thought proper to come to the measure they now proposed, until four or five months had elapsed from the first appearance of danger.

After having gone on at such a rate as this, he would ask if it was not high time for the vigour of the country to interpose and stop it? It might be asked what inducements could those men who manage the affairs of the executive government have for acting in this manner? It might be said, they could have no interest in hastening the destruction of the country; and that they had not gone out of the ordinary course of proceeding which had hitherto been observed.—Whatever excuse might be made for them, they could never escape the charge of having put the country in a situation of great danger; for no man could say but that we should be safer now, if those measures had been proposed at the proper time; and inasmuch as they had been delayed so long, there was great danger. But after having stated this charge against ministers, let it not be supposed that he had come to the end of his charge; for there were many other parts of the conduct of ministers equally reprehensible. They had shewn themselves deficient in all the necessary modes of preparation! They had not taken the counsel of any great military man. They had no military council to direct the operations of our armies, or devise the best means of defence or attack.—Lord Grey and every general officer not in actual service, should be appointed to form a council of that kind. Their business should be to consider and form the plan of every military operation to be undertaken.——Each individual in it should act so as to be able to say—*omnia percepi, atque animo saepe peregi.*—Every thing should be minutely weighed, and nothing be left undone. There was nothing more remarkable in the enemy, whose conduct the right honorable gentleman recommended it to the house to imitate, than the extraordinary attention and minuteness with which they examined every subject and point before them; and a great deal of their success in the late war, was owing to the plans which had been previously devised, of every operation that had been performed. Was there not a great variety of subjects with regard to our operations that required a degree of consideration which it was impossible, either for the commander in chief, or for the generals, to bestow upon them? One great advantage of a military council in this country would be, that of its implying no kind of disparagement to any individual. No one person could undertake to say, that he could consider and determine upon every thing. The multiplicity of things which a person at the head of the military force of the country had to consider, rendered such a thing impossible. A military council, therefore, could imply no disparagement to the illustrious commander in chief; nor would it take away from his discretionary power; for every thing resolved on by the council, should be submitted to him before adopted, and must receive the approbation of his Majesty. It would, therefore, be a council of discussion, and not of decision.

A measure like that now proposed, could never be carried into effect, if the Councils of the country were not properly exercised. The whole world would be a scene like that of men being trampled on by their own bullocks. With regard to the measure itself, it was one which he should not object to; and he thought it very proper that a power should be vested in the king to call his subjects out in case of an invasion: but he had considerable doubts how far the measure would enable the government to make great exertions. He had a general objection to the compulsory system which formed the principle of this measure. Although he thought it very right to have that as a reserve, yet it would have been much better at first to have had recourse to the volunteer system. That experiment should have been tried before ever the present had been proposed; but instead of that, they took an opposite and dangerous course: they never told the danger, until they came with their compulsory system. Under the impression of danger, the voluntary system should have first been had recourse to. Never was there such a libel on the country as to suppose that it could not be moved until it was compelled to do so. It was in the very nature of a compulsory service that men were disinclined to the performance of it. There was nothing in it to flatter a man's vanity or excite their zeal. He was therefore, afraid this service would be sluggishly, carelessly and reluctantly executed. Men would be disinclined to it, not only from their natural impatience of restraint, but from their modesty, and that spirit of depreciation which would prevail in show and appearance, and which generally disinclines the people of England to things of this sort. They were not like the people of France, attached to military show and parade. If a great number of men, with habits and sentiments such as he had just alluded to, were brought out to exercise, they might become the sport of the mob which surrounded them, and that might produce a very bad effect. As a proof of the evil arising from a compulsory system, he would just notice the provisional cavalry that had been raised in the late war, and which had always shewn a great disinclination to the service. There was a most material difference between the two services. The volunteer was actuated by good will, and by a desire of distinction. Of these compelled men, many would be good for nothing, and must be thrown away. Very little good could be expected from men exercised in a church yard, and exercised so seldom as they must be. The government would thus have an immense body without power: it would be like the man who thought the merit of the book he was writing consisted in its size; and therefore thought it enough for him to make it very large. There was a great risk that before the machine could be put in motion, the enemy would come and spoil the whole of the work. The measure that had been agreed upon some days before, was not yet carried into effect, and it appeared, that all those things which had been done by means of parliamentary measures, which were like great guns, which made a great noise, but seldom with the greatest effect. The country did not want all this apparatus. According to the volunteer system, there might be a number of men much more applicable to the public service, altho' a fewer number. A living dog was better than a dead lion. But by this measure nothing would be done in time. He did not look on this measure as one that was improper to be adopted, but as one on which no reliance was to be placed. The voluntary zeal of the country could alone be relied on. There was never a country in which so much wealth was combined with so much greatness, power, and intelligence; in which the people were bound together by so many ties, and became the happiest people on earth. If, therefore, the fate of that country should unfortunately become disastrous, if she should be conquered by a violent enemy, she would exhibit such an example as never did exist in the world before. Let no Englishman suppose that he could survive the fate of his country. Even the miserable state of existence enjoyed by the people of Switzerland would then be denied us. It was the destruction of the people of this country, and not the country itself, that the French fought after. What would they do with an island like this? Possessed as they are of the Rhine and other great rivers, what did they want with our river Thames? They would, in short cast these away as useless things, as was formerly done at Carthage. It was hardly necessary to bring this truth home to the breast of every man, that he could never expect again to enjoy his wealth, his luxury, his comforts or any privilege, if a French invasion should be successful. The first thing, therefore, to be done was, to tell men, and convince them of their danger; with which they were not sufficiently impressed. It must be an up-hill work to do this. They never had experience of such a thing before. An honorable baronet (Sir William Erskine) had on a former night spoken of the advantage the British possessed in point of spirit, courage, bodily strength, &c. over other troops, particularly the Austrians, whom he described as mere machines. He must say, that without the machinery of discipline, little expectation could be formed of the efficacy of our troops. This was therefore an additional reason for paying more attention to the voluntary efforts of the people. He then noticed the power given to certain volunteer corps to chuse their own officers; a power which he highly disapproved of, as being likely to produce the most mischievous consequences. The object now was to call forth the valor and energies of the Country, but that could not be done if men were to be put in trammels. Let skilful officers be appointed; and instead of any thing compulsory, let the energies of the people go on. If that was done, the best hopes would be raised in the country. He would not oppose the present measure, but he thought inconveniences would result from it in various ways.

