

50 minutes past 10, the headmost ship of the English, (supposed a 74) ran a-head of the French Squadron and brought them to action: In 20 minutes after a British ship of the line fell into action; in 10 minutes after 3 ships of the line came into action, and in 75 minutes after the commencement, the action was general—3 French ships ran on shore and two more were disabled. The action lasted two hours and 20 minutes: By this time they were so far off that I was unable to see what ships were taken.

February 7. Several officers and seamen returned from the admiral's ship the Imperial, that was on shore, and said that her three decks were battered away; the admiral and 750 men killed and wounded—the Diomed was also on shore disabled, in sight of St. Domingo—the other three ships of the line were now ascertained to be taken, but not certain of the fate of the floop of war or frigates. At 12 meridian, 3 heavy ships passed the city, steering to the westward, but shewed no colours.

February 8. At 9, A. M. one of the disabled ships hove in sight, with a brig and frigate plying about her. At 2, P. M. 4 frigates, 2 ships of the line and a brig passed along the coast reconnoitring about the two ships that were on shore; while the heavy ships kept a straight course, the frigates seemed to keep ranging in with the shore, and had St. George's ensign flying—one of the heavy ships wore blue at the mizen. Night came on and no farther observations could be made. The French admiral was slightly wounded; the captain-general had both his legs shot off, and the first and second lieutenants on board the admiral were killed. Officers and seamen were returning to town in a shocking condition. The Jupiter and La Brave were both disabled by the board in the first of the action. The admiral's mast went by the board as she was running on shore. She was silenced nearly an-half hour prior to going ashore.

From the above minutes, which were taken down as the incidents which they relate occurred, and from the details we have been able to collect from other sources, it appears that on the French squadron passing by St. Thomas, some person of that island hired a large row boat, and with 20 or more hands plied away to windward up to Tortola, where an armed vessel was lying, which was dispatched with the utmost expedition to admiral Cochrane, at Barbadoes, who collected all the ships which the urgency of the case would permit, and with the force above stated, scoured down to leeward till he overtook the French Squadron at anchor off the city of St. Domingo; where he captured the Jupiter, 74, Le Brave, 80, and L'Alexander, 74, and burnt the fine new ship L'Imperial, of 134 guns, and Diomed 74, after they had been run ashore by their own officers. The action was an oblique and bloody one; but the precise loss of men, on either side, is unknown.

The destruction of this fleet, if their object was accurately stated by the officers who escaped from the ships which were run ashore, is one of the most fortunate events that ever occurred for the insurance-offices of America.—It was no less than a complete execution of the arrette of Ferrand, except, possibly, the sanguinary part; but it was, at all events, to take or destroy every American vessel in the harbours or on the coast of Hayti.

March 10.

Captain Ehlers, arrived at Charleston, on the 22d February, sailed from Lisbon on the 14th January—but brings no news of importance.

Intelligence of the battles of the three emperors, in the beginning of December, had been received; both parties laid claim to the victory. When the news first reached Lisbon, the French celebrated the event by feasting, &c.—A short time after a packet arrived from England, when the accounts were reversed, and the English in turn publicly rejoiced at the triumphs of the allied powers.

A few days before captain Ehlers sailed, a fleet of 36 fail of English merchantmen from Oporto, under convoy of 3 men of war, left Lisbon for England; eighteen fail of Swedes left St. Ubes the same day, in order to take protection of the convoy—but the next day all the Swedes returned into port, having seen several fail of armed vessels, which they supposed were French. It was reported at Lisbon, that the English merchantmen were all taken.—This again was contradicted; but it was added, that another fleet from the Mediterranean had certainly been captured.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 7.

Our readers will perceive, by our journal of congressional proceedings, that the great national question at issue with Great-Britain, has at length seriously engaged the attention of the house of representatives.

On Wednesday the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the union, when Mr. Gregg's resolution for a non-importation of British goods was taken into consideration.

The debate was opened by Mr. Gregg, the mover of the resolution, who took a rapid view of the outrages, insults and oppressions of Britain, which appeared to him to be parts of a system deliberately planned, and which would probably be perseveringly adhered to, unless the government of the United States should make a decided and spirited stand against them. A non-importation of her goods, a measure altogether pacific, appeared to him the best instrument of recalling her to a sense of her true interest.

