

patriotic determination, to brave all the calamities of war rather than tamely submit to the tyranny and influence of any nation.

Well aware that the peace of our country is menaced from various quarters, and that it is our duty to take a firm and decided stand against any nation that may demand concessions incompatible with our honour and independence, we avail ourselves of the moment, to declare our confidence in the firmness and energy of the present administrators of our government, and our disposition to sacrifice our lives and property in repelling the wanton aggressions or lawless claims of all nations. Although the blood of our countrymen hath been shed, and our citizens led into captivity, by the arm of a foreign power, and although domestic traitors have reared their hydra front, and endangered our peace and national happiness, still we indulge the pleasing reflection, that the government of our country have preserved a manly and dignified attitude, evincing to the world an unshaken determination to concede no point inconsistent with the honour of our country, and the safety of its citizens. But notwithstanding this well grounded confidence, we should do great violence to our own feelings, and those of the citizens of Maryland, did we fail to communicate our sentiments upon one point in dispute between this country and Great Britain, we mean the general right of our flag to protect all American seamen who sail under it. It is with the most poignant sensations we recognise the fact, that thousands of our native citizens are at this moment confined in ignominious bondage on board of British ships of war, exiled from their country, their families and friends, and compelled ingloriously to fight for the establishment of principles repugnant to natural justice and the usages of nations; and it is with strong emotions of contempt we hear this inestimable right treated as trivial and unimportant, and declarations made, that the United States ought not to hazard the horrors and calamities of war for the protection of her citizen seamen. Though we fervently deprecate the evils of war, and though we highly appreciate the value of peace, yet we sincerely hope, that the general protection of American citizens, sailing under our flag, will be made the *sine qua non* of our amity with every nation on earth.

Whilst we duly appreciate the motives which induce you to decline being considered among the number of those out of whom the choice of our next President is to be made, and whilst we revere the patriotism which dictated those motives, permit us still to indulge the pleasing hope, that when the next period of presidential election approximates, should the united voice of your country require it, those same motives, and that same patriotism, will induce you to sacrifice your own private wishes and convenience to your country's good. But whatever may be your final determination, whether to retire to the bosom of domestic tranquillity, or to remain the First Magistrate of a Free People, a faithful public service of forty years, hath erected a monument in the hearts of your fellow-citizens, which time will never erase. With a tender of our lives and fortunes to obtain an honourable indemnification for the past, and unequivocal assurances of security for the future, accept our best wishes that the most perfect happiness may await the evening of your days; and receive, as a tribute to your merits, the assurance of our highest consideration and esteem.

Which was read the first and second time, and the question put, Will the senate assent thereto? The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.

Mr. Thomas, president, Mr. Covington, Mr. Dorsey, Mr. Glenn, Mr. Lowrey, Mr. Mason, Mr. M'Elderry, Mr. Partridge, Mr. Shriver, Mr. Smithson, Mr. Somervell and Mr. Williams. 12.

N E G A T I V E.

So it was unanimously assented to.

The following resolution was read and assented to.

By the S E N A T E, January 6, 1808.

RESOLVED, That the executive of Maryland be requested to transmit the above Address to the President of the United States.

By order,

T. ROGERS, clk.

The senate adjourns until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

T H U R S D A Y, January 7, 1808.

THE senate met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read. On motion, ORDERED, That the bill, entitled, An act to regulate and discipline the militia of this state, have a second reading on Monday next.

The amendments proposed by the house of delegates to the bill, entitled, An act to provide for the making passable through Baltimore county the road laid out from the city of Baltimore to the town of Belle Air, in Harford county, were severally read the second time and disagreed to.

On motion. Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to provide for making passable through Baltimore county the public road laid out from the city of Baltimore to the town of Belle Air, in Harford county, and the public road from Gravelly hill on the Reister's town turnpike road, to Philemon Barnes's plantation on the Frederick county line. ORDERED, That Mr. M'Elderry, Mr. Smithson, and Mr. Dorsey, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.