increaſe it the legiſlature, at a ſubſequent period, granted the inſtitution the proceeds ariſing from eſcheated and confiſcated property. About the time this fund began to grow productive, the legiſlature repealed the law granting it, and diveſted the Univerſity of this reſource.

The friends of the Univerſity have, with a perſeverance that does them honor, at every ſubſequent ſeſſion endeavored to abrogate the repealing law, and reſtore the fund ariſing from eſcheated and confiſcated property. For three ſucceſſive years the attempt has failed. Renewed again at the preſent ſeſſion, it has ſhared the ſame fate; by a majority, however, ſo ſmall, as to animate, rather than repreſs zeal. The majority in a body of one hundred and ſeventeen is but ſix. The North Carolina State Gazette gives us the commencement of the debate on the repealing bill. Among thoſe who the moſt ſtrenuouſly advocated it, we find Mr. Maurice Moore, a pupil of the univerſity; the peculiar relation in which he ſtood will, we are perſuaded, give an additional intereſt to his remarks, and juſtify our inſerting them at full length, without any apology.

Mr. Maurice Moore.—It has been four years ſince the Legiſlature paſſed the bill taking from the Univerſity, the eſcheated property, which by a former Act was veſted in it.

A bill for the repeal of this Act has regularly every ſeſſion ſince appeared upon your table; and has as regularly been rejected.

It is with the utmoſt deference and reſpect for the opinion and upright intentions of our predeceſſors, that I propoſe to the Houſe the reconſideration of it. A Legiſlative body is like an individual, ſubject to its infirmities; it is agitated by the ebb & flow of the paſſions, and may be hurried into error, from miſapprehenſion or ill-judged zeal.

It was a knowledge of this which made the wiſe, the cautious framers of our conſtitution unfold a door for retraction and unite in us the power to enact and to repeal.

But for this, the grant of the Univerſity, if a burthen, would ſtill have oppreſſed us, and its repeal, if an error, could only now be looked at with impotent regret. Surely there never was a time at which this power of repeal could have been more properly exerciſed, than at the preſent; or a finer opportunity have offered itſelf for the diſplay of our patriotiſm, than that which the warm ſupport of the preſent bill affords, the object of which is the deſtruction of ignorance and the extenſion of learning to all claſſes of ſociety. I am not one of thoſe who are ready to heap epithets on all who differ from me in opinion, or to attribute the oppoſition which this inſtitution has met with, to minds poiſoned by ignorance or inimical to learning. Far from it. I am confident, that the friends and enemies of the Univerſity unite at leaſt in one point, and that the ſole diſtinction between them is in the different views they take of the ſame object. It is impoſſible it ſhould be otherwiſe; for this Houſe cannot furniſh an inſtance of a ſingle individual, who has not either felt the advantages of learning, or has regretted the want of it.—The cauſes, though diametrically oppoſite, are productive of the ſame effect; they tend in the ſame ſtriking manner to evince ineſtimable worth, and to draw from every patriotic breaſt the warmeſt and moſt anxious wiſhes for its general diſſemination. It was ſcience which took man by the hand in his dark and dreary ſtate of nature, which taught him to leave the precarious chaſe, the hollow tree or hut of bark, for the comforts of civilized life: which taught him to trace with wonder and delight, the movement of thoſe heavenly bodies which had ſo often diſturbed his nights, and chilled his ſoul with terror; and ſublimated his mind, to view in the works of nature, with reverence and awe, the omnipotent hand of an all-creating Providence. Conſolidated in one opinion as to the uſefulneſs of ſcience, and united in our wiſhes for its general diffuſion, the point of ſeparation is the means which ſhall be adopted for carrying our views into effect.

A diverſity of opinion is inſeparable from the human character, and as it has pleaſed the great Diſpoſer of all things ſo to have ordered it, we are fortunate in his having, at the ſame time, furniſhed us with capacity to diſcern, and virtue to purſue the courſe which reaſon has pointed out, however adverſe to our wiſhes. On this I found my hopes, I addreſs a deliberative body, ready to retract its errors, and ſpeak in a cauſe ſupported by reaſon and juſtice.

I ſhall conſider this ſubject in two points of view. Firſt, with reſpect to the policy of paſſing the act at Fayetteville granting to the Univerſity the eſcheated property. Secondly, the right of the legiſlature to repeal their grant of property made to this corporate body called the Truſtees of the Univerſity.

