enough has been said, in connection with that which must occur to every intelligent mind, to shew that the proposed bridge,

1. Will considerably advance the general interest.

2. Will greatly advance the interests of the citizens of Washington, by which the accommodation of the members of the government will be increased; and that

3. It will not deprive George-town of any of her just rights.

It is true it will operate, in an eminent degree, to accommodate the inhabitants of the city by their easy access to the best commercial market in the district, and that it will give them the benefits derivable from the stages, and many private carriages, waggons, and horsemen stopping in the city instead of going to George-town. But these are advantages to which she is entitled from her local situation, and to which George Town can have no just claim. It is feared that these considerations are the only true grounds on which the inhabitants of that place oppose this measure.

The following MESSAGE from the President of the United States, accompanying sundry documents relative to a delivery of possession, on the 20th ultimo, by the Commissary of the French Republic, to the Commissioners of the United States of America, of the Territory of LOUISIANA.—was presented on Monday to the two Houses of Congress.

MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States

In execution of the act of the present session of Congress, for taking possession of Louisiana, as ceded to us by France, and for the temporary government thereof, Governor Claiborne of the Mississippi territory, and General Wilkinson were appointed commissioners to receive possession. They proceeded with such regular troops as had been assembled at Fort Adams, from the nearest posts, and with some militia of the Mississippi territory, to New-Orleans. To be prepared for any thing unexpected which might arise out of the transaction, a respectable body of militia was ordered to be in readiness in the states of Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, and a part of those of Tennessee was moved on to the Natchez. No occasion, however, arose for their services. Our commissioners, on their arrival at New-Orleans, found the provice already delivered by the commissaries of Spain to that of France, who delivered it over to them on the 20th day of December, as appears by their declaratory act accompanying this. Governor Claiborne being duly invested with the powers heretofore exercised by the Governor and Intendant of Louisiana, assumed the government on the same day, and, for the maintenance of law and order, immediately issued the proclamation and address now communicated.

On this important acquisition, so favorable to the immediate interests of our Western citizens, so auspicious to the peace and security of the nation in general, which adds to our country territories so extensive and fertile, and to our citizens new brethren to partake of the blessings of freedom and self government, I offer to Congress and our country my sincere congratulations.

TH: JEFFERSON.

January 16, 1804.

City of New Orleans, Dec. 20th, 1803.

SIR,

WE have the satisfaction to announce to you, that the province of Louisiana was this day surrendered to the United States by the commissioner of France; and to add, that the flag of our country was raised in this city amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants.

The enclosed is a copy of an instrument of writing which was signed and exchanged by the commissioners of the two governments, and is designed as a record of this interesting transaction.

Accept assurances of our respectful consideration.

WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE,
JA: WILKINSON.

The honorable James Madison, Secretary of State, City of Washington.

