

efficient condition of the navy; the perfection attained in the organization arrangement and discipline of the army in all its branches and appendages; the judicious and rapid progress in securing against hostile attacks, the most important points of our maritime frontier by adequate fortifications, and the profound and provident attention directed to our foreign relations; evince the vigilance, ability and wisdom, of the administration of the general government.

But whilst we feel a lively sense of gratitude in looking at the rapidly improving and happy condition of our country, and a just pride in contemplating the high station which the wisdom of the government, and the enterprize and patriotism of the people have given to our country in the estimation of the world; yet we entirely reciprocate the sentiment, "that there never was a period since the establishment of our revolution, when regarding the condition of the civilized world, and its bearing on us, there was greater necessity for devotion in the public servants to their respective duties, or of virtue, patriotism and union among the people."

A confederacy of certain monarchs of Europe has existed for some years past, with avowed purposes of hostility against the system of representative government; not as a mere speculative proposition, but as a practical principle of conduct, and which has already been carried into action in several recent instances in Europe, and in the last of them under such circumstances as manifests a fixed and settled purpose to deny to the people any share or participation in government, except so far as their hereditary sovereigns may, of their own mere will and pleasure chuse to permit.

The people of the United States while they appreciate the wise and salutary maxim of their government, of keeping aloof from the political agitations of Europe, have, nevertheless, been unable to hear the avowed principles of this tremendous conspiracy against the liberties of mankind without strong and indignant feelings; and have been awakened to an apprehension that their own happy political system, viewed, as it is, by these monarchs with a secret, but ill-disguised enmity, as the practical and animating example to the rest of mankind; of the happiness of a representative government, may, when the opportunity occurs, be considered by them as a necessary victim, to ensure the final triumph of their project of universal despotism.

Under these circumstances the Senate and House of Delegates of the General Assembly of Maryland, perceive with lively sensibility, that their is just ground to believe that this confederacy already contemplate to extend the *practical* application of their principle beyond the boundaries of Europe, and meditate an attempt to reduce our Sister Republics in America from their present independent condition to their former state of subjection to their faithless tyrant; thus, distinctly admonishing the people of the United States, that their local position is no security against the application of a principle, which, in its terms, embraces them.

We cannot, therefore, but view any attempt on these republics' "who have declared their independence, and maintained it; and whose independence the United States have on great consideration, and on just principles, acknowledged, as dangerous to our peace and safety;" and "as a manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States." Therefore,

*Resolved*, That we highly approve the frank and candid declaration on this subject contained in the president's message to congress, as justly due to the character and spirit of the nation over which he presides, and as directed by sound wisdom and a provident view to the true interests of the country.

*Resolved*, That while we hope and believe this declaration will prove a salutary warning to the confederated sovereigns, and deter them from attempting to execute their intentions—yet should the event shew that this hope is fallacious, we feel a confident assurance that the people of the United States will be prepared to make good the warning, and will be convinced that in employing their energy, power, and resources, in defeating such machinations and assaults against the independence of their neighbors, they are most effectually securing their own.

*Resolved*, That we view with deep solicitude and anxious interest the noble and heroic struggle which the Grecians are waging against their relentless and barbarous tyrant; and that we experience a high gratification in believing he has forever lost his power over them, and that Greece will again assume an independent station among the nations of the earth.

Which were read and made the order of the day for Thursday next.

The clerk of the house of delegates delivered the following message; which was read.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, Dec. 15, 1823.

*Gentlemen of the Senate*—Just before the close of the last session of the legislature, leave was granted & a committee appointed to report a bill upon the subject of the penitentiary, but owing to the lateness of the period at which the subject was taken up, the committee thought proper to recommend a postponement 'till the present session, as it was thought to be of the greatest importance to the public. The enormous sum of \$236,453 95½ cents, has been expended up to 1821 in establishing and aiding the penitentiary, and about \$20,000 since. We therefore propose a committee of conference with your honorable body to take such steps in re-organising that institution as they may deem most essential and proper, and have appointed Messrs Millard, J. T. H. Worthington, Steel, Dennis, Hopper, M. Mahon and Linthecum, a committee on the part of this house to confer with a committee to be named by you to take the subject into consideration.

By order,

J. BREWER, Clk.

Also a bill entitled, an act for the relief of Catharine Wager and James B. Wager; which was read the first time and laid on the table. Also a bill entitled, an act further to extend the time fixed for the completion of the turnpike road leading from Boonsborough to Swearingen's ferry, in Washington county; which was read the first time and laid on the table; the bill supplementary to an act for the relief of the poor of Prince George's county, passed at December session 1822, chapter 121; was read the second time and laid on the table. The bill entitled, an