MARYLAND GAZETTE

Annapolis, Thursday, Jan. 15.

Extract of a letter from a distinguished gentleman on the Eastern Shore, to a member of the House of Delegates of Maryland, dated January 10, 1818.

"The proposed alteration of the constitutional organization of the Senate, has induced me to extract the judicious and sensible remarks of William Smith on that subject.

They correspond fully with my own sentiments; and permit me to say, it is astonishing, in a time of profound peace, and after the experience of furty years, that so valuable a feature of the constitution should be now assailed. That a principle of government, once the pride & boast of federalism, should now be destroyed by federalists! If we do not improve in the science of government, we surely ought not to make retrogade movements. To this epinion of Mr. Smith, so eloquently and favourably expressed,

in favour of this feature of our constitution, might be added the unqualified approbation of the illustrious Hamilton, in that text book of every man who wishes to understand and appreciate the character and merits of his own government -"The Federalist."

An extract from "a comparative view of the constitutions of the several states with each other, &c. by William Smith of South Carolina. Page 15 & 16. The conduct of the State of

Maryland has long borne testimony to the w sdom displayed in its constitutional organization. The appointment of electors, for the express purpose of choosing the senators, the oath they take to select men most distinguished for their wisdom, talents and virtues, their yoting by ballot, free from all influence, and the duration of five years, are almost peculiar to the constitution of this state, and are the best means to ensure a well constituted senate. Upon several occasions their integrity and firmness have withstood the dangerous and tumultuous shocks of the more numerous branch; and though they have, at the moment, been the subjects of popular indignation, yet returning reason and moderation have always rewarded them with the public esteem and affection. The features in other institutions, which most resemble this, are the appointment by electors of state senators in Kentucky, and of federal senators by the state legislatures, and of the President and Vice President of the United States by electors. In the other states, the election of senators immediately by the people, is not only liable to cabal, but makes the senators too dependent on leading and intriguing characters in the several districts. As the senate is intended to be a check on the popular branch, it ought to be constituted in some mode different from the other. Mr. Jefferson, in his notes on Virginia, p. 126, condemns the constitution of that state for having overlooked this important circumstance. He makes the following iudicious observations: "I he senate is, by its constitution, too homois geneous with the House of Dele-" gates. Being chosen by the same " electors, at the same time, and " out of the same subjects, the " choice falls of course on men of "the same description. The pur-"pose of establishing different houses of legislation, is to intro-" duce the influence of different insterests on different principles. "We do not, therefore, derive, " from the separation of our legis-"lature into two houses, those 6 benefits which a proper complica-"tion of principles is capable of " producing, and those, which alone can compensate the evils which " may be produced by their dissen-

In Maryland and Kentucky alone, the mode of choosing by electors prevails. In other countries, the upper or checking branch may emanate from some source, other than the people; but with us, all power most flow mediately or immediately from the same source; in order, therefore, to invigorate this branch with an adequate checking power, it A necessary that it should be less dependent on the people than the popular branch; this can only be done either by electors, or by the people, modified and restricted by particular qualifications. The Marylaul and Kentucky mode appears the best. The time of greatest danger in republics, is when the Thomas Woolford, to Miss Margaviolent passions which agitate the ret Lecompte, all of Cambridge, people, nave of possession of the Dorchester county.

popular branch, which will comnouly be the case, while annual elections prevail; If the senute be elected immediately by the people, it is not to be doubted, that gene. rally the same passions will pervade the senate, and render all checks ineffectual. The longer duration of the senate, which exists in many of the states, is certainly a considerable remedy to this evil.

The constitution of Maryland was made during the war, and it is therefore surprising it sould have contained such a judicious arrangement, in respect to the senate."

For the Maryland Gazette.

My attention was excited by reading an article in a Baltimore Gazette, on the subject of connecting the Atlantic with the great South Sea, by a cut or canal, from a place near Porto Bello to the bay of Panama, said to be a distance of only about five leagues.

