true, let me ask, shall we not pursue a similar course by adopting the present resolution? Shall we not authorise a committee to enquire, is their no judicial guilt abroad in our land? Is there no latent iniquity in some unexplored corner of our country? A grand jury is sworn diligently to enquire, and true presentment make, of all such offences against the laws of the land, as shall come to their knowledge. Have we taken such an oath? Are we under such obligations? And are we not about to attach to ourselves that character which gentlemen tell us is so odious, the character of common informers? I am under no fears that the stream of justice which ought to be so pure, will become turbid, from a want of accusers, when our judges shall be guilty of crimes. When our court shall become corrupt and despotic, patriotic motives will induce our citizens to bring forward accusations. I am also sensible of the propriety and force of the observation of the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. R. Griswold) that the trial in question was a transaction of great publicity, and all its circumstances must have been known to thousands of our citizens. This induces me to believe that the conduct of the court was not so oppressive and despotic as is now represented. Why has this awful charge slumbered so long?

One or two remarks upon the allusions that have been made to my observations that we are about to assume censorial and inquisitorial powers, and I will dismiss the subject. What is the language of the resolution?—Without the allegation of a single fact, it constitutes a committee to enquire whether the judges have not so acted in their official capacity as to render necessary the interposition of the constitutional powers of this House. The expression is unequivocal; the allusion to the power of impeachment is perfectly obvious. This is what is called a *petitio principii*; it takes for granted, at least in some degree, what remains to be proved, that the conduct of the judges has been improper and illegal. Else why adopt a language which implies suspicion and censure? But gentlemen are alarmed at the epithet *inquisitorial*, and imagination teems with the horrors of the Spanish Inquisition. If the creation of this committee be an unauthorised act, if in creating it we transcend those limits which we ought, by a reasonable construction of the constitution, to set to our own powers, it instantly becomes inquisitorial in its nature and in its operation. We must delegate to it more than general powers. We must authorise it to send for persons, and probably for papers and records.—The proposition is hostile to republican principles, and as a republican I cannot give my vote in its favour.

[*To be continued.*]

Valuable property for Sale.

In virtue of a deed of trust executed and bearing date on the 8th day of January 1798, between ISAAC POLOCK of the first part, WILLIAM DEAKINS jun. since deceased of the second part, and JONAH THOMPSON and RICHARD VEITCH of the third part. I the subscriber being the Executor, devisee and legal Assignee of the said William Deakins jun. deceased, for the purpose of executing the trusts in and by that deed declared, shall and will on the 27th day of March next, if fair, if not, the next fair day, at the Tavern of John H. Barney in George-Town, expose to public sale for Cash, to the highest bidder, that valuable Lot situated on Water street, in said town, on which the House at present occupied by Mr. Barney, as a Tavern, stands, together with all the buildings and improvements on the same, said lot, fronting on Water-street 52 feet, and running back 175 feet parallel with Cherry Alley, and binding thereon, being part of that lot designated in the plan of Old George-Town, by No. 49.—Also another Lot on Keys street, (being part of that Lot designated by the No 77 in the plan of Old George-Town) comprehending a part of that wharf lately occupied as a Lumber Yard, by Mr. George King—also a large and convenient two story brick dwelling house.—More particular information relative to the above valuable property, may be had at any time previous to the day of sale, by application to Messrs. Thompson and Veitch in Alexandria, John T. Mason, Esq. George-Town, or the subscriber.

FRANCIS DEAKINS.
Executor and Devisee of William Deakins jun. deceased.

George town, January 20—tw t27Mar

Fifteen Dollars Reward.

RAN AWAY from the subscriber near Dumfries, on the 3d inst. a negro man named HARRY, about 25 years old five feet 7 or 8 inches high, middling black, straight but slender made, has a large beard, flat nose, small eyes, large mouth and thick lips, chews tobacco, and is very sensible. Had on when he went away an old blue surtout coat, an old blue strait coat with steel buttons on it, each of fine cloth; an old pair of velvet breeches, a pair of dark mixt wool stockings, a pair of patched shoes and a wool hat. He was late the property of Christopher Criglar or Edward March of Frederick county Virginia; he formerly lived at Tapsico Furnace, where it is expected he now is and will endeavor to pass as a free man. Any person apprehending said Negro and securing him in any jail so that I get him again shall receive the above reward. Any information respecting said Negro, given to Mr. Samuel Davis in Dumfries, Mr. Samuel Jackson in Prince Wm. County, or to the subscriber living in Wythe county Virginia will be thankfully received.

FRANCIS L. CARTER.

Jan. 20—tf

WASHINGTON CITY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1804.

The legislature of the State of DELAWARE have rejected the Amendment to the Constitution respecting the mode of electing a President and Vice-President;—and have, we understand, adopted a resolution declaring the proceedings of Congress on this subject inconsistent with the interest, peace, and happiness of the several states, and also unconstitutional.

In New Hampshire, the consideration of the proposed amendment to the Constitution has been postponed until June next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, January 18.

Mr. Newton observed that Congress having assumed jurisdiction over the territory of Columbia, it became their duty to prevent laws existing therein from being oppressive in their operation. At present a person, though a citizen of a particular state, and prosecuted in his state for debt, might be held to bail in the territory, without obtaining relief. Mr. N. after stating a recent case of this nature, moved the appointment of a committee to enquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary to be made in the laws of the district of Columbia relative to holding persons to bail.

Resolution agreed to, and a committee of five members appointed.

The House again went into a committee of the whole—Mr. Dawson in the chair—on Mr. Rodney's motion to extinguish STATE BALANCES.

The resolution was supported by Messrs. Blackledge, Rodney, Holland, J. Clay and Root; and opposed by Messrs. Findley, Southard, Varnum and Bedinger;

When the question was taken, and the resolution, offered by Mr Rodney, for extinguishing the state balances, disagreed to—Ayes 64—Noes 65.

THURSDAY, January 19.

The House, according to the order of the day, heard Mr. Cowan, counsel for the Virginia Yazoo Company.

The House took up the report of the committee of the whole, on the resolution for extinguishing the STATE BALANCES, containing a disagreement thereto.

Messrs. Skinner, Eustis, Gregg and Findley supported, and Messrs. Rodney, Leib, M. Williams and Kennedy opposed the report of the committee of the whole; when the question was taken by Yeas and Nays, and passed in the negative—Yeas 65—Nays 67.

On motion of Mr. Nicholson, the resolution, originally laid on the table by Mr. Rodney, to extinguish balances, was taken up.

Mr. Varnum moved to amend it by by adding "and that provision ought to be made to pay to the creditor states, in the stock of the United States, their respective proportions of the whole amount of said balance in the ratio prescribed by the constitution of the U. States for the apportionment of direct taxes among the several states."

On this amendment a debate ensued, in which it was supported by Messrs. Varnum and R. Griswold, and opposed by Messrs. J. Clay, Blackledge, Findley, Dennis and Alston.

Mr. Nicholson moved to amend the amendment by inserting after "proportions," the words "if entitled to any." Lost—Ayes 53—Noes 64.

Adjourned.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

It is the true interest of every nation to blend liberality with economy. While, on one hand, we should avoid that profusion which would uselessly impoverish the public purse, and create new demands on the industry of the people, we ought, on the other hand, to exhibit that generous spirit which delights in rewarding those public officers whose talents and time are faithfully applied to our concerns. If we are prodigal in bestowing our pecuniary rewards we may endanger the integrity of individuals, and a licentious temper, a criminal carelessness of public treasure will quietly and imperceptibly pervade the community—But while we cherish true economy, let us not suffer our disposition to degenerate into the base, and contemptible selfishness of the miser. He begins with starving others, and ends by starving himself.

These reflections have arisen from a perusal of the late debates on the salary bill. I rejoice in perceiving that a majority of my countrymen have shewn, by their vote on that bill, a liberal spirit, preserved within rational limits, by a due attention to that economy with which our treasury should be always guarded—But there are two officers to whom, I think, justice has not been done. There has not been manifested, toward them, that disposition which becomes the legislators of a liberal and free people. The House of Representatives has refused its sanction to that resolve of the Senate which proposed to grant the Post Master General, and assistant Post Master General, a reward adequate to their services. I cannot suppose that the veto on the Senate's bill has proceeded from any ignoble parsimony, or any disapproving sentiments of the persons holding those offices. But my understanding is convinced that those officers do not now receive a salary, proportioned to the talents and toils, necessary to the performance of their particular duties. My experience has enabled me to estimate, with some degree of accuracy, the great and increasing labors which rest on them. They are not known to those persons who voted against the bill from the Senate. Their business is incessantly pressing. There is no time of leisure, no vacant hour which they can devote to social comforts, except they regain it from those moments which nature demands for the restoration of exhausted strength. Shall those officers receive only a bare sustenance for the performance of their arduous duties, for the great deprivations which they necessarily endure? I presume to say that there is no station in our federal government, subject to more incessant labor, more exhausting attention than the post office department. In estimating the salaries of those offices we ought not to make them a subject of traffic, or hold them up for sale to the lowest bidder. We should take into view the labor and expence to which they will subject their holders; we should consider the talents, integrity, and industry, necessary to an able and faithful performance of the official duties, and we should also regard the probable reward which the same talents and industry would acquire in other avocations. Do the present salaries of the Post Master General and his assistant equal the sum which their talents and labor would procure in other occupations? I answer no. Will their salaries furnish them with any thing more than a moderate subsistence? No. Do the people of the United States wish their officers to waste their lives for a mere living? The people are too just—too generous—they disdain such an imputation. Let it not be said that the present officers receive a salary equal to that which was paid the former—but let it be recollected that the business of these officers has greatly increased within a few years, and if they were entitled to their present salaries three years ago, they may justly claim the sums proposed by the Senate now. I hope, if the resolve of the Senate should be again brought before the House of Representatives, they will reconsider the matter deliberately, and partaking the liberal sentiments of their constituents, will give the United States an evidence of their just spirit by a vote in favor of the bill.

REPORTS
Made to the House of Representatives.

Report of the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures on the Bill from the Senate, intituled An Act to authorise the sale of the ship General Greene, &c. and on the resolve of the House, passed the 4th instant, directing an enquiry to be made whether any, and what further addition be necessary to the Naval Establishment of the United States.

It does not appear from any document accompaning the papers referred, or in the possession of the committee, that the commercial prosperity or external relations of the nation require the addition of any more ships to our naval establishment at this juncture. The peace lately concluded with Morocco, and the prospect of the termination of the war with Tripoli, would appear to render more vessels unnecessary at present. Did the public defence and general welfare, seem to demand the building or purchasing the two vessels contemplated in the bill, the committee would have no hesitation to recommend, not only that number, but a further and sufficient armament.

The ship General Greene, as is alleged, is so far decayed as to be likely to sell but for a very moderate price.—Even the debates in Congress are believed to have countenanced the belief, that she would bring but a small sum into the treasury, if disposed of either at private sale or at auction. At the same time it occurs to the committee, that she might probably be turned into a sheer-hulk or store ship, & thus be very serviceable in the neighbourhood of a navy-yard, by aiding in taking out and putting in masts, in heaving ships down, and in other operations incidental to the construction and repairing of vessels.

It is therefore submitted as the opinion of the committee,

That no legislative provision is necessary at present, to authorise the buying, selling, or building of vessels.

That the ship General Greene be kept for public use, and converted into a sheer-hulk or store ship, if upon a survey made, she shall be found fit for either of those purposes.

And that the first, second and third sections be stricken out of the bill.

The Committee on the subject of the Post Office, and Post Roads, to whom was recommitted their Report relative to a post rout from the City of Washington, to Natchez, and New-Orleans, with instructions to enquire and report, what is the most convenient, safe, and proper route, for carrying the mail between the City of Washington, and New Orleans, therein designating the principal settlements, and towns, through which, in the opinion of the committee, the same ought to pass:

REPORT—

THAT as this route must pass thro' the Mississippi territory, a distance of nearly four hundred miles, wholly uninhabited by citizens of the United States, except on the Tombigby river, without this country being first explored, it is not in the power of your committee to designate the most proper route through it, with any degree of precision; equal difficulty occurs for the same reason, in determining whether it ought to pass on the east, or on the west side of the Allegany mountains; because until this unimproved territory has been explored for the purpose of laying out a road, it is uncertain at what place it ought to intersect the frontier settlements of Tennessee or Georgia. However, as the result of the best information which the committee have been able to obtain, pursuant to the instructions of the house, they submit as their opinion the following resolution:

Resolved That the mail ought to be carried on the present route as established by law, from the city of Washington to Knoxville in Tennessee, (this route is represented to pass by Culpepper court house, Orange court house, through Charlottesville, Waynesboro', Lexington, Pattonsburgh, Fincastle, by Montgomery court house, Wythe court house, through Abington, Jonesborough, and by Hawkins' court house to Knoxville;) from thence by Tellico block house, and through the Cherokee nation of Indians, and the settlement on the Tombigby river, to New-Orleans.

And further, that a post route ought to be established from the said settlement on the Tombigby to Natchez.

H. CARITAT's PROPOSALS

For Publishing by subscription, a National work, entitled

A Journey,

Made by order of the French government, from Pitsburg on the river Ohio, through the western territory of the United States to the Upper and Lower parts of

LOUISIANA,

Chiefly on the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois, Arkansas and the adjacent rivers as low as *NEW ORLEANS.*

In the years 1796 and 1797,

BY GENERAL COLLOT.

This work will be comprised in two volumes in 4to * containing thirty charts drawn for the most part on imperial paper of the dimensions of three feet six inches, together with plates and views executed by the best artists of Paris, describing the aspect of the country, its supposed boundaries, the nature of the soil, the farms, hamlets, villages and towns, which border on the Ohio, the Mississippi, and other rivers, and marking their soundings and those of the creeks which pour their waters into their floods. Translated into English from the original manuscript, by Helen Maria Williams—Subscriptions to this work are received by Mr John Barnes, and Mr. John March, George Town, and Mr. Wm. Duane and Messrs. Rapine, Conrad & Co. Washington—and the principle booksellers in the United States.

PROSPECTUS.

The French government having formed the design of making the acquisition of Louisiana, became highly interested in procuring more positive information respecting that country, than it had hitherto obtained. Gen. Collot was therefore commissioned in 1796, to take the most accurate survey of the country.

This mission gen. Collot undertook notwithstanding the dangers with which it was attended and which proved fatal to some of his suite,† which consisted among others, of twelve persons, skilled in geography and drawing. He began his expedition at Pitsburg, where he embarked on the Ohio and followed the course of this river to its junction with the Mississippi, describing the country on each side of its banks, the rivers which empty themselves into the Ohio, and the creeks, shoals and soundings. From the Ohio general Collot took a survey of the Mississippi and other rivers on the west, which empty themselves into the Mississippi, the course of which he followed to New Orleans, where Spanish jealousy attacked him, there he owed his liberty only to the firmness of his character; escaped from this new danger he reached Philadelphia from whence he had departed.

Gen. Collot not satisfied with taking the soundings of the creeks and rivers which he surveyed, pointing out the dangers of the navigation, directing the course of future travellers, by marking on his charts the rocks, shoals, banks and bars which obstruct the passage, &c. He has also indicated the quality of the lands, and the character of the country, with a degree of precision that cannot fail to be eminently useful to American emigrants. Forests as ancient as the world here lift their towering heads, while natural meadows, which extend 40 leagues without a tree, bounded by woods and intersected by an infinite number of creeks, demand the hands of cultivation. There, the most luxuriant vegetation invites the wanderer to fix his dwelling.

Gen. Collot astonishes his readers, while he conducts them through immense plains till now unknown, covered with mulberry trees, and silk worms equal to those of the East Indies, and left to the care of nature. He leads them to mountains of pure salt, to lakes covered with birds and full of fish of every kind; in short to lands become the domain of an innumerable quantity of game.

The author bestows equal attention on natural history and commerce as on other objects; he treats of furs in the minutest detail; nothing is neglected; nothing escaped his penetration; neither quadruped, reptiles, birds, plants, trees, nor mines of any kind. To relieve the minds of his readers from that lassitude, which is too often inseparable from topographical description, he has been careful to enlarge each of his chapters, with historical remarks, which afford just ideas of the manners and dispositions of the Indians he had visited and which are naturally connected with his subject, and engage by the interest they excite.

This interesting work was on the point of being published at Paris, at the expence of the French government, when Louisiana was ceded to the United States, which circumstance left general Collot at liberty to dispose of it.

Already several Americans residing in France, at the head of whom was Mr. Swan of Boston, wished to treat with general Collot, under the favor and advice of his excellency Mr. Livingston, Ambassador. They were disposed to advance the price, when the correspondent of Mr. Caritat, then in France yielding to the solicitations made him from every quarter, consented to purchase it on condition that the American gentlemen residing in Paris in July last, should subscribe first, which they did with eagerness.‡ Mrs. Helen Maria Williams, so advantageously known in America, by her literary fame, after having read the manuscript with the greatest earnestness undertook to translate it into English, and Mr. Tardieu, the first engraver of France, undertook the maps and plates, which are at present finished.

The public are respectfully requested to observe that Mr. Caritat did not consent to become the Publisher of this important Work, and to advance near 10 000 dollars to complete it, until he received from his subscribers at Paris the positive expectation that their example would be followed in the United states, by all men of Public character of Literature, Merchants and Persons in easy circumstances, interested in the glory and prosperity of their country. The Publisher has only one circumstance to regret, that he could not diminish the price of the work, which will however be found moderate, as may be proved, when the various and heavy expences attending such a publication, are calculated

The drawings and plates being extremely expensive the public are informed that there will only be a sufficient number of copies to satisfy the demands of the subscribers.

* The publisher is not ignorant that a work so necessary to the public, must generally speaking, be put within the reach of every class, as much as possible. This principle which applies to every country ought to be more scrupulously observed in America, where they are not familiarized with editions of the quarto size which the publisher has been obliged to adopt in the aforesaid work; had he taken any other, the end, as well as the utility of this work would have absolutely failed. The reason will appear just, when it is remembered that the size of the copper plates and maps, would not have allowed them to fold in 8vo without being exposed to such mutilation as would render their use impracticable, after having opened the book only three or four times.

† General Warin, his Aid de Camp, was killed by an Indian.

New-York, Nov. 28, 1803.

CONDITIONS:

The price of each copy on fine paper, with elegant type, will be 25 dollars, neatly bound, and 20 in boards, to be paid on delivery.—They will be ready for delivery on the first of May. A List of the subscribers will be published at the end of the second volume.

‡ LIST of those who subscribed both in Paris and here, before the Prospectus was put to press.

The President of the United States; his Excellency Robert R Livingston, Ambassador to France; his Excellency James Munroe, Ambassador to Great Britain; Mr Skipwith, Commercial Agent of the United States in Paris; Messrs Robert Louis Livingston, Peter R. Livingston Burnet, Maclure, Cutting, Fulton, Barlow, Melleville, Swan, Bensalon, Montflorence, Grant Burch, Fenwick, Whiteside, Wayer, Pinkney, Norry, Garden, Saint-Clair, Robertson, Morris, Miller, Cole Orne, and Capt. Burn.

January 18th, 1804.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers indebted for the National Intelligencer are respectfully reminded that, according to the terms of that Paper, unless payment be immediately made, it will be discontinued. It will be recollected that an annual advance payment of five dollars is required.

Ten Dollars Reward.

STOLEN off the Race ground on Wednesday evening last, a likely Sorrell MARE, saddle and bridle; the saddle is about half worn with plated stirrups and a new bridle; the mare is eight years old about fourteen hands high. Paces trots and gallops; shod before; the outsides of both hind feet a little worn by dragging them when rode; has a small star in her forehead, there is a scar on the off shoulder that resembles the letter C. Whoever delivers the above described mare, saddle and bridle to Mr. JOHN W. PRATT near the six buildings in the city of Washington will receive the above reward and no questions asked.

November 14—wtf