has been decided to be out of order to disclose the secret communications, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. J. Randolph,) has declared that France said if we gave Spain one blow, she would give us two or ten in return and others have declared France threatened us with war. Sir, I assert there are no such facts contained in the secret dispatches sent to us. I regret I cannot pursue the course in which other gentlemen have been indulged by stating what *are the facts* in contradiction of what they are *declared to be*; and though this should be a violation of order, it would perhaps be proper, as a disclosure has been provoked by gross misrepresentations, to repel them, & justify ourselves to the people by stating the information itself. I will therefore undertake to say that all the information we received from the documents on this point, was in answer to the enquiry, what their conduct would be, if we declared war against Spain, to which they replied they were compelled to take part with Spain (there was here a loud call to order by Mr. J. Randolph and others.) Mr. J. continued. I shall always respect the calls to order from the Speaker and the House, but not from that person (J. Randolph.) After some conversation relative to the point of order, Mr. J. proceeded—Sir, I wish to know whether if it is in order for the gentleman from Virginia to affirm that France declared she would for every blow we gave Spain give us two or ten in return; it is not in order for me to correct the mistatement, and if neither is in order to ask where was the vestal vigilance of the Speaker, when he (Mr. Randolph) prostrated every rule of order and decorum. Mr. Speaker, I have said and I repeat it to day, I should rejoice if all the secret communications could be made public, and not such parts only as the opposition wish; they would then afford to our constituents not a garbled but a complete view of our conduct, and they would then justly appreciate the assertion that France threatened us with war; and the charge of our giving money to conciliate France. But when we perceive in the message of the President, a request that it should be kept secret, I much doubt the right of withdrawing the confidence thereby reposed in us at this time. If when the messages were received we had determined not to hear them, & withhold their contents from public view, we should have returned them with the seals unbroken; but it is too late after getting them into our possession under the injunction of secrecy to divulge them without permission. I admit there are extreme cases in which we ought to communicate what we may confidentially acquire; cases involving the destruction of the constitution itself; but this is not such a one. It may be likened to the case of an individual, who would be scouted as a dishonorable man, if when he received information in confidence, he afterwards, without permission from his informant, divulged it. This House I repeat it, did not vote for the appropriation under the idea that it was intended to make use of France to coerce Spain into any measure. On the contrary instructions have been sent to our minister resident at the court of France, who is appointed envoy extraordinary to negociate with the court of Spain for the purchase of this country; the idea of coercion through the instrumentality of France was repelled by the gentleman himself; he declared that Bonaparte, with a revenue of 100 millions, besides what he could squeeze from his dear allies, would disdain to be bribed by a sum only equal to two weeks expenditures. There can be nothing, therefore, exceptionable in the measure, and if the assertion made were correct, and our candid opinion was, that the money thus appropriated would ultimately go into the coffers of France; there would be nothing improper in it as far as we are concerned. France and Spain are connected together by a treaty of alliance offensive and defensive. The one cannot go to war without involving the other. France would be compelled to take part with Spain unless she violated her faith to her; and I believe Bonaparte has never been charged with a want of faith to his allies; and this well accounts for the answer to our minister, that they were bound to take part with Spain. Sir, this is national honor according to British doctrines, and the gentleman will admit them. The ministry frequently boasts in Parliament, that their continental allies will not forsake them, and that no separate treaty will be made, no settlement of differences nor arrangement of territorial limits will be entered into without their approbation. There can, therefore, be nothing improper in Spain's consulting France in this business which relates to the transfer of a domain as large as Spain itself; and if she pleases, giving France the price of the purchase. The proposition was for the purchase of a country all important to us. So important as to have received the sanction of this House in 1802, under a declaration that we must have it by conquest, or purchase at a fair price. It was determined to pursue a pacific course then—the character of the nation required it, not only at home but abroad. For if we had determined to make interest the rule of national right, and resorted to force, because our interest dictated it, the powers of Europe justly alarmed by a spirit of ambition & aggrandisement which threatened themselves & their dependencies with destruction, would have made a common cause to crush us. The same course has been resolved on now, for the same wise reasons; and we determined to purchase such part of the Floridas as did not belong to us; for it was acknowledged by the gentleman, (Mr. R.) that we have not a foot east of the Iberville and the Lakes Maurepa and Ponchartrain. But admitting this point to be questionable, there was no impropriety in purchasing the territory acknowledged to belong to Spain, and settling the boundaries and extent of a doubtful right in the bargain. For my part I have no doubt that the measure in every point of view in which it can be placed was recommended by the soundest policy and the best interests of the nation. But we were told amongst other strange assertions, that by this vote of money we have violated our neutrality, that a neutral nation can do nothing beneficial to a belligerent, and as money is the sinews of war, we cannot on any account supply it. Whether this is not advancing British pretensions under British influence, it is for the sober sense of the community to determine.

