

result, you are competent to judge
of it. [N. Y. Gaz.]

From the N. Y. Gazette.
It is with the most poignant regret, we learn, that the late rumours relative to negotiations for an armistice, are entirely without foundation, and that the flag lately sent to the British squadron, related merely to the exchange of prisoners, as did the late correspondence between our government and Sir Geo. Prevost.

The following letter will be read with interest, because it is from the pen of Mr. Harper. It was written to an old friend of Mr. H's who is now in congress on the side of administration.

Annapolis, Jan. 16, 1814.

I received by the last mail, at this place, my dear sir, your kind letter of the 12th, enclosing your address, which I have read with very particular satisfaction. It expresses the sentiments of a candid, enlightened and patriotic mind, and is precisely what I should have wished myself to say, had I entertained the same view of public affairs with you.

It gives me great pleasure however, to find that our views do not much differ. Your sentiments, except in the single point of approving the declaration of war, completely accord with mine, and belong wholly to that political system which we denominate "federalism," as understood by its most enlightened and distinguished adherents. If I concurred with you in believing that the war was properly declared, I should think with you that the administration ought to be supported in it, whatever might be their mode of carrying it on; until at least it should become manifest, that they were incapable of conducting it, or determined not to put an end to it till compelled. On these two last points I am already satisfied. But I give you a year longer to reflect on them. If you do not then agree with me in opinion, I must give you another year.

When I say however that I do not approve the declaration of war, I do not by any means intend to say, that it was undertaken from corrupt motives. Far from it. I never have doubted that the great mass of its authors & supporters were actuated by public motives, and believe themselves to be consulting the public interest. In this number of Jefferson, of whom I have a much worse opinion, and whom I consider as the author of the war system. But I do most firmly believe, that the motives which actuated those gentlemen, and their principal associates, were never such as they have avowed; that they never cared two pence about free trade and sailors rights, which were mere pretences; that the war was resolved on in 1805 or 1806; and that its real objects were to assist France in breaking down the maritime power of England; which those gentlemen had brought themselves to consider as conducive to the true interests of this country.

Had they freely avowed their motives, I should have considered and treated them as honourable and patriotic men, who had honestly adopted an erroneous system in politics. They would have had my opposition and my respect. My resentment and abhorrence towards them is founded on the conviction, produced by a long and minute attention to their political conduct, that they have cheated the nation under false pretences into a war, to which it would never have submitted, had the real motives been avowed or understood.

As to Mr. Madison I admitted this opinion slowly, and reluctantly. I imbibed an early respect for his character, founded on his public conduct, before I ever saw him. I also partook largely of the admiration which his talents in early life inspired. Soon after my entrance into public life, I changed my opinion of him as a politician. Still admiring his intellectual powers and attainments, and respecting highly his personal character, I found or thought I found him to be a visionary theorist, qualified to shine in the speculations of the closet, but the slave of passion, prejudice and party spirit, and totally unfit for the administration of any government. All my subsequent knowledge of him, confirmed this opinion. Still I knew him to be an amiable and upright man in private life, and believed him to be honourable and sincere, though visionary, feeble, and narrow sighted in his political character. This opinion to which I strongly adhered, has been gradually giving ground since the year 1805. It

was very much weakened before he rejected the armistice offered by the British government, on the repeal of the orders in council. That event totally changed it, and every public act of Mr. Madison's since, has added force to the new opinion of him which I then reluctantly adopted. Had he accepted that armistice, and made peace, as I have no doubt that he might have done, on terms not only safe and honourable, but satisfactory to the nation, I should have pardoned his former errors, and done all in my power to bring my friends into the support of his administration.

