

clare Hispaniola independent of France. Frequent intelligence has been brought by respectable captains who had conversed with Touffaint and his friends, that he meant to take the government into his own hands, and declared the island independent—a part of this verified—and the other is from this the more to be expected. Another circumstance assists greatly in making us tenacious of our opinion. General Maitland, before the evacuation of Port-au-Prince, the Mole, &c. had many secret conferences with Touffaint—and British West-India papers assert, that the evacuation was by no means necessary from the want of ability to maintain the possessions to the English. Suspensions of general Maitland's fidelity were publicly expressed. Yet the general embarked for England, after the evacuation. Is it not then probable that the plan of neutralizing Hispaniola, was submitted to and approved by him—and that the evacuation by the British was a consequence? If divulged to the world it might have been prevented.

Touffaint may have sent dispatches to France to inform the Directory of the event, to tell them of his ability to maintain his pretensions—and to assure them they might trade there, if agreeable to them, as other foreigners should do.

British papers speak with confidence of the rapid approach of a new convulsion at Paris. The Directory, they seem assured, will make an effort to establish their supremacy and permanency—and to overthrow the legislative bodies.

Some French papers praise the measures of our government, and the spirit of federal citizens. They confess we are real republicans—that we have resented British innovations—and should be inconsistent not to resent French.

Violent disturbances prevail in the Roman and Helvetic republics. It is said the emperor demands the suppression of the former.

By some articles under our foreign head, it is highly probable the British Squadron has met the late fleet from Brest. If so no one can doubt of the proper disposal of them.

A well contrived plan for setting fire to Port Malo in France, was discovered and frustrated.

PHILADELPHIA, December 19.

Last evening arrived in this city, Mr. Jacob Mayer, consul of the United States at St. Domingo, accompanied by a French gentleman, who we are informed is intrusted with an important mission from general Touffaint, to the executive of the United States. The source from which our information is derived, precludes the smallest doubt of its authenticity.

Annapolis, December 27.

The following answer to the President's speech was agreed upon, on the 14th instant, in the House of Representatives of the United States.
To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

THE House of Representatives unite with you in deploring the effects of the desolating malady, by which the seat of government, and other parts of our country, have recently been visited. In calling our attention to the fatality of its repeated ravages, and inviting us to consider the expediency of exercising our constitutional powers in aid of the health laws of the respective states, your recommendation is sanctioned by the dictates of humanity and liberal policy. On this interesting subject we feel the necessity of adopting every wise expedient for preventing a calamity so distressing to individual sufferers, and so prejudicial to our national commerce.

That our finances are in a prosperous state, notwithstanding the commercial derangements resulting from this calamity, and from external embarrassments, is a satisfactory manifestation of the great extent and solidity of the public resources. Connected with this situation of our fiscal concerns, the assurance that the legal provisions for obtaining revenue by direct taxation will fulfil the views of the legislature, is peculiarly acceptable.

Desirous as we are that all causes of hostility may be removed by the amicable adjustment of national difference, we learn with satisfaction, that, in pursuance of our treaties with Spain and with Great-Britain, advances have been made for definitively settling the controversies relative to the southern and the north eastern limits of the United States.—With similar sentiments have we received your information, that the proceedings under commissions, authorised by the same treaties, afford to a respectable portion of our citizens, the prospect of a final decision on their claims for maritime injuries committed by subjects of those powers.

It would be the theme of mutual felicitations, were we assured of experiencing similar moderation and justice from the French republic, between which and the United States differences have unhappily arisen. But this is denied us by the ultimate failure of the measures which have been taken by this government towards an amicable adjustment of those differences—and by the various inadmissible pretensions on the part of that nation.

The continuing in force the decree of January last, to which you have more particularly pointed out our attention, ought, of itself, to be considered as demonstrative of the real intentions of the French government.—That decree proclaims a predatory warfare against the unquestionable rights of neutral commerce, which with our means of defence, our interest and our honour command us to repel. It, therefore, now becomes the United States to be as determined in their resistance as they have been patient in suffering, and condescending in negotiations.

