

Legislature of Maryland.
HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Monday, Dec. 20.
The House met. Present as on Saturday. The proceedings of Saturday were read.

The clerk of the senate delivers the following message: Gentlemen of the H. of Delegates,

The Congress of the United States having passed a law at their last session, entitled, "An act to lay and collect a direct tax within the United States," by which it is enacted, that the quota or portion of the said tax to be paid by the citizens of the State of Maryland, is one hundred and fifty-one thousand six hundred and twenty-three dollars and ninety-four cents; and by the seventh section of the said act it is provided, That each state may pay its quota into the Treasury of the U. States, and thereon shall be entitled to a deduction of 15 per centum, if paid before the tenth day of February next, provided that notice of the intention of making such payment be given to the Secretary of the Treasury one month prior to such payment. Inasmuch, therefore, as the payment by the State of Maryland of its portion of said tax, agreeably to the terms of the act of Congress aforesaid, will not only be a great relief to the citizens of Maryland, by exempting them from the payment thereof, but also save to the state the sum of twenty-two thousand seven hundred and forty-three dollars and fifty-eight cents, and we believe the funds of this State fully adequate to the discharge of the quota aforesaid; and as the senate are constitutionally precluded from originating any bill or resolution necessary for effecting this desirable measure, we can only apprise your honorable house, in this manner, that should a bill pass the house of delegates providing for the payment of the said tax, it will meet with the concurrence of the Senate. Which was read. Adjourned.

Tuesday Dec. 21.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The order for referring to a select committee the resolutions relating to the elections of delegates to the general assembly, was read the second time, and the question put, That the House adopt the said order? Resolved in the affirmative—yeas 37, nays 23.

The house proceeded to ballot for a committee; and the ballots having been counted by the gentlemen appointed for that purpose, it appeared, That Messrs. John H. Thomas, Wilson, Plater, Kilgour and Bayly, were elected.

Mr. Donaldson delivers a bill to incorporate the Patapsco Insurance Company. Read.

Mr. Plater from the committee delivers the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of the president and directors of the Potomac company, beg leave to report to this honorable house—

That they have examined and considered the said petition, and have compared the same with the resolution of the general assembly of Maryland, passed at November session 1812, to which the said petition refers. That from the examination it appears, that the president and directors of the Potomac company have been prevented from obtaining the benefit intended for them by the resolution of the general assembly passed at November session 1812, by two causes.

First—by the construction given by Benjamin Harwood, the trustee of the state, to that resolution, which induced him to insist upon the funds of the said company being pledged, and demanding the requisite bond and security to be given, not for the reimbursement (at the times required by the said resolution) of stock to an equal amount, and of the like kind with that proposed to be loaned by the state, but for a reimbursement of such loan in money of the United States.

Secondly—by the demand of Benjamin Harwood, the trustee, of a bond from the president and directors, with security, so drawn as to charge the obligors in their individual capacities, without expressing any opinion as to the propriety of the demand of Benjamin Harwood as to the first point, and without entertaining any doubt as to the propriety of his demand in the second place stated; your committee are of opinion, that the prayer of the petitioners, so far as relates to the reimbursement of the stock (at the times and in the proportions required by the resolution passed in 1812)

in stock of a similar nature and to the like amount, instead of money, is reasonable and right, and ought to be granted.

That as to the second point, your committee are of opinion that it is unreasonable to pledge their persons and property for the reimbursement of a loan intended to promote a great public object, in which they are interested only in common with others, and in which the state of Maryland itself has a much greater interest than any individual. That as it is unreasonable to ask such a pledge, so it is in vain to expect it. That there is no necessity to ask such security, inasmuch as your committee have no doubt that the funds of the said company pledged (as the petitioners propose,) for the reimbursement of this loan with interest, and the bond the body politic to the same effect, will give to the state the most perfect security for the punctual repayment of the stock so to be loaned, in the time and manner contemplated. They therefore submit to this honorable house the following resolution:

Resolved, That Benjamin Harwood, trustee of the state, be and he is hereby authorized and directed to transfer the thirty thousand dollars of six per cent stock of the United States, (meant and intended to be loaned by the resolution of the general assembly of Maryland, passed the 15th December, 1812,) to the president and directors of the Potomac company, upon their pledging the funds of the said company, and giving the bond of the said corporate body for the reimbursement of the principal, in stock of the like nature with that loaned, by installments of three, four and five years, with interest from the date of the transfer upon the whole amount of principal remaining unpaid, such interest to be paid annually, and in money of the U. States.