The opposite course, which he then took, convinced me that the real objects of the war, however patriotic they might have appeared to him and his most efficient supporters, were fraught with the utmost danger to the interests of this country; and that nothing was left for its real friends, but by a steady and vigorous opposition to drive him from power. It was not in my opinion, a question of wealth, or commerce, or prosperity. These were minor considerations, with me at least; for I knew that our wealth, however diminished, would still be sufficient, and even thought that we had grown too rich, and too fast for our real happiness. We were the spoiled children of fortune. Our too great prosperity had made us rampant and riotous, and was fast making us selfish, mercenary and effeminate. Neither was it a question of the evils and sufferings of war, for I never believed that they would be so great as they were supposed by many, nor thought that it was necessary, as we all admit, that it must sometimes be, ought to be shunned on account of its evils and sufferings. I moreover think that war has its good side as well as its bad, its benefits as well as its mischiefs, and that it is useful for every nation, at least once in each succeeding generation, to be engaged in war. It represses the little vices and brings forward the great virtues of the human character. It accustoms men to submit to privations & suffering for the sake of principle or of honour. It calls them off from the pursuit of gain, and engages them in the pursuit of glory. It raises talents and courage above mere wealth. It imparts a vigour and energy to the national character, which continue after the war is over, and animate all the pursuits of peace. Hence the most flourishing and distinguished nations, in modern as well as ancient times, have always been those that fought most frequently. It was, therefore, not on account of its losses or calamities chiefly that I deprecated the war.

Still less was it with me a question of power, for I had no wish to engage in public life myself, and I can say the same, from my personal knowledge, concerning the chief men of the party with which I am connected. All that we desired was to see the country well governed; and if that object were attained, we should have preferred seeing the government in the hands of Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Madison, and their friends, as being most likely to please the mass of the people, many of whom had conceived prejudices, most unfounded indeed, but very strong against the opposite party.

But my invincible objection to the war, my dread and horror on the subject of it, arose from a thorough conviction of its necessary and inevitable tendency to chain us to the chariot wheels of Buonaparte, to bind us to his alliance, to ingulph us in the bottomless pit of his dominion, and reduce us to the condition of all the vassal nations whom he has deluded and devoured. I believed, and still firmly believe, that had he been successful in Europe, as was confidently expected here when the war was declared, this country would have been at this moment effectually, and very soon avowedly, under his dominion. His minister here would have been as absolute as the French minister was at Berlin or Munich; and our government would have been the humble and passive instrument of his dominion. His edicts would have assumed for a while the form of acts of congress, but that would soon have been laid aside, and all who dared to resist would have been destroyed by popular violence, or military execution; would have shared the fate of De Witt or of Palm.

That the authors of this war, in general, intended to produce such effects I by no means believe. But, in such cases, insatiation does as much as wickedness, and sometimes even more; and when I see how

many other countries have had French chains riveted upon them by their own hands, how they own folly, prejudices and passions have been used as the instruments of their subjection and slavery, and observe the same course commenced, the same means used here, and the same causes in operation, I cannot but believe that the result would have been the same. I hope we should have made a struggle, but we should have had our own government against us, with all the pains and penalties of treason in its hands, and must have commenced the struggle with halters about our necks.

I say that I do not by any means consider the authors of this war, in general, intending to produce such effects: but I cannot acquit them universally. When I see the most bawling patriots, in so many other countries, uniformly assuming the character of French partisans, wherever a fit occasion occurred, and uniformly becoming the humblest, blindest, and most active instruments of French despotism, in hopes of being rewarded by a part of the spoils of their fellow citizens, or a sort of subordinate government of their enslaved country, can I suppose that the same description of persons are not prepared, in due time, to act a similar part here, or have not been induced by the hope of seeing such a time arrive, to join in the measures calculated to bring it? I confess I cannot. When so many wolves in sheep's clothing have been found in other countries, can we believe that there are none here? Can we doubt, for instance, that a man who should move in congress to subject American citizens universally to martial law, under the pretence of treating them as spies, in open violation and contempt of the constitution, and to the utter extinguishment of civil liberty, would hesitate to move and vote, on a suitable occasion, that any man in the nation should be shot and his property confiscated, who might be denounced by the French minister, or any of his creatures, as a spy, a traitor, a British partisan, or an enemy to the august emperor and King, our great and good ally?

