Mr. Findley said, he was willing the committee should rise and not have leave to sit again, because he did not understand either the object or the necessity of the bill. It was said to be for arming the *whole body* of the militia. Did it mean the arming of he body of the militia that were called into actual service? If so, this had always been done and Congress had made ample provisions for doing so again as far as was practicable. In some states the whole body of the militia were well armed, and in others partially so, and Congress possessed already more arms then it was probable would be necessary to put in the hands of militia for actual service at any one time. The government had not yet been able to manufacture more than equal to the annual appropriation; he believed not so much, and an additional appropriation of 300,000 had been already made this session. Certainly this was more than government could apply to that purpose before the next session of Congress. If it was intended to establish new manufactories the bill ought to say so, which it does not; and if it did they could not be in opperation so as to encrease the numbers of arms before next session of Congress, and it was admitted by all that arms could not be procured in Europe.

Some gentlemen in arguing in favor of the bill, propose besto ving them to the whole body of the militia and others providing for arming young men on their first entrance into militia service, to be their own for life. These were pleasing theories, but the bill before the committee provided for neither of these applications of the arms. It could bear no other construction then providing for arming the whole body to be called into actual service. If it is for any other purpose, why does not the bill say so? If it is to arm the whole militia of the United States fit to bear arms, it could not be done by such an appropriation in ten years, including their natural increase. Is it proposed to arm the militia of those states that are well armed already? They will not accept of them; their arms are their own; they know how they came by them; they keep them in order, they leave them to their children, they become the pride of their families.

The bill however only provides for arming the whole body of the militia with public arms, for which they must be responsible, unless lost in actual service, and must return them when called upon. Mr. F. said no man was more solicitous to have the militia armed than he was himself. He had frequently urged it in his own state. He had always considered that the militia having their own arms, & being accustomed to the use of them, was of tenfold more importance then all the improvement they could possibly receive without arms. Many thousands of arms had been distributed to the militia of Pennsylvania, especially throughout the very extensive frontier counties during the revolutionary war. But where are they now? When the Indians broke out afterwards, the country was found unarmed, more arms were given; but when officers since that time were appointed to collect the public arms very few were found but such as were unfit for public service. They had been carried out of the country by such as penetrated further to make new settlements, or suffered to go out of repair, those who had them in possession having no interest in taking care of them when their tour of duty was over; and this would always be the case with public arms disposed of in this manner, the only way in which by the present bill they can be disposed of; for though gentlemen in arguing in favor of the bill had proposed other methods, yet they knew that the bill provided for no such methods as they had suggested.

Mr. F. said that this was the most singular bill that ever he had observed to be presented to the House. It proposed indeed to appropriate a million of dollars to provide for arming the whole body of the militia; but supposing it possible to procure them which it was not before next session, how were they to be disposed of? On this the bill was silent and left every man at liberty to urge their application, agreeable to his own fancy. If they were procured they probably would not supply more than one-tenth part of the militia. How then shall the President distribute? He cannot do it, for the law provides neither rule nor authority for that purpose. In that the bill in its present form is perhaps the most imperfect that ever was offered to the House; but supposing the bill so amended as to provide for putting arms in the hands of young men when they entered on militia service agreeably to the wish of one honorable member, that would not be arming the whole body of the militia. It would not be arming a twentieth part and the whole body of the militia would be 27 years in arming.

Mr. F. said that a few years since the government of Pensylvania procured 20,000 stand of arms to be manufactured and required that every militia man should appear armed on the parade, but this law is a dead letter; they could not procure arms—those who manufactured the arms on public contract, proposed having the machinery in order to continue the manufacture at a much lower price. Mr. F. said he had advised to embrace the offer so that arms might be convenient for the substantial resident militia to purchase at a reasonable price. They would purchase, they would have a pride in taking care of them, and their posterity would consider the arms of their fathers as a precious deposit. He concluded by saying, that if the appropriations already made were not sufficient for all the arms that could probably or even possibly be manufactured before next session of Congress, he was willing to vote for more, but never would vote for a million of dollars for so impracticable an object, nor for a bill so exceedingly imperfect.

