rights; but in questions of general defence state limits ought to be forgotten: and the question of arming the people should be considered in a national point of view. The constitution has guaranteed to the states the maintenance of a republican form of government by the U. States. The general government should direct and control the use of arms; and their efficiency will not be less when derived from the general government, than if they were purchased individually by the people. These dangers so alarmingly depicted are a substitute for argument instead of the argument itself. I would have voted such a sum as should at once have armed the whole body, if the treasury had been in a situation to admit it. While the people are conscious of their rights you cannot injure them; when they are less than conscious the people cannot keep them free. I therefore think that arming the whole body of the militia would be the best preservative against danger.

Mr. Varnum said, although the gentleman last up conceived his ideas on this subject to be too finely spun, yet they were correct. Did the gentleman suppose that when an individual was called upon to give up the arms loaned to him by the U. S. that he would rebel? If gentlemen were disposed to sanction this idea, there was an end to all law. No, said Mr. V. your laws when made should be executed; for they ought to be such as the good sense of the people of the U. S. will accord in.

Mr. Rowan's idea was, that the individual was either to receive these arms as his own exclusive property; or that they were to be dispersed throughout the U. S. in arsenals.

Mr. Holland was perfectly willing to procure arms, if more were necessary in in our arsenals; but no gentlemen had shewn that they were wanting. But giving arms to the people was an absurdity; for it was inconsistent with the principles of freemen to receive gifts. If given to be restored when the government called for them, when that call was made no honest man could refuse to surrender them, because they were not his own property: and this would place the people in a situation to become slaves. Mr. H. said that the people of this nation had too high a sense of freedom to be bought by these indirect means.

Mr. Lloyd rebutted the objections made to the bill on the score of its making no provision for the distribution of the arms. The principle was the main object, and the detail could be settled after the arms were procured. But gentlemen had complained that the friends of the bill had not shewn the necessity for arms. He asked gentlemen if they would acknowlege that there was a necessity for a militia? If so, for what purpose? Not to stand in the ranks once a month equipped with corn stalks or crab sticks, but to fight when their country stood in need. Gentlemen must admit, he said, that militia were not necessary, or they must admit that it was necessary that they should be armed. Suppose a sufficient number of men were now to be called out to use all the arms in the possession of the U. S. what would become of those points where there were no arms. It must be acknowleged, from a view of the country that arms were necessary at every point.

Gentlemen have said, observed Mr. L. a freeman will not esteem a musket given to him as much as if he had bought it himself. By that argument, because we do not owe our liberty to our own exertions, but received it from our ancestors, we must therefore esteem it the less. This argument by the way he said was rather in contradiction to one used by the same gentleman (Mr. Holland) that the persons to whom arms are given would feel so extremely grateful for them, that they would be induced to act as they otherwise would not.

Mr. Masters went at some length into an examination of the conduct of France who had desolated all the countries to which she had turned her attention; it was therefore time to arm the whole body of the militia against the designs of France: for, if we do not resist, said he, this is an undone and ruined country.

Mr. Findley made objections to the structure of the bill, and the whole conduct of the business; for the bill was accompanied by no history or report, as was was generally expected by a committee. He could not vote for the bill declaring in its title an intention to arm the whole body of the militia, which could never be accomplished, being but a visionary scheme.

Mr. Blackledge said he was certainly in favor of the principle of the bill; he would have voted for the whole sum proposed, but for the present situation of our finances. View the appropriations already and with great propriety made this session, said he; if we run into war we are not even now in a situation to bear it without heavy loans. In voting for this bill I do it to recognise the principle that the general government is to arm the militia. We have sufficient now in our possession to repel and conquer any enemy, whilst enough may be left to repel any predatory attack. Therefore I do not wish to make a heavy appropriation. We have already appropriated 450,000 dollars for the purpose of procuring arms this year; which will necessarily diminish the sum now to be appropriated. I will here just observe that I do not believe that we are doing a favor to the people of the U. S. by arming them; for I know not how their own money could be applied to a better purpose than by enabling them to defend themselves against any nation whatever.

Mr. Bibb expressed himself in favor of the sum of 500,000 dollars; not that it could be all expended the present year; but because by appropriating so large a sum it would be in their power to expend a larger sum the ensuing year, because the inducement to artizans to embark in such an undertaking would be greater.

Mr. Rhea said he was willing to appropriate the money if he could see a provision introduced for distributing the arms. They ought to pass from the U. S. to each state respectively, according to the number of their effective militia, and be disposed of under such rules and regulations as the respective states should direct. He moved that the committee rise for the purpose of introducing such an amendment into the bill.

