

from the driving of carriages, waggons, &c. all hours of the night, it created very little inquiry. A person who paid some attention to the shock, was awakened by it between 4 and 5 o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 20th instant, when he stood upright in his bed, which appeared to rock like a cradle. The concussion and noise gradually decreased till it subsided. In the neighbourhood of the city, we understand it was felt much more sensibly.

The following gentlemen are chosen electors of president and vice-president for the state of North-Carolina, viz.

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| Edenton district, | John Hamilton, |
| Newbern do. | Bryan Whitfield, |
| Northampton, | Thomas Wynns, |
| Halifax, | Gideon Alston, |
| Raleigh, | Joseph Taylor, |
| Hillsborough, | Abraham Tatam, |
| Rockingham, | Joseph Winston, |
| Morgan, | William Tate, |
| Edgcombe, | Nathan Mayo, |
| Wilmington, | Thomas Brown, |
| Fayetteville, | William Martin, |
| Salisbury, | Spruce Macay. |

The eight first named were supported by the friends of Mr. Jefferson, and the four last by those of Mr. Adams.

The last accounts from India mention, that a slight of Locusts, several miles in extent, and so thick as in their progress wholly to obscure the Sun, had passed over Malda, Rajemel, and Helebas, fortunately for the terrified inhabitants, without stopping. From Helebas they directed their course along the Jemna, towards Agra; in the neighbourhood of that city they are stated to have descended, and to have totally destroyed the vegetation of the district.

[London paper]

In England a mode has been discovered of manufacturing paper from straw. It is of strong consistence, and though it retains the colour of the material from which it is made, will serve for packing parcels, printing hand-bills, posting bills, and such other ordinary purposes. It is hoped, therefore, that this invention will be likely to reduce the present advanced prices of rags and paper, and destroy a most infamous monopoly.

M. Achard, the Prussian chemist, has at length brought his discoveries, in the article of sugar from vegetables, to such perfection that he is enabled to vend it at six sous the pound.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The following are the amendments to the constitution of the United States, proposed by Mr. Nicholas, on Friday, which were referred to Messrs. Nicholas, Harper, Macon, Griswold and Evans.

Previously to reading them, Mr. Nicholas noticed the propositions submitted by him during the last session, and the extraordinary provisions made in a bill received from the senate, and stated the improbability of his voting for his own propositions, in case they had been called up by the house.

Resolved by the senate and house of representatives of the United States, two thirds of both houses concurring, that the following articles be proposed to the legislatures of the United States, as amendments to the constitution of the United States—

1. That after the 3d day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and one, the choice of electors of president and vice-president, shall be made by dividing each state into a number of districts, equal to the number of electors to be chosen in such state, and by the persons in each of those districts who shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of such state, choosing one elector in the manner which the legislature thereof shall prescribe.

2. That the election of representatives to serve after the third day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, shall be by dividing each state into a number of districts equal to the number of representatives to which such state shall be entitled, and by the people within each of those districts who shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the legislature of such state, choosing one representative in the manner which the legislature thereof shall prescribe.

Monday, November 24.

The speaker read a letter from Oliver Wolcott, secretary of the treasury, stating, that with the approbation of the president, he had determined to resign his office at the close of the year; and inviting, if the house deemed it fit, an investigation into his official conduct.

WAR DEPARTMENT, November 13, 1800.

THOSE gentlemen who have applied for military appointments in the service of the United States, are informed, that their applications; with all the recommendatory letters accompanying, were consumed by fire in the war office, on Saturday evening last. Those who continue to desire to be considered as candidates, will see the propriety of renewing their application.

SAMUEL DEXTER, Secretary of war.

The printers in the different states are requested to give this a place in their Gazettes.

Annapolis, December 4.

Yesterday the electors of president and vice-president of the United States met in this city, and voted as follow: John Adams 5, Charles C. Pinckney 5, Thomas Jefferson 5, and Aaron Burr 5.

