

Varying from the appropriation in object or transcending it in amount; by reducing the undefined field of contingencies; and thereby circumscribing discretionary powers over money; and by bringing back to a single department all accountabilities for money, where the examination may be prompt, efficacious and uniform.

An account of the receipts and expenditures of the last year, as prepared by the secretary of the treasury, will, as usual, be laid before you. The success which has attended the late sales of the public lands shews that, with attention they may be made an important source of receipt. Among the payments, those made in discharge of the principal and interest of the national debt, will shew that the public faith has been exactly maintained. To these will be added an estimate of appropriations necessary for the ensuing year. This last will of course be affected by such modifications of the system of expence as you shall think proper to adopt.

A statement has been formed by the secretary at war, on mature consideration, of all the posts and stations where garrisons will be expedient, and of the number of men requisite for each garrison. The whole amount is considerably short of the present military establishment. For the surplus no particular use can be pointed out. For defence against invasion, their number is nothing; nor is it considered needful or safe that a standing army should be kept up, in time of peace for that purpose. Uncertain as we must ever be of the particular point in our circumference where an enemy may chuse to invade us, the only force which can be ready at every point, and competent to oppose them, is the body of neighbouring citizens, as formed into a militia. On these collected from the parts most convenient, in numbers proportioned to the invading force, it is best to rely not only to meet the first attack, but if it threatens to be permanent, to maintain the defence until regulars may be engaged to relieve them. These considerations render it important that we should, at every session, continue to amend the defects, which from time to time shew themselves, in the laws for regulating the militia, until they are sufficiently perfect: nor should we now, or at any time, separate, until we can say we have done every thing for the militia, which we could do, were an enemy at our door.

The provision of military stores on hand will be laid before you, that you may judge of the additions still requisite.

With respect to the extent to which our naval preparations should be carried, some difference of opinion may be expected to appear; but just attention to the circumstances of every part of the union will doubtless reconcile all. A small force will probably continue to be wanted, for actual service in the Mediterranean. Whatever annual sum beyond that you may think proper to appropriate to naval preparations, would perhaps be better employed in providing those articles which may be kept without waste or consumption, and be in readiness when any exigence calls them into use. Progress has been made as will appear by papers now communicated, in providing materials for 74 gun ships as directed by law.

How far the authority given by the legislature for procuring and establishing sites for naval purposes, has been perfectly understood and pursued in the execution, admits of some doubt. A statement of the expences already incurred on that subject shall be laid before you. I have in certain cases, suspended or slackened these expenditures, that the legislature might determine whether so many yards are necessary as have been contemplated. The works at this place are among those permitted to go on; and 5 of the 7 frigates directed to be laid up, have been brought and laid up here, where, besides the safety of their position, they are under the eye of the executive administration, as well as of its agents, and where yourselves also will be guided by your own view, in the legislative provisions respecting them, which may from time to time be necessary. They are preserved in such condition, as well the vessels as whatever belongs to them, as to be at all times ready for sea on a short warning. Two others are yet to be laid up, so soon as they shall have received the repairs requisite to put them also in a sound condition. As a superintending officer will be necessary at each yard, his duties and emoluments, hitherto fixed by the executive, will be a more proper subject for legislation. A communication will be made of our progress in the execution of the law respecting the vessels directed to be sold.

The fortifications of our harbours, more or less advanced, present considerations of great difficulty. While some of them are on a scale sufficiently proportioned to the advantages of their position, to the efficacy of their protection, and the importance of the points within it, others are so extensive, will cost so much in the first erection, so much in their maintenance, and require such a force to garrison them, as to make it questionable what is best now to be done. A statement of those commenced or projected, of the expences already incurred, and estimates of their future cost, as far as can be foreseen, shall be laid before you, that you may be enabled to judge whether any alteration is necessary in the laws respecting this subject.

Agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and navigation, the four pillars of our prosperity, are then most thriving, when left most free to individual enterprise. Protection from casual embarrassments, however, may sometimes be seasonably interposed. If in the course of your observations or inquiries, they should appear to need any aid, within the limits of our constitutional powers, your sense of their importance is a sufficient assurance they will occupy

your attention. We cannot, indeed, but all feel an anxious solicitude for the difficulties under which our carrying trade will soon be placed. How far it can be relieved, otherwise than by time, is a subject of important consideration.