Mr. J. Clay followed. He allowed, in their fullest extent, the outrages and injustice of Britain; but he feared the contemplated measure so far from increasing any serious injury on her, would re-act more

injuriously on ourselves, and that it could not for any length of time be adhered to. He declared himself in favour of measures, which though apparently less energetic, would, by forming a part of a permanent and practicable system, prove more efficacious.

Mr. Crowninshield took the same ground with Mr. Gregg. He said the outraged honour and violated interests of the country demanded efficient measures, not of a warlike character, but such as would convince Britain that much as we valued her friendship, we would no longer submit to the degradations accumulated upon us. He was for peace. He believed the present measure eminently calculated to maintain it. Not that he was afraid of war from the effects it would produce. For in war we should be more than a match for Britain. We should make more captures, her provinces would fall, and the debts of her subjects would be at our mercy.

Mr. J. Randolph rose in reply about 2 o'clock, and continued on the floor till 5 o'clock. He pronounced the resolution a war measure, pushed forward by a spirit of mercantile avarice, calculated in its effects at once to expose the United States in her most vulnerable point, on the ocean; to aid the gigantic strides of Buonaparte, by making France mistress of the ocean; to translate her from the ground on which it became her to stand, and to carry her into maritime contests; and to endanger her liberties and the constitution.

On Thursday the debate was again resumed at noon, by Mr. N. Williams, who spoke in favour of the resolution.

He was followed by Mr. Masters on the opposite side.

Mr. Smilie spoke next in favour of the resolution; when the debate was closed for the day by Mr. J. Randolph, about 4 o'clock.

### Attention the Whole!

A MEETING of the VOLUNTEER COMPANY of INFANTRY is requested on Saturday next, the 13th inst. at half past two o'clock. Each member will take care to appear completely equipped.

By virtue of a decree from the High Court of Chancery, the subscriber will OFFER at PUBLIC SALE, on the premises, at 12 o'clock, A. M. on Monday the seventh day April next, if fair, if not, the first fair day,

ALL that part of a tract of land, which belonged to CHARLES WHITE, deceased, situate and lying in Anne-Arundel county, near Spurrier's tavern, on Elk-Ridge, called WINKOPIN NECK, which was devised to the said Charles White by his father Joseph White, and by the said Charles White, in his life-time mortgaged to John Gwinn, Esquire. The terms of sale are, the purchaser or purchasers of the whole, or any part thereof, shall either pay ready money on the day of sale, or on the day of the ratification of the sale by the chancellor; and on obtaining the chancellor's ratification, and on receipt of the purchase money, and not before, the trustee, by a good deed to be executed and acknowledged according to law, will convey and transfer to the purchaser or purchasers, and his, her, or their heirs, the land to him, her, or them sold, free, clear, and discharged from all claim of the mortgagee, or of the heirs of the said Charles White.

THOMAS HARWOOD, of Rd. Trustee.  
Annapolis, March 11, 1806.

### HORSES.

To be sold, at public vendue, at Squirrel Neck, on Wednesday the second day of April next, SEVERAL head of HORSES, consisting of brood mares, colts, and plough horses. The sale to begin at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. A credit of six months will be given on the purchases. Should the weather prove unfavourable on the 2d of April, the sale will be held on the next fair day, at the same hour and place.

WILLIAM JOHNSON, Manager.

March 7, 1806.

### This is to give notice,

THAT the subscriber, of Anne-Arundel county, hath obtained from the orphans court of Anne-Arundel county, letters of administration on the estate of the late JOHNSON MICHAEL O'REILLY, of Anne-Arundel county. All persons having claims against said deceased are hereby requested to bring in the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, by the 10th day of June next, and all persons indebted to said estate are earnestly solicited to come forward and settle the same with the subscriber, or compulsory means will be resorted to without respect to person. Given under my hand, this 13th day of March, 1806.

JOHN O'REILLY, Administrator.

To be SOLD, at PUBLIC SALE, on the 17th day of March, if fair, if not, the first fair day thereafter, at the subscriber's,

ONE hundred and nineteen acres of LAND, there are on it a small dwelling-house, a good tobacco house, and other small houses, a good apple orchard, and the place in good repair. There will be sold, at the same time, two negro men, and one woman and two children, some stock, and other small property, too tedious to mention. The property will be sold on six months credit, on giving bond with approved security. The sale to commence at ten o'clock.

February 22, 1806. WILLIAM CLARK.

The following Ode was written by a Lady, in the north of England, who for many years had been oppressed with a hopeless Consumption. It is unnecessary to speak of its beauties to the reader of taste and sensibility.

### ODE TO SICKNESS.

NOT to the rosy Maid, whom former hours Beheld me fondly covet, tune I now The melancholy lyre: No more I seek Thy aid, Hygeia! sought so long in vain. But, 'tis to thee, O Sickness, 'tis to thee I wake the silent strings. Accept the lay. Thou art no tyrant, warring the fierce scourge O'er unresisting victims; but a nymph, Of mild, though mournful mien. Upon thy brow Patience sits smiling; and whose heavy eye, Tho' moist with tears, is always fixed on Heaven. Thou wrapp'st the world in gloom; but thou canst tell

Of worlds where all is sunshine; and at length, When thro' this vale of sorrow, thou hast led Thy patient sufferers, cheering them the while With many a smile of promise, thy pale hand Unlocks the bowers of everlasting rest; Where death's kind angel waits to dry their tears, And crown them with his amaranthine flowers.

YET I have known thee long! and I have felt All that thou hast of sorrow. Many a tear Has fall'n on my cold cheek; and many a sigh Call'd forth by thee, has swell'd my aching breast: Yet still I bless thee. O thou chast'ning power! For all I bless thee! Thou hast taught my soul To rest upon itself; to look beyond The narrow bound of time, and fix its hopes On the sure basis of eternity.

MEANWHILE, even in this transitory scene, Of what hast thou depriv'd me? Has thy hand Clos'd up the book of knowledge; drawn a veil O'er the fair face of nature; or destroyed The tender pleasures of domestic life? Ah no! 'tis thine to call forth in the heart Each benevolent, thro' awaken'd sense That unconfined philanthropy, which feels For all the unhappy—that warm sympathy Which, casting every selfish care aside, Finds its own bliss in seeing others bliss— That melancholy, tender, yet sublime, Which, feeling all the nothingness of earth, Exalts the soul to Heaven; and, more than these, That pure devotion, which, even in the hour Of agonizing pain, can fill the eyes With tears of ecstasy—such tears, perhaps, As angels love to shed.

THESE are thy gifts, O Sickness! These to me Thou hast vouchsafed, and taught me how to prize. Shall my soul shrink from aught thou hast ordain'd? Shall I e'en envy the luxurious train, Around whose path prosperity has strewn Her gilded toys? Ah! let them still pursue The shining trifles; never shall they know Such pure and holy pleasures as await The heart refin'd by suffering. Not to them Does fancy sing her wild romantic song: 'Tis not for them her glowing hand undrains The sacred veil that hides the angelic world, They hear not, in the music of the wind, Celestial voices, that in whispers sweet, Call to the flowers—the young and bashful flowers! They see not, at the shadowy hour of eve, Descending spirits, who on silver wing, Glide thro' the air, and to their harps divine Sing, in soft notes, the vesper-hymn of praise; Or, pausing for a moment, as they turn Their radiant eyes on this polluted scene, Drop on their golden harps a pitying tear.

PROSPERITY! I count thy gifts no more. Nor thine, O fair Hygeia! Yet to thee I breathe one fervent prayer: attend the strain. If, for my faded brow, thy hand prepare Some future wreath, let me the gift resign; Transfer the rosy garland; bid it bloom Around the temples of that friend, beloved, On whose maternal bosom, even now, I lay my aching head! and, as I mark The smile that plays upon her speaking face, Forget that I have ever shed a tear!

The Goddess of Health.

### NOTICE.

ALL persons having claims against the estate of SARAH DAVIS, late of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are requested to exhibit them to the subscriber, legally authenticated, for payment, and all persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make payment, to SARAH DAVIS, Executrix.

March 11, 1806.

By virtue of a writ of fieri facias, to me directed out of the general court, will be exposed, at public sale, for cash, on the 20th instant,

A LARGE BRICK HOUSE, in London-town, taken as the property of Robert C. Stone, Eliza Stone, Anne Stone, and Thomas Stone, heirs at law, terretenants of John H. Stone, to satisfy a debt due Frederick Green, for the use of Edward Hall, of Isaac, Esquire.

J. E. TILLY, Sheriff of Anne-Arundel county.

March 10, 1806.

### A MAGISTRATE'S GUIDE.

Those gentlemen who subscribed at this office for the above Book, are requested to call for it.