The practicability of this stupen-

deous scheme, requires a minute to-

pographical knowledge of that part

of the country, which we do not at present possess, but should the attempt be made, and prove success. ful, and no rocks or stone be found in the bed of the opening to impede the free passage of the waters, I think I hazard but little in saying, that a few years would produce a change upon a considerable portion of the globe, far exceeding, in magnitude and extent, any thing that could be effected by the combined skill and efforts of the human race in any other part of the world. The theory upon this subject is like others of a similar nature, not susceptible of satisfactory demonstration; but before it shall be pronounced ridiculously extrayagant, the following facts and deductions would seem to merit consideration. It is well known, that what is called the

trade wind, blows in the Atlantic ocean, tetween the tropics affont the eastward the greater part of the year; this combined with other causes, forces into the gulf of Mexico an immense accumulation of water, whose height probably exceeds, by some forty or fifty fathoms, the level of the sea on the other side of the isthmus. This vast body of water, thus raised, must disembogue by a vent some way, to make room for the waves continually rolled upon it, and this manifestly cannot be done within the tropics, but is performed by taking an oblique direction, with prodigious force through the gulf of Florida, forming what is called the "gulf stream," depositing in its course, along our coast, an alluvion particuof North Carolina, and whose influence is apparent far beyond the banks of Newfoundland. Thus far we rely upon correct data; then let us offer conjecture as to what would in part be the consequent result of making this opening between the two great oceans. One must un-

questionably be admitted to be much higher than the other, the higher of course would press for its level at ge, and bring the two level, which would entirely destroy the gulfstream; consequently, might we not look for new islands starting up in the Wess Indies, a diminution of the waters along our southern coasts, and a material sinking of the beds of all the great rivers that fall into the gulf of Mexico. The Mississippi, for instance, would soon discharge itself by one mouth only, its lower shores gradually acquire a more relative elevation, and finally cease to overflow its banks, even so high up as New Orleans. Without further extending our remarks, might we not also anticipate, that this opening once made, the waters'alone,

> India several thousand leagues. LA PEYRÔUSE.

> > MARRIED.

would effect a navigable passage,

which would shorten a voyage to

In Phila lelphia on Wednesday evening, 31st December, by the Rev. Dr. Wilson, John Thomas, esq. of West River, Md. & Miss Elizabeth Murray, daughter of Com. Alexander Murray,

-, In Baltimore, on Tuesday evening, 6th January, by the Rev. Mr. Richards Edmund B. Duvall, esq of Prince-George's county, Md. to Miss Augusta M'Causland, daughter of Muccus M'Causland, esq.

-, On Tuesday evening, 6th inst. by the Rev. Mr. Weller, Dr.

Promithe Rederal Gazette. Him now, mooncalf? TEMPEST.

A rall a rat, behind the arras." -- dead for a ducat."

HAMLET.

The democratic editor in Annapolis, has published in "The Mary-land Republican" eight columns about the old council, under the copy-right title of "Something Curious." The author of this Grubstreet performance, (for we have no hesitation in acquitting the democratic editor of any share in its composition) facetrously imagines, that some federalist was writing to a friend, and, using the figure so well known to ancient rhetoricians, he cunningly puts in his mouth a variety of scandal against particular leading federalists. The chain on which all this heterogenous matter is suspended, is the election of the council for the present year .-Whoever wishes to read the paper. must be, like charity, "patient and much-enduring," to get through it -and when he may have finished, we beg him to take the following observations as a stirrup-cup at part-