By order,
JOHN STEVENS, jr. clk.
Which was read.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

ANNAPOLIS, SATURDAY, DEC. 25, 1813.

Although to profess astonishment at any absurdity which the impulse of party might prompt, would betray but little knowledge of the stupid malignity which ever marks the character of demagogues, yet we are compelled to acknowledge, that the course recommended by some of our leading democrats, relative to the election of the executive, has caused us to pause and to wonder. Men high in office, clothed with judicial power, the constitutional guardians and conservators of the peace; men qualified too to discern the true interests of the community, and but for the malignant influences under which they labour, competent to aid in the preservation of order, have unblushingly stepped forward and lent their aid in the promotion of discord, the prostration of all constituted authority. We have seen, unmoved, your insignificant & eternal brawlers about rights and principles, straining every nerve in their mock exertions to excite a spirit of discontent and insubordination, but the sovereign contempt with which we regarded their impotent malignity, forbade our harbouring any suspicions of the desperate game in contemplation, until we saw men, whom we believed among the most respectable of the party, professing similar opinions and advocating similar measures. But the spirit of Democracy possesses such an astonishing power of amalgamation, that it can collect the respectable and the worthless into one brotherhood, wherein all moral distinctions are lost and forgotten, and political astuteness and craft is the only passport to preferment. In such a community all regard to moral right will soon slumber even in the bosoms of those disposed from habit and education to respect it. Some baleful spirit, whose gross vulgarity and hardy dogmatism may have acquired to him an irresistible influence in the association,

Like a mildew'd ear blasting its wholesome brother

has but to point out the course to be pursued, and the dangers and consequences with which it may be beset are at once forgotten or disregarded. To such a presiding influence we attribute the otherwise unaccountable conduct of some men, whose standing in society had acquired them respect, and whose official stations were a kind of guarantee against their becoming the advocates of misrule and confusion. We forbear to name them, from a respect to ourselves, and from a determination long since formed, and hitherto pertinaciously adhered to, not to pollute our columns with personal invective unless political justice should imperiously demand it. From other motives too we abstain from personal irritations, as we wish rather to convince the understanding than to excite the resentments of our opponents. A contrary course would tend to rivet them more closely to their errors, and would in no wise subserve the interests of the holy cause in which we consider ourselves engaged. But if an honest appeal to men, honestly differing with us, could awaken them to a sense of their errors, we would inquire, can they believe the high priests of democracy fit ministers of the temple when they would impiously prostrate the altar to gratify a desperate resentment and relieve a deep rooted mortification?

Is there any reasonable man of the party, in his moments of calm reflection, when the bitterness of his disappointment has subsided, who would have the hardihood to justify the senate had they refused to go into the election of an executive, because the other-branch of the legislature, in the exercise of a constitutional right, had dared to differ from them. To put to hazard the dearest interests of the state, to subvert the constitution, perhaps to introduce a civil war, merely to soothe the feelings of a few mortified office-hunters, whose only claim to public favour is a prescriptive right to the enjoyment of certain emoluments, derived from offices to which they had been most unfortunately inducted, and from which they have been most deservedly expelled. And yet we know such a proceeding was most strongly recommended, and to the exertions of a few men of reflection, are we indebted for the preservation of the constitution and the state. Let the people judge of the desperate hopes of democracy by the desperate means which it proposes; at a proper season we will be more particular upon this subject.

In reading over the debate on a bill introduced into the legislature of New-Jersey (see first page of this paper) to discharge her quota of the direct tax laid by congress, out of the funds of the state, we were irresistibly drawn to make a partial comparison between that state and Maryland. Instead of voting away the funds of the state, which had been long in accumulating, for the object which was proposed, it seems to have been contended by some very sensible members opposed to the bill, that their fellow-citizens would derive greater benefit by applying any surplus funds in the treasury to state purposes, than by appropriating them in the manner contemplated by the bill. But others whose views extend only to the immediate promotion of selfish and party purposes, strenuously maintained, that as the purse-strings of the treasury were in their own hands, they had the right to dispose of it as they pleased, and therefore would appro-

appropriate it in support of the civil and criminal war in which we are now engaged. It would seem to be the policy of any state, which has a capital to any considerable amount at its disposal, to direct it as much as possible to internal improvements.

