

those cities which have lately been afflicted with disaster, and the various and inestimable advantages, civil and religious, which, secured under our happy frame of government, are continued to us unimpair'd, we cannot fail to offer up to a benevolent deity our sincere thanks, for these, the merciful dispensations of his protecting providence.

That any portion of the people of America should permit themselves, amidst such numerous blessings, to be seduced by the arts and misrepresentations of designing men, into an open resistance of a law of the United States, cannot be heard without deep and serious regret. Under a constitution where the public burthens can only be imposed by the people themselves, for their own benefit, and to promote their own objects, a hope might well have been indulg'd that the general interest would have been too well understood, and the general welfare too highly prized, to have produced in any of our citizens a disposition to hazard so much felicity, by the criminal effort of a part, to oppose with lawless violence the will of the whole. While we lament that depravity which could produce a defiance to the civil authority, and render indispensable the aid of the military force of the nation, real consolation is to be derived from the promptness and fidelity with which that aid was afforded. That zealous and active co-operation with the judicial power, of the volunteers and militia called into service, which has restored order and submission to the laws, is a pleasing evidence of the attachment of our fellow citizens to their own free government, and of the truly patriotic alacrity with which they will support it.

To give due effect to the civil administration of government, and to ensure a just execution of the laws, are objects of such real magnitude as to secure a proper attention to your recommendation of a revision and amendment of the judiciary system.

Highly approving, as we do, the pacific and humane policy which has been invariably professed, and sincerely pursued by the executive authority of the United States, a policy which our best interests enjoined, and of which honour has permitted the observance, we consider as the most unequivocal proof of your inflexible perseverance in the same well chosen system, your preparation to meet the first indications on the part of the French republic, of a disposition to accommodate the existing differences between the two countries, by a nomination of ministers on certain conditions, which the honour of our country unquestionably dictated, and which its moderation had certainly given it a right to prescribe. When the assurances thus required of the French government, previous to the departure of our envoys, had been given through their minister of foreign relations, the direction that they should proceed on their mission, was, on your part, a completion of the measure, and manifests the sincerity with which it was commenced. We offer up our fervent prayers to the Supreme Ruler of the universe for the success of their embassy, and that it may be productive of peace and happiness to our common country. The uniform tenor of your conduct through a life useful to your fellow-citizens and honourable to yourself, gives a sure pledge of the sincerity with which the avowed objects of the negotiation will be pursued on your part, and we earnestly pray that similar dispositions may be displayed on the part of France. The differences which unfortunately subsist between the two nations cannot fail, in that event, to be happily terminated. To produce this end, to all so desirable, firmness, moderation and union at home, constitute, we are persuaded, the surest means. The character of the gentlemen you have deputed, and still more, the character of the government which deposes them, are safe pledges to their country, that nothing incompatible with its honour or interest, nothing inconsistent with our obligations of good faith or friendship to any other nation, will be stipulated.

We learn, with pleasure, that our citizens with their property trading to those parts of St. Domingo with which commercial intercourse has been renewed, have been duly respected, and that privateering from those parts has ceased.

With you we sincerely regret that the execution of the 6th article of the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation with Great-Britain, an article produced by a mutual spirit of amity and justice, should have been unavoidably interrupted. We doubt not that the same spirit of amity and the same sense of justice in which it originated, will lead to satisfactory explanations; and we hear with approbation, that our minister at London will be immediately instructed to obtain them. While the engagements which America has contracted by her treaty with Great Britain, ought to be fulfilled with that scrupulous punctuality and good faith to which our government has ever so tenaciously adhered; yet no motive exists to induce, and every principle forbids us to adopt a construction which might extend them beyond the instrument by which they are created. We cherish the hope that the government of Great-Britain will disclaim such extension, and by cordially uniting with that of the United States, for the removal of difficulties, will soon enable the boards appointed under the VIIth and VIIIth articles of our treaty with that nation, to proceed, and bring the business committed to them respectively to a satisfactory conclusion.

