

New York, Feb. 1.
This morning about 3 o'clock, between Bridgetown and Elizabeth town, the United States Mail Coach was stopped by three armed men, masked.

One of the men ran before the leading horses, and told Wm. Smith, the driver, to stop. The other two immediately presented themselves, armed with pistols, and took the driver from his seat. They then cut the traces, and one of the reins, and went to the Coach doors; one presenting a pistol, the other a large knife, or dirk, and demanded whatever money the passengers had. There were five gentlemen and a lady, passengers. From one they obtained a pocket book, containing only a small sum; from another a gold watch; and from a third, Mr. Cowan of this city, a small sum in change. They attempted to force this gentleman out of the Coach, but he remonstrating with them, they left the passengers, and proceeded in search of the mail, which was forward. They cut a hole of about twenty inches in the portmanteau, through which they drew as many packages of letters as filled a pair of saddle bags and a pocket handkerchief. They then made off, having detained the stage about twenty minutes.

Since the above was written, we learn, that one of the passengers had in his charge \$33000, in bills for one of our banks. As soon as he discovered the unpleasant predicament he was placed in, he contrived to slip the package out of his pocket on the floor of the coach, and covered it over with straw, by which means he saved it. When they searched him, all they found was a few shillings in silver.

From the N. F. Commercial Advertiser of Feb. 3.

Additional information respecting the Robbery of the Mail.

We have been favoured with the following extract of a letter from the Post-Master of Philadelphia, to the Post-Master in this city, stating the sums forwarded from the former office in the mail which was robbed:

Sir,
The following notes were in the mail of Sunday:

1. Post note of U. S. Bank, No. 2886 payable in New York, in favour of J. J. Astor, dated 20th February 1817 for 1,000 dollars; forwarded by the cashier of the Philadelphia Bank.

2. Wm. Jenner & Co's draft on Machie Milne & Co. dated 23d Jan. 1819, in five days, endorsed, Cresson, Wistler & Co. to order of G. Newbold, Cashier, for \$900.

3. Leroy, Bayard & Co. on account of J. S. Sneed & Co. endorsed, John D. Clifford, Hyman Gratz, and payable to order of G. Newbold, Cashier, by Thos. Wilson, cashier, 500 dollars.

4. Note of Mechanics Bank, letter B. No. 3,297, in favour of U. C. De Rahm, dated Nov. 1, 1817, and endorsed in blank, Thos. Wilson, Cashier, for \$100.

These are all I have heard of as being sent that day.

A suspicious person was apprehended to-day, but on examination, he proved that he has not been out of the city since Friday.

By the following letter from the post-master at Rahway, it appears highly probable, that the villains, if not already, will soon be apprehended.

From the Post-Master at Rahway, Bridge-Town, Feb. 2.

Sir,
A party of gentlemen went last evening from this place to Sommersville, in pursuit of the desperadoes who robbed the mail on Sunday night. They have returned with the following information, their horses giving out.

Three men were discovered by a farmer, about half a mile this side of Boundbrook, making their way for the mountains in Somerset county. Two of them had on frock coats; the other a drab round about. The farmer being Dutch, they did not get much information from him, but went across the fields to a blacksmith's shop, where they enquired if they could get across the creek to the mountains without going through the town. On being informed where they could cross, our informant says, they conversed together in French, and crossed over to the mountains. The party informed the inhabitants of Boundbrook and Sommersville of their discovery, and the reward which had been offered; on which information, 13 or

15 of the inhabitants mounted, and started in pursuit, and it is presumed they will overtake them, and they have no doubt of their being the persons who committed the outrage.

It is presumed they are making their way for Sussex Mountains. I remain, &c. J. B. MARRSIL.

P. S. We have found in the river in this town, 2 belts made of Buckskin, with pockets for pistols and dirks, one of which I have sent to Mr. Lyon, together with a shell which contained rum. J. B. M.

The facts stated in our last, respecting three men who had lodged in Dover street are correct, with this alteration, that two of them lodged at Johnson's in Dover-street, and the third at No. 11 Vandewater street. The names and description of these three persons, as obtained by the Police Magistrates of the city, as follows:—

Joseph Mourie,—5 feet 10 inches in height—pitted by the small pox—black whiskers—about 30 years of age rather slim.

Doctor Henrie,—30 years of age—sandy whiskers—5 feet 9 inches in height—slim—his hair turned back from his forehead.

Pierre Bertrand,—28 years of age—5 feet 6 or 7 inches in height—red whiskers—rather stout.

From the facts disclosed at the Police Office yesterday, there can scarcely be a doubt, that the three Frenchmen, described above, are the persons who committed the robbery.—Two of our most active and enterprising city Marshals, furnished with the names and description of the three persons, and clothed with ample authority, have gone to join in the pursuit from Boundbrook.

Postscript—Half past 2 o'clock.

We have the satisfaction to announce that Joseph Maurie & Pierre Bertrand, two of the mail robbers, were taken this morning by Curtis and Bogart, officers of the police.

Our indefatigable police magistrates, hearing that persons answering the description of the robbers, had been recently at a house of ill fame at Corlears Hook, despatched the officers above named to search these places, where these persons were found. On searching them, bills to the amount of One Thousand and Fifty Dollars, were discovered in their possession, the whole of which it is supposed was taken from the mail. A part of the money, endorsed by C. L. Lawrence, who is now in Augusta, has been identified by Mr. Lawrence's partner, residing in this city.

On their way to the police office, one of the men dropped in the street a package containing bank notes, which was observed and picked up by one of the officers. A small boy also found in the street, immediately after they had passed a draft for three thousand dollars, and a bank note of one thousand.

Maurie's examination closed at a quarter past 12 o'clock, when he was committed to prison. When we left the police office, Bertrand's examination was still going on.

It appears that they returned from their 'land-privateering' expedition this morning; and that they had not been two hours in the city when they were arrested.

They are undoubtedly two of the three men mentioned in Mr. Marsh's letter above as having been seen in Boundbrook on Monday; and it is probable that they separated on Souwerville Mountains, and that their companion steered to the south.

To the Public.

This will notify the Public, officially, of my having withdrawn the action which I brought at the last fall term of this county court against Mr. Richard Cook, Tilghman, for conspiracy, slander and defamation. As my allegations were public, so shall my recantation of them be as notorious. It is due to that gentleman the *amende honorabile*. "I will render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's." I plead not insanity; I disavow the subterfuge. It was the result of an over heated and misguided state of feeling, combined with a want of reflection, and entered into with no previous intention of wounding the feelings of Mr. Tilghman, or his family. I feel no reluctance in acknowledging my error, but avow it with pleasure. I now throw myself on the mercy of a generous and liberal public, and sincerely crave their forgiveness for having, in a moment of forgetfulness, agitated the quiet of society.

Respectfully,
FRANCIS S. HALL,
Centerville, Jan. 27, 1819.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Annapolis, Thursday, Feb. 11.

For the Maryland Gazette.
CONSTITUTIONS OF MY LANDLADY.
No. 6.
Absconder qui rudit amicum
Qui non defendit alio culpante,
Hic niger est—huic tu Romam cavebo.
1102.

I shall, to-day, present my readers with some remarks which My Landlady read to us a few evenings since, on a vice which has of late become so common, that it may, I fear, not improperly be termed the reigning sin of the age—I mean detraction.

"As detraction is in some instances one of the highest sins, so it is certainly one of the most common, and especially of late. By being so common it becomes insensible, and is a vice which, above all others, seems to have maintained, not only its empire, but its reputation too. Men are not yet convinced heartily that it is a sin; or if any, not of so deep a dye, and so wide an extent, as it certainly is. They have, if not false, yet imperfect notions of it. Many who would startle at an oath, or whose delicacy would recoil at an obscenity, do yet, without any scruples, indulge in the sin of detraction. Can such persons be sensible of the enormity of this sin? Detraction is a violation of the grand rule of charity, 'the loving our neighbour as ourselves;' and he who at once violates the sum of the whole second table of the law, (for so our Saviour renders it,) must be guilty of no trifling or inconsiderable sin. The very signification of the word, shews that it is a sort of robbery committed on our neighbour; it signifies the withdrawing or taking off from a thing; and as it is applied to the reputation, it denotes the impairing or lessening a man in point of fame, rendering him less valued or esteemed by others; which is the final aim of detraction, though pursued by various means. It is justly looked upon as one of the most unkind designs one man can entertain against another, there being implanted in every man's bosom a great tenderness of reputation; and to be careless of it, is an unerring mark of a degenerate mind. To the value of a good name we have not only the universal consent of mankind, but the attestation of God himself; 'A good name is better than great riches;' 'A good name is better than precious ointment.' And the more to recommend it, he proposes it as a reward to piety, and menaces the contrary to wickedness.—'The memory of the just shall be blessed, but the name of the wicked shall rot.' Accordingly, good men have ever valued their reputation in the next degree to their souls, and preferred it to riches or life. Indeed, it is this which confers a kind of immortality, and makes us, even in this world, survive ourselves; this part of us alone continues verdant in the grave, while our bodies become putrid, and the prey and food of worms. What a train of mischiefs usually follow this sin of detraction—it is scarcely possible to make a full estimate of its malignity. It is one of the grand incendiaries which disturbs the peace of the world, and has a great share in most of its quarrels. For, could we examine all the feuds which harass individuals, families, nay sometimes nations too, we should find the greater part to take their rise from injurious or reproachful words. In regard, therefore, to the proper guilt of this vice, and all those no-motter sins and miseries which flow from it, it is every man's great concern to watch over himself; neither is it less so in respect to that universal aptness we all have to this sin, and its being so perpetually at hand; while for other sins we must await occasions and seasons, the opportunities of this are always ready. I can do my neighbour this harm when I can do him no other. This sin has the aid too of almost universal example, as there is no subject of converse more common than the defaming our neighbours. There are two kinds of spreading defamatory reports either false or true, which, though they seem to be of different complexions, yet spring from the same source, and aim at the same design. The spreading of false defamatory reports admits of various circumstances; sometimes a man invents a perfect falsity of another; sometimes he that does not invent it, yet reports it, though he knows it to be false.

And a third sort there are, who having no certain knowledge whether it be false or not, yet circulate it as an absolute certainty. The former of these is guilty of a crime of so high and so distinguished a nature, that although many are vile enough to commit it, yet none are so impudent as to avow it. Even in this age of insulting vice, when almost every species of wickedness is practised without concealment, no man will own himself as false accuser; for if modesty do not restrain him, his very malice will, since to confess would be to defeat his design. This is indeed the most illogical of all other sins, as it partakes of two of Satan's most essential properties, malice and lying. We know that it is his peculiar title to be the 'accuser of the brethren,' and when we transcribe his copy, we also assume his nature, and entitle ourselves to a descent from him—'Ye are of your father, the devil.' The next degree of this sin is not much inferior to the first, for what it wants is rather in invention than in malice; for he who would contribute to the circulation of a false report, shews that he would willingly have been its author. The third sort of detractors flatter themselves that they are far less culpable, and like the woman in the Proverbs, 'wipe their mouths and say they have done no wickedness.' They do not certainly know the falsity of what they report, and their ignorance must secure their exemption from the guilt both of deceit and malice; but it is to be feared it will do neither; for if they be affected ignorantly, they are so willing it should be true, that they have not even attempted to examine it. It will not suffice that they do not know the falsity of the report; it is necessary that they should know the truth of what they affirm. Nay, if the report be ever so true, yet if they know it not to be so, its truth will not secure them from being liars; and therefore, whoever endeavours to have that received for a certainty, which himself knows not to be so, offends against truth. The utmost that can consist with sincerity, is, to represent it to others as doubtful as it appears to himself; yet even that, as consonant as it appears to truth, is not charity. Let us not then exhale our souls in the vapour of detraction, but let us rather pour them out in prayers for our brethren, than in accusations against them; for though both the one and the other will return into our bosoms, yet God knows to far different purposes, even as different as those with which we utter them. The charity of the one, like kindly exhalations, will descend in showers of blessings; but the rigour and asperity of the other, in a severe doom upon ourselves; for the inspired records teach us, that 'He shall have judgment without mercy, who hath shewed no mercy.' G.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.
The Charter granted in the year 1708, by 'Her Most Excellent Majesty, Anne, Queen of England, France and Ireland, and Defender of the faith, &c. to her loyal and faithful subjects inhabiting the port of Annapolis,' has of late become an object of much curiosity and great interest. Of this precious instrument, the only remnant of pure, unmixed, aristocracy, which is permitted to disgrace our republican country, we design to give some short account. It is that instrument, by the authority of which the municipal concerns of our city are regulated, and by virtue of which the officers of our corporation hold their seats for life. Its provisions are of the most odious kind, and in the highest degree repugnant to the sentiments, the feelings, and the wishes of the independent citizens of a free republic. In the true spirit of aristocracy, it permits none but freeholders to hold the office of mayor, alderman or common councilman, and denies to our citizens the privilege of electing more than one of these branches of the government. The aldermen and mayor were originally appointed by her most excellent majesty herself, and she graciously permitted her loyal subjects, being freeholders, to elect the members of the common council, who, with the other branches, were to hold their seats for life. A vacancy in the mayoralty is to be filled by the aldermen and common councilmen, out and from among the board of aldermen—and when perchance, a vacancy occurs in the board of aldermen, it is to be filled by the said board out and from among the board of common councilmen, and the vacancy thus created by the transfer of a common councilman to the board of aldermen, affords the only chance, (and a rare one it is, for 'low die, and

can ever expect to enjoy the delectable charter, of not being those who are to regulate the municipal concerns, and to tax them with taxes, the expenditure of which they are never to account, and for which they are never responsible. Such are the feelings of this most precious instrument. While every section of the brides itself, and justly they are free and republican institutions. Annapolis presents the singular anomaly of being under the dominion of one of the most aristocratic and absurd charters, that ever disgraced a land of freedom. To remove this blot from our republican title, and to promote the improvement and prosperity of our city, a large number of our citizens, of both political denominations, have united to the supremacy of the law. And yet, strange to say, this so well founded, so strictly consonant to the principles of republicanism, has met with a warm and inveterate opposition from a party from which it might have been least expected—from men who hitherto arrogated to themselves an exclusive title of republicans, and allude not to the great magnitude of the free and independent republicans of this city, (who to the honour be it said, have been active and zealous in their endeavours to obtain a modification of this odious charter,) but to a few discontented spirits, who may be aptly characterised by comparing them to the 'Dog in the Manger.' It has been intimated, that the bill which has been introduced into the House of Delegates for the alteration of this aristocratical charter, will, at the suggestion, and in compliance with the wishes of a few discontented individuals, be referred to the next General Assembly; but for us to dictate to the legislature what course it should pursue, but should this bill be rejected, we venture to say that it will manifest a disregard to the interests and wishes of a portion of the people of this state, which has never before been paralleled in the annals of legislation.

A Native Citizen.
The present winter has been the mildest, considering the weather to the present period, which is the oldest among us recollect ever being experienced. So favourable has it been to vegetation, that the buds of the trees have already begun to put forth. The apprehensions of the husbandman are alive, and are less speedily relieved by unexpected and severe frost, it is too likely they will be realized by the destruction of all the forward fruits. The ground is at this time entirely free from frost. Yesterday evening there was a shower of rain accompanied with heavy peals of thunder and vivid flashes of lightning.

After three weeks discussion of the Report of the Military Commission concerning the Seminole War, Congress have disagreed to some of the same as relates to the execution of Arbuthnot and Ambrist, and shewed their full approbation of the whole proceedings of General Jackson, during that war, by a censure of the subjoined resolution offered by Mr. Cobb. The vote were—for the resolution 70, against 100.

Resolved, That the late seizure of the Spanish posts at Pensacola and St. Carlos de Barancas, West-Florida, by the army of the United States, was contrary to the constitution of the United States.

Derezeau, the third mail robbery was ascertained to have been committed at Philadelphia on Thursday last. The police officers of that place have been able to discover the route which he has taken.

A volume of 300 pages is proposed to be published by A. Hart of Hartford, Connecticut. It contains 'the unparalleled sufferings of JOHN CUATROS, who nine times underwent the most cruel torture ever invented by man; and succeeded to the Gallies four years command of the Inquisition at Bobo, in order to extort from him the Secrets of Free Masonry.'

Legislative Proceedings.
HOUSE OF DELEGATES.
Tuesday, Feb. 21.

special order, passed, and the charter of the city of Annapolis, praying that the committee appointed to regulate and amend the property therein, to grant a bill to retail spirituous liquors, tax, billing table.

Marriott presents a memorial, John Gibson, counsellor to the, of the Cape Sable Company.

Wednesday, Feb. 3.
PETITIONS.
On O. T. Wilson, of California, for a special act of insolvency, in favour of the inhabitants of Dorchester, that the bridge over Black River may be made a draw bridge.

Richard Harrington, inn-keeper, St. Michael's, that merchants should be permitted to sell spirituous liquors and suffer it to be drunk about their stores, and that they may not be allowed more than two public houses at said place. From the petition of Abraham Lecompte, for the revival of an act applying commissioners to carry into effect a law to prohibit swine from being sold in said village.

From the petition of A. Smith, late sheriff of Cambridge, to be refunded a sum of money paid for a fine imposed on Wm. H., which he has not been able to pay.

Mr. Mansley reported a bill to amend Sunday schools.

Mr. Lecompte reported favourable on the petition of Abraham Lecompte, for the revival of an act applying commissioners to carry into effect a law to prohibit swine from being sold in said village.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill to facilitate the recovery of debts due from the several banks in this state, and to compel the said banks to pay specie for their notes or forfeit their charters.

On motion of Mr. Harrison, That the same be referred to the next general assembly. Determined in the negative—yeas 29, nays 40.

Mr. Lecompte's motion to strike out the third clause was withdrawn.

On motion by Mr. Wm. R. Steuart, That the words 'ten per centum' be stricken out of said clause, and resolved in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Wm. R. Steuart, the said blank was filled up with the word 'six per centum.'

On motion of Mr. Kell, the question was put, That the said bill be committed? Determined in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, That the whole of the bill from the 3d section be stricken out? Determined in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Washington, the question was put, That the house reconsider the third section? Determined in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Lecompte, the question was put, That the words 'and after a full investigation of the concerns and situation of the bank, if in their judgment and opinion the public interest shall require it,' be inserted after the words 'the courts may, upon proof of the fact of refusal by the bank to pay specie for its notes.' Resolved in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, the further consideration of the same was postponed until to-morrow.

Thursday, Feb. 4.

From the levy of certain compensating Robt. v. as collector of said county. Robt. and others, that a be confirmed and n James F. Houston, bring up the first and feed die/ Tobias I read and referred.

M. Kennedy delivered an act to the different oaths, subscriptions, red-claration of rights, form of government.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill to recover of debts due from the several banks in this state, and to compel the said banks to pay specie for their notes, or forfeit their charters.

After making several amendments, the bill passed—yeas 29, nays 40.

Six o'clock.
Mr. Breckenridge petition of Charles be authorized to e Mr. Breckenridge the memorial of the Washington Mon be exempt from tax Mr. Lecompte petition of Elizabeth Dorchester, that due her late-husband tended to her.

Several bills were acted on.

Friday.
The bill to repeal of an act for the insolvent debtors session 1806, as a directors of insolvent read the second pass.

On motion of following means ed to, and sent to We return you An act to repeal entitled, An act section of slaveh-ral counties there relates to the cit

When we reflect of this law is ast-zens of Annapolis of voice so dom- the immediate the people of A in the gratificati- we are at a loss to reason for its re-nate have any bordering on the wish to protect, jectio to any may come in aid

It is with rel- the bill for rel- much as we per- the senate char-ous to its reject- the anxious wish Annapolis, exp- tition, and thr- tatives, acquie- people of Ann- their immedi- combined with- claim, would in- We do hope, on- bill will meet v- the senate.

Mr. H. Tilghman following report- The committee- terred the peti- bitants of Kent- the levy court- might be auth- of money on th- ty of the coun- demny Benj- Brice, citizens- for the loss of- property destr- to them by un- the month of- leave to report- petition as an- inhabitants of- pose not now- for a tax whic- to the general- of the county, not think it ex- grant the pray- without the co- tant of the ce- as a large maj- of the said cot- sed their cons- of the tax, leave to recon- able body to r- of the petiti- assembly, by- the inhabitant- can be better.