

On motion by Mr. J. H. Thomas, the following preamble and resolution were read :

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES OF MARYLAND, January 2d, 1815.

Amidst the impending sufferings and multiplied disorders of war, brought upon the American people by their misplaced and abused confidence in the wisdom and virtue of their rulers, there has been no evil of a more alarming and fatal tendency, in the contemplation of this house, than the inordinate grasp of power and undisguised spirit of encroachment on the sovereign rights of the states, and the personal liberties of the citizens, so repeatedly and unequivocally manifested in the acts of the general government.

Under this impression, and in the maintenance of those rights and privileges, it was considered as a prompt and paramount duty on the part of this house, to evince a faithful and firm determination of purpose, the moment that intelligence was recently received of the progress of a bill in both branches of the National Legislature, whose palpable object it was to convert the free militia of these United States into train-bands and cohorts of an odious despotic force.—This decision was rendered the more indignant by a view of the gross sophistry, and arbitrary pretensions, promulgated in the report of the secretary of war, at the commencement of the session, designed to reconcile the repugnant sentiment of the free people of this land, to the principle of the several schemes and projects of invasion on their birth rights and liberties, as suggested in that report for the acquiescence of congress.

To the sensibility of this house, thus seriously awakened by the threatened pressure of a system, so immediately calculated to make "confusion worse confounded," and to produce a direct collision of authority between the national government and the sovereignty of the individual state,—it is therefore now a matter of lively gratification to learn, that the passage of the proposed bill, has been eventually arrested in the senate of the United States:—And the gratification is enhanced by the circumstance, that this happy issue has been effected, at the instance of an illustrious statesman and jurist, whose opinion, worthy as it is on all subjects of the most attentive consideration, is entitled to peculiar regard on any question touching a construction of the powers imparted by the federal constitution, because it is the opinion of a surviving member of the convention of sages and patriots, by whom that constitution was planned, and originally recommended for adoption.

Wherefore, in order more fully to display the solemn interest which the occasion has inspired throughout the community of this state, and more especially for the purpose of rendering a just meed of public applause for eminent service in the defence of public liberty.

Resolved, That the thanks of this house, in behalf of the freemen of Maryland, be, and they are hereby presented to the honorable Rufus King, of the senate of the United States, for the reasonable and successful interposition of his experienced wisdom, and elevated influence of character, in averting the meditated operation of a measure, hostile to the immunities of constitutional freedom, offensive to the pure genius of independence, and fraught with consequences baleful and appalling to the social order, tranquility, and well being of this united republic.

And this house would accompany the respectful tribute, which is thus specially offered, with a general expression of the grateful sense which it also entertains of the distinguished merit of the other members of the minority, who so steadfastly and ably co-operated, at every renewal of the struggle, in both branches of congress, in combatting against the insidious introduction of an authoritative conscript establishment more spacious in the form of its approach, but not essentially different from that, whose intense oppression has just vanished from the continent of Europe, with its guilty author, the blood-stained usurper of France.

Ordered, that the honorable the speaker of this house, be requested to transmit to the honorable Rufus King, an authenticated copy of the present proceeding.

The house adjourns until to-morrow morning nine o'clock.

TUESDAY, January 3.

The house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

John T. Mason, Esquire, a delegate returned for Washington county, appeared, qualified and took his seat.

On motion by Mr. Crabb, Ordered that the bill from the senate entitled, an act to incorporate a company to make a straight turnpike road from Baltimore to the District of Columbia, be the order of the day for Tuesday the 10th instant.

On motion by Mr. Potter, Leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, an act to authorise James Grayless, collector of Caroline county, to complete his collection. Ordered that Messrs. Potter, Driver and Hughtett, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Worthington delivers a petition from John Chew Thomas, counter to the petition of Edward Norwood. Which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Van Horn delivers a petition from the president and managers of the Baltimore and Washington turnpike company, praying the erection of a toll bridge at or near Norwood's ferry. Which was read and referred to Messrs. Van Horn, Kell, Randall, Hood and Hopkins.

Mr. Schnebly delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of Washington county, praying a road from Mercersburg in Pennsylvania, to the river Potomac. Which was read and referred to Messrs. Schnebly, Gabby and Mason.

Mr. Potter delivers a bill, entitled, an act authorising James Grayless, collector of Caroline county, to complete his collection. And Mr. Neale a bill, entitled, a supplement to the act, entitled, an act to establish a bank in the city of Baltimore, to be called the City Bank of Baltimore. Which were severally read.

The Speaker laid before the house a report from the trustees of Charlotte Hall school. Which was read.