WASHINGTON CITY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21.

LOUISIANA.

By the laſt mail government has received diſpatches from New-Orleans, dated as late as the 29th ult. by which it appears that Mr. Landais, who was charged with the original orders to Mr. Lauſſat to receive Louiſiana from Spain, arrived there late on the 25th ult. and that the 30th at noon was appointed by the Spaniſh and French Commiſſioners as the time for the delivery on the part of Spain and the receipt of poſſeſſion on the part of France. By ſubſequent accounts from Natchez as late as the 2d of December the forces of the United States were embarking in order to proceed with Governor Claiborne and General Wilkinſon, the American Commiſſioners, to receive and occupy the country, in the name of the United States.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman reſiding near the Natchez, dated Dec. 2.

"The governor ſet out this day for New Orleans with a number of troops, with the determination to take poſſeſſion by force, if the Spaniſh ſhould refuſe the delivery: which I ſuppoſe they will not. The governor received a letter from general Wilkinſon laſt night informing him that the Spaniſh were making preparations to deliver the poſt, and to receive our troops on friendly terms."

Another letter of ſimilar date, ſtates that information had been that morning received from New Orleans, that that place would be delivered without any difficulty being made.

Extract of a letter form a gentleman in Cabarrus county, North Carolina.

"The gold mine in Cabarrus, has of late drawn the attention of a number of our citizens very much. Indeed it has ſo far engaged the minds of many, that it has become the common theme in almoſt every company. The fact is, it has lately produced wonders. Beſides a variety of pieces of leſs magnitude, there was about three weeks ago, one lump found juſt below the ſurface of the earth, that weighed 28lb. ſtillyard weight. This at the common calculation will be worth about 7000 dollars. So that from its preſent appearance, it is well worthy of notice."

Departed this life, on Sunday the 11th inſt. at his ſeat in Dorcheſter county, (Maryland) after a ſhort illneſs, WILLIAM VANS MURRAY, Eſq. late miniſter from the United States at the Hague, and miniſter plenipotentiary to the French Republic. As a ſtateſman, Mr. Murray ſtood high, and filled with integrity the ſeveral departments which his country had confided to his truſt—particularly in bringing about the ſettlement of the late unhappy differences that exiſted between the United States and the French Republic.

Balt. pap.

(BY AUTHORITY)

EIGHTH CONGRESS *of the* UNITED STATES, *at the First Seſsion, begun and held at the City of Waſhington, in the Territory of Columbia, on Monday the ſeventeenth of October, one thouſand eight hundred and three.*

RESOLVED, By the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States of America, in Congreſs aſſembled, two-thirds of both Houſes concurring, that, in lieu of the third paragraph of the firſt ſection of the ſecond article of the Conſtitution of the United States, the following be propoſed as an Amendment to the Conſtitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the Legiſlatures of the ſeveral States, ſhall be valid to all intents and purpoſes, as part of the ſaid Conſtitution, to wit:

The Electors ſhall meet in their reſpective States, and vote by ballot for Preſident and Vice Preſident, one of whom, at leaſt, ſhall not be an inhabitant of the ſame State with themſelves; they ſhall name in their ballots the perſon voted for as Preſident, and in diſtinct ballots the perſon voted for as Vice-Preſident, and they ſhall make diſtinct liſts of all perſons voted for as Preſident, and of all perſons voted for as Vice-Preſident, and of the number of votes for each; which liſts they ſhall ſign and certify, and tranſmit ſealed to the ſeat of the government of the United States, directed to the Preſident of the Senate; the Preſident of the Senate ſhall, in the preſence of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives, open all the certificates, and the votes ſhall then be counted.—The perſon having the greateſt number of votes for Preſident ſhall be the Preſident, if ſuch number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no perſon have ſuch majority, then from the perſons having the higheſt numbers not exceeding three on the liſt of thoſe voted for as Preſident, the Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall chooſe immediately, by ballot, the Preſident. But in chooſing the Preſident, the votes ſhall be taken by ſtates, the repreſentation from each ſtate having one vote; a quorum for this purpoſe ſhall conſiſt of a member or members from two thirds of the ſtates, and a majority of all the ſtates ſhall be neceſſary to a choice. And if the Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall not chooſe a Preſident whenever the right of choice ſhall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice Preſident ſhall act as Preſident, as in the caſe of the death or other conſtitutional diſability of the Preſident.

The perſon having the greateſt number of votes as Vice-Preſident, ſhall be the Vice-Preſident, if ſuch number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no perſon have a majority, then from the two higheſt numbers on the liſt, the Senate ſhall chooſe the Vice-Preſident; a quorum for the purpoſe ſhall conſiſt of two thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number ſhall be neceſſary to a choice.

But no perſon conſtitutionally ineligible to the office of Preſident ſhall be eligible to that of Vice-Preſident of the United States.

NATHL. MACON,
Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.
A. BURR,
Vice Preſident of the United States, and Preſident of the Senate.
Atteſt,
JOHN BECKLEY,
Clerk of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.
SAMUEL A. OTIS,
Secretary of the Senate,

An act to repeal an act entitled "An act to eſtabliſh an uniform ſyſtem of Bankruptcy throughout the United States."

BE it enacted, by the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives of the United States of America, in Congreſs aſſembled, That the act of Congreſs paſſed on the fourth day of April 1800, entitled "An act to eſtabliſh an uniform ſyſtem of Bankruptcy throughout the United States" ſhall be and the ſame is hereby repealed. *Provided Nevertheleſs,* That the repeal of the ſaid act ſhall in no wiſe affect the execution of any commiſſion of bankruptcy which may have been iſſued prior to the paſſing of this act, but every ſuch commiſſion may and ſhall be proceeded on and fully executed as though this act had not paſſed.

NATHL. MACON, *Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives.*
A. BURR, *Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.*
December 19, 1803.
APPROVED,
TH: JEFFERSON.

House of Repreſentatives.

MONDAY, Dec. 19, 1803.

A meſſage was received from the Preſident of the United States, adviſing the Houſe that he had ſigned the act REPEALING the act eſtabliſhing an uniform ſyſtem of BANKRUPTCY throughout the United States.

Mr. Latimore preſented a memorial from the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Miſſiſſippi territory, repreſenting the inconveniencies experienced by the ſettlements on the Tombigby and the Alabama rivers from their remote ſituation from the ſeat of government.

Referred.

An engroſſed bill giving effect to the laws of the United States in the territory ceded by France to the United States was read the third time.

Mr. Lyon, after making a few remarks, moved to recommit the bill.

Motion loſt without a diviſion.

The Yeas and Nays were then taken, at the inſtance of Mr. Lyon, on the paſſage of the bill—Yeas 88. Nays 13.

The Houſe read the amendments of the Senate to the ſalary bill, and referred them to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

The Houſe went into a committee of the whole—Mr. Dawſon in the chair—on the following report of the Poſt Office committee.

REPORT.

The Committee on the ſubject of Poſt-Office and Poſt Roads, to whom was referred a reſolution of the 21 ult. directing them to enquire by what means the Mail may be conveyed with greater ſecurity and diſpatch than at preſent, between the City of Waſhington and Natchez and New-Orleans,

REPORT—

That the late ceſſion of Louiſiana by France to the United States, renders it an object of primary importance to have the neareſt and moſt expeditious mode of communication eſtabliſhed, between the city of Waſhington and the city of New-Orleans the capital of that province; not only for the convenience of government, but to accommodate the citizens of the ſeveral commercial towns in the union.

That at preſent the mail is conveyed on a circuitous route from this place to Knoxville and Naſhville in Tenneſſee, and from thence through the wilderneſs by Natchez to New-Orleans, a diſtance of more than 1500 miles.

That by eſtabliſhing a poſt rout as nigh on a direct line between thoſe two cities, as the Blue-Ridge and Alleghany mountains will admit of, will not only leſſen the diſtance about 500 miles;—but as this route will paſs almoſt the whole way through a country inhabited, either by citizens of the United States or friendly Indians, the mail will be more ſecure, and the perſons employed in tranſporting it, better furniſhed with the means of ſubſiſtence.

The committee flatter themſelves that the views of the general government in effecting this important object, will be ſeconded by the governments and citizens of thoſe ſtates through which this road will paſs, by laying out, ſtraightening and improving the ſame, as ſoon as the moſt proper courſe ſhall be ſufficiently aſcertained; but as this has not heretofore been uſed for conveying the mail between thoſe places, they preſume that the beſt route will be better known after it has been uſed for this purpoſe, than it can be at preſent; and with this view of the ſubject, they deem it improper at this time to deſignate intermediate points; they are therefore of opinion—

That a poſt road ought to be eſtabliſhed from the City of Waſhington, on the moſt direct and convenient route to the Tombigby ſettlement in the Miſſiſſippi territory, and from thence to New-Orleans.

And futher, that a poſt road ought alſo to be eſtabliſhed from the ſaid Tombigbee ſettlement to the Natchez. This road will not only afford the inhabitants of that place a direct mode of communication with the ſeat of the territorial government, who at preſent are deſtitute of any, but will ſhorten the diſtance between this city and Natchez, nearly three hundred miles. And for the conſideration of the Houſe, the committee ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a poſt-road ought to be eſtabliſhed from the city of Waſhington, on the moſt direct and convenient route, to paſs through or near the Tuckabachee ſettlement to the Tombigbee ſettlement in the Miſſiſſippi territory, and from thence to New-Orleans; and alſo from the ſaid Tombigbee ſettlement to Natchez.

Mr. *Stanford* moved the inſertion of the following words, "and Carter's ferry, on James River, Coles Ferry on Stanton, Danſvile on Dan river, in Virginia, Saliſbury, Beatty's Ford on Catauba, in North Carolina, Spartanburg, Greenville C. H. Pendleton C. H. in South Carolina, and Jackſon C. H. in Georgia."

His object being to deſignate the intermediate points of the route between the ſeat of government and New-Orleans and Natchez.

This motion was ſupported by Meſſrs. Stanford, J. Randolph, Early, Earle, and Macon, on the principle that it was proper that Congreſs ſhould deſignate the route, and on the ground that the route, contemplated by the amendment, would be the fitteſt.

On the other hand, the motion was oppoſed by Meſſrs. Thomas, Smilie, Holland, Claiborne, S. L. Mitchill, and G. W. Campbell, on the ground that a diſcretionary power ſhould be repoſed in the poſt maſter general to deſignate the route, and on the ground that if Congreſs ſhould undertake to deſignate the route, the one fixed by the amendment, was not an eligible one.

Mr. Dennis declared himſelf in favor of the Houſe exerciſing the power of deſignating the route, but was not ſufficiently informed to vote on any particular line.

Mr. R. Griſwold moved that the committee of the whole ſhould riſe and aſk leave to ſit again, with the view that leave ſhould be refuſed, and the report recommitted to the poſt office committee, in order to obtain from them a detailed report that would furniſh the Houſe with ſatiſfactory information.

This motion was ſupported by Mr. Gregg, and oppoſed by Mr. Thomas, and carried—Ayes 70.

The Houſe then refuſed leave to the committee of the whole to ſit again—Ayes 19—and recommitted the report to the poſt office committee.

TUESDAY, Dec. 20, 1803.

Mr. *Early* called for the order of the day on the report of the committee of the whole on the petition of Zacharia Coxe.

The Houſe took up the report which is that the prayer of the petitioner cannot be granted.

Mr. Early hoped the report would be diſagreed to, in which caſe he would move the following reſolution:

Reſolved, Although the arreſt and confinement of Zacharia Coxe by Winthrop Sargeant, Eſq. appears to have been illegal and oppreſſive, yet that the circumſtances are not ſuch as to juſtify the interpoſition of this Houſe.

Meſſrs. R. Griſwold and Smilie oppoſed the adoption of this motion, on the ground that it involved a deciſion on the character of a public officer on ex-parte evidence; that if Governor Sargeant had abuſed his powers, he was a fit ſubject of impeachment, and that this would be the becoming courſe to purſue; and that inaſmuch as he might be brought before a court of juſtice, it was highly improper and unjuſt to impoſe a ſtigma on his character, which might operate injuriouſly to the courſe of juſtice.

Meſſrs. Early and J. Randolph advocated the adoption of the motion, on the ground that governor Sargeant appeared, from documents which he had himſelf tranſmitted to the department of ſtate, to have made an illegal and oppreſſive arreſt and confinement of the petitioner, for which act he was, in their opinion, impeachable; but, inaſmuch as the power of impeachment was a high and ſolemn one, which ought not to be cheapened by an application to trifling caſes, and inaſmuch as it was the general opinion of the Houſe that this was a caſe that did not merit ſuch interpoſition, it became proper, at the ſame time, to avoid a deciſion, that might appear, in a ſide way, to exculpate governor Sargeant, which might be conſidered as the effect of confirming the report, that the prayer of the petitioner cannot be granted.

On concurring in the report of the committee, viz. that the prayer of the petitioner cannot be granted, the Houſe divided—Ayes 54—Noes 26.

This deciſion of courſe ſuperſeded the motion contemplated to be made by Mr. Early, in caſe the report of the committee ſhould have been diſagreed to.

Mr. *Alston* preſented a memorial from ſundry inhabitants of the Indiana territory, praying a repeal of the 6th article of the ordinance eſtabliſhing the Indiana territory, which prohibits ſlavery in ſaid territory.

Mr. *Varnum* objected to the reference of the memorial on the ground that its prayer was both unconſtitutional and unjuſt.

Mr. *Alston* replied that this remark might be an argument againſt agreeing to the prayer of the memorial, but would not apply againſt making the reference, eſpecially as the ſame ſubject was already referred to a committee on another petition.

The reference to a committee was carried—Ayes 43—Noes 34.

Mr. *Claiborne* moved a reſolution for the appointment of a committee to enquire whether any, and if any, what deſcription of claims againſt the United States are bound by ſtatutes of limitation, which in reaſon and juſtice ought to be provided for by law, with leave to report by bill or otherwiſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe went into a committee of the whole—Mr. Varnum in the chair—on the amendments of the Senate to the ſalary bill.

Theſe amendments were,

1. To ſtrike out theſe words, "as eſtabliſhed by the act paſſed the 2d of March 1799, and no other."

2. To increaſe the ſalary of the poſt maſter general from 3,000 to 4,000 dollars.

3. To increaſe the ſalary of the aſſiſtant poſt maſter general from 1,700 dollars to 2,000 dollars.

4. To inſert a new ſection, prohibiting the allowance of any extra compenſation from contingent funds to officers compenſated by fixed ſalaries.

The committee diſagreed to the three firſt amendments, and agreed to the laſt.

The Houſe immediately took up the report of the committee, and concurred in it.

On a concurrence with the committee in their agreement to the laſt amendment, the Yeas and Nays were taken—Yeas 65—Nays 42.

Philadelphia, Dec. 6.

By the late arrivals from St. Jago, we have intereſting particulars relative to the evacuation of Aux-Cayes, which did not take place until the blockade of that town by the Britiſh, and the conſumption of every living animal, had reduced the garriſon to the utmoſt extremitiy; forced to abandon Aux Cayes, gen. Brunet, conciliated to his duty as a ſoldier, the humanity of a man; after taking every neceſſary meaſure for the ſafety of the troops and inhabitants, he deſtroyed, before he quitted the town every implement of war that yet remained in his poſſeſſion; the guns were all rendered forever unfit for uſe, the muſkets, powder, &c. were thrown into the ſea.

Ellicott's Journal.

Just opened and for sale by RAPINE, CONRAD, and Co.

NEW JERSEY AVENUE.

The journal of Andrew Ellicott, late commiſſioner on behalf of the United States, for determining the boundary between the United States and the poſſeſſions of his Catholic Majeſty in America, containing occaſional remarks on the ſituation, ſoil, rivers, natural productions, and diſeaſes of the different countries on the Ohio, Miſſiſſippi, and Gulf of Mexico, with SIX MAPS, comprehending the Ohio, the Miſſiſſippi from the mouth of the Ohio to the Gulf of Mexico, the whole of Weſt Florida, and part of Eaſt Florida. To which is added an appendix containing aſtronomical obſervations, &c.

Nov. 28.

MICHAEL ROBERTS

HAS FOR SALE,

AT HIS STORE, GEORGE-TOWN,

A GENERAL

Aſſortment of Stationary,

And other articles in his line, viz.

