rights secured to the Indians by treaty—to draw them nearer to the civilized state, and inspire them with correct conceptions of the power as well as justice of the government.

The meeting of the deputies from the Creek nation at Coleraine, in the State of Georgia, which had for a principal object the purchase of a parcel of their land by that state, broke up without its being accomplished; the nation having previous to their departure, instructed them against making any sale; the occasion, however, has been improved, to confirm by a new treaty with the Creeks, their pre-existing engagements with the United States; and to obtain their consent to the establishment of trading houses and military posts, within their boundaries; by means of which, their friendship and the general peace may be more effectually secured.

The period during the late session at which the appropriation was passed, for carrying into effect the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation between the United States and his Britannic Majesty, necessarily procrastinated the reception of the Posts stipulated to be delivered, beyond the date assigned for that event. As soon, however as the Governor General of Canada could be addressed with propriety on the subject, arrangements were cordially and promptly concluded for their evacuation, and the United States took possession of the principal of them, comprehending Oswego, Niagara, Detroit, Michilimakinac and fort Miami, where such repairs and additions have been ordered to be made as appeared indispensable.

The commissioners appointed on the part of the United States and of Great-Britain, to determine which is the river St. Croix, mentioned in the treaty of peace of 1783, agreed in the choice of Egbert Benson, Esq. of New-York, for the third commissioner. The whole met at St. Andrews, in Passamaquody Bay in the beginning of October, and directed surveys to be made of the rivers in dispute; but deeming it impracticable to have these surveys completed before the next year, they adjourned to meet at Boston in August, 1797, for the final decision of the question.

Other commissioners appointed on the part of the United States, agreeably to the 7th article of the treaty with Great-Britain, relative to captures and condemnation of vessels and other property, met the commissioners of his Britannic Majesty in London, in August last, when John Trumbull, Esq. was chosen by lot, for the fifth commissioner. In October following the board were to proceed to business. As yet, there has been no communication of commissioners on the part of Great-Britain, to unite with those who have been appointed on the part of the United States, for carrying into effect the sixth article of the treaty.

The treaty with Spain requiring that the commissioners for running the boundary line between the territory of the United States and his Catholic Majesty's Province of East and West Florida, should meet at the Natches before the expiration of six months after the exchange of the ratifications, which was effected at Aranjuez on the 25th day of April; and the troops of his Catholic Majesty occupying any posts within the limits of the United States, were within the same period to be withdrawn. The commissioner of the United States, therefore, commenced his journey for the Natches in September, and troops were ordered to occupy the posts from which the Spanish garrison should be withdrawn. Information has been recently received of the appointment of a commissioner on the part of his Catholic Majesty for running the boundary line; but none of any appointment for the adjustment of the claims of our citizens whose vessels were captured by the armed vessels of Spain.

In pursuance of the act of Congress passed in the last session, for the protection and relief of American seamen, agents were appointed, one to reside in Great-Britain, and the other in the West-Indies. The effects of the agency in the West Indies are not yet fully ascertained; but those which have been communicated afford grounds to believe the measure will be beneficial. The agent destined to reside in Great-Britain declining to accept the appointment, the business has consequently devolved on the minister of the U. States in London, and will command his attention, until a new agent shall be appointed.

After many delays and disappointments, arising out of the European war, the final arrangements for fulfilling the engagements made to the Dey and Regency of Algiers, will, in all present appearance, be crowned with success; but under great, though inevitable disadvantages in the pecuniary transactions, occasioned by that war; which will render a farther provision necessary.—The actual liberation of all our citizens who were prisoners in Algiers, while it gratifies every feeling heart, is itself an earnest of a satisfactory termination of the whole negociation. Measures are in operation for effecting treaties with the regencies of Tunis and Tripoli.

To an active external commerce, the protection of a naval force is indispensible.—This is manifest with regard to wars in which a state is itself a party. But besides this, it is in our own experience, that the most sincere neutrality is not a sufficient guard against the depredations of nations at war. To secure respect to a neutral flag requires a naval force, organized and ready to vindicate it from insult or aggression. This may even prevent the necessity of going to war, by discouraging belligerent powers from committing such violations on the rights of the neutral party, as may first or last, leave no other option. From the best information I have been able to obtain, it would seem as if our trade to the Mediterranean without a protecting force, will always be insecure, and our citizens exposed to the calamities from which numbers of them have but just been relieved.