Such, my dear friend, were my reasons for opposing the war with all my might, and for striving to put an end to it, by the only means depending in any degree upon us, which I believe can be effectual—the expulsion of Mr. Madison and his friends from power. These reasons I admit have lost much of their force, by the overthrow of Buonaparte in Russia, and still more by his recent defeat. It was therefore that I rejoiced in those events, with a joy, exceedingly great. My heart, I confess, is lighter now. I care little about the war, for I consider the poisonous tooth of the serpent as drawn. He may draw our blood by his bite, but he cannot infect our veins. Let the war therefore rage, till its authors are contented or fatigued. Let them be supplied with the treasure of the nation, and lavish its blood, till the nation is scourged into reason and soberness; or till through their own futility and incapacity, the reins drop from their hands. I shall sleep in quiet, for I no longer foresee exile or a scaffold for myself nor slavery for my children. I will cheerfully bear my part of the burdens, and take my share of the fatigues and dangers, of a war which I consider as foolish merely, but no longer dangerous. Our liberty, our constitution have been rescued on the plains of Russia and Saxony; and when peace returns, we shall soon repair the trivial losses of property which we have sustained, or may be still destined to sustain, and which are mere dust in the balance, compared with our liberties and constitution.

Such being my views of the war, you will perceive that it was not so much to the war itself as to its time and attending circumstances that I objected. Those circumstances gave it, in my judgment, all its venom. Although I consider the aggressions and injuries of France as incomparably greater than those of England, and think that we ought to have chosen her as the object of our attack on that ground alone, yet in the ordinary state of Europe, I would not have submitted to one half of what we suffered from either. I would have gone to war with England in 1793, if she had not then done us justice; because then the balance of power still existed, and the war could not have endangered our liberty. I did promote a war against France in 1793, by which she was induced to do us justice; & I would have fought England about her interruption of the colonial trade and her

orders in council, in 1806 and 1808, if I had not considered her as the bulwark of national independence at that time; and believe that to weaken or embarrass her, by any attack or quarrel, was to assist in paving the way for our own destruction. I would have armed against the Berlin decree in 1807, which would, in all probability, have saved our national honor, prevented the British orders in council, produced the repeal of the Berlin decree, preserved our peace, and protected our commerce.

As to the proper manner of carrying on the war, and the true system of our national defence, your opinions and mine precisely accord. That a contrary system has been at all times obstinately pursued, on both heads, appears to me to be a decisive proof of the infatuation, sinister views, or utter incapacity of those who have governed us for fourteen years.

I find, my dear friend, that my letter has insensibly grown into a speech. As I am to make one soon in public, upon an analogous subject, you must not be surprised if you should see the substance of this in print. In the meantime, and always believe me, my dear sir, truly and affectionately yours.

(Signed)
ROBERT G. HARPER.

MASSACHUSETTS ELECTION.

The returns from 464 towns, give
For Mr. Strong, 56,245
Mr. Dexter, 44,969
The same towns, in 1813, gave
For Mr. Strong, 56,114,
For Mr. Varnum 42,375.

A packet from Admiral Cockburn, containing despatches for government, was received by the commandant of this port on Sunday evening, the 17th inst.

[New York Herald.]

NEW-YORK, April 17.

The Car of Neptune arrived yesterday morning in 21 hours and a half from Albany. Among the passengers, were Gov. TOMPKINS, and General WINDER.

The general belief is, that Gen. WINDER, and other prisoners, have been exchanged, or released, and that he is the bearer of Despatches from Gov. Prevost.—It is certain, that the General proceeded to the seat of government yesterday, a few hours after having arrived in town.

From the Vermont Journal.
James Anthony who was to have been executed at Rutland on Thursday the 14th inst. for the murder of Joseph Green, committed the crime of suicide, by hanging himself in the prison on the morning of that day!

From a late London Paper.
MRS. MARY ANN CLARKE.