Mr. Randolph said, after the very able observations of the gentleman from North Carolina, he should not have again risen; but being a member of the committee who reported the bill he conceived it his duty to support it. As to the rising of the committee he should probably vote for it as he was worn out with the fatigue of so long sittings as they had for almost every day this week. The gentleman from Massachusetts had said he was not in favor of arming the militia; if he could tell where arms were to be found however he would appropriate money for them; but as the arms are not in market, they could not be bought. Mr. R. said that he had always understood that the way to obtain a supply was to create a demand. So long as there was no demand, an article might not be brought to market; but create a demand, and it would soon be plentiful. A few years since there was scarcely a pound of American cotton in the market; but we now export perhaps 20 millions of pounds. The gentleman had said that they might arrest the exertions of the states or individuals which now were arming themselves; that, understanding that the United States were about to arm the whole body of the militia, they would cease from this very laudable exertion, and thereby go unarmed. Now Mr. R. said, if these arms were not to be had at all, how were these patriotic individuals to be prevented from buying them; for if *they* could purchase them, so could the government—which the gentleman had denied.

A gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Findley) whose voice was such that it was extremely difficult to understand him, said that if arms were put into the hands of the militia, when called for they would be out of order. Mr. R. said that would be a very good reason for supplying them with new arms. But how do they get out of order, said he? In teaching your citizens to make use of that instrument which they should understand. A man wears out his gun in learning to take aim at an enemy; for if he learn to shoot at smaller marks, he will not miss his enemy when he has occasion to shoot at one. I have heard the same argument used against a boy using his book, because by so doing, he might soil it; to avoid which it was covered up so nicely that it could not be opened; as is the case in some libraries arranged for shew, and the arms in our arsenals. If you look at them you will find them very nice, not soiled in the least—because no one uses them. But I do not chuse to have arms to look at like a library so finely bound and gilt that it is not calculated for use; I would have them so that they can be used—for the child to learn as well as the father, and by the time he comes of age he will understand their use as well as the father himself. Put arms into the hands of your militia, and if worn out by use, they may be replaced; the militia man will have acquired experience at the expence of a musket, which I would not give for the tuition of all the drill sergeants in Europe, and permit me add in America too, sir. After all it appears that what I apprehended has been the fact. We have laid out so much money in this and that project, and two millions upon what gentlemen persist in calling a *temporary* military force; and that is given as a reason why we cannot now afford to arm the militia. The reason is, you have raised or rather authorised the raising of 6000 men, to be clad, fed and paid for rusting in idleness, and incapacitated yourself from arming the militia. You have laid out your money in gold laced hats for the one, and you will not give the other bread. You have expended your treasure in gewgaws and military parade, and cannot buy arms for the militia.

[*To be concluded in our next*]

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, AUGUST 22.

ELECTIONS.—*North Carolina "Federalised."*—It is with pleasure we have it in our power to state the result of the elections of several other districts in North Carolina, in which this state has not disappointed the high opinion we have entertained of her.

In the county of *Granville*, another of the three counties composing Mr. Macon's district, the votes for members of Congress were—

For Mr. Macon, 539
For any other person, NOT ONE.

Mr. Macon is therefore indubitably elected.

In the county of Wake, one of the three counties composing the district represented by Mr. Stanford, and one of the districts in which the greatest exertions had been made, a federalist of great personal influence having opposed him, there were,

For Mr. Stanford,	888
For Mr. Cameron,	531
Majority in one County,	357

Mr. Stanford is therefore elected, as the two other counties certainly give him a majority.

From another county (Franklin) we have heard of the state election, but not the Congressional. From this county, and the two above mentioned, the nine members elected to the legisature are decidedly republican. Another fact to prove that the state is COMPLETELY "*Federalised,*" is, that from one of the above counties, a gentleman who has been returned a member to the assembly almost without opposition for six years, being now violently suspected of federalism, has been left out at this election by a majority of *four hundred and fifteen!* How proud a day this is for North Carolina, to see, while another state may depreciate a little from the pressure of the times, her sons (though not insensible) turn out manfully to the hustings, and almost double their former republican votes. Let her sisters emulate her example.

The district for which we entertain some fears, is that represented by Mr. Blackledge; but we trust to the good sense of his constituents.

The Governor of North Carolina has for the second time this season, called the council of state for the purpose of considering the propriety of convening the legislature for the purpose of suspending the execution law. The council of state, when convened before, rejected the proposition. It appears to be the opinion of our correspondent, that they will now consent to it. Should they agree to convoke the legislature, grievous will be the oppression on the poor, by the merchants, to take out executions before the law may prevent them. It is to be hoped that the firmness and foresight of the legislature, if convened, will rise superior to the influence of official characters, and that they will act as their own good sense shall dictate. Without deciding on the propriety of a non-execution law, its good tendency may be considered as extremely doubtful.

In a late paper, assuming to ourselves the privilege common to every citizen of the United States, of stating our opinion on any thing which occurs, we expressed surprise that a paper so liberal as the London Morning Chronicle usually is, should err so materially in point of fact, in relation to the negociation conducted by Mr. Rose in this city.

On this remark, we find the following comment in the United States Gazette, a paper well known as a file-leader in the federal host:

"*Ministerial Misrepresentation.*—We copy the following paragraph from the last National Intelligencer, for the purpose of once more contradicting the assertion that our government agreed with Mr. Rose to separate the affair of the Chesapeake from all others in discussion. As often as the leading democratic prints repeat this falsehood, so often will we expose and refute it."

The wretched quibbler who is the author of the remarks which follow the extract from the Intelligencer, has quoted a passage from Mr. Madison's luminous letter of the 5th of March, and by giving it a tortuous construction, has endeavored to prove that a separation of the subjects was not agreed to.

Appealing to plain sense, and unwilling to occupy our columns with a labored essay to "prove by force of argument a man's no horse," we quote Mr. Rose's ANSWER to Mr. Madison's letter of the 5th of March—an authority which it is presumed the Editor of the U. States Gazette will not contest:—

"It will be in your recollection, sir, that in our first interview, I stated the condition which makes the subject of the present letter, *before I was informed by you*, that the President of the United States WOULD CONSENT to the separation of the two subjects."

Perhaps the sagacious commentator may be able to prove that the words "*before I was informed by you*" signify "*I never was informed by you.*"

Our readers should be cautious of giving full faith to whatever news now circulated in the sea-ports from the West-India islands, and through them from Spain; for it is to be feared that letters are sometimes forged in our country to answer temporary purpurposes, and published as coming from foreign correspondents.

That published in this day's paper, as coming from Havanna via N. York, if credit could be attached to it, would excite attention. Two American national vessels are said to have been refused admission into the port of Havanna (then filled with British cruisers) for some time, and when admitted treated with indignity. As "straws shew which way the wind blows," this *if true* might serve to mark the disposition of the Spanish-English government of Havanna to the U. States.

We attach little credit, however, to this article, or the news said to be received from Spain via Havanna.

The federalists of Providence, R. Island, have have agreed to present a petition for the repeal or removal of the embargo. The friends of *discord* seem to act in *unison*.

Certain federal editors affect to be struck with horror at an indiscreet expression said to have appeared in a Republican print, viz. that petitions ought to be presented to Congress at their next meeting to declare war with Britain. It is really extremely ridiculous to hear these persons stigmatize a single Republican with the most degrading epithets for hinting at that which they themselves are attempting with their whole force. What is there more criminal or less patriotic in proposing a declaration of war against England, than there is in petitioning for an immediate rupture with France without waiting for the form of a declaration?

Our readers will recollect our having mentioned Mr. Gray, a very respectable federalist and extensive merchant in Salem, as having by his vote in the legislature, refused to disapprove the embargo. In the days of federalism, the *majority* denounced their political opponents. In these days of republicanism, the same course is pursued by the *minority*. Dare any honest man of the party throw off the trammels of its leaders, and express an opinion contrary to theirs, he is pursued, persecuted, and nothing but the arm of law prevents him from being sacrificed to their resentment. In accordance with this practice, Mr. Gray has been vilely slandered, and the most sordid motives have been attributed for his approbation of the embargo. Mr. Gray, in a dignified letter to the editor of the federal paper at Salem, thus defends himself:

Mr. Cushing,

I observe in your paper of Friday last, over the signature "Cuesta," a piece imputing to me base and sordid motives for approving the embargo; in consequence of that, I am compelled to declare to the public, FACTS, and leave them to judge how far selfishness has influenced my opinion and conduct.

It is suggested that I set the opinions of others at defiance.

I have presumed to think for myself, and made the Constitution my guide; however mistaken I may be, my intentions are at least correct, nor do I defy or condemn others, for thinking differently; and so far from excusing the administration for submission to France, had I perceived symptoms of submission to that or any other foreign power, sooner than advocate such measures, I would devote my whole property for the support of the independence of the U. States.

When the embargo law passed, I thought it a constitutional measure, and I did not think proper to oppose it. The policy of the measure has been much questioned; yet I think the then existing circumstances rendered it prudent and necessary; as Great Britain had threatened, and had at that time passed (though not officially known to us) the orders of council of the 11th November, 1807, authorising the capture and condemnation of all vessels bound from the United States, that should sail for France, or the countries of her allies, after the orders of council were known in America; which included all Europe, except Great Britain, Gibraltar, Malta, and perhaps Sweden; at those places very few of those articles, which we generally export, are admitted; and I think fewer still would have brought the cost and charges. Great Britain, it is said, would have permitted us, after touching there and paying duties, to go to France and the countries of her allies. Is there an independent American, who would submit to such impositions?

Bonaparte had threatened to put in operation his *Berlin Decree*, which he had however forborne to do, so far as I know, except in one instance, of the Horizon, wrecked upon the French coast; but his severe and tyrannical decree of 17th December last, called the *Milan Decree*, passed, declaring all vessels that should be spoken with by the British, liable to capture, which decree almost precluded the possibility of escape from capture or detention. After these restrictions on our commerce, had not the embargo been laid, I think a great part of our vessels, sent for the continent of Europe, would have been captured and condemned by the British, (as their orders authorised condemnation) and probably the remnant would have fallen into the hands of the French. Had these events taken place, the effect upon the public mind would, I think, have produced war; this, added to the immense loss, which the Americans would have sustained by capture and condemnation, must, I think, have been a far greater evil than the embargo; though that, taken separately from these considerations, is a serious evil; yet, as a proof that it was necessary, I find out of seven vessels, which sailed from this district for the continent of Europe, in the month preceding the commencement of the embargo, not one ever reached her destined port in safety.

It is insinuated that I am growing rich, while others are suffering by the embargo: I have not reaped any advantage from it, that I know of, in any form whatever; those who best know me can say, whether I have benefited others, or taken advantage of their necessity. So far from reaping profit from the embargo, my estate has declined more than ten per cent. in value since its operation, which I am ready to demonstrate to any person desirous of investigating the subject.

WILLIAM GRAY.

Salem, Aug. 11, 1808.

The proceedings of the commercial and highly respectable town of Salem, will operate as *wormwood* on federalism. It is to be hoped they will not be alone in this patriotic course.

Published by order of the Selectmen of Salem.

To the Selectmen of the town of Salem.

Gentlemen,

In conformity to the directions of the town of Boston, as above expressed, we inclose you a copy of the petition to the President of the United States, and request you to lay the same before your inhabitants, that if they see fit they may adopt similar measures.

Selectmen of Boston,
Charles Bulfinch,
William Porter,
Ebenezer Oliver,
Jona. Hunewell,
John May,
Francis Wright,
Jona. Chapman.

Boston, Aug. 10, 1808.

To the Selectmen of the town of Boston.

Gentlemen,

We acknowledge the receipt of your's of the 10th inst. containing the proceedings of the town of Boston, relative to petitioning the President of the United States to "suspend the embargo, either wholly or in part, according to the powers vested in him by the Congress of the United States, &c." and the request of the town of Boston, "that the same be laid before the inhabitants of Salem, that if they see fit, they may adopt similar measures."

We assure you, gentlemen, it will afford us great pleasure to co-operate with our fellow citizens of the town of Boston, in any and all public measures which we believe will promote the public good.

We view (as we have done from the beginning) the embargo as a wise and prudent measure, peculiarly calculated to preserve the United States from being involved in the bloody contests of Europe, and to secure their commerce from capture and condemnation, under the authority of *British Orders of Council and French Decrees.* We consider that there can be no safety in renewing commerce, while these *Decrees* and *Orders* of Council are enforced; and confidently believe that the President of the U. States, without our interference, will remove the embargo, as soon as it can be done with safety. In this view we are fully supported by the opinions of many of the most respectable and wealthy merchants in Salem.

We are also apprehensive that the measure recommended, would be at-