I preſume I may aſſert without contradiction, that the improvement of the human mind is promoted by proper education. That in all countries the public as well as individuals have been benefitted by ſuch improvement. And that it is the duty of the Legiſlature to promote the public good according to its means.

Without dwelling upon the advantages the State derives from having circulated in it the monies employed in the education of its youth. Learning is itſelf of too much importance, it too deeply engages the affections and duties of parents, to be left upon a tottering or inſufficient baſis, the means, of procuring it ſhould always be certain.

From the frequent attempts which have been made in various parts of the State to eſtabliſh Academies, their imbecility are too clearly evinced to be farther truſted. Saliſbury, Warrenton, Hillſborough, Pitſborough, and Fayetteville have each had its Academy to boaſt of—they have each invited the youth of the country to enter their portals, and have held forth to them the proſpect of inſtruction; they have each flouriſhed for a day, on the firſt effuſions of generoſity, and exhibited the moſt flattering proſpect of anſwering the end of their creation. What now are they? The ſhadows of ſubſtances which have long ſince fleeted away, but laſting monuments of the flimſy foundation on which ſuch hopes have been reared; the reaſon is obvious, the attainment of learning like the attainment of every thing elſe valuable, is attended with expences—expences far too great to be met by any neighbourhood in the preſent ſtate of our country. The legiſlature which eſtabliſhed the Univerſity, were apprized of this. They felt the advantages of learning, and ſaw the neceſſity of placing the meaſure of its attainment upon a proper foundation. Without this, all equality ceaſes—the poor unable to bear the expences of foreign education for their children, are obliged to breed them up in ignorance at home; while the rich, but little embarraſſed by it procure inſtruction for their's. But Mr. Speaker, we will ſuppoſe for an inſtant that Academies could be ſo eſtabliſhed as to give them permanency, ſtill the private advantages of a few individuals is not the buſineſs which we are convened to adjuſt. Our buſineſs is the advancement of the State at large. The eſtabliſhment therefore of ſchools where the ſmaller branches of ſcience can alone be acquired, ought not to be taken into view—our attention ſhould be drawn to the ſupport of ſuch a ſeminary as will furniſh means for the moſt perfect cultivation of the mind. The knowledge of reading, writing, arithmetic, though of the greateſt importance to the individual is of but little moment to the ſtate; with this ſtock a man may do his own buſineſs, but the management of public affairs requires an extent of information which private ſchools and Academies have never yet offered. If therefore the human mind is improved by proper education—if the the public as well as individuals is benefited by ſuch improvement; and if it is the duty of the legiſlature to promote the public good, it ſurely was politic in the legiſlature to paſs the act they did at Fayetteville in favor of the Univerſity.

We now will conſider the right we have to repeal the grant of property made to the corporate body called the truſtees of the Univerſity.

The people in forming a ſyſtem of government for themſelves, after throwing off the Britiſh yoke, could only eſtabliſh the fundamental principles; theſe they have made ſacred by declaring them their conſtitution. From this conſtitution the legiſlature derives its authority, and cannot, conformably with the nature of government legally paſs any laws inconſiſtent with, or in direct oppoſition to the conſtitution. If the legiſlature can diſregard or annul any one clauſe of it, they have the right to make void the whole: regulated governments muſt of courſe be at an end, and anarchy enſue; we muſt again return to that primitive ſtate of nature where the weak and timorous become footſtools to the ſtrong and courageous.—But Sir, if we have not this power, if we are bound to act in obedience to the conſtitution, one ſection of it is as much to be attended to as another, and it becomes our duty to carry the whole of it into effect. The people well appriſed of the ineſtimable worth of learning have ſolemnly ſtipulated for it in their conſtitution, and pointed out the manner in which they would receive it, by declaring that there ſhall be one or more univerſities in the ſtate.—As their repreſentatives, as the guardians of their rights, it becomes our duty to ſee thoſe rights carried into effect, and of conſequence to afford the neceſſary means of ſupport to an inſtitution which has been ſo peculiarly their care.

