calumnies were harmless, that they in truth only reflected disgrace on their authors. We have long beheld with pleasure the pure state of public opinion, and have seen it with pride elevating itself above the base alloy with which it has been unceasingly attempted to depreciate it. We have beheld the Patriot Magistrate and Legislator rising higher and higher in the esteem of his fellow-citizens from the ungrateful revilings of those who enjoyed a rich participation of the unprecedented prosperity of the country. So long as every returning election, that admirable organ of public opinion, brought with it increased harvests of honor, and so long as every class of the citizens continued to advance in prosperity with greater rapidity than at any former period, we have entertained no fears of the just decision of our countrymen. To harbour the apprehension that the low libels of a Parke or a Coleman would obscure the merits of lives devoted to the public good, in the estimation of an intelligent community, would be to pay but a poor compliment to the *virtue* of a people, which is and forever must be the foundation of genuine republics. We have believed, and the whole succession of political events confirms the belief, that the only antidote, which such a people requires to the copious streams of poison that pour in upon them, is a full exposure of the measures of the government, and of their tendencies. Sometimes, indeed, it will happen in the complicated machinery of events, even under a republic, that some transactions, especially with foreign nations, will remain for a time without that full disclosure and developement, which are generally requisite for forming a just decision on their merits. But, in general, in such cases, a people, who have for a considerable length of time reposed a confidence without its having been abused, which has, on the contrary, in every instance ultimately evinced on the part of rulers, integrity of motive and intelligence in the choice of means, will not fail, under such circumstances, to rest satisfied in the final issue of events. They will hold their judgment in suspense; and will, when informed, decide dispassionately. During this period of suspense, which generally lasts as long as most important pending negociations, prints, under the dominion of malignant feelings, will teem with misrepresentation as well of facts as motives. They will roundly assert successive falsehoods, sensible that in most cases they will not be contradicted. For the friends of the government, being as much in the dark as its opponents, whatever may be their disposition, they do not possess the means of refutation. Thus will the superficial observer enjoy, as he imagines, many a temporary triumph over his adversaries. But he will in fact pronounce in this way the severest sarcasm on his own virtue or wisdom. On such topics we have not had the temerity to appear learned. We have therefore waited with respectful silence for that information which time only could disclose.

On other topics, however, not of less intrinsic importance, it has been our pride to occupy our columns. Believing, in the best exercise of our judgment, the general measures of the administration the offspring of an enlightened policy and pure patriotism, we have not hesitated to support their prominent features with reason and fact, against the indiscriminate censure cast upon them. So far as this censure has been mixed with personal scurrility we have thought it beneath our notice.

We have likewise considered it one of the great and appropriate duties of a public print to suggest plans of improvement, geological as well as political. Indeed, properly understood, the one is but a branch of the other. Well convinced that in proportion to the improvement of the country, to the quantum of its produce, will be its solid strength, the means of its prosperity in peace, and its sinews in war, we have thought no task more important and pleasing than that of awakening the national attention to this great object, thus aiming at unlocking and advantageously engaging vast resources less profitably employed.

We shall continue to steer by the same compass. Cordially despising calumny in any shape, we shall rigidly abstain from being the first to use it, and we shall rarely think it worth while to repel it; and with regard to petty editorial quarrels, we have either too much pride or too much humility, perhaps both, to have any thing to do with them.

As, however, it is expected that a newspaper should be the chronicle of the times, it may not be improper to record, occasionally, the libellous publications against the administration: often without any, and generally with but little animadversion; trusting, in most instances, to their carrying their best refutation with them.

Of such a character is the following *malignant* extract from Jackson's Political Register, replete with the grossest misrepresentations and dishonorable insinuations.

FROM THE POLITICAL REGISTER.

AS we are not acquainted with the precise import of the correspondence, which is said to have lately passed between the Secretary of State and Mr. Yrujo, it would be improper to draw any direct inference of its result—But if the last intelligence from Spain be correct, and both public and private accounts concur in stating that Mr. Munroe's negociation had failed in every point, that he had asked for his passports, and was leaving Madrid, there can be little doubt that we are on the eve of reaping an abundant harvest of calamity from that land of promise, *Louisiana*.