The following address was agreed to in the senate of the United States, on the 26th ultimo.

To JOHN ADAMS, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SIR,
IMPRESSED with the important truth, that the hearts of rulers and people are in the hand of the Almighty, the senate of the United States most cordially join in your invocations for appropriate blessings upon the governors and people of this union.

We meet you, Sir, and the other branch of the national legislature, in the city which is honored by the name of our late hero and sage, the illustrious Washington, with sensations and emotions, which exceed our power of description.

While we congratulate ourselves on the convention of the legislature at the permanent seat of government; and ardently hope that permanence and stability may be communicated as well to the government itself, as to its seat; our minds are irresistibly led to deplore the death of him who bore so honourable and efficient a part in the establishment of both. Great indeed would have been our gratification, if his sum of earthly happiness had been completed, by seeing the government thus peaceably convened at this place:— But we derive consolation from a belief that the moment in which we were destined to experience the loss we deplore, was fixed by that Being whose counsels cannot err; and from a hope, that since in this seat of government which bears his name, his earthly remains will be deposited, the members of congress, and all who inhabit the city, with these memorials before them, will retain his virtues in lively recollection, and make his patriotism, morals, and piety, models for imitation. And permit us to add, Sir, that it is not among the least of our consolations, that you, who have been his companion and friend, from the dawning of our national existence, and trained in the same school of exertion to effect our independence, are still preserved, by a gracious Providence, in health and activity, to exercise the functions of chief magistrate.

The question whether the local powers over the district of Columbia, vested by the constitution in the congress of the United States, shall be immediately exercised, is of great importance, and in deliberating upon it, we shall naturally be led to weigh the attending circumstances and every probable consequence of the measures which may be prepared.

The several subjects for legislative consideration, contained in your speech to both houses of congress, shall receive from the senate all the attention which they can give, when contemplating those objects, both in respect to their national importance, and the additional weight that is given them by your recommendation.

We deprecate with you, Sir, all spirit of innovation from whatever quarter it may arise, which may impair the sacred bond that cements the different parts of this empire; and we trust, that under the protection of Divine Providence, the wisdom and virtue of the citizens of the United States will deliver our national compact unimpaired to a grateful posterity.

From past experience it is impossible for the senate of the United States to doubt of your zealous co-operation with the legislature in every effort to promote the general happiness and tranquillity of the union.

Accept, Sir, our warmest wishes for your health and happiness.

To which the President made the following reply.

Mr. President,
and Gentlemen of the Senate,

FOR this excellent address, so respectful to the memory of my illustrious predecessor, which I receive from the senate of the United States, at this time, and in this place, with peculiar satisfaction, I pray you to accept of my unfeigned acknowledgments. With you I ardently hope, that permanence and stability will be communicated as well to the government itself, as to its beautiful and commodious seat. With you I deplore the death of that hero and sage who bore so honourable and efficient a part in the establishment of both. Great indeed would have been my gratification, if his sum of earthly happiness had been completed by seeing the government thus peaceably convened at this place, himself at its head. But while we submit to the decision of Heaven, whose counsels are inscrutable to us, we cannot but hope, that the members of congress, the officers of government, and all who inhabit the city, or the country, will retain his virtues in lively recollection, and make his patriotism, morals, and piety, models for imitation.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your assurances that the several subjects for legislative consideration, recommended in my communication to both houses, shall receive from the senate a deliberate and candid attention.

With you, gentlemen, I sincerely deprecate all spirit of innovation; which may weaken the sacred bond, that connects the different parts of this nation and government, and with you I trust, that under the protection of Divine Providence, the wisdom and virtue of our citizens will deliver our national compact unimpaired, to a free, prosperous, happy and grateful posterity. To this end it is my fervent prayer, that in this city, the fountains of wisdom may be always open, and the streams of eloquence for ever flow. Here may the youth of this extensive country for ever look up without disappointment, not only to the monuments and memorials of the dead, but to the examples of the living, in the members of congress and officers of government, for finished models of all those virtues, graces, talents, and accomplishments, which

constitute the dignity of human nature, and lay the only foundation for the prosperity or duration of empires.