Mr. Randolph said this was certainly the first time he had ever heard of a motion for a committee to rise in order to amend a bill; he had heard of going *into* but never *out of* a committee of the whole to amend a bill. This is an unfortunate bill, said Mr. R. When the subject was before the select committee, gentlemen would not permit us to report any provision on the subject of distribution. Had I been gratified in my own course I should have introduced a different bill from the present; but now I am unwilling to have the bill modified, even in the way in which I should have originally preferred it; because in this late period of the session the discussion which such amendments would assuredly lead to would defeat the bill; and, in this, as in the case of the contract bill, I am content rather to have a bill which I do not like so well, but which establishes a valuable principle beyond contradiction, than a bill which acknowledges no principle, and that perhaps postponed till the 30th of December next. An amendment of this kind, such is the contrariety of opinion on this subject, might give rise to a discussion which would last out the whole session. Some gentlemen are of opinion that the arms should be given gratuitously, if indeed that can be said to be gratuitously given which was purchased with their own money; some are for selling them; some for keeping them in arsenals; some (of whom I am one) are for giving them to the governments of the respective states in trust for the militia. But the mode of arrangement need not be decided before the arms are procured: I hope we shall go on and pass the bill. I hope we shall pledge the faith of this government for arming the militia as much as it is now pledged for the payment of the public debt.

The question being taken on the committees' rising, was negatived—Ayes 12.

Mr. Blount was in favor of the object of the bill. Gentlemen in opposing it had given as a reason for voting against it the arms now in possession of the militia. To shew the fallacy of the reliance on that, he took up the return, in which there is stated as being in the hands of the militia of North Carolina, 23,000 muskets. His knowledge of the state enabled him to say with boldness that there were not a fourth of that number; and the return itself shewed it, for there was not a single bayonet returned to all these "muskets." There were not enough in the state he was convinced to arm the states' quota of 7003 men, their proportion of the 100,000 to be raised.

The question was then taken on the sum of 450,000 and negatived 39 to 46.

The sum of 400,000 was negatived 46 to 37.

The sum of 300,000 was negatived 47 to 41.

The sum of 200,000 was agreed to, 46 to 36.

Mr. Rhea proposed an amendment to the bill for transmitting the arms to the state governments respectively in proportion to their effective numbers of militia, and by them to be distributed among the militia.

Mr Burwell suggested the propriety of distributing the arms according to the representation from each state instead of the number of militia; the returns being so defective, it would be difficult to ascertain the proportion.

Mr. Randolph said this amendment taken in connection with the bill as it now stood reminded him of the clause in the will of the pious licentiate, who, as a recompense for his patient attendance on him, left Gil Blas *all* his library and *all* his manuscripts. *All* the arms which 200,000 dollars could purchase—*all* this mighty quantity were to be distributed among *all* the states and *all* the territories. He considered the bill efficiently destroyed by the vote to fill the blank with 200,000 dollars. It was proposed to arm the whole body of the militia of the United States with a sum incompetent to keep pace with the annual increase of the militia; and the militia would be just as far from being armed in twenty years after the passage of the bill as they were now. Twenty thousand stand a year would hardly make up for the wear and tear. But supposing the necessity of an amendment similar to that proposed, he thought the condition an improper one. He thought the arms should first be distributed among those states the militia of which were most disarmed.

He hoped the gentleman from Tennessee would not press his amendment, for he considered the bill really defunct; and he knew not but the best way would be to put the bill to sleep and revive it at a future period.

Mr. Lyon said if the arms were to be got he could see no necessity for distributing them in this way; he thought they should be distributed first to those who stood in need of them. If the amendment were adopted in any shape, he should have for his district, comprising somewhat less than 100,000 souls, *seventy* guns!

Mr. Rhea said that all the objections which had been urged went to the amount appropriated, and not to the amendment.

Mr. Holland said the desires of the gentleman from Virginia and Kentucky were like some other principles, which sounded well, were calculated to catch the ear, but could have no stability. Would it be justice, he asked, to give arms to those states who had been too negligent to procure arms, in preference to those which had rigidly performed their duty? He thought not.

The amendment was adopted 43 to 37.

The committee then rose and reported the bill, which was ordered to a third reading, by Yeas and Nays.

On the subsequent day it was read the third time and passed by Yeas and Nays as follow:

YEAS.—Messrs. L. J. Alston, W. Alston, Basset, Blackledge, Blount, Boyd, Butler, Calhoun, J. Campbell, Clopton, Culpeper, Dawson, Desha, Eppes, Goldsborough, Goodwyn, Heister, Hoge, Holmes, Jackson, Johnson, Key, Lambert, Lewis, Love, Lyon, Macon, Marion, M'Creery, Daniel Montgomery, John Montgomery, T. Moore, Jer. Morrow, John Morrow, Newton, Nicholas, Rhea, M. Richards, Riker, Rowan, Russel, Smelt, Smilie, S. Smith, J. Smith, Southard, Stanford, Taylor, Van Horn, Verplanck, Wharton, D. R. Williams, Wilson, Witherell—54.