That the fruit of this POLITICAL UPAS would be domestic dissention and foreign hostility, has been long predicted by the wisest and best patriots of America—but that the apple of discord, armed with the thorn of aggression, was so soon to ripen, had not been foreseen, and can only be accounted for from one conclusion.

Confounding the measures of a weak and indecisive cabinet, with the temper of a powerful and determined people, & mistaking protracted negociation for the fears of the nation, the Court of Madrid has been hurried to a conclusion, which she may repent at leisure, in bitter and unavailing regret.

Destructive as war is, it is not the worst evil that might befal our country; and although we sincerely deprecate its occurence, and still hope that mutual concessions to justice may, on the present occasion, avoid an appeal to arms. Yet, if the die is cast, and a decision by the sword is inevitable, we know our strength, and we ought to confide in our courage, and the goodness of our cause.

If the "entanglements," of this blessed purchase must bring war, there could not certainly be a momentless auspicious to the hopes of Spain, than that, which she has chosen for the rupture; when her contest with Great Britain nullifies her marine superiority, the only advantage she possesses, and for which she is, in no inconsiderable degree, indebted to the time-serving policy of our present administration.

Had the line of battle ships, for which legiflative provifion was made, been procured, Mr. Yrujo would never have uttered the idle threat of blockading our ports—nor would his government have even contemplated fuch a meafure.

Let Spain, however, remember that her colonies, the moft important portion of her empire will be within the grafp of our power, whenever fhe fhall, by direct hoftility, authorife reprifals—But let us alfo hope that accommodation is ftill poffible, and that the horrors of war may yet be averted.

Correct anfwers to the following queries, would fhew to whom much of the approaching crifis may be afcribed:—

Who was the foreign Minifter that, in the years '96 and '97, dared to infult the American nation, and injure the interefts of his own, by an audacious appeal from our government to the people?

What would have been the conduct of the Spanifh government, if Mr. Munroe, on the failure of his late negociation, had made an appeal to the people?

Under whofe authority, and at whofe inftance, was this foreign Minifter who, had fo juftly incurred the dignified refentment of a former adminiftration, and been refufed all perfonal intercourfe with the chief magiftrate, not only reftored to his functions, but ftudioufly courted and careffed?

Against which administration (*"for he would not call it government"*) did this minister afterwards issue his anathemas in the news-papers, and bring charges of exciting insurrection in the territory of the King his master?

To whom is the impending war imputable? To that administration which had vindicated the rights of the American people and their government, by resenting the outrages, and rejecting the intercourse, of this minister? Or to the time-serving cabinet, which, sacrificing all sense of national dignity and personal decorum to political spleen, could not only fraternise with such an agent, but invite his return to office?

The work has however come home to its author—the engine has recoiled—and the gentleman, to whom it owes its renewed power, will be well off, if by compelling a second abdication, it only *"picks his pocket"* and does not *"break his leg."*

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in St. Mary's county to his friend in this city, dated July 25, 1805.

On the 12th of this instant there was a negro woman delivered near this of a dead child. Its head, neck and ears resembled those of the squirrel, with a piece of loose skin on its forehead, that by pulling it asunder the teeth appeared resembling those of a squirrel; its body appeared like that of the flying squirrel, with membranes reaching from the fore to the hind legs, the body was covered with hair. Its tail resembled the tail of our common wild rabbits. This singular and disgusting production was viewed by a number of respectable persons of both sexes.

To the Editors of the Political Observatory.

GENTLEMEN,

I NOTICE in your paper some strictures on my ninth letter, under the signature of Franklin, extracted from the National Intelligencer. Your candor will furnish me with a column in your pages for the purpose of proving that all my statements are correct and true, and of course that those of Franklin are incorrect and untrue.

It has been said that the southern planter who possesses fifty slaves has thirty-one times the political weight of the New-England farmer. This Franklin denies. Here is the proof.

The southern states are allowed a representative for 55,000 slaves. Of course 1,100 planters, each possessing 50 slaves, would form a constitutional district, and might be entitled to a member of Congress. It requires 33,000 people possessing no slaves to elect a member; and 1,100 is one thirtieth part of 33,000.

Franklin has stated a case which displays the most preposterous attempt at deception that any man ever witnessed. He supposes a district of 20,000 whites and 19,667 slaves. "Suppose these slaves to belong to 392 planters, each planter owning 50 slaves, and the residue of the whites having no slaves. Now, says Mr. E. this planter who possesses 50 slaves, possesses all the consequence derived from 31 votes. Assume this as a fact and what follows. Why that every constituent has the same consequence, &c."—Nothing can be more absurd than this. Because I have said that the planter who possesses 50 slaves has 31 times the weight of the northern farmer, have I also said that "every constituent" in a southern district, man, woman or child, possessing slaves or not possessing them, is entitled to the same weight? No such thing. Every reader will apply to Franklin his own exclamation—"Away with such flimsy logic!"

Franklin allows that 50 slaves authorise 5 votes but not 30. I have proved that he is incorrect.

Franklin denies that the southern planter contributes much less than his proportion to the support of government. Here we are at issue. Let him produce the documents. Yet they are very immaterial, as I have applied the remark to those planters only who possess 50 slaves. Every man of common sense knows, that it is true, as I had stated, that "the *laboring slaves* consume nothing of consequence upon which a duty is paid," whatever their *masters* may consume.

Franklin says that it was an error to state that 15 representatives *for* slaves are allowed to the southern states. It was not an error. I calculated the number of slaves *in the southern states only* at "832,992, three-fifths of which is 499,794, giving 15 representatives and a fraction of 4,794."

All the statements of Franklin are thus proved to be incorrect. Whether he be "a deceiver and dishonest" or not, will be left to the decision of his own conscience, as it was not intended to apply that character to "a writer so ignorant of his subject, as to mistake its simplest elements."

JAMES ELLIOT.

The Editor of the National Intelligencer, and the other editors who have published the lucubrations of Franklin, are requested to republish the above.

DIED in Savannah, on the 25th ult. in the 28th year of his age, MR. SAMUEL MORSE, a native of Connecticut, the editor of the Georgia Republican.

We have the pleasure of announcing, on the authority of Capt. Waterman, that the United States frigate John Adams, from this port, with seven gunboats under her convoy, arrived in safety at Algesiras, and sailed from thence on the 18th of June, to join the squadron in the Mediterranean.

Mer. Adv.

Capt Barber, of the fchooner Alleghany, who arrived at New-York on Friday laft in 9 days from Havanna, informs, that a number of French and Spanifh privateers infeft the South coaft of Cuba, and had taken a number of veffels from England for New-Orleans, took them into a fmall port 20 leagues to leeward of Havanna, and plundered them of their cargoes and burnt the veffels. He alfo informs, that there were 10 or 12 fail of privateer fchooners in Havanna, under French colours ready for fea. There are 12 Spanifh paffengers in the Alleghany.

Phil. pap.

THE fervices of THOMAS EWELL, M. D. in the practice of Medicine and Surgery may be had by applying at the office lately occupied by Wm. O. Sprigg, efq. oppofite Mr. Semmes' tavern.

George town, Aug. 16—3t.

For Sale

IN the county of Prince William, Virginia, Neabico Furnace and its appendages, with four or five thoufand acres of land adjoining, near the town of Dumfries, and within four or five miles of the Potomac—the foil is generally adapted to fmall grain, and if too confiderable for one purchafer, will be laid off in Lots fuitable for fmall farms—a defcription of the land is thought unneceffary—as thofe wifhing to purchafe will no doubt firft view it: the payments required will be one third cafh, and the other two thirds in annual inftalments, to be fecured by a mortgage on the land; and no deed given until the laft payment is made; any perfon wifhing to purchafe, may know the terms by applying to Mr. Thomas T. Page, living near the premifes, who is fully authorifed by me to fell the whole or any part.

JOHN TAYLOE.

August 16—3m.

N B. A valuable mine bank in Maryland may be had with the furnace if required.

J. T.

FOR SALE.

AN unfinifhed two ftory brick houfe with an excellent cellar fronting on feventh ftreet, eaft, fquare No. 907, in the city of Wafhington; if not difpofed of at private fale previous to the 4th day of September next, it will on that day be offered at public fale, for terms apply to the fubfcriber.

And on the fame day will pofitively be fold a frame houfe fituated on the fame ftreet and fquare as the above property; and a quantity of houfehold and kitchen furniture.

The vicinity of the above property to the navy yard renders it an object worthy of attention.

WILLIAM PROUT.

Aug. 12—

SULLIVAN's LECTURES,

PROPOSALS

BY THOMAS B. WAIT & Co.

FOR PRINTING, BY SUBSCRIPTION,

AN HISTORICAL TREATISE

ON THE

FEUDAL LAW,

AND THE

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF ENGLAND;

With a Commentary on Magna Charta, and Illustrations of many of the English Statutes.

BY THE LATE

FRANCIS STOUGHTON SULLIVAN, L. L. D.

Royal Professor of Common Law in the University of Dublin.

To which authorities are added, and a Difcourfe is prefixed, concerning the Laws and Government of England,

BY GILBERT STUART, L. L. D.

THE Lectures of Profeffor Sullivan, delivered to the Students in the Univerfity of Dublin, are in very high repute among all Lawyers of eminence, and have been uniformly recommended as an elementary book to thofe young gentlemen who begin the ftudy of Law with a view to render themfelves refpectable in the profeffion.

However obfolete the feudal policy may now feem to be, it having gradually difappeared as mankind grew more civilized and became better acquainted with their natural and inalienable rights and privileges; yet a refearch into the hiftory of the government of jurifprudence of the nations of Europe, will fatisfy any one, that many confequences of that fyftem ftill exift and influence the opinions and decifions of the higheft and moft enlightened tribunals of juftice. Every author who has undertaken to give a regular and fyftematic account of the rife and progrefs of modern nations, has felt himfelf obliged to refort to the hiftory of feuds and feudal rights, as the fundamental principle from which all exifting civil and political inftitutions have taken their rife; and every jurift who has employed himfelf in explaining the conftitution and laws of his country, has gone to the fame fource for the correct materials of his effays and differtations. Robertfon, in his hiftory of the Empe ror Charles V. has with great beauty and perfpicuity illuftrated fo much of the feudal policy as was neceffary to enable the fcientific reader to underftand that valuable book; and Sir Wm. Blackftone has in the courfe of his commentaries, led the ftudent to a contemplation of the ancient tenures, many of which depend upon the doctrine of feuds, as eftablifhed in England by the Norman conqueror.

But in both thofe invaluable productions, the feudal policy was adverted to, only as incidental to the principal object of the authors, and therefore cannot be fuppofed to furnifh fo complete and fatisfactory an account, as would be given by fo diftinguifhed a lawyer as profeffor Sullivan, who declares the great purpofe of his lectures to be the full difcuffion of the fubject, which was of neceffity but partially confidered by the other writers.

This work has become fo fcarce in this country, as to be feldom feen, even on the fhelves of a practifing lawyer; a fact to be accounted for only by the difficulty of obtaining the book: for it cannot well be fuppofed that any one of the profeffion, who has higher views than the mere pecuniary advantages of the practife, would willingly neglect an enquiry into thofe ancient inftitutions, upon which, notwithftanding the lapfe of ages, moft modern improvements are founded. But it is not to the profeffion alone, that this book may be confidered ufeful. In this rifing empire, where logical knowledge to a certain degree is claimed by all, and actually poffeffed by many; a book which fuccinctly and perfpicuoufly brings to view the laws, inftitutions, manners and cuftoms of thofe nations from which our Englifh anceftors defcended, muft be peculiarly ufeful, as it will enable young politicians to trace all our civil regulations to their fource, and thus to account methodically and fcientifically for many modern ufages and practifes, of which their knowledge is extremely fuperficial. In this book they will fee how our anceftors ftruggled for the eftablifhment of thofe privileges which artful monarchs and a proud nobility were continually attempting to deftroy; and they will alfo learn that the perfevering induftry of the people, aided by the wealth which their fkill and enterprize brought into the country, finally obtained a complete victory in the eftablifhment of principles and cuftoms, which, tranfplanted into America by our progenitors, terminated in thofe glorious conftitutions which diftinguifh the people of America, for liberty and happinefs, from every other people on the earth.

CONDITIONS.

The work shall be elegantly printed, in two octavo volumes, on fine wove paper, with a new and beautiful type.

It will be delivered to Subscribers, bound in calf, at Five Dollars; and in boards, at Four Dollars.—To non-subscribers the price will be enhanced. No money will be required till the delivery of the work.

Those who subscribe for ten sets shall have one gratis. To booksellers the usual allowance will be made.

Portland, June 24—

☞ The above work will be printed from a *correct* London Edition—The few copies of an Irifh Edition now circulating in this country are confidered by the firft law characters as extremely *incorrect*, and not to be relied on as hiftorical autority.

Lands for Sale.

PURSUANT to an order of the court of Calvert county—the fubfcribers will fell at public auction at the houfe of Mr. James Duke, at Prince Frederick Town in the county aforefaid on the 29th day of Auguft, if fair, if not the next fair day—ALL the real eftate of captain Walter Smith late of faid county deceafed, confifting of the following tracts of land.

The tract on which the faid captain Smith refided, containing 1225 1 8 acres lying on the river Patuxent, bounded on the weft by faid river, and on the fouth and eaft by a fine navigable creek called St. Leonards, fo that a fhort fence will enclofe the whole land—the foil of this tract is equal to any on Patuxent either for farming, planting, or grazing; and in their feafon a great abundance of fine fifh and oyfters may be had either from the river or creek.

One other tracts of land in the Foreft, about two miles from the former, containing 627 1 2 acres. The greater part of which is covered with hickory chefnut, and oak wood, and a great proportion of fwamp land, which at a trifling expence might be converted into valuable meadow.

One other tract of 536 1 2 acres lying on Chefapeake Bay, bounded on the eaft by faid bay and on the north by a creek called Parker's creek; on this tract there is a very fine falt marfh, a quantity of fine meadow land, and abundance of timber.

It is thought needlefs to give a fuller defcription of thofe lands, as it is prefumed no one will purchafe without firft viewing them. And on application to Mr. John Turner who lives adjoining the firft mentioned tract he will fhew the different tracts as well as the plats of the fame.

Thefe different tracts will be fold in a body or divided into lots, as may beft fuit thofe who wifh to purchafe: The purchafers to give bond on intereft with approved fecurity for the purchafe money to be paid in three equal annual payments the whole intereft to be paid yearly. And on the ratification of the fale by the court and a full payment of the purchafe money, a deed of conveyance will be executed to the purchafers agreeable to an act of affembly in fuch cafe made and provided.

JO. WILKINSON,
JOHN TURNER, } Commiffioners.
JAMES HEIGHE,

July 31—wts.

Fifty Dollars Reward.

RANAWAY on the 9th inft. from the fubfcriber's farm near Frederick Town, (Maryland) a dark mulatto fellow named

MOSES,

But commonly called LANHAM,

He was raifed near Pifcataway and fold by a Mr. Burrefs to the late James Marfhall, deceafed, of Frederick county. Lanham is about thirty years of age, nearly fix feet high, ftout and very active, fond of fpirituous liquors, has been accuftomed to working aboard fhipping, likewife in a brick yard and is well acquainted with the management of horfes and with the ferrying bufinefs; he is a very artful fellow, and I expect he has obtained a pafs and will pafs under the name of Samuel Beall. He had on and took with him an oznaburg fhirt & trowfers, a blue cloth coat with a black filk velvet cape bound with filk ferretting a black fur hat nearly new, a pair of fhoes nearly new, an old drab furtout coat, with fundry other cloathing not recollected; he has a fcar under one of his eyes but it is not recollected which, fomewhat hard of hearing and round fhoulder'd. From his acquaintance in the city of Wafhington I fuppofe he has made for that place or fome other fea port. Whoever takes up and fecures faid fellow in any jail fo that I get him again fhall receive if taken ten miles from home eight dollars, if twenty miles fixteen dollars, if thirty miles twenty dollars, if fifty miles thirty dollars, and if a greater diftance the above reward with all reafonable charges if brought home.

JOHN L. HARDING.

N. B Mafters of