JOHN ADAMS.

City of Washington,
Nov. 26, 1800.

Answer of the house of representatives to the president of the United States.

To JOHN ADAMS,
President of the United States.

SIR,

The house of representatives have received with great respect, the communication which you have been pleased to make to the two houses of congress, at the commencement of the present session.

The final establishment of the seat of national government, which has now taken place, within the district of Columbia, is an event of no small importance in the political transactions of our country: and we cordially unite our wishes with yours, that this territory may be the residence of happiness and virtue.

Nor can we, on this occasion omit to express a hope, that the spirit which animated the great founder of this city, may descend to future generations, and that the wisdom, magnanimity and steadiness which marked the events of his public life, may be imitated in all succeeding ages.

A consideration of those powers which have been vested in congress over the district of Columbia, will not escape our attention; nor shall we forget, that in exercising these powers a regard must be had to those events, which will necessarily attend the capital of America.

The cheerfulness and regularity with which the officers and soldiers of the temporary army have returned to the condition of private citizens, is a testimony, clear and conclusive, of the purity of those motives, which induced them to engage in the public service; and will remain a proof on all future occasions, that an army of soldiers, drawn from the citizens of our country, deserve our confidence and respect.

No subject can be more important than that of the judiciary, which you have again recommended to our consideration, and it shall receive our early and deliberate attention.

The continuation of the United States having confided the management of our foreign negotiations to the control of the executive power, we cheerfully submit to its decisions on this important subject. And in respect to the negotiations, now pending with France, we sincerely hope that the final result may prove as fortunate to our country, as the most ardent mind can wish.

So long as a predatory war is carried on against our commerce, we should sacrifice our interests, and disappoint the expectations of our constituents, should we for a moment, relax that system of maritime defence, which has resulted in such beneficial effects. At this period it is confidently believed, that few persons can be found within the United States, who do not admit, that a navy, well organized, must constitute the natural and efficient defence of this country against all foreign hostility.

The progress which has been made in the manufacture of arms, leaves no doubt that the public patronage has already placed this country beyond all necessary dependence on foreign markets, for an article so indispensable for defence; and gives us assurances, that under the encouragement which government will continue to extend to this important object, we shall soon rival foreign countries, not only in the number, but in the quality of arms, completed from our own manufactories.

Few events could have been more pleasing to our constituents, than that great and rapid increase of revenue, which has arisen from permanent taxes. Whilst this event explains the great and increasing resources of our country, it carries along with it a proof which cannot be resisted, that those measures of maritime defence, which were calculated to meet our enemy upon the ocean, and which have produced such extensive protection to our commerce, were founded in wisdom and policy. The mind must in our opinion, be insensible to the plainest truths, which cannot discern the elevated ground on which this policy has placed our country. That national spirit, which alone could vindicate our common rights, has been roused, and those latent energies, which had not been fully known, were unfolded, and brought into view, and our fellow-citizens were prepared to meet every event, which national honour or national security could render necessary. Nor have its effects been much less important in other respects. Whilst many of the nations of the earth have been impoverished and depopulated, by internal commotions, and national contests, our internal peace has not been materially impaired—our commerce has extended, under the protection of our infant navy, to every part of the globe—wealth has flowed without intermission into our sea ports, and the labours of the husbandmen have been rewarded by a ready market for the productions of the soil.

Be assured, Sir, that the various and important subjects, recommended to our consideration, shall receive our early and deliberate attention, and confident of your co-operation, in every measure which may be calculated to promote the general interest, we shall endeavour on our part, to testify by our industry and dispatch, the zeal and sincerity with which we regard the public good.