The undersigned William C. C. Claiborne and James Wilkinson, commissioners or agents of the United States, agreeable to the full powers they have received from Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, under date of the 31st October, 1803, and twenty eighth year of the independence of the United States of America, (8 Brumaire, 12 year of the French Republic) countersigned by the Secretary of State James Madison, and citizen Peter Clement Laussat, Colonial Prefect, and commissioner of the French Government for the delivery in the name of the French Republic of the country, territories and dependencies of Louisiana, to the commissioners or agents of the United States, conformably to the powers, commission, and special mandate which he has received in the name of the French people from citizen Bonaparte, first consul, under date of the 6th June, 1803. (17 Prairial, 11 year of the French Republic) countersigned by the Secretary of State, Hugues Maret, and by his excellency the minister of marine and colonies Decres, do certify by these presents that on this day, Tuesday the 20th December, 1803 of the christian era, (28th Frimaire, 12 year of the French Republic) being convened in the hall of the Hotel de Ville of New-Orleans, accompanied on both sides by the chiefs and officers of the army and navy, by the municipality and divers respectable citizens of their respective republics, the said William C. C. Claiborne and James Wilkinson delivered to the said citizen Laussat their aforesaid full powers by which it evidently appears that full power and authority has been given them jointly and severally to take possession of and to occupy the territories ceded by France to the United States by the treaty concluded at Paris on the 30th day of April last past, (10th Florial) and for that purpose to repair to the said territory and there to execute and perform all such acts and things, touching the premises, as may be necessary for fulfilling their appointment conformable to the said treaty and the laws of the United States, and thereupon the said citizen Laussat declared that in virtue of and in the terms of the powers, commission and special mandate dated at St. Cloud, 6th June 1803 of the Christian era (17th Prairial 11 year of the French Republic) he put from that moment, the said Commissioners of the United States in possession of the country, territories and dependencies of Louisiana, conformably to the 1. 2. 4. and 5th articles of the treaty and the two conventions, concluded and signed the 30th April 1803, (10th Floreal 11th year of the French Republic) between the French Republic and the United States of America by citizen Francis Barbe Marbois, minister of the Public Treasury, and Messieurs Robert R. Livingston and James Munroe, ministers plenipotentiary of the United States, all three furnished with full powers, of which treaty and two conventions the ratifications, made by the first Consul of the French Republic, on the one part, and by the President of the U. States, by, and with the advice & consent of the Senate, on the other part, have been exchanged and mutually received at the city of Washington, the 21st October 1803, 28 Vendemaire, 12 year of the French Republic, by citizen Louis Andre Pichon, *charge des affairs* of the French Republic, near the United States, on the part of France, and by James Madison, Secretary of State of the United States, on the part of the United States, according to the *proces verbal* drawn up on the same day; and the present delivery of the country is made to them, to the end, that in conformity with the object of the said treaty the sovereignty and property of the colony or province of Louisiana may pass to the said United States, under the same clauses and conditions as it had been ceded by Spain to France, in virtue of the treaty concluded at St. Ildefonso, on the 1st October, 1800 (9th Vendemiare, 9 year) between these two last powers, which has since received its execution by the actual re-entrance of the French republic into possession of the said colony or province.

And the said citizen Laussat in consequence at this present time, delivered to the said commissioners of the United States, in this public sitting, the keys of the city of New-Orleans, declaring that he discharges from their oaths of fidelity towards the French republic, the citizens and inhabitants of Louisiana, who shall choose to remain under the dominion of the United States.

And that it may forever appear the undersigned have signed the *proces verbal* of this important and solemn act, in the French and English languages, and have sealed it with their seals, and have caused it to be countersigned by their secretaries of commission, the day, month and year above written.

(Signed)
Wm. C. C. CLAIBORNE, (seal.)
JAMES WILKINSON, (seal.)
LAUSSAT. (seal.)

(Here follows the Proclamation inserted in our last paper.)

The Governor's address to the citizens of Louisiana.

Fellow Citizens of Louisiana,

On the great and interesting event now finally consummated—an event so advantageous to yourselves, and so glorious to United America, I cannot forbear offering you my warmest congratulations. The wise policy of the Consul of France has, by the cession of Louisiana to the United States, secured to *you*, a connection beyond the reach of change, and to your posterity the sure inheritance of freedom. The American people receive you as brothers; and will hasten to extend to you a participation of those inestimable rights, which have formed the basis of their own unexampled prosperity. Under the auspices of the American government, you may confidently rely upon the security of your liberty, your property, and the religion of your choice.— You may with equal certainty, rest assured, that your commerce will be promoted, and your agriculture cherished; in a word, that your true interests will be among the primary objects of our national legislature. In return for these benefits, the United States will be amply remunerated, if your growing attachment to the constitution of our country, and your veneration for the principles on which it is founded, be duly proportioned to the blessings which they will confer. Among your first duties therefore, you should cultivate with assiduity among yourselves, the advancement of political information, you should guide the rising generation in the paths of republican economy and virtue; you should encourage literature, for without the advantages of education, your descendants will be unable to appreciate the intrinsic worth of the government transmitted to them.

