

Guadaloupe, sentiments of humanity prompt us to say, that fitting our armed vessels with 18 to 20 men, for the windward, is only sacrificing *rashly* both men and property, as the late case of capt. Smith evidently proves it.

The French privateers have orders to send in for trial all neutral vessels bound to any port whatsoever. Few escaped. Several instances, however, of Americans, and Danish having been released, are known.

A convoy of 200 sail from England, with a reinforcement of 3000 troops had lately arrived at Martinique, where admiral Harvey was still, with 10 ships of the line and several frigates.

#### PHILADELPHIA, July 19.

Accounts from Paris of May 1, say, "General St. Cyr has concluded an important treaty with the Ottoman Porte; a certain number of our troops and ships are to co-operate with the Turks to crush the unruly boys of Egypt, and reconquer the three Barbary states, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripolis, for the Porte, whose supremacy they have refused to recognize since 1776. We are to have in return for those services, the island of Candia and the privilege of transporting merchandise from the Red Sea to Cairo, and liberty to open a water communication, by digging a canal from Suez to the latter city. The French interest completely triumphs at Constantinople, since our two commissioners at Preveza, have interceded to persuade the rebellious bashaws of Scutary and of Jennaro to a reconciliation with the Porte."

The Italian Gazette states, that the king of Sardinia dispatched, on the 17th ultimo, an extraordinary courier to count Balbino, his ambassador at Paris, charging him to inform the Directory that the country was again menaced with revolutionary measures and praying him to inform him of the intention of the Directory on the subject, as the king of Sardinia is determined voluntarily to abdicate his throne, if such must be his lot.

July 20.

In the district court of the United States, this day, in the case of the United States against the privateer Le Croyable, prize to the sloop of war Delaware, captain Decatur, the court adjudged, and decreed that the said privateer Le Croyable, her apparel, guns, and other appurtenances, together with all effects found on board thereof, not claimed, or which shall not hereafter be claimed by citizens of the United States, be forfeited, and sold at public auction; the money arising from the sale to be brought into court to be distributed according to law.

The senate of the United States adjourned yesterday *sine die*.

A letter received yesterday from Bourdeaux by a merchant of this city, dated May 21, informs, that orders had just been received there, from the government of France to disarm all privateers, and that similar orders had been sent to the French consuls in the Spanish ports. That an owner of two privateers at Bourdeaux had offered 50,000 livres for leave to send his two privateers to sea, who were down in the river, waiting for a fair wind, but was refused.

Another letter has been received by another merchant of this city, corroborating this intelligence.

[Aurora.]

#### GEORGETOWN, July 20.

Last Sunday night, the store of Mr. Magill, between Bladensburg and Queen-Anne, was consumed by fire, together with its valuable contents, consisting of goods worth 10,000 dollars, the account books and upwards of 6000 dollars in bank notes which Mr. Magill had a day or two before brought from Baltimore to pay for tobacco.

It is supposed the building was set on fire by design. One who can perpetrate such a deed should never be permitted to do more mischief.

Before the fire was discovered, it had gained such a height that the person who lodged in the store escaped with difficulty. He made an attempt to save the money but could not succeed.

Thus in one hour was so much wealth annihilated—the successful labour of years frustrated, and such fair prospects blasted for ever.

#### Annapolis, July 26.

SENATE of the UNITED STATES

July 18, 1798.

Gentlemen of the Senate,

BELIEVING that the letter received this morning from general Washington, will give high satisfaction to the senate, I transmit them a copy of it, and congratulate them and the public on this great event, the general's acceptance of his appointment, as lieutenant-general and commander in chief of the army."

JOHN ADAMS.

United States, July 17th, '98.

Mount Vernon, 13th July, '98.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD the honour on the evening of the 11th instant, to receive from the hand of the secretary of war, your favour of the 7th, announcing that you had, with the advice and consent of the senate, appointed me lieutenant-general and commander in chief of all the armies raised or to be raised, for the service of the United States."

