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& WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

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FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM, MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1808. PAID IN ADVANCE

BY AUTHORITY.

AN ACT

Extending the right of suffrage in the Mississippi territory; and for other purposes.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That every free white male person in the Mississippi territory, above the age of twenty-one years, having been a citizen of the United States, and resident in the said territory, one year next preceding an election of representatives, and who has a legal or equitable title to a tract of land, by virtue of any act of Congress, or who may become the purchaser of any tract of land from the United States, of the quantity of fifty acres, or who may hold in his own right a town lot of the value of one hundred dollars, within the said territory, shall be entitled to vote for representatives to the general assembly of said territory.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the general assembly of the territory aforesaid, shall have power to apportion the representatives of the several counties therein, or which may hereafter be established therein, according to the number of free white male inhabitants above the age of twenty-one years, in such counties: *Provided,* That there be not more than twelve, nor less than ten of the whole number of representatives, any act or acts to the contrary notwithstanding, until there shall be six thousand free male white inhabitants of full age in said territory; after which time the number of representatives shall be regulated agreeably to the ordinance for the government thereof.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the citizens of the said territory, entitled to vote for representatives to the general assembly thereof, shall, at the time of electing their representatives to the said general assembly, also elect one delegate from the said territory to the Congress of the United States, who shall possess the same powers heretofore granted to the delegates from the several territories of the United States, any thing in the ordinance for the government of said territory to the contrary notwithstanding.

J. B. VARNUM,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GEO: CLINTON,
Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

January 9, 1808.

APPROVED,
TH: JEFFERSON.

This is to give Notice.

THAT the subscriber of Prince George's county, hath obtained from the Orphans Court of Prince George's county in maryland, letters testamentary on the estate of Francis Clement Dyer, late of said county deceased; all persons, having claims against the said deceased are hereby warned to exhibit the same with the vouchers thereof to the subscriber at or before the first day of August next, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of the said estate.

Given under my hand this 7th day of January eighteen hundred and eight.

ANNE DYER, Executrix.

January 15—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 in whose possession the title papers are lodged, and who is legally authorized to contract and convey all or any part of these lands. For terms apply to Mr. *Joseph Wheaton,* broker, city of Washington.

B. DADE, for
Catharine F. Alexander

January 6—law3t

National Intelligencer.

About sufficient time has elapsed to ascertain the impression made on the public mind by the embargo. As far as this impression has been ascertained, the sentiments we expressed at the time it was imposed have been completely verified. Among the Agricultural and manufacturing classes of the community it has excited no dissatisfaction. It has rather been hailed as a just claim upon their patriotism and fortitude, as one of those severe and strong measures to which true friendship does not hesitate to resort in extraordinary cases. No state in the Union will sustain so much temporary inconvenience from it as that of Virginia; and no equal number, perhaps, of individuals in the nation feel these evils more sensibly than those who compose her legislature. For no state in the Union raises so great a surplus of productions which depend so entirely on a foreign market for their disposition; and it is probable that the stake which the members of her legislature have in such disposition is greater than that of the same number of men in any other state. Yet we perceive, to their honor, that in a crisis of national danger, they spurn the idea of allowing any competition either between their personal interests and the public safety, or of enjoying, for a moment, the benefits of an exposed commerce at the risque of the ultimate prosperity of their country. Their vote of approbation, by its near approach to unanimity, shews that a hostile party spirit either does not exist at all, or that it is too small to excite the smallest uneasiness.

It is true that as a party, the federalists opposed this measure. But of whom does this party consist? Of a few *leaders* as they have heretofore justly been called; but who, for a considerable time past have forfeited all pretensions to the name by the desertion of almost the whole of that portion of the people who once had confidence in them. They yet retain the vain prerogative of clamoring against every measure of the government; but as to influence with the people it is gone. They enjoy the right, and riot in its exercise, of ascribing motives, which they know to be untrue, to those who administer the government; but the people have long since looked upon them with the same indifference, though not equal curiosity, with which they behold the legerdemain of the juggler, or the gaudy pageant of the showman. Of this we have recently had an illustrious proof. Certain communications were made by the President to Congress, on which the embargo was laid. Of these a part were confidential. It was known that they could not therefore in honor be disclosed. Hence the occasion was seized with eagerness to calumniate the motives which dictated the measure, and to delude the people. French influence, *without a shadow of reason,* was rung through the Union, by men who one day will blush at the detection of their falsehood. But what has been the effect? A few party prints have made a racket, but the temper of the nation remains unrufled and undismayed. It reposes in confidence on the virtue of the government, on that patriotism which has never been found wanting.

If this measure is satisfactory to the agricultural and manufacturing interest, we have the strongest, the most conclusive proofs of its propriety. For, however clamorous a certain set of men may be whenever the topic of commerce is introduced, it is nevertheless most certain, that whatever in the highest degree secures and promotes agriculture must likewise in the highest degree advance the interests of every other class of men. For agriculture is the fountain-head of all our prosperity and strength, and it is only so far as commerce aids it that it is worthy of encouragement. No honest trader, who understands his business, will deny this.