These considerations invite the United States to look to the means, and to set about the gradual creation of a navy. The increasing progress of their navigation promises them, at no distant period, the requisite supply of seamen; and their means in other respects favor the undertaking. It is an encouragement likewise, that their particular situation will give weight and influence to a moderate naval force in their hands. Will it not then be adviseable to begin without delay, to provide and lay up the materials for the building and equipping of ships of war; and to proceed in the work by degrees, in proportion as our resources shall render it practicable without inconvenience; so that a future war of Europe may not find our commerce in the same unprotected state, in which it was found by the present?

Congress have repeatedly, and not without success, directed their attention to the encouragement of manufactures. The object is of too much consequence not to insure a continuance of their efforts in every way which shall appear eligible. As a general rule, manufactures on public account are inexpedient. But where the state of things in a country leaves little hope that certain branches of manufacture will for a great length of time, obtain; when these are of a nature essential to the furnishing and equipping of the public force in time of war, are not establishments for procuring them on public account, *to the extent of the ordinary demand for the public service*, recommended by strong considerations of national policy, as an exception to the general rule? Ought our country to remain in such cases dependent on foreign supply, precarious, because liable to be interrupted? If the necessary articles should in this mode cost more in time of peace, will not the security and independence thence arising, form an ample compensation? Establishments of this sort, commensurate only with the calls of the public service in time of peace, will, in time of war, easily be extended in proportion to the exigencies of the government; and may even perhaps be made to yield a surplus for the supply of our citizens at large; so as to mitigate the privations from the interruption of their trade.—If adopted, the plan ought to exclude all those branches which are already, or likely soon to be established in the country; in order that there may be no danger of interference with pursuits of individual industry.

It will not be doubted, that with reference either to individual or national welfare, agriculture is of primary importance. In proportion as nations advance in population, and other circumstances of maturity, this truth becomes more apparent; and renders the cultivation of the soil more and more an object of public patronage. Institutions for promoting it, grow up supported by the public purse: and to what object can it be dedicated with greater propriety? Among the means which have been employed to this end, none have been attended with greater success than the establishment of boards, composed of proper characters, charged with collecting and diffusing information, and enabled by premiums and small pecuniary aids to encourage and assist a spirit of discovery and improvement. This species of establishment contributes doubly to the increase of improvement; by stimulating to enterprize and experiment, and by drawing to a common center the results every where, of individual skill and observation; and spreading them thence over the whole nation. Experience accordingly has shewn, that they are very cheap instruments of immense national benefits.

I have heretofore proposed to the consideration of Congress, the expediency of establishing a National University; and also a Military Academy. The desirableness of both these institutions, has so constantly increased with every new view I have taken of the subject, that I cannot omit the opportunity of once for all, recalling your attention to them.

The assembly, to which I address myself, is too enlightened not to be fully sensible how much a flourishing state of the Arts and Sciences contributes to national prosperity and reputation. True it is, that our country much to its honor, contains many Seminaries of learning highly respectable and useful; but the funds upon which they rest, are too narrow to command the ablest Professors in the different departments of liberal knowledge, for the institution contemplated; though they would be excellent auxiliaries.

Amongst the motives to such an institution, the assimilation of the principles, opinions and manners of our Countrymen, by the common education of a portion of our Youth, from every quarter well deserves attention. The more homogeneous our Citizens can be made in these particulars, the greater will be our prospect of permanent Union; and a primary object of such a national institution, should be, the education of our Youth in the Science of *Government*. In a Republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing on its Legislature, than to patronize a plan for communicating it to those, who are to be the future Guardians of the liberties of the Country?

The institution of a military Academy, is also recommended by cogent reasons. However pacific the general policy of a nation may be, it ought never to be without an adequate stock of military knowledge for emergencies. The first would impair the energy of its character, and both would hazard its safety, or expose it to greater evils when war could not be avoided. Besides, that war might often not depend upon its own choice. In proportion as the observance of pacific maxims might exempt a nation from the necessity of practising the rules of the Military Art, ought to be its care in preserving and transmitting by proper establishments, the knowledge of that art. Whatever argument may be drawn from particular examples, superficially viewed; a thorough examination of the subject will evince, that the Art of war is at once comprehensive and complicated; that it demands much previous study; and that the possession of it, in its most improved and perfect state, is always of great moment to the security of a nation. This, therefore, ought to be a serious care of every government; and for this purpose, an Academy, where a regular course of instruction is given, is an obvious expedient which different nations have successfully employed.

The compensations to the officers of the United States, in various instances, and in one more than in respect to the most important stations, appear to call for legislative revision. The consequences of a defective provision are of serious import to the government. If private wealth is to supply the defect of public retribution, it will greatly contract the sphere within which the selection of characters for office is to be made; and will proportionally diminish the probability of a choice of men able as well as upright. Besides that it would be repugnant to the vital principles of our government, virtually to exclude from public trusts talents and virtue unless accompanied by wealth.

While in our external relations, some serious inconveniences and embarrassments have been overcome, and others lessened, it is with much pain, and deep regret I mention, that circumstances of a very unwelcome nature, has lately occurred. Our trade has suffered, and is suffering extensive injuries in the W. Indies, from the cruizers, and Agents of the French Republic; and communications have been received from its Minister here, which indicate the danger of a further disturbance of our commerce, by its authority; and which are, in other respects, far from agreeable.

It has been my constant, sincere and earnest wish, in conformity with that of our nation, to maintain cordial harmony, and a perfectly friendly understanding with that Republic. This wish remains unabated;—and I shall persevere in the endeavour to fulfil it, to the utmost extent of what shall be consistent with a just, and indispensible regard to the rights and honor of our country; nor will I easily cease to cherish the expectation, that a spirit of justice, candor and friendship, on the part of the Republic, will eventually insure success.

In pursuing this course, however, I cannot forget what is due to the character of our government and nation; or to a full and entire confidence in the good sense, patriotism, self-respect and fortitude of my countrymen.

I reserve for a special message, a more particular communication on this interesting subject.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

I have directed an estimate of the appropriations necessary for the service of the ensuing year, to be submitted from the proper department, with a view of the public receipts and expenditures to the latest period to which an account can be prepared.

It is with satisfaction, I am able to inform you, that the revenues of the United States continue in a state of progressive improvement.

A reinforcement of the existing provisions for discharging our public debt, was mentioned in my address at the opening of the last session. Some preliminary steps were taken towards it, the maturing of which will, no doubt, engage your zealous attention during the present.—I will only add, that it will afford me a heart-felt satisfaction to concur in such further measures, as will ascertain to our country the prospect of a speedy extinguishment of the debt. Posterity may have cause to regret, if from any motive, intervals of tranquillity are left unimproved for accelerating this valuable end.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and
of the House of Representatives,

My solicitude to see the militia of the United States placed on an efficient establishment, has been so often, and so ardently expressed, that I shall but barely recal the subject to your view on the present occasion; at the same time that I shall submit to your inquiry, whether our harbours are yet sufficiently secured.

The situation in which I now stand, for the last time, in the midst of the representatives of the people of the United States, naturally recals the period when the administration of the present form of government commenced; and I cannot omit the occasion to congratulate you, and my country, on the success of the experiment; nor to repeat my fervent supplications to the supreme ruler of the Universe and sovereign Arbiter of nations that his providential care may still be extended to the United States; that the virtue and happiness of the people may be preserved; and that the government, which they have instituted for the protection of their liberties, may be perpetual.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

United States, Dec. 7, 1796.

As soon as the President had finished his address, he presented a copy of it to the President of the Senate, another to the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The President and Members of the Senate retired and the Speaker resumed his chair. The address was then read, and, on motion, committed to a committee of the whole house to morrow.

Adjourned.

From Halifax papers to Nov. 19.

Extract of a Letter from Martinico, Oct. 3.

"His Majesty's brig Pelican of 18 guns, had a very severe action with the Medea, French frigate of 44 guns; which she beat off after an action of an hour and a quarter. This appears to have been a most desperate engagement, the contrast being so great. The Frenchmen reported on their arrival at Gaudaloupe, that they had been engaged with a large frigate, with her mizen mast taken out, as a deception. However, our old Friend, Victor Hughes, just heard the contrary, and, on a prize being retaken, which the Pelican had captured subsequent to the action, he sent the prize master (who was a Lieutenant of the Pelican) and all the hands, immediately to the Saints, declaring, such brave fellows should never suffer in a French prison. In the action the Pelican, did not lose a man; but her spars and rigging were very much damaged.—The Frenchman had eighteen killed and wounded and the hull very much damaged. [A Tough Story.]

"Our commanders here have at length agreed to a regular exchange of prisoners: forty miserable wretches landed at Fort Royal on Sunday last, from a Cartel which came from Basseterre. (Gandaloupe) and in a few days we expect 3 or 400 from Point Petre. Their treatment has been much the same as we experienced—however, as a regular exchange is now to take place, the horrors of that ill fated place will be much less."

ALEXANDRIA, Nov. 26.

A gentleman arrived in town last evening from Tenessee, informs, that a murder was committed on the 13th. inst. within ten miles of Staunton, on Mr. Christian Statley, merchant, who was on his way to Baltimore. He had with him a large sum of money, which the murderer took from him.

RICHMOND, Nov. 26.

Extract from the Journals of the House of Delegates, of this Commonwealth, of Friday the 18th inst.

Mr. Henry Lee, reported, from the committee to whom was committed the resolution concerning the form of an address to be presented to the President of the United States, that the committee had, according to order, had the said resolution under their consideration and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended agreed to by the house as follows:

"The President of the United States having in an affectionate address to his countrymen, announced his intention of declining a re-election to the high office he now holds.

Resolved unanimously, That an address be presented to him, declaring that this house, impressed with those sentiments of friendship and gratitude which personal merit and public services ought invariably to inspire, cannot silently behold an event long deprecated by his countrymen; that whilst they deplore the resolution which will deprive a nation of its first hope, they are unable to repress those sensations arising from the prospect of her beloved citizen's return into the arms of his country; that on a review of the whole tenor of his life they feel themselves stimulated to bestow upon him the best reward which freemen can give, and the most grateful which a mind like his can receive; and that the acclamation will be heard by distant nations and resound to future ages—when with one voice they proclaim that he hath deserved well of his country.

Ordered, That Mr. Henry Lee do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 29.

Extract from the joint answer of the senate and House of Delegates to the Governor's address.

"We have received with particular satisfaction your excellency's address of the 16th inst. although not sanctioned by precedent, or enjoined by the constitution, such communications have certainly there use, and we wish that future governors may follow the laudable example, whenever they may deem it expedient to submit to the legislature, such matters as they shall judge deserves its attention.

We cordially approve your sentiments respecting the general government, and rejoice most sincerely in that public felicity, you have so truly depicted, the effect, in a great measure, of that government, and of its wise, firm, and provident administration.

We regret with you that our chief magistrate is soon to quit that exalted station, in discharging the duties of which he has gained the confidence, esteem and love, and has justly merited the gratitude of the American people.

Although we regret his intended retirement from public to private life, we cannot but acknowledge the reasonableness of the motives assigned for that determination in his late address to the people of the United States; an address which no one of sense and feeling, no friend to his country, or to the human race can read unmoved, at once admiring the wisdom of its precepts, and revering and loving the memory of the man. May that beneficent providence, which has blessed this country with an eight years administration of a magistrate so enlightened, so disinterested and patriotic, inspire his successor with the same rectitude, firmness and wisdom. May the animosity of parties never agitate and distract the public councils—may public opinion thoroughly matured, and divested of all passionate attachments, and antipathies to particular nations, ever moderate by its influence the proceedings of our representatives, should the intrigues of foreign emissaries, local and contracted views, unfounded jealousies, or partialities at any time hereafter, delay or obstruct the adoption of measures tending to the public good."

On the second reading of the answer, reported by the committee of conference, to the governor's address, the question was put, that the following clause be struck out, "Should the intrigues of foreign emissaries, local and contracted views, unfounded jealousies or partialities at any time hereafter, delay or obstruct the adoption of measures, tending to the public good." The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follows.

Affirmative, 20.
Negative, 42.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 7.

FIRE!

Last Sunday afternoon a fire was discovered in the stack yard of Mr. David Seckle, on Blealy's Island, about 6 miles from this city.

The windward stack, of seventeen which the yard contained, having first taken fire, it was within twenty minutes communicated to the whole so that it was absolutely impossible to save a single stack.

The wind being very high, and but a few persons on the island at that time, a large barn and outhouses, containing upwards of one hundred tons of hay, situated only 13 yards from the stack yard, would inevitably have fallen a prey to the flames, had it not been for the timely exertions of the inhabitants of Darby and its vicinity, who immediately repaired to the spot.

It is not known whether the fire was kindled by accident or design.—The stack having first took fire having been put up in June last, renders the supposition rather improbable that it could have taken place by the heat of the hay, which in many instances, has caused the destruction of large quantities, that have not been sufficiently dried.

The loss Mr. Seckle has sustained, is computed to amount to about two hundred tons.

Fire at Baltimore.

Extract of a letter from Baltimore, dated Sunday evening 8 o'clock, Dec. 4.

"I have seen a moment from assisting at one of the worst fires I ever saw.—The Methodists Meeting house, their Academy, four frame houses, two large three story brick houses, and all their back buildings, are in a blaze.—The evening is calm, else God only knows where it would end."

Extract of a letter from Charleston, S. Carolina, dated 15th Nov. 1796.

"I have seen the decree which you mention that citizen Adet had delivered to the secretary of state. It is unquestionably a violation of the treaty. Adet's address is of the nature of a remonstrance, and his publishing it in the newspapers, is intended as an *appeal* to the *people*. *He has done what Genet only threatened to do.* This is certainly part of the system planned by a *Jacobinic faction*. The French directory, before they could have authorised such a proceeding, must have had assurances given them of being supported *by a party in this country*.

Extract of a letter from Raleigh, North Carolina, dated 23d Nov. 1796.

"I feel much exasperated at Adet's conduct.—Hope if it can be done, that the President will instantly suspend him. Clear I am, that his conduct is so disgraceful to us, unless punished, that we must sink greatly in character."

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.

TERRIBLE FIRE *in* THIS CITY.

On Friday morning last, about one o'clock, a fire broke out in the range of stores on Murray's wharf, and raged with such fury as to baffle all human skill, until all the buildings from thence to the Fly market, on the east side of Front street were consumed to ashes.

The following are the proprietors of the buildings burnt:—

John Jones,	3 STORES
John Murray, jun.	10 do.
Mr. Kip,	4
Mr. I. Marston,	1
Do.	2 HOUSES
Estate of Robert Bruce, deceased,	5 stores
Brown & Eddy,	4
Do.	3 houses
John Taylor,	3 do.
Do.	2 stores
Cary Ludlow,	1 house
Estate of Ph. P. Livingston, deceased,	1 do.
Mr. Bruce,	8 do.

We shall make no remarks on the *probability* of the cause of this truly melancholy conflagration, except, that it is said to have communicated from the pipe of a stove; nothing certain seems to have been ascertained on this subject.—That it has injured some, distressed many, will seriously effect the whole city, and is irrevocable, are facts too stubborn to be controverted.

The buildings alone, are estimated at about seventy thousand dollars.

The stores were principally filled with various goods, the amount of which cannot be correctly ascertained—but is supposed will not fall short of one million of dollars.

The warehouses were principally of wood, new, large and commodious. There was but one brick house.

The immense quantities of tar, pitch, turpentine, and spirits, caused the flame to rage in an unprecedented manner. Fortunately the wind blew off the town and the sea was full.

RUTLAND, (Ver.) Dec. 12.

On Wednesday, the electors for the choice of a President and Vice President of the United States, met in this town. We are informed that all their votes were for the Hon. JOHN ADAMS, and the Hon. THOMAS PINCKNEY, Esq'rs.