BOMBAY, Feb. 19.

On Thursday last a most dreadful and alarming fire broke out in our crowded and popular Bazar, the ravages which, though it is not yet quite extinguished, it is impossible to relate: the extent of the devastation may be somewhat conjectured by those who are acquainted with Bombay when we say, that about three fourths of the Bazar are destroyed, including perhaps 1000 houses, and when the nature of these dwellings is considered, having many families under one roof, the number of the unfortunate sufferers must be proportionally great. We are at a loss to state with certainty where the fire originated—it is said to have been in a stable on the morning of Thursday, where some valuable horses became its first victims—unfortunately the wind continued rather high the whole day, which increased the flames in the progress of its direction with astonishing rapidity, and so great and violent was the conflagration at sunset, that the destruction of every house in the fort was to be apprehended. All the records and papers in the Secretary's office were early removed, and the houses of business followed the example—indeed every inhabitant, however remote, took the precaution to remove his furniture and effects.

Beyond the Bazar the flames extended to the king's barracks, which are mostly destroyed. The custom house also is in ruin, proceeding from thence to the range of houses called the Tank barracks where it was stopt by the prudent precaution of using artillery to beat down the continuance of this awful destruction every effort was used to oppose its progress, but the fury of the flames aided by the wind, rendered all attempts vain.

The utmost exertion to stop the progress of the flames proving of no avail, nothing remained but to allow it to take its course; every mind viewing in awful suspence the prospect which threatened to involve the garrison and every soul within it, in one common ruin, from the course in which the wind drove the conflagration being in an immediate line with the arsenal; for however secure the magazines might be from their construction, and in spite of the reliance all placed in the precautions which the established activity of the commissariate department, we were assured would adopt to provide against the impending destruction, one could not divest oneself from that serious contemplation which the dreadful crisis irresistibly produced; for every hope to arrest the progress of the all destroying flames by any human means had been denied us, and our reliance depended upon the intervention of Providence alone; at about midnight, this general gloom was dissipated—the wind abated, the conflagration visibly decreased in the quarter whence alone the danger threatened, and receding from the arsenal, every mind became calmed.

The honorable governor, with that benevolence and humanity which distinguish his character, attended throughout the whole of the melancholy scene, with the gentlemen of his suite, giving every direction and assistance which could be suggested, and animating the exertions of others by his presence and example, until the hour of three the following morning, when the merciless progress of the conflagration subsided, and all appearance of further destruction ceased.

