

In pursuance of the order in council of the 14th, for the seizure of all vessels belonging to Russia, Sweden and Denmark, nearly one hundred ships of the two latter nations have already been detained in the river Downs, Dover, Portsmouth, Plymouth and Yarmouth.

Government has also contracted for the immediate equipment of thirty 64 gun ships, which are the best calculated for the north seas.

Lord Nelson left town on Tuesday morning for Plymouth, and will proceed immediately to the Mediterranean, from whence lord Keith has been recalled. The want of a more cordial co-operation between the naval and military commanders in those seas has been much to be deplored; and the change in one of the commands must so far be beneficial to the public service.

Ministers conceiving it proper to be prepared against any attempt of invasion, which the enemy, with so many troops are rendered disposable by the peace on the continent, may make, have, it is said, given orders to construct as soon as possible, a number of gun-boats for the protection of our coasts, particularly our ports, and the mouths of navigable rivers.

The Apollo, lately arrived from India after a remarkable quick passage, brought the particulars to government of the unsuccessful attempt made by col. Murray, and a detachment of the 84th regiment, to make a landing at Suez. A promise of extensive co-operation had been made by the Scheriff of Medina: in consequence of which, col. Murray with a body of between 4 and 5000 men, sailed from India, and was conducted up the Red Sea by some vessels of commodore Blanket's Squadron. The Scheriff of Medina was so far faithful to his engagement, that he joined the English in person, but with a force so inadequate that their attempt to make good a landing failed.

The consternation at Vienna, on the advance of the French, was very great. Every body, from high to low, was running away, carrying all the property that was moveable. For 16 horses to transport a family to Bruun, which is 16 leagues from Vienna, 2000 florins was asked; for a day or two no horses were to be had. In the meantime, some exertions were made to put Vienna in a state of defence; but the news that an armistice was negotiating allayed the fears of the people, and put a stop to the emigration.

The letters from the out ports mention that several ships of war have sailed with orders to take and bring in such Danish and Swedish vessels as they meet with. No letters of marque, however, have yet been issued, though a great number of applications have been made.

On Friday the Magera frigate arrived in Torbay with dispatches to earl St. Vincent, from Sir Henry Harvey, commanding the fleet off Brest, stating that the combined fleet amounting to 52 sail, were completely ready for sea. On Thursday last 10 sail of the line made a movement seemingly with an intention to put to sea, but our fleet appearing, the enemy put into a bay close to Brest. All accounts from France agree that considerable efforts are making to prepare the navy for action in as great force as the means of the republic will permit.

It appears by accounts brought by a cartel to Falmouth, that the French are very assiduous in collecting their seamen together, for the purpose of manning their fleet; that they have called in the privateers that are now cruising, and as they arrive they are immediately stripped of their crews, who are marched to Brest without delay.

It appears that they are also collecting and equipping transports and other vessels, in a manner that shews they may be wanted for some special service.

Lord Nelson arrived at Plymouth on Friday evening, and hoisted his flag on board the San Joseph of 112 guns. She is expected to be ready for sea in a few days.

NEW-YORK, February 2.

On the 26th ult. gen. Moreau dined with the archduke Charles at Greims, where counts Lehrbach Saurau, and Colloredo were present.

From a London paper January 20.

We have heard it frequently asserted, that America, whether Jefferson or Adams succeeded to the presidency, will concur with the other powers of Europe in asserting the principles on which the northern confederacy is founded, and will resist the search of neutral vessels.—We hope this opinion is unfounded. Tho' the accession of America to a league now recognized to be hostile, might be attended with much inconveniences to England, the people of the United States would not be without a share of mischief. America might deprive us of at least part of the supply of grain which our necessities require, but she would deprive herself of a market for her commodity.—America might augment our distress by cutting off the supply of provisions which she sends to our West-India islands, and compelling us to feed them ourselves, tho' it would be easy by any prohibition to do so effectually against the temptation of high price and great gain. Her trade, on the other hand, would be annoyed by our navy, and her progress to wealth retarded by the shocks of premature and unreasonable war. Nevertheless, we know that the obstruction which the commerce of the United States receives from our cruisers, and the molestation occasioned by too vigorous an application of the claim, and not a very civil exercise of the right of search, has created us many enemies; and it would be very proper to take care that this right should not be resorted to but when necessary, and never to seek a pretence for cap-

ture. It exists as a right conducive to our self-defence, not as a captious regulation to afford booty.

