

At two P. M. the chase carried away her main-top-mast, and bore away before the wind for a short time; after which, finding we continued the chase, she haled up within 8 points of the wind, on the starboard tack. At a quarter past 3 P. M. it blowing extremely hard, and our ship being rather crank, we ran close under the enemy's lee, for the sake of working our guns with more facility.

As soon as we got abreast of the enemy, she hailed several times but no answer was given. The commodore ordered myself with the other lieutenants commanding divisions, to fire directly into the hull as soon as we could bring our guns to bear, and to load with two round shot principally during the action. All the orders being complied with, we raked her several times in the course of the action, which went up to our most sanguine expectation.

At a quarter past 4 P. M. the enemy struck; at the time she struck we lay directly athwart her stern, and should certainly have sent her to the infernal regions had we fired whilst in that position.

When she struck I was ordered to board and take possession, and to send the captain and first lieutenant on board the Constellation, which was done, and an exchange of prisoners immediately took place.

Although I would not have you think me bloody minded, yet I must confess the most gratifying sight my eyes ever beheld was seventy French pirates (you know I have just cause to call them such) wallowing in their gore, twenty-nine of whom were killed, and forty-one wounded.—She proved to be the famous French frigate *Insurgente*, mounting 40 guns and 8 swivels with 411 men.

This action of only one hour and a quarter has given to the arms of the United States at sea one of the fastest sailing, and finest frigates in the French navy, and that too with much less injury to the Constellation than is usual in captures of this sort, and without much blood being spilt on our side, having only one man killed, and two badly wounded, with two slightly wounded.

Knowing that you have the success of our infant navy at heart, and particularly attached to the Constellation, I have been induced to give you this particular detail.

Though I am not in the habit of boasting yet I candidly tell you I should feel happy with the same officers, and same men, on going along side of the best 50 gun ship the *all conquering* French republic have—at any hour.

I am, Sir, with esteem,  
Your obedient servant,  
JOHN ROGERS.

ANNAPOLIS, March 14.

The Easter vacation in St. John's College will begin on Friday the 22d instant, and continue during the ensuing week.

In COUNCIL, Annapolis, March 8, 1799.

ORDERED, That the act to alter, abolish and repeal certain parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as are therein mentioned, and the act to alter, abolish and repeal, such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as are therein mentioned, be published once in each week, for the term of three months, in the Maryland Gazette, at Annapolis, the Federal Gazette, at Baltimore, the Rights of Man, at Frederick-town, and the Herald, at Easton, and in Green's and English's paper, at George-town.

By order,  
NINIAN PINKNEY, Clerk  
of the Council of Maryland.

An ACT to alter, abolish and repeal, certain parts of the constitution and form of government of this state as are therein mentioned.

WHEREAS the holding elections at any one place in each county of this state is attended with great inconvenience to all citizens remote from said place, and operates to deprive many persons entitled to suffrage from the exercise of that right; and as it is desirable that the full, free and fair voice of the people should be expressed in their choice of the functionaries of government,

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the several counties of this state, for the purpose of holding all future elections for delegates, electors of the senate, and sheriffs of the several counties, shall be divided into separate districts in the manner herein after directed, viz. Saint-Mary's county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Kent county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Calvert county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Charles county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Talbot county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Somerset county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Dorchester county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Cecil county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Prince-George's county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Queen-Anne's county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Worcester county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Frederick county shall be divided and laid off into seven separate districts, Harford county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Caroline county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Washington county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Montgomery county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Allegany county shall be divided and laid off into six separate districts.

III. *And be it enacted,* That Anne-Arundel county, including the city of Annapolis, shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts.

IV. *And be it enacted,* That Baltimore county, out of the limits of the city of Baltimore, shall be divided and laid off into seven districts, and that the city of Baltimore shall be laid off into eight districts.

V. *And be it enacted,* That all and every part of the constitution and form of government relating to the judges, time, place and manner, of holding elections in the city of Baltimore, and all and every part of the second, third, fifth, fourteenth and forty-second sections of the constitution and form of government of this state, which relate to the judges, place, time and manner of holding the several elections for delegates, electors of the senate, and sheriffs of the several counties, be and the same are hereby abrogated, repealed and annulled, and the same shall hereafter be regulated by law.

VI. *And be it enacted,* That if this act shall be confirmed by the general assembly, after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, that in such case this act, and the alteration of the said constitution contained therein, shall be considered as a part, and shall constitute and be valid as a part, of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes, any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

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VI. *And be it enacted,* That no person possessing the qualification of property required by the constitution shall be entitled to vote at any election to be held for sheriffs, delegates to the general assembly, or electors of the senate, unless there be some written evidence that he is worth thirty pounds, or a freehold of fifty acres of land, at the time he offers to vote, this written evidence to be an assessment of property to that amount, which assessment may be made at any time before such person offers to vote, upon his producing satisfactory testimony of his possessing such property; the manner of making out such assessment, and the person or persons to judge of the qualification as to property, to be hereafter regulated by law.

VII. *And be it enacted,* That all parts of the constitution and form of government not herein before enumerated, which are repugnant to, and inconsistent with the provisions of this act, be and the same are hereby repealed, annulled and avoided.

VIII. *And be it enacted,* That if this act shall be confirmed by the general assembly, after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, that in such case this act, and the alteration of the said constitution contained therein, shall be considered as a part, and shall constitute and be valid as a

part, of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes, any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

To be SOLD, at PUBLIC VENDUE, on Saturday the 16th instant, at 10 o'clock, for READY MONEY, at the Stadt-houfe,

A QUANTITY of second hand furniture, consisting of tables, chairs, desks, book-cases, ward-ropes, a clock, and several other useful articles for house-keeping.

JOHN SHAW.

Annapolis, February 12, 1799.

Will be SOLD, for CASH, on the second day of April, if fair, if not the first fair day, at the late plantation of NICHOLAS BREWER, deceased, near the head of Marley Creek, in Anne-Arundel county.

THE following property, viz. One horse, six head of cattle, four sheep, some hogs, a bay team, two beds, household furniture, plantation utensils, and many other things too tedious to mention.

NICHOLAS JOYCE.

March 12, 1799.

In CHANCERY, March 5, 1799.

WILLIAM C. BITHRAY, an insolvent debtor of the city of Annapolis, makes application, as a trader, by petition to the chancellor in writing, praying the benefit of an act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors; there is annexed to his petition a schedule of his property, and a list of his creditors, on oath, as by the said act is required; the chancellor is satisfied, by competent testimony, that he is at this time, and was at the time of passing that act, a citizen of this state, and of the United States; it is thereupon adjudged and ordered, that he appear before the chancellor, in the chancery office, on the first day of October next, for the purpose of taking the oath by the said act required, in presence of his creditors, and that by causing a copy of this order to be inserted once in each of three successive weeks, in the Maryland Gazette, before the end of this month, he give notice to his creditors to attend on the said first day of October, for the purpose of recommending a trustee for their benefit, and to lodge with the chancellor, within six months from the time of the last publication, (if they shall think fit) their dissent to his being admitted to the benefit of the said act.

est. SAMUEL HARVEY HOWARD,  
Reg. Cur. Can.

Twenty Dollars Reward,

RAN away from the subscriber, on the 6th instant, negro JEM, 22 years of age, about 5 feet 3 inches high, well made, and of a black complexion, has a lively countenance when in a good humour, but very stern when affronted, has rather a low forehead, thick lips, is a little knock toed, and walks with his toes much out; had on and took with him a felt hat, about half worn, an old blue cloth coat, drab coloured cloth jacket, with sleeves, in which, since made up, he has cut pockets, and sewed the binding on awkwardly, which renders it remarkable, white cotton breeches, mixed yarn stocking, country knit, common negro shoes, much worn, with a small cap on the top of each. Any person securing the said fellow in any goal, and giving me notice thereof, shall be entitled to FIFTEEN DOLLARS, or the above reward if brought home, with all reasonable charges.

FRANCIS HAMILTON,  
Near Upper-Marlborough,  
Prince-George's county.

February 20, 1799.

To be SOLD, at PUBLIC VENDUE, on the 20th of March next, if fair, if not the first fair day, at the subscriber's, if not previously sold by private sale,

PART of a tract of LAND called FORREST FARM, containing about seventy-two acres, adjoining the lands of the late Richard Beard, known by the name of Beard's Habitation, also the land of William Steuart, Esq; known by the name of Jones's Lot; upwards of thirty acres of the above land is well wooded. The terms of sale will be, two years credit, upon the purchaser giving bond with approved security.

BENJAMIN WATKINS.

February 18, 1799.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber intends to apply to the next county court, for a commission to mark and bound a tract of land called Harbrough, lying and being in Anne-Arundel county, agreeably to an act of assembly for that purpose.

JAMES G. HOWARD.

February 16, 1799.

WAS committed to my custody, on the 8th instant, a negro man who calls himself BILL, and then said he belonged to JOHN CROMPTON, of St. Mary's county, Maryland, since which acknowledges his right master is GEORGE HULL, living on the South Branch, Virginia, and was sold to him by MATTHEW CROMPTON; he is about 5 feet 6 inches high, straight made, with a small scar over his right eye; his clothing is an old hat, an old pair of gray trousers, old gingham shirt, and a coloured, patterned jacket, much worn. His master is desired to come and take him away, or he will be sold for his prison fees and other expenses according to law.

THOMAS A. DYSON, Sheriff of  
Charles county.

February 16, 1799.