

A gentleman sent from Camp Pinckney communicates the following...

On Wednesday, 30th ulto, the army left Camp Pinckney, and arrived at Fayette town on the 9th. Surprised it, killed its Indians, wounded 7, and burnt the town. They then proceeded to Bow-Legs town—destroyed it; but neither killed nor took any Indians, it being abandoned before they arrived. The day following they returned to the first town they destroyed and encamped. There they were attacked by (it is supposed) 300 Indians and—; the action was kept up on both sides one hour and a half when the Indians were charged and dispersed with considerable loss. The detachment destroyed about 350 houses, and took 300 horses, but owing to want of provender, about 150 of them perished on the way. All the Indian settlements are completely destroyed. The loss of our army was one killed and 7 wounded—some horses were lost and some killed.

This detachment, in the first action, was between 240 and 250 strong, consisting of Col. Williams's regiment from East Tennessee, and volunteers from this state; they were all mounted. On the day after the first engagement, they were reinforced by a detachment of regulars commanded by Col. Smith, which were the only troops of that description in the detachment.

On the 1st instant, arrived at this port the Portuguese brig Coracovens, of 16 guns, capt. Bernard de Santes, 46 days from Lisbon—he informs that an action had been fought on the frontiers of Portugal, between the British, under the command of Marshal Beresford, and the French army under Marshal Soult, in which the British and Portuguese were victorious—the ground was desperately contended for by both armies, and the French would have been the victors had not a reinforcement of the British arrived from Lord Wellington's army, which decided the contest—the loss of the British, &c. is said to be 7000 men, that of the French 15,000.

Gen. Beresford was shot through the body supposed dangerously.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, MARCH 25.

TAXATION.

One of the many difficulties which at this time staggers the ingenuity of administration, and which all their wisdom cannot surmount, is to hit upon a plan of raising a revenue which will not endanger their popularity. Various schemes have been suggested, and systems advanced, by the Genevan financier, yet none appears so devoid of that oppressive and burdensome aspect which usually excites fermentation among great land-holders and whiskey-distillers, as to be worthy their prudential consideration. The time is drawing nigh when they can no longer raise the necessary supplies to meet the expenses of government, without having recourse to the same odious exactions which brought them into power; for experience by this time must have convinced them, that dependance cannot be placed on borrowing, when no security is pledged for the payment of the sums borrowed. Here, then, is a national evil which cannot be avoided, without an abandonment of their favorite hostile measures. From the zeal which has been so profusely expressed by democrats in the public cause, and the patriotic professions so often made, it would be a fair presumption that they would undergo all the privations and burdens necessarily incident to the war, rather than relinquish it. This being taken for granted, let an equal scale of taxation be proposed, proportionate to the vices and follies of those whose agency has produced the evils which now depress this country, beginning with every parasite and sycophant of administration. In a scale of this description would be united equality and justice—For those only who are the authors and abettors of mischief should be made answerable for its consequences. In making an arrangement of this kind, those who have raised their voices against the French policy, which unfortunately for us has been introduced into this country, would

escape the burdens which are consequent upon it. In the language of the poet...

Virtue should go bare-foot; but new excise From vice and folly would raise large supplies. Jefferson and Madison would, in such an event, be the principal sufferers, for they have been the fathers of that system which has steeped thousands in misery, and cast a gloom over the whole country. A scheme of taxation which we have here suggested, would operate only on that portion of the community who have strenuously advocated the war, and patriotically pledged their lives and fortunes for its support. This, then, could excite no clamour—and the wheels of government might move unobscured by any opposition of federalists. They would escape the impositions, and those only would be subjected to the burdens, who had foolishly and viciously brought them upon themselves. Little, however, can be expected from this quarter, for one set of men have involved the government in embarrassment, and another must be oppressed to relieve her from her difficulties. To afford as much relief however, as possible, it is incumbent on Madison to show a little of that liberality which distinguished the father of this country, and let his only remuneration for his services be the confidence of the people. Let all others, who hang upon the skirts of government, and batten on the emoluments of office, be guided by the same example, and let their reward be a consciousness of having performed their duty to their country. In imitation of the Hero of the revolution, let our brave generals and officers of the army, be rewarded with laurels, and by relinquishing their pay established by law, relieve the exigencies of government. Let all others who feed on the crumbs of the treasury, manifest the same disposition, and resolve at once to obtain an honourable support, without any aid from the public resources. Thus all the servants of the people, uniting and co-operating in the same liberal and disinterested system, might possibly keep up the credit of democracy.

