me the honor to address to me on the 20th of this month.

I consider the Imperial decree of the 21st of November last, as, thus far, conveying no modification of the regulations at present observed in France with regard to neutral navigators, nor consequently of the convention of the 30th of September, 1800. (8th Vendemiaire, 9th year) with the U. S. of America.

But although, by this answer, the four questions upon which your excellency has desired to know my opinion, have been implicitly resolved, I think I can add, 1st, That the declaration expressed by the 1st article of the decree of the 21st November, not at all changing the present French laws concerning maritime captures, there is no reason for enquiring what interpretation, or restriction or extension may be given to this article.

2d, That seizures, contrary to the present regulations concerning cruizing, shall not be allowed to the captors.

3d. That an American vessel cannot be taken at sea for the mere reason that she is going to a port of England, or is returning from one, because conformably with the 7th article of the said decree, we are limited in France not to admit vessels coming from England or the English colonies.

4th, That the provisions of articles 2d and 5th of the said decree, naturally apply to foreign citizens domiciliated in France or in the countries occupied by the troops of his majesty the emperor and king, inasmuch as they have the character of a general law; but that it will be proper that your excellency should communicate with the minister of exterior relations as to what concerns the correspondence of the citizens of the U. States of America with England.

I pray your excellency, Mr. Minister Plenipotentiary, to receive the assurance of my high consideration. The minister of marine and of the colonies.

(Signed,)

DECRES.

It will not escape Gen. Armstrong that my answers cannot have the developement, which they would receive from the minister of Exterior Relations and that it is naturally to him that he ought to address himself for these explanations, which I am very happy to find him, because he wishes them, but upon which I have much less positive information than the prince of Benevento.

Signed.

DECRES.

Faithfully translated.

J. WAGNER.
Ch. Clk. Dept. State.

Extract of a letter from Cowles Mead, secretary and acting governor of the Mississippi territory, to the department of war, dated "Washington, M. T. January 19, 1807."

SIR,

"In obedience to your instructions by express of 20th of December last, I immediately, after proroguing the legislature, proceeded to put the territory in a state of preparation for the arrestation of the suspicious persons and boats, which were contemplated therein; my militia were collecting at particular points on the river, when I received a letter from col. Burr, [illegible] had landed at Bayou Pierre, with nine boats and about 100 men. This letter went to an avowal of his innocence of the charges, which rumour and public apprehension had announced against him, and solicited me to appease the fears which his approach had begotten; at the same time he guarded me against the horrors of civil war, and the evils resulting from such a state of things; this seeming threat induced me to adopt a different mode of conduct, from what the col. might have expected; and instead of adopting his pacific admonition, I ordered a very large portion of the militia of the territory to rendezvous at certain points, and wait farther orders. With the promptitude of Spartans, our fellow citizens shouldered their firelocks, and in twenty four hours, I had the honor to review 375 men at Natchez, prepared to defend their country. They were ordered under the command of col. Claiborne, to a point on the river about 21 miles above the city, there to remain to guard the river, and intercept, for inspection, all boats that might descend the river. On the 16th, I dispatched two of my aids to col. Burr, who had tendered his respect to the civil authority; these gentlemen engaged on my part to give the colonel an interview in the neighbourhood of the detachment stationed at the mouth of Cole's creek. Conformably thereto I met the colonel on the 17th, and after a lengthy interview, he offered to surrender himself to the civil authority, of the territory, and to suffer his boats to be searched. On the 18th, col. Burr, accompanied by my aids, majors Shields and Poindexter, rode down to the place, and was committed to the highest tribunal, of the civil authority, where he now remains for trial."

"Four gentlemen of unquestionable respectability, with a detachment of 30 men, are now in the act of making the search of the boats, and to-morrow I expect their report."

"Thus far, this mighty alarm with all its exaggerations has eventuated in nine boats and one hundred men, and the major part of these are boys, or young men just from school. Many of their depositions have been taken before judge Rodney, but they bespeak ignorance of the views or designs of the colonel. I belive them really ignorant and deluded. I believe that they are the dupes of stratagem, if the asseverations of generals Eaton and Wilkinson, are to be accredited."

