calls retiring to the Glaize by easy marches they call a "retreat," for the purpose of getting fresh supplies to attack the fort commanded by major Campbell.

## PHILADELPHIA, *November* 17.

*Extract of a letter from an officer in general Wayne's army, dated Grand Glaize, September* 11, 1794.

"Since my last (written from this place) no occurrence worthy of remark has transpired. We have been delayed thus long for the purpose of putting Fort Defiance in such a state of defence as to repel the efforts of British force, should it happen that a war with Great-Britain take place. Our continuance here will be but one day longer, when the army will take up the line of march for the Old Miami towns, where general Harmar engaged the savages in October, 1790. There, it is intended, to establish a strong fort, which will be considered as the grand deposite—This post will be regular and well garrisoned. When a fort erected so close to the villages of the Indians, there is not the smallest doubt but they will flock in to us—Indeed, since the defeat we gave them on the 20th ult. we have neither seen nor heard from them. Their wives and children have been, I suppose, their first care: To support them they have been obliged to separate and hunt in small parties.

"For forty miles below us, we have destroyed innumerable acres of corn; and gardens finely cultivated have afforded us vegetables in abundance. Upon the smallest calculation we must have destroyed between three and four hundred thousand bushels of grain. It will therefore be impossible for the savages to live through the winter, unless their friends the British are remarkably kind to them. This kindness will, no doubt be extended to a few tribes, but I much doubt whether they will be able to furnish the whole.

"We are all strangers to the politics of the Atlantic, but expect our victory will be a subject of great importance among you—indeed, before the budding of the leaves again, I hope to hail you with the glad tidings of peace. I have been so long immured in these wilds that my first entrance into a civilized country would, I believe, bring ridicule upon me."

*Extract of a letter from an American in London, dated September* 14, *received by the Sansom.*

"The French have discovered an instrument which they call a telegraph, by which they convey dispatches one hundred miles in three hours. It may appear to you almost impossible, but you may depend upon its being true. The convention has sent dispatches to Lisle (about 120 miles) in the morning and had answers before they separated for dinner. They can send dispatches from the army in Flanders to the army in Spain in one day.

"The plan of the telegraph is by beacons on heights, at the distance of twelve or fifteen miles from each other; in all these glasses are placed. The words to be conveyed are exhibited on the first, read, and exhibited by a short process at the second; and so on through the whole line. What the process is for copying the words so expeditiously, and for throwing such a body of light as to make them appear visible at such a distance, we know not, but it is clear that the experiment has complete success. Conde surrendered at six o'clock in the morning: At the meeting of the convention at nine o'clock the same day it was announced to them.

"It is reported that there has been a revolution in the king of Prussia's dominions, which has occasioned his raising the siege of Warsaw.

"The king of England has taken into pay one hundred thousand men, from the emperor, for the present and next campaign against the French. The duke of York will leave the army, and the marquis Cornwallis takes his place. The prince of Cobourg has resigned, and the emperor's brother, the archduke Charles, appointed, a young man about twenty-two—The allies have worn out all the old generals.

"Enclosed you have a sentence that was passed on two persons in Edinburgh the 8th of this month, which must appear to you, as a man of feeling, most horrid. Sorry am I to add, that I think they are not the only men that will receive the same sentence. There are at present about twenty persons confined in the Tower, for a similar charge, of that number is Mr. Tooke.

"I shall return in the Pigou. The captain says he will leave town the 25th, but I do not expect it will be before the 30th."

*November* 21.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Macpherson's battalion, dated Camp, near Washington, November* 14, 1794.

"By the time this reaches you, I hope to be upon the march homeward, as it is expected the business for which we came here will be completed in a day or two. You know before this time what hardships we have undergone, but I now assure you, that were I certain we had yet twice as much, I should not repent of coming out. The business has been more serious than I, or I believe any one else who was not in the plot, had any idea of. From papers which have been found in Bradford's house, it appears that it has been in agitation these three years, and was no less than to overthrow the whole government of the union, and put themselves under the protection of Great-Britain. Fortunately all the leaders are known, as among the papers was found a list of their names, and, I expect all, or the greater part of them, will be secured, as all the horse were immediately sent in pursuit of them; and some parties have returned with several prisoners, and others are hourly expected. It is said that there were several hundred writs issued. As soon as the horse return, which will be in a day or two, we expect to begin our march home."

## *Annapolis, November* 27.

Matthew Tilghman, Thomas Sim Lee, and William Cooke, Esquires, are chosen senators in the room of Brice T. B. Worthington, Esq; deceased, Benjamin Stoddert, Esq; resigned, and William Tilghman, Esq; removed out of the state.

## SPEECH of the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES to both HOUSES of CONGRESS.

Fellow-Citizens of the SENATE, and of the HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEN we call to mind the gracious indulgence of Heaven, by which the American people became a nation; when we survey the general prosperity of our country, and look forward to the riches, power, and happiness, to which it seems destined; with the deepest regret do I announce to you, that during your recess, some of the citizens of the United States have been found capable of an insurrection. It is due, however, to the character of our government, and to its stability, which cannot be shaken by the enemies of order, freely to unfold the course of this event.

During the session of the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety, it was expedient to exercise the legislative power, granted by the constitution of the United States, "to lay and collect excises." In a majority of the states, scarcely an objection was heard to this mode of taxation. In some, indeed, alarms were at first conceived, until they were banished by reason and patriotism. In the four western counties of Pennsylvania, a prejudice fostered and embittered by the artifice of men, who laboured for an ascendency over the will of others, by the guidance of their passions, produced symptoms of riot and violence. It is well known, that congress did not hesitate to examine the complaints, which were presented, and to relieve them, as far as justice dictated, or general convenience would permit. But the impression, which this moderation made on the discontented, did not correspond, with what it deserved. The arts of delusion were no longer confined to the efforts of designing individuals. The very forbearance to press prosecutions was misinterpreted into a fear of urging the execution of the laws; and associations of men began to denounce threats against the officers employed. From a belief, that by a more formal concert, their operation might be defeated, certain self-created societies assumed the tone of condemnation. Hence, while the greater part of Pennsylvania itself were conforming themselves to the acts of excise, a few counties were resolved to frustrate them. It was now perceived that every expectation from the tenderness which had been hitherto pursued, was unavailing, and that further delay could only create an opinion of impotency or irresolution in the government. Legal process was, therefore, delivered to the marshal, against the rioters and delinquent distillers. No sooner was he understood to be engaged in this duty, than the vengeance of armed men was aimed at his person, and the person and property of the inspector of the revenue. They fired upon the marshal, arrested him, and detained him for some time, as a prisoner. He was obliged by the jeopardy of his life, to renounce the service of other process, on the west side of the Allegany mountain; and a deputation was afterwards sent to him to demand a surrender of that which he had served. A numerous body repeatedly attacked the house of the inspector,—seized his papers of office,—and finally destroyed by fire, his buildings, and whatsoever they contained. Both of these officers, from a just regard to their safety, fled to the seat of government; it being avowed, that the motives to such outrages were to compel the resignation of the inspector—to withstand by force of arms the authority of the United States, and thereby to extort a repeal of the laws of excise, and an alteration in the conduct of government.

Upon the testimony of these facts, an associate justice of the supreme court of the United States notified to me, that "in the counties of Washington and Allegany in Pennsylvania, laws of the United States were opposed, and the execution thereof obstructed by combinations, too powerful to be suppressed by the ordinary course of judicial proceedings, or by the powers vested in the marshal of that district." On this call, momentous in the extreme, I sought and weighed, what might best subdue the crisis. On the one hand, the judiciary was pronounced to be stripped of its capacity to enforce the laws; crimes, which reached the very existence of social order, were perpetrated without control;—the friends of government were insulted, abused, and overawed into silence, or an apparent acquiescence; and to yield to the treasonable fury of so small a portion of the United States, would be to violate the fundamental principle of our constitution, which enjoins that the will of the majority shall prevail. On the other, to array citizen against citizen—to publish the dishonour of such excesses—to encounter the expence, and other embarrassments of so distant an expedition, were steps too delicate,—too closely interwoven with many affecting considerations, to be lightly adopted. I postponed, therefore, the summoning of the militia immediately into the field. But I required them to be held in readiness, that if my anxious endeavours to reclaim the deluded, and to convince the malignant of their danger, should be fruitless, military force might be prepared to act, before the season should be too far advanced.

My proclamation of the 7th of August last was accordingly issued, and accompanied by the appointment of commissioners, who were charged to repair to the scene of insurrection. They were authorised to confer with any bodies of men, or individuals. They were instructed to be candid and explicit, in stating the sensations, which had been excited in the executive, and his earnest wish to avoid a resort to coercion. To represent, however, that without submission, coercion must be the resort; but to invite them, at the same time, to return to the demeanor of faithful citizens, by such accommodations as lay within the sphere of executive power. Pardon too, was tendered to them by the government of the United States, and that of Pennsylvania, upon no other condition, than a satisfactory assurance of obedience to the laws.

