tion, the object of which is to cede to the state of South Carolina the right both of soil and jurisdiction to certain lands contiguous to the Western Boundary of that state and including the lands occupied by the petitioners.

A bill for erecting a Light House on Cape Coe on the North-westardly part of Martha's Vineyard was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-morrow.

There has appeared from the Press of Green and English; George-Town, a pamphlet under the Title of Epaminondas on the Government of the Territory of Columbia, Number Five; Being a Review of a work entitled, Enquiries into the necessity or expediency of assuming Exclusive Legislation over the District of Columbia: Respectfully submitted to the Members of Congress; by a private citizen of the District. This work is sold by Rapine, Conrad & Co. in the City; by Roberts, George Town; and by Bishop, Alexandria.

For the National Intelligencer.

No. IV.

On the ELECTION of PRESIDENT.

I have shewn in my preceeding remarks, that one of the probable results of a declension on the part of Congress to nominate Mr. Jefferson to the Presidency will be a dissolution of the general government.

Every citizen who cherishes a solitary spark of patriotism, or who justly estimates his own personal stake in the continuance of the union, may be rationally expected to revolt at an event so pregnant with calamity; and judging of the feelings and views of others by those which are lodged in his own breast, he will probably hesitate in ascribing to any man, or set of men, the contemplation of measures which to him appear fraught with ruin.

But it is a fact, no less true than gloomy, that the topic of separation has been discussed with a spirit of cool calculating cunning; and it has been avowed that it would be a lesser evil than the triumph of republican principles.

In these circumstances, it would betray the phrenzy of unsuspicious confidence not to feel alarmed; and feeling alarmed, not to communicate that alarm to the people; not with a view to rouse their indignation and inflame their passions; but to prepare them for that crisis which may require, as they value the enjoyment of their rights and liberties, an expression of their sentiments, so unanimous, commanding and efficient, as to silence every lawless suggestion of faction.

Until the Presidential election is passed, let every citizen realize that the country is in danger. Let him with prudence and firmness avow his opinions, that it may appear to the representatives of the people that the voice of the people is unequivocal, and that that voice shall not only be heard but obeyed.

That this general impression may be produced, it becomes a duty of peculiar importance to develope the effects, that would probably follow a dissolution of the general government.

A calm view of the subject will convince every mind that reflects, that the inevitable evils will be great, and the probable ones destructive of internal harmony and external peace;—destructive, perhaps, of even our national existence.

The evils attending the want of a federal head are so correctly and forcibly stated in the Federalist, published at New-York, in 1788, that I shall rely upon them for the most conclusive conviction of the mind of every citizen that peruses them.

It is known that these papers were the joint production of Messrs. Madison, Jay and Hamilton; and that they were considered at the time they were written, and have since been viewed, as among the most correct defences of the Federal Constitution, and exposition of the grounds on which it was formed.

"A man must be far gone in Utopian speculations who can seriously doubt, that if these states should either be wholly disunited, or only united in partial confederacies, the subdivisions into which they might be thrown, would have frequent and violent contests with each other. To presume a want of motives for such contests, as an argument against their existence, would be to forget that men are ambitious, vindictive and rapacious. To look for a continuation of harmony between a number of independent unconnected sovereignties, situated in the same neighbourhood, would be to disregard the uniform course of human events, and to set at defiance the accumulated experience of ages.

"The causes of hostility among nations are innumerable. There are some which have a general and almost constant operation upon the collective bodies of society: Of this description are the love of power, or the desire of pre-eminence and dominion—the jealousy of power, or the desire of equality and safety. There are others which have a more circumscribed, though an equally operative influence, within their spheres: Such are the rivalships and competitions of commerce between commercial nations. And there are others, not less numerous than either of the former, which take their origin entirely, in private passions; in the attachments enmities, interests, hopes and fears of leading individuals in the communities of which they are members. Men of this class, whether the favourites of a king or of a people, have in too many instances abused the confidence they possessed; and assuming the pretext of some public motive, have not scrupled to sacrifice the national tranquility to personal advantage, or personal gratification.