Our readers will perceive, by our minutes of Congressional proceedings, that there has been a debate in the House of Representatives on the motion, made some time since by Mr. Broom, on the expediency of making "further provision by law for securing the privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus to persons in custody, under, or by color of, the authority of the U. S.

Having been engaged in the Supreme Court by the interesting business there depending, we did not enter the House, until a late hour on Wednesday. Mr. Holland was then speaking against the motion to commit the resolution to a select committee. He was followed by Mr. Alston on the same side. Messrs. J. Randolph and Marm. Williams replied on the opposite side.

As the debate was highly interesting we regret our absence from the House. As, however, one or more stenographers were present, we presume they will give the public a report of the debate, for the early part of which we shall be indebted to them.

Letters from New-Orleans state the arrest of Messrs. Adair, Workman, Bradford and Kerr; and it is said that Messrs. Adair and Ogden have arrived at Fort M'Henry, near Baltimore, under the charge of Lieut. Lucket.

English advices have been received to the 30th of December, the contents of which, other than those inserted, we are obliged to defer to our next, in consequence of the great extent and interesting nature of domestic articles.

SUPREME COURT of the UNITED STATES.

On WEDNESDAY Mr. MARTIN, in a speech of four hours and a half, concluded the argument on the motion in the case of Messrs. Bollman and Swartwout.

On THURSDAY, the Chief Justice observed that the court had had the motion made in the case of Messrs. Bollman and Swartwout under consideration, but had not yet been able to make up a decisive opinion. In the mean time as the situation of the prisoners might be irksome to them, if they could find bail, they might be bailed until to-morrow.

The counsel of Messrs. Bollman and Swartwout observed that one day's additional confinement would not make any material difference.

The court added that they felt considerable difficulty with regard to the admissibility of the affidavit of general Wilkinson—whether a person making an affidavit that a particular paper contained the substance of an original paper in his hand, such affidavit was in such a case as the present, admissible evidence. They had not been able to find any authorities on this point. They therefore invited the researches of counsel into it.

Messrs. Rodney and Martin said they would deem it their duty, under this request, to submit to the court such precedents as they could find on the subject.

Extract of a letter from Col. Ferdinand L. Claiborne to his friend in this city.

Natchez, 20th Jan. 1807.

DEAR SIR,

I returned yesterday from an expedition up the river, with five hundred and fifty men drawn from this and Jefferson county, and destined to meet Col. Burr, who, with a considerable body of men, was encamped at the Bayou Pierre. When informed of my approach and *orders*, by major Shields, aid de camp to the governor, he surrendered himself and party prisoners—they have been turned over by the executive to the civil authority of our country. What the issue will be, or when he will be tried, is uncertain. His arms and other military stores, I expect, were taken possession of on yesterday, by a detachment from my command. Our country is full of those adventurers—our commerce destroyed, and the two territories in complete confusion.

Extract of a letter from Governor Claiborne to General S. Smith, dated NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 15.

"General Adair arrived in this city yesterday, and was immediately arrested by orders from General Wilkinson, and is now (I learn) on his passage to Washington.

"General Adair was from Nashville; he passed through the Choctaw nation, and was the first to announce his arrival here. He reported that Col. Burr, attended by a servant only, would be in this city in three days."

SENATE OF THE U. STATES.

February 10.

Dr. LOGAN observed, that he had for some time viewed with anxiety the continued depredations committed on the commerce of the United States by the belligerent powers of Europe, by which our mercantile capital had suffered a loss of millions, and our national character was degraded. He considered this lamentable situation of our commerce to arise from the bounty, in the form of drawback given by government to encourage the carrying trade, by which our merchants were led into unnecessary conflicts with foreign nations—he therefore moved that a committee be appointed to consider the propriety of repealing so much of any act as allows a drawback of duties on goods, wares, and merchandize exported out of the U. S. and that such committee be instructed to report by bill or otherwise.

February 17, 1807.

The reports and ordinary business of the day having been disposed of, the Senate took up the bill from the House of Representatives, for repealing the duty on salt, and for continuing in force the 2 1-2 per cent additional for the Mediterranean fund. Dr. Mitchill made a speech against the bill, until the hour of adjournment.

February 18.