Here the establishment of schools for the general diffusion of knowledge, would strike a wise legislature as an object of the greatest importance. For it is only by cultivating the understandings, improving the minds of every class of citizens, and inculcating the principles of virtue among them, that we have any reason to calculate upon a long continuance of our republican institutions. That an object of this magnitude has been too much and too long neglected by the legislature of this state, as it is described to have been by that of New-Jersey, is to be lamented; but it is to be hoped, that even in the present embarrassing situation of the state, they will not suffer it to escape their attention. In New-Jersey the poorer class of people are said to be brought up in such total ignorance from the want of a little legislative aid, that in several districts they can neither read nor write; and it is a melancholy fact, that we find many sections of this state, which is acknowledged to be richer in funds than any of her sister states, where the light of education has never been known to diffuse its rays.

The ravages made by democracy upon some of our literary institutions, is another source of regret to men actuated by liberal and virtuous motives; but as the ignorant and perverse are tools in the hands of demagogues, that can be moulded and wielded to answer the worst purposes of faction, it is not extraordinary that they should have improved the first opportunity to check the prosperity of establishments which promised to become ornaments to the state which had bestowed its patronage on them. Even the law itself, enacted upon the pure principles of justice, was found too weak to oppose the inroads they had long meditated upon these sources of knowledge. Although the prospects of New-Jersey might not have been blasted by the genius of faction, whose breath is poison to every valuable improvement which falls within its reach, to the same degree as those of this state were, yet the picture which has been drawn of the melancholy condition of a certain class of citizens in that state, which until lately has altogether escaped the notice of their legislature, differs but little from that in which many of our own citizens may be seen at this time.

The state may not possess the ability to make any considerable appropriations for improving and enlightening her citizens, while this unnecessary and ruinous war calls for such heavy expenditures for state defence, yet if the foundation could be laid, the superstructure might be completed when she is relieved from those difficulties which at this time oppress her. Much better would it be, that any unappropriated money now in the treasury should be applied to benevolent purposes, such as would be the immediate result of disseminating knowledge among the poor, than in voting it away to the U. S. to secure the influence and popularity of that party, whose measures have already brought ruin on thousands, and covered the country with disgrace. Charity ought always to begin at home, and as the general government has refused the state of Maryland that aid which the consti-

tution authorized her in demanding, surely the legislature will be justified in withholding her funds from the grasp of the president.

For the Maryland Gazette.

They tell me, Mr. Editor, that the state legislature are about to pay the taxes for the rich landholders. I should not be surpris'd after this, if they were to undertake to pay the taxes upon carriages too, so as to exempt the rich from paying taxes altogether. If the treasury be so full of money, why not try to relieve the poor people, instead of the rich, and pay the tax upon salt, instead of the tax upon land? I suppose the rich are to have their taxes paid, in order that they may loan their money to the government in order to continue this wicked and ruinous war, and the poor are made to pay taxes that they may be stripped of every thing they have, and forced to go into the army, to be whipped and kicked about by every man who can mount an epaulet. And is this the way that the people are to be treated by the men who are elected by themselves? I hope not. JEREMIAH.

For the Maryland Gazette.

If we are to judge of them by the democratic prints, our republican senators have been guilty of the most outrageous and treasonable conduct, and merely too, because they have done what the constitution positively commanded them to do. To be sure this might have been done with a better grace; and as they could not avoid going into the appointment of a governor, it was not altogether so proper to delay it till the last hour, as if they would, if they could, have gratified the wishes of the mob of Baltimore; but then it was better late than never. Now some people are curious to know, what notice is to be taken of the floods of abuse that have been let loose against the senate; for if it should be passed over without notice, whether such magnanimous conduct proceeds from a sort of consciousness that the abuse is well applied? What will the good people of Maryland think of the senate, if they should patiently endure to be told, (with the exception of some two or three or four) that they are a set of pultoons and swindlers, and other things, too tedious to mention? ENQUIRY.

To the Printer,

SIR,

I have been most miserably treated, and must get you to lay my grievances before the public. It is true I had grown dissatisfied with the times, and had determined to give my vote to peace-men, in hopes of better times. But some very good patriots, as they told me that they were, called upon me, and said I was wrong, for that the people were getting full of the war and war-men, and there would be scarcely one peace-man in the house of Assembly. Out of pure friendship, therefore, they advised me to support the war men, and even assured me, if I did that they would secure me a very snug office for my services. Fool as I was, I believed this, and sure of being well paid for it, I declared myself a war-man, and that none but Tories and British agents would oppose the most righteous war that ever was waged.

