STAR

OR, EASTERN SHORE

GENERAL ADVERTISER

EASTON, Tuesday Morning, November 30, 1802.

Nothing of importance had transpired in the legislature of this state, on the receipt of our last advices.

In this morning's paper the reader will find the lengthy and important communication from the governor to the legislature of Maryland, relative to the organization of the militia of the state—Also, governor M'Kean's letter to governor Mercer, on the propriety of rendering navigable the Susquehannah.

While the editor of the Star has to acknowledge an almost daily increase of subscribers to the Star, since its enlargement, he has also to undergo the painful task of reminding a number of his original subscribers that their accounts remain unsettled almost from the beginning; which has in the last few days subjected him to great inconvenience in the purchase of a stock of paper, and other materials for the winter season. Should the repeated solicitations on the part of the editor prove ineffectual with delinquent subscribers, decisive measures will be taken with all those who may stand indebted for more than *one year*, on the 26th of February next; at which time three years and an half will expire, since the commencement of the Star.

☞ A safe conveyance will be found through the medium of the post office, for the amount of subscriptions from those indebted.

Proceedings of Congress.

Those gentlemen wishing to receive a correct detail of the proceedings in the congress of the United States, through the medium of the Star, are informed that the editor has established such correspondents in the city of Washington, together with the enlarged size of the paper, as to warrant him in assuring his subscribers that they will receive the same more fully, and earlier than on any former occasion.

The many years collection of abuse of Thomas Paine, has since his arrival in this country been very liberally bestowed on him by the anti-republican presses—If it be possible to make a man religious by *abuse*, we have no doubt but Mr. Paine will be speedily *changed*.

Callender has exhibited eleven new charges or round assertions in his Recorder, against William Duane, editor of the Aurora—could we suppose that Callender had any claim to public attention, we should before this have given place to some of *his* productions; but believing the contrary, shall not comply with the request of a "*federalist*."

Mr. Paine says he survived the French Revolution "through the protection of providence"—the federalists deny his having any claim to providence—who will judge—shall *Samuel Chase* preside—*agreed*.

Some are of opinion that Judge Bassitt would stand straiter in his shoes, on the above question than Mr. Chase—this may be true, as the *chevalier* can throw some light on the subject of deism!

The young pamphlet man moves on in Annapolis, the *butt* of every one except Mr. *Hyland*.

We are informed that the executive has received advice that the port of *New Orleans* has been *closed* against foreign vessels from the ocean, including American, and that the right of depositing American property there has been prohibited, without any other other establishment being assigned in lieu of it. The right to export property before deposited was excepted from the prohibition.—These regulations, so contrary to our treaty with Spain, were published at New Orleans, by the Intendant, on the 17th October last. *Nat. Intel.*

Extract of a letter from Chillicothe, North Western territory, November 4, 1802.

"The convention yesterday agreed, with only one dissentient vote, to come into the union, and to form a constitution for the state. You may judge of the politics of the "SEVENTEENTH STATE," by the elections for members of that body: 26 republicans, 7 federalists, 2 doubtful. Our representative to congress, and our two members of the senate of the United States, will undoubtedly be republican."

According to the register of births and deaths in the Prussian states for the year 1801, the number of births were 409,650 (including 12,649 soldier's children) which exceeded the number of deaths by 103,228. The number of marriages in the same year was 89,309.

From the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THOMAS PAINE,

To the Citizens of the United States.

LETTER THE SECOND.

As the affairs of the country to which I am returned are of more importance to the world, and to me, than that I have lately left (for it is through the new world the old must be regenerated, if regenerated at all) I shall not take up the time of the reader with account of scenes that have passed in France, many of which are painful to remember and horrid to relate, but come at once to the circumstances in which I find America on my arrival.

Fourteen years and something more have produced a change, at least among a part of the people, and I ask myself what it is? I meet or hear of thousands of my former cannexions who are men of the same principles and friendships as when I left them. But a non-descript race, and of equivocal generation, assuming the name of *federalists*, a name that describes no character of principle good or bad, and may equally be applied to either, has since started up with the rapidity of a mushroom, and like a mushroom is withering on its rootless stalk. Are those men *federalised* to support the liberties of their country or to overturn them? To add to its fair fame or riot on its spoils? The name contains no defined idea. It is like John Adams's definition of a republic in his letter to Mr. Wythe of Virginia *It is*, says he, *an empire of laws and not of men*. But as laws may be bad as well as good, an empire of laws may be the best of all governments, or the worst of all tyrannies. But John Adams is a man of paradoxical heresies, and consequently of a bewildered mind. He wrote a book entitled "*A defence of the American Constitutions*," and the principles of it are an attack upon them. But the book is descended to the tomb of forgetfulness, and the best fortune that can attend its author, is quietly to follow its fate. John was not born for immortality. But to return to federalism.

In the history of parties and the names they assume, it often happens, that they finish by the direct contrary principles with which they profess to begin, and thus it has happened with federalism.

During the time of the old congress, and prior to the establishment of the federal government, the continental belt was too loosely buckled. The several states were united in name, but not in fact, and that nominal union had neither centre nor circle. The laws of one frequently interfered, with, and sometimes opposed those of another. Commerce between state and state was without protection, and confidence without a point to rest on. The condition the country was then in, was aptly described by Peletiah Webster when he said,—"*Thirteen staves and ne'er a hoop will not make a barrel.*"

If then by federalist is to be understood one who was cementing the union by a general government, equally over all the states in all matters that embraced the common interest, and to which the authority of the states severally was not adequate, for no one state can make laws to bind another, if I say by a person is meant a person of this description, (and this is the origin of the name) *I ought to stand first on the list of federalists*, for the proposition for establishing a general government over the union came originally from me in 1783, in a written memorial to chancellor Livingston then secretary for foreign affairs to congress, Robert Morris minister of finance, and his associate Governeur Morris, all of whom are now living, and we had a dinner and conference at Robert Morris's on the subject. The occasion was as follows.

Congress had proposed a duty of five per cent on imported articles, the money to be applied as a fund towards paying the interest of loans to be borrowed in Holland. The resolve was sent to the several states to be enacted into a law. Rhode Island absolutely refused. I was at the trouble of a journey to Rhode Island to reason with them on the subject Some other of the states enacted it with alterations, each one as it pleased. Virginia adopted it, and afterwards repealed it, and the affair came to nothing.

It was then visible, at least to me, that either congress must frame the laws necessary for the union, and send them to the several states to be enregistered without any alteration, which would in itself appear like usurpation on one part, and passive obedience on the other, or some method must be devised to accomplish the same end by constitutional principles, and the proposition I made in the memorial, was to add *a continental legislature to congress to be elected by the several states*—The proposition met the full approbation of the gentlemen to whom it was addressed, and the conversation turned on the manner of bringing it forward.—G. Morris, in walking with me after dinner, wished me to throw out the idea in newspapers. I replied that I did not always like to be the proposer of new things, that it would have too assuming an appearance: and besides, *that I did not think the country was quite wrong enough to be put right*. I remember giving the same reason to Dr. Rush at Philadelphia, and to Ged. Gates, at whose quarters I spent a day on my return from Rhode Island, and I suppose they will remember it, because the observations seemed to strike them.

But the embarrassments increasing as they necessarily must from the want of a better cemented union, the state of Virginia proposed holding a commercial convention, and that convention, which was not sufficiently numerous, proposed that another convention, with more extensive and better defined powers, should be held at Philadelphia, May 10, 1787.

When the plan of the federal government by this convention was proposed, and submitted to the consideration of the several states, it was strongly objected to in each of them. But the objections were not on federal grounds, but on constitutional points. Many were shocked at the idea of placing, what is called executive power, in the hands of a single individual—To them it had too much the form and appearance of a military government, or a despotic one. Others objected that the powers given to a president were too great, and that in the hands of an ambitious designing man, it might grow into tyranny as it did in England under Oliver Cromwell, and as it had since done in France. A republic must not only be so in its principles, but in its forms. The executive part of the federal government was made for man, and those who consented, against their judgment, to place executive power in the hands of a single individual, reposed more on the supposed moderation of the person they had in view than on the wisdom of the measure itself.

Two considerations however overcame all objections. The one was the absolute necessity of a federal government. The other the rational reflection, that as government in America is founded on the representative system, any error in the first essay could be reformed by the same quiet and rational process by which the constitution was first formed; and that, either by the generation then living, or by those who were to succeed. If ever America lose sight of this principle, she will no longer be the *land of liberty*. The father will become the assassin of the rights of the son, and his descendants be a race of slaves.

As many hundreds who were minors are grown up to manhood since the name of *federalist* began, it became necessary for their information, to go back and shew the origin of the name which is now no longer what it originally was; but it is the more necessary to do this, in order to bring forward, in the open face of day, the apostacy of those who first called themselves federalists.

To them it served as a cloak for treason, a mask for tyranny. Scarcely were they placed in a seat of power and office, than federalism was to be destroyed, and the representative system of government, the pride and glory of America, and the palladium of her liberties, was to be overthrown and abolished. The next generation was to be free. The son was to bend his neck beneath his father's foot, and live deprived of his rights, under hereditary controul. Among the men of this apostate description is to be ranked the ex-president, *John Adams*. It has been the political career of this man to begin with hypocrisy, proceed with arrogance, and finish in contempt. May such be the fate of all such characters.

I have had doubts of John Adams ever since the year 1776. In a conversation with me, at that time, concerning the pamphlet *Common Sense*, he censured it because it attacked the English form of government. John was for independence, because he expected to be made great by it; but it was not difficult to perceive, for the surliness of his temper makes him an aukward hypocrite, that his head was as full of kings, queens and knaves, as a pack of cards. But John has lost deal.

When a man has a concealed project in his brain that he wants to bring forward, and fears will not succeed, he often begins with it as physicians do by suspected poison, try it first on an animal; if it agree with the stomach of the animal, he makes further experiments, and this was the way John took. His brain was teeming with projects to overturn the liberties of America, and the representative system of government, and he began by hinting it in little companies. The secretary of *John Jay*, an excellent painter and a poor politician, told me in presence of another American, *Daniel Parker*, that in a company where himself was present, John Adams talked of making the government hereditary, and that as Mr. Washington had no children, it should be made hereditary in the family of Lund Washington. John had not impudence enough to propose himself in first instance, as the old French Normandy Baron did, who offered to come over to the king of America, and if congress did not accept his offer, that they would give thirty thousand pounds for the generosity of it; but John, like a mole, was grubbing his way to it under ground. He knew that Lund Washington was unknown, for nobody had heard of him, and that as the president had no children to succeed him, the vice president had, and if the treason had succeeded, and the hint with it, the goldsmith might be sent for to take measure of the head of John or his son Q. for a golden wig. In this case the good people of Boston might have had for a king the man they have rejected as a delegate.—The representative system is fatal to ambition.

Knowing, as I do, the consummate vanity of John Adams, and the shallowness of his judgment, I can easily picture to myself, that when he arrived at the Federal City, he was strutting in the pomp of his imagination before the presidential house, or in the audience hall, and exulting in the language of Nebuchadnazzer, "*Is not this great Babylon that I have built for the honor of my majesty!*" But in that unfortunate hour, or soon after, John, like Nebuchadnazzar, was driven from among men and fled with the speed of a post horse.

Some of John Adams' loyal subjects, I see, have been to present him an address on his birth day; but the language they use is too tame for the occasion. Birth day addresses, like birth day odes, should not creep along like drops of dew down a cabbage leaf, but rool in a torrent of poetical metaphor. I will give them a specimen for the next year. Here it is.

When an ant, in travelling over the globe, lift up its foot and put it again on the ground, it shakes the earth to its centre: But when YOU the mighty ant of the east was born, &c. &c. &c. and the centre jumped upon the surface.

This, gentlemen, is the proper style of address from *well bred* ants to the monarch of the ant hill, and as I never take pay for preaching, praying, politics or poetry, I make you a present of it. Some people talk of impeaching John Adams, but I am for softer measures. I would keep him to make fun of. He will then answer one of the ends for which he was born, and he ought to be thankful I am arrived to take his part. I voted in earnest to save the life of one unfortunate king, and I now vote in jest to save another. It is my fate to be always playing with fools. But to return to federalism and apostacy.

The plan of the leaders of the faction was to overthrow the liberties of the new world, and place government on the corrupt system of the old. They wanted to hold their power by a more lasting tenure than the choice of their constituents. It is impossible to account for their conduct and the measures they adopted on any other grounds. But to accomplish that object a standing army and a prodigal revenue must be raised; and to obtain these, pretences must be invented to deceive. Alarms of dangers that did not exist even in investigation, but in the direct spirit of lying, were spread abroad. Apostacy stalked through the land in the garb of patriotism, and the torch of treason blinded for a while the flame of liberty.

For what purpose could an army of twenty-five thousand men be wanted? A single reflection might have taught the most credulous, that while the war raged between France and England neither could spare a man to invade America. For what purpose then could it be wanted? The case carries its own explanation, it was wanted for the purpose of destroying the representative system for it could be employed for no other.—Are these men federalists? If they are, they are federalized to deceive and destroy.

