tee of Commerce and Manufactures, it was this.

The question of reference was then decided by Yeas and Nays as follow:

YEAS.—Messrs. Alexander, W. Alston, Bacon, Bard, Barker, Bibb, Blackledge, Blount, Boyle, Brown, Calhoun, G. W. Campbell, Carlton, Champion, Chandler, Chittenden, Clopton, Cook, Crowninshield, Cutts, Dana, Davenport, Dawson, Deane, Durell, Ely, Findley, Fisk, Franklin, Gardenier, Gardner, Gray, Green, Harris, Heister, Helms, Hoge, Holland, Holmes, Ilsley, Jenkins, Johnson, Kenan, Kirkpatrick, Knight, Lambert, Lewis, Livermore, Macon, Marion, M'Creery, Milnor, N. R. Moore, T. Moore, Jeremiah Morrow, Mosely, Mumford, Newton, Nicholas, Pitkin, Porter, Pugh, Quincy, Randolph, Rea of Pen. Rhea of Ten. J. Richards, M. Richards, Riker, Russell, Seaver, Smelt, Smilie, S. Smith, Southard, Stanford, Stedman, Storer, Sturges, Swart, Taylor, Thomas, Thompson, Upham, Van Allen, Van Dyke, Van Rensselaer, Wharton, Whitehill, Wilson, Witherell.—91.

NAYS.—Messrs Burwell, Butler, M. Clay, Desha, Howard, Lloyd, Love, Nelson, Sawyer, Sloan, J. K. Smith, Trigg, Troup, Van Horne, M. Williams, Winn.—16.

Mr. Bacon presented a memorial from the governor, by the direction of the legislature of Massachusetts, praying Congress to consider or compromise claims of certain citizens of that state and others to lands formerly granted by the state of Georgia and afterwards ceded by that state to the United States, (the Yazoo claim); specifically praying "that their claims be satisfied by an equitable compromise, or settled according to known principles by an impartial tribunal." A motion being made by Mr. Bacon to refer it to the committee of claims;

Mr. Bibb moved that it be rejected; but the Speaker declaring a motion for reference to have precedence, Mr. Bibb called for the Yeas and Nays on its reference.

Mr. Marion moved that it be referred to a committee of the whole; which latter motion was agreed to, 71 to 37, after a debate of three hours, which shall be commenced in our next.

The motion for reference of this petition was supported by Messrs. Smilie, Livermore, W. Alston, Holland, Bacon, Elliot, Chandler, Marion, Quincy, Macon, Crowninshield, and Cook; and opposed by Messrs. Bibb, Troup, Nelson, Randolph, and Alexander.

A question being made as to the day on which it should be taken up.

The first Monday of June next was named and disagreed to, 51 to 38.

The first Monday in May was negatived, by Yeas and Nays, 56 to 41.

This day was named, but the most distant day took preference of course.

The second Monday in February was agreed to, 55 to 43.

Mr. Randolph called for the consideration of a motion made by him a few days ago and postponed till this day—(relative to General Wilkinson.)

A motion for adjournment took precedence of this, and was carried—Ayes 63.

Mr. *Crowninshield* presented the memorial of Jonathan Grout, praying that some person may be authorised on the part of the U. S. to treat with him respecting the erection of telegraphs; which was referred to a select committee consisting of Messrs. Crowninshield, Nicholas, Findley, Thomas and Troup.

TUESDAY, JAN. 5.

The House were this day wholly engaged in the discussion of the resolution offered by Mr. Randolph on Thursday last, in relation to General Wilkinson.

The question at the last consideration was on its reference. It had been then moved to refer it to a select comittee, *with power to send for persons, papers, &c.* and a motion made to amend this motion by striking out the words in Italic was then under consideration and of course was first taken into consideration this day.

The motion for striking out these words was supported by Messrs. Lyon, Campbell, Milnor, Holland, Sloan, Dana, Fisk and Alston, and opposed by Messrs. Stanford, Gardenier, and Elliot; and was carried, by yeas and nays, 72 to 38.

The question was then taken on the reference of the resolution, and negatived, only one or two rising in favor of it.

The question then recurring on the original resolution, Messrs. Burwell, Troup and Quincy supported, and Messrs. Blackledge, Milnor, Campbell, and Gardner opposed it; when

Mr. Bibb said it was now a late hour (half past four) and several gentlemen who would wish to express their opinions had not yet had an opportunity; he therefore moved to adjourn. Carried, 60 to 43.

[The debate on this day will be commenced in our next.]

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6.

The SENATE have assigned tomorrow for considering the report in the case of John Smith.

We some time since, to guard against misconception, deemed it our duty, in noticing an article in the Norfolk Public Ledger, relative to a French seaman who had deserted from the Patriot, to observe that admitting the facts to be correctly stated in that print, we presumed that but little difficulty could arise in adjusting the grounds of difference, from the established usage of our government in like cases, which has been on a demand for deserters on board of a national vessel, where it is satisfactorily shewn that they are not American citizens, *to order their DISCHARGE.*

The Ledger, in honoring this article with a republication, was pleased to pronounce it *jesuitical* in manner, and without foundation in truth. Accustomed to respect the comparatively decent and even urbane language of this print, we were not a little surprized to perceive in it such a flagrant dereliction of decorum. And how, forsooth, did the Editor attempt to establish the charge of a destitution of truth? By the assertion that our government has in no instance *surrendered* a British deserter. Thus confounding the terms *discharge* and *surrender*, which, it must be obvious to the meanest capacity, convey distinct and even opposite ideas. The little respect we felt for an understanding that could *surrender* itself to such a confusion of ideas we imagined would be best manifested by silence.

The United States Gazette went still further. With characteristic arrogance and folly it observed—"of all the wicked and atrocious falsehoods, which our duty compels us from time to time to expose, the following is one of the most impudent." [Referring to the article in the Nat. Intel.] In the malignant aspersions of the Editor against the administration he falls into the same egregious folly with the Public Ledger, dexterously substituting the word *surrender* for the word *discharge*, and thus enjoying a great, though imaginary, triumph.

Now, reader, what think you of the following article, taken verbatim from the Public Ledger of the 28th ult. the very paper that so rashly pronounced the article in the Nat. Intel. unfounded in truth.

"We understand, from very respectable authority that orders have been *recently* issued to *all* naval commanders in the service of the U. S. directing that they are to *discharge* from under their respective commands all foreign seamen, which they shall be satisfied are deserters from any foreign service. It is, we presume, in consequence of these orders that two men have been discharged from the Chesapeake within a few days past, one a British seaman, and the other the French seaman who was particularly noticed by us a short time since.

"We are happy to perceive that our government is sensible that the employment of deserters from foreign service is wrong, and although this order cannot remedy the mischief which has happened, it may be the means of preventing future mischief.

"It is true the present order does not authorize the delivery of the seamen to the officer demanding them, it however goes far enough as relates to the conduct of the American officer. The delivery of deserters to the nation they belong to, is a matter of special negociation, or legislative authority. In this state, it would be in the teeth of a positive penal statute."

Here is a complete verification, from the mouth of an adversary, of the justness of our statement. The regard to truth, which induced the Editor to make this statement, should likewise have dictated to him the justice of retracting the unfounded imputation cast on the article in the National Intelligencer. We can scarcely flatter ourselves that this notice will receive any attention from federal editors, or that they who have rashly pronounced without knowledge will have the candor to acknowledge their error when detected, as this does not appear, in their opinion, to form any part of their duty. It will, however, be an evidence to our readers of an observance on our part of that truth, which it ever has been and ever shall be our highest ambition not to violate.