NAYS.—Messrs. Bacon, Bard, Blake, Brown, Cutts, Dana, Davenport, Dean, Ely, Findley, Fisk, Gardner, Green, Harris, Holland, Humphreys, Ilsley, Milnor, N. R. Moore, Newbold, Pitken, Pugh, Quincy, Sloan, J. K. Smith, Storer, Sturges, Taggart, Tallmadge, Thompson, Van Rensselaer, Whitehill, Wilbour—33.

The Rt. Hon. CHARLES J. FOX's
HISTORICAL WORKS.

BIRCH & SMALL of *Philadelphia* announce that they have just received from London, and will publish on or before the 10th September, *The History of the early part of the reign of James the Second, by the Rt. hon. Charles J. Fox*, to which is prefixed a copious Address to the Reader, by Lord Holland, under whose care it was published, with an Appendix containing a correspondence between Louis XIV. and M. Barillon on English affairs, and other original and important papers.

It will be printed in one handsome Octavo Vol. price *Two Dollars & Fifty Cents*, in boards, containing the whole of the whole London 4to. which cost Thirty-six shillings sterling in England.

August 24——3t

FOR SALE.

ON Monday the 10th of October if fair, if not the next fair day, I will offer at public sale, 303 *acres of LAND*, laying on St. Clement's Bay, and nearly between Chaptico and Leonardtown, handsomely situated on the said Bay, with a large and commodious Dwelling House with comfortable dry cellars, a convenient kitchen, dairy, meat house, corn house, stables, barn, and every other necessary outhouse nearly new, and in good order—Eighty acres of the above land is heavily timbered with large white oak, cedar, and some pine—the situation perfectly healthy and within three miles of the river Potomac—fish, oysters, and wild fowl in abundance during the season, and to be had within 300 yards of the door; the soil fertile and a perfect level only whereon the houses stand. One half the purchase money will be required on the first day of January 1809, when possession will be given, and the balance a credit of twelve months will be given from the day of sale on giving bond with approved security. Sale to be on the premises, and to commence at 2 o'clock.

JOHN BOND.

St. Mary's county, August 24—3tw.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By the ship Otis, Captain Leeds, arrived at Philadelphia from Liverpool.

FROM THE DUTCH PAPERS.

PROCLAMATION.

Don Joseph, by the Grace of God, of Spain, Majorca, Minorca, Gibraltar, of the Continent of America, the Islands, &c. &c. &c. King, &c. &c.

To the Vice-Roys, Captain General, Governors, Corregidors, and to all other officers, civil and military, of whatever denomination; and to all the inhabitants of the Spanish dominions in the West and East Indies, maketh known, that,

By virtue of the treaties of the 5th and 10th of May last, by which King Charles IV. and the Princes of his House have formally relinquished all right and title to the crown of Spain, and all the dominions belonging to it, in favor of my dear and august brother, Napoleon the First, Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. who hath been graciously pleased to confer the same upon me, on the 4th of the present month, my wishes and my ambition have been to come to Spain, to take upon me the government of the country—to devote myself to the happiness and interest of the people whom Providence has committed to my charge—and to carry into effect the regulations which shall be made by the Junta of the Representatives and Notables of the kingdom; which Junta is assembled at Bayonne, and will be again called together at that place on the 16th inst. in order to take into consideration the means of establishing a just and permanent government, and of placing Spain, with all her extensive dominions, on a better footing, by securing her independence, and raising her in that rank in the scale of nations which formerly distinguished her, and which her inhabitants are still worthy to possess.

To accomplish this object I have accepted the crown. I hasten to make this declaration of my paternal solicitude for your happiness, and to assure you that it shall be exerted equally for the good of the remotest parts of my dominions.—Confiding in my royal word, you shall continue to enjoy all your privileges as good subjects. Prosecute your ordinary avocations in peace. Be obedient to your superiors, and guard against the machinations of those who set the laws at defiance. Justice must be administered impartially, and I strictly enjoin all judges and magistrates to comply with my pleasure on this subject. Look up to me as your protector: I shall ever have your interest at heart, and will double my endeavors to defend you from the attack which the implacable enemies of Spain meditate against you.

I enjoin all Archbishops, Bishops, and Ministers of Religion, which I pledge myself to maintain inviolate, to use their influence among the people to make them obedient to the laws, and to guard them against the dangerous consequences of sedition and treason.—I repeat my declaration, that my government shall be founded on justice, and my sole object be the accomplishment of your happiness.

