vision whatever would be made for persons of color that should be imported, who would prey upon society, and that Congress by avoiding to make a proper provision, would leave this important point to the precarious regulations of the states; from which it would almost necessarily follow, that the alarming evil, intended to be remedied by the interposition of the constitutional power of Congress, would remain uneradicated. It was contended, if the forfeiture of the person of the slave was abandoned, no effectual and practicable penalty would remain. Those who resided in the southern states knew how easy it was for a vessel to land a cargo of blacks in the night, and to escape without detection; a seizure of the vessel could, therefore, rarely be effected: and, consequently, the forfeiture of the slave was the only decisive remedy. It was admitted that this last course might be pursued by the states where slavery existed. But was it expedient or safe to trust the adoption of such an important provision to the states? Did not experience shew the uncertainty of such a 'reliance'? The naked fact, therefore, was that the adoption of this amendment, unconnected with some other provisions, would be a dereliction, by Congress, of the exercise of their constitutional power on this subject.

In this stage of the debate Mr. PITKIN rose, and took an extensive view of the subject, and of the incompetency of the several provisions of the bill to guard against the cases of importation likely to occur. He said there appeared to him to be many defects in the bill, which it would be far more convenient to amend in a select committee, than in committee of the whole.—As the bill stood, persons brought to this country contrary to the provisions of the bill, are forfeited to the U. States they are libelled, as in cases of merchandize and must be sold at auction—To this he could not consent, if any other mode could possibly be adopted. He knew not what other mode could be found to prevent this evil, yet he was confident some other might be adopted.

By the law of May 1800, our armed vessels were authorised to seize all vessels holding persons of this description—So ought they to be by this bill.—The provisions of the bill were not strong enough against the owners or commanders of vessels that might be employed in this business. Gentlemen have said that a vessel might arrive any where on the coast of the southern states, land a cargo, of these people, and be off in a few hours; where then was the remedy? Vessels were not liable to forfeiture unless found laden in whole, or in part, with these persons within the jurisdiction of the United States. Now what was this jurisdiction? Did it extend one, three, or ten leagues from shore, or how far? A vessel laden with these people might come near the jurisdiction of the United States, unlade her cargo, & afterwards, even within this jurisdiction she could not be touched, according to the bill, because she was not then found thus loaded in whole or in part.—American vessels only were liable to penalty; how easily could foreign vessels be engaged and employed.

In cases of suspicion, when vessels are fitting for any part of Africa, bonds ought to be given by the owner.——The law ought to be more severe against the owner of a vessel who employed it in this traffic; his whole estate ought to be confiscated; he ought to be imprisoned for life.

He felt the force of what the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. Early) said respecting their being left to the care and the laws of the individual states, as recommended by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Bidwell). But he thought some plan might be suggested, better than selling them. He could not consent to see them sold, like a bale of goods at public auction, for the benefit of the United States, and the money put into the public coffers—The preservation of property, of life, absolute necessity alone would induce him to consent to this provision of the bill—by the first part of the 4th section of the bill the officers of the United States were to sell these persons at public auction; and by the latter part of the same section a heavy penalty was inflicted on any person who should buy or sell——A palpable contradiction.

They might be bound or indented for a terms of years; proper officers of the general government might appoint to take care of them.

For these reasons he trusted the committee would rise, and the bill be recommitted to a select committee, as well with the view of making a proper provision on this head, as for reinforcing the other provisions of the bill with stronger penalties.

After a few words from Messrs. Smilie, Early, and Bidwell, the question on the committee rising was carried—Ayes 72—when the bill was recommitted to a select committee of seven members.

Mr. Smilie invited the attention of the House to the introduction of a new principle into the bill, a principle which, in his opinion, involved the reputation of the country. In looking over the bill he had been struck with surprise to find no penalty attached to one of the highest crimes man could commit. He believed there was not a state in the union that did not inflict the punishment of death on wilful murder. A captain of a ship engaged in this traffic was guilty of murder.