A late London Morning Chronicle, after asserting the right of England to resort to a measure of retaliation on France, which shall prohibit neutrals from carrying the productions of her colonies, says—

"Upon the question of right, therefore, we have no sort of doubt. We are entitled to apply toward America the law which she accepts from France. But in this, as in every thing, we are at liberty to wave the privilege, which strict law confers upon us, and to compare the benefits of enforcing the remedy with the disadvantages of winking at the injustice. The question is one of general policy. It is not what we are to concede to the Americans, but what good effects we are to procure for ourselves, and what inconveniences we can inflict upon our enemies, that we ought principally to consider. If by interdicting all commercial intercourse with them through foreigners, we could force them to discontinue the war, or to feed our resources by purchasing whatever they want from our emporium, there could be no dispute. But this way of stating the question is begging it. The point to be considered is, would this consequence follow? We very much fear it would not, and that the interdiction of neutral trade would be felt most by ourselves. To suppose that the French, who have suffered all sorts of violent disorders, who have seen their Kings and Queens, and Princes murdered, who have seen their property confiscated and dissipated, and their children hurried away to the armies, without the least question of the right of the quarrel, should rebel, or even murmur, at the dearness, or the want of sugar and coffee, is an idea so despicably foolish and absurd, that those who can even venture to hint at it, are not worth arguing with. We may be quite sure, that Bonaparte can very easily compel the very limited number of those who consume such commodities to renounce them, and in a land where wine and bread, and all the real necessaries of life abound, how can any body expect insurrections from the disappointed consumers of coffee and sugar? The truth is, and we ought to know it, such privations, if they are privations, will never be felt but by the few shippers and brokers of the commercial towns, now accustomed to ruin and decay. And to this class Bonaparte, with all his anxiety for ships, colonies, and commerce, never listened for one moment. Would to Heaven he had, "*errorem hostibus illam!*" The vast mass of the French people, those who swell Bonaparte's armies, never think of foreign luxuries. To them, all foreign commerce is of no consequence; and perhaps the event will shew, that it is not of half the consequence to any nation that has been supposed. The *spirit* of activity which commerce has excited, has been too much confounded with mere buying and selling. If by any other cause an equal degree of activity, spirit, and intelligence can be procured, trade may be dispensed with.

"If then the interdiction of commerce did not greatly distress France, and we believe it will distress France very little, may we not, by the grand measures of retaliation, happen to distress chiefly ourselves? Even we, who are particularly inclined to hold that commerce is a good subject, but a bad sovereign, and who think that in war it ought to be infinitely subordinate to military objects, cannot think it advantageous to sacrifice commerce without any military object whatever. Our commerce and manufactures have been much turned to the supply of foreign markets; surely then if by abolishing neutral trade we render it more difficult, nay, almost impossible, to supply those markets, it appears to us that we principally punish ourselves in stopping the channels which circulate our produce. We have strength indeed to do the boasted feat, but it is the strength of blind Sampson, who brought down the edifice upon himself in his zeal to destroy his enemies.

"There are some regulations, however, which perhaps may be carried into effect with some success at least, even without the sweeping interdiction proposed. There is no doubt that the Spanish and the French sugar colonies have prospered greatly of late, and to the Americans chiefly they owe the advantage; for the sale of their produce has wonderfully promoted their agriculture. If these colonies can be blockaded, let it be done; for it is not reasonable that enemies' colonies should enjoy the advantages of peace through the intervention of neutrals, while our colonies suffer the evils of war in being restricted to the intercourse of their mother country. But in this evil, such as it is, perhaps the interest of the colonies of France and Spain, and that of the mother countries, might be distinguished, inasmuch as it is proved that the suspension of colonial monopoly is almost always beneficial to the colonies. But while the French and Spanish colonies thrive through neutral intercourse, it is not perfectly true or fair to argue that the mother countries obtain *all* the advantages of the relaxation. That certainly is not the case. The French and Spanish colonies at present are but nominally French. They can dispose of their produce to the best advantage, and they do so without any restriction to a French or Spanish market, or to a French and Spanish supply. It ought to be considered, then, that any regulation against the carrying of the French and Spanish colonial trade would rather hurt the colonies than the mother country, and therefore all the arguments about reducing France by such pressure, are in this, as in every other respect, ridiculous.