While those who direct the affairs of France persist in the enforcement of decrees so hostile to our essential rights, their conduct forbids us to confide in any of their professions of amity.

As therefore the conduct of France hitherto exhibits nothing which ought to change or relax our measures of defence, the policy of extending and invigorating those measures demands our sedulous attention. The sudden and remarkable advantages which this country has experienced from a small naval armament, sufficiently prove the utility of its establishment. As it respects the guarding of our coast, the protection of our trade, and the facility of safely transporting the means of territorial defence to every part of our maritime frontier, an adequate naval force must be considered as an important object of national policy. Nor do we hesitate to adopt the opinion, that, whether negotiations with France are resumed or not, vigorous preparations for war will be alike indispensable.

In this conjuncture of affairs, while with you we recognize our abundant cause of gratitude to the Supreme Disposer of events for the ordinary blessings of Providence, we regard, as of high national importance the manifestation, in our country, of a magnanimous spirit of resistance to foreign domination. This spirit merits to be cherished and invigorated, by every branch of government, as the estimable pledge of national prosperity and glory.

Disdaining a reliance on foreign protection; wanting no foreign guarantee of our liberties; resolving to maintain our national independence against every attempt to despoil us of this inestimable treasure; we confide, under Providence, in the patriotism and energies of the people of these United States for defeating the hostile enterprises of any foreign power.

To adopt with prudent foresight such systematical measures as may be expedient for calling forth those energies wherever the national exigencies may require, whether on the ocean, or on our own territory.—and to reconcile with the proper security of revenue the convenience of mercantile enterprise, of which so great a proportion of the public resources depends—are objects of moment, which shall be duly regarded in the course of our deliberations.

Fully as we accord with you in opinion that the United States ought not to submit to the humiliation of sending another minister to France, without previous assurances sufficiently determinate that he will be duly accredited, we have heard, with cordial acquiescence, the declaration of your purpose, steadily to observe those maxims of humane and pacific policy by which the United States have hitherto been governed. While it is left with France to take the requisite steps for accommodation, it is worthy the chief magistrate of a free people, to make known to the world, that justice on the part of France will annihilate every obstacle to the restoration of a friendly intercourse, and that the executive authority of this country will respect the sacred rights of embassy. At the same time, the wisdom and decision, which have characterised your past administration, assure us that no illusory professions will seduce you into any abandonment of the rights which belong to the United States, as free and independent.

The PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

To the House of Representatives of the United States.

GENTLEMEN,

MY sincere acknowledgments are due the House of Representatives for this excellent address, so consonant to the character of representatives of a great and free people. The judgment and feelings of a nation I believe were never more truly expressed by their representatives, than those of our constituents by your decided declaration that with our means of defence, our interest and honour command us to repel a predatory warfare against the unquestionable rights of neutral commerce. That it becomes the United States to be as determined in resistance as they have been patient in suffering, and condescending in negotiation. That while those who direct the affairs of France, persist in the enforcement of decrees so hostile to our essential rights, their conduct forbids us, to confide in any of their professions or amity.—That an adequate naval force must be considered as an important object of national policy, and that whether negotiations with France are resumed or not, vigorous preparations for war will be alike indispensable.

The generous disdain you so coolly and deliberately express, of a reliance on foreign protection, wanting no foreign guarantee of our liberties, resolving to maintain our national independence against every attempt to despoil us of this inestimable treasure, will meet the full approbation of every sound understanding, and exulting applauses from the heart of every faithful American.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your candid approbation of my sentiments on the subject of negotiation, and for the declaration of your opinion that the policy of extending and invigorating our measures of defence, and the adoption with prudent foresight of such systematical measures as may be expedient for calling forth the energies of our country, whatever the national exigencies may require, whether on the ocean or on our own territory, will demand your most sedulous attention.

At the same time, I take the liberty to assure you, it shall be my vigilant endeavour, that no illusory professions shall seduce me into any abandonment of the rights which belong to the United States as a free and independent nation.

