Ruſſia in 1793, this country had confirmed that of 1766, which had confirmed that of 1734, and by that we granted to Ruſſia leave to carry all goods, except contraband and warlike ſtores, and did not include naval ſtores. This had been ſanctioned in 1793. So far from conſidering it as an act of hoſtility it was ſanctioned. To this there was an anſwer which might be collected from the King's ſpeech, that this convention being ſigned with two other powers, aſſumed a different character; he however contended, that the mere ſigning of convention by a belligerent power with one or two neutrals, did not juſtify an hoſtile attack upon ſuch neutrals. He proceeded to obſerve, that there were circumſtances in the internal ſituation of this country, that ought to have inculcated on his Majeſty's Miniſters a deſire of purſuing a ſyſtem of moderation, and avoiding hoſtility. Though he could not avoid diſapproving of the manner in which they had acted, yet he could not go the length of abſolutely condemning them; all he deſired was for the houſe to examine into, in order to appreciate the value of the claim, and if it ſhould be found eſſential to our national intereſt to engage in a conteſt for the ſake of it, then he ſhould afford every aſſiſtance in his power. But this, the duty of the Houſe called on it to do, and the more ſo when it was conſidered the country had for eight years carried on a war, the conduct of which had been entruſted to ſuch men as his Majeſty's Miniſters.—What had been gained by repoſing confidence in them, and truſting to their promiſes? Were thoſe to be ſtill truſted who had gone to war for the ſake of Holland, and afterwards given it? Who had aggrandized France, and left her in poſſeſſion of the countries ſhe had incorporated into her own? Miniſters had done this, and yet they had the callous audacity to demand the Houſe ſtill to repoſe confidence. France had now arrived at the very acme of ſucceſs. Now that it had acquired more than ever it could have expected to have obtained under the mad ambition of Louis XIV. what ſecurity was there, if the Houſe again confided in the Miniſters who had ſo often deceived it by their promiſes, that after new diſgraces we ſhould not be reduced to the neceſſity of offering to abandon the claim we were now making, though the offer might be ineffectual for the attainment of peace. Let the Houſe therefore enquire—let it pauſe. It was bound to endeavour to diſcover by what means thoſe who laſt year had been our friends had been converted to enemies—and how ſuch a miraculous change had been produced. What muſt have been the policy of Miniſters, who had excited the jealouſies and fears of our allies, and made them our enemies? That the confederacy exiſted was admitted: the queſtion then was, did Miniſters foreſee it? If they did, if they had warning of it, why did they neglect the overtures of Buonaparte? And if they were not aware of it, what pretenſions had they to that foreſight for which they wiſhed the Houſe to give them credit? He was ſatisfied as to what had been the ſentiment of the court of Stockholm by the officer who commanded the Swediſh convoy having been condemned to die for not having made a braver defence. He knew alſo the king of Pruſſia always contended for the principle that free bottoms made free goods. Was not Pruſſia a part of the confederacy? Why not declare war againſt Pruſſia? The reaſon was, becauſe Miniſters knew Pruſſia was ſtrong, and that Sweden and Denmark were weak and defenceleſs. If they ſhould pretend they did not foreſee what would happen, he ſhould like to aſk whether there could have exiſted a doubt as to the probability of what would happen? If ſo, then, why did they refuſe a ſeparate peace? He maintained there were no exiſting circumſtances under which miniſters could juſtify their conduct.—He thought it incumbent on them to ſhew that they had acted not only right in refuſing to negociate, but that the intereſts of this country and of Auſtria required the overtures of the enemy ſhould be rejected. In conſequence of ſuch rejection Auſtria had loſt all, at leaſt all that enabled a country to hold a pre-eminent rank among ſurrounding nations. He feared he might now exclaim with truth, *Austiaos olim bello floruisse audivimus.* There was a mighty blank in the map of Auſtria; perhaps that country might be a party to the Convention with the powers of the North. We had urged her to renew the war with France at a time when we muſt have known ſhe was unable to contend with that power, and we had refuſed to negociate, when ſhe was vigorous on the frontiers of France. Surely ſuch inconſiſtences on the part of the Miniſters who had committed them, demanded that the Houſe ſhould not longer confide in them without enquiry.

But we were now ready to treat for peace when France ſhould ſhew a pacific diſpoſition; with France, reſtored in her credit, recruited in her ſtrength, fluſhed with victory, ſurrounded by allies and threatening us with invaſion. Such was the ſituation of a country which refuſed peace on account of the annexation of Belgium. He would, therefore, wiſh to aſk whether that ſtatement was not ſufficient to impoſe enquiry, and whether it could be neceſſary to urge a word more in ſupport of his recommendation? There was one point, however, he meant the internal ſituation of the country, to which it was impoſſible to avoid adverting. We were now engaged with France under every poſſible circumſtance of danger—under circumſtances which left us her only remaining foe, and gave us reaſon to apprehend every thing from her power, her activity, and her enmity. It was impoſſible, therefore at ſuch a criſis, not to look to our internal defence and ſecurity. Scarcely had four years elapſed ſince miniſters called for extraordinary exertions to meet the threat of menaced invaſion.—Thoſe extraordinary exertions were made; a great force was raiſed. Where was that force now? What was become of it? That force, like every thing elſe entruſted to miniſters, was diſſipated and deſtroyed by their improvidence and folly. Part periſhed in the ſwamps of Holland, part ſuffocated and died in the holds of ſhips, and part, after expeditions which were a diſgrace to the country, after coaſting along from Breſt to Vigo, from Vigo to Cadiz, from Cadiz into the Mediterranean, was now expoſed to the burning ſuns of Egypt. What then had this force, thus raiſed, and for the purpoſe of internal ſecurity, produced? Nothing but diſaſter abroad.—The national honour had ſuffered, our arms were tarniſhed, and our brave ſoldiers were not allowed to bleed for the advantage of their country, or to conſole themſelves in death that they ſacrificed their lives in the advancement of its power and glory. But the right hon. gentleman, in anſwer to theſe charges, would no doubt ſay "our ſucceſſes are moſt brilliant, I am callous to conviction." Fortitude, he acknowledged, was a good quality, but he was no advocate for that ſpecies of fortitude which could contemplate the miſery of families, the loſs of thouſands of lives, internal diſtreſs and national diſgrace, without feeling remorſe or compunction from the conſciouſneſs of being the cauſe. Into the whole conduct of the war, but particularly into the expeditions of laſt Summer, he truſted ample enquiry would be made. Among theſe it was impoſſible not to be forcibly ſtruck with the expedition to Egypt; in the caſe of which, by refuſing to ſanction the treaty of our ally for its evacuation, we had violated every rule and principle of the law of nations, and thus forced into the continued poſſeſſion of the enemy.—On this ſubject an enquiry had been already propoſed, and he hoped would be propoſed again and again; for if miniſters had ſent orders to refuſe the ratification of that treaty, and, without ſuch order, there was no way of accounting for its not being ratified, they were guilty not only of impolicy, but of a breach of faith, and were anſwerable for all the blood that was ſince ſhed in that quarter of the world. He hoped, therefore, that this Seſſion would not prove a ſeſſion of compliment, but that due enquiry ſhould be made into the cauſe of evils of ſo great importance. His own ſtrength, and, he feared, the patience of the houſe, were now exhauſted; he ſhould therefore only allude to one point more, he meant the diſtreſs of the country, ariſing from the ſcarcity of proviſions. The cauſes of that calamity being of a very complicated nature, and requiring great deliberation, he ſubmitted whether a general committee would not be more eligible than that adopted laſt ſeſſion, with the reſervation of a ſecret committee, for the conſideration of the queſtion, of how far the war may be connected with the evil, or contributed to it? There were many other topicks on which he might dwell, but he ſhould now only briefly allude to them. If we looked to our expeditions, we ſaw nothing but diſhonour and diſgrace; if we looked to the ſtate of public credit, paper was now under an actual depreciation; if we looked to Europe, we ſaw inſtead of the allies, a confederacy againſt us; if to the ſtate of the country, a debt unexampled in the hiſtory of the world, and a people ſuffering under a ſcarcity little ſhort of abſolute famine. This was our real ſituation; nor did he ſtate theſe to diſcourage or diſmay. Sure he was that the beſt mode to purſue would not be to ſhut our eyes to the danger, but to appreciate its magnitude and extent, and the means of which we were poſſeſſed to meet it. It was, no doubt, very great; but, with proper vigilance and a prudent uſe of our reſources, he did not deſpair of the Commonwealth.——Economy, he hoped would enable the country to retrieve the effects of improvidence. Our credit, though injured, was not deſtroyed, and the ſpirit of England, though long dormant, was not extinguiſhed. Under proper guidance, therefore, he hoped it would revive, and the country be yet reſtored to its former ſtrength and ſplendor. To effect this change, the firſt ſtep was to return to the true ſtandard of Britiſh principle. That was the ſource of our happineſs, the ſource from whence it flowed, and to which we muſt revert whenever we ſhould loſe it. To ſuch a ſpirit he would look firſt for a peace, and then to the bleſſings which always attended a great nation exerting itſelf with induſtry and directed with ſound and prudent policy. But to effect this change, no time is to be loſt. They had given miniſters men, money, implicit confidence. Every thing that they could aſk or deſire had been freely and chearfully given. He had already enumerated the conſequences, and would not fatigue the houſe with a detail. He would only aſk, whether it were right to purſue the ſame ruinous ſyſtem, and heſitate to return to thoſe principles which alone could check the fatal career we were now running. If the fault were owing to the reliance which gentlemen had placed on the wiſdom & conduct of miniſters, they had experience enough to be fully ſenſible of it. They muſt have been convinced in their hearts, at their homes, and at their fireſides, that they have ſupported what was wrong in that Houſe. Could they then continue to ſupport a ſyſtem in public which in their hearts and judgment they privately deſpiſed and diſapproved? We were told by an enlightened ſtateſman, once a diſtinguiſhed member of that Houſe, that the minority ſpoke the ſenſe of the majority of the nation. Few were inclined to diſpute that ſtateſman's knowledge of that Houſe; and indeed miniſters themſelves had confirmed his opinion in this inſtance, by the account which they gave of the negociations at Liſle and Paris. If then Miniſters were duly ſenſible of the conſequences which have flowed from their miſconduct, they would reject the ſyſtem which they had hitherto acted upon, and make the public good the rule of their conduct. The Hon. Gentleman who ſeconded the addreſs, has ſpoken confidently of the ſucceſs of our navy. None could think more highly of the valor, ſkill, and enterpriſe of the Britiſh navy, or admit its ſuperiority more readily than himſelf. He admitted that through it we might obtain new colonies; he would allow that we might gain poſſeſſion of even the mines of Peru; but ſtill, however ſpendid our acquiſitions abroad, without a change of ſyſtem, we muſt ſink under its preſſure at home. For this reaſon, therefore, he deprecated its conſequences, ſo confidently predicted from the ſuperiority of our navy, however ſpecious and ſplendid. Mr. Grey then proceeded to move the following amendment:

And that this Houſe will proceed with all diſpatch to make ſuch inquiry into the general ſtate of the nation, but more eſpecially into our relations with foreign powers, as may enable us to offer to his majeſty ſuch advice as we may think moſt conducive to the honor of his crown, and to the general intereſts of his dominions.

And further, to aſſure his majeſty that if, owing to any unjuſt and unreaſonable pretenſions on the part of the enemy, peace cannot be obtained on ſuch grounds as are conſiſtent with our ſecurity, if the differences which appear unhappily to have ariſen between his majeſty and the Northern powers are of a nature which preſs for immediate deciſion; if the repreſentation which his majeſty has directed to be made to the Court of St. Peterſburgh, in conſequence of the outrages committed againſt the ſhips, property, and perſons of his majeſty's ſubjects, ſhould not be effectual in obtaining ſuch reparation as the nature of the caſe ſhall require; and if the impoſſibility of any equitable adjuſtment ſhall render a new and more extended war inevitable, we will give his majeſty every ſupport which the means of the country can afford, in the juſt hope and confidence, that his majeſty's paternal care for the welfare of his people will induce him to take ſuch meaſures as ſhall henceforward prevent a calamitous waſte of their remaining ſtrength and reſources, by improvident and ineffectual projects, or by general negligence and profuſion, and ſhall ſecure a wiſe and vigorous adminiſtration of their affairs, unexampled difficulties in which they are involved.

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, April 1, 1801.

This morning the PRESIDENT of the United States left this City for Monticelio.

Our ſtatement, in our laſt Intelligencer, reſpecting the diſcharge of the duties of the Navy Department by *General Smith,* was incorrect.

General Dearborn has undertaken the diſcharge of thoſe duties, Mr. Stoddert having reſigned.

We commence, in this day's Intelligencer, "*The history of the last Session of Congress,*" which will be continued in ſeveral papers. A ſtatement, enumerating the various intereſting objects which have during each ſeſſion engaged the legiſlative body, and condenſing the arguments adduced for as well as againſt them, with remarks elucidating their nature and tendency, is undoubtedly a great deſideratum.

In what degree the preſent attempt ſhall be executed with fidelity and ſkill muſt be ſubmitted to the deciſion of the reader.

An unfortunate affray has taken place at Norfolk, between the American Sailors and thoſe belonging to the French frigate the Semillante. The particulars we have yet heard are too vague to publiſh; but we believe that no doubt can be entertained of conſiderable bodily injury having been done to many of the ſailors, and of the lives of ſeveral ſailors on each ſide having been loſt. The cauſe of the quarrel is not yet diſtinctly underſtood.

We have excluded a number of miſcellaneous articles, in order to give entire the ſpeech of Mr. GREY in the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, which involves a diſcuſſion of points deeply intereſting to this country as well as to moſt of the ſtates of Europe; and exhibits an animated picture of the preſent ſtate, and political proſpects of England.

The Rev. *M'Cormick* reſpectfully informs his Pariſhioners, that they may expect divine ſervice on Friday next, at 11 o'clock.

April 1, 1801.

AT a meeting of a number of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of F Street North, at Mr. Rhodes's Hotel on the 26th inſt. agreeable to Advertiſement, it was unanimouſly agreed that Capt. James Hoban, Mr. John Kearney, and Capt. Clotworthy Stephenſon, be appointed a Committee to procure Subſcriptions for carrying into execution the improvement of ſaid Street.

It was alſo reſolved that as ſoon as the ſum of 400 Dollars is ſubſcribed, that a Meeting be called at the *Little Hotel* to appoint a Treaſurer and Manager to carry the above laudable undertaking into effect.

Washington City, April 1, 1801. 2t

JOHN GARDNER,

TAYLOR.

GRATEFUL for the paſt favors, begs leave to inform his Friends and the Public, that he ſtill carries on the Tayloring buſineſs at his reſidence in F Street, nearly oppoſite Rhodes's Hotel, City of Waſhington. He will keep on hand a conſtant ſupply of Cloths, Kerſeymeres, Nankeens and every other article in the buſineſs of the beſt quality and at the cheapeſt prices.

He truſts, his experience and ſteady attention to Buſineſs, will ſecure to him the Public patronage.

Waſhington City, April 1 } tf

BUILDERS.

WILLIAM LOVERING, of George-Town, and WILLIAM DYER, of the City of Waſhington, having commenced partnerſhip in the Architectural and Carpenter line of buſineſs, which they are determined to carry on with aſſiduity, integrity and diſpatch, hope for the patronage of their friends and the public.

Having a number of the beſt workmen now employed, are ready to execute any orders which they are determined ſhall be done in the beſt workmanlike manner for thoſe who will pleaſe to favor them with their commands.

Orders directed to W. LOVERING, Gay ſtreet near the Union Tavern, George Town, or to W. DYER, I Street, North of the new War Office, City of Waſhington, will be punctually attended to.

N. B. Wm. LOVERING has been in the practice of drawing for and ſuperintending great part of the Buildings in the City of Waſhington and its Vicinity.

Waſhington, April 1. tf