The judiciary system of the United States, and especially that portion of it recently erected, will of course present itself to the contemplation of congress; and that they may be able to judge of the proportion which the institution bears to the business it has to perform, I have caused to be procured from the several states, and now lay before congress, an exact statement of all the causes decided since the first establishment of the courts, and of those which were depending when additional courts and judges were brought in to their aid.

And while on the judiciary organization it will be worthy your consideration whether the protection of the inestimable institution of juries has been extended to all the cases involving the security of our persons and property. Their impartial selection also being essential to their value; we ought further to consider whether that is sufficiently secured in those states, where they are named by a marshal depending on executive will, or designated by the court, or by officers dependent on them.

I cannot omit recommending a revival of the laws on the subject of naturalization. Considering the ordinary chances of human life, a denial of citizenship under a residence of fourteen years is a denial to a great porportion of those who ask it; and controls a policy pursued, from their first settlement, by many of these states, and still believed of consequence to their prosperity. And shall we refuse to the unhappy fugitives from distress, that hospitality which the savages of the wilderness extended to our fathers arriving in this land? Shall oppressed humanity find no asylum on this globe? The constitution, indeed, has wisely provided that, for admission to certain offices of important trust, a residence shall be required sufficient to develop character and design. But might not the general character and capabilities of a citizen be safely communicated to every one manifesting a bona fide purpose of embarking his life and fortunes permanently with us? with restrictions, perhaps to guard against the fraudulent usurpation of our flag; an abuse which brings so much embarrassment and loss on the genuine citizen, and so much danger to the nation of being involved in war, that no endeavour should be spared to detect and suppress it.

These, fellow-citizens, are the matters respecting the state of the nation, which I have thought of importance to be submitted to your consideration at this time. Some others of less moment, or not yet ready for communication, will be the subject of separate messages. I am happy in this opportunity of committing the arduous affairs of our government to the collected wisdom of the union. Nothing shall be wanting on my part to inform, as far as in my power, the legislative judgment; nor to carry that judgment into faithful execution. The prudence and temperance of your discussions will promote, within your own walls, that conciliation which so much befriends rational conclusion, and by its example, will encourage among our constituents that progress of opinion which is tending to unite them in object and in will. That all should be satisfied with any one order of things is not to be expected; but I indulge the pleasing persuasion that the great body of our citizens will cordially concur in honest and disinterested efforts, which have for their object to preserve the general and state governments in their constitutional form and equilibrium; to maintain peace abroad, and order and obedience to the laws at home; to establish principles and practices of administration favourable to the security of liberty and property, and to reduce expences to what is necessary for the useful purposes of government.

TH. JEFFERSON.

P A R I S, October 18.

Yesterday a discharge of ninety pieces of cannon announced the signature of the preliminaries of peace between the French republic and the Ottoman Porte. Preliminary articles of peace, between the Ottoman Porte and the French republic.

The first consul in the name of the French people, and the Sublime Ottoman Porte, being desirous to put an end to the war which divides the two countries, and to re-establish the ancient relation which united them, have nominated with this intention, the ministers plenipotentiary, to wit:

The first consul in the name of the French people, citizen Charles Maurice Talleyrand, minister for foreign affairs, and the Sublime Ottoman Porte, its civevant Basch-Muhafesse and ambassador Esseyd Ali Effendi, who after having exchanged their full powers, have agreed upon the following preliminary articles:

Art. I. There shall be a peace and friendship between the French republic and the Ottoman Porte; in consequence of which hostilities shall cease from the exchange of these articles. Immediately after said exchange, the entire province of Egypt shall be evacuated by the French army, and restored to the Sublime Ottoman Porte; the territories and possessions of which shall be maintained in their integrity, as before the war.

It is understood that, after the evacuation, the concessions which may be made in Egypt to the other powers, on the part of the Porte, shall be common to the French.

II. The French republic acknowledges the constitution of the republic of the Seven Islands and Egevetian territories, situated upon the continent. It guarantees the maintenance of that constitution.

The S. Porte acknowledges and accepts for that purpose the guaranty of the French republic, as well as that of Russia.

III. Definitive arrangements shall be made between the French republic and the Porte, relative to the goods and effects of their respective citizens and subjects confiscated or sequestered during the war. The political and commercial agents, and prisoners of war shall be set at liberty immediately after the ratification of these preliminaries.

IV. The treaties which existed before the present war shall be renewed. In consequence of this renewal, the French shall enjoy, in the whole extent of the state of its highness, the rights of commerce and navigation which it formerly enjoyed, and which may hereafter be enjoyed by the most favoured nations. The ratifications shall be exchanged at Paris in 24 days.

Done at Paris, Oct. 9. &c. on the first of the Gemasy-ulahir 1216 of the Hegira.  
(Signed) CH. MAUR. TALLEYRAND,  
ESSEYD ALI EFFENDI.

L O N D O N, October 25.

Letters received by the last mail from Lisbon state, that a contagious fever, attended with the same symptoms as that which proved so destructive at Cadix about a year ago, had broken out at Medani Sidonia, about twenty miles S. E. of that city, and carried off from fifteen to twenty of the inhabitants daily. The Spanish government, however, has taken the most prompt and efficacious means of checking its further progress, by drawing a cordon of troops round the town of Medina, to prevent all communication with the other parts of the kingdom, and by ordering the immediate employment of the disinfected process so successfully practised in this country by M. Cruickshank, of Woolwich, and in France by the celebrated Guyon de Morveau.

Wednesday several of our swiftest sailing vessels were dispatched from Portsmouth to the East and West-Indies, the Mediterranean, Newfoundland, and the coast of Guinea, with official intelligence to the respective governors and commanders in chief in those parts, of the signing of the preliminaries of peace. This measure, which appears to have been postponed for the purpose of enabling government to form a certain opinion with respect to the final restoration of tranquillity, may be considered as a satisfactory proof that ministers entertain no apprehensions of any obstacles arising to prevent the conclusion of the definitive treaty.

The Moniteur announces that France is reducing her marine. The crews of the ships of war are to be reduced to the peace establishment, and "the advanced guard," the light flotilla, destined to form a diversion in the invasion of England, from Boulogne and Dunkirk, is disarming.

N E W - Y O R K, December 9.

We have been favoured by captain Lee, of the ship Draper, with London news-papers of the 22d and 23d of October, two days later than our former accounts. The interesting articles which occupy the succeeding columns, comprise every thing worthy of note.

In our preceding columns, says the True Briton, is found the Gazette's official accounts of the surrender of Alexandria, the garrison of which place consisted of from nine to ten thousand men, on the 2d of September. Though the political situation of Europe at present renders this event of less importance than it would have been deemed a month sooner, it is impossible to read without pleasure the proofs of British ardor and courage which the letter of general Hutchinson contains. To that officer the praise of modesty is not less due than that of military talent.

By the terms of the capitulation the forts and town of Alexandria were to be evacuated in ten days after the signing of the capitulation, and the embarkation of the garrison for France was to take place in the same period. The article which is now of most moment is the 6th in the order of those proposed, by the rejection of which and the following article, all the ships and vessels of the French and their allies, whether ships of war or merchantmen, both in Alexandria and that might arrive there after the capitulation, become prizes; and, by the representation of both parties, the number of these must be very considerable. Nor are the French permitted to avail themselves of the spoils which their literati had with so much labour collected; and the Arabian manuscripts, statues, and other collections made for the French republic, are to be considered as public property. Hostages were to be given for the due observance of the treaty.

The manner in which the last event of the war has been conducted and terminated, is such as must leave on the minds of every nation in Europe a sense of the value of our alliance, and the danger of our hostility. It is with pleasure we see that the fall of Alexandria has been purchased with so little bloodshed in comparison to the object obtained. That it is doubly secured to its original possessors, both by the valor of our troops, and by the good faith of our statesmen, in negotiation, must be additional matter for congratulation; and it must give great confidence to the nation to see that the safety of our East-India possessions can be established by force, if treaties should ever be found insufficient to their protection.

B A L T I M O R E, December 9.

By a letter from a respectable gentleman in England, to his friend in Newburyport, we are informed, that a loan of FIFTY MILLIONS sterling had been requested from the people by the British minister.