The legiſlature which ſat at Fayetteville, in '89, and which in obedience to the conſtitution, eſtabliſhed the Univerſity, conſtituted the Truſtees a body politic. A grant made to ſuch a body is in law conſidered as ſacred as one made to an individual, therefore when the legiſlature veſted in the Truſtees the eſcheated property, they had all the right, title and intereſt in it, that an individual could have had under ſuch a grant. I preſume this Houſe will ſeriouſly reflect upon the conſequences before it aſſumes to itſelf the power to take from individuals their eſtates, unleſs forfeited to the ſtate in due courſe of law, the reſult of conſequence would be, that if the legiſlature have not conſtitutionally the power to take to themſelves the eſtate of individuals, they cannot have the right to take from this corporate body, which, by law is placed upon the ſame footing with an individual, the eſcheated property which the act of '89 veſted in them.

A grateful ſenſe, ſir, of the improvements which my ſlender faculties have received from this much revered ſeminary—my pride as a native of the ſtate, and the love I bear my country, have combined in calling forth from me the obſervations I have made—I have to lament that a bill ſo replete with good has not met with an abler advocate, but I doubt not that the determination of the houſe will evince that a bill calculated to contribute ſo much to the equal diſtribution of ſcience among all claſſes of people requires but little ſupport.

Mr. Moore was followed by Mr. J. G. Wright, from whoſe ſpeech we offer the following extracts:

"It is generally admitted to be good policy in all governments, to promote education by every poſſible means; and more eſpecially has it been thought good policy in Republican Governments. Popular opinion is the foundation of Republican Government. In the ſame proportion, therefore, that you enlighten that opinion, will you attach your citizens to it, by teaching them to ſupport and revere the principles on which it is eſtabliſhed. It is by education alone that our citizens can become independent and enlightened Legiſlators, upright and able Judges, great and eloquent Lawyers, pure and learned expounders of the Goſpel. It is by enlightening our Youth that theſe benefits are to be ſecured. A meaſure of this kind ought to meet in every Member of this General Aſſembly, a friend, and not a foe.

No member will riſe in this houſe and ſay, we will not encourage Education, or enlighten the minds of poſterity. But they will ſay, and it has heretofore been ſaid, that this is not the proper way of promoting Education: but that ſchools ought to be eſtabliſhed in every county. No member, ſaid Mr. W. would more cordially join them than I would in promoting ſuch ſchools. But how is this to be effected? Schools of this deſcription cannot be eſtabliſhed, unleſs proper perſons can be found qualified to teach them. Is it not of importance, for the purpoſe of raiſing ſuch characters as may at a future day preſide over theſe ſchools, that our Univerſity be ſupported? At preſent, we are obliged to procure our teachers, either from ſome of the Northern ſtates, or from Europe. It would certainly be far better to have theſe characters raiſed within our own ſtate, who would be poſſeſſed of our own habits and cuſtoms, than to have them prejudiced in favor of habits and cuſtoms inconſiſtent with our principles of Government. Thoſe members, therefore, who are advocates for Country Schools, ought alſo to be advocates for the preſent bill in favor of the Univerſity.

Mr. W. had hoped, that though this meaſure had heretofore been unpopular, that the Legiſlature obſerving, as the people generally, he truſted, muſt have obſerved, the great benefits reſulting to the country from the Univerſity, a majority would now be in favor of it. He had ſeen young men come amongſt us from this inſtitution, and enter the different walks of life. Some of them had become members of this legiſlature: and the character and conduct of theſe young men have had a tendency to give popularity to the Inſtitution, and men without the limits of this houſe, who were formerly oppoſed to it, are now fond of it. And it needed no prophetic ſpirit to tell, that, one day, it will not only become the darling of the Legiſlature, but the pride and ornament of our country."

DIED,

At Fort Stoddert, the 20th October, *Ephraim Kirby*, late of Litchfield, (Con.) firſt judge of the United States diſtrict court at New Orleans.

Departed this life on Tueſday the 11th inſt. *Charles Auguſtus Stephenſon*, in the 9th year of his age.—Of this youth too much cannot be ſaid, he was in every reſpect amiable and endearing; all who ſaw him loved him, all who knew him admired a genius which exceeded his years; his ſufferings were long and painful, which he bore as a philoſopher.

Sleep on ſweet duſt, fulfil thy maſter's will,
Then riſe unchang'd, and be an Angel ſtill.