The buildings for the accommodation of congress, and of the president, and for the public offices of government at its permanent seat, being in such a state as to admit of a removal to that district by the time prescribed by the act of congress, no obstacle, it is presumed, will exist to a compliance with the law.

With you, Sir, we deem the present period critical and momentous. The important changes

which are occurring, the new and great events which are every hour preparing in the political world, the spirit of war which is prevalent in almost every nation with whose affairs the interests of the United States have any connexion, demonstrate how unsafe and precarious would be our situation, should we neglect the means of maintaining our just rights. Respecting, as we have ever done, the rights of others, America estimates too correctly the value of her own, and has received evidence too complete, that they are only to be preserved by her own vigilance, ever to permit herself to be seduced by a love of ease or other considerations, into that deadly disregard of the means of self-defence, which could only result from a carelessness as criminal as it would be fatal, concerning the future destinies of our growing republic. The result of the mission to France is, indeed Sir, uncertain. It depends not on America alone. The most pacific temper will not always ensure peace. We should therefore exhibit a system of conduct as indiscreet as it would be new in the history of the world, if we considered the negotiation happily terminated because we have attempted to commence it, and peace restored because we wish its restoration.—But, Sir, however this mission may terminate, a steady perseverance in a system of national defence, commensurate with our resources, and the situation of our country, is an obvious dictate of duty. Experience, the parent of wisdom, and the great instructor of nations, has established the truth of your position, that, remotely as we are placed from the belligerent nations, and desirous as we are, of doing justice to all, to avoid offence to any, yet nothing short of the power of repelling aggressions will secure to our country a rational prospect of escaping the calamities of war or national degradation.

In the progress of the session, we shall take into our serious consideration the various and important matters recommended to our attention.

A life devoted to the service of your country, talents, and integrity which have so justly acquired and so long retained the confidence and affection of your fellow-citizens, attest the sincerity of your declaration, that it is your anxious desire so to execute the trust reposed in you as to render the people of the United States prosperous and happy.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

Gentlemen of the house of representatives,

This very respectful address from the representatives of the people of the United States, at their first assembly, after a fresh election, under the strong impression of the public opinion and national sense, at this interesting and singular crisis of our public affairs, has excited my sensibility and receives my sincere and grateful acknowledgments.

As long as we can maintain, with harmony and affection, the honour of our country, consistently with its peace, externally and internally, while that is attainable, or in war, when that becomes necessary—assert its real independence and sovereignty, and support the constitutional energies and dignity of its government—we may be perfectly sure under the smiles of Divine Providence, that we shall effectually promote and extend our national interests and happiness.

The applause of the senate and house of representatives, so justly bestowed upon the volunteers and militia, for their zealous and active co-operation with the judicial power, which has restored order and submission to the laws, as it comes with peculiar weight and propriety from the legislature, cannot fail to have an extensive and permanent effect, for the support of government, upon all those ingenious minds, who receive delight from the approving and animating voice of their country.

JOHN ADAMS.

United States, December 10.

By the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of MARYLAND,
December 17, 1799.

To give the people a public opportunity of regretting the irreparable loss which their country hath sustained by the DEATH of GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON,

Resolved unanimously, That a message from the legislature be communicated to the governor, requesting him to appoint, by proclamation, a day of mourning, humiliation and prayer, throughout this state, and to recommend it to the citizens thereof to assemble in their respective places of worship, to testify, in the most public manner, their veneration for his memory, and to derive, from the just eulogiums of his meritorious services, the best motives for the imitation of his virtues.

The General Assembly of Maryland feeling the most undiminished sorrow for the irreparable loss of the illustrious Washington, and anxious to pay every tribute of respect to the memory of the departed friend to his country, do resolve unanimously, That there be immediately furnished a scarf and hatband for the governor, the president of the senate, and each of the attending members of the senate, the speaker, and each of the attending members of the house of delegates, the members of the council, each of the officers and clerks attached to the senate and house of delegates, the chancellor, and such of the judges of the general court, and all other officers of the state and general governments as are now in the city of Annapolis, to be worn during the session as the external mark of their unfeigned grief.