The same bill being again under consideration Mr. Maclay spoke at length in favor of the bill, and in answer to Mr. Mitchill. After him, in the course of the debate, Messrs. Bradley, Smith of Md. Adams and Hillhouse, argued against the bill. And Mr. Moore delivered his sentiments in its favor.

February 19.

The question was taken on the two first sections of the bill, and carried to strike them out: Ayes 17, noes 15. Afterwards on motion of Mr. Bradley, a substitute was offered, and agreed to, repealing the duty of 3 cents, as imposed in 1797, from the 1st July next. And gen. Smith moved an amendment, which was carried for shortening the continuance of the bill from the end of the next session of Congress to the 31st Dec. next. In this form the bill has passed to a third reading.

The bill "respecting seizures made "under the authority of the United "States," &c. was referred to a select committee consisting of Messrs. Mitchill, Adams and Smith, of Md.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

A message was received from the Senate, stating that they had passed the bill authorising the President of the U. S. to accept the service of a number of volunteer companies not exceeding 30,000 men; also an act further supplementary to the act entitled an act concerning the district of Columbia; and that they had agreed to all the amendments proposed by the House to the bill to prohibit the importation of slaves, except the 9th amendment.

The House proceeded to consider the following resolution, offered by Mr. Broom:—

"*Resolved*, That it is expedient to make further provision, by law, for securing the privilege of the writ of *Habeas Corpus* to persons in custody, under, or by color of, the authority of the U. S."

Mr. Broom moved a reference of this resolution to a Committee of the Whole House.

On this motion a debate arose, which occupied the residue of the sitting.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

The House considered the message of the Senate, stating their disagreement to the ninth amendment proposed by the House to the bill prohibiting the importation of slaves into the U. S. determined to insist thereon; and appointed a Committee of Conference on their part.

The House resumed the consideration of Mr. Broom's resolution on the subject of the writ of Habeas Corpus.

The debate was resumed, and continued till near five o'clock.

The original motion to refer the resolution to a Committee of the Whole House was varied, and a motion offered to refer it to a select committee.

The House adjourned without taking the question.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

Mr. J. Clay offered a new rule, in addition to the standing rules of the House, fixing the order in which business shall be done; which was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Morrow of Ohio, from the committee on the public lands, to whom was referred the amendments of the Senate to the bill confirming the claims to land in the district of Vincennes, reported the same without amendment—Referred to a Committee of the Whole House to morrow.

Mr. Holmes, from the Committee of Claims, made a favorable report on the petition of Daniel Cotton, which was referred to a Committee of the Whole to morrow.

Mr. J. Clay, from the committee to whom was referred an act from the Senate in addition to the act relative to the mint, reported the same with one amendment—Referred to a Committee of the Whole to morrow.

On motion of *Mr. Varnum* the House determined for the remainder of the session to meet at 10 o'clock in the morning.

The House resumed the consideration of the resolution offered by Mr. Broom.

The debate was opened by Mr. Burwell, who advocated the reference of the resolution, and concluded by moving to amend it by inserting after the words *states*, the following words "and the necessity of defining the power of the supreme court of the U. S. in issuing a writ of Habeas Corpus."

This amendment was agreed to without debate—Ayes 76.

Mr. *Quincey* supported; and Messrs. Jackson, Bidwell and Gregg opposed the reference of the resolution to a select committee.

Mr. Gregg moved to postpone it indefinitely.

This motion was supported by Messrs. Smilie, Eppes, Elmer and Sloan; and opposed by Messrs. Newton, J. Randolph, Elliot, J. Clay and Kelly.

When the question was taken at 5 o'clock, by Yeas and Nays, on the indefinite postponement, and carried in the affirmative—Yeas 60—Nays 38.

New York, February 14.

The new council of appointment met in Albany on Monday morning, and appointed SMITH THOMPSON, Esq. Mayor of the city of New-York.