As for myself, fellow citizens, accept a sincere assurance, that during my continuance in the situation in which the President of the United States has been pleased to place me, every exertion will be made on my part, to foster your internal happiness, and forward your general welfare, for it is only by such means, that I can secure to myself, the approbation of those great and just men who preside in the councils of our nation.

WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE.
New-Orleans, 20th Dec. 1803.

The House of Representatives yesterday resolved itself into a committee of the whole—Mr. DAWSON in the chair—on the motion of Mr. Rodney to *extinguish the State Balances*.

Mr. Rodney in a speech of considerable length, advocated the measure, which was also supported by Messrs. Thomas, Smilie, Macon, and Mitchil; and opposed by Messrs. Elmer, Thatcher, Hastings, Gregg, Boyd, Sloan and Dennis.

The committee rose, without coming to a decision, and obtained leave to sit again.

Second General Assembly of the state of OHIO at the first session begun and held at the town of Chilicothe in the county of Ross, on Monday the 5th day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and three:

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the state of Ohio that the measures taken by the General Government of the United States to secure to the citizens the free and uncontroled navigation of the Mississippi river, and to obtain the right to, and the free possession of the Province of Louisiana merit the approbation of this Assembly.

H. CARITAT's PROPOSALS

For Publishing by subscription, a National work, entitled

A Journey,

Made by order of the French government, from Pittsburg on the river Ohio, through the western territory of the United States to the Upper and Lower parts of

LOUISIANA,

Chiefly on the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois, Arkansas and the adjacent rivers as low as *NEW ORLEANS*

In the years 1796 and 1797,

BY GENERAL COLLOT.

This work will be comprised in two volumes in 4to.* containing thirty charts drawn for the most part on imperial paper of the dimensions of three feet six inches, together with plates and views executed by the best artists of Paris, describing the aspect of the country, its supposed boundaries, the nature of the soil, the farms, hamlets, villages and towns, which border on the Ohio, the Mississippi, and other rivers, and marking their soundings and those of the creeks which pour their waters into their floods. Translated into English from the original manuscript, by Helen Maria Williams ——Subscriptions to this work are received by Mr. John Barnes, and Mr. John March, George Town, and Mr. Wm. Duane and Messrs. Rapine, Conrad & Co. Washington—and the principle booksellers in the United States.

PROSPECTUS.

The French government having formed the design of making the acquisition of Louisana, became highly interested in procuring more positive information respecting that country, than it had hitherto obtained. Gen Collot was therefore commissioned in 1796, to take the most accurate survey of the country.

This mission gen. Collot undertook notwithstanding the dangers with which it was attended and which proved fatal to some of his suite † which consisted among others, of twelve persons, skilled in geography and drawing. He began his expedition at Pitsburg, where he embarked on the Ohio and followed the course of this river to its junction with the Mississippi, describing the country on each side of its banks, the rivers which empty themselves into the Ohio, and the creeks, shoals and soundings. From the Ohio, general Collot took a survey of the Mississippi and other rivers on the west, which empty themselves into the Mississippi, the course of which he followed to New Orleans, where Spanish jealousy attacked him, there he owed his liberty only to the firmness of his character; escaped from this new danger he reached Philadelphia from whence he had departed.

Gen. Collot not satisfied with taking the soundings of the creeks and rivers which he surveyed, pointing out the dangers of the navigation, directing the course of future travellers, by marking on his charts the rocks, shoals, banks and bars which obstruct the passage, &c. He has also indicated the quality of the lands, and the character of the country, with a degree of precision that cannot fail to be eminently useful to American emigrants. Forests as antient as the world here lift their towering heads, while natural meadows, which extend 40 leagues without a tree, bounded by woods and intersected by an infinite number of creeks, demand the hands of cultivation. There, the most luxuriant vegetation invites the wanderer to fix his dwelling.

Gen. Collot astonishes his readers, while he conducts them through immense plains till now unknown, covered with mulberry trees, and silk worms equal to those of the East Indies, and left to the care of nature. He leads them to mountains of pure salt, to lakes covered with birds and full of fish of every kind; in short to lands become the domain of an innumerable quantity of game.

The author bestows equal attention on natural history and commerce as on other objects; he treats of furs in the minutest detail; nothing is neglected; nothing escapes his penetration: neither quadrupeds, reptiles, birds, plants, trees, nor mines of any kind. To relieve the minds of his readers from that lassitude, which is too often inseparable from topographical description, he has been careful to enlarge each of his chapters, with historical remarks, which afford just ideas of the manners and dispositions of the Indians he had visited and which are naturally connected with his subject and engage by the interest they excite.

This interesting work was on the point of being published at Paris, at the expence of the French government, when Louisiana was ceded to the United States, which circumstance left general Collot at liberty to dispose of it.

Already several Americans residing in France, at the head of whom was Mr. Swan of Boston, wished to treat with general Collot, under the favor and advice of his excellency Mr. Livingston, Ambassador. They were disposed to advance the price, when the correspondent of Mr. Caritat, then in France, yielding to the solicitations made him from every quarter, consented to purchase it, on condition that the American gentlemen residing in Paris in July last, should subscribe first, which they did with eagerness.‡ Mrs. Helen Maria Williams, so advantageously known in America, by her literary fame, after having read the manuscript with the greatest earnestness undertook to translate it into English, and Mr. Tardieu, the first engraver of France, undertook the maps and plates, which are at present finished.

The public are respectfully requested to observe that Mr. Caritat did not consent to become the Publisher of this important Work, and to advance near 10,000 dollars to complete it, until he received from his subscribers at Paris the positive expectation that their example would be followed in the U. States, by all men of Public Character, of Literature, Merchants and Persons in easy circumstances, interested in the glory and prosperity of their country. The Publisher has only one circumstance to regret, that he could not diminish the price of the work, which will however be found moderate, as may be proved, when the various and heavy expences attending such a publication, are calculated.

The drawings and plates being extremely expensive, the public are informed that there will only be a sufficient number of copies to satisfy the demands of the subscribers.

* The publisher is not ignorant that a work so necessary to the public, must generally speaking, be put within the reach of every class, as much as possible. This principle which applies to every country ought to be more scrupulously observed in America, where they are not familiarised with editions of the quarto size which the publisher has been obliged to adopt in the aforesaid work; had he taken any other, the end, as well as the utility of this work would have absolutely failed. The reason will appear just, when it is remembered that the size of the copper plates and maps, would not have allowed them to fold in 8vo. without being exposed to such mutilation as would render their use impracticable, after having opened the book only three or four times.

† General Warin, his Aid de Camp, was kiled by an Indian

New-York, Nov 28, 1803.

CONDITIONS:

The price of each copy on fine paper, with elegant type, will be 22 dollars, neatly bound, and 20 in boards, to be paid on delivery —— They will be ready for delivery on the first of May. A List of the subscribers will be published at the end of the second volume.

‡ LIST of those who subscribed both in Paris and here, before the Prospectus was put to press.

The President of the United States; his Excellency Robert R. Livingston, Ambassador to France; his Excellency James Munroe, Ambassador to Great Britain; Mr Skipwith, Commercial Agent of the United States in Paris; Messrs Robert Louis Livingston, Peter R. Livingston Burnet, Maclure, Cutting, Fulton, Barlow, Melleville, Swan, Bentalon, Montflorence, Grant, Burch, Fenwick, Whiteside, Wayer, Pinckney, Norry, Garden, Saint-Clair, Robertson, Norris, Miller, Col. Orne, and capt. Burn.

January 18th, 1804.

NOTICE.

THE Inhabitants of Washington city and all others concerned are hereby informed, that the assessment by order of the corporation of Washington for the year 1803, is now compleat, and that the tax on real and personal property must be paid at the City Treasurers office on or before the first day of March next. The owners of slaves and dogs are also informed that the tax on the same must be paid on or before the first day of February next.

WASHINGTON BOYD, City Treasurer.

Jan. 13——3t1aw

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:

December 23.

Mr. Jackson from the committee to whom was referred the enquiry into the expediency of extending the carriage of the Mails of the United States, in stages or covered waggons reported the following letter to, and answer from the Post Master General on that subject.

Ordered, That the same be printed.

Senate Room, Washington, Nov. 15.

SIR,

A committee is appointed by the Senate to enquire into the expediency of extending the carriage of the Mails of the United States in stage or covered waggons.

I am directed by that committee to desire answers from you to the following questions.

1st. Has the extension of the carriage of the mail of the United States, in stage or covered waggons, under the act of the first session of the seventh congress, entitled, "An act further to alter and establish certain post roads; and for the more secure carriage of the mail of the United States," been fully carried into operation on the route therein described, if not, what circumstances occasioned its failure.

2d. Has the carriage of the mails in stage or covered waggons, on the route on which it has been established, answered the expectations formed at the time of the passage of the aforementioned act; and has it been of public utility, both as respects the safe carriage of the mail, and the conveyance of travelling citizens?

3d. Will it become an object for the United States, at the expiration of the present contracts, to provide stages or covered waggons, for the carriage of the mail at their own expence, on the route pointed out in the said act, and will the intercourse support it?

4th. Is it expedient to extend on other roads, than those pointed out by the said act, the carriage of the mail in stages or covered waggons, and what mode will be most advantageous, by private contract or otherwise?

I am, sir,
By order of the committee
Yours with respect,
(Signed)
JAMES JACKSON, *Chairman*.

Hon. Gideon Granger, Post Master General, United States.

GENERAL POST OFFICE
November 22d, 1803.

HONORABLE JAMES JACKSON,
Chairman of the committee from the Senate, appointed to enquire into the expediency of extending the transportation of the Public Mail by stages.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the recept of yours of the 15th, and in compliance with the request of the committee, return the following answer to the queries proposed.

1st. The act of congress referred to, authorised the post master general, to extend his contracts for carrying the mail to five years, and to add one third to the amount then paid, to induce contractors to convey the mail of the United States, on the post road from Petersburg in Virginia, to Louisville in Georgia, in public stages, calculated for the conveyance of persons, passing from Petersburg towards Louisville, the post road branches out at Fayetteville into two distinct roads, one by Georgetown, Charleston, and Savannah, the other by Camden, Columbia, and Augusta; to Louisville. A line of stages has been established from Petersburg to Fayetteville.

(To be continued.)

Public Sale of Lots,

In George Town and the City of Washington.

THE executors of the estate of Anthony Holmead deceased will offer at public sale, at the Union Tavern in George Town, on Monday the 30th instant 57 lots in Holmead's addition to George Town, many of them in eligible situations—Also several lots in the city of Washington, in squares 48, 49 and 62. The terms, which will be moderate, will be made known on the day of sale— The sale to begin at 12 o'clock. Any person wishing to view any of the above lots, will be shewn them on application to the subscriber.

JOHN HOLMEAD.

Jan. 4—tf

Ten Dollars Reward.

STOLEN off the Race ground on Wednesday evening last, a likely Sorrell MARE, saddle and bridle; the saddle is about half worn with plated stirrups, and a new bridle; the mare is eight years old, about fourteen hands high. Paces trots and gallops; shod before; the outsides of both hind feet a little worn by dragging them when rode; has a small star in her forehead, there is a scar on the off shoulder that resembles the letter . Whoever delivers the above described mare, saddle and bridle, to Mr. JOHN W. PRATT near the six buildings in the city of Washington will receive the above reward and no questions asked.

November 14 — wtf