

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, JAN. 8.

Mr. Early, from the committee of commerce and manufactures on the petition of Edmund Briggs, jun. made a favorable report, in which the House concurred, and instructed the committee of commerce and manufactures to bring in a bill.

On motion of Mr. J. Clay the message of the President, enclosing the laws of the Michigan territory, was referred to a select committee.

Mr. Mumford presented a memorial from the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of New-York, praying for the more effectual fortification of that port.

Referred to the committee on so much of the message of the President as relates to fortifications.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a statement exhibiting the amount of duties and drawbacks on goods imported into and exported from the U. S. in the years 1803, 1804, and 1805.

Mr. Wickes presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Sag Harbor, praying for a bounty on salt manufactured in the U. S. in case the duties on the importation of that article be repealed, which was referred to the committee of the whole to whom was committed the bill for repealing the duty on salt.

Mr. Elliot offered the following resolution, with the view of obtaining a more concise and plain statement of the progress made in the payment of the national debt, as well as of ascertaining whether the Secretary of the Treasury had not made a mistake in some of his statements.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to lay before the House of Representatives a statement of the amount of the debt of the U. S. on the 1st day of April, in the year 1801, and on the 1st day of January in each year since that period respectively, distinguishing the respective amounts of foreign and domestic debt, and of each species of those descriptions of the debt, and exhibiting distinct statements of the quarterly as well as annual payments, so far as the same may be practicable.

Mr. Burwell said that he approved of the resolution, but wished it extended so as to obtain information of the relative state of the debt from the year 1791; and moved to amend it by inserting 1791 in lieu of 1801.

Mr. Elliott and Mr. J. Clay suggested their indisposition to the amendment on the ground of the delay it might occasion in acting on the bill before the House relative to the discharge of the debt.

Mr. Burwell's amendment was agreed to—Ayes 87.

On motion of Mr. Alston the resolution was further amended, so as only to require quarterly statements from April 1801.

On motion of Mr. J. Clay it was further amended by adding after "respectively," "on the 1st day of April, 1801."

So amended, the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. G. W. Campbell said it would be recollected that at the last session the President had laid before the House, after its ratification, a treaty made with the Chickasaw tribe of Indians; that an act had passed the House for carrying it into effect, but had failed from a disagreement of the two Houses on certain amendments. The consequence was that the government was unable to make the stipulated payments, and that considerable inconvenience was likely to ensue. Some of the chiefs of this tribe had been here last year; they had relinquished their land, and were greatly dissatisfied at not receiving the sums stipulated to be paid to them. It was almost impossible to make them sensible of the policy of the U. S. on this subject. To obtain the attention of the House to the subject, Mr. C. moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That provision be made for carrying into effect the treaty made between the U. S. and the Chickasaw tribe of Indians on the 3d day of July 1805.

Referred to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

The bill to prohibit the importation of slaves into the U. S. was read a third time.

Mr. Bedinger moved to recommit the bill to a select committee.

On this motion a long debate ensued—Messrs. Bedinger, Sloan, Bidwell, Findley, Quincy, Ely, Smilie, J. Clay, Gregg and Alexander supported; and Messrs. Early, Masters and Holland, opposed the motion, which was carried Yeas 76—Nays 46—and the bill recommitted to a committee of seventeen members.

BOSTON, January 8.

Massachusetts Legislature.—Yesterday both branches of the legislature of this Commonwealth, convened at the New State House, in this town, according to adjournment.—The Senate made choice of the Hon. Mr. Maynard, as President pro tem. Both Houses, after they were organized, appointed a joint committee, consisting of Messrs. Hoie and Hill, of the Senate, and Messrs. King, Elliot and Stearns, of the House, to inform his Excellency the Governor that they were ready to receive his communication. He informed them that he would meet both Houses in convention to-morrow, (this day) at 12 o'clock.—After disposing of some local business, both Houses adjourned to ten o'clock this day.

Beare of Counterfeits.—We are desired to inform the public that within a few days Bank Notes of the United States have been offered at a discount to several Shopkeepers in a neighboring town, by a well dressed man, marked with the small pox in his face, and whose accent denotes an European—a little vigilance among the receivers of money may prevent a fraud and bring an offender to punishment. Prayers are requested to be published this notice for the public good.

NEW-YORK, January 12.