Vice-Admiral Rainer, whose humane zeal led him immediately to the spot, with all the captains and officers of his squadron, from whose active interference in assisting and directing the bold and spirited efforts of their crews, much of the wide spreading calamity was prevented: general Nicoll also attended and anxiously directed the exertions of the military to the same end; while every officer and gentleman of the settlement contributed their generous aid on this distressing occasion; and we are truly concerned to add that captain Mackintosh of the country service in conducting one of the engines to a particular spot with captains Elliot and Lane, was overwhelmed by a falling wall, which broke his leg and arm, but of his recovery we are truly rejoiced to hear there is the greatest hope. Some of the seamen we are also informed, have been buried in the ruins, but the particulars are not yet fully ascertained.—Such was the active ardor displayed on the first alarm by the fire-bell and the beat of the drum, that every one flew to lend his assistance in extinguishing the flames, but the dryness of the season, the narrowness of the streets, and above all, the very combustible materials of which the houses in that quarter of the town are constructed, aided by a strong wind from the N. W. rendered all endeavors vain to stop the progress of the flames, though they succeeded in moderating their fury. We cannot pretend to describe the horror, dismay, and consternation which pervaded the unhappy sufferers; thousands of poor natives, endeavouring to save their little property, were seen thronging in all directions, bewailing their unhappy fate, & thrown at once destitute of home and shelter, were obliged to seek the repose of exhausted nature, in the streets or fields.

The damages sustained by individuals, some of whom were opulent native merchants, cannot well be estimated. But we trust that this severe misfortune may induce greater precaution in the prevention of similar scenes, and what is more material, that it may tend to reconcile the natives to such arrangements respecting this extensive Bazar as shall the more effectually guard against the recurrence of so dreadful a calamity.

WASHINGTON THEATRE.

The subscribers to the Theatre who have not paid the whole of their subscriptions are requested to pay the amount still unpaid into the hands of

J. P. VAN NESS.

It is the wish of the Editor of the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER to engage an individual well qualified to REPORT THE DEBATES OF CONGRESS. Immediate application, with the terms that will be agreeable, is requested.

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

It is with lively regret that we announce the existence of a malignant fever in Alexandria. On Saturday last the following official communication was made to the public:

—:o:—

Alexandria.
In Council, Sept. 10, 1803.

IT having been satisfactorily ascertained to Council, by the concurring testimony of the Physicians, that a malignent fever prevails in that part of the Town lying to the east of Water-Sreet, between Duke and King-Sreets, the Council conceive it their duty to give public information of the same—and in order to arrest the progress of the disease, and to support and relieve those who may be afflicted—

It is ordered, That Andrew Jamieson, Philip Wanton, Alexander Smith, Walter Blunt, Joseph M. Perrin, William Paton, Samuel Snowden, John Mandeville, and John Lumsdon be a Committee of Health, who, or any three of them, shall have full power and authority to use all measures which may be necessary for the purpose aforesaid, and who shall from time to time, publish a correct statement of the health of the town—and that the Mayor, or in his absence the Chairman of the Committee, be authorised to draw on the Treasurer of the Corporation for such sums as may be necessary for carrying into effect this order.

Copy

Test,
R. I. TAYLOR, c. c.

On Monday the Mayor imparted to the Council of this City this information, received by him from the Mayor of Alexandria; and yesterday the Council passed by unanimous vote the following act.

AN ACT

For the relief of certain persons, and authorising the Mayor to borrow money.

Sec. 1. Whereas the existence of a malignant fever in Alexandria, has been certified to the Council of the City of Washington by the Mayor, and as some of the inhabitants of that place may require pecuniary and medical assistance, as well as an asylum in this place.

Be it enacted by the first and second chambers of the City Council of Washington, That the trustees of the poor are hereby authorised to give relief to any inhabitants of Alexandria, standing in need thereof, who may reside in this city during the continuance of such fever, either by advances of money for their support or medical aid and assistance as the case may require.

Sec. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the sum of three hundred dollars be hereby appropriated towards the purposes of this act, to be paid to the order of the said trustees, by the treasurer, and to be expended under their direction.

Sec. 3. *And be it enacted,* That the Mayor be authorised to negociate a loan for the use of the city of Washington, for any sum not exceeding two thousand dollars, if the monies in the treasury be inadequate to the appropriations already made; for the repayment of which the proceeds of the taxes shall be applied as received.

In the City Council there prevailed but one sentiment of regret for the misfortune of our neighbours, and but one disposition to mitigate it by every office of humanity in their power. From the dispersed population of the inhabitants, the purity of the air, and the general salubrity of the city, apprehending no danger of the introduction of the disease, they experienced the highest pleasure in doing an act of humanity, without being obliged, from motives of self-preservation, to resort to any of those rigorous measures, which, in other circumstances, become necessary.