All Governors, Judges, &c. are commanded to give the utmost publicity to this proclamation.

I, THE KING.

Given at Bayonne, June 11, 1808.

By order of the King our most gracious sovereign.

M. Jos. Dazanza.

LONDON, July 4.

HIS MAJESTY's SPEECH.

Parliament was this afternoon prorogued with the following most gracious speech from the throne, by commission:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"We have it in command from his Majesty to express to you the great satisfaction which he derives from being enabled, by putting an end to the present session of Parliament, to terminate the laborious attendance which the public business has required of you.

"The measures which you have adopted for the improvement of the military force of the country, promises to lay the foundation of a system of internal defence eminently useful and peculiarly adapted to the exigencies of these times.

"The sanction which you have given to those measures of defensive retaliation, to which the violent attacks of the enemy upon the commerce and resources of this kingdom, compelled his Majesty to resort, has been highly satisfactory to his Majesty.

"His Majesty doubts not that, in the result, the enemy will be convinced of the impolicy of persevering in the system which retorts upon himself, in so much greater proportion, those evils which he endeavors to inflict upon this country.

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

"We are commanded by his Majesty to return his most hearty acknowledgments for the chearfulness and liberality with which the necessary supplies for the current year have been provided.

"His Majesty directs us to assure you that he participates in the satisfaction with which you must have contemplated the flourishing situation of the revenue and credit of the country, notwithstanding the continued pressure of the war: and he congratulates you upon having been enabled to provide for the exigencies of the public service, with so small an addition to the public burdens.

"His Majesty commands us to thank you for having enabled him to make good his engagements with his allies; and to express to you the particular gratification which he has derived from the manner in which you have provided for the establishment of his sister, her royal highness the Duchess of Brunswick.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"His Majesty has great satisfaction in informing you, that notwithstanding the formidable confederacy, united against his ally the king of Sweden, that sovereign perseveres, with unabated vigor and constancy, to maintain the honor and independence of his crown, and that no effort has been wanting on the part of his Majesty to support him in the arduous contest in which he is engaged.

"The recent transactions, in Spain and Italy have exhibited new and striking proofs of the unbounded and unprincipled ambition which actuates the common enemy of every established and independent nation in the world.

"His Majesty views with the liveliest interest the loyal and determined spirit manifested by the Spanish nation, in resisting the violence and perfidy with which their dearest rights have been assailed.

"The Spanish nation thus nobly struggling against the tyranny and usurpation of France, can no longer be considered as the enemy of Great Britain, but is recognised by his Majesty as a natural friend and ally.

"We are commanded to inform you, that his Majesty has received communications from several of the provinces of Spain, soliciting the aid of his Majesty. The answer of his Majesty to these communications has been received in Spain with every demonstration of those sentiments of confidence and affection, which are congenial to the feelings and true interests of both nations: and his Majesty commands us to assure you, that he will continue to make every exertion in his power for the support of the Spanish cause; guided in the choice and in the direction of his exertions by the wishes of those in whose behalf they are employed.

"In contributing to the success of this great and glorious cause, his Majesty has no other object than that of preserving unimpaired the power and independence of the Spanish monarchy. But he trusts that the same efforts which are directed to that great object may, under the blessings of Divine Providence, lead in their effects and by their example, to the restoration of the liberties and peace of Europe."

July 5.

A Gottenburgh mail arrived this morning, with letters and papers to the 28th. Sir John Moore has not returned from Stockholm, but he was hourly expected, relays of horses having been provided for his use. We hope that this is the last time we shall have to repeat that the expedition still remained in Gottenburgh roads. Orders were received for the officers to repair immediately on board their respective ships; and although their destination was not known, it was understood that it was finally settled. Private letters state, that Sir John Moore was engaged at Stockholm in a negociation with the Russian court, in concert with the king of Sweden, in which event, if he has succeeded, the expedition will return home, as it is to be presumed that Denmark would be comprehended in the treaty. This, indeed, would be a most happy result, particularly at a moment when Spain stands in need of all the assistance we can afford. The report of a negociation between Russia and this country, is so strongly credited in the city, as to produce a considerable depreciation in all articles of Russian produce. Hemp fell yesterday no less than 10*l.* a ton, and tallow and linseed oil in proportion.

PEACE WITH SPAIN.

July 6. The Gazettee of last night contains the following important proclamation:

At the Court at the Queen's Palace, the 4th of July, 1808.

Present, the King's most excellent Majesty in Council.

His majesty having taken into consideration the glorious exertions of the Spanish nation for the deliverance of their country from the tyranny and usurpation of France, and the assurances which his majesty has received, from several of the provinces of Spain, of their friendly disposition towards this kingdom; his majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council to order, and it is hereby ordered: