

the grand judge, to discharge the functions of the minister of justice. [N. T. Ev. Post.]

PHILADELPHIA, November 20.
OHIO,

The Seventeenth State of the Union.

On Monday the 11th instant the convention of the eastern division of the territory north-west of the Ohio, convened for the purpose of forming a constitution and a state government for that territory, in conformity to the act of congress, passed the last session, to enable the people of that territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the union.

The convention when formed, elected *Edward Tiffin*, president; *Thomas Scott*, secretary; and *William M. Farland*, assistant secretary.

The convention passed a resolution, 19 against 17, that Arthur St. Clair, Esq; be permitted to address the convention on those points which he may deem of importance.

It was resolved that a committee be appointed to report to the convention a preamble and the first article of a constitution.

Resolved also, that as another session of the territorial legislature would be both useless and expensive, and ought therefore to be prevented, and that the present colonial government will be terminated as soon as the constitution shall be signed by the president and members of the convention, therefore that the president be required to enclose to his excellency and to the members, the foregoing opinion.

The following is the preamble to the constitution reported by the select committee and agreed to in the convention.

We the people of the eastern division of the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, (having the right of admission into the general government, as a member of the union, consistent with the constitution of the United States, the ordinance of congress, of 1787, and the law of congress, entitled, "An act to enable the people of the eastern division of the territory north-west of the river Ohio, to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the union on an equal footing with the original states, and for other purposes,") in order to establish justice, promote the welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish the following constitution, or form of government, and do mutually agree with each other to form ourselves into a free and independent state, by the name of the State of Ohio.

November 22.

A letter from a gentleman in Gibraltar, dated the 6th of October last, (received here yesterday by the brig Dean,) mentions that there were five ships of the line in that place, all of which had on the 5th of October, taken in six months provision and stores of all kinds, and were ordered to sea immediately. It was said that they were going up the Mediterranean. It was so sudden a business, that the best informed people there were not able to tell the particulars of their destination. He adds, that it was evident some mischief was brewing, as on Thursday evening the 21 of October, a brig of war passed that place from Malta, she sent a boat with letters to the commandant of the fleet; after which the admiral proceeded to take in the above-mentioned stores.—And concludes his letter by saying, that every body there talks of nothing but WAR.

November 23.

The following copy of a letter from Mr. Gavino to the American consul at Cadiz, was contained in a letter received here from the latter, dated October 6.

[COPY.]

Gibraltar, Sept. 6, 1802.

Joseph Izuardi, Esq;

SIR—I have now to inform you, that four days ago arrived here from Tetuan, 36 Moorish seamen, for the Tripolitan ship laid up here; among them is the commander of the Tripolitan brig sold here. They this day began to work on her. The report is that she is the emperor of Morocco's property, going from hence to Tetuan for provisions, and from thence to Tripoli. Please to communicate this to the commanders of the United States' ships of war, and to all others concerned.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

JOHN GAVINO.

P. S. A Morocco ship, from Larash has been out some days.

November 24.

Extract of a letter from New-York, dated November 22.

"This morning at three o'clock, the British packet *Chesterfield*, captain *Blight*, arrived here from Falmouth, via Halifax. She sailed from Falmouth on the 13th ult; and brings London papers to the 9th. The news is hot of the first importance; but as it is, you shall have some of the latest articles.

LONDON, October 8.

"*Extract of a letter from Paris Oct. 4.*
"The mid-de-camp to the first consul, M. Rapp, set off last night for Switzerland. His orders are, to repair to Lausanne, and there to summon the government to accompany him to Berné, without an escort. This being done without any other interference, M. Rapp is to go through the several cantons, summoning each of them to declare "whether they wish to be on terms of peace or of hostility with the French republic."

"Letters from Paris, dated the 2d inst, give a melancholy account of the stagnation of trade, and total dearth of specie. Cash is not to be obtained

under fifteen per cent. on notes not exceeding a month.

"The French troops ordered into Switzerland at the interposition of him whose rule of action is guided from above, are detached from the Milanese, and are to march by the Lake Como towards the Lake of Constance, so as to form a barrier between the Swifs and the Austrians, should the latter offer to support the new government. Besides these, other troops will march into Switzerland by the pass of Porentrui, which the French still hold, though it is situated on the Canton of Basle.

"October 9.—The acts passed by Buonaparte in his quality of president of the Italian republic, daily tend to show, that this new state is considered as merely a province of France, as closely connected with, and as dependent upon that country, as Ireland while governed by a viceroy, was upon Great-Britain.

"A decree which has lately been issued, annihilates the independent existence of the Italian republic still more, and places its resources, absolutely at the disposal of the first magistrate of France.—Buonaparte here commands such a proportion of the army, and warlike ammunition found in the Italian republic, as may be judged necessary, to be delivered up to France.

"The property in these which is left to the Italian republic, is fixed at 4,000,000 of livres; whether France is to reimburse them this sum, or whether a proportion of their own property to this amount is to be left in their hands is not explained. The only pretext, under which this extraordinary grant can be made is, that these places were once conquered by France, that on giving them up to the Italian republic, she only gave up what proportion of them she chose; and that she can at any time reclaim her grant, or what part of it suits her. It is evident, that the whole resources of the Italian republic may, by the same logic, be laid claim to; and what more could be done to a conquered country immediately in the hands of France?

"The affairs of Switzerland have returned to their ancient channel with a rapidity scarcely equalled by the violence of a revolutionary explosion, tending to overturn a long established government. The old federative government under which the Swifs so long enjoyed their primitive simplicity of manners has every, where triumphed, and the Helvetic republic, the offspring of so many years bloodshed and disaster, has suddenly dwindled to a few fugitives, throwing themselves on the protection of France. The conduct which the first consul will pursue on the occasion now admits of dispute: It is true that he once formally declared himself the supporter of the new Helvetic government; but at that time this party appeared the decided majority. The face of affairs is now completely changed. The French troops would have to contend with the whole power of Switzerland; and the vigour of the consular government would be employed to prevent in Switzerland the restoration of the ancient order of things, a measure which it is actively employed to restore in France. These considerations may serve to produce the same effect upon the policy of the first consul, which might be expected from the generosity and humanity of a more elevated mind.

"Passengers in the packet—Mr. Philips, Mr. Byles, and Mr. Buckley."

NEW-ORLEANS—SHUT!

We learn by capt. Sinclair of the ship Superior, arrived at New-York on Sunday, that the port of New-Orleans was shut against the entry of American vessels on Saturday the 16th of October last. The Spaniards have not yet fixed on a place of deposit for American produce, agreeably to the treaty between the United States and his Catholic majesty; and which the shutting us out of that port may be deemed an infringement of. This is certainly a subject which requires the immediate attention of our government.

The Spaniards allege, that by treaty the permission to deposit goods in that city, of course expired on the conclusion of the war. The governor and intendant were at variance on the present proceedings.

The Spaniards at New-Orleans had heard of the appointment of a commander, and of an armed force destined for that place, but great uncertainty prevailed of the time of their coming.

BALTIMORE, November 23.

Some weeks ago a gentleman in this city was bitten above the knee by a spider. This was about day break, when he was in bed. He felt a slight puncture like that of a pin, but did not pay attention to it. In a few minutes he observed a pain shooting upwards from the spot, which presently reached his spine, and gradually approached his heart. On turning up the bed-cloaths, he perceived the spider. Fortunately he sent for a friend, who was acquainted with a cure for the poison. This was *plantain leaf*. As an additional piece of good fortune, his friend knew where a quantity of it was growing. Some leaves were immediately got, and the juice bruised out of them. This was swallowed in mouthfuls. The progress of the poison was stopt; and finally a cure was effected. The gentleman said, that but for this remedy, he did not think he could have survived an hour longer. Some oil was also poured down his throat, but plantain leaf had the entire credit of his recovery. He was dreadfully weakened; and it seems almost inconceivable how much the whole mass of his blood had been corrupted by the bite of so small an insect. We had these particulars from the gentleman himself, who called at this office on some

business, a few days afterwards. Some years ago a gentleman in this neighbourhood, was also bitten above the knee, by one of those venomous creatures, and was almost in danger of losing his leg. It ought to be a general rule to kill all such vermin, whenever they come within reach. [Richmond Recorder.]

November 25.

MURDER.

We understand that a most horrid murder was committed in the north-east part of Stonington, a few days past. A man by the name of Worden, rose in the morning, and began to make a fire. While thus engaged, three of his children came round him; disputing for an apple, which one of them had in possession—Worden turned round, and with a stick of wood stunned one of them, which immediately crawled away to its mother. With another blow he broke the arm of the second, and shocking to relate, he killed the third instantaneously. He then made off, but has since returned; though we cannot learn that he is yet secured in prison.

[Norwich paper.]

Annapolis, December 2.

Annapolis, 25th Nov. 1802.

HAVING lately seen in the Anti-Democrat a paragraph containing a communication, dated Annapolis, November 16th, 1802, intended to injure me, I feel myself called on, in justice to my character, and to the public, to repel the attack.

The author of the communication states, that I have accepted the office of comptroller contrary to a public declaration made by me to the electors of Annapolis, in the senate room, about two years ago. I will not undertake to say that any gentleman who was present would wilfully misstate facts, but I am not answerable for the misconception of others. The paragraph contains a gross misrepresentation.

At this meeting which was in the month of July in the year 1800, during the late administration, the merits of the two candidates who were then held for the presidential chair were freely discussed. It was well known that I was an advocate for the election of Mr. Jefferson, and of course opposed to the re-election of Mr. Adams. After such a length of time, it is difficult to recollect the precise expressions used; but they were calculated to repel an imputation which, it was said, had been made by my political opponents that I was actuated by self-interested motives: their substance I shall never forget. They were to this effect: that I neither wished nor expected any appointment under the executive of the United States, being perfectly satisfied with the station which I then filled. If the expressions were used that I would not accept an office under the executive of the United States, they obviously could have allusion only to the then executive. No honest man acquainted with me will believe that I would have accepted an appointment to act under an administration whose conduct I could not approve: and no man of common sense can believe, for a moment, that I am capable of entertaining the ridiculous opinion that, by accepting an office under an administration whose conduct I might highly approve, I should forfeit the confidence of the people.

On other occasions, more recent, I well recollect that to repel similar imputations, I have declared that I neither wished nor expected an appointment under the general government, and that if one should be offered to, and accepted by me, it would be more from a sense of duty than from inclination. I have ever held the opinion that it is the duty of every citizen to act in any suitable department of the government under which he lives, when required by the voice of his country.—Sound objections may justify a refusal. I feel happy under a consciousness that as a human being who regards his honour or veracity as charge me with a breath of a solemn promise.

I am yet to learn that the acceptance of an appointment under a free government established by the people to secure their liberty and happiness, is inconsistent with a disinterestedness of character, or incompatible with the principles of patriotism. My past conduct is the surest pledge which I can offer to my fellow citizens that the remnant of my days shall be devoted to the support of those political principles which I have ever maintained, and which I consider as best calculated to perpetuate their liberty and happiness.

G. DUVAL.

A number of respectable characters have subscribed their testimony of the truth of this statement made by me. It might have been greatly increased, but it is thought unnecessary.

We were present at the meeting in the senate room in July 1800, and were attentive to what passed. To the best of our recollection, no declaration to the extent alleged in the Anti-Democrat of Monday last, was made by Mr. Duval. We are of opinion that the above statement by him is accurate.

JOHN F. MERCER,

RICHARD RIDGELY,

W. HALL, 3d.

ALLEN B. DUCKETT,

JOHN JOHNSON,

RICH. H. HARWOOD,

JOHN GASSAWAY,

JOHN RANDALL,

RICH. MACKUBIN,

NICHOLAS BREWER, junr.

REVERDY GHISELIN.

I was present in the senate room in July 1800, when Mr. Duval addressed the citizens, and do remember he declared in the course of his speech that he neither wished nor expected any office or appointment