JOHN ADAMS.

United States, December 27.

THE GAZETTE, No. 2719, completes the year.

An ACT limiting the time within which claims against the United States, for credits on the books of the treasury, may be presented for allowance.

Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That all credits on the books of the treasury of the United States; for transactions during the late war, which, according to the course of the treasury, have hitherto been discharged by issuing certificates of registered debt, shall be for ever barred and precluded from settlement or allowance, unless claimed by the proper creditors, or their legal representatives, on or before the first day of March, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine. And the secretary of the treasury is hereby required to cause this act to be published in one or more of the public papers of each state.

Signed, JONATHAN DAYTON, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THEODORE SEDGWICK, President of the Senate, pro tempore.

Approved, July 9, 1798.

JOHN ADAMS, President of the United States.

For SALE.

The subscriber will SELL, at PUBLIC SALE, on Monday the 11th day of February next, on the premises, if fair, if not on the first fair day thereafter,

THAT valuable and beautiful plantation whereon he now lives, STRAWBERRY HILL, situated on the road leading from Upper Marlborough to the city of Washington, two miles from the former, and sixteen from the latter, containing 180 acres, with a sufficient proportion of wood and meadow land; the soil is adapted to any kind of grain and tobacco. The situation is very high, and commands a view of six miles round, very healthy and well improved. A further description is thought unnecessary, as those who wish to purchase may view the premises. The terms of sale are, the purchaser to pay one-third of the purchase money on the day of sale. Bonds with good security, bearing interest from the date, for the other two-thirds, payable in one and two years. An indisputable title and immediate possession will be given.

SAMUEL J. COOLIDGE.

N. B. The sale to commence at 12 o'clock. Prince-George's county, December 7, 1798.

LAND for SALE.

I WILL SELL, by PRIVATE CONTRACT, the HALF of a TRACT of LAND, lying in Frederick county, adjoining the lands of Mr. NATHAN HARRIS; the whole tract containing eleven hundred sixty-one and a half acres.

WILLIAM WALKER.

Annapolis, December 26, 1798.

MR. LEWIS NETH, merchant, of the city of Annapolis, and no person else, except myself, at my residence, is empowered to sell "Doctor FENDALL'S COLUMBIAN ANTISCORBUTIC DENTIFRICE," with directions for using the same.

B. FENDALL.

In CHANCERY, December 22, 1798.

ORDERED, that the sale made by THOMAS DUCKETT, trustee, as stated in his report, of the real and personal property of BENJAMIN BART, mortgaged to THOMAS O. WILLIAMS, shall be ratified, unless cause to the contrary be shown on or before the 1st day of February next, provided a copy of this order be inserted in the Maryland Gazette before the 4th day of January next.

Test. SAMUEL HARVEY HOWARD.

Joseph Brewer,

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends, and the public in general, that he has lately opened a store in the house formerly occupied by Mr. WILLIAM ALEXANDER, next door to Samuel Hutton, coach-maker, Corn-Hill Street, where he has for sale an assortment of WET and DRY GOODS, which he will dispose of on the lowest terms to all those who will favour him with their custom.
Annapolis, December 17, 1798.

ALL persons having any claims against the estate of SAMUEL BALDWIN, late of Annapolis county, deceased, are requested to exhibit their accounts, legally proved, for payment, on or before the first day of March, as the executor shall, on that day, finally settle up said estate, and those that are indebted to said estate are desired to make payment immediately, or suits will be brought against those that fail, by

NICHOLAS BALDWIN, the surviving executor of said Samuel Baldwin.

COMMITTED to my custody, as a runaway, on Monday the 14th of this instant, a bright mulatto lad, about eighteen years of age, who says he is the property of WILLIAM JOHNSON, of Spotsylvania county, Virginia, and gives himself the name of RANDOLPH. His master is requested to come and pay charges and take him away, or he will be sold agreeably to law for his prison fees.

THOMAS A. DYSON, Sheriff of Charles County.

November 13, 1798.