This lady was yesterday brought up to the Court of King's Bench, to receive judgment for a libel on the Right Hon. W. Fitzgerald, imputing to him the seduction of his friend's wife; the sending of that friend, by his influence, to an unhealthy climate, with a view of obtaining his death, and the administration of deleterious drugs to the object of his guilty amours, for the purpose of procuring abortion. An affidavit of the Defendant was then put in and read, in which she began by expressing her sorrow that she had been betrayed into any breach of the laws; but she had been in the habits of the closest intimacy with the Plaintiff's father; that during their intimacy a great number of letters passed between them—that he had introduced his son to her when she had influence, and desired her patronage in his favor, and that she rendered him several important services. Afterwards, when a certain investigation took place before the House of Commons, Mr. Fitzgerald came to her and implored that she would give the letters which he had written to her, that she accordingly gave up his letters which were destroyed in his presence, and that she also confided to him papers, and a letter, which contained a promise of patronage from a high personage for her son. After Mr. F. had obtained the destruction of his own letters, and had got her papers, he altogether withdrew himself and absolutely refused to deliver back the letters which she had trusted to his care. That angered by such treatment, she had been induced to write the libel in question, and not with any view of sordid purposes. She concluded by stating that she was the mother of a family, and had

daughters, whom she was educating in the paths of virtue, who would be deprived of her fostering care, if she should be sent into a lute and confinement. Mr. Attorney-General then addressed the Court, and observed, it would be difficult to say, in the multitude of libels which are issued; that any one was the worst—but certainly the present libel was most pre-eminently audacious, for it represented a gentleman of high respectability, not merely unworthy of the rank and station of life which he filled, but accused him of crimes which rendered him unfit for the society of men. Mr. Parke and Mr. Scarlett followed on the same side. Mr. Brougham for the Defendant, observed, that the present was distinguished from the case of a political libel, although it attacked a man in a political sphere. It appeared—it was sworn, and not contradicted, and therefore must be taken for truth—that there was a delicate connexion between the Prosecutor's father and the Defendant, that it descended to his son, and became a sort of family connexion. It was also stated, that for a time there was great intimacy—and not a reciprocity of benefits—for the services were all rendered by one party. That the present Prosecutor was introduced to the Defendant as to one who, in her then situation, could advance his views in life. All this was uncontradicted by the Prosecutor. Neither had he denied that he had suppressed an important letter committed to his charge. And it was in anger for the injuries that the Defendant had been induced to publish the libel which she now deplored.—The learned counsel deprecated any severe judgment on her head. The Defendant was sentenced to 9 months imprisonment in the King's Bench Prison.

W. Mitchell, for printing the same was sentenced to four months imprisonment.

Mrs. Clarke had on a rich muslin gown, a scarlet velvet spencer profusely trimmed with broad white lace, a small straw hat, and white lace veil. On entering Court she threw her veil back, and supported the ardent gaze of the young Barristers with the greatest composure.—She received the judgment of the Court with perfect unconcern; and on retiring bowed to their Lordships most gracefully and descendingly. The Court, and all the avenues to it, as well as Westminster-hall, was crowded at an early hour of the morning, with persons anxious to obtain a view of this celebrated female.

Mrs. Clarke no sooner reached her new apartments in Marshalsea, than with her usual pleasantry, she issued the following card to her fashionable friends:—"Mrs. M. A. CLARKE at HOME every evening, till further notice."

OBITUARY.

DIED—In Baltimore, on Saturday morning last, after a painful illness of four days, Mrs. SARAH WILKINS, aged 72, consort of William Wilkins, Esq.

May 17, 1814.

By virtue of a decree of the chancery court of Maryland, passed in the cause of Cadwallader Edwards and Philip Rogers against George W. Higgins, the subscriber will expose to Public Sale, on the premises, on Tuesday the 17th day of May next, if fair, if not the next fair day thereafter.

A valuable tract or parcel of land lying and being in Anne Arundel county, called and known by the name of "Linthcum's Walk," containing about 200 acres, whereon Cadwallader Edwards formerly resided. This land lies on the main road leading from all the lower counties to Baltimore, also on the road leading from Annapolis to the City of Washington, and is considered as one of the most eligible situations in the county for a tavern, & for a country store and blacksmith shop. The land is fertile, and well adapted for the cultivation of tobacco, corn, and all kinds of small grain.—There is about 20 acres of good meadow land, and about 12 or 15 acres more may be made of superior quality, with but little expense.—There is a dwelling house and convenient out houses, together with two large barns almost new, and a sufficiency of woodland; also an excellent orchard.—It is deemed unnecessary to give a further description of this property, as it is presumed those who wish to purchase will view the same previous to the sale. The terms of sale are, that the purchaser is to give bond to the trustee, with good security, for the payment of the purchase money within twelve months from the day of sale, with interest, and on payment of the purchase money the subscriber will give a deed. Sale to commence at 12 o'clock.

Louis Gassaway, Trustee.
April 23. 3w.

B. CURRAN.
Begs leave to inform the citizens and the public generally, that he has received a variety of articles in the

Dry Good Way,
suitable for the present & approaching season, all of which he will sell low for cash, and as usual to punctual customers.

Annapolis April 28, 1814. t.f.

Chancery Sale.

In consequence of bad weather the sale advertised by the subscriber, for 23d April, has been postponed until Friday 6th May, or the next fair day thereafter, when in virtue of a decree of the high court of chancery, will be offered at Public Sale, at M. Coy's Tavern, the following tracts of land, lying on Elk-Ridge, in Anne-Arundel county,

The First Discovery,
Containing by patent 334 acres of land situated near Elk Ridge Landing, on the road between Baltimore and Washington, and adjacent to the lands of Dr. Hopkins and Mrs. Hammond.

The Second Discovery,
Containing 116 acres, adjacent to M. Coys Tavern, and crossing both the Washington and Annapolis roads at that place.

The Resurvey on the Grecian Siege,

Contiguous to the lands of Dr. Dorsey and Luther Martin, Esq. and containing, by a recent resurvey, 229 1/2 acres of land. These tracts are unimproved and covered with wood, but from the known value of the adjacent lands, it is presumed that the soil would be susceptible of great improvement, and from their proximity to the Baltimore market they will be well worth the attention of purchasers.—The Second Discovery would also present an excellent stand for a tavern. The terms of sale as prescribed by the decree, are, that the purchaser shall give bond with approved security, for payment of the purchase money with interest from the day of sale, in six, twelve, and eighteen months, and on payment of the whole shall receive a deed from the trustee. The title is indisputable, and all other information relative to the quality and situation of the land, can be obtained on application to Mr. Roderick Dorsey, at Dorsey's Forge, Elk Ridge.
Henry M. Murray, Trustee.
April 28, 1814.

30 Dollars Reward,

Will be given by the subscriber, to any person who will detect the villain who broke open the door of the Representative Hall, a short time since, and stole away about 35 yards of green baize, a green shift curtain, several pair of candle snuffers, and a few other small articles.

CALEB STEUART.
April 28.

A Private Tutor

WANTED.
A person qualified to instruct children in mathematics and the English language grammatically, and can produce unexceptionable recommendations of his moral character, will meet with handsome encouragement by applying to the subscriber at the head of Severn, about eleven miles from Annapolis.
Philip Hammond.
April 29. 3w.

NOTICE.

The Commissioners of the Tax for Anne Arundel county will meet on the 6th day of June next, for hearing appeals, &c. agreeably to an act assembly passed at November session 1812.
By order
H. S. HALL, Clk. Com.
Tax A. A. county.
April 21.

For Sale & Exchange.

A Water Mill, and other houses, 100 or 363 acres of land. Cash property in or near the City of Baltimore, may be received in part payment, and a credit (with approved security) given for the balance. The Mill is on a good stream, and plaster of Paris suits the soil. The property may be viewed on application to
Edmund Brice.
April 21. 4w.

REMOVAL.

NICHOLAS J. WATRINS respectfully informs his friends and the public, that he has removed his Shop to the one formerly occupied by Mr. George Wells, and opposite the City Hotel, where he carries on the TAYLORING BUSINESS in all its branches.
He has on hand, and constantly keeps, an Assortment of Broad Cloths, Vestings, Nankeens Jeans, &c. &c. which he can dispose of on the best terms.
April 14. 5w.