The Electors of South Carolina, the whole number of ten being preſent, have given an unanimous vote for Thomas Jefferſon as Preſident, and George Clinton as Vice Preſident.

Senators.

The legiſlature have re-elected for ſix years from next March *Thomas Sumter*, whoſe politics have never varied; and *John Gaillard*, who, a reſpectable correſpondent informs us, is a decided republican, in the room of Pierce Butler, reſigned.

Vermont election for a repreſentative in Congreſs.

We have heard from but two towns which give the following reſult:

	Elliot, rep.	Richards, rep.	Fletcher, fed.
Brattleboro'	125	5	2
Weſtminſter,	86	89	1
	211	94	3

Upwards of 150 federaliſts did not vote.

Majority for Elliot in theſe towns 114. The majority againſt him at the former trial was 27.

Congreſsional Regiſter.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, December 17.

The amendment propoſed to the bill by the Senate concerning drawbacks on goods, wares, and merchandiſe, exported from the diſtrict of Orleans, was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Gregg* preſented the petition of Hannah Crawford of Pennſylvania, praying relief in conſideration of the loſs of her huſband who was killed in an action with the Indians whilſt a colonel in the Virginia line during our revolutionary war.

Referred to the committee of claims.

Alſo,

A petition was preſened by Catharine Havis of Baltimore county in Maryland, praying that compenſation may be made for the ſervices of her late huſband whilſt a ſoldier in the regiment of Royal Americans commanded by colonel Bouquet, in the years 1760 and 1761.

Referred to the committee of claims.

A petition was preſented from the inhabitants of Amelia county, ſtate of Virginia, praying that a poſt office may be eſtabliſhed at the county court-houſe. Referred to the committee on poſt offices and poſt roads.

The Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole on the bill for eſtabliſhing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States.

Mr. J. C SMITH in the Chair.

After going through the ſame the committee roſe and reported the bill with amendments, the ſame were taken up in the houſe and agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be engroſſed for a third reading on Friday next.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the amendment reported from the committee of the whole on the bill to regulate the clearance of armed merchant veſſels. Some further amendments being made the bill was ordered to be engroſſed for a third reading on Monday next, and in the mean time it was ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Lattimore a committee was appointed to conſider what alteration if any was neceſſary to the Act regulating the grants of land & providing for the diſpoſal of lands of the United States South of Tenneſſee; and authoriſed to report by bill or otherwiſe.

On the motion of Mr. *J. Clay* a committee of five were appointed to conſider the petitions from Alexandria, Waſhington City and Georgetown, on the ſubject of erecting a permanent bridge acroſs the Potomac.

On motion of Mr. Thompſon the meſſage of the Preſident relating to the public buildings in Waſhington was referred to a committee of ſeven.

And then the Houſe adjourned.

TUESDAY, December 18, 1804.

An engroſſed bill, reſpecting the clearance of armed merchant veſſels, was read the third time; and on motion recommitted to a ſelect committee.

The bill, authoriſing the Marine Inſurance Company of Alexandria, to extend their inſurances to buildings, was read the ſecond time, and ordered to be engroſſed for a third reading to-morrow.

The forenſic eloquence and patriotiſm of Mr. *Erſkine*, have long been the boaſt of England. His talents have excited the admiration, and his independence the eſteem of all ranks and parties, and a Mr. Cant, of Leiceſterſhire, lately deceaſed, has left him no leſs a ſum than 23,000l. (nearly a hundred thouſand dollars) for his animated and noble defence of Horne Tooke, the great diſciple of liberty in that country, in the year 1794.

Enquirer.

The electors of *Tenneſſee*, viz. David Deadrick, George Ridley, William Martin, Robert Houſton, and Richard Mitchell, met at Knoxville on the 5th inſt. and gave an unanimous vote for Thomas Jefferſon as Preſident, and George Clinton, Vice-Preſident.

Columbia, December 5.

The legiſlature of this ſtate yeſterday proceeded to the election of Electors of Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the U. States, when the following gentlemen were elected:

John Blake,
Thomas Taylor,
Joſeph Calhoun,
William Hill,
James Miles,
John Gaillard,
Joſeph Blyth,
Arthur Simkins,
Samuel Warren,
Major John Taylor.

All of whom will vote for Thomas Jefferſon and George Clinton.

