When the embargo had been laid by the concurrent voice of more than two-thirds of the American people, speaking through their Representatives, the federalists commenced a new course. An election was approaching in the state of Massachusetts. An honorable course was pursued to influence that election. Mr. Pickering was selected as the actor, to compose in secrecy an epistle, which will be remembered so long as the name of Pickering shall be enrolled on the annals of fame, as an tissue of malignity and misrepresentation. This was promulgated in the state of Massachusetts, intentionally, so late as to preclude the possibility of a reply previous to the election. Exertions unequalled on any former occasion, was used to disseminate the letter into every quarter of the state and of the United States.

In connection with this, a philippic was pronounced in the House of Representatives by a member from New-York, accusing the government of which he was a member of the vilest crime—of no less than being under the influence of a foreign government. This speech appeared, somewhat decorated, in a Philadelphia print, so soon after it was spoken, that it must have been sent hence the very day of its delivery: and the author triumphed abroad whilst, on the very theatre of the outrage, he was sufficiently punished by the contempt with which he was received by his colleagues in legislation. This speech, however, found its way into every public print; and of the several very able speeches of castigation and reply, it is belived that *not one* was published in any federal paper.

In connection with this also, speeches were delivered by other federal members, but particularly one by Mr. Key, which was instantly committed to the press, and with the greatest expedition and zeal dispersed throught the country and published in every federal paper. That this speech contained many manifest misrepresentations it is believed we have already proven in our remarks on it. Many able and argumentative speeches were made in reply to this and others; of which we confidently say not one has been republished in any federal paper.

In one of the speeches alluded to, however, it was prophetically said that petition upon petition would be presented for the repeal of the embargo.

The prediction is fulfilled; the plot is ripe. Since the adjournment of Congress, indefatigable has been the pen flowing with gall, and unwearied the tongue in the work of detraction. Various have been the modes and innumerable the repetitions of abuse and crimination of the administration.

The stale cant of French partiality or influence, which had been supposed to have been consigned to the tomb with the defeat of federalism in in 1800, has been resuscitated. Do they who lead the cry believe it? No. Why is it circulated? It is known that foreign influence is justly dreaded by our citizens as the worst of evils; and therefore is it made the watchword of federalism, and held up *in terrorem* till those who commenced the cry almost believe it.

Did the leading federalists really regret the measure of the embargo? No; they rejoiced at it, and were loud in their exultations the very day after that on which the law was passed. They thought they saw in prospect, federalism remounting the ladder of OFFICE, by means of a measure which operating somewhat on the immediate pecuniary interest of our citizens, might produce a temporary change in politics, which they depended on their ingenuity to prolong.

The Essex junto immediately commenced its operations. This jacobin club of Massachusetts has not ceased from its labor. Inferior clubs or juntos have been established in different parts of the United States. The fish petitions of Massachusetts, coming from different parts of the state to Congress, all bore the same stamp. They proceeded from one source.* From the same source, and from no other will proceed the addresses for the suspension of the embargo. It is impossible for the most credulous to believe that the junto have any idea that their petitions will have any effect. Before any tolerable number can be collected, one month will expire; and from thence to the meeting of the direct Representatives of the people, but four or five weeks will intervene.

It remains to be seen whether the people of Mass. (for the state is at bottom republican) will suffer themselves to be deluded by the schemes of a few artful men, who to elevate their friends and "save the people from their own worst enemies, themselves," would destroy the very fabric which secures them from the raging storm.

It becomes a serious question also; whether it is not a duty incumbent on every good citizen, from a respect to the dignity of his country, to protest against being considered as one of those who, to favor one foreign government in preference to another, would paralize his own?

* In a debate in the House of Representatives at their late session, Mr. D. R. Williams, in allusion to the fish petitions, thus expressed himself:—"These petitions from the fishermen are well understood to be the result of a deliberate electioneering plan." Other members spoke to the same effect.

Of this charge it is believed that no denial or refutation was made.

BOSTON TOWN MEETING.

On the 9th inst. agreeably to a notification for the purpose, a meeting was held in the town of Boston, to consider of the propriety of petitioning for an immediate repeal of the embargo. After considerable debate, the following petition was agreed to by a large majority:

To the President of the U. States.