Mr. Orleans in an Uproar!

Last night at a late hour, the brig Theotis, McDonald, arrived from New-Orleans—she sailed the 9th of Dec. by permission, with Mr. Donaldson on board with dispatches to government from Gen. Wilkinson—an Embargo having been laid the day before on all vessels.

The alarm and bustle at that place is more easily imagined than described.—BURR was to be at Natchez on the 20th of Dec. with 2000 men, and 4000 Kentuckians were to follow immediately—his object, the subjugation of Mexico, and the separation of the Western from the Eastern States.—Gen. Wilkinson was making every preparation to defend the city—every seaman in port was put in requisition. [See the subsequent Extracts from the latest New Orleans Gazette.]

New-Orleans, Dec. 9.—We have delayed the publication of our paper to-day after than usual, in order to procure the result of the meeting of the Merchants of this city, held at Government House.—On this important subject we can promise our readers something more satisfactory in the next number.—Our peculiar situation at this moment will not justify a resort to conjecture. We can only give to our readers on this subject that which those in office disclose.

This morning, in consequence of a previous invitation from his Excellency the Governor, the Merchants of this place assembled at government house for the purpose of consulting with him on some points of great importance. His Excellency in a very few words explained to the gentlemen, the object of the military preparations making here, which are in defence of a premeditated attack on the Territory, by a formidable party of men assembling on the Ohio headed and led on by some of the first Characters in the Union. He informed them that the principal object of calling them together, was to deliberate on the best plan of procuring for the public service a number of seamen, sufficient to man the gun-boats and other crafts intended to be armed. That he conceived an appeal to the merchants themselves, would at this hour of danger, be preferable to an impressment, and he was persuaded they would display their patriotism, by adopting the best and most immediate measures, to enable Commodore Shaw, to procure the hands necessary.

After governor Claiborne concluded his observations general Wilkinson, who attended the meeting, informed the gentlemen of the nature of the plot and the manner it had been disclosed to him, and on this occasion made a very impressive and affecting appeal to their feelings. He departed from that inseparable line of military conduct which he has always observed by informing them as well of his plans of offence as defence, and expatiated largely on the want of authority to execute to their extent his views and measures. He particularly related the object of the invaders to be the reduction of this place, in order with the booty they might find in it, to make an attempt on Mexico, and if they succeeded, to sever the western states from the union; that the attack was to be made as well by land as by sea and concluded by denouncing the leader, Aaron Burr, and pledged his own life in our defence. The governor and general having retired, the meeting proceeded to deliberate on the best plan to co-operate with government, when it was unanimously agreed that an embargo ought to take place, which we have since learned has. The governor left the meeting of the merchants to consult with colonels Bellechasse, McCarty and Dorsiere, relative no doubt to the Militia.

The battalion of Orleans Volunteers have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for duty at a moment's warning.

CAUTION.—On Saturday evening, a valuable store in this city took fire in the following manner:—The person who last left the store hauled the coals out of the stove into a sheet iron pan. This pan became so heated that it set the floor on fire. Fortunately, about 10 o'clock, another person had occasion to go into a counting room in the same store; and having discovered smoke, entered the other counting room; and found the floor in a flame; but succeeded in putting it out.

The following "Parallel drawn from Antiquity," will not only be amusing to the reader from its style, but exceedingly interesting from its justness. While, however, the author had his pen in hand, it is to be regretted that he did not proceed a little further, and present the public with a comparison between Cicero and Jefferson, as regards their conduct with respect to the two great enemies of their country.

No one who is acquainted with the form of Cataline's conspiracy, and the measures that Cicero adopted to counteract it, but must confess that the Roman consul was rarely and truly in proceeding against the enemy of the Republic. Cataline continued in the city of Rome long after his conspiring acts were fully known, and bearded the senate and consuls to their very faces. Cicero, who was the leading consul, and who had been invested with absolute power by a decree of the senate, employed neither military force nor the power of the civil authority of the state to secure the person of Cataline; although it was well known that multitudes of the old soldiers of Sylla, injured in civil war, blood-thirst and plunder, were collected and arrayed under Marius, a veteran commander, and prepared to second all the views of the great conspirator. Had the person of Cataline been secured, the battle which afterwards occurred between the army of the republic under Cicero's colleague, Antonius, and the rebellious forces, might have been avoided—and much bloodshed have been prevented. But it was not the character of Cicero to act with spirit and decision on any occasion; and he was certainly remiss in his duty in not having more effectually guarded against the attempts of Cataline than he did, particularly when it is considered that Cataline's schemes were notorious to almost every citizen of the Roman republic. It was wrong to suffer the affair to come to extremities, when the consul, with absolute power in his hands, had the power to often and to completely in his power.