It is true, that the clamor which has been raised against the measure has sprung up in commercial towns. But it should be recollected that it is there that most foreign influence resides, and consequently the greatest portion of systematic opposition to the measures of a government in collision with those nations from which this foreign influence emanates. Who will pretend to say what part of the commercial capital in those towns is foreign capital? And who will undertake to say whether those who hold this capital have not a guarantee of their property against those imminent dangers that would overwhelm the fair American trader? Further, who will pretend to estimate the benefits which such an exemption from risque on the part of the foreign capitalist would give him over the bona fide American merchant, in a period when the rates of insurance might be expected to rise to 20 or 30 per cent. The benefits would be incalculable. They would, however, be not merely those of the individual traders, but would in fact go to swell the treasures and increase the resources of an enemy. For it requires no extraordinary sagacity to see that, if owing to an arrangement of such capitalists with the foreign power to which they are wedded, their risques on the ocean should be merely *nominal,* while those of the *bona fide* American traders were *real,* they would in fact put into their pockets the full amount of insurance saved, by being spared the necessity of resorting to such a step. It is to this foreign influence then that this clamour is principally to be ascribed; and, consequently, so far as it proves any thing, it is an argument in favor of the measure.

TO THOMAS JEFFERSON,
PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES.

We, the representatives of the people of Maryland, highly appreciating the happiness and prosperity of the United States, would do injustice to our own feelings, and those of our constituents, did we not, at this eventful crisis, offer to you this our testimony of the wisdom and integrity of your administration, and our approbation of those measures which, under the guidance of Divine Providence, have secured to the American people the blessings of peace, whilst war and insatiate ambition have devastated the fairest portions of Europe. But when we indulge in mutual felicitations at the enjoyment of that tranquility, under the auspices of which our country hath grown rich and great, we have most sincerely to lament that an honest endeavor to do equal justice to all nations, under a dignified neutrality, hath not availed to exempt our happy shores from the sound of war. A national vessel, bound to a distant service, hath been wantonly and unprovokedly attacked by a British ship of war, in sight of our own coast, and almost within our own harbors—the blood of our brave seamen hath flown in this barbarian outrage, and their lives have fallen the victims of piratical domination—other American citizens, sailing under the protection of that flag, and in the service of their country, have been dragged from that protection and service, confined in a degrading captivity, and compelled, ignominiously, to fight in the war of nations with whom we are at peace, and in whose animosities the government of our country evince no participation. The citizens of Maryland, indignant at this flagrant and unprecedented outrage upon our national character, assembled in various districts of the state, and manifested their feelings in addressing the constituted authorities of their country in strong and energetic language, and we, the common organ of their will, would unfaithfully represent that people, did we fail to reiterate their high resentment and patriotic determination, to brave all the calamities of war rather than tamely submit to the tyranny and insolence of any nation.

Well aware that the peace of our country is menaced from various quarters, and that it is our duty to take a firm and decided stand against any nation that may demand concessions incompatible with our honor and independence, we avail ourselves of the moment, to declare our confidence in the firmness and energy of the present administrators of our government and our disposition to sacrifice our lives and property in repelling the wanton aggressions or lawless claims of all nations. Although the blood of our countrymen hath been shed, and our citizens led into captivity, by the arm of a foreign power, and although domestic traitors have reared their hydra front, and endangered our peace and national happiness, still we indulge the pleasing reflection, that the government of our country have preserved a manly and dignified attitude, evincing to the world an unshaken determination to concede no point inconsistent with the honor of our country, and the safety of its citizens. But notwithstanding this well-grounded confidence, we should do great violence to our own feelings, and those of the citizens of Maryland, did we fail to communicate our sentiments upon one point in dispute in this country & G. Britain—we mean the general right of our flag to protect all American seamen who sail under it. It is with the most poignant sensations we recognize the fact, that thousands of our native citizens are at this moment confined in ignominious bondage on board of British ships of war, exiled from their country, their families and friends, and compelled ingloriously to fight for the establishment of principles repugnant to natural justice and the usage of nations; and it is with strong emotions of contempt we hear this inestimable right treated as trivial and unimportant, and declarations made, that the U. States ought not to hazard the horrors and calamities of war for the protection of her citizen seamen. Though we fervently deprecate the evils of war, and though we highly appreciate the value of peace, yet we sincerely hope that the general protection of American citizens, sailing under our flag, will be made the *sine qua non* of our amity with every nation on earth.

Whilst we duly appreciate the motives which induce you to decline being considered among the number of those out of whom the choice of our next president is to be made, and whilst we revere the patriotism which dictated those motives, permit us still to indulge the pleasing hope, that when the next period of presidential election approximates, should the united voice of your country require it, those same motives, and that same patriotism, will induce you to sacrifice your own private wishes and convenience to your country's good. But whatever may be your final determination, whether to retire to the bosom of domestic tranquility, or to remain the First Magistrate of a Free People, a faithful public service of forty years, hath erected a monument in the hearts of your fellow citizens, which time will never erase. With a tender of our lives and fortunes to obtain an honorable indemnification for the past and unequivocal assurances of security for the future, accept our best wishes that the most perfect happiness may await the evening of your days; and receive, as a tribute to your merits, the assurance of our highest consideration and esteem.

By the Senate, January 6, 1808.

Resolved, That the Executive of Maryland be requested to transmit the above Address to the President of the United States.

By order,

THO. ROGERS, Clk.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DEBATE

On the Resolution for requesting the President to cause an enquiry to be made into the conduct of GENERAL WILKINSON.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5.

CONTINUED.

Mr. TROUP would make one observation in addition to what had been said by the gentleman last up. Whether the evidence before the House was material or not, whether the character of General Wilkinson was above suspicion or not, or whether it was unimportant that the commander in chief of the army of the U. S. should sustain a good character, it was not necessary for him to say; but before it was determined to increase the regular force of the country the House should be prepared to say that James Wilkinson, who was to command it, was qualified to direct that force for the defence of the nation against its enemies, and that it was impossible for him to direct it otherwise. The army, to enable them to do their duty, must have confidence in their general, and the people of the country must be satisfied that the ambition of general Wilkinson was limited, and that his integrity and patriotism would forbid the abuse of his power. For this reason, and this alone should he vote for an enquiry. The sooner the conduct of this man was justified if he were innocent, or condemned if he were guilty, the better for the country; and if his conduct stood in the eyes of Mr. T. as white as the driven snow, he should vote for an enquiry after the evidence and charges which had been exhibited.

Mr. QUINCY did not consider himself on this occasion as passing on the conduct of gen. Wilkinson, nor did he consider it necessary on this occasion to canvass the conduct of the Executive or of any officer of the government. Their only object now was to understand their own situation and form a correct opinion. He should make to the House a very short statement of what he thought, and the reasons which would determine his vote. They were called upon to do what? To vote for an enquiry? No—to make a request for an enquiry. Some gentlemen had doubted whether they would exercise a constitutional power in requesting an enquiry. Mr. Q. considered that they had a right to express a feeling or a wish; and that they had a right to express their sentiments and opinions on any subject, if the evidence produced to them or if their own knowledge would warrant such opinion. A gentleman in his place had stated to the House that he had evidence in his possession relative to this public character; not only that he had this evidence, but also referred to another who could give information on the subject. And what had the House done on the occasion? It had neither asked the gentleman to produce the documents which he had, nor had called upon the delegate to give information on the subject. Mr. Q. could not reconcile this to his sense of consistency. It appeared to him there had been evidence sufficient produced to the House, to induce them to express a wish to know more.

There had been but one objection of weight made to the present resolution—that it would bear hard upon gen. Wilkinson. The House were placed in such a situation that they must do something. Whether should they adopt the resolution or not? In the one case they did all they could to further an enquiry by laying evidence before the Executive and requesting him to cause an enquiry thereupon; in the other, they did all they could to smother an enquiry. Without alluding to evidence and information which had been adduced on this floor, it appeared to him that it was perfectly within the right, perhaps the duty of the House under general reports, whether correct or not he would not say, and from some circumstances, to request an enquiry; and that, under existing circumstances, they had a right without the evidence produced, to express their opinion on the subject, and to request an enquiry, even in justice to general Wilkinson, that he might have an opportunity to relieve his character from the clouds with which it was overcast. Under this view, it appeared to Mr. Q. that the House would not exercise the rights with which they were vested for the public good, or do their duty to the people, if they did not adopt the resolution.

Mr. CHANDLER said gentlemen appeared to urge the adoption of the resolution, to furnish the Executive with information which the House had in its power. A gentleman had risen in his place and read to them a letter which he had stated to be from Mr. Power, and other papers some of which were said to be translations.

Mr. C. knew of no way in which to get this evidence to the President of the U. S. except the papers were laid upon the table. If gentlemen possessed evidence which would be sufficient to convict gen. W. of a crime of a civil nature, let them inform the Attorney General of the U. S. that he might institute a suit against that officer. If the evidence impeached his conduct as a military officer, send the evidence to the court which would sit on Monday next to enquire into his conduct as a military man. If the House were to act on this subject in any manner, it must be to procure evidence to be sent to a court. He did think it necessary for his part that an enquiry should be made. An enquiry was in progress; and he should therefore vote against the resolution.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7.

Mr. *Randolph* having moved the consideration of his resolution,

Mr. *Burwell* offered the following resolution which he thought ought to