PHILADELPHIA, March 4.

Extract of a letter from Algiers, dated December 3.

"Admiral Keith has demanded by two letters that the governor shall recognize the Maltese as subjects of his Britannic majesty; the dey has declared that he considered them as enemies, and that he will pay no respect to them even under English colours."

WASHINGTON, March 2.

On Saturday last, Thomas Jefferson, at present vice-president of the United States, and president of the senate, took leave of that body, on which occasion he delivered the following address:

Gentlemen of the Senate,

To give the usual opportunity of appointing a president pro tempore, I now propose to retire from the chair of the senate; and as the time is near at hand when the relations will cease, which have for some time subsisted between this honourable house and myself, I beg leave before I withdraw to return them my grateful thanks for all instances of attention and respect, with which they have been pleased to honour me. In the discharge of my functions here, it has been my conscientious endeavour to observe impartial justice, without regard to persons or subject: and if I have failed of impressing this on the mind of the senate, it will be to me a circumstance of the deepest regret. I may have erred at times. No doubt I have erred. This is the law of human nature. For honest errors, however, indulgence may be hoped.

I owe to truth and justice, at the same time to declare that the habits of order and decorum which so strongly characterize the proceedings of the senate, have rendered the usurpation of their president an office of little difficulty: that in times and on questions which have severely tried the sensibilities of the house, calm and temperate discussion has rarely been disturbed by departures from order.

Should the supports which I have received from the senate, in the performance of my duties here, attend me into the new station to which the public will have transferred me, I shall consider it as commencing under the happiest auspices.

With these expressions of my dutiful regard to the senate as a body, I ask leave to mingle my particular wishes for the health and happiness of the individuals who compose it: and to render them my cordial and respectful adieu.

TH. JEFFERSON.

February 23, 1801.

The address was referred to a select committee.

March 3.

The address of Thomas Jefferson, president elect, to the senate, inserted in our last, was referred to Messrs. Morris, Dayton, and J. Mason, who on Monday reported the form of a reply, which was agreed to, and presented by a committee to Mr. Jefferson on Tuesday. It follows:

Sir,

While we congratulate you on those expressions of the public will which called you to the first office in the United States, we cannot but lament the loss of that intelligence, attention, and impartiality, with which you have presided over our deliberations. The senate feel themselves much gratified by the sense you have been pleased to express of their support in the performance of your late duties. Be persuaded that it will never be withheld from a chief magistrate, who in the exercise of his office shall be influenced by due regard to the honour and interest of our country. In the confidence that your official conduct will be directed to these great objects, a confidence derived from past events, we repeat to you, Sir, the assurance of our constitutional support in your future administration.

JAMES HILLHOUSE, President of the senate pro tempore.

To which the president elect replied:

Gentlemen,

I receive with due sensibility the congratulations of the senate on being called to the first executive office of our government, and I accept with great satisfaction their assurances of support in whatever regards the honour and interest of our country. Knowing no other object in the discharges of my public duties, their confidence in my future conduct, derived from past events, shall not be disappointed, so far as my judgement may enable me to discern those objects.

The approbation they are so good as to express of my conduct in the chair of the senate, is highly gratifying to me; and I pray them to accept my humble thanks for these declarations of it.

T. JEFFERSON.

March 3, 1801.

Aaron Burr, vice-president of the United States, this morning took his seat in the senate, as president of that body.

March 4.

On Monday, the late president of the United States sent a message to the senate in relation to the French convention.

He observed that it was his wish that the convention should have been ratified entire. But as a different opinion was entertained by the senate, a respect for the high authority of that body induced him to ratify it, under the conditions they had imposed; that he had nominated Mr. Bayard, minister plenipotentiary to France; but that Mr. Bayard had assigned to him the most satisfactory reasons for declining the embassy;—reasons which would operate to prevent him from nominating any other individual qualified to discharge faithfully the duties of a minister. He there-

fore suffered the business to devolve on his successor.