"The celebrated Pericles, in compliance with the resentments of a prostitute, at the expence of much of the blood and treasure of his countrymen, attacked, vanquished and destroyed the city of the *Samnians*. The same man, stimulated by private pique against the *Magrensians*, another nation of Greece, or to avoid a prosecution with which he was threatened as an accomplice in a supposed theft of the statuary *Phidias*, or to get rid of the accusations prepared to be brought against him for dissipating the funds of the state in the purchase of the popularity, or from a combination of all these causes, was the primitive author of that famous and fatal war, distinguished in the Grecian annals by the name of the *Peloponesian* war; which, after various vicissitudes, intermissions and renewals, terminated in the ruin of the Athenian commonwealth.

"The ambitious cardinal, who was prime minister to Henry VIIIth, permitting his vanity to aspire to the tripple-crown, entertained hopes of succeeding in the acquisition of the splendid prize by the influence of the emperor Charles Vth. To secure the favour and interest of this enterprising and powerful monarch, he precipitated England into a war with France, contrary to the plainest dictates of policy, and at the hazard of the safety and independence, as well of the kingdom over which he presided by his councils, as of Europe in General. For if there ever was a sovereign who bid fair to realise the project of universal monarchy it was the emperor Charles Vth. of whose intrigues Woolsey was at one the inst ument and the dupe.

"The influence which the bigotry of one female,* the petulancies of another,† and the cabals of a third‡ had in the cotemporary policy, ferments and pacifications of a considerable part of Europe, are topics that have been too often descanted upon not to be generally known.

"To multiply examples of the agency of personal considertions in the production of great national events, either foreign or domestic, according to their directions, would be an unnecessary waste of time. Those who have but a superficial acquaintance with the sources from which they are to be drawn will themselves recollect a variety of instances; and those who have a tolerable knowledge of human nature will not stand in need of such lights, to form their opinion either of the reality or extent of that agency. Perhaps however a reference, tending to illustrate the general principle, may with propriety be made to a case which has lately happened among ourselves. If Shays had not been a *desperate debtor* it is much to be doubted whether Massachusetts would have been plunged into a civil war.

"But notwithstanding the concurring testimony of experience, in this particular, there are still to be found visionary, or designing men, who stand ready to advocate the paradox of perpetual peace between the states, though dismembered and alienated from each other. The genius of republics (say they) is pacific; the spirit of commerce has a tendency to soften the manners of m-n, to extinguish those inflammable humours which have so often kindled into wars.

"Commercial republics, like ours, will never be disposed to waste themselves in ruinous contentions with each other. They will be governed by mutual interest, and will cultivate a spirit of mutual amity and concord.

"Is it now (we may ask these projectors in politics) the true interest of all nations to cultivate the same benevolent and philosophic spirit? If this be their true interest, have they in fact pursued it? Has it not, on the contrary, invariably been found, that momentary passions & immediate interests have a more active and imperious controul over human conduct than general or remote considerations of policy, utility or justice? Have republics in practice been less addicted to war than monarchies? Are not the former administered by men as well as the latter? Are there not aversions, predilections, rivalships and desires of unjust acquisition that affect nations as well as kings? Are not popular assemblies frequently subject to the impulses of rage, resentment, jealousy, avarice, and of other irregular and violent propensities? Is it not well known that their determinations are often governed by a few individuals, in whom they place confidence, and are of course liable to be tinctured by the passions and views of those individuals? Has commerce hitherto done any thing more than change the objects of war? Is not the love of wealth as domineering and enterprising a passion as that of power or glory? Have there not been as many wars founded upon commercial motives, since that has become the prevailing system of nations, as were before occasioned by the cupidity of territory or dominion? Has not the spirit of commerce in many instances administered new incentives to the appetite both for the one and for the other? Let experience, the least fallible guide of human opinions, be appealed to for an answer to these enquiries.

"Sparta, Athens, Rome and Carthage were all republics; two of them, Athens & Carthage of the commercial kind. Yet were they as often engaged in wars, offensive and defensive, as the neighbouring monarchies of the same times. Sparta was little better than a well regulated camp; and Rome was never sated of carnage and conquest.

"From this summary of what has taken place in other countries, whose situations have borne the nearest resemblance to our own, what reason can we have to confide in those reveries, which would seduce us into an expectation of peace and cordiality between the members of the present confederacy, in a state of separation? Have we not already seen enough of the fallacy and extravagance of those idle theories which have amused us with promises of an exemption from the imperfections, the weaknesses and the the evils incident to society in every shape? Is it not time to awake from the deceitful dream of a golden age, and to adopt as a practical maxim for the direction of our political conduct, that we, as well as the other inhabitants of the globe, are yet remote from the happy empire of perfect wisdom and perfect virtue?

"Let the point of extreme depression to which our national dignity and credit have sunk—let the inconveniences felt every where from a lax and ill administration of government—let the revolt of a part of the state of North Carolina—let the menacing disturbances in Pennsylvania, and the actual insurrections and rebellions in Massachusetts declare!

"So far is the general sense of mankind from corresponding with the tenets of those, who endeavor to lull asleep our apprehensions of discord and hostility between the states, in the event of disunion, that it has from long observation of the progress of society become a sort of axiom in politics, that vicinity or nearness of situation, constitutes nations natural enemies. An intelligent writer expresses himself on this subject to this effect—"NEIGHBOURING NATIONS (says he) are "naturally ENEMIES of each other, unless their common weakness forces them "to league in a CONFEDERATE REPUBLIC, and their constitution prevents the "differences that neighbourhood occasions, extinguishing that secret jealousy, "which disposes all states to aggrandize "themselves at the expence of their neighbours."* This passage at the same time points out the EVIL and suggests the REMEDY."

ARISTIDES.

* Madame de Maintenon.
† Duchess of Marlborough.
‡ Madame de Pompadoure.

* *Vide Principles des Negociations pa L'Abbe de Mably.*

To RENT.

A Commodious Two Story brick dwelling house on square No. 701—The lot is well inclosed and hath every necessary out house, and is very convenient for a small family—it may be entered on immediately, the terms made known and the premises shown by applying to

BENJAMIN MORE.

Washington, New Jersey Avenue,
December 17, 1800. 3t

FOR SALE,

By the Subscriber, near the County wharf

COLOGNE Mill-stones, of different sizes lately from Amsterdam; German, London, Blister and crowley steel; sugar in hogsheads and barrels; coffee, bar and rod iron; castings; ten plate stoves complete for use, of different sizes; beef and pork, of first quality, by the barrel; fine and coarse salt; tar, turpentine and rosin; clover seed.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

Baltimore, January 1, 1801. 2t

CHEAP LUMBER,

FOR SALE,

By the Subscriber, on reasonable terms, either by large or small quantities, at his Lumber Yards, the north end of Lamberton, and at the old Sturgeon Pond, above Richards's wharf,