The rage against Dr. Logan's patriotic and voluntary mission to France was excited by the shame they felt at the detection of the false alarms they had circulated.

As to the opposition given by the remnant of the faction to the repeal of the taxes laid on during the former administration, is easily accounted for. The repeal of those taxes was a sentence of condemnation on those who laid them on, and in the opposition they gave to that repeal, they are to be considered in the light of criminals standing on their defence, and the country has passed judgment upon them.

THOMAS PAINE.

City of Washington, Lovell's Hotel, Nov. 19, 1802.

NEW INVENTION.

Mr. Voight, chief coiner in the mint of the United States, has invented an engine for turning screws of any given diameter, and of any number of threads, to an inch. This invention was first designed for cuttiug fusees for watches, so as uniformly to adjust them to the length of the main spring—a thing hitherto very difficult in practice, and without which it is impossible a watch can keep *regular time*. By the aid of this machine a person of common mechanical abilities, and without any knowledge of mathematics, may adjust the fusee to the spring with the greatest exactness—or turn metalic cylinders and cones of any length or diameter, to a mathematical certainty.

We understand that Mr. Voight, from patriotic principles, has no intention of obtaining a patent, but to leave it open to his fellow citizens. *Aurora.*

Wanted Immediately,

At the STAR-OFFICE an Apprentice

To the Printing Business.

By Last Night's Mail.

Baltimore, November 22.

IMPORTANT.

A letter from New Orleans, dated the 19th October, to a respectable merchant of this city, states, that on the afternoon of that day a proclamation was posted up by order of the intendant, closing the port not merely against the entrance of produce from the Atlantic in American vessels, but also against ALL PRODUCE FLOATED DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI. This measure has created great consternation among the American merchants there, who had expedited an express by the Charlotte to bring a copy of the order for the information of government, and for our merchants generally. It was even doubtful whether goods deposited would be suffered to be exported in American bottoms, but sugar had positively been prohibited.

New York, November 22.

We are informed by captain Sinclair, of the ship Superior, arrived yesterday, 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 agreeable to 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 alledge, 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.

Several samples had been received from England, consisting of cotton in the seed, and the seed itself, which had been fraudulently packed in the heart of the bales.

New York, Nov. 22.

The letter from which the following is an extract was communicated to us by a gentleman passenger in the ship Superior from New Orleans who receivnd it from a person of the first respectability there after the vessel had left port, and whilst she was waiting for a wind in the outer harbor.

New Orleans, October 20th, 1802.

"At 8 o'clock this evening I left the office of the intendant, who informed me that the peace had just been proclaimed; and that the neutral commerce granted to the Americans, in consequence of the regulations of the 16th June, 1793, and the 18th October, 1790, had ceased, by virtue of the fourth article of the treaty the 27th October, 1795. They will not in future be permitted to make a deposit of their cargoes in this place, conformable to the 22d article, which has expired."

Postponement of Sale.

THE Lands as advertised to be sold on the 14th of December next, at Mr. Prince's tavern, [See fourth page of this morning's Star,] being part of Peach Blossom Farm, and sold by Joseph Haskins, for G. Haskins, and Co. is postponed until Monday the 10th day of January next, when the same will take place on the premises, in lots of thirty acres and upwards, which will be laid off to front the road leading to Bailey's Neck, except the lower part, which will contain about 100 acres, with the improvements. JOSEPH HASKINS.

November 30, 1802.

Public Sale.

To be sold at public sale, on Thursday the 9th day of December, at Peach Blossom, by the subscribers,

A LARGE quantity of provender, consisting of hay, blades, and corn husks, together with sundry articles of mahogany and other furniture—12 hundred weight of pork, a few hogs, and a variety of farming utensils. The terms of sale will be made known on the day of sale. Sale to begin at 11 o'clock.

JOSEPH TILFORD,
JOHN EDMONDSON.

November 30, 1802. 2

By order of the Orphan's Court of Somerset County,

THIS is to give notice, that the subscribers have obtained from the orphan's court of Somerset county, in the state of Maryland, letters testamentary on the personal estate of William Nutter, deceased: All persons having claims against the said deceased are requested to bring them in, legally authenticated, to the subscribers on or before the 11th day of June next, otherwise by law they may be excluded.

HENRY E. BAYLY, & Wife, Ex'x.
JOHN LANDRETH, Ex'or.

November 30, 1802. 3q

A quantity of Writing Paper

For Sale at the Star Office.