The inhabitants of the town of Boston, in legal town meeting assembled, beg leave respectfully to represent:—

That uniformly influenced by a sense of patriotism and a respect for the constituted authorities of their country, they have sustained without opposition or complaint, the embarrassments and losses arising from the existing Embargo on the vessels and export trade of the U. S. and they trust, that the history of the revolutionary war, and the annals of the present government, will furnish ample testimony of their readiness to make any personal sacrifices, and to endure any privations, which the public welfare may truly require:

That they are fully aware of the indispensable necessity of supporting, at all times, the laws enacted by the government of their choice.—Under this impression they have refrained from expressing the wishes they most sensibly feel for the removal of the embargo; and but for the great events in Europe, which materially change the aspect of our foreign relations, they would yet silently wait for the meeting of Congress, in the hope of obtaining from that honorable body, relief from the pressure of this great calamity, which bears with peculiar weight on the Eastern states.

Denied by nature those valuable and luxuriant staples which constitute the riches of the South, they necessarily owe much of their prosperity, under the blessing of Heaven, to their own enterprize and industry on the ocean. It is therefore a duty, as well as a right, to avail themselves of every fair occasion which offers for procuring the removal of the existing restraints upon their maritime commerce, more especially when this may be effected in a mode consistent with the laws and policy by which they are imposed.

They therefore pray that the *Embargo*, in whole or in part, may be suspended, according to the powers vested in the President by the Congress of the United States; and if any doubt should exist of the competency of those powers, they would humbly request, that Congress may be convened as early as possible, for the purpose of taking the subject into consideration.

It was then voted, that the selectmen, in behalf of the town, transmit the petition to the President of the U. States.

Troy, August 9.

Reports from the north, of a direct conveyance, which can leave but small doubts of their authenticity, mention an engagement having taken place on Lake Champlain, between a government boat and a batteau, in which the latter was completely victorious, and compelled the government boat to surrender to her. Two of her men are said to have been killed in the contest.

To prevent the running of provisions, pot ash, &c. into Canada, government, we understand, are building two gun boats upon the lake; and about a week since two cannon, with ball, &c. under the direction of two midshipmen, passed through this village, destined for those boats. An armed brig is likewise to be built on lake Ontario.

New York, August 12.

A passenger in the ship Independence, has favored the editors of this Gazette with the following statement, which was sworn to at Martinique by Capt. Merry, who had made his escape from the Spanish Main.

"*Pampata, Island of Margaretta, July 13, 1808.*

"The undersigned, Augustine Merry, master and owner of the French schooner L'Etourdy, of Martinique, informs, that on the 11th inst being at anchor in the above port, waiting for his return cargo, an English frigate appeared off that place, with a white flag at her main-topmast head, and a Spanish flag at her mizen top. This frigate fired several guns, but no boat putting off to her, she came to anchor, where she passed the night without communicating with the shore. On the 12th in the morning, her boat was sent on shore as a flag of truce, to deliver dispatches of the greatest importance to the Governor, and to restore 125 Spanish prisoners. After a long conference between the British officer and the Governor, the latter caused a white fly to be hoisted on the forts, which continued flying till the departure of the frigate at 10 o'clock in the morning, with a pilot on board, to carry the prisoners to Cumana, the place at which the Governor wished them landed—the pilot having orders to conduct the frigate on that coast as long as he might be wanted.

"Immediately after the departure of the frigate's boat from the shore, the news of war between France and Spain was in circulation, to the great joy of the Spaniards; from which circumstance the French people of the place began to fear that the news was too true.

"At four o'clock in the afternoon, we received positive orders to send our rudder and sails on shore, as we were informed that an embargo was laid, till the return of a courier that had been dispatched to the Carraccas. We requested that this order might not be enforced till the next day, to which the commandant appeared to consent.

"At 11 o'clock at night, to my astonishment, an armed boat came on board to carry away my sails. I refused to deliver them up. The rigor with which they treated us, induced me to believe the news on shore was unfavorable to us; whereupon I determined to make my escape immediately, and succeeded notwithstanding a smart cannonade from the forts, which pierced my sails in several places.

"I left at Pampata, the French schooner Harmony, which was not in a situation to make her escape, and the schooner ———, Capt. Brison.

"I declare the above statement to be true. AUG. MERRY."

Extract of a letter from Havanna, dated July 21, 1808.

"There appears here to be but one sentiment of indignation against the French, and a disposition to defend and retain the island in the name of Ferdinand VII. and he was yesterday proclaimed, and the principal officers sworn with great pomp and ceremony.

"The address of the Governor to the inhabitants, declared an armistice had already taken place with the British, who would henceforth be considered as allies. A British brig of war afterwards appeared off the Moro, spoke capt. M'Donald for your port, going out, and on being informed of the news stood in nearer, where she was met by the Spanish officers, who invited her commander in, which he did accordingly, and is now at anchor in the harbor.

"The French here are in the greatest consternation, flying off in every direction; but of those in the north-east parts (St. Jago-de-Cuba, &c.) where there are considerable numbers, some apprehensions are indulged by the government.

"It is certain, I am told, that some commissions have arrived from Murat as Regent, and of those it is supposed some use will be made in the parts alluded to. One of the principal officers here received one as inspector general of the troops, fortifications, &c. of the island, but went immediately and delivered it up to the Governor and Council. Similar ones it is supposed have gone to different parts of South America, and of the result of which they are extremely anxious to know.

"It is in truth a most important period in Spanish affairs, and must indeed produce very serious effects upon all other powers.

"Their peace with England will operate very materially upon our affairs with that country; if not already adjusted, this turn of matters, by the union with Spain, will, I am fearful, tend to an increase of the difficulties which have already attended a settlement of our differences; and as I before observed, the peace with England by removing the obstructions so far to their own commerce and that of the British, cannot operate greatly in favor of ours. As it respects our local matters, this new outrage of Bonaparte would, I should suppose, tend much to the depression and discredit of that party with us which had gained but too great an ascendancy."

Extract of a letter from St. Pierres, Martinique, dated July 19.

"It is now nearly a month since the bakers have been ordered to issue no bread, except to sick persons or nurses, on the certificate of the physicians. Some small quantities of flour have been introduced from Dominique, St. Lucea, &c. though of inferior quality, it sold at 45 to 50 dollars per barrel. The effects of the embargo have been felt in this as well as in most of the other colonies. Its continuation will I fear, be attended with much more serious evils."

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

MR. SMITH,—ON my return from a visit to my friends in Baltimore, I received information, in Piscataway, that Mr. Fenwick of this county, had sent to your press a letter addressed to me. As I intended on reaching home to start immediately for St. Mary's court, and from that cause should not have an oppartunity of seeing the publication for some time, I called on Mr. Fenwick to learn the object and nature of it. He politely shewed me a copy of it, & also of a second number,* and informed me that duplicates had been forwarded, in my absence, to my residence. He the next day sent me the enclosed letter, which if you have published his letters, I beg you to publish, as also this.

Although I shall always be pleased with the good opinion of all my fellow citizens, still I cannot but regret that Mr. Fenwick entertains so distinguished an opinion of me, as it must compel me in opposition to professional engagements and private considerations to enter into a newspaper discussion with him—a sense of duty to myself, and to the party with whom I am associated in political opinion will compel me, on my return from court to reply to the charges exhibited by Mr. Fenwick. He must excuse me when I say, his publications arise from passion; to nothing else can I attribute his suppression of his own apology to the people, and to the gentlemen alluded to, and the [illegible] which took place on the [illegible] His assertion that [illegible] discussion was [illegible] that "the chairman [illegible] that "there was a [illegible] from recriminations" [illegible] alluded to; that "the [illegible] of Charles county are [illegible] guished by an overbearing [illegible] to gentlemen of opposite [illegible] ons, are now denied. [illegible] something remarkable, that [illegible] complains of Federal insolence, [illegible] talks of an appeal to the people, he should abuse that very people by charging them with a consistent opposition to decency, with being satellites to an individual and the followers of leaders. If these observations are not intended by Mr. Fenwick for the mass of the citizens, let him distinguish by name those who attend Federal meetings, and who are insolent; let him mention those who follow a leader and the leader, and point out the satellites of the gentleman alluded to.

Mr. Fenwick must pardon me if notwithstanding any personal regard heretofore entertained for him, I decline advising him in what manner he ought to conduct an attack upon my political friends. Offering as he does for Congress, and possessing the talents which he claims for himself, he most certainly is competent to chuse the most efficient and proper mode. I have only to beg him to address no more communications to me, and

I am your very humble servant,
CLEMENT DORSEY.

Port Tobacco, August, 1, 1808.

*The second letter alluded to, which was also forwarded to the Editor of the Intelligencer, but not inserted at the time, and would not have been, but for this allusion, is as follows:

(COPY.)

SIR,

In addition to what I had the honor of transmitting you already, I have to add that, at a proper time and place, I shall cite all the parties implicated in my complaints to answer personally before the assembled people of Charles county; and that it shall then and there be put seriously to the consideration of the assembled people, whether, in their expressions at the approaching Election, they are prepared to pass sentence of proscription and banishment upon all their fellow-citizens of Charles county, who happen to approve the measures of the Government of our country, by sanctioning the principle that those citizens have not the liberty to deliver their opinions upon the public affairs of the nation, without rude disturbance and direct insult.

I mean fairly to try the issue whether there shall exist hereafter any freedom of speech in Charles county; and I solemnly call on the people to suspend their opinions until they shall hear the evidence I shall exhibit. War is on foot; the standard of revolt against overbearing insolence and crouching forbearance combined, is hoisted in Charles county, the congressional and electoral district, and I have constituted myself its bearer. In this case I would disdain a victory won by surprize. Thanks be to God, I feel the confidence of ample talents and abundant ardor for the struggle to pull down the overbearing insolence that has so long domineered in this county; and I well know how to avail myself of all the advantages which its enormities have offered me. I'll lower its tone; I'll strip its brow of all its terrors over the multitude, before I am done with it; and further, sir, you have roused a man of an honorable mind, as far superior to the little arts of your leaders as the splendor of the meridian Sun is to the glimmer of the dimmest star. Unhappily I have not far to seek for examples of those arts; I have only to point my finger at the treatment of John Q. Adams; I have only to point my finger at the bull-baiting scene where I stood single against the whole phalanx of Federalists, so much were my friends deterred from attending those meetings, where similar scenes had been repeated and always expected. Sir, my powerful means of crushing insolence are not yet fully developed; they shall consist in the superlatively high and honorable courses that will be pursued in making its process. Before I am done, sir, I will prove to you all, that I am little more than a nullity, with which appellation the front leader of your host was pleased to distinguish me. I will shew you all, sir, that I will speak in the front of your whole chosen band, notwithstanding your leader made the assertion, that I would not have dared to address my battalion with an inflammatory speech, if there had been one man there to answer me; although this assertion was made in the teeth of his own knowledge of my having spoken but the day before in the front of himself and his satellites. This inflammatory speech shall now go to the press, although never before intended—I will step the motion of this engine ready for all occasions and all purposes; I will break down this outcry of Frenchman! French partizan! and French influence! with which the minds of the uninformed have been so shamefully imposed upon and poisoned, and which is brought forward with particular art and cunning at this time, to compel the government to abandon the only measure that can preserve the rights and independence of the country from total subversion. I will enforce a little more decency in the public discussions in the country.

Sir, you may expect occasionally little skirmishes of this kind, preparatory to the grand attack that I denounce upon your weak holds of misrepresentations, subterfuges and insolencies, which I promise to the people of the district to drag into the face of day,

JAMES FENWICK.

JULY 29, 1808.

[illegible] July 30, 1808.

SIR—In consequence of the conversation we had yesterday, I find that you are under impressions that in my second communication to you, I have used language which may be interpreted as personally applicable to yourself; I deem it a matter of imperious justice due to you to disclaim any such intention, and to give the fullest explanation of any apparent ambiguity of expression. In all places where I have used the words "you or your," I intended them to apply no farther than to some gentlemen of a party of which you are a member. Where I have said "your front leader," I meant no more than one of the leaders of a party of which you are a member. I had thought, sir, that my meaning was sufficiently obvious of itself; but every shadow of doubt must be removed when taken in connection with the reservation made for you in my first communication, where I have said pointedly that "with the exceptions made, I have no personal complaint against you or any other gentleman of the meeting, except from the general desistment to interpose upon the occasion to procure that fair and impartial treatment to which a fellow citizen was entitled," &c. This, sir, brings into consideration another point involved in this affair. Under my impressions I had special objections to make the Chairman of the meeting the channel of my communications to all the parties concerned, & my sole motive in selecting you was, what I have assigned, to wit: your most correct argumentative deportment. If this was an error, it was a most innocent one, and into which the higher respect I entertained for your conduct drew me. I did not foresee consequences as I ought to have done, that it was imposing the burthen of counter statements on your shoulders; and to atone for the error as far as can possibly be now done in this stage of the business, if you will be pleased to signify your pleasure, I will immediately come out with a summary of the allegations against gentlemen by name & at whom they are pointed. In this course of procedure you will be relieved from individual responsibility, and can only come in under the allegation of "general desistment to interpose," &c. If this proposal your meets approbation, I ask your advice as to the most correct form of the address, in order to bring the matter direct within the cognizance of the gentlemen likely to be named. I have erred once in this point, and I would wish to avoid a repetition of error. I hope, sir, you will do me the justice to entertain the good opinion of me, that I possess the readiest disposition to withdraw from errors when I become sensible of them, and it is not improbable but that I shall have several occasions for this indulgence; and further, I hope you will believe that nothing but a deep sense of unwarrantable treatment could have roused a soul naturally tranquil. I request you will insert this in any [illegible] print you please.

I am, sir, most respectfully
Yours,
JAMES FENWICK.

A SEAL LOST.

LOST about a week ago on the road leading from Rock Creek to Rock Creek Church, a large Seal of American crystal stone, containing the arms of the owner, with the motto "*Un Dieu, un Roi, un foi.*" An handsome reward will be given to any person who will give notice of or deliver this seal to the Printer, so that the owner may get it again.

Washington, August 17—3t