I consider the report of the select committee as the best justification of the opposition made to the measure it recommends, and the severest commentary upon the conclusions which are professed to be drawn from it. It speaks of the "piratical depredations upon our commerce; of obstructing the navigation of the Mobille," and in the *daring violation* of our undisputed limits, &c. as affording "ample cause for a formal declaration of war." Sir, the exactions of duty on the Mobille, will undoubtedly be continued so long as Spain holds the country; the right is not settled by the laws or usages of nations; and thus indeed the exported products of the finest region of the U. S. may be subjected to duties, as well as those imported into it, and the travellers returning on the high road from New Orleans will, by engaging in broils with the Spanish subjects, eternally endanger the peace and tranquility of the U. S.—so that instead of war, sound policy clearly dictated a purchase—and what is the *daring violation* spoken of? A mole hill converted into a mountain—gigantic names given to pigmy events. It is nothing more or less than the arrest of the Kempers. *Is that "ample cause of of war?"* A few people headed by these men raised the standard of rebellion in the territory of Spain, from whence they fled within our limits, and were seized by our citizens, carried within the Spanish lines and there delivered to a Spanish party. And this is what is declared in the report to be *an ample cause of war.* After urging that we are "too far removed from the powerful nations of the earth for our safety to be endangered by their hostility," that "peace must always be desirable so long as it is compatible with the honor and the interest of the community"—that "we are heavily burthened with debt"—and the best interests of the nation cry aloud for peace—"that *when the debt is discharged, and not till then,* may *we bid defiance to* the world"—that "the present moment is peculiarly auspicious for this great and desirable work—that "now if ever the national debt is to be paid by reaping the rich harvest of neutrality," the report concludes with recommending a war measure—the raising a number of troops to "*chastise Spanish inroad and insult.*" I should have been convinced had I voted for such a proposition, and for such reasons, that the people as they formerly have, would withdraw their confidence and dismiss from office an administration, fomenting national irritation, and adopting war measures for such miserable reasons, founded on such insignificant causes. I had another reason for opposing this standing army measure. I believed the militia of the U. S. were most grossly traduced by its friends—they were represented as inefficient and not to be relied on. *I* believed on the contrary that they were equal to any emergencies that could arise, and would defend their country with more bravery than mere mercenaries. *I* feared that as in other countries so in this, this pretext might be made use of to get a standing army, the most potent engine in the hands of a despot, to enforce obedience to his will. And although cases may arise when it is necessary to raise armies—if it is recollected that the aggression most complained of was officially disavowed by the Spanish authorities, and satisfaction promised—this cannot be of that description.

A high officer of the government has been charged with an unconstitutional attempt to draw money from the treasury without an appropriation by law—but on the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury *I* deny it. The charge therefore reverberates on its author unless he justifies himself for making it. *I* will conclude my remarks by repeating what *I* commenced with declaring, that *I* did not mean, nor do *I* think it incumbent on any one, to vindicate the character of the Secretary of State.—The charges have been reiterated from day to day, and his friends repeatedly challenged to come forward and justify him. But when the principal allegation is totally untrue, the others will and must be duly appreciated—Those who take mere assertion for fact will believe them, but the great mass of the people of this country will require more than individual assertion before they withdraw their confidence, and condemn the individual whose whole life has been devoted to the service of his country, and whose services are known and acknowledged by every liberal man—they will not consent to believe charges without the least proof.