Although the report of the commissioners marks their firmness and abilities, and must unite all virtuous men, by shewing, that the means of conciliation have been exhausted, all of those who had committed or abetted the tumults, did not subscribe the mild form, which was proposed, as the atonement; and the indications of a peaceable temper were neither sufficiently general, nor conclusive, to recommend or warrant the farther suspension of the march of the militia.

Thus, the painful alternative could not be discarded. I ordered the militia to march, after once more admonishing the insurgents, in my proclamation of the 25th of September last.

It was a task too difficult to ascertain with precision, the lowest degree of force competent to the quelling of the insurrection. From a respect, indeed, to oeconomy, and the ease of my fellow-citizens belonging to the militia, it would have gratified me to accomplish such an estimate. My very reluctance to ascribe too much importance to the opposition, had its extent been accurately seen, would have been a decided inducement to the smallest efficient numbers. In this uncertainty, therefore, I put into motion fifteen thousand men, as being an army, which, according to all human calculation, would be prompt, and adequate in every view; and might perhaps, by rendering resistance desperate, prevent the effusion of blood. Quotas had been assigned to the states of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia; the governor of Pennsylvania having declared on this occasion, an opinion which justified a requisition to the other states.

As commander in chief of the militia, when called into the actual service of the United States, I have visited the places of general rendezvous, to obtain more exact information, and to direct a plan for ulterior movements. Had there been room for a persuasion, that the laws were secure from obstruction; that the civil magistrate was able to bring to justice such of the most culpable, as have not embraced the proferred terms of amnesty, and may be deemed fit objects of example; that the friends to peace and good government were not in need of that aid and countenance, which they ought always to receive, and I trust, ever will receive, against the vicious and turbulent; I should have caught with avidity the opportunity of restoring the militia to their families and home. But succeeding intelligence has tended to manifest the necessity of what has been done; it being now confessed by those who were not inclined to exaggerate the ill conduct of the insurgents, that their malevolence was not pointed merely to a particular law, but that a spirit, inimical to all order, has actuated many of the offenders. If the state of things had afforded reason for the continuance of my presence with the army, it would not have been withholden. But every appearance assuring such an issue, as will redound to the reputation and strength of the United States, I have judged it most proper, to resume my duties at the seat of government, leaving the chief command with the governor of Virginia.

Still, however, as it is probable, that in a commotion like the present, whatsoever may be the pretence, the purposes of mischief and revenge may not be laid aside; the stationing of a small force for a certain period in the four western counties of Pennsylvania will be indispensable, whether we contemplate the situation of those, who are connected with the execution of the laws, or of others who may have exposed themselves by an honourable attachment to them. Thirty days from the commencement of this session, being the legal limitation of the employment of the militia, congress cannot be too early occupied with this subject.

Among the discussions which may arise from this aspect of our affairs, and from the documents which will be submitted to Congress, it will not escape their observation, that not only the inspector of the revenue, but other officers of the United States in Pennsylvania have, from their fidelity in the discharge of their functions, sustained material injuries to their property. The obligation and policy of indemnifying them are strong and obvious. It may also merit attention, whether policy will not enlarge this provision to the retribution of other citizens, who, though not under the ties of office, may have suffered damage by their generous exertions for upholding the constitution and the laws. The amount, even if all the injured were included, would not be great; and on future emergencies, the government would be amply repaid by the influence of an example, that he who incurs a loss in its defence, shall find a recompence in its liberality.

While there is cause to lament, that occurences of this nature should have disgraced the name, or interrupted the tranquillity of any part of our community, or should have diverted to a new application, any portion of the public resources, there are not wanting real and substantial consolations for the misfortune. It has demonstrated, that our prosperity rests on solid foundations; by furnishing an additional proof, that my fellow-citizens understand the true principles of government and liberty:—that they feel their inseparable union:—that notwithstanding all the devices which have been used to sway them from their interest and duty, they are now as ready to maintain the authority of the laws against licentious invasions, as they were to defend their rights against usurpation. It has been a spectacle, displaying to the highest advantage the value of republican government, to behold the most and the least wealthy of our citizens standing in the same ranks as private soldiers;—pre-eminently dis-