SALEM, Dec. 9.

RELEASE OF AMERICAN SEAMEN.

Capt. ELIAS GRANT *arrived since our last in 29 days from Martinique and St. Bartholomews. At Fort-Royal, Capt.* GRANT *saw* MR. TALBOT, *Agent of the United States, for obtaining the release of American Seamen from on board British vessels of War, who informed him, that he had procured the release of several, some of whom Capt. G. saw.* MR. TALBOT *appeared satisfied with the conduct of the British Commanders, as far as he had seen, in delivering them up and declared that he had not made a single application that had been refused.* A STEPHEN CROEL, *of Long Island, state of New-York, who had been discharged from on board a vessel of war came on board of Capt.* GRANT *at Fort Royal, but was shortly after taken sick and died. Capt. G. saw his discharge, and certificate for pay while on board the ship.*

While Capt. G. lay at Fort-Royal, several Cartels arrived with prisoners from Gaudaloupe—One of the prisoners with whom Capt. G. conversed said that of about 1900 that had been taken by the French only 500 were then alive; the rest died in French prisons in Gaudaloupe.

The Fleet, that we have had accounts of sailing from Martinique, had returned without performing any exploits whatever.

Dec. 13.

From the several States, the highest applause resounds of President WASHINGTON. The public voice is now united in his praise. He goes off the stage of public life with unrivalled glory. He survives to enjoy the fame which his memorable actions have deserved. In quick succession the States record his name, and prepare to transmit the memory of his services to posterity. The tribute of *Maryland* is the last we have received. It is not a *sood* imitation.—Praise is more loud, as it is repeated. Generous sentiments find some new expressions, and the work of gratitude is not yet compleat.

BOSTON, Dec. 14.

INFORMATION

FROM LISBON, via MARBLEHEAD.

A vessel arrived at *Marblehead* on Sunday evening, in 42 days from *Lisbon*. Accounts from her confirm the intelligence of a public declaration of war between *Spain* and *England*:—and a letter from an eminent merchant in *Lisbon*, gives an opinion, that a general Peace may be expected the present winter.

No confirmation of the capture of Admiral Jarvis's squadron, came in her.

MIDDLETOWN, Dec. 16.

Capt. Robert Latimer, of this City, having had the misfortune to be cast away, and lose his vessel and cargo, was taken off the wreck by the Schooner Lucky John, of Windsor, on board of which he died of a fever, on the 20th October last, aged 35.

At a special Superior Court holden in this city, THOMAS STARR was convicted of Murder, and sentence of death pronounced on him, which is to take place the 2d Wednesday of June next.

BOYS take WARNING.

On Saturday last a son of Mr. James Clark, aged 17 years, sliding on the river, (as is too often the case with Boys) ventured a little further, when the ice gave way and he was inevitably drowned.

FIRE!

Since this paper went to press, we are informed that a fire happened in Savannah, (*Georgia*) about the first inst. when 229 houses, and 46 stores and warehouses were consumed, leaving 375 chimneys standing.

SPRINGFIELD, December 20.

A correspondent at New-York, informs us, that the late fire in that city, is strongly suspected to have been set by some evil minded persons—He also informs, that in the course of a few weeks, no less than Four persons in that city have terminated their existence by Suicide.—At Norwich, (Conn.) in the course of the last week, S. A. Desbouches, Esq. put a period to his life by shooting himself—He was respected and esteemed by his acquaintance—happy in his domestic connexions; and possessed of a handsome fortune!

NORTHAMPTON, Dec. 21.

From the best information we can obtain respecting the election of President and Vice President, in the five New England States, together with N. York, N. Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, Mr. ADAMS has 69 votes—Mr. JEFFERSON, 18—Mr. PINCKNEY, 45—scattering votes, 36.

John Eager Howard, Esq. is appointed senator of the United States, for the state of Maryland—vice Richard Potts, Esq. resigned.

Prices at Jamaica, Oct. 3. Superfine Philadelphia Flour was from 5 to 10 dollars per barrel at auction. The market was glutted with all kinds of provisions. Rum sold at 10s. per gallon. Coffee at 20s. per 100lb. Sugar at 75s. ditto. Ginger at 65s. ditto.

VERMONT.—This infant member of the Union is daily increasing in wealth and respectability, and its federalism is as rapidly augmenting. Its *grand list* for 1796 is 477,651 pounds exclusive of the property of non commissioned officers and privates subject to military duty, who (agreeably to the military law) are exempted from taxation.

We cannot yet think that the choice of electors in *Vermont*, is illegal. By the constitution of that state, made in 1777, (and we do not recollect any amendment of it since) the supreme legislative authority is vested in a house of assembly: This assembly, between the 4th and 22th of November, as we are credibly informed, made choice of the electors of President and Vice President—of course the very election was a legislative act, and therefore strictly conformable to the constitution of the United States, which declares, that the electors shall be appointed by each state, "in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct."

DIED at Williamsburgh on the 8th Inst. the widow ANNA SMITH, aged 97 years.

—— at Stockbridge, last Friday night, Mrs. CAROLINE DWIGHT, wife of Maj. JOSIAH DWIGHT of that town.

From the ANALYTICAL REVIEW, *for 1796.*

A vindication of the Duke of Bedford's attack upon Mr. Burke's Pension; in reply to a letter from the Right Hon Edmund Burke, to a noble Lord. By Thomas George Street, *Second edition. 8vo. 69 page. 2s. Jordan. 1796.*

Mr. BURKE's pamphlet is here considered as replete with the 'rankest republicanism,' and his alternate support and opposition to the aristocracy are compared to the puppet-show struggle between the 'devil and the baker.'

'With a rapid stride Mr. Burke ascends from the present duke of Bedford,' says Mr. S. 'to the founder of his grace's family. He finds no merit in either of the intermediate members, sufficient to wash out the stain of the original stock. He passes over, totally passes over, the merits of Lord *Russell*. The sufferings, the constancy, of that gallant gentleman, of that martyr to tyranny, make no impression upon him: all, all are forgotten. But we, I trust and believe, never shall forget them. As long as we have life, and no longer perhaps than we have liberty, we shall remember the man who perished upon the scaffold in defence of his country. Yet, if at any time his revered virtues should have escaped our recollection, they will be brought fresh and full to our remembrance, by the inheritor of the name of *Russell*. He will employ his talents to better purposes than those of agitating and alarming the minds of his countrymen, with tales of plots that have no foundation. He will not be an advocate for draining and depopulating his country by unjust and unnecessary wars. He will not contradict his principles by his practice. He will be no economist in words, and pensioner in deeds. He will continue his career, as he has commenced it, in the cause of liberty; and he will not be dismayed by the calomnies of venal courtiers, or the invectives of pensioned apostates.' After this tribute to the memory of Lord Russell, and compliment to this descendant, the author remarks, that many others of the nobility and gentry possess part of the property of the Romish superstition, and urges, what ought to have some weight with the friends of all *establishments*, that the bishopricks of Oxford, Peterborough, Bristol, Gloucester and Chester, were founded by Henry, VIII. out of 'the plunder of the national church.'

Mr. *Burke* is here accused of having treated the Abbe Sieyes, a man of much learning, and great disinterestedness, 'who refused to be elevated to the directorship, and at an early period of the revolution, *resigned his pension*,' with great illiberality. The same charge is repeated in the case of Dr. *Priestley*: 'Now that Dr. *Priestley* has emigrated from this country, shame to the country that forced him to emigrate! it may not injure his personal safety to speak of him.—Now that he can no longer be affected by the rage and rancour of a remorseless church and king mob, it may be permitted to me to pay him my humble tribute of respect. The studies which Mr. *Burke* has lately pursued, lead him to support sentiments and principles that inflame, and irritate, and goad mankind to warfare, and to the destruction of each other. The studies which Dr. *Priestley* has pursued, have invariably tended to preserve the health and life of man, and promote the comfort and happiness of the human race. Dr. *Priestley* is dead to this country—He has sought repose and refuge from persecution in a distant climate, yet to that clime, and even across the Atlantic, Mr *Burke* persecutes him. Mr. *Burke* has lost a beloved son; yet I have not heard that Dr. *Priestley* has broken in upon *his* sorrow. Dr. *Priestley* has lost a beloved son too, yet *his* domestic calamity is no shield and protection to him.'

Joseph Clap, jun.

HAS just received a much larger quantity of foreign GOODS than usual—Amongst which are a great variety of rich Sattins, Lutestrings, Persians and figured Modes, of the most fashionable and brilliant colours.

WEST INDIA GOODS AND GROCERIES.

French Brandy, Sherry and Malaga Wines.—A very particular attention to the payment of all accounts and obligations that are now become due, is requested and expected—as the next call may be from an other Office.

Easthampton, 14th Dec. 1796.

For Sale,

THAT noted and valuable Horse, called

Young Ranger;

Six years old last June—His Colts for two years past, hath given him much credit in this and several of the adjacent towns—Will be warranted found in every particular; and his pedigree known upon application to the subscriber,—Also, a valuable breeding MARE, twelve years old—hath proved remarkably good for Colts, superior to most any in this part of the country,—Also, a likely MARE, four years old next Spring,—Also, a likely COLT, two years old past, and a COLT of six months old. They will be sold together or separately, as best suits the purchasers; and a generous credit given for a considerable part of the money, upon undoubted security.

JOHN STODDARD.

N. B. WANTED to hire, a Man who is well acquainted with the Farming Business; and who can be well recommended for his honesty and faithfulness; it will be unnecessary for any other to apply.

Northampton, Dec. 21st. 1796.

By order of the Board of Directors of the CONNECTICUT LAND COMPANY, Notice is hereby given, that there will be a meeting of the Company, held at the State House in Hartford, on Thursday the 26th day of January next, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

That, at this meeting it will be expedient for the Company to appoint three or more judicious persons, a Committee to divide the WESTERN RESERVE, according to the mode of partition, determined upon by the Proprietors in April last. To take into consideration the expediency of adopting measures for forming a Government for the said WESTERN RESERVE or NEW CONNECTICUT, so called.

Also, to hear the report of the Agents respecting their Surveys, Proceedings and Expenditures, while exploring the Territory.

And to do and transact such other business as will best promote the interest of the Company.

EPHRAIM ROOT, *Clerk.*

Hartford, Dec. 8, 1796.

The subscribers being appointed by the Judge of Probate, for the County of Hampshire, Commissioners, to receive and adjust the claims of the creditors of the estate of *Isaac Cady Rhoads*, late of Middlefield, deceased, *represented insolvent*—Hereby give notice, That we will attend the business of our appointment at the house of *Oliver Bliss*, Innholder in said Middlefield, on the third Wednesdays of January and May next, from ten to four o'clock of said days.

DAVID SHEPARD,
JAMES NOONEY,
EDWARD LITTLE.

Middlefield, Dec. 9th, 1796.

Advertisement.

TAKEN from the house of Mr. Ashel Pomeroy in Northampton, about three weeks ago, a small sized TRUNK, covered with Sealskin, containing sundry articles of women's apparel, viz. one Lutestring Robe and Petticoat, one Tambour Muslin, do. one plain Muslin Petticoat, one light Chinz, do. one Dimity, do. one pair black Sattin Shoes, one black Sattin Cardinal Cloak, and sundry other articles—Any person or persons, who will give information of said Trunk and contents, shall be generously rewarded, by

ASAHEL POMEROY.

Northampton, 13th Dec. 1796.

All persons indebted to JOSEPH COLTON and Co. whose Accounts or Notes are become due, are desired to settle the same immediately.

JOSEPH COLTON & Co.

Cummington, Dec. 12, 1796.

Strayed from the subscriber about the fore part of September last, a red and white face STEER, marked with a crop in the left ear, one year old past—Whoever has taken up said Steer and will give information where he may be had, shall be well rewarded, by

BENJAMIN CLARK, Jun.

Northampton, Dec. 17, 1796.

Taken up by the subscriber in Nov. last, a last spring's red and white face Steer CALF, artificially marked—The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges, and take him away.

WILLIAM CLAP.

Northampton, Dec. 19, 1796.

CASH GIVEN FOR RAGS AT THIS OFFICE.