Now, however, it seems that the majority of the people are the other way; and notwithstanding every thing we could say, and every lie we could tell them, would believe that this war was ruinous to them, and to the country. My office, therefore, is lost, and nothing is left to me but to regret my own folly, and that I should make myself the dupe of those who thus deceived me. My only consolation now is, that others are as much disappointed as myself, and as I am to get nothing by professing myself a friend to the war and Mr. Madison, it is a pleasure to me to tell you, my declarations heretofore to the contrary notwithstanding, that I do think this most iniquitous war, and that the people of America deserve to be ridden rough-shod, if they give their support any longer.

TOM TUMBLE.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Frederick Town to a member of the General Assembly.

"Ravings, threatening, and long faces, grace our city; but strange to tell, not against the Federalists, but against the Senate of Maryland. The Political Examiner, which I send you, is but a faint resemblance of the threats held out by the blooded Jacobins; tar and feather, lamp-posts, the point of the bayonet,

is but part of the punishment those senators are sentenced to suffer, by their good friends who had the prudence to act right. All this, you will suppose, that any man is collecting to carry their throats into effect; no such thing—the present demagogues from the country have had its effect on the country; it has had its effect on the Farmer; it has had its effect on the horse; it has had its effect on the cold fingers, and sullens his cold fingers, and sullen passes through town."

From the Political Examiner.

WHY TELL IT NOT IN GATH? Contrary to public expectation; contrary to repeated & solemn protestations; and in total disregard of the rights of constituents, the senate of Maryland has, with a pusillanimity disgusting & contemptible at the present crisis, associated its acts with those of the usurpers from Allegany, assisted them to saddle the backs of the people with a federal executive for another year. From such a "deeming spirit" may heaven deliver us. The people have been brazenly kept out of their most sacred rights by the federalists, and deserted and betrayed by their own "well-wishers"—they have leaned against a brick inadequate to their support, which, in its fall, has overwhelmed and destroyed them. The senate chamber, in which we sought safety and protection, has proved the grave of our liberties—with the forfeiture of their honor, the senators have forfeited all claim to confidence. Weak, temporising and effeminate members of that heretofore respectable body, who agreed to become the disgraceful and submissive tools of an intemperate and intolerant faction, shall feel what it is to excite the indignation of freemen—they shall find that they have

"Part in every honest hand a whip, To lash the APOSTATES naked through the world."

After this flagrant abandonment of duty, by a portion of the senate, it remains for those who have stood honest and firm, to enter a vigorous protest against the proceedings, vacate their seats, and leave to a convention the restoration of public justice.

That a convention should be called at the present moment, is, we believe, the general wish of the people—and that such a measure is both justifiable and expedient, must be evident to every man acquainted with the flagitious conduct of the Tories. The people created and can destroy—and should destroy, when they see the temple they erected seized upon and entered by violence and villany.

From the National Intelligencer.

December 21.

Yesterday about 2 o'clock, the injunction was removed from the late congressional proceedings of the two houses of congress, the following act made public.

AN ACT

Laying an Embargo on all ships vessels in the ports and harbours of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That an embargo be, and hereby is laid on all ships and vessels in the ports and places within the limits or jurisdiction of the U. S. and the territories thereof, cleared or not cleared; and that no clearance be furnished to any ship or vessel, except vessels coastwise, with their necessary stores, under the immediate direction of the President of the United States; and that the President be authorized to give such instructions to the officers of the revenue, and of the army, and of the private armed vessels and revenue cutters of the U. S. as shall appear best adapted for carrying the same into full effect; and that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the departure of any foreign ship or vessel, in ballast, with her necessary sea-stores, and with the goods, wares and merchandise, other provisions, military and naval stores on board of such foreign vessel when notified of this act by the officers and crews shall comply with such foreign regulations as may be required by the U. S. at the time of the arrival of such ship or vessel in the U. S. which shall not have nor take aboard for the voyage any citizen of the U. S. except such as may be permitted under the authority and direction of the president of the United States. And all public armed vessels possessing public commissions for foreign power, are not to be considered as liable to the embargo by this act.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, that if any person or persons shall place or load on board any