Trial of Captain Whitby—A court martial is called in England, to try capt. Whitby for the murder of Pierce—Capt. Brewster, of our revenue cutter, Jonathan L. Brewster, his brother, Robert Mitchell, branch pilot, and John White, go as witnesses, and are expected to sail in the Latona for Liverpool, whence they proceed to London.—*Citizen*

A London paper observes that the late attempt at negociation between Great Britain and France was nothing but a "solemn mockery," and that the British ministry were *duped* by the French. The French, it seems, offered to give up all claim to Hanover, Malta, and the Cape of Good Hope, for which they demanded from the British, to restore to France & her allies all the English had taken besides in the East and the West-Indies, and in South-America; abandon the king of Sicily, and surrender that fertile island to France, to recognize the French emperor, the king of Holland, Naples, Wirtemburg, and Bavaria, together with all grand dukes and princes of Bonaparte's creation.

By the ship Kingston, capt. Leslie, from Cowes, we have received London papers to the twenty fourth of December. From these we have only time to extract the following articles—the British government has opened the trade for its own subjects, to the empire of Hayti—Insurance on American vessels, at London, had risen to ten gwineas per cent.

LONDON, DEC. 11.

His Prussian majesty has refused to ratify an armistice signed by his minister Lucchesini and general Zastrow. We know not of any circumstances of disaster and misfortune that could justify a monarch in subscribing to the terms it contained——he could go but one step further in disgrace, and sign the sentence of his deposition and dethronement.

In consequence of the King of Prussia's refusal to ratify the armistice, Bonaparte left Berlin for Poland on the 25th ult.

DECEMBER 13.

Government, we understand yesterday, received intelligence that the emperor of Russia had entered Poland at the head of 150,000 men: that the king of Prussia had joined with 20,000 of his rallied forces & that an action might soon be expected.

The Russians have entered Warsaw, and pushed their patroles towards Posen; and the French are advancing from Posen and Warsaw.

New-Orleans, Jan. 12.

Saturday night last, a man by the name of People, (of Kentucky) was arrested by the military, on suspicion of being a Burrite. It seems that he was a little intoxicated, and avowed himself to be one of Burr's party, shewed his epaulet, and said he held a captain's commission. He is now confined, and we suppose will be shipped off in a few days.

A Funeral sermon will be preached on Sunday next, by the Rev. Mr. SAYR, at the Episcopal church in George-Town, upon the occasion of the late Mrs. BURNS' death.

WHARF MATERIALS
& *WORKMANSHIP WANTED.*

THE following materials will be wanted for building a Wharf at the south end of 17th street west (at the mouth of the Tyber, viz.

From 600 to 700 perches of Blue Stones.
2000 feet running of White Oak timber, squared on three sides, 14 inches in the bed, and to raise one foot.
3000 yards of filing in with earth.

James Hoban,
Timothy Caldwell, } *Commissioners.*
J. P. Van Ness,

February 20—

N. B Proposals will be received by either of the above commissioners until the 17th March next for furnishing the above materials, for laying the stones and logs, and for filing the wharf.

RANAWAY from the subscriber near Clarksburg, Montgomery county, on the 23d of December last, a negro man named JOHN, who calls himself John Thompson; he is a small fellow, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, of a wheedling turn, and a noted whistler; about 32 or 33 years of age, and both his temples very grey for one of his years. His dress was an old hat, a roundabout jacket and pantaloons, made of white kersey, with one elbow and one knee fire scorched; the tail of the jacket bound with blue muslin; an old waistcoat of rusty colored plush with red flannel backs, country tow shirt, & coarse shoes pegged in the soals—He had no change of dress with him, unless furnished by accomplices. Whoever will take up and secure him in jail, and give me word, that I get him again, shall receive a reward of EIGHT DOLLARS, by

WM. GLAZE.

February 16—w3t

N. B. I expect he is lurking about the city of Washington, or near Port Tobacco in Charles county. All persons are hereby forewarned against harboring, secreting or conveying him off, at their peril. W. G.

FIVE DOLLARS REWARD.

RANAWAY from the subscriber on the 16th of June last, an apprentice boy, named WILLIAM DENT, a Tailor by trade. He is between 14 and 15 years of age, has light hair, and pale blue eyes; his clothing cannot now be described. Whoever will bring the said boy to me, shall receive the above reward and all reasonable charges.

EDWARD [illegible], F street
Washington city

N. B. Having heard that the aforesaid boy has been employed by some person at St. Inigoes, (Maryland) I hereby forewarn all persons from harboring him, under pain of being dealt with to the utmost rigor of the law.