Mr. SMILIE said he was well aware of the propriety of proportioning punishments to crimes. In this instance, he thought, by annexing death to the perpetration of this crime, this proportion would not be violated. He did also believe that the people of the U. S viewed the subject in the same light. He was certain those of the state in which he lived did. Under this impression, he would offer for the consideration of the select committee, a new section—prescribing that if any person should take any negro or mulatto without their consent, with an intent to sell them as slaves, and transport them into any place within the jurisdiction of the U. S. they should be considered as guilty of felony, and on being convicted, suffer death.

The Speaker observed that it was not at present in order to receive this motion, unless in the shape of an instruction to the committee to whom the bill had been recommitted.

Mr. SMILIE said as the hour was late he would withdraw the motion for the present, and take occasion to renew it on a future day.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

HAGUE, Oct. 8.

In the extraordinary meeting of their high mightinesses, the 4th inst. his majesty laid before them a long message on the state of the nation; and the annunciation of the *necessity of the immediate anticipating the customary taxes of the year*, in order to give effect to the military movements which the state of affairs required. The report to their high mightinesses of their committee on the subject of the king's message, was accompanied by the following letter to the king—

"SIRE,

"During a number of years our country groaning beneath an unremitted series of oppression, has been flattered with distant gleams of hope, which have as constantly vanished.

"The great events which must finally decide upon the fate of the world and which have had such a remarkable influence upon this kingdom, have frequently deceived the best grounded expectations, and have caused the failure of the best concerted measures.

"The present period offers a proof of the truth of these assertions; & we lament with you, Sire, that the flames of war, which threatened our country and mankind at large with new disasters, have not been at this moment prevented by the happy result of the beneficent and wise measures adopted by your majesty.—The events connected with the present period are entirely out of our power; but that providence, in which your Majesty so justly confides, can so far over-rule them, as to render their result favorable to the continuance of the public welfare. We have been long accustomed to misfortune, and wait the course of things with calmness and tranquility. Far from wasting time in unavailing complaints we have thought it our duty to fix our attention to the measure on which your Majesty demanded our deliberation as being necessary for the preservation of the state. The measure expressed in your Majesty's letter, we have taken into consideration with the most convenient dispatch, together with the Decree added to the same; and we have agreed to the other measures for obtaining the necessary sums, an introductory detail of which your Majesty has been pleased to lay before us.

"We have accordingly decreed unanimously respecting the principal means expressed in the Decree of the project; but we cannot flatter ourselves that its due execution will be effected without many difficulties oppressive to land owners, and the middling classes. At the same time, however, we declare with the frankness which distinguishes the Hollanders, that it is not in our power to think of any other expedient better adapted to meet the pressure of our present necessities.

"The same concurrence of events, Sire, which have so often been the guide of our conduct; the same obligation to labor for the preservation of the state; the same desire of contending with multiplied disaster, and to restore prosperity to our dear country, have again induced us to determine upon the present sacrifice.

"We have adopted this resolution with so much the more willingness, because the benevolent disposition of your majesty was taken as a pledge for the utmost degree of justice and mildness in the execution of this measure, particularly with respect to those who are the least able to answer the demands made upon them; and lastly, we are fully determined to concur in every effort for the preservation of the country, and to promote with energy every measure that can or may be expected of our assembly.

"Having thus completed the object of our being called together, we return to our homes; there also shall we do homage to your majesty's zeal and good wishes for the public good; and shall communicate that confidence which we repose in your majesty, to our fellow citizens.

"This people, less animated by the impulse of passion than the impressions of gratitude and affection, are accustomed to practise an inviolate fidelity and love to their benefactors. Sire! the impending dangers being overcome and the welfare of your adopted country being once more secured by your exertions, may the consciousness of your having ensured the happiness of a brave and noble nation be your dearest reward, when every other pleasure prized by mortals shall cease to exist.

"Sire—We pray the Almighty to take you into his holy keeping.