ATLAS, imperial, ſuperroyal, royal, medium, demy, and folio poſt papers.
Plain and vellum fool's cap ditto.
Hot preſſed, gilt, wove & plain quarto poſt do.
Superroyal and royal cartridge do.
Medium, demy & fool's cap, French marble do.
Plain and ruled blank books,
Beſt quills and ready made pens,
Pen knives, eraſing knives and paper ſciſſars,
Black and red ink and ink powder,
Black and red ſealing wax and wafers,
Large red and white do. for office uſe,
Silk taſte and red and white tape,
Parchment, ſcuttle fiſh bone and pounce,
Ivory pounce boxes and paper folders,
India rubbers and gum arabic,
Black lead pencils, (warranted)
Ditto with ſilver caſes,
Round and flat rulers,
Marking types and Reeve's colours in boxes,
Backgammon tables and cribbage boxes,
Billiard balls and dice,
Engliſh and American playing cards,
Portable writing deſks,
Gentlemen and ladies pocket books,
Sheet and houſe almanacs for 1803,
Sheep & calf ſkins dreſſed for bookbinding uſe,
Printing ink and printing paper,
Wedgewood, glaſs and pewter inkſtands,
Sand and wafer boxes,
Wax candles and tapers,
Ivory handle table deſert knives,
Plated tea and coffee urns, large and elegant with ſilver head and brims,
Ditto tea and coffee pots, ſilver brims,
Ditto caſter double flint cut glaſs,
Ditto bread baskets and toaſt ſtands,
Ditto ſalt and muſtard pots,
Ditto goblets and tumblers,
Ditto Decanter ſtands and fiſh knives,
Ditto plain, high and patent round and oval candleſticks,
Ditto ſmall ditto,
Do. chamber do. with ſnuffers & extinguiſhers
Ditto ſnuffers and ſnuffer trays,
Faſhionable braſs andirons,
Green wire fenders and fire ſcreens with braſs tops,
Shovels and tongs,
Coal hods and cinder ſifters,
Hand bellows with braſs and iron pipes,

Plated Mouldings for Carriages.

Gigg ſprings,
Spurs and ſtirrup irons,
Chaiſe, duke & ſnaffle bridle bits,
Horſe bridoons and curbs
Carriage, chair and ſwitch whips,
Walking ſticks and ſword canes,
Horſeman's and pocket piſtols,
Officers travelling canteens, with cooking utenſils, &c. complete,
Swords and dirks,
Gold and ſilver epaulets,
Sword knots and crimſon ſilk ſaſhes,
Gold and ſilver lace and cords,
Guns and fowling pieces,
Shot pouches and powder flaſks,
Game and hawking bags,
Caſting nets mounted and unmounted,
Travelling trunks and travelling pouches,
Buckſkin gloves and breeches,
Morocco ſkins of various colours,
Boot and girth webbing,
Engliſh bend and cock ſoals,
Gentlemen & ladies japanned dreſſing boxes
Engliſh and American hair powder,
Powder bags and powder puffs,
Curling tongs and crimping irons and powder knives,
Hard and ſoft pomatum,
Beſt warranted razors,
Shaving bruſhes and boxes,
Benzoin, almond, palm, palmaſeen, cowſlip, and windſor ſoaps,
Waſh balls and waſh ball boxes,
Eſſence of muſk, and ambergreaſe,
Burgamot and lavender,
Ruſpini's Tincture for the teeth,
Tooth bruſhes and tooth powder,
Ivory and boxwood fine combs,
Tortoiſe ſhell and horn braid combs,
Do. do. dreſſing do.
Genuine black and fleſh colored plaiſter,
Patent ſhoe blacking and ſhoe bruſhes,
Clothes, hair and hat bruſhes,
Sweeping, ſcrubbing, and duſting do.
Tortoiſe ſhell and japanned ſegar boxes,
Mother of pearl, tortoiſe ſhell and japanned ſnuff boxes,
An aſſortment of upholſterers ware, conſiſting of fringe line, taſſels, &c.
An aſſortment of hardware conſiſting of ſaws, plains, chiſſels, gouges, augurs, files, raſps, locks, hinges, bolts, ſpades, ſhovels, tacks, ſprigs, &c.

ALSO FOR SALE,

BY EDGAR PATTERSON,

at the above ſtore,

FRESH FRUITS,

juſt received per the Brig Celia, capt. Brown, from Malaga.

George-town, Dec. 21.

LECTURES.

THE ſubſcriber reſpectfully informs the public, that the courſe of Lectures on EDUCATION, &c. will commence on Wedneſday evening next, at Lovell's Hotel, Pennſylvania Avenue, city of Waſhington, when will be delivered

A LECTURE ON HISTORY.

And on Monday evening the 26th inſtant at the Union Tavern, George-Town, the courſe of Law Lectures will commence by the delivery of a Lecture on the Utility of Law and its profeſſors.

TERMS.

Ten dollars each courſe—and to accommodate ſuch gentlemen as cannot attend the whole of either Courſe, Tickets will be iſſued to ſingle Lectures at one dollar each.

ROBERT W. PEACOCK.

City of Waſhington, December 10, 1803.

N. B. The Lectures will be delivered preciſely at 7 o'clock, P. M. on the evenings aſſigned therefor.

December 12—M&W