"The whole of the rest of Europe & N. America, derive benefit, as well as France and Spain, from the cultivation of their colonies; but at present the advantages of the mother country are not those generally supposed. They are chiefly those of sharing along with all other nations that chuse to buy their produce at a cheap rate. The capital which cultivates the French and Spanish colonies, we are strongly inclined to think, is not an European, but a colonial capital, growing out of their own prosperity, and by no means a capital chiefly owing, like ours, to mortgagees and merchants at home. The total suspension of the export of the French colonies therefore would not ruin many merchants and capitalists in France and Spain, as is generally imagined. The only effect to France and Spain would be to cut off the supply of colonial produce, and would but in a limited degree intercept the return of capital. This is not generally understood here, as our colonies stand on so different a footing. But if this view be just, any great pressure on France and Spain by cutting off their colonial trade is not to be mentioned.

"The interdiction of neutrals from colonial intercourse, supposing it pretty successful, then would leave, it is thought, the whole market for our own produce, now so much reduced by the competition of that of our enemies. On this point however, we ought to consider the consequence of preventing all neutral carriage, as well as to the vent of our manufactures in general, as of our colonial produce in particular. If the same demand for sugar, &c. were to continue after the French and Spanish produce ceased to come to market, then to be sure our produce must greatly rise in price. But upon the supposition of those vigorous measures of retaliation being adopted, would the market for our sugar, or for any sugar, be the same? Is it to be imagined, that we should immediately be called upon to supply the void caused by the want of the supply from Guadaloupe and Cuba? On the contrary, would not such measures only render the prohibition of colonial produce from England more strict, and would not the foreign market, limited, as it would become, be supplied, if at all, by the smuggling from the enemy's colonies? The beneficial effects of all these restrictions is assumed upon this ground, that all which is now consumed upon the Continent would be supplied from English produce alone. Even this is but problematical at the best—while, by a sweeping measure of interdiction, as to neutral commerce, we must injure the whole of foreign trade, without doing much, or any service, to the West India planters.

"We do not, therefore, consider this question as at all, involving any concessions to neutrals, or any abandonment of naval claims. Let our naval rights, when really important, be maintained, unimpaired, both for our interest and for honor, but when we speak of distressing our enemies, we ought to reflect a little what we are about, and, in attempting to injure them be careful not to maim and disable ourselves."

Extract of a letter, dated, Norfolk, January 1.

Mr. Rose, the English Minister, who arrived, in the Statira on the 26th ult. still continues in Hampton Roads. It is said and generally believed, that there arrived in Lynhaven bay seven frigates or ships of the line yesterday, perhaps to give weight to his negociations. There seems to be more than "a speck of war in the Horizon.

FOR SALE,

A neat *FRAME HOUSE* at the Navy Yard near the Gate in a pleasant situation—For terms apply to

WILLIAM PROUT.

January 6—3t

The Subscriber has just received on consignment, One dozen barrels

Prime PHILADELPHIA BEEF,

And One half dozen barrels sound

CRANBERRIES,

which he will dispose of on reasonable terms.

JOHN OTT, Druggist.

George-town, January 6—2aw2w

WASHINGTON DANCING ASSEMBLY.

IN consequence of the last postponement, the next Assembly will be on Thursday the 14th inst. and be continued every fortnight thereafter, through the Season.

By order of the MANAGERS.

January 6—3t.

Washington, Jan. 4. 1808.

WE the subscribers do agree to sell BREAD agreeable to the weight this day published by the Mayor at the following prices:

The single loaf at 7 cents

The double loaf at 14 cents.

