these considerations he inferred their incompetency to legislate for this district, whatever their disposition might be. These were the principal reasons that influenced his mind. They might, however, perhaps, be easily obviated by the reasons of other gentlemen, which he would be glad to hear.

Mr. Huger was opposed to the resolutions. First, because he was not inclined hastily to make alterations in the great national compact that held us together. It appeared to him that though they might not always understand the reasons on which a particular part of it was founded, yet it was prudent not to change it until experience had clearly proved its inconvenience. It must be obvious, that it was easier to perceive its present inconvenience, than to foresee the effects that may ensue from a change. The constitution contemplates the exercise by Congress of exclusive legislation over ten miles square. It must impress itself upon the mind of every gentleman that the wise men who framed the constitution deemed it proper. Congress also had thought it proper, as well as two of the most respectable states in the union, the one by receiving and the other by granting the territory. All these considerations impressed his mind with a disinclination hastily to alter the course that had been pursued.

Another reason, which weighed with him, was that though they had been here three winters, they had no reason to believe that a majority or any considerable portion of the people wished to be receded.

Great force has been attached to an agreement derived from the present situation of the people of the territory—from their deprivation of rights. He felt for them. But, because they are now disfranchised of their rights, it does not follow that they are always to remain so. He hoped they would not recede them on this account. He looked forward to the period, when the inhabitants from their numbers, and riches, would be entitled to a representation on this floor. And with respect to their local concerns, when they grow more numerous and wealthy, there would be no difficulty in giving them a territorial legislature.

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Bacon) founded one of his arguments on the idea that the government of the United States could derive no advantage from the ten miles square. While, however, he (Mr. H.) felt a great respect for the states, he must think that the government of the United States should be placed where it might find its own convenience. Though under the states it might in most cases proceed without material inconvenience, yet he could suppose some circumstances that might expose the government to great inconvenience. This was one reason on which the article of the Constitution was grounded. Such an occurrence had taken place at Philadelphia, where Congress had been surrounded by the soldiery, and had not been able to get aid to relieve them.

Another reason against the recession was his belief that it would affect property injuriously. Citizens in various parts of the union, and foreigners, had made purchases in consequence of the cession. Without pretending to say that property would be less safe under state governments, he could conceive that foreigners might consider it more safe under the protection of the national government.

It is said that much time is taken up, and great expence incurred, in attending to the affairs of the territory. When a day or two is taken up in any discussion we are always told of the expence. But to prove that the expence would be diminished if we had not these objects to attend to, it was necessary to shew that the session would be shortened. He believed if there was not one third of the usual business before Congress the session would not be terminated before the 3d of March. Besides much of the inconvenience we now experience arises from the novelty of the business. A sufficient attention has not been yet paid to the organisation of the territory, which, when properly arranged, will remove a great share of our trouble. He had no doubt that when the government became acquainted with the wants and the wishes of the people, the government of them by the United States would be rendered as agreeable to them as that of the states

Gentlemen, in looking at the inconvenience attached to the people of the territory, do not sufficiently regard the superior convenience they possess.—Though the citizens may not possess full political rights, they have a greater influence upon the measures of the government than any equal number of citizens in any other part of the union.

Mr. H. concluded by observing that he felt no disposition to go at large into the discussion. He had barely made these remarks to shew that the propriety of a recession was not so plain a case as might be inferred from the arguments of gentlemen who had preceded him.

Mr. Dennis regretted that he had been called out of the House when this subject was taken up, as in the remarks which he considered it his duty to make, he could not avail himself of the ideas suggested by other gentlemen, and as he might repeat what had been perhaps already said. He would undertake, however, to shew that the proposed resolutions were objectionable in every point of view that could be taken of them. They presented two aspects. Admitting, in the first place, that they could be carried into effect so far as to restore the people of the territory to the situation in which they were placed before the cession, yet it appeared to him a strong objection that all the advantages of exclusive jurisdiction would be thereby lost. He had always thought that part of the Constitution, which gave Congress exclusive jurisdiction over a district of ten miles square, wise and proper; and that a government whose laws were to pervade the whole United States ought not to be subjected to the whim or caprice of any part of the United States.

It was extraordinary to assert, and the whole system of our legislation went to prove it, that the possessing exclusive jurisdiction should be made the sine qua non of accepting a trifling spot for a light house on a fortification, and yet that in an affair of so much importance as the present, that jurisdiction should be abandoned. If in the former cases sole jurisdiction was insisted upon, it was infinitely more important to have a controul over that district in which the government itself exercised its powers. But, in the second place, it is evident that these resolutions, if agreed to, cannot have the effect of restoring the people to the situation in which they were placed before the cession. The provision in the Constitution is imperative; and it is impossible by any act of ours to divest ourselves of the ultimate jurisdiction over the territory. For the Constitution declares "that Congress shall have power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States."

By exclusive legislation, he understood the exclusion to the states of all participation in legislation. He admitted that it was competent to congress to sanction the acts of Maryland and Virginia; but he believed no one would contend that congress could divest themselves of an ultimate controul. They might admit the legislatures of Maryland and Virginia to legislate for the territory; but congress possessed the power of controlling or modifying their acts. He would wish to know what advantage there could be in giving this legislative agency to those states. If given, no doubt could be entertained of many acts passed by them being disagreeable to the people of the territory, who would apply to congress to repeal them. The next congress too would have the power of resuming the jurisdiction, or more properly speaking, the jurisdiction would still remain in congress. Under such a qualified cession, he presumed the legislatures of Virginia and Maryland would refuse to act. For, why should they legislate for people not within their limits? The power of legislation might as well be vested in the legislature of Massachusetts. The truth is, that our jurisdiction would be paramount, and the acts of Maryland and Virginia would go into operation merely by our permission—and congress might repeal and amend them whenever and howsoever they pleased. We should, therefore, be then relieved from no trouble that we now experience. There would then be as many applications to pass laws as there are now.

In another point of view he was astonished at these propositions, and at the quarter from which they came. The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Bacon) has told us that his resolutions are bottomed on the broad basis of the rights of man: But he would ask how this could be, when the resolutions went to transfer 20,000 men without their consent, to a government different from that under which they now live. Gentlemen are going to imitate some of the extraordinary scenes that have lately occurred in Europe, and propose to transfer this district with the same facility that in that quarter of the globe they have transferred an Italian dukedom or a German principality.

Mr. Dennis thought the situation of congress in relation to the people of this territory was not sufficiently understood. He knew that it was always troublesome to legislate for any people. He foresaw these inconveniences when they removed to this place. He had thought then, as he thought now, that some legislative government must be provided for the district. In this opinion he had never varied; but had from successive events become more confirmed in its accuracy. But if gentlemen object to vesting the people with the power of government, he thought he could suggest a plan better than that of recession, to wit—to vest the President with the power to revise the laws of Maryland and Virginia, and make a report to the next session of congress. The laws of Maryland and Virginia were generally agreeable to the people; but they experienced many inconveniences from local and peculiar circumstances.

Mr. Dennis concluded by observing that he had risen without methodising his thoughts; but he conceived the resolutions of so mischievous a tendency, so infractive of the constitution, and if adopted, so nugatory, that he conceived it his duty to raise his voice against them.

The committee rose and obtained leave to sit again.

FRIDAY, Feb. 11.

An engrossed bill for the relief of Moses White was read a third time and passed—Ayes 42.—Noes 18.—

The House went into a Committee of the whole on the report of the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures on the petition of Samuel Corp.

After some debate the report was agreed to.

The House concurred, and ordered a bill to be brought in.

On motion of Mr. Helms the House went into a Committee of the whole on the bill to make provision for persons who have been disabled by known wounds received in the service of the United States during the revolutionary war.

Mr. John C. Smith in the chair.

A debate of considerable length ensued on the competency of the provisions of the bill to secure the ends contemplated by it. The bill provides for a decision by the district judge on the application of individuals for pensions.

Dr. Eustis was in favor of a provision in the room of this, authorising the Secretary of war, to examine each case and to make report to Congress. To obtain this alteration in the bill, he moved that the Committee should rise, when he would further move the recommitment of the bill to a select committee.

This motion did not prevail.

Several amendments were then made, when the Committee rose, and reported the bill with the amendments, which were ordered to lie on the table.

About 2 o'clock Mr. Nicholson said he had a report to make on a subject which had been acted upon with closed doors.

The galleries were cleared, and the House continued their sitting until 4 o'clock, when an adjournment took place.

SATURDAY, February 12.

The House went into committee of the whole—Mr. Varnum in the Chair—on the amendments of the Senate to the act for the relief of the sufferers by the late fire at Portsmouth.

The committee agreed to the amendments, and the House afterwards concurred—The amendment confines the suspension of the payment of duties falling due since the 26th of December.

Mr. Southard made a report respecting Military Land Warrants—giving farther time to the holders of military land warrants to locate the same—to locate them on lessportions than 4,000 acres &c.

Report agreed to, and a bill ordered to be brought in.

Mr. Huger made a report on so much of the President's Message as relates to fostering our fisheries.

Referred to a committee of the whole.

On motion of General S. Smith, the committee of the whole were discharged from the further consideration of the report of the committee of Commerce and Manufactures on discriminating and countervailing duties.

The galleries were then cleared, and the House proceeded to confidential business.

THEO. HOLT

Has for sale, at his Nursery Garden, Eastern Branch,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS,

Which he has imported from London, per ship Sheppardeis, to Norfolk, and others of his own saving—consisting of

FRAME Peas, very early,	Deptford do.
	White Spanish do.
Early Charlton do.	Early Scarlet Radish,
Dwarf Marrowfat do.	Mixed do.
Large Marrowfat do.	Spanish do.
Dwarf Prussian do.	White Turnip do.
Dwarf Union do.	Long Prickly Cucumber,
Dwarf Prolific do.	
Large Windsor Beans,	Green Turkey do.
Turkey Longpod do.	Nasturtion,
Dwarf Bunch do.	Parsley,
Lima do.	Spinage,
Saddlestrap do.	Red Beet,
Early York Cabbage,	Early Horn Carrot,
Early Battersea do.	Long Orange do.
Early Sugarloaf do.	Large Parsnip,
Large Drumhead do.	Loaf Lettuce,
Green Savoy do.	Brown Dutch do.
Red Pickling do.	Mixed do. many sorts,
Scotch Kale,	Solid Celery,
Brocoli sorts mixed	Endive,
Early Cauliflower,	White Asparagrass,
Late do.	Common,
Early Dutch Turnip,	Salsofie, &c. &c. &c.
Large Tripoli Onion,	

A variety of different kinds of Fruit Trees, Flowering Shrubs, Flower Seeds, Garden Hoes and Rakes, various sizes; imported Roots of fine Mixed Tulips, Double Hyacinths, Double Jonquils, Crown Imperials, Double Snow Drops, Aenemonies, Persian Ranunculus, Persian Iris, Crocuses, &c. A quantity of Lombardy Poplars, proper size for planting.

Washington, Jan. 21, 1803. 2wtf

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, February 14, 1803.

Extract of a letter from James Maury, Esqr. American Consul at Liverpool, dated 10th of Nov. 1802.

Since the passing of the act, which I had the honor to enclose you on the 14th September, doubts have arisen as to the admissibility to entry for home consumption of cotton in our vessels from New-Orleans. I have the satisfaction to inform you, that two of our vessels have lately arrived here from that place with cotton, which has been admitted to entry for home consumption on reporting from the *deposit belonging to the United States of America on the river Mississippi.* As this information may also be important to our merchants, who are concerned in that branch of trade, I further submit to you the propriety of its being made public.

On Friday last the rule to shew cause why a Mandamus should not issue to the Secretary of State to deliver certain commissions of justices of the peace to particular individuals in the district of Columbia, was argued before the Supreme Court of the United States. Mr. Lee spoke at considerable length in favor of granting the rule.

The Attorney General said, that he had received no instructions to appear.

The Court, when Mr. Lee terminated his argument, observed that they would attend to the observations of any person who was disposed to offer his sentiments.

No decision is yet made by the Court.

Theodorus Bailey, a firm republican, is elected a Senator of the United States for the State of New-York after the 3rd day March, in the room of Governeur Morris, a federalist.

On the joint ballot of the two Houses
Mr. Bailey had 59 votes,
Mr. Woodworth 57 votes.

There was no federal candidate.

We congratulate the republicans and friends of a representative government of New-York, that the period is near at hand when they will have a *real* representative in the Senate in the room of Governeur Morris, who has, for several years past, instead of representing, opposed almost invariably the will of his constituents.

On Tuesday last a DINNER was given to JAMES MUNROE, Esqr. at M'Laughlin's Tavern, in George Town, by a majority of the members of both Houses of Congress, at which the Foreign Ministers near the United States were present by invitation. *W. C. Nicholas, Esq.* of the Senate, President, and *William Jones* of the House of Representatives, Vice-President. After dinner the following TOASTS were drank.

1. The American People.
2. The Constitution of the United States.
3. The State Governments.
4. The President of the United States. The Philosopher, the Patriot and the Statesman. 3 cheers.
5. The nations in amity with us.—A continuance of our friendly relations. 3 cheers.
6. The agriculture of the United States, the great basis of our national wealth.
7. Our Commerce, Navigation and Fisheries—May peace, plenty and happiness reward the labours of industry and enterprise.
8. Our Manufactures—Competition to stimulate—duties to protect—and patriotism to consume.
9. Literature—the parent of liberty.
10. The Militia of the United States—the natural defence of our free government.
11. Peace and prosperity to all nations.
12. The State of Ohio, the youngest sister of the Union. 3 cheers.
13. The memory of the departed heroes and statesmen of our country.
14. May the arts which promote the happiness of man be cultivated rather than those which contribute to his destruction.
15. May the ocean which separates the eastern and western continents be always loaded with their mutual commerce, and always open to friendly intercourse.
16. The friends and benefactors of the human race.
17. The American fair—May they always have a tear for misery, and a smile for virtue.

By the Foreign Ministers.

May the powers of Europe never be divided from the United States but by the ocean.

By Mr. Munroe. The union of the states—May political discussion only tend to cement it.

After Mr. Munroe retired.

James Munroe. Probity, honor, and talents, the true basis of public confidence and esteem.

After the Foreign Ministers retired.

The Foreign Ministers near the United States.

Capt. Duplex, of the ship Diana, arrived at New York in 49 days from Gibraltar, informs, that Peace was concluded between the Tripolitans and Swedes, the beginning of December.—The frigates Adams and Constellation were at Gibraltar, the latter to sail for the United States in 3 or 4 days.—The Chesapeake was at Leghorn. The Tripoline cruisers were principally in port, and very little danger was apprehended from them.

The Tripolitan ship, at Gibraltar, had been seized for debt, and dismantled.

The following resolutions, introduced by Mr. Clayton, were adopted by the house of representatives, during the late session of the assembly of this state: *Wil. Mir.*

Resolved, That William Hill Wells, Samuel White, and James A. Bayard, the representatives from this state in the congress of the United States, deserve the thanks of this general assembly, and are entitled to the public approbation, for the zeal, fidelity and abilities with which they have uniformly discharged the trusts reposed in them by their fellow-citizens; but more especially for their able efforts to obtain a reduction of the duties on tea, coffee, brown sugar, salt and molasses, and for their firm and well tempered opposition to that act of congress which has violated the constitution, and been so subversive to the independency of one branch of the government of the United States.

Resolved further, That this general assembly view with regret, the little disposition shewn by congress to relieve our Western brethren from the difficulties and embarrassments under which they labor, from the obstructions of the navigation of the Mississippi, "by recent irregular measures carried on at New-Orleans" by the Spanish government or its agents; this general assembly, however, rest confident, that the representatives from this state, in the present, as in every other instance, will advocate measures, which will tend to preserve the honor, and be for the interest and happiness of the United States.

When the above resolutions were adopted in the house of representatives, the undersigned informed the house that they meant to insert their reasons of dissent on the journals; and although it had been the invariable practice to allow such liberty—altho' not a single instance was produced to the contrary—yet the right was on this occasion denied—thus refused what we conceived there ought to have been no objection to—and believing it to be our duty to express our disapprobation of said resolutions—we resort to the press as the only means left us to make known to our constituents our sentiments on said resolutions, which we do as follows:

We dissent, in the first place, because we cannot approve—because we condemn the conduct of our said representatives, J. A. Bayard, in counteracting the wishes of the people, by opposing in an unprecedented and we conceive in an unjustifiable manner, the election of the wise and patriotic Jefferson to the first magistracy of the United States, and for the opposition of our said senators and representative, to the prudent and economical measures of the present administration in relation to the repeal of the internal taxes—their dispositions to serve the poor by the reduction of the duties on brown sugar, tea, coffee, molasses and salt, were in our opinion hollow and unfounded—only intended, to acquire a false popularity, and afford them a means of opposition without measures which they had not virtue to imitate when the power was in their hands and the hands of their friends.

We dissent futher from the said resolution, because it censures the repeal of the judiciary law, as unconstitutional—the most learned men of the U. States have so differed in opinion on that subject, that it appeared to us presumptuous in this legislature to hazard an opinion on that repeal—much more to erect itself into a tribunal to censure and condemn so important an act of the general government.

We futher dissent from the said resolution, because it approbates the conduct of James A. Bayard: we are decidedly of opinion that this legislature have nothing to do with the conduct of said Representative—having been chosen by the people and not by this legislature, to the former only is he accountable—by them has his conduct been disapproved, and being condemned by them we will not presume to approbate—as thereby we should censure their decision.

We dissent from the second resolution adopted as aforesaid, because we conceive it to be an unprecedented, unc-