for his paper, sent to the clerk's office, no subscription or order for it was ever given or made by me, and that on this ground I refused to pay for it at every application made to me, although, like his fellow of infamous memory, Peter Porcupine, he continues to send the paper *even now*, with a manifest view to justify his malicious slanders. Whether I have been guilty of charging the House for *this paper*, and putting the amount into my own purse, and the consequent crime of forging a receipt therefor, (since it is well known that for every charge against the House I am required to present a receipt at the Treasury) Mr. Reif will be enabled to establish in a court of law; as likewise his equally unfounded charge, that I have withheld salary from two of my clerks, Messrs. Lambert and King, and for which I have their receipts in full to the times, respectively, at which they became due.

In respect to the second of these libels, by the editor of the Balance,—I answer,—that about twelve months ago I received an insolent, blackguard letter from this man, by the mail, demanding payment of his account, but enclosing neither an account nor a receipt. This letter I never noticed, and as no person has, in his behalf, ever presented an account to me receipted, or who was authorized to give a receipt, without which payment of it would not be admitted at the Treasury, I can no otherwise account for his not having received payment to this time. A copy of my circular letter, sent to him, and hereto subjoined, will shew that he was fully advised in what mode to demand payment. As I never received this man's money, I could not, consequently, retain it in my own pocket, as he basely asserts: And indeed what blackness of heart must not that man possess, who could possibly conceive and suggest that for the paltry sum of *nine dollars*, which his claim does not exceed, I have been guilty of a palpable fraud?

JOHN BECKLEY, *Clerk to the House of Representatives of the United States.*

28th February, 1806.

[CIRCULAR.]

Clerk's Office of the House of Representatives of the United States.

SIR,

I inclose you a list of the names of such members of the House of Representatives of the United States, as have elected, pursuant to a resolution of the House, to be furnished with your Gazette, during the present session. You will be pleased to forward to each of the said members as many of your newspapers accordingly, as shall not exceed the price of a daily paper, & transmit your account at the close of the session, agreeable to the accustomed charge to other subscribers, calculating at the rate of 365 days in the year for the exact number of days which the session may continue; when, to whatever person may be authorized by you to receive payment, and grant a receipt therefor, the amount shall be immediately discharged.

I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, MARCH 3.

OUR readers must have noticed, for some time past, strong animadversions in several of the public prints, on the conduct of General Armstrong, our Minister in France, in the case of the New-Jersey; which has likewise produced a remonstrance to the President from the Insurance Company of New-York. Of the communication of this remonstrance, Dr. Mitchill, of the Senate of the U. S. was some time since made the organ. An answer was made through him at an early day, by the President, expressive of confidence in the integrity of our Minister, and intimating that as soon as information had been received of the opinion ascribed to him, a letter disapproving it had been written to him, the reply to which, it was expected, would comprize the necessary explanations. The President added that having no doubt of the right of insurers to stand in the place of the insured, that right would be asserted and maintained on every proper occasion.

An explanatory letter having been since received from General Armstrong, and communicated to Dr. Mitchill, is now published, with the view of elucidating a subject which has excited so much sensation among mercantile men.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Armstrong, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, to the Secretary of State, dated Paris, November 26, 1805.

"I had the honor, within the last week, of receiving your letter of the 25th of August, expressing the solicitude of the parties interested in the ship New-Jersey and cargo, "least their claim should be rejected on the idea, that the rights of the insured did not pass to the insurers;" and communicating also the opinion of the President, that "American underwriters who had paid the loss to the original owners, citizens of the United States, were entitled to the benefits of the treaty of 1803."

In my next dispatches I shall furnish you with documents from which you will see, that the difficulties in this case, have in no stage of it, arisen from the causes to which they have been ascribed; that its admission by the American board was long suspended under col. Mercer's objections, that "no evidence had been produced of the insolvency of the captors," that its rejection, by the council general of liquidation proceeded from the belief, that "the ship and cargo were partially, or altogether, British property; and from certain other causes"—and that when this belief concerning the national character of the property was done away by the production of certain policies of insurance, which had been effected in different parts of the U. States, (but which till then had been carefully kept out of sight) the claim so far from being opposed on the principle that "the rights of the insured did not vest in the insurers," or indeed on any other principle, was on my suggestion sent back to the council, relieved from the first and apparently the principal objection, and left the subject only to the "other causes" mentioned in the rejecting arrete of the 28th of Frumaire. These "other causes" are fully exhibited in the report of the Director of the 4th division, dated on the 15th Germinal, and may be digested into the following heads.