The question was then taken by yeas and nays on the motion of Mr. *J. Randolph*, "that the printed supplemental journal of secret proceedings be amended, by inserting after the word "*read,*" in the third line of the first page, the message of the President of the U. S. of the 6th of December last, and that a new edition of the said journal, thus amended, be printed for the use of the members"——as follows:

YEAS——Messrs. Bassett, Bedinger, Betton, G. W. Campbell, Chittenden, Clark, J. Clay, Dana, Davenport, Dawson, Elliot, Ellis, Ely, Eppes, Garnett, Goldsborough, Gray, Hastings, Holmes, Hough, Kelly, Lewis, Mosely, J. Nelson, Pitken, Quincy, J. Randolph, Rea, (Penn.) Sammons, J. C. Smith, S. Smith, Spalding, Stedman, Sturges, Taggart, Tallmadge, P. R. Thompson, T. W. Thompson, Trigg, Van Cortlandt, Van Rensselaer, Wadsworth, D. R. Williams, Wilson.——44.

NAYS——Messrs. Alexander, Alston, Anderson, Bard, Barker, Blackledge, Blake, Blount, Brown, Butler, Chandler, Claiborne, M. Clay, Clopton, Conrad, Covington, Crowninshield, Cutts, Darby, Dickson, Earle, Early, Elmer, Findley, Fisk, Fowler, Goodwyn, Gregg, Green, Halsey, Hamilton, Jackson, Jones, Kenan, Lambert, Leib, Lyon, Mac Farland, Marion, Masters, M'Creery, N. R. Moore, T. Moore, Jer. Morrow, John Morrow, Mumford, R. Nelson, Newton, Olin, Pugh, T. M. Randolph, Rhea, (Ten.) Richards, Russell, Sailly, Sandford, Schuneman, Seaver, Sloan, Smilie, J. Smith, Southard, Stanford, Stanton, Thomas, Tracy, Varnum, J. Whitehill, R. Whitehill, Wickes, M. Williams, N. Williams, Winn, Winston.——74.

NOTE.

On a subsequent day Mr. J. made the following explanation.

He observed that he had been misunderstood in the remarks he had made in relation to the conversation had with Mr. Gallatin, or in the warmth of his feelings had expressed himself differently from his intentions. He did not mean to be understood as repeating the words of Mr G. when he said the charge of attempting to draw money from the treasury *was not true*, but as stating the inference he drew from the expressions of that gentleman, for which he, Mr. J. held himself responsible. Indeed he wished to be understood throughout as repeating the substance of the conversation only—Nor did he mean to be understood that Mr. G. had given a licence or authority to him to repeat the conversation. He had asked Mr. G. as a public man respecting the charge, and received the answer as such—he therefore was *authorized* to repeat it.

BY AUTHORITY.

AN ACT

Respecting the claims to land in the Indiana territory and state of Ohio.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the registers and receivers of public monies of the districts of Vincennes and Kaskaskias, repectively, be and they are hereby authorised and empowered, under the direction of the secretary of the treasury, to lay out one or more tracts of land, in their respective districts, for the purpose of locating therein, tracts of land granted by virtue of any legal French or British grants, or of any resolution or act of Congress: *Provided*, that the tracts thus laid out shall be whenever practicable, adjoining the tracts which, in conformity with former laws, had been laid out for similar purposes by the governors of the north west or Indiana territories; and the tracts thus laid out shall not be otherwise disposed of unless by order of Congress.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That any person or persons entitled to grants of land by virtue of any former resolution or act of Congress, which are not specifically designated in the patents issued by the governors aforesaid, or which have not yet been located, shall have a right to in presence of the register of the land office, with whom the location shall be entered: and the surveyor general shall cause the same to be surveyed at the expence of the parties: *Provided*, that all the lands thus located, shall, in each tract laid out for that purpose, be laid out in a body without leaving any intervals of vacant land, and shall each be surveyed in the form of a square or of a parallelogram, the length of which shall not exceed three times its breadth.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the Registers and receivers aforesaid shall compleat and transmit their reports to the secretary of the treasury before the first day of December next. Each of the said officers shall be allowed an additional compensation of five hundred dollars; & each of the clerks of the respective boards, shall be allowed an additional compensation of two hundred and fifty dollars, in full for his services as such in relation to such claims.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the register and receiver of public monies in the district of Cincinnati be, and they are hereby authorised to grant certificates of a right of pre-emption to any person residing on any reserved section (other than section No. 16,) for the tract on which he resides, on the applicant's producing satisfactory evidence that his claim was within the provisions of the seventh section of an act intituled "An act making provision for the disposal of the public lands in the Indiana territory, and for other purposes:" *Provided*, that the person shall exhibit the evidence of his claim, and shall have paid at least one twentieth part of the purchase money, on or before the first day of August next: *And provided also*, that such certificates shall not be granted for any lands previously granted or sold, or for a larger tract than a quarter of a section, nor for any other tract than that on which he resides, and such land shall be granted at the same price, and on the payments being made, as for other public lands sold at private sale.

NATH'L MACON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
S. SMITH,
President of the Senate pro tempore.
April 21, 1806.
APPROVED.
TH: JEFFERSON.

AN ACT

regulating the weight and quality of bread.

Be it enacted by the First and Second Chambers of the City Council of Washington, That from and after the first day of June next, all wheaten bread made or offered for sale in the city of Washington, shall be made from inspected flour, either superfine, fine or midling, without any intermixture of the same, or the addition of Indian meal or flour from any other grain.

Sec. 2. Be it enacted, That no bread shall be exposed for sale, unless it be stamped with the initials of the maker's name and quality, and any bread offered for sale after the said first day of June, without the above stamp, shall be forfeited to the person to whom it is so offered for sale, or to the trustees of the poor of the city of Washington, for the use of said poor.

Sec. 3. Be it enacted, That the bread so offered for sale, shall be made in single or double loaves, to be so termed from their weights, the weight whereof shall be proportioned to the price of flour, ascertained and published agreeably to the directions of this act, the single or double loaves of bread of all qualities shall be of the same weights and regulated by the cash price of superfine flour agreeably to the following table,

Price of superfine flour per barrel.		Weight of a single loaf.	Weight of a double loaf.
From 4 dollars	to 4 50	31 ounces.	62 ounces.
4 50	5	30 do.	60 do.
5	5 50	27 do.	54 do.
5 50	6	25 do.	50 do.
6	6 50	23 do.	46 do.
6 50	7	20 do.	40 do.
7	7 50	19 do.	38 do.
7 50	8	17 do.	34 do.
8	8 50	16 do.	32 do.
8 50	9	15 do.	30 do.
9	9 50	14 do.	28 do.
9 50	10	13 do.	26 do.

and in that proportion as the value of flour encreases.

Sec. 4. Be it enacted, That in the last week of every month, the mayor or in his absence the register, shall from respectable merchants living in the county of Washington, ascertain the cash price of superfine flour, which he shall cause to be published in a city newspaper for the information of those concerned; and the price so published shall be the guide and standard under which the weights of bread shall be regulated for the month succeeding; provided always, that upon any sudden rise in the cash price of superfine flour it shall be lawful for the mayor in manner aforesaid, to establish the standard weight of bread per week, instead of per month, during the continuance of such rise of price and no longer.

SEC. 5. *Be it enacted*, That any person offering bread for sale of less weight than is prescribed by the third section of this act, shall forfeit the same, and also the sum of two dollars for every loaf so offered for sale, one half to the person giving information, and the other to the corporation; the information to be lodged with a magistrate in twenty-four hours from the time the bread was so offered for sale, provided however, that in giving his decision the magistrate shall be bound to make a reasonable allowance for the staleness of the bread or loss of weight by drying.

SEC. 6. *Be it enacted*, That if any bread be offered for sale, in any of the markets of the city, it shall be the duty of the Clerk thereof, to take cognizance of the same, and if found deficient in weight or quality, the bread forfeited shall by him be sent to the city poor house for the use of the poor, and he shall prosecute for the fine before some magistrate residing in the city.

WILLIAM PROUT, *President, pro tempore First Chamber of the city council of Washington,*
PHINEAS BRADLEY, *President, pro tempore Second Chamber of the city council of Washington.*
APPROVED,
April 17th, 1806.
ROBERT BRENT, MAYOR
Test THOS. HERTY, REG.

TAKE NOTICE.