Let us now turn our attention to the conduct of Mr. Jefferson with regard to the American Cataline.

The chief magistrate of the United States, however well he might have been acquainted with the preparations of Burr, from the nature of our government had not half the means of prevention within his control that the Roman consul had. The latter could have put in motion against Cataline all the force, legislative, judicial, and military, of the Commonwealth; the former could only use those circumfused and ordinary means generally entrusted to the executive by the constitution. As soon as the rumors respecting Burr's plans had assumed a creditable form and shape, the president did all that could well and constitutionally by him be done: He issued a proclamation, threatening the vengeance of the law to any and every person engaged in any scheme or project to destroy the peace of the country or to compromise its neutrality. And here it may be observed, with propriety, that there was a considerable difference in the scenes of action between the Roman and the American conspirator. The former was continually at or in the neighborhood of Rome; and chose for the exhibition of his plot a theatre directly under the eye of Cicero. The latter preferred to place himself at a distance from the executive officer of the government. He selected a stage remote from the observance of the chief officers of the administration, where he might cover his plans under the concealment of land speculations, or plans of agricultural improvement.

Thus distantly situated, the president had to rely for information frequently on men unknown to him; on rumor, common report, or the conjectures of the rash or the timorous; and sometimes on the suggestions of the mischievous.—Yet amidst all this chaos of rumors, reports, conjectures and suggestions, Mr. Jefferson has been found to have acted with wisdom, vigor, and promptitude; such as has been sufficient to frustrate the designs of Burr, or to put them in a train of ultimate frustration.

Considering, then, the daring openness of Cataline's conduct, (for he had the presumption to declare his intention in the Roman Senate) and the great power which Cicero wielded to oppose him; and contrasting it with the infernal manner in which Burr has conducted his project, with the limited means of prevention or discomfiture possessed by Mr. Jefferson every candid man must acknowledge that the American president has outdone the Roman consul in defeating the public enemy.

But although it must be acknowledged that the chief magistrate of the United States exceeds the Roman consul, all things considered, in the management of the public concerns at a perilous crisis, yet it is extremely painful to reflect that there is a wide difference between the marks of public gratitude to the one and to the other: For, notwithstanding Cicero had his personal enemies, yet all classes hailed him with applause, and Cato bestowed upon him in public the title of "father of his country;" While Mr. Jefferson, whose conduct has been equally, if not more, meritorious, is stigmatised, abused,

and flandered by a certain description of persons, to find more in what direction he may. A great portion of the community feel, no doubt, a warm attachment to him; and fully estimate and applaud his exertions for the preservation of order and the integrity of the union: But posterity, freed from the vile party passions of our day, will do ample justice to the greatness of his merits and the best of rulers.

FROM THE ENQUIRER.

A Parallel drawn from Antiquity. It is a melancholy but memorable fact, that the man who is now attempting to disturb the repose of the American people; the man, who whatever his merits or demerits may be, now stands confessed as a public conspirator; has his most striking prototype in one of the worst characters of antiquity. Those who were once attached to the cause of Aaron Burr; those who were once fascinated by the deceptive flattery of his manners, or admired the integrity of his principles; may flatter at the invidious comparison; but neither friendship nor enmity can defray the analogies of nature. Let the reader contemplate the character, the plots and the means of Cataline; and he will behold a similitude of Aaron Burr, which will excite his astonishment. He will be almost involuntarily prompted to inquire, whether a wily conspirator is marked in all countries by the same deceitful features; or whether Aaron Burr has not in fact copied, over the pages of Fallu, to make Cataline his model. The parallel is a most curious and a striking one; it is certainly little to the honor of Col. Burr, that it is to be traced through such a variety of points; but when a man once plots against the peace of his country, his is the fault and he should be the punishment. It is we, who only discover the analogy: It is Aaron Burr himself who makes it.

We shall pass over the personal frailties of their private life—it is enough that we examine those qualities, which fit them for their vocation.

The spirit of Cataline was "daring, infiduous and insidious;" "expert in designing what he did not mean, and in dissembling every thing that he intended"—Such is Aaron Burr. No man more daring in his designs; more wary in his expedients. Such was his characteristic caution, that he scarcely ever committed his designs upon paper; and the greatest and best assisting oversight in his present plans, is his deviation from his usual prudence.

In that boundless spirit which is ever pursuing extravagant views, too remote to be feasible, and too high to be attempted, Aaron Burr is not less guilty. Did he confine to the peaceful chair, in any of the cities of the American nation, he decidedly expected in favor of Mr. Jefferson.

This was his disposition, he upon what occasion Mr. Burr may assert in vain, he once declared to a Senator of the U. S. that there was not the least collision between Mr. Burr and the Federalists on that occasion; but this single fact, that he established himself in a seat of public confidence, all his assertions that a republican, high in the confidence of the government, would upon Mr. Burr at Philadelphia, for the purpose of obtaining his acquiescence in a plan which compromised every possible source of capital and employment; Col. B. was to be seen in the confidence of the President, if he would immediately resign in favor of Mr. J. Burr's conduct was not less daring and equal. He declared that it was a matter of extreme indifference to him whether Mr. J. was elected; that the country would be exposed to great danger by an interregnum, and inspired of Gen. —, who he thought would be better to avoid those consequences at once, by suffering one of them to be elected. This evasion was too disgusting to induce the slightest confidence in his virtue, and Gen. — did not conceive himself justified in making the proposition which he intended.

Cataline aspired in vain to the consulate of Rome, and Burr was baffled in his intention of supplanting Mr. Jefferson.

Cataline conspired against the peace of his country. And so has Aaron Burr.

Cataline applied his dexterity to all the disconcerted passions of the Roman citizens; men rained by oppression, men harassed by debt, men who had nothing to expect from the tranquil times of peace, and who were dissatisfied with the actual officers of the government.—The same trait appears in the picture of A. Burr. No man so well acquainted as himself with the very passions and passions, where the elements of disaffection and treason are lurking. The discontented officers of the civil administration, or those who do not conceive themselves sufficiently remunerated under the present, have been fomented; winds—as a specimen of the first, and Eaton of the last; the needy defendants of the law have been fomented; discontented federalists have been probed to the bottom; and many a man has been fomented out, who (in the language of Sallust) "had diffipated his parental care." But the description is at full length in Sallust, where the reader may find the accomplices of the Roman, and too many of the American Cataline.

Cataline is represented as having principally fought the homony of young men; and the historian has well assigned the reason. "Their tender and ductile minds, are with difficulty captivated by cunning and specious appearances."—The same trait runs through the deportment of the American Cataline. Wherever he has gone, he has generally flattered the society of the stud, and the aged. The young have been the objects of his attention, and the unsuspecting victims of his artifices. He principally affected with young men when at Alexandria; he principally allied with them in the towns of the Western country.

Cataline attempted to augment his own means by foreign resources. He sought to enlist the Allobroges, one of the formidable tribes of Gaul, into his service. Jullus did Aaron Burr. Without adequate resources of his own, he sought the alliance and assistance of the ex-military of Spain.—It would be a pleasure to believe, that the parallel was also true throughout; but the strongest resemblance is found that supposition. The Allobroges were prudent or honest enough to unmask the conspirator to his country; not so the Spanish Spy. He has in all probability fanned the flame of treason.

At the very moment, when Cataline's plot was on the eve of explosion, when his faction were prepared to set fire to Rome, to plunder, to assassinate and to trample all order under foot, did Cataline repair to the Senate House, to protest his innocence.—Yust we recall to our readers the audacious conduct of Aaron Burr, when he appeared before the federal court of Kentucky? And if it were not prefiguring the comparison to too great a variety of minutiae, the very manner and the very words of each might be thrown to resemble. The design of both was precisely the same.—Unfortunately for us, the parallel between the two scenes ceases here. Cicero made that celebrated "awakening speech," which was no less honorable to him as a patriot than as an orator: But Mr. Davie's is no orator.—Alas! what a consequent difference

in the catastrophe! Cataline fled from the Senate House, abused, buffeted, and driven from the city. But Burr remains in triumph.

Get away with the disgusting parallel! We have already established the main points of parallel between the Roman conspirator and an American; and we should be delighted to furnish from adding to their number.

If the conspiracy of Aaron Burr be defeated, and he really should receive from whatever quarter it is to be received, but in one which we can leave dare to express—his intended relatives, amounting as they are, can never be a more dangerous enemy. What might not this man have been, if his virtues had not corresponded with his genius? The first magistracy of the United States would have been bestowed upon him; and he would have been the delightful object of the love and affection of the whole of our countrymen; and enlighten (the motto of his countrymen)—But those benefits for the injuries are now beyond the sphere of his power. Aaron Burr has set like Lucifer never to rise again. He has put a mark upon himself, which his great of Cato, will carry him distinguished through the world. Henceforth no good or patriotic man will wish to be his friend; and his faculty will be ignored like the plague; because like the plague, it will be suspected of contagion.

The news under the New-York head in today's paper from New-Orleans, which represents that place to be in an "uproar," has been published in the American—(Title in "extract of a letter from Washington of the 27th December, 1806," published December 27.) The "uproar" appears nowhere except in the newspapers; and a headlined appeal to the merchants of New-Orleans by Governor Claiborne and General Wilkinson can be called such. And it reflects great honor on Governor Claiborne, that he preferred appealing to the loyal feelings and patriotism of the merchants, to a resort to the violent and oppressive mode of impressment—a practice which, though pursued in general in England, is condemned by the wisest best men of that nation. It is hardly necessary to add the remark, that the meeting of merchants at New-Orleans has, by its promptitude in attaching the executive authority, evinced a decided attachment to the government of the United States.

The communication of the information from Washington city, of the "awakened enmities" bestowed on the president's plan of defence, by a certain diplomatic character, has not been so clever in his "communication" as the diplomatist in his "encomiums." The one is said to have been "planned"—the communicator's paragraph, unfortunately for the laughers, has no part at all. See the left Gazette.

A correspondent requires (for information of course) whether the militia like a standing army, or a standing army like a militia, which the Gazette's communicator is engaged to "show," is to be a standing militia that army which, (not fifty years ago) existed in the U. States with more effect than now.

COMMUNICATED.

FACTS AND BELIEF.

It is believed that the President of the United States, has fully informed of Col. Burr's enterprise, and the names of persons engaged in it, as any private individual, (not one of Burr's intimates) can be.

It is believed that the President would not continue in public service any person whom he suspected of being connected in Burr's conspiracy.

It is a fact that the president does continue General Wilkinson, Commander in Chief of the Army of the United States.

It is a fact that the President and heads of departments have expressed their approbation of the conduct of General Wilkinson, and their firm reliance on his honor, integrity and fidelity.

It is believed that Col. Burr will meet with no impediment to his going down the river until he is opposed by Gen. Wilkinson—if so,

It is then a fact that the nation depends on General Wilkinson to prevent the conspiracy from succeeding.

Nothing further is requisite to shew the folly of such statements as are contained in the following; letters, than a knowledge of the population of the state of Kentucky. According to the late census, there are in Kentucky, of free white male inhabitants—

15,705 of 16 years and under 25  
17,899 of 26 and under 45  
9,233 of 45 and upwards

42,637

Admitting, then, "that ten or twelve thousand Kentuckians" were marching at the heels of Burr, he must have seduced at least one fourth of the whole effective free white male population, from boys of 16 to extreme old age—a thing not to be accredited. Besides, it is very questionable whether Kentucky, in a righteous and lawful cause, with the utmost exertion, could raise a much greater force than 10 or 12,000 men. And, for the comfort of these letter-writers, we can inform them that we have received Kentucky papers to Dec. 22d, (thirteen days later than the date of the letters from New-Orleans) but they contain no intelligence of the march of such a formidable body; which, if they had marched, the fact must have been notorious—for we are not to believe that they rode invisible through the air like witches, upon broomsticks.

Extract of a letter from a respectable merchant in New-Orleans, to his correspondent in this city, dated.

"New-Orleans, Dec. 9. "Our city is in some confusion, as we are apprehensive of 10 or 12,000 Kentuckians coming down to this place, headed by Col. Burr. Gen. Wilkinson appears to be taking the most active measures to put the city in a state of defence, and has demanded of Gov. Claiborne, that all the young men be put in requisition, and eve-