1st. That the judgment of the 17th Prairial, year 6, pronouncing the confiscation of the New-Jersey and cargo, is still subsisting, inasmuch as it has not been annulled by the decree of the council of prizes, which directs only, the restitution of the sum deposited by the owner with Gen. Hedouville.

2d. That the claimants having neglected to prosecute their appeal within six years after the capture, were precluded, by the laws of France, from a right of appealing.

3d. That the New-Jersey not having a role d'equipage, as provided by the treaty of 1778, was excluded from the provisions of the 4th article of the treaty of 1800.

4th. That the captain and agent of the privateer not having been heard in their defence, nor even summoned to appear before the tribunal, the decree of the council of prizes was illegal.

5th. That no evidence having been produced of the abandonment of the ship and cargo to the underwriters, and the agents having even denied the right of either government to question them with regard to an abandonment of the property, and having besides acknowledged that the original owners, or a part of them, had acquired the New Jersey by a new title; by yielding to the underwriters, "*un droit convenable de reprise dans le depot*" it may be fairly inferred, that the loss never was paid by the insurers, and that the receipts (which by the way do not correspond in number with the policies) are merely fictitious, and,

6th. That were it in proof that the owners had abandoned, and that the underwriters had paid, still the claim of the latter could not be admitted, inasmuch as it could not now be liquidated under the rules prescribed by the treaty—the American commission having no longer an existence.

You will readily perceive that in all this there is not a single syllable pointed at the rights of insurers, "who have paid the loss of the original owners." It only remains for me, therefore, to shew, that in no after act either of the Council or of Mr. Marbois and myself, was the broad principle which has given so much alarm to our underwriting citizens, or even the qualified one to be found in the President's opinion, adapted or applied to the case of the New-Jersey—The report of which I have already given you the substance, not having been agreed to by all the members of the council, and the liquidator general not choosing to decide the difference, transmitted the case a second time to the treasury, with a wish that Mr. Marbois and myself might determine it—We complied with this wish—we did determine it, and admitted it for its full proportion of the marginal fund. It is true that Mr. Marbois and I differed somewhat concerning this proportion. He would have given 333,000 francs, whereas I thought that 300,000 were quite as many as fell to its share; and that you will think as I did, I have no doubt, when I inform you, that there are claims amounting to more than three millions, as sound in point of principle, less objectionable in point of form, and better recommended by the pecuniary circumstances of the claimants, for which I have not yet got a single sous."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28.

On motion of *Mr. Dawson* the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the union.

The resolutions of a select committee relative to the fortification of ports and harbors were read.

The first resolution appropriates one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to this purpose.

Mr. Dawson advocated the adoption of this resolution.

Mr. Clinton thought the proposed sum insufficient for the purposes contemplated, and particularly as it applied to protecting the harbor of New-York. He thought the posture of our affairs demanded vigorous and liberal measures.

Mr. Smilie moved a postponement of the further consideration of the report. He was of opinion that if the U. S. submitted to the insults and injuries heaped upon them, there was no necessity for incurring the proposed expense. But should the government manifest a becoming spirit of resistance, he would be willing to resort to any measures of defence called for by our situation. He, for this reason, thought it expedient, in the first instance, to decide the course of measures intended to be pursued.

Mr. Cook spoke against the motion of postponement—which was likewise opposed by

Mr. Dawson, who expressed great surprise at the course pursued by gentlemen on this subject. Whenever it had been called up it had been followed by a motion to defer it, notwithstanding the critical state of our affairs. He was of opinion that the subject ought immediately to be acted upon, and that the interest and dignity of the nation were not to be protected by mere declamation.

The question of postponement was then taken and lost.

Mr. Cook moved to insert 300,000 dollars in the room of 150,000 dollars.