Peter Miller,
George Burns,
James Friend.

January 6—3t

Doctor LANCASTER,

INFORMS the Public, that he has commenced the practice of Medicine, in which line of business, he offers his services to the Citizens of Washington and its vicinity—He hopes from the experience of several years practice, & punctual attendance, to give entire satisfaction to all who may honor him with their confidence. He has taken a house on the Pennsylvania avenue, adjoining the house formerly occupied by Dr. BENSON.

January 6—6t

[illegible] AND GETTY,

HAVE for sale at their store George Town, the following articles just received from Philadelphia, by the schooner Carolina, capt. HAND, jun. viz.

30 kegs butter,

20 barrels, New Town, Pippin Apples,

10 do. buck wheat flour,

10 do. Cranberries, and

10 do. shell bark hickory nuts.

Also a small assortment of very elegant Looking Glasses, Waiters, Trays, polished steel Shovel and Tongs, with cut and brass heads, &c. &c.

January 6—tf

A MAP of the TERRITORY of ORLEANS.

Just received and for Sale at J. March's book store, George-town,

A new and accurate Map of the Territory of Orleans, including West Florida and part of the Mississippi Territory,

BY B. LAFON.

Price on Canvass and rollers 8 dollars.

And in sheets 5 dollars.

Likewise English, German, and Pocket ALMANACS for 1808, by the gross, dozen, or single.

January 6—4t

CONSOLATION.

Those who wish to grow rich without much trouble may be furnished with the means by early application at *J. March's* book-store, Georgetown, or of *G. & R. Waite's*, Baltimore, where fortune is now turning round her thousands and ten thousands to throw into the laps of the fortunate adventurers.

Take notice that she has 30,000 dollars, 15,000 dollars, and three 10,000 dollars, to bestow on the fortunate adventurers, either of which sums may be procured by 12 dollars which is the present price of tickets at either of the above places.

*** Tickets warranted undrawn.

☞ A regular list of drawings, will be regularly received every night at

J. MARCH's Bookstore Georgetown.

January 6—3t

NOTICE.

A GREAT BARGAIN.

INTENDING as soon as possible to remove to the state of Tennessee, I will sell for cash as great a bargain as has been known in this part of the country for 50 years past—That elegant estate called ABBINGTON, beautifully situated on the Potomac river, directly opposite the city of Washington;—containing about 460 acres, and now leased for a term of years to the Messrs. Wises for 360 dolls. per annum, with stipulated improvements to be made to some extent, which, with the buildings, &c. are to be returned at the expiration of their lease in good order. An early applicant may be assured that he may have an opportunity of vesting his money to great advantage, both for himself and his posterity, as it will be sold a sacrifice in proportion to what it was thought to be its real value before the lease was given, but it will be thus sold, in order to enable the subscriber to remove to Tennessee. She has other lands in the district of Columbia, two miles from George Town, to be exchanged for good lands in Tennessee. For terms, &c. application to be made to Baldwin Dade, Esq. Alexandria, in whose possession the title papers are lodged, and who is legally authorized to contract and convey all or any part of these lands.

B. DADE, for
Catharine F. Alexander.

January 6—1 w3t

FOR SALE.

10,000 ACRES OF LAND

Situate on Elk River in Randolph county state of Virginia.

A large portion of this land is fertile, of excellent quality, and is adapted to the growth of grain, grass and pasturage—it abounds with fine timber, large poplar, ash, sugar tree, &c. & is well watered. Birch river runs through it and affords many mill seats. Elk is a beautiful smooth deep river emptying into the Kenhawa, and Ohio, and may be navigated with large boats at any time, in the spring and fall, it abounds with every kind of Fish common to the Ohio. The whole or a part will be sold at a very reduced price for cash or exchanged for property in or near the city of Washington. For particulars apply to

JOSEPH WHEATON,
Com. Merchant & Broker.

Washington City, Jan 6—3m