In the various states of society, (says Gibbon) armies are recruited from very different motives—Barbarians are urged by the love of war; the citizens of a free republic may be prompted by a principle of duty; the subjects, or at least the nobles of a monarchy, are animated by a sentiment of honour, but the timid and luxurious inhabitants of a declining empire, must be allured into the service by the hopes of profit or compelled by the dread of punishment. It may be a subject for speculation to inquire, what are the motives which lead the American citizen to the bloody field of battle. It can not be from the love of war, because it is a science of which he has no knowledge. It cannot be from the expectation of plunder, because the cold, inhospitable wilderness of the north, holds out no allurements of that sort. We should very much question whether he is animated by a sense of duty, or that the majority of them could assign any reason why they had taken up arms, other than they had been thrown out of employment, and the only resort left them was the army. How many may have been allured by the hopes of profit is unknown, but if any were buoyed up with such expectations, they will doubtless meet with disappointment; but there have been instances of enlistment to escape the dread of exemplary punishment. It is well known of what materials large armies are usually composed, and what power they put in the officers who command them. They are guided like a weather-cock at the will of their general—and there are few of such disinterested virtue that will not exercise power when put into their hands, to some illegal or selfish purpose. Washington was an exception—When he might have planted himself upon a throne, and had the American army to support him, there with the same god-like spirit which carried him through the storms of a revolution, he resigned his power into the hands of those who had bestowed it on him. Few can be trusted like this immortal warrior. Far different motives now call the soldier to the field, the contest was then for liberty, but now for conquest—The ranks were then filled with virtuous and patriotic characters; but we have no reason to believe that such is the case at present. Were the government to get in arrears with the army as they were at that time, some Newburg letters might kindle a commotion in the country which would distinguish republican liberty for ever!

Some account of a meeting called in this city a few days ago, for the purpose of deliberating on great and important affairs.

The meeting was called in somewhat mysterious manner, for when the citizens assembled, no one appeared to know for what purpose they had been convened, or by whom. After some demagogic conversation, it was thought proper to proceed to business, and a chairman and secretary were appointed. Some time elapsed before any propositions were made, and not until the chief speaker had been deputized by a caucus to address the chair, when he stepped forward with his usual importance and made what we may call a splendid oration. After a few sentences, those who had been drawn there by curiosity, were made acquainted with the ostensible object of the meeting—for the orator launched with a copious stream of hyperbolic metaphor, into the defenceless situation of our city. True, it is in a defenceless state, for the troops which had been stationed here for its security were long ago withdrawn, and the two forts created here by the general government, left without troops sufficient to garrison one. This was nothing new, for it had often been a subject of remark; besides, the governor had written to the secretary at war, acquainting him with the apprehensions that prevailed among the citizens, and the necessity of an additional force for security in the event of an attack. All this was well known, and it was thought by some who had not as yet penetrated the object of this meeting, that it was the intention of the speaker to have inveighed against the administration for having left us thus exposed, and the communications of the executive unnoticed. But this was not a part of his plan; the orator had other objects in view: he proceeded to state, that the enemy had been admitted into our harbour under the fatal disguise of carrels, and that they had employed themselves in examining the bank, treasury, and Stadt-house. Even if all this had been done, we would ask the gentleman by whose order and authority they had been admitted? If our harbour had been scouted, as he asserted, we would ask who was in fault for having suffered it, when the vessel is lying under the guns of the fort? If their curiosity had led them to view the principal public buildings in the city, there is nothing very wonderful and alarming in that; for it is a liberty every one takes when entering a strange place. Moreover, if the agent or captain of the flag vessel had entered the bank, their object, as we understand, was to exchange gold for paper, which the gentleman ought not to complain of, being himself a stockholder. A few more remarks of the same trifling nature as those we have noticed, composed the substance of his speech. After he had concluded, a committee was appointed to report a plan for defending the city, but what that was exactly we have never yet been able to ascertain. A committee was appointed to make collections among the citizens for the purpose of hiring or buying some old horses for the artillery, and carts for ammunition; as likewise committees to wait on the general and state governments for assistance. What success will attend their respective applications we do not know; but "their address" may perhaps obtain more for us than, under all circumstances, we could reasonably expect. An additional force is certainly required for the protection of the city, whenever it shall be attacked. Yet we should be perfectly willing to leave it with the executive of the state to decide, when it was necessary to make a general call on the militia, since we have been abandoned by the general government, and not interfere with the prerogative which has been guaranteed them by the constitution. We have been thus circumstantial in detailing the proceedings of this meeting, because we wish for very particular reasons, they should stand recorded, that they may be referred to with greater facility whenever an occasion hereafter requires.

COMMUNICATION.

The good people of our country begin at length to think seriously of the dangerous situation into which a wicked and precipitate declaration of war has brought us. Even the men who were so eager for war, and so thoroughly convinced by a few months since, that the English could do us no harm, the men who, when war was declared, could not refrain from shewing and publishing their joy, now think that no man can go to bed but in dread of a visit from at least fifty Englishmen, before his usual hour of rising. We are in danger, say they, and why are we not protected? Now good people, this is the very question that ought to have been asked when war was declared; and of the most ample protection being afforded to every part of the country, we ought to have been assured, before we ventured to express our excessive joy on the occasion of the war, or our approbation of the men who have plunged us into it. That it was the duty of Mr. Madison to admit. He it charged with the common defence, and in order to provide it, money and men as much and as many as may be wanted can be raised. He ought more especially to have provided a reasonable security to every part of

the union, before he waded the resolutions of the country, in an idle and wicked endeavour to butcher or make slaves of the people of Canada, and thereby provoked the enemy to our own shores. Now the best friends of the nation, tell us if we are not protected what is to be thought of your beloved president who has failed to afford protection to us? Or if he still be worthy of our implicit confidence, and we must still admire him, why then let us hear no more about the danger of the country, and let us all go to bed and make no noise.

If this same president who has bro't us into the war, and then left us to protect ourselves as well as we could, had chanced to have been a federalist, what fine pepper-hot town meeting speeches we should have had.

TIMOTHY.

For the Maryland Gazette. Some people wonder how it happens, that when there exists so much danger, our good president seems so unwilling to take care of us. When the war was declared, and before it was possible that the seat of government could have been in any danger, (because at that time the enemy had not heard one word of the war) a regiment of regulars was sent for the protection of Annapolis, and its safety committed to an old, experienced and meritorious officer of the revolution. Then forsooth, much was found to be said in praise of "the powers that be;" and every man, woman and child, of the place, was bound to love and pray for the president.

It was confidently asserted by some among us, too, that this war which was to ruin other parts of the nation would make the fortunes of the people of Annapolis, so that, notwithstanding the distress and destruction to the eastward, we were to rejoice and be glad as so much good was to be done for us.

Much about the time, however, that the enemy would hear of the declaration of war, those troops which were to protect our households, were withdrawn, not for the protection of any other place, but as it was understood, to carry death, havoc and destruction, among the people of Canada: Mr. Madison could no longer leave his regulars for the protection of his rejoicing friends in Annapolis. The militia, however, was called for, and mangle any thing that might be found in the constitution to the contrary, the call was complied with. Because president Madison commanded it, three hundred and more of the militia of Maryland were dragged from their homes and their employments, to protect and defend the citizens of Annapolis, many of us may yet be able to recollect what sort of protectors these were like to prove, and what reliance could have been placed upon them in a moment of danger. Suffice it to say, that they were disbanded, not more to their own satisfaction, than to the general satisfaction of those whose property and lives they were to protect. When the order for their return to their own homes reached the city, none were heard to lament their departure, and the idea, that a parcel of raw militia men could be of any use to the place, except to disturb its quiet, and occasionally to plunder its inhabitants, was entertained by no one human being belonging to the town or its vicinity.

These militia folks were succeeded by volunteers, and of what use they might have been in an emergency it is useless to inquire, because much about the time that the enemy approached us and blockaded our bay, it was the pleasure of the president to deprive the city of this protection. He has then withdrawn from the town, regulars, militia and volunteers—And yet there are some among us who can still believe that the president will not be wanting in his duty in this moment of alarm if not of actual danger: that he is mindful of his solemn obligation to provide for the common defence, and perhaps will be ready to furnish this city, the metropolis of the state, with as many troops as he has promised to one of the towns of the ancient dominion. Let those who think so continue to sleep sound.

A CITIZEN.

For the Maryland Gazette. THE HONOURABLE JOSIAH QUINCY. The solidity of talent and rectitude of judgment of this gentleman, would have distinguished him among his contemporaries, had he not been master of all the powers of a fine and rich imagination, and of a copious and masterly eloquence. The versatility of his genius impairs not its vigour, nor unfits him for application to business. He has derived, on the contrary, every possible aid from a full and careful cultivation. His intellectual character is a combination of the most opposite qualities—a fancy rapid and brilliant as the lightning of Heaven, united to a judgment deliberate in forming its decisions, and in its results unerring as truth. "At one moment the logician and man of business, and at another the poet and orator"—On one occasion, pursuing his proposition through all its deductions, to a result evident to the plainest capacity, and on another combatting with the battery of a keen wit the follies of his antagonists. "Eloquence," (my lord Bolingbroke says,) "has charms to lead mankind, and gives a nobler superiority than power, that every dunce may use, or fraud that every knave may

employ. But this same man, who is a stream that is fed by an abundant spring, and not spent forth in a little frothy water on some giddy day and remain dry the rest of the year. Of this exalted character is the eloquence of Mr. Quincy. It is the living image of a brightly and animated, as well as erudite and profound genius. It is an amalgamation of the several properties of a great speaker of force and persuasion—of precision and perspicuity, and of a copious and rich imagery. But this talent alone, would not have raised him to the high station he now holds in the public estimation. It was necessary that he should possess other, and perhaps I may add, higher qualifications. It was requisite he should be the statesman and man of business, the patriot and christian, as well as orator. His eloquence would have given him a reputation, but these, alone, could have preserved or made it the instrument of extensive usefulness. In order to this effect it was necessary that he should pervade the circle of the sciences—that his mind should range through all the walks of literature, & impress into its service knowledge from all quarters. With this fund of information he was prepared for every emergency which might arise in the administration of public affairs. To him no posture could be new, no defect take place, which he was not able to refer to its cause, or no cause whence his sagacity could not discover the latent effect. The principles of government and laws, the interests of America relatively to the other nations of the world, and of each of those nations with respect to each other, the causes of the rise, grandeur and declension of nations, were the familiar studies of his life, and well understood by him. This no statesman knew better how to promote the prosperity or administer energy to the causes of a nation's advancement, or cure the defects and vices which hasten the decline of a government, than Mr. Quincy. 'Twas these preparatives which fitted this gentleman for the important part he has been destined to act on the public theatre. The principles and ends of his political conduct being fixed on and established, adherence to the former, and the attainment of the latter, formed the business of his public life. The collision of cabinet measures, with these grand cardinal principles, which constitute the landmarks of public morality, and a departure from which Mr. Quincy held inconsistent with integrity and sound policy, was the foundation of his steady and unremitting opposition. In this capacity he has done honour to himself and country. The distinguished share he has ever taken in those interesting discussions which have been produced by the war with England, has enrolled his name, along with those of Hamilton and Ames, on the lists of fame. It would seem indeed, that Providence had mingled with the societies of mankind certain ethereal spirits, whose task it is to enlighten and direct, to warn and admonish their fellow-men, when lost in a labyrinth of perplexity. Of this kind is Mr. Quincy. His course has been one continued blaze of light. Of the first stage of the present ruinous system, Mr. Quincy with a prophetic eye, foresaw the mischief that was to follow. With boldness and candour he announced his fears and suspicions to the American people. He reasoned against, exposed and ridiculed the wild fantastic projects that were started by the administration party, to remedy existing grievances, growing out of our relations with foreign powers. He shewed their measures were mere temporary, short-lived expedients—not just, efficient and permanent arrangements. He proposed a demonstration, that their interests are measured by their passions, and their patriotic affections narrowed down to mere personal regards. That counter, and every consideration connected with its interests, were to be sacrificed on the altar of selfish ambition. To rule by faction, and gratify that faction by every possible indulgence, whether consistent with the public interests or not, is the maxim of the cabinet. 'Twas this principle which has plunged the nation into a disastrous, unjust and unnecessary war, after oppressing commerce, and sowing the seeds of division and distrust and jealousy, between the several sections of the country, to such a degree as to endanger its union. Mr. Quincy despairing of being able to reform the public morals, of enlarging the public sentiments and of re-infusing life to the nation the spirit which has hitherto preserved its free institutions, has retired from the public stage. His fame will follow him to his retreat and enlighten his obscurity.

MR. PICKERING'S LETTERS.

LETTER I.

To the People of the United States.

Having it in contemplation published to express my sentiments on the enormous LOANS called for by our rulers to enable them to prosecute the war against Britain; it seems proper to make some observations on the matter; for it is just and necessary, the best efforts of every citizen should be used for its effectual support, and its speedy and successful issue; but it is unjust and unnecessary, if it derives its origin from the malevolent and selfish passions; veiled in the garb of our and patriotism—it cannot be so strongly marked with terms of respectation.

MR. MADISON'S WAR. It has been already remarked, that his character, delineated by one of the ablest writers and best citizens of the country, it would be alike unnecessary and improper to travel over his ground. I have long entertained the opinion that the few men who for the last twenty years have moved all the springs of public action, directed all the public measures—and almost all the destinies of our country—in order to involve it in a war with Great Britain—to indulge their inveterate hatred of that country; to subvert the views of France, and to secure to themselves in possession of power. From the passions and prejudices of the people in favour of the French and against the English, which those men so zealously and perseveringly excited, cherished, they are deeply indebted to the power now in their hands. To be true that for many years past the patriots have deemed it sufficient to pronounce him a friend to G. Britain in his language of vulgar and British Tory. And this is the lot of every independent citizen who expresses his abhorrence of the abominable acts of the French, and condemns the mischievous and unwarrantable measures of his own government.

While France assumed and bore the name of a Republic, professing the broadest principles of liberty; and informed as were most men (among the number) as to the nature of French liberty and French republicanism, the American friends of France had an apology for their French partialities; partialities for a sister republic. But a few years were sufficient to show, that in the name of liberty and of republican France, practices the most horrible and meretricious at home, and the most artful and unprincipled projects abroad, in relation to all the neighbouring nations; among them, overture every government and state which bore the name of a republic. But the play of the most detestable tyranny and ambition by France, abated nothing the zeal of a certain portion of her American partisans for her cause. Even when the government of the country, seized by a single tyrant, exhibited the most ferocious, cruel and bloody despotism that ever afflicted christian world—A demonstration of the professions of liberty and republicanism, with which those French tyrants filled the public ear, were false and hollow. The real love of justice and liberty, the friend to the rights of mankind, must instinctively detest tyranny, under every form, however exercised, whether by men, or by a few or by one. Why then do men hate England, and with a probably surpassing their love to France may be accounted for: but the illustration would require more detail than time permits or the occasion requires. Suffice it to say, that this hatred on one hand, and love of subservency on the other, while in their hands, effectually barred the settlement of our differences with Britain. I should speak more cautiously if I said, that the scope and end of these passions, combined with the love of power, originated and have aggravated and maintained these differences. I say further, that the course of their proceedings, their own official documents are so full of unjust and unbecoming, and prejudiced inquirers after truth, has been the inveterate determination of presidents Jefferson and Madison, not to make a general treaty, commencing all the subjects in question with G. Britain, on any terms compatible with her safety and independence; to go still further, and add, on the possibility at the bar of truth—Mr. Jefferson please at the bar of conscience—that amidst a profusion of able professions towards G. Britain, multiplied declarations of a sincere desire to adjust all differences between that country and the U. States; when he had been long carrying on negotiations for a general treaty of amity and commerce with that nation, by ministers in London, to whom by the secretary of state, Mr. Madison, multiplied professions of friendship and conciliation were communicated: Mr. Jefferson avowed to one of his friends (in these words, or words of the same import) "that, in truth, he did not wish for any treaty with G. Britain; this shameless avowal of his British policy appears to have been made about the time when he rejected a treaty which his own favourites, Messrs. Monroe and Pinkney, had negotiated with the British government, and which he lay out before the senate for advice. For, notwithstanding the professed confidence of some, and the indignation of others to his system of negotiation, it was possible the secret might have advised its ratification." Mr. Jefferson well knowing the insurmountable difficulties attending the negotiation of these measures, and the former successful attempts as well as the latter fruitless efforts of his own ministry, to settle it by treaty—it must be apparent to him, highly probable, and almost certain, that G. Britain would renounce its claim of right, and its former treaty stipulation, and solemnly relinquish this practice, of