Mr. Early moved to strike out 150,000 dollars.

Mr. Bidwell opposed this last motion. He was willing to make this limited appropriation, as the present object was the repair of existing fortifications. Did the question turn upon making new fortifications, it would require a very different consideration.

The motion to strike out 150,000 dollars was lost.

Mr. Macon then spoke against the resolution. He believed that it went to introduce a system of defence which the nation could not bear. He said the report embraced three modes of defence; by ships of the line, by gun boats, and by land batteries. To the seventy fours he was decidedly opposed; with regard to gun boats he cared very little about them; and he was opposed to the proposed appropriation for fortifications on land.

Mr. Dawson advocated the resolution.

Mr. Cook spoke in favor of the resolution; and made a speech of considerable length, in favor of appropriating a larger sum than that contained in the resolution, and in favor of energetic measures and a naval establishment.

Mr. Early opposed the resolution.

Mr. Dawson replied.

Mr. Varnum spoke in favor of it.

Mr. Clinton moved that the committee should rise, to allow further time for examining the subject.

Mr. Elmer opposed, and *Mr. Macon* supported this motion, which was carried.

Mr. Dawson gave notice that he would again call up the subject on Thursday next.

The resolution, reported by a select committee, to prohibit the importation of slaves into the territories of the U. S. was agreed to, and a committee appointed to bring in a bill.

SENATE UNITED STATES.

February 26, 1806.

Mr. MITCHILL, from the committee appointed on the subject, submitted to the consideration of the Senate, a report on those parts of the memorials from the merchants of New-York, and the chamber of commerce in New Haven, which relate to providing a further naval armament for the public defence.

In addition to the strong reasons urged in those two memorials, the committee refer to the President's message of the 3d day of December last, informing Congress that considerable provision had been made under former authorities, of materials for constructing ships of war, that these were on hand, and subject to the will of the legislature; and to two communications from the secretary of the navy, dated December 16th, and 21st, 1805, giving information that large supplies of timber, cannon, copper, and other valuable materials for that object, had been already bought and paid for.

Calculating the moderate appropriation which will be required to augment to a very respectable degree the naval force of the nation; contemplating the insults and depredations, committed by foreigners near our coasts, and at the very mouths of our most frequented harbors; and estimating the protection and security to the territory of the nation, and to the persons and property of its citizens, by an enlargement of the means of maritime defence, the committee recommend an adoption of the following resolution, to wit:

That it is expedient to make provision by law, for the appropriation of any balance which may remain unexpended of the Mediterranean fund, to the purpose of building ships of the line, under the direction of the President of the United States, agreeably to the provisions of the act of February 25th, 1799.

Treasury of Massachusetts.

According to the official statement, made on the 1st January, 1806, there was due *from* the commonwealth, 1,042,367 dollars—and there was due *to*, or in possession of the commonwealth 2,031,366 dollars. The state has, besides, a large quantity of valuable lands.

Boston pap.

OPERATIONS OF THE VIRGINIA MANUFACTORY OF ARMS.

It appears from a very accurate and detailed statement furnished by the superintendant of that institution—that in the year ending with the 30th of November, 1805, the following articles have been manufactured, and at the prices annexed to each.

	Dols.	Cts.	Mills.	
2135 muskets with bayonets,	10	91	2	each
211 pistols for cavalry carrying a musket cartridge,	7	52	2	
628 swords for do.	5	29	2	
18 iron scabbards,	2	45	1	
352 set tips for leather do.		81	9	
58 rifles,	16	70	5	

Besides various parts of arms, in a state of forwardness, but not yet completed.

Thus it will be seen that a musket of superior quality, costs only 10 dollars, 91 cents, and 2 mills. Those procured before the establishment of the armoury, cost on an average 13 dollars and 50 cents, and were of very inferior quality.

Number of Militia in the Commonwealth of Virginia, taken from the annual return for the year 1805.

Infantry,	76,573
Cavalry,	3,438
Artillery,	1,365
Total	81,370

New-York, Feb. 27.

West Indies—By the brig Farmer, from St. Thomas, we have received further advices of the different fleets in the West Indies. Capt. Whitney informs, that on the 1st of February, a French fleet of 10 sail of the line and 10 frigates moored off the city of St. Domingo. On the 10th Feb. adm'l Duckworth, with 7 sail of the line and 2 frigates, passed St. Thomas, bound to leeward. And on the day following 2 English men of war were seen steering the same course. In addition to the above intelligence, capt. Parker from St. Kitts, informs, that the English fleet of 7 sail of the line and 2 frigates, left St. Kitts on the 31st Jan. Next day 2 English frigates passed there to join the fleet; and in the afternoon 3 heavy ships were discovered in the offing, apparently French, and bound in the same direction.

No decisive stroke, then, has been made by the French in that quarter; though it appears from various sources, that they have had the advantage.

Capt. Vinall, of the schr. Washington, from Liverpool (arrived at Boston) who sailed from thence the 25th Dec. informs, that various reports respecting the military occurrences on the continent, were in circulation a few days previous to his sailing; but the last was that Bonaparte's grand army had been defeated. Capt. V. brought from Liverpool, London papers to the 22d of Dec. but gave them to the captain of a French man of war.

Subscribers in arrears are respectfully requested immediately to transmit their dues. They will otherwise impose upon the Editor the disagreeable necessity of discontinuing their papers at this interesting period.

PORTER CELLAR.

THE Subscriber takes the liberty of informing his friends and the public, that he has opened a PORTER CELLAR at the NAVY YARD, where he has on hands and will be constantly supplied with the best Philadelphia porter.

JOHN DOBBIN.

March 3—3t

N. B. The business will be conducted as usual in F street. J. D.

This is to give notice that if the heirs of a certain STEPHEN REYNOLDS, who died on his way from the western country in the month of August 1803, and supposed to have been a native of the state of New Hampshire or one of the Eastern states will apply to JOHN RINE administrator living in the town of Cumberland, Alleghany county, state of Maryland, will hear of something to their advantage.

By order of Alleghany county orphans court.
March 3—eplm

FOR SALE,

About TWO THOUSAND acres of LAND

On the east side of the Eastern Branch, and adjoining it, commencing about 4 miles from the Capitol, and 2 from the New Bridge, and including a sufficiency of wood; 300 or 400 acres of meadow ground, a great part of which may be watered; a good country mill, and a commodious brick dwelling house, with all necessary out houses, in good repair. This land will be divided to suit purchasers, though it would be more agreeable to SELL the whole together; and there is no more valuable estate than the whole, to be bought in the neighborhood of Washington, nor one capable of being made to yield a better annual income.

Apply to BENJ. LOWNDES at Bladensburg, or to BEN. STODDERT.
George Town, March 3—2w

PUBLIC SALE.

IN pursuance of the decree of the High Court of Chancery of the state of Maryland will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder at JOSEPH SEMMES's tavern, George Town, on the 11th day of April next, at 11 o'clock A. M. all the right, title, and interest of the late Thomas Clark of George Town, deceased to the following property, to wit:

Lot No. 13, in Peter, Beatty, Threlkeld, & Deakins's addition to George Town with the improvements thereon consisting of a commodious Brick DWELLING HOUSE, Coach and Smoke House and other useful outhouses—

Lots No. 173, 174, and 175 in Thomas Beall of George's first addition to George Town, and any other lots in said addition to which said Clark was entitled.

Also, a piece or parcel of land containing about fifty acres lying about a mile and a half from George Town and adjoining the land on which Mr. Key lives. The purchaser or purchasers to give bond with approved security for the purchase money with interest thereon from the day of sale, payable in fifteen months from said last mentioned day.

ALL persons having claims against said Thomas Clark, deceased, are requested to exhibit the same to the register of the court of Chancery aforesaid with the vouchers to support the same within three months from the said day of sale.

JAMES S. MORSELL, Trustee.
March 3—3w

A HOUSE & LOT FOR SALE.

WILL be offered at Public Sale on Tuesday the 25th of March next at Mr King's tavern near the premises, on a credit of 90 days, a two story BRICK HOUSE, with two rooms and a passage on each floor, a cellar and dry well therein. This house is situated on Lot No. 10 in square 718, on East Capitol street. Negotiable notes with approved indorsers payable at the Bank of Columbia, or Washington Branch Bank, will be required of the purchaser and when paid a good title will be made by

SAMUEL TYLER, Executor of Samuel Tyler, deceased.
March 3—w3t

BY virtue of a Deed of Trust from the Rev. George Ralph, to Samuel Tyler, deceased, and Mary Pottinger will be sold at Public sale for cash, on Tuesday the first day of April next, at Mr. Chapelier's tavern, Charlotte Hall Academy in St. Mary's county, a tract or parcel of land, called HULSTON, situate, lying, and being in the vicinity of said academy in St. Mary's county aforesaid, containing about 130 acres also 6 negroes, consisting of three valuable men a woman and two likely boys.

MARY POTTINGER, Survivor of Samuel Tyler.
Prince George's county, March 3—w5t

RUNAWAY NEGRO.

WAS committed to the jail of Washington county in Maryland, on the 6th instant, as a runaway, negro SALLY, about 20 years old, stout and likely, and a pleasant countenance; she says she got away from her master, who was taking her and several other slaves to the westward or southward, who had purchased her with others from a certain John Smith of Stafford county in the state of Virginia, but does not know (or will not tell) her master's name, she has on a striped cotton jacket or short gown, and Joans spinning petticoat, and appears to be far gone in pregnancy. Her owner is desired to release her, or she will be sold for jail and other fees, agreeably to law.

N. ROCHESTER, Sheriff
Washington county.
Hager's Town, March 3—w3t

BY THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

WHEREAS by the first article of the terms and conditions declared by the President of the United States on the 17th day of October, 1791, for regulating the materials and manner of building and improvements on the lots in the city of Washington, it is provided "that the outer and party walls of all houses in the said city shall be built of brick or stone" and by the third article of the same terms and conditions it is declared "that the wall of no house shall be higher than forty feet to the roof in any part of the city, nor shall any be lower than thirty five feet on any of the avenues." And whereas the above recited articles were found to impede the settlement in the city, of mechanics and others whose circumstances did not admit of erecting houses authorised by the said regulations, for which cause the operation of the said articles has been suspended by several acts of the President of the United States, from the fifth day of June in the year 1796 to the first day of January last, and beneficial effects arising from such suspensions having been experienced it is deemed proper to revive the same with the exception hereafter mentioned.

WHEREFORE I THOMAS JEFFERSON, President of the United States, Do declare that the first and third articles above recited shall be, and the same are hereby suspended until the first day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and seven, and that all houses which shall be erected in the said city of Washington previous to the said first day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and seven conformable in other respects to the regulations aforesaid shall be considered as lawfully erected, except that no wooden house covering more than three hundred and twenty square feet, or higher than 12 feet from the sill to the eve shall be erected, nor shall such house be placed within twenty four feet of any brick or stone house.

Given under my hand the twenty-fifth day of February 1806

TH: JEFFERSON.

Feb 28—2aw8w

Important to Sportsmen.

On the 29th day of April next, will be offered for sale, at the Bowling Green in Caroline county,

THE STUD, of the late Col. JOHN HOOMES, consisting of imported & country bred stallions, Brood Mares and their produce, for several years past—total about one hundred head. This is certainly the most numerous, and probably the best selected stud ever before offered at public auction in this country; as it is well known, that the late owner spared neither money or exertion, in procuring both at home and abroad such stock as appeared most certain to insure him success as a breeder. To gentlemen who may feel a disposition to engage immediately in the sports of the turf, several fine three and four year olds could be highly recommended, for size, blood and figure. Should any of the stud horses be farmed out for the approaching spring, the sale of such will be postponed, until the expiration of the season. The other stock will be sold without reserve. The terms of sale will be one half of the purchase money payable in six and the other in twelve months, to be secured by bond, with approved securities, to carry interest from the date if not punctually paid.

A considerable discount will be made for cash.

Gentlemen in the neighboring states are hereby assured, that the sale shall positively take place on the day above stated.

A catalogue will be exhibited, stating age, blood, &c.

JOHN O. WOODFOLK,
JOHN HOOMES,
Executors of John Hoomes, deceased.
Bowling Green, March 3—tw.