

the Patowmack, and those of the Ohio, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered to lay out and improve (at the cost and expence of the said states of Maryland and Virginia) such roads as they may find necessary, within the limits of this state, and in such manner as they may think proper, for effecting the communication above stated, and that said road, as well as such part of said waters or communication, as lies within the limits of this state, shall be as free and open for all the inhabitants of the said states of Virginia and Maryland, to transport, carry and convey their goods, wares and merchandise, of what nature or kind soever, free from all duties, tolls or impositions whatever, as for the inhabitants of this state.

Provided always, That if it shall be found necessary for the legislature of this state to lay any duty, tax or imposition, in consequence of the necessary improvement or repairs made on such road or communication, that then, and in that case, the goods, wares and merchandise of or belonging to the inhabitants of the said states of Virginia and Maryland, passing or being conveyed through said road or communication, shall be equally liable to such duty, tax, or imposition, as the goods, wares and merchandise, of or belonging to the inhabitants of this state, passing or being conveyed in like manner through said road or communication, and not otherwise.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all goods, wares and merchandise imported into this state, through the said communication and road, from the said states of Virginia and Maryland, for the purposes of traffic, sale or consumption in this state, shall be subject to the same tolls, duties and impositions as goods, wares and merchandise imported into this state in any other mode, or through any other channel whatsoever, are liable to, and no more, except tolls, duties or customs imposed as above stated, for the special purpose of reimbursing this state any sum or sums of money expended in improving and repairing said road or communication.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all the privileges and advantages so hereby given and granted to said states of Maryland and Virginia, shall endure and continue for so long time as said states shall allow free passage, egress and regress through said navigation and communication aforesaid, to the inhabitants of this state, without exacting or demanding any tolls, duties, customs or impositions whatsoever, except such as are or may be absolutely and indispensably necessary for the maintenance and support of said navigation or communication, and no longer.

RICHMOND.

An ACT to amend the act entitled, "An act for vesting in George Washington, Esq; a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Patowmack rivers."

WHEREAS by an act entitled, "An act for vesting in George Washington, Esq; a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Patowmack rivers," and reciting, "that whereas it is the desire of the representatives of this commonwealth to embrace every suitable occasion of testifying their sense of the unexampled merits of George Washington, Esq; towards his country; and it is their wish in particular, that these great works for its improvement, which, both as springing from the liberty which he has been so instrumental in establishing, and as encouraged by his patronage, will be durable monuments of his glory, may be made monuments also of the gratitude of his country:" It is enacted, "that the treasurer be directed, in addition to the subscriptions he is already authorized to make to the respective undertakings for opening the navigations of Patowmack and James rivers, to subscribe to the amount of fifty shares to the former and one hundred shares to the latter, to be paid in like money with the subscriptions above mentioned; and that the shares so subscribed be, and the same are hereby vested in George Washington, Esq; his heirs and assigns forever, in as effectual a manner as if the subscriptions had been made by himself or by his attorney." And whereas, the said George Washington, Esq; in his letter addressed to the governor, which has been laid before the general assembly, hath expressed his sentiments thereupon, in the words following, to wit: "Your excellency having been pleased to transmit me a copy of the act appropriating to my benefit certain shares in the companies for opening the navigation of James and Patowmack rivers, I take the liberty of returning to the general assembly, through your hands, the profound and grateful acknowledgments, inspired by so signal a mark of their beneficent intentions towards me. I beg you, Sir, to assure them, that I am filled on this occasion with every sentiment which can flow from a heart warm with love for my country;—sensible to every token of its approbation and affection—and solicitous to testify, in every instance, a respectful submission to its wishes. With these sentiments in my bosom, I need not dwell on the anxiety I feel, in being obliged, in this instance, to decline a favour, which is rendered no less flattering by the manner in which it is conveyed, than it is affectionate in itself. In explaining this obligation, I pass over a comparison of my endeavours in the public service with the many honourable testimonies of ap-

probation which have already so far over-rated and over-paid them; reciting one consideration only, which supercedes the necessity of recurring to every other. When I was first called to the station with which I was honoured during the late conflict for our liberties—to the diffidence which I had for many reasons to feel in accepting it, I thought it my duty to join a firm resolution to shut my hand against every pecuniary recompense; to this resolution I have invariably adhered—from this resolution (if I had the inclination) I do not consider myself at liberty to depart. Whilst I repeat, therefore, my fervent acknowledgments to the legislature for their very kind sentiments and intentions in my favour, and at the same time beg them to be persuaded, that a remembrance of this singular proof of their goodness towards me, will never cease to cherish returns of the warmest affection and gratitude, I must pray, that their act, so far as it has for its object my personal emolument, may not have its effect. But if it should please the general assembly to permit me to turn the destination of the fund vested in me, from my private emoluments, to objects of a public nature, it will be my study in selecting these, to prove the sincerity of my gratitude for the honour conferred on me, by preferring such as may appear most subservient to the enlightened and patriotic views of the legislature." And whereas the desire of the general assembly to mark by the provision above mentioned, their sense of the illustrious merits of the said George Washington, Esq; at the same time that it is strengthened by this fresh and endearing proof of his title to the gratitude of his country, is superseded by their respect for his disinterested wishes and patriotic views:

Be it enacted, That the said recited act, so far as it vests in George Washington, Esq; and his heirs, the shares therein directed to be subscribed in his name, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

And be it further enacted, That the said shares, with the tolls and profits hereafter accruing therefrom, shall stand appropriated to such objects of a public nature, in such manner, and under such distributions, as the said George Washington, Esq; by deed during his life, or by his last will and testament, shall direct and appoint.

Nov. 18, 1785. Passed the house of delegates.

JOHN BECKLEY, c. m. d.

Nov. 19, 1785. Passed the senate.

H. BROOKE, c. s.

ALEXANDRIA, January 26.

We hear that several servants who had been purchased to work on the Patowmack navigation, lately ran away, but being soon after apprehended, were sentenced to have their heads and eye-brows shaved, which operation was immediately executed, and is to be continued every week, during the time of their servitude, or until their behaviour evinces that they are brought to a sense of their duty. This notice, is expected, will sufficiently apprise the country should they again make a similar attempt.

BALTIMORE, February 7.

The honourable the senate of the state of New-York, in their answer to the speech of his excellency governor Clinton, say, "The detention of Great-Britain of the posts on our northern and western frontiers, is as replete with ill consequences to this state, and to the union at large, as it is contrary to the spirit and letter of the treaty of peace; the continuance of it must affect not less our reputation abroad, than our interest at home, and we shall therefore heartily concur in support of every measure, which the federal councils may deem necessary, to effectuate a performance of the articles of the treaty of peace." This honourable body, on the same occasion, thus further observe: "To improve the agriculture of the state, to promote its commerce, and to encourage our internal manufactures, are objects that certainly merit our attention, and it will be bestowed with alacrity; nor shall we neglect to consider the advantages which may result from a commercial intercourse with the East-Indies. It will consequently be a subject of our deliberations to encourage the growth of that commodity, which promises to be so capital an article, to be given in exchange for those productions of the east, which habit has rendered necessary to us."

The honourable assembly of the state of New-York, in their answer to his excellency governor Clinton's speech, say, "We are surprised to find that the British government continues, in open violation of the treaty, to hold by an armed force, the posts on the northern and western frontiers. We view the circumstance as highly detrimental to the prosperity of this state; and we flatter ourselves that proper and effectual measures will speedily be adopted by our federal head, to obtain redress for so aggravated an injury."

A late London news-paper mentions, that a commercial adjustment between the French and British courts was in great forwardness—and that from the reciprocal cordiality with which the arrangement had hitherto advanced, it was expected that a suspension of the late arrests would take place, and a system of commercial intercourse established, equally just and satisfactory to both parties.

In an epistle from the yearly meeting of the people called quakers, held lately in London, to their friends in different parts of the world, is the following passage respecting the slave trade. "The late

accounts from our brethren in North-America inform us, that our christian testimony against holding our fellow-creatures in bondage, not only continues to prevail and spread among those in religious profession with us, but that some of the governments have gone so far, as to pass laws for the discouragement and gradual abolition of slavery. We therefore find our minds renewedly engaged to refer you to our former advices on this subject; and as the slave trade, whereby such multitudes of the human race are violently subjected to a state so abject and deplorable, is extensively carried on by persons resident in these kingdoms, we earnestly exhort all in profession with us, not to defile themselves by having any concern whatever in this unrighteous traffic; from which, if persisted in, very distressing consequences to this nation and its dependencies may be justly apprehended. We trust that a faithful conscientious discharge of the duties, which a serious consideration of the subject must necessarily suggest to every well disposed mind, may prove the means, under the Divine Blessing, of exciting those who have it in their power, to remove an evil so evidently repugnant to every principle of humanity and justice."

ANNAPOLIS, February 16.

Late London news-papers, received by the Commerce, captain Hill, advise, that the last advices from Constantinople mention, that the plague had rather increased in that residence, particularly at Pera, where several people continue to die of the dreadful contagion; that the Russians seem very seriously engaged in augmenting their marine, and extending their commerce on the Black Sea; that the grand seignior was making immense warlike preparations by sea and land; that his most christian majesty had offered a premium of 10,000 livres to the person who finds out the best and cheapest way of making bread of potatoes; that the terms between the Dutch and the emperor were not yet finally settled, and that no imperial fleet had yet navigated in the Scheld.

The flour branded Beafon, mentioned in a letter from Barbados, (and inserted in our last paper) as little inferior to Philadelphia superfine, was shipped from Alexandria.

STATE of MARYLAND.

Annapolis, February 13, 1786.

IN COUNCIL.

To all whom it may concern.

ADRIAAN VALK having been recognised by the United States, in Congress assembled, as consul from the United Netherlands for the state aforesaid: We do therefore, in pursuance of the directions of the general assembly, recognise and declare the said Adriaan Valk to be consul from the United Netherlands for this state, and that the privileges, pre-eminence, and authority belonging to such character and quality are due to him.

W. SMALLWOOD.

Published by order,

T. JOHNSON, jun. clk.

February 9, 1786.

THE drawing of LA FAYETTE VILLAGE lottery is deferred until the 10th day of April next, when it will commence at the Cool Springs, under the inspection of the managers. A few tickets remain unsold, which may be had of the managers, or of captain John Halkerton, Upper Marlborough; Mr. William Danford, Bladenburg; Dr. Marshall, Piscataway; Mr. Matthew Blair, Port-Fobacco; captain Thomas Dyson and company's store, Allen's Frith; Mr. Benjamin Reeder's store, Newport; Messieurs Lubman and Wakeley's store, Benedict; and of Mr. George Leigh, Leonard-town.

To be SOLD,

A N exceeding good FLAT that carries four cords of wood. Apply to R. WELSH, at Talley's.

D. Gyle