Annapolis, March 12.

On the 4th instant, at 12 o'clock, THOMAS JEFFERSON, president of the United States, took the oath of office required by the constitution, in the senate chamber, in the city of Washington, in the presence of the senate, the public officers, and a large concourse of citizens. Previously to which he delivered the following ADDRESS:

Friends and fellow-citizens,

Called upon to undertake the duties of the first executive office of our country; I avail myself of the presence of that portion of my fellow-citizens which is here assembled to express my grateful thanks for the favour with which they have been pleased to look towards me, to declare a sincere consciousness that the task is above my talents, and that I approach it with those anxious and awful presentiments which the greatness of the charge, and the weakness of my powers so justly inspire. A rising nation, spread over a wide and fruitful land, traversing all the seas with the rich productions of their industry, engaged in commerce with nations who feel power and forget right, advancing rapidly to destinies beyond the reach of mortal eye; when I contemplate these transcendent objects, and see the honour, the happiness, and the hopes of this beloved country committed to the issue and the auspices of this day, I shrink from the contemplation and humble myself before the magnitude of the undertaking. Utterly indeed should I despair, did not the presence of many, whom I here see, remind me, that, in the other high authorities provided by our constitution, I shall find resources of wisdom, of virtue, and of zeal, on which to rely under all difficulties. To you, then, gentlemen, who are charged with the sovereign functions of legislation, and to those associated with you, I look with encouragement for that guidance and support which may enable us to steer with safety the vessel in which we are all embarked, amidst the conflicting elements of a troubled world.

During the contest of opinion through which we have passed, the animation of discussion and of exertion has sometimes worn an aspect which might impose on strangers unused to think freely, and to write what they think; but this being now decided by the voice of the union, announced according to the rules of the constitution, all will of course arrange themselves under the will of the law, and unite in common efforts for the common good. All too will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will, to be rightful, must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal laws must protect, and to violate would be oppression. Let us then, fellow-citizens, unite with one heart and one mind, let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty, and even life itself, are but dreary things. And let us reflect that having banished from our land that religious intolerance under which mankind so long bled and suffered, we have yet gained little, if we countenance a political intolerance, as despotic, as wicked, and capable of as bitter and bloody persecutions. During the throes and convulsions of the ancient world, during the agonising spasms of infuriated man, seeking through blood and slaughter his long lost liberty, it was not wonderful that the agitation of the billows should reach even this distant and peaceful shore; that this should be more felt and feared by some and less by others; and should divide opinions as to measures of safety; but every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We are all republicans: we are all federalists. If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union, or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated, where reason is left free to combat it. I know indeed that some honest men fear that a republican government cannot be strong; that this government is not strong enough. But would the honest patriot, in the full tide of successful experiment, abandon a government which has so far kept us free and firm, on the theoretic and visionary fear, that this government, the world's best hope, may, by possibility, want energy to preserve itself? I trust not. I believe this, on the contrary, the strongest government on earth.—I believe it the only one, where every man, at the call of the law, would fly to the standard of the law, and would meet invasions of the public order as his own personal concern. Sometimes it is said that man cannot be trusted with the government of himself. Can he then be trusted with the government of others? Or have we found angels, in the form of kings, to govern him? Let history answer this question.

Let us then, with courage and confidence, pursue our own federal and republican principles: our attachment to union and representative government; kindly separated by nature and a wide ocean from the exterminating havoc of one quarter of the globe; too high minded to endure the degradations of the others, possessing a chosen country, with room enough for our descendants to the thousandth and thousandth generation, entertaining a due sense of our equal right to the use of our own faculties, to the acquisitions of our own industry, to honour, and confidence from our fellow-citizens, resulting not from birth, but from our actions and their sense of them, enlightened by a benign religion, professed indeed and practised in various forms; yet all of them inculcating honesty, truth, temperance, gratitude and the love of man, acknowledging and adoring an overruling Providence, which by all its dispensations