The Council were not unmindful of the high obligations imposed upon them by this city being the seat of the general government, and by the early period of the ensuing session of Congress. In the measures adopted, and in all those that may hereafter be rendered necessary by circumstances, these considerations will have great weight; and every mean will be used to preserve the health of the City. There is the best reason to believe that malignant fever cannot be spread in a situation as Washington; as no such communication has heretofore been made even from the large cities of New-York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, to the adjoining towns. Yet these facts ought not to supercede the most vigilant attention; & persons at a distance about to visit the city, may be assured that every measure will be taken that is necessary to maintain its present health.

Alexandria, September 12.
HEALTH-OFFICE.

The Committee of Health are preparing a Report which will appear to-morrow. In the interim, for the satisfaction of their fellow citizens, they beg leave to state, that the situation of the town is infinitely more favorable than they had reason to expect.

By order.
S. SNOWDEN, *Secretary.*

DIED.

On Friday the 9th inst. James R. Dormott, a citizen of Washington, in the 48th year of his age after a lingering sickness; he gave proofs of christian resignation some weeks before, and continued to do so to the hour of his death. If guilty of faults in his life, it is hoped that his contrition has cancelled them.—His convey was attended with a very numerous and respectable attendance from St. Patrick's Church to the Burying Ground, wherein the Rev. Doctor Caffery, buried him in the presence of said numerous attendance according to the rights of said Church.

Lexington, August 30.

We thank our correspondent at Bowling Green, for the statement of votes for members to congress, &c. in the first District, which he was so polite as to favor us with. By this statement it appears, that Colonel Matthew Lyon is elected by a majority of 99 votes over Major David Walker.

Lyon,	2472
Walker,	2373
	99

It is said Major. Walker will contest the election.

By the last accounts from Tennessee we learn that JOHN SEVIER is elected governor of that state by a majority of 1660 votes. Mr. Sevier is strongly attached to the principles upon which our government is founded. We did not learn who were the other candidates. The following is a list of members elected in that state to serve in the next Congress.

Dickson, Cambell and Rhea.—All of which are republicans.

COMMUNICATION
FROM THE WASHINGTON FEDERALIST.

Fifteen millions of dollars, the price of Louisiana, calculating more than a ton to every waggon, would require three hundred and seventy five waggons to carry it; and (allowing four horses to each team,) it would require fifteen hundred horses, they would make a string of *five miles* in length. The money would support *twenty five thousand* SOLDIERS, *for seven years and an half;* pay at 40 shillings a month.

COUNTER STATEMENT.

The territory of Louisiana, purchased at what it would cost to maintain a STANDING ARMY of *twenty five thousand men, for seven years and a half, only,* contains at a moderate estimate eight hundred and forty thousand square miles of land; which would encompass the whole earth with a belt, upwards of thirty miles wide; and divided into farms of half a mile square, or one hundred and sixty acres, each, would support *three millions three hundred and sixty thousand substantial* FARMERS, *with their families, to the end of the world.*

WHICH IS THE BETTER BARGAIN!!!

WASHINGTON

Jockey Club Races,

WILL commence on the second Tuesday in November next, over an excellent course, well prepared and inclosed with a post and rail fence.

First day—A sweepstake of 1600 dolls.

Second day—A purse of 400 dolls.—4 mile heats

Third day—A purse of 200 dolls—3 mile heats

Fourth day—A 50 guinea silver cup—10 horses

Fifth day—A handsome City and Town Purse—Two mile heats

All horses, mares and geldings, to be entered and run agreeably to the rules of the club, and to carry the following weight:

An aged horse, 126—a six years old 120—a five years old 112—a four years old 100, and a three years old 90 pounds. Three pounds being allowed to fillies, mares and geldings.

The following tolls to be paid at the gate to the clerk of the course, M. C. Bailey, or any person authorised by him to receive the same.

Four wheel carriages, 1 Doll. each,
Two wheel do. 50 Cents do.
Every man and horse, 25 Cents.

Booths will be let on application to the subscriber.

It is probable that the 2d & 3rd days purses will be increased—as the surplus of the tolls after defraying the expences, &c. will be added to them.

CH. M'LAUGHLIN, Sec. & Tr.

☞ The club will meet at the Union Tavern on the evening preceding the first day's race.

September 14. eptr