I cannot express how greatly affected I am at this new proof of public confidence, and the highly flattering manner in which you have been pleased to make the communication; at the same time, I must not conceal from you my earnest wish, that the choice had fallen upon a man less declined in years, and better qualified to encounter the usual vicissitudes of war.

You know, Sir, what calculation I have made relative to the probable course of events, on my retiring from office, and the determination I had consoled myself, of closing the remnant of my days in my present peaceful abode; you will therefore be at no loss to conceive and appreciate the sensations I must have experienced, to bring my mind to any conclusion that would pledge me, at so late a period of life, to leave scenes I sincerely love, to enter upon the boundless field of public action, incessant trouble, and high responsibility.

It was not possible for me to remain ignorant of, or indifferent to, recent transactions. The conduct of the Directory of France towards our country; their insidious hostility to its government; their various practices to withdraw the affections of the people from it; the evident tendency of their acts, and those of their agents to countenance and invigorate opposition; their disregard of solemn treaties and the laws of nations; their war upon our defenceless commerce; their treatment of our ministers of peace; and their demands amounting to tribute; could not fail to excite in me corresponding sentiments with those my countrymen have so generally expressed in their affectionate addresses to you. Believe me, Sir, no one can more cordially approve of the wise and prudent measures of your administration. They ought to inspire universal confidence, and will, no doubt, combined with the state of things, call from congress such laws and means as will enable you to meet the full force and extent of the crisis.

Satisfied, therefore, that you have sincerely wished and endeavoured to avert war, and exhausted, to the last drop, the cup of reconciliation, we can with pure hearts appeal to Heaven for the justice of our cause; and may confidently trust the final result to that kind Providence who has heretofore, and so often, signally favoured the people of these United States.

Thinking in this manner, and feeling how incumbent it is upon every person, of every description, to contribute at all times to his country's welfare, and especially in a moment like the present when every thing we hold dear and sacred is so seriously threatened; I have finally determined to accept the commission of commander in chief of the armies of the United States; with the reserve only, that I shall not be called into the field until the army is in a situation to require my presence, or it becomes indispensable by the urgency of circumstances.

In making this reservation, I beg it to be understood, that I do not mean to withhold any assistance to arrange and organize the army, which you may think I can afford. I take the liberty also to mention, that I must decline having my acceptance considered as drawing after it any immediate charge upon the public; or that I can receive any emoluments annexed to the appointment, before entering into a situation to incur expence.

The secretary of war being anxious to return to the seat of government, I have detained him no longer than was necessary to a full communication upon the several points he had in charge.

With very great respect and consideration,

I have the honour to be,

dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

GO: WASHINGTON.

JOHN ADAMS,  
President of the United States.

Appointments.—By Authority.

Alexander Hamilton, of New-York, to be inspector general of the army, with the rank of major-general.

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, of South-Carolina, to be a major-general.

Henry Knox, of Massachusetts, to be a major-general.

Henry Lee, of Virginia, to be a major-general of the provisional army.

Edward Hand, of Pennsylvania, to be a major-general of the provisional army.

John Brooks, of Massachusetts, to be a brigadier-general.

William Washington, of South-Carolina, to be a brigadier-general.

Jonathan Dayton, of New-Jersey, to be a brigadier-general.

Ebenezer Huntington, of Connecticut, to be a brigadier-general of the provisional army.

Anthony Walton White, of New-Jersey, to be a brigadier-general of the provisional army.

William Richardson Davie, of North-Carolina, to be a brigadier-general of the provisional army.

John Sevier, of Tennessee, to be a brigadier-general of the provisional army.

James Craik, of Virginia, to be physician general of the army.

Daniel M'Neil, of Massachusetts, and Thomas Williams, of Virginia, to be captains in the navy.

Harry Grant, of South-Carolina, consul for the port of Leith, in Scotland.

John Spence West, marshal for the North-Carolina district.