The legiſlature of this ſtate yeſterday proceeded to the election of two Senators in the Congreſs of the United States, from this ſtate; one in the room of Mr. Pierce Butler, reſigned, and one in the room of Mr. Thomas Sumter, whoſe preſent term of ſervice will expire in March next; when Mr. John Gaillard was elected in the place of Mr. Pierce Butler, and Mr. Thomas Sumter was re-elected.

At the laſt ſeſſion of our legiſlature a law paſſed the aſſembly ſubjecting the miniſters of religion to taxation like other citizens; and another for new organizing the militia: Both theſe acts were referred by the council to the next ſeſſion of the legiſlature. A turnpike road from Rutland to Pittsfield was granted; moſt of the other petitions for turnpikes failed.—A tax of one cent and an half on the dollar was voted to defray the expenſes of government. It was thought neceſſary to increaſe the tax, as there was not money enough in the treaſury to pay the debentures of the members of the legiſlature; a deficiency of about 5000 dollars having been occaſioned by the expenſe of the extra ſeſſion at Windſor, in February laſt.

[*Rut. Her. Vermont.*

PUBLIC MEETING.

HAVING received communications from the Town and County of Alexandria, which relate to the affairs of the DISTRICT of COLUMBIA, it becomes proper on my part to ſolicit a meeting of the inhabitants of Waſhington to take the ſaid communications into conſideration.——A meeting for that purpoſe is accordingly requeſted to be held at the THEATRE on Saturday the 22nd inſt. at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

ROBERT BRENT, Mayor of Waſhington.

December 19—2t

Diſtrict of Columbia, Waſhington county, to wit:

ON the petition of WALTER QUEEN an inſolvent debtor confined in the priſon of Waſhington county, for debt. Notice is hereby given to the creditors of the ſaid Walter Queen, that on Monday the 24th day of this month, at 10 o'clock, A. M. at the court room in the Capitol, the oath of an inſolvent debtor will be adminiſtered to the ſaid Walter Queen agreeably to an act of Congreſs now in force reſpecting inſolvent debtors within the diſtrict of Columbia, and a truſtee appointed unleſs ſufficient cauſe then and there be ſhewn to the contrary. Provided this notice be publiſhed twice in the Waſhington Federaliſt, and twice in the National Intelligencer before that day.

By order of the hon. Wm. Cranch, eſq. one of the aſſiſtant judges of the circuit court of the diſtrict of Columbia.

Teſt URIAH FORREST, Ck.

Dec 19—2t

Five Dollars Reward.

STOLEN or taken on the 26th of October, from the ſubſcriber, out of Mr. Goldſborough's lot—a BAY COLT, about two years old laſt ſpring, 11 or 12 hands high, ſhod all around—Whoſoever will deliver the ſaid colt to the ſubſcriber near the Preſident's houſe, ſhall receive Five dollars reward,

ROBERT SUTTON.

Waſhington December 19—3t

LOST,

ON Friday morning laſt, between the Tyber and Mr. Rhodes hotel, a ſmall Red Morocco POCKET BOOK, containing a note of 100 dollars of the Union bank of Maryland—the note was wrapped up in a ſmall memorandum, for the perſon who loſt it to get the following articles, one buſhel and half of ſalt, one ounce of bark, one vial of tincture, and two brooms. The note has ſuch marks, as renders it if offered at Bank eaſily proved. The finder ſhall be handſomely rewarded, if he will leave the pocket book with its contents with the printer of this advertiſement, or at Mr Hamilton's on Capitol Hill.

December 19—3t

NOTICE.

A MEETING of the FIRE COMPANY of the third ward will be held this evening at 7 o'clock at Mr. William R. King's tavern near the Navy Yard—the punctual attendance of the members is requeſted.

CHARLES G. HERFORD, Sec.

Dec 19—1t

RICHARD & LYNDE ELLIOTT,

HAVE juſt received from Connecticut Six Thouſand weight of GOSHEN CHEESE of the firſt quality, a ſmall part of which is of laſt year's making, which they offer, for ſale, by the 100 weight, at the Baltimore and Alexandria prices. They have alſo juſt received, and now landing at the County Wharf, QUINCES, Cyder, Potatoes, Apples, Onions, Cheeſe, and ſundry other articles, which they offer for ſale at the Alexandria prices.

Georgetown, Dec. 19—w3t