The creditors of PETER VAN WAGENER (late merchant in the city of New York an insolvent debtor) are requested to exhibit their accounts properly authenticated fo or before the first day of May next to the subscriber for examination—when a dividend will be made of the said insolvent's property by

JOSEPH T. BALDWIN, assignee,
Newark, New Jersey, April 12—w4t

WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY, MAY 2.

THE following details are taken from the New-York prints of Monday. There is no American who will not feel indignant, in common with the citizens of New York, at the injuries and insults thus inflicted upon our rights as an independent nation; and who will not wish that it were in our power, without committing the peace and the great interests of the nation, to hurl on the heads of the offenders a condign vengeance. These lawless acts, we have no doubt, will be met, as they ought to be, with spirit; and the best measures pursued for vindicating our rights.

While, however, we join in the honest sensibility of the citizens of New-York, we cannot refrain from the expression of our astonishment at the wanton attack made by men, who profess themselves to be *federal republicans*, on the conduct of the federal administration. Was this an occasion, when unanimity ought to have been cherished, to light the torch of discord, and carry it into the ranks of those whose common interests should have led them to the adoption of vigorous measures? Was this a time to propagate slanders, which those who diffuse them do not, cannot themselves believe? Is it for this that certain men, high in consideration, have hitherto worn the mask of moderation and candour and friendship? Where is the proof that the present administration have consented to pay money to avoid foreign insolence, or to prevent the violation of national rights? Where is the proof that the administration *patiently permits* foreign armed ships to station themselves off our harbors, and there to stop, search, and capture our vessels, and to impress, wound and murder our citizens? Where, we demand are the proofs of these charges? We deny their existence. The whole nation knows them to be false. We ask again why the propagation of these falsehoods at this time? An adequate answer is only to be found in the state of the local politics of New-York. The papers from which we take these proceedings are dated on Monday, and the election for members of Congress and state representatives was to take place the next day. We are justified then in saying that it was for this paltry purpose, that these atrocious libels, which are unworthy of any men, and much more so of those men whose names stand most prominently at their head, were thus *seasonably* published.

New York, April 28.

IN COMMON COUNCIL, APRIL 26, 1806.

The Mayor laid before the Common Council two affidavits respecting the atrocious conduct of the Brittish in murdering John Pearce one of our fellow-citizens, while on board the sloop Richard, one of our coasting vessels near Sandy Hook. And also in violating the jurisdictional rights of the U. S.

Therefore, Resolved, That in testimony of the lively indignation which this board feels respecting the atrocious murder of a citizen of the U. S. and this daring aggression upon our national rights, that the said John Pearce be interred, with the assent of his relatives, at the public expence, on Monday next at 12 o'clock, that alderman Fairlie, Mott, and Mr. John D. Miller, be a committee to make the necessary arrangements on this occasion, that this board will attend the funeral in a body, that all the captains of American vessels in the harbor be requested to hoist their colors half mast on that day, that the bells be tolled during the solemnity, and that our fellow-citizens generally be invited to unite with us on this melancholy occasion.

The Mayor having informed the Common Council that he had immediately communicated to the President of the U. S. a statement of the improper conduct of the British ships of war of our port.

Resolved, That the board approve of the Mayor's prompt attention to the interests of our city, and that he be requested to obtain such further information as may be practicable respecting illegal captures, impressments, and detentions off our ports by the said ships, and to transmit the same to the national executive in full confidence that proper measures will be adopted for the vindication of our national honor and interests.

By the Common Council,
T. WORTMAN, City clerk.

FUNERAL PROCESSION
OF
JOHN PEARCE,

Who was murdered by a shot from the British ship of war Leander, Henry Whitby, commander, within a quarter of a mile of Sandy Hook, on Friday, 5 o'clock P. M. 25th inst.

The committee appointed by the Common Council to superintend the funeral of JOHN PEARCE have concluded on the following arrangments:

The masters of American vessels in port are requested to display their flags half mast, from sunrise till sunset.

The funeral procession to move from the City Hall precisely at 12 o'clock. The bells of all the churches to be tolled until the arrival of the corpse at St. Paul's church, the place of interment.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

The Reverend Clergy.

4 pall bearers Masters of coasting vessels.	CORPSE	4 pall bearers Masters of coasting vessels.