A. VAN-HORN, Cl. Sen.

W. HARWOOD, Cl. Ho. Del.

To the citizens of St. Mary's, Charles, and Calvert counties.

Gentlemen,

THE next election of electors of the president and vice-president of the United States being not far distant; two of the most elevated and responsible offices under the general government; feeling a solicitude for the issue, and a continuance of those blessings every class of the community have felt under our present happy constitution, and the wise and virtuous administration under it; being persuaded the political sentiments of the citizens of the first district of Maryland are in unison with my own on this interesting business, I have thought proper to offer myself a candidate for the next election of electors, to represent you in the election of president and vice-president; should I have the honour of meeting your approbation, I shall use my best endeavours to discharge the important trust with honesty and integrity.

I am, with high respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

EDMUND PLOWDEN.

December 9, 1799.

Negroes for Sale.

To be SOLD, on Saturday the 28th day of December, instant, for READY CASH, at Mrs. SARAH RAWLINGS'S tavern,

EIGHT or ten likely country born SLAVES, consisting of men, women, and boys. The sale will commence at twelve o'clock.

JOHN WELCH.

December 18, 1799.

William Caton,

TAKES leave to inform the public, that he intends, on the first of April next, to open tavern in that well known house formerly kept by Mr. GEORGE MANN, and now by Mr. JAMES WHARRE, in the city of Annapolis, and assures them, that he will always keep an assortment of the best liquors, and good waiters; and he will use his utmost exertions to give complete satisfaction, hopes for, and solicits, the patronage and encouragement of a generous public.

He has rented that elegant and commodious house now occupied by Mrs. MANN, where gentlemen, after the above mentioned time, may be accommodated in a private manner, separate from the tavern, by the year, month, week or day, and he pledges himself to those who think proper to honour him with their custom, that nothing shall be wanted on his part to merit their favours.

Patowmack Company.

THE Stockholders are earnestly desired to attend a general meeting at the Union Tavern, in George-town, on Monday the 20th January next, on business of the first importance to this useful improvement of finishing the navigation and locks at the Great Falls on Patowmack river.

The president and directors are anxious to contract for a number of black labourers by the year, and say one of the subscribers will be ready to receive proposals immediately for the year ensuing, having obtained the sanction and aid of the State of Maryland, they have no doubt of being able to make punctual payment for all their contracts.

JAMES KEITH, President,

JOHN MASON,

WILLIAM H. DORSEY,

JOHN LAIRD,

JOSIAS CLAPHAM,

Directors.

George-town, December 10, 1799.

COMMITTED to my custody as a runaway, on 31 December, a negro man named SAUL, about 23 or 25 years old, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, yellowish complexion; his cloathing a blue, over jacket, striped under jacket, and gray coating overalls; says he was bought from major SAMUEL CHAPMAN, of Charles county, by Messrs. WELLS and BLAKE, of North-Carolina. His owners are desired to pay charges and take him away, or he will be sold agreeably to law for prison fees, &c.

THOMAS A. DYSON, Sheriff of Charles county.

December 5, 1799.

Fifteen Dollars Reward.

RAN away from the subscriber, on the 19th of October, a negro man named JACOB, 35 years of age, about 6 feet high, smooth face, his wool grows high on his forehead, leaving his temples bare, speaks low and rather hoarse; had on when he went away and took with him, a blue short cotton coat, a brownish coloured ditto, with metal buttons, old cotton or country cloth breeches, crocus trousers, osnabrig shirt, and a new match coat blanket; his Sunday apparel, a purple cloth coat, with rined buttons, nankeen breeches, mixed worsted stockings, and half boots. He professes to be a Methodist, and has been in the practice of preaching at night; he may probably have a pass; his object I suppose is to go to Baltimore. Whoever takes up and secures said fellow, so that I get him again, shall receive, if taken 10 miles from home, 5 dollars, if 20 miles 10 dollars, and if a greater distance the above reward; paid by the subscriber, living near Queen-Anne, Anne-Arundel county.

THOMAS GIBBS.

N. B. All masters of vessels, and others, are forwarded from harbouring or carrying off said fellow at their peril.

November 2, 1799.