#### Fifth Congress of the United States.

At the second session, begun and held at the city of Philadelphia, in the state of Pennsylvania, on Monday the thirteenth of November, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

An ACT in addition to the act entitled, "An act for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States."

BE it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States, in congress assembled,

That if any person shall unlawfully combine or conspire together, with intent to oppose any measure or measures

of the government of the United States, which are or shall be directed by proper authority, or to impede the operation of any law of the United States, or to intimidate or prevent any person holding a place of office in or under the government of the United States, from undertaking, performing or executing his trust or duty; and if any person or persons, with intent as aforesaid, shall counsel, advise or attempt to procure any insurrection, riot, unlawful assembly, or combination, whether such conspiracy, threatening, counsel, advice, or attempt shall have the proposed effect or not, he or they shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and on conviction, before any courts of the United States having jurisdiction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars, and by imprisonment during a term not less than six months nor exceeding five years; and further, at the discretion of the court may be held to find sureties for his good behaviour in such sum, and for such time, as the said court may direct.

And be it further enacted, That if any person shall write, print, utter or publish, or shall cause or procure to be written, printed, uttered or published, or shall knowingly and willingly assist or aid in writing, printing, uttering or publishing any false, scandalous and malicious writing or writings against the government of the United States, or either house of the congress of the United States, or the president of the United States, with intent to defame the said government, or either house of the said congress, or the said president, or to bring them, or either of them, into contempt or disrepute; or to excite against them, or either or any of them the hatred of the good people of the United States, or to stir up sedition within the United States, or to excite any unlawful combinations therein, for opposing or resisting any law of the United States, or any act of the president of the United States, done in pursuance of any such law, or of the powers in him vested by the constitution of the United States, or to resist, oppose, or defeat any such law or act; or to aid, encourage or abet any hostile designs of any foreign nation against the United States, their people or government, then such person, being thereof convicted before any court of the United States having jurisdiction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars, and by imprisonment not exceeding two years.

And be it further enacted and declared, That if any person shall be prosecuted under this act, for the writing or publishing any libel aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the defendant, upon the trial of the cause, to give in evidence, in his defence, the truth of the matter contained in the publication charged as a libel. And the jury who shall try the cause, shall have a right to determine the law and the fact, under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue and be in force until the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and one, and so longer provided, That the expiration of the act shall not prevent or defeat a prosecution and punishment of any offence against the law, during the time it shall be in force.

JOHN ADAMS, Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
THEODORE SEDGWICK, President of the Senate, pro tempore.

Approved, July 14, 1798.

JOHN ADAMS, President of the United States.

Deposited among the rolls in the office of the secretary of State.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, Secretary of State.

JOHN ADAMS,

PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

THE citizens Joseph Philippe Letombe having heretofore produced to the president of the United States his commission as consul-general of the French republic within the United States of America, and another commission as consul of the French republic at Philadelphia; and in like manner the citizen Rozier having produced his commission as vice-consul of the French republic at New-York; and the citizen Arcambal having produced his commission as vice-consul of the French republic at Newport; and the citizen Theodore Charles Mizard having produced his commission as consul of the French republic within the states of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode-Island; and the president of the United States having thereupon granted an exequatur to each of the French citizens above named, recognizing them in their respective consular offices above mentioned, and declaring them respectively free to exercise and enjoy such functions, powers and privileges, as are allowed to a consul-general, consuls and vice-consuls of the French republic, by the treaties, conventions and laws in that case made and provided: And the congress of the United States, by their act passed the seventh day of July, 1798, having declared, "That the United States are of right freed and exonerated from the stipulations of the treaties, and of the consular convention, heretofore concluded between the United States and France; and that the same shall not henceforth be regarded as legally obligatory on the government or citizens of the United States;" and by a former act passed the thirteenth day of June, 1798, the congress of the United States having suspended the commercial intercourse between the United States and France and the dependencies thereof, which commercial intercourse was the direct and chief object of the consular establishments: And whereas actual hostilities have long been practised on the commerce of the United States by the cruises of the French republic