E. F.

Feb. 20—3t

By his excellency ROBERT BOWIE, Governor of Maryland.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it has been stated to me, by by the petition of number of respectable persons, inhabitants of Prince George's county, that a MURDER hath been committed on the person of CHARLES NEVITT, junior, late of Prince George's county—by a certain negro man, (slave of Basil Soper,) called WALL, who hath since absconded and fled from justice. *And whereas*, it is the duty of the Executive to guard as much as may be against the commission of such enormities, and to bring such offenders against the laws and peace of society to justice, I have therefore thought proper to issue this my *Proclamation*, and do, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, offer a reward of *One Hundred Dollars* to any person or persons who shall apprehend and secure the said negro WALL, in any jail in the United States, so that he be brought to justice.

Given in Council, at the city of Annapolis, under the Seal of the state of Maryland, this sixth day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and six.

ROBERT BOWIE,

By his Excellency's command.

NINIAN PINKNEY,

Clerk of the Council.

Ordered, That the foregoing Proclamation be published once in each week until countermanded, in the Maryland Gazette, at Annapolis; the Federal Gazette and Evening Post, at Baltimore; the Frederick-town Advocate, and in the National Intelligencer, at the City of Washington.

By order,

NINIAN PINKNEY,

Sept. 22—wtf.

AN ACT

For the punishment for forgery and for other purposes.

WHEREAS it has been represented to this general assembly, that the crime of forging bank notes and negotiable notes hath greatly increased, and the punishment already provided by law, not being thought sufficient to prevent the commission of the crime, for remedy thereof.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That any person who shall with a fraudulent intent, employ an artist to engrave or etch any plate, in imitation of the note or notes of any established bank within this state, or of any bank which may hereafter be established within this state, or which are or may be established by law in any of the United States, or any person engaged in engraving or etching such plate or plates, or any person in any manner engaged in striking impressions from such plate or plates, or any person who shall affix to such notes, fraudulent or forged signatures, or any person who shall be in any manner concerned in the altering, forging or counterfeiting, any note of any bank now existing within this state, or of any bank which may hereafter be established in this state, or any person who may pass within this state, forged or counterfeited notes (knowing them to be such) purporting to be the genuine notes of a bank regularly constituted within any of the United States, or any person who may pass as genuine any note purporting to be a note of a bank which does not exist, or shall pass as genuine negotiable notes, any forged or counterfeited negotiable note or paper whatsoever, or who shall erase or alter any genuine negotiable note or negotiable paper, or any endorsement thereupon; or shall tender in payment, or in any way utter, any such erased altered, or counterfeited note or notes, or negotiable paper (knowing such bill or note, or negotiable paper, or the endorsement thereon, to be altered, forged, counterfeited, erased or falsified) with intention to defraud the said bank or banks, or any other person, shall be adjudged a felon, and shall be condemned to death without benefit of clergy.

February 4—w8t

60 DOLLARS REWARD.

RANAWAY from the subscriber living in Prince George's county on Sunday the 29th inst. the three following slaves—a mulatto young man who calls himself BILL STEWART, he was born at Montgomery court house, was once the property of Honore Martin, was purchased of him by the late Rich. Contee who sold him to me; he is a likely well made fellow about 21 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches high, his hands and feet are large; the evening before he absconded he had his hair cut close; he had with him a variety of clothing, viz. 1 blue coat and overals one light colored bearskin coat and overalls, 2 swansdown waistcoats, 3 fine Irish linen shirts and some coarse shirts, three muslin neckcloths, a fine hat, price 7 dollars; he took away a prayer book, in the first page of which is written Mary Ducket.

JOE who calls himself Joe Grimes, alias Graham, and HARRY, both young negro men about 21 years of age—the clothing of these cannot be described. Joe has one of his arms broken near the wrist, which makes it longer than the other; when he is spoken to he speaks fast as if his tongue was too large for his mouth. Harry, I am informed, has several large scars on his body and one of his thighs occasioned by burns when he was young.

The above reward will be paid for confining the three in jail, or 30 dollars for confining Bill in jail so that I get him again.

WALTER BOWIE.

July 7—3awtf