A QUANTITY OF

ASSORTED LUMBER, *viz.*

One and 1-4 inch, 1 1-8, and 1 do. Yellow pine heart boards—1 inch pannel, 1 1-4 do. for floors, 1 do. common, white pine do—2 do. 1 1-4 and 2 1-2 do planks, 1 do. 5-8, and 2-8 do. boards, black walnut—2 do. plank, 3 do. 1-2 do. pannel boards, bedstead setts, poplar the whole of the above are well seasoned and fit for use]—Clear heart pine, and sap pine white oak, and bilstead, hemlock and white pine scantling, assorted—best kind three feet cedar shingles, dressed and undressed, do. two feet white pine do.; do. 18 inch cypress do—cedar rails—Also, white pine sawed rails—shingling and plaistering laths, best kind; white oak waggon timber—sap pine planks, sap pine one inch boards, 3 4 cedar, best kind, 3-4 white pine, 3-4 sap pine, seasoned weather boards—A quantity of handsome chesnut pailings, sawed 1 by 3 inches and from 4 to 16 feet long, for garden fence, &c. A quantity of chesnut oak posts, dressed and undressed; a quantity of cherry boards, a quantity of large white oak joice, a quantity of chesnut posts—5000 feet of neat beach scantling for tool stocks—5000 feet of sickamore scantling for bedsteads; 2 inch white oak plank; 1 inch white oak boards, 3-4 do. do. do.—25,000 feet superior cherry boards and plank, 3,000 do. very clear 2 inch white pine plank, 3,000 do. handsome beaton wood bedstead setts seasoned, 100,000 prime North Carolina shingles, a quantity of ash plank, 150 tons plaister Paris, warranted, 3,000 bushels best Virginia pit coal, 200 bushel cleans house sand

The subscriber intends, establishing a Lumber Yard at the Federal City of Washington, which he will keep regularly supplied as above—Any quantities may be agreed for by contract, deliverable, as the purchaser may wish, provided that the place of delivery may be comeatable by water with a navigable vessel—Any quantity that may be ordered for shipping abroad, shall be supplied with punctuality and dispatch, agreeable to order

Gentlemen who are or may be building—as well as carpenters who may be under or may enter into contracts to build and furnish the materials, will find it well worth their attention to apply as above—Applications may be made by letter (post paid) or otherwise, to the subscriber, or left with Wm. and Anthony M. Buckley, or Benj W Morris and Co. merchants, Philadelphia.

Also for Sale or to Let,

A large commodious Dwelling House, with out buildings complete, and from three to seven acres of land—Two small do. with lots thereto. Also, a small Store near the river—All laying in the village of Lamberton

NATHAN COMBS.

N. B. A Screw Jack to let, that raises from 10 to 40 tons by hand—a constant supply of laister and Smith's Virginia coal.

Lamberton, New Jersey, (on Del.)
January 13, 1801. twtf.

RHODE ISLAND LIME.

A Few hundred casks will be delivered in good order at any landing in the City—on application to BENJAMIN MORE, New Jersey avenue—or William Yeaton, Alexandria.

Washington, Jan. 17, 1801. 1w3tq

Kid, Eliot & Co.

At the Brick Store opposite BLODGET'S HOTEL.

HAVE received by the Brig UNION, Capt. Leonard, from Liverpool, a large supply of Crockery Ware. Some of which is well assorted in small casks for the country.

Also, by the some Vessel.

White Lead, ground in oil.
Spanish Brown do.
Red Lead, Patent yellow, &c. &c.

They expect by the Roba and Betsey arrived at Norfolk, an additional Invoice of crockery and a large assortment of Glass ware. All which will be sold at the Philadelphia prices.

December 28.

JUST IMPORTED,

IN the ship Missouri, via Philadelphia, and now opening for Sale at the Subscriber's Store on New Jersey Avenue Capital Hill, Square 690.

A General Assortment of Ironmongery, Cutlery, Sadlery, Brass Wares and Building Materials.

Among which are the following Articles.

Iron pots, frying pans, chaffing dishes, Brass, iron and Japand Candlesticks, patent metal tea kettles and sauce pans; jappaned tea trays, waiters and Bread baskets, sad irons, wind up Jacks, Sweeping, scrubbing, hearth and shoe brushes; Mathematical instruments, mahogany knife cases, filled with ivory handled knives and forks, Cruet stands, ladies dressing cases; mill, pitt and cross cut Saws, 56, 28 and 14lb. Iron weights. Also scale beams to weigh from 5 to 10 cwt. at an end.

HENRY INGLE.

November 24th, 1800.