(*Signed*)
"W. G. J. VAN RHEMEN,
(*Undersigned.*)
"J. COUPERUS."

EXTRACTS

From the proceedings of the House of Delegates of Maryland.

The report on the resolutions of the state of Tennessee was read the second time and the question put, that the house concur with the said report, and assent to the resolutions therein contained? Resolved in the affirmative—Yeas 57—Nays 9—which were sent to the Senate.

The report on the resolutions of Kentucky was read, the resolutions therein contained assented to, and sent to the Senate.

The following resolutions were assented to, and sent to the Senate.

Resolved, That our Senators in the Congress of the United States be instructed, and our representatives requested, to take all legal and necessary measures, to use their utmost exertions, as soon as the same may be practicable, to prohibit the importation of slaves into the United States from the coast of Africa, the West Indies, or elsewhere.

Resolved, That the governor be and he is hereby requested to transmit copies of the foregoing resolution to our senators and representatives in Congress, also to the executives of all the different states in the union, with a request that the same may be laid before their respective legislatures, for their concurrence.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

The House of Delegates have been engaged during the two last days upon two subjects of some importance. The one the Kentucky amendment to the federal constitution: The other a resolution, concerning the administration of the U. S.

On the first question the House of Delegates have not yet come to any decision.

The second question produced much discussion and some warmth. We shall at present submit no more than the general results before our readers; reserving a more expanded notice of this debate for a subsequent paper.

On Friday the 12th inst. J. H. Blake laid the following resolution before the House:

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Virginia have an entire confidence in no wise diminished, but increased, in the patriotism of the views and wisdom of the conduct of the President of the United States—and that the present administration merits and ought to receive the most cordial support of this assembly.

A motion being made and carried, the preceding resolution was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Baker, Brooke, Nelson, Prunty, Smyth, (of Wythe) Semple, C. B. Harrison, Miller, (of Powhatan) Blake, Love, Robertson, B. Harrison, and McHenry, (of Washington.)

On Thursday last, Mr. Baker, chairman of the committee presented the following substitute to the original resolution:

"*Resolved*, that the General Assembly have the highest confidence in the wisdom, firmness and patriotism of the President of the United States."

A motion was made by Mr. Kinney, to postpone this resolution to the 31st of March; which motion was supported by Messrs. Kinney, Archer, Murdaugh and Strother; and opposed by Messrs. Smith, (of King and Queen) Baker, Foushee, (of Henrico) and Robertson.

The question of postponement was lost—Ayes 25—Nays 131. When the question recurring upon the report of the committee it was carried—Ayes 138—Nays 19.

Yesterday Mr. Robertson offered the following resolution.

"*Resolved*, That the Legislature of Virginia continue to view with the highest approbation, the firm, just and liberal policy, which characterises the conduct of the government of the United States towards foreign nations."

A motion was made to postpone this resolution till the 31st of March; which was supported by Messrs. Miller, (Powhatan), and Kinney; and opposed by Messrs. Baker, Robertson, Singleton, Smith, (K. and Q.) and Foushee (Henrico.) This motion being lost—Ayes 30—Nays 126—the question recurred upon the original resolution. Messrs. Nelson and Lindsay having delivered their respective sentiments, the question was put and carried—Ayes 122—Nays 35.

On yesterday too, the Legislature proceeded by joint-ballot to the election of a brigadier-general to supply the vacancy occasioned in the 13th brigade, by the death of general John Bowyer: the ballots were found to be—

For Andrew Moore, Esq.	124
Colonel Breckenridge,	52
Scattering,	1

Of course Mr. Moore (at present in the Senate of the U. S. from this state) was elected.

(*Enquirer.*)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN MEETING

State of Delaware.

At a special meeting of the democratic republican citizens of Kent county, convened by public information, at the inn of Mrs. Cook, in the town of Dover, in the state of Delaware, on the 9th inst. for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of addressing Mr. Jefferson on the subject of the next presidential election;

PETER LOWBER, Esq. in the chair, and
DR. JNO. HAMM, Sec.

Resolved unanimously, That, whereas, the public expression of grateful approbation, is at once a reward and support of virtue, and suited to the genius of a republican people, who consider the public services as resulting from other obligations than those which arise from mere pecuniary rewards. The democratic republican citizens of Kent county, in the state of Delaware, feel themselves called upon, by the highest considerations of duty, to declare their firm and unabated reliance upon the wisdom, the integrity, and the patriotism of their fellow citizen, Thomas Jefferson, the chief magistrate of the union; and their entire approbation of the sound, manly, and virtuous policy which has heretofore characterised his administration, foreign and domestic; by which, under Divine Providence, the happiness and prosperity of this highly favored country has been signally advanced; the American name and character exalted abroad, the happiness and security of the people promoted at home; their civil, religious, and political rights placed upon a proud eminence, which *domestic faction*, or foreign despotism shall equally assail in vain; the national strength and power improved and consolidated, by a steady perseverance in a course of measures which reason and justice, and the love of liberty, have dictated and inspired; the calamities of war are averted from us, by conduct distinguished at once for moderation, firmness, and equity, in a state of the civilized, but corrupted world, with which peace in any part of it seems hardly to be compatible, and the means of repelling insult and aggression, when it shall be found necessary to exert them, made adequate to the vindication of our national honor, and the assertion and protection of our dearest rights and interests, against the strongest and the most powerful. The democratic republican citizens of Kent county believe that they cannot, at an important crisis of our political relations like the present; when, too, the demon of conspiracy and rebellion has reared its head in our peaceful and happy land; do an act, which, to the republican freemen of the county, will prove more acceptable than this public declaration of their sentiments and their wishes.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That a committee, consisting of eight citizens, taken from various parts of the county, be selected to draft an address to Mr. Jefferson, inviting him to permit his name to be placed on the list of candidates at the next election for the office of President of the United States of America.

Resolved, unanimously, That the committee consist of John Wilds, Andrew Naudain, Francis Barber, Peter Stout, Dr. John Hamm, Nimrod Morris, Dr. Wm. Whitely, and Dr. John Adams.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Aurora and National Intelligencer.

PETER LOWBER, Chairman.
Attest,
JOHN HAMM, Sec.
Dover, Del. December 12th 1806.

Hudson, December 16.

REPUBLICAN MEETING.

On Monday the 8th inst. pursuant to public notice, a meeting of the republicans of Hudson and its vicinity was held at Swart's assembly Room in this city, for the purpose of considering upon an address to the President approving his past conduct, and requesting him not to decline another election. At this meeting it was thought most proper to postpone the business till Friday the 12th, the circuit court being in session, by which time more general notice could be given, and a fuller representation from the county convened. Accordingly a respectable number of gentlemen from different towns in the county assembled on Friday evening and with great cordiality and perfect unanimity agreed upon an address, expressive of the sense and wishes of the republicans of Columbia, to the purport is fore-mentioned, and resolved that it should be signed by the chairman, MOSES YOUNGLOVE, Esq. and secretary, ERASMUS PRATT, Esq. transmitted to the President.

MR. FOX'S WILL.

[Extracted from the Registry of the Prerogative court of Canterbury.]

From a late London Paper.

This is the last will and testament of me, the hon. Charles James Fox, of St. Anne's Hill, in the Parish of Chertsey in the county of Surry.

Whereas the late Mr. Redman, of Hatton Garden, did, by his will, give and bequeath unto me a legacy of five hundred guineas, which I shall be entitled at some future time to receive, together with the interest that will become due for the same: Now I do hereby give and bequeath one moiety, or equal half part, of all such monies, unto my nephew, Henry Fox, son of Gen. Fox; and the other moiety, or other half part thereof, unto Robert Stephen, a youth now living with Lord Viscount Bolingbroke, in America. And whereas I am entitled to one annuity, or clear yearly sum of one hundred pounds, lately granted to me by his Grace John Duke of Bedford, for and during the term of the natural life of Harriet Willoughby, in the grant thereof named; now I do hereby give and bequeath the same annuity unto my wife Elizabeth Bridget, for and during the term of her natural life, if she the said Harriet Willoughby, shall so long live; and from and after the decease of my said wife, unto the said Harriet Willoughby, for her own use and benefit. I give, devise, and bequeath, all the rest and residue of my personal estate, of what nature or kind soever, not by me before disposed of, and also all and singular my real estates whatsoever, and wheresoever, unto my said wife, Elizabeth Bridget, her heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns for ever; only I wish her to make presents in my name of any books, pictures, or marble, she think fit, as remembrances of me, to the following friends;—Lord Holland, Gen. Fox, Gen. Fitzpatrick, Lord Robert Spencer, Lord Fitzwilliam, Mr. Hare, the Bishop of Down, Lord John Townshend, Miss Fox, and Douverie. There are many others whom I love and value to the greatest degree; but these are my oldest connections.

I nominate, constitute, and appoint my said wife, Elizabeth Bridget, sole executrix of this my will; and revoking all former wills by me made, do declare this only to be my last will and testament.—In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this twenty first day of July, one thousand eight hundred and two.

C. J. FOX. (L. S.)

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said Charles James Fox, as and for his last will and testament, in the presence of us, who in his presence, and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names as witnesses thereof.

EDWARD KENN,
CHARLES PEMBROKE,
ROBERT GILES.

By advices just received via Havanna, we are sorry to state, that, on or about the 12 ult. there was a violent gale of wind at La Vera-Cruz, in the bay of Mexico, in which nine vessels were wrecked, and the greater part of their crews perished.——Such vessels as rode out the storm at anchor, were only saved by cutting away their masts.

Gaz. U. States.

A few months since, we published an account, which we received from Africa, of the death of Mungo Park, at Sega, the capital of Bambarra, upon the banks of the River Niger. It has since been tho't to have been premature, upon the authority of a letter received and published in London. From the respectability of our informant, no doubt rested upon our minds of the fact. We have now the unpleasant task of again repeating, upon the authority of a gentleman who has just arrived from Africa, that no doubt remains of Mr. Park's death. He has seen and conversed, with several people upon the Rio Pongu, from Sego, who affirm it to be correct as we had stated it. It was always deemed in Africa, a very impolitic measure to travel through the interior of that country with a military force. He arrived at Sego, with but a few of his followers, having lost the greater number of them on his journey by sickness. The remainder were cut off, it is believed, by the king's orders. Sego is the residence of the king of Bambarra, and contains about thirty thousand inhabitants. Thus we have to deplore the loss of one of the most enterprising and learned men that ever attempted to make us acquainted with the interior of that barbarous country. His labors were as useful to society as they were honorable and commendable to himself—and if the hand of treachery has numbered him with the dead—he fell in promoting the interest of the civilized world.

Char. Courier.

Extract of a letter from Washington City.

"I have from the Secretary of War the most solid assurance that the Capital of your state and the Commercial Emporium of the nation shall be put in a respectable state of defence. Difficult as the defence of it naturally is, there is a determination to proceed with defensive works, until all reasonable demands shall be satisfied.

"It is meditated to finish Fort Jay with solid architecture that will endure as long as the base on which it stands. A battery will be necessary on the South Point, to command Buttermilk Channel. A strong work is meditated, by making ground at the extremity of Manhattan, near the Flag Staff. The Narrows will then be defended by a battery at Signal Hill, and a Castle or Tower according to Montalembert's Plan upon the middle shoal. Between these two the Chain and Boom of Archibald Robertson may be extended, and Gun Boats and Block ships may be employed to defend the whole.

"The attention of government is turned to New York; and by moderate but steady steps the city and harbor will be put into a respectable state of defence without any tax upon the city, or the state. The funds will be furnished out of the national treasury. But our citizens must be moderate, and not expect well designed and durable structures to spring up in a hurry.

"P.S. In a few days a report will