The whole piece betrays its democratic begetting, and the circumstances under which it has appeared stamp its origin most decidedly. However carefully guarded-however solemn the preparation to usher in an expected offspring of legitimacy-alas! when the child is born, the imposition is apparent; nor will the nurses and assistants be able to impose the woolly-headed bantling on the world, as the genuine offspring of honest parents. We will mark the features of bastardy-we will sound and cross-mark the counterfeit coin-we will strip the ass

of his lion's skin. How, indeed, could any one have supposed, that the federalists would have fallen into so wretched a snare. Does not the who etenor of the pres tended letter bear the strongest marks that it was written by one who knew nothing of the motives which led to a change of the council? How does the pretended defence of Mr. Frisby agree with the notorious fact, that a letter from that gentleman to an honourable senator expressing his wish to decline a reelection, was publicly shewn to the members? Does not the spurious production throughout, bear unequivocal marks of being half-informed, ill-digested & irrelevant? Who, that has the opportunities of a federalist, could have betrayed such misbegotten conceptions? No! it was not a federalist. It was some one who pretends to have stolen into larly observable on the low shores their camp, and possessed himself of their secrets. But he went too far; and when he pretended to give the countersign, he has discovered himself to be an enemy .- He has mistaken his road, and his attempt will be utterly baffled and defeated. The federal party are strong in their own good cause, and in the affections of the people of the state .-They came into power a a season of dismay-they have "borne their fafirst by a tremendous current, and culties meekly"—they have pursued tain law. From sundry inhabitants snally, if unobstructed as before remarked, widen and deepen the pas- and the people know it. They are Ely Balderston and others, of Baltoo strong to be attacked openly, and therefore, their enemies come in darkness and disguise. Their administration & power, which sprung up amidst the heavings of the political ocean, like the walls of that city which the god of tempests erected, defy the assaults of open warfare. Ajax and Achilles have retired to the shades; but the wiles of Ulysses are now to be spread, and the wooden horse filled with mate-

rials of destruction, again to be introduced into Troy. But the plot has been not unaptly contrived, and the details are, perhaps, worth repeating. It is known, that, upon the meeting of the le gislature, some of the former council had declined a re-election; and the wishes of individuals in behalf of their particular friends, were finally compromised by the selection of a council totally new. This is the circumstance which has afforded the occasion of raking up all the old stories of private pique and misunderstanding which were found floating on the surface of the stagdistributed by mail, and after the proper time had elapsed, and it had begun to excite some curiosity, a note in the Maryland Republican advertised the public of the existence of such a work, and affected to beg any of his friends to precure the editor a copy. Accordingly, for a special act of insolvency. From nant pool of forgotten-scandal.

some remarks of the editor, begging his subscribera to treasure the par per, for it might be invaluable to them hereuster, as the federalists should not hear the last of it. Here, then is a clue to the whole business-here is a master-key to the mystery-here is the shibboleth, or pass-word, which lets you in at once to the most secret recesses. But the moment this, is discovered; all power of doing injury, ceases: the ass is stripped' of. the lion's skin-the damon is betrayed by his cloven foot. It is unnesue the subject; or examine witnesses in a court 'of equity, something more might be learned. But the arrow has fallen hurtless; and this

-weak invention of the enemy,"

will recoil on the heads of its original contrivers, inventors, and a-

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Legislature of Maryland. HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

> Tuesday, Jan. 6. PETITIONS.

From Mary Henry, of Frederick, for a divorce. From sundry inhabitants of Queen-Anne's, for repeal of a road law, and a petition counter thereto. From Thomas Chenworth, an old soldier. From Greenbury Goldsborough, to be paid for serving as a juror at the provincial court, held at Annapolis, April term 1772. Severally referred.

The bill from the senate for establishing a bank under the title of The Farmers Bank of Leonard-town, was read, amended & passed-yeas 10, nays 20.

The report of the committee on the memorial of the Inspectors of the Peninentiasy was read; and they resolution therein contained assented to.

The clerk of Schate delivers the bill to establish a bank at Centreville; the bill to establish an academy at Elkton—passed with amendments. Ordered to be engrossed. The bill relating to the levy court of Baltimore-passed with amendments. The bill for relief of Wm. Dougherty-To confirm to the vestry of the German United Evange lic Lutheran, &c. Church, the title to lot to No. 156, in town of Jerusalem-For the benefit of the German Lutheran Congregation in Frederick-town—severally will not pass. The resolution in favour of clerk of Washington-assented to. And a report from the commissioners relative to the navigation of the river

Susquehanna. Adjourned.

Wednesday, Jan. 7. Mr. Harrison delivers a bill to amend and reduce into one system the laws of descents.

From sundry merchants, & others,

of Denton, for the repeal of a cer-

PETITIONS.

grossed. Mr. Jenifer delivers a memorial timore, counter to that for a reneal from the proprietors of fisheries of of the law in favour of the Inde-Potomac, on the subject of gillis, pendent Fire Company. From sundry inhabitants of Anne-Arundel, Mr. Long delivers a bill to pro for a levy to rebuild the bridge over vide for the removal of lunaticant Patapsco Falls at Ellicott's lower pers to the Hospital in Baltimore. mills. From sundry inhabitants of Baltimore, for a levy to rebuild PETITIONS. From Elizabeth Hutton, of Bit From Elizabeth Hutton, of Bild more, for a divorce. From the Grand man Society of Maryland, for all act of incorporation. From Michael Beard, of Washington, for a divage From James Leonard, of Cecilical ty, a revolutionary soldier. First the proprietors of fisheries of the running the bridge at Alien's mills. From sundry inhabitants of Washington, for a supplement to the act concerning marriages. From Abraham Leider, of Washington, for a special act of insolvency. From the trustees of the school at Church tomac, relative to the running steam boats. From Evan William of Somers of to be paid for a remained of the sundry lahabitum. Hill, for an act of incorporation & a donation. From sondry inhabitants of New Market, in Frederick, for a lottery. From Turbolt R. Betton, of Queen-Anne's, to bring slaves into the state. From the Harford, to confirm the processit of certain commissioners. Iminhabitants of Baltimore, to entit toll-gate on the Deer-Park and stockholders of the Westminster Bank, to establish a branch in I'rederick town. From the trustees of the poor of Somerser, for amenddier's Delight Road. Severily? ferred ments to the law respecting the poor The bill allowing members of phases court, levy court, and comissioners of tax, of Allegsty ty, itinerant charges, was feely of said county. From Robert Garey and wife, of Baltimore, to receive certain monies. From citizens of Baltimore, respecting Lombard-

second time and will not present

ty faith there wills the second of the secon mignitude to prevent the palsage of the bill and recommending that the have leave to withdraw their memorial Concurred with. The said bill was then read the Mr. Bradford imported on the petition of Thomas the

Mr. Cresapreported unjavouring

on the petition of sundry while tants of Yough Glades Contains

Mr. Woodyear delivers

tion from the Mayor and City to

of the act enlarging; the tiebud

the city.

On motion of Mr. Kenney at following preamble and resolution were read:

Whereas the encouragement river to regroes' running away from their owners in this state, and the

their owners in this state, and their owners in this state, and the harbouring the same by sundry persons in the Commonwealth of Pensylvania and State of Delawate, he sylvania and State of Delawate, he

ong been a serious inconvenient

to the owners of slaves, and it

grawing evil, injurious in its conse

quences even to slaves themselves

Be it Resolved by the General

Assembly of Maryland, That the

ed, to open a correspondence, imme,

diacely, with the executives of Pean

sylvania and Delaware, stating at

arge the grievances under which

the citizens of this state labour in

consequences of the protection gives

in those states to runaway negre

slaves, and the difficulty which the

owners experience in recoveries

them even after they are discovers

ed; and requesting the said exect

tives to use their influence with

their respective legislatures by re-

commending such laws as shall have

a tendency to remedy the grievas.

ces complained of; and to report the

the next general assembly of Many

Mr. Martin reported unfavours

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, leare

to bring in a supplement to the act

for the speedy recovery of small

The bills from the senate, to se

thorise Danl. C. Hollyday to bring

a slave into the state-and for the

relief of Eliza P. Custis, were pasi

Thursday, Jan. 8.

Mr. Buckey delivers a memorial

from sundry inhabitants of Frets

rick-town, counter to the petities

for turnpike roads through Mongo

mery, Frederick and Washington

On motion of Mr. Kell, the bill

to incorporate companies for open-

ing the said roads, was recommitted

and the above memorial referredu

The clerk of senate delivers this

bill to authorise Elizabeth Steres

negro-passed. Ordered to be et

sed.

Adjourned.

counties.

bly on the petition of John Turner,

governor be authorised and require

herefore.

second sime, amended, and passed.

year 60, nays 10.

Adjourned.

Friday, Jan. 9. PETITIONS.

From sundry inhabitants of Frederick county, to inake public a cerof city of Baltimore, for a lottery for building a Dispensary. From the Rev. Ambrose Marcahal, archbishop of Baltimore, & others, mem. bers of St. Peter's Church, for an act of incorporation. From Thos., M.Barney, of Kentucky, an-old soldier. From sundry inhabitants of Washington, for relief relative to the turnpike from Baltimore to Frederick. From sundry inhabitants of Washington, counter to the petition for keeping open an old road. From sundry inhabitants of Middle-town, for a bridge over the Catoctin creek. From sundry inhabitants of Queen-Anne's county, counter to that for

opening a road. The clerk of the senate delivers a bill authorising a lottery for the benefit of Charlotte Hall Schoolpassed by that body. Read

Adjourned.

Saturday, Jan. 10. PETITIONS.

From sundry inhabitants of Frederick, against the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Westminster in said town. From sundry inhabitants of Harford, for a new road. From Wm. Downey, for a divorce. From James Calhoun, of city of Balmore relative to the erection of an additional tobacco warehouse. From sundry inhabitants of Baltimore, for rebuilding a bridge over Gua-powder falls. From sundry inhabitants of Monigomery, to extend magistrates jurisdiction. From James Hall, of Queen-Anne's, counter to that of Saml. Ringgold. From Win. R. Dawson and others, of Allegany, for an increase of jail fees. From

for a lottery: Severally referred The bill from the senate, entitled, A further additional supplement to the act to incorporate the stockholders of the Mechanics Bank of Balimore; also the bill authorising a ottery for the benefit of Charlotte Hall School, were read and pass-

sundry inhabitants of Church Hill

Mr. Hawkins reported unfavourbly on the memorial of inhabitants frederick, against the establishment if a branch of the Westininster Bank in said town-concurred with. On motion of Mr. Kennedy, the ollowing resolution was twice read ad unanimously assented to.

Resolved, That as a token of the igh respect and esteem which the embers of the legislature enterain for the character and memory f Robert Bowie, of Prince-Georgs county, formerly Governor of laryland, and latterly deceased, hat they will wear crape on the left | street m during the remainder of the ses-

Adjourned.

Monday, Jan. 12.

PETITIONS.

from sundry inhabitants of ontgomery, for a road. From homas Porter, of Allegany, for a trial act of insolvency. From any Anne O'Neale and Francis mison, to execute deeds for cerin lands; also relating to the divi-on of certain lands. From Juni-W. Moore, of Montgomery, for perial act of insolvency. From trustees of Brookeville Acade-for legislative aid. From sun-yinhabitants of Queen Anne's, inter to that for a repeal of the for amending a certain road. om John Barnes, of Charles, for itle to a carrain law. itle to a certain lot. From suny inhabitants of Kent, for a levy creet a bridge across the Eastern ck Narrows. From sundry initants of Frederick, for a road.

M. New-Market to George town.

Versily referred. verally referred. The clerk of the senate delivers bill for relief of Ann Jeffries— led by that body. Twice read

passed, Mr. Scott reported unfavourably the petition of Thomas Porter concurred with. Mr. Forrest

ourably on the petition of Eliza-Beall, Read. he tierk of the senate delivers bills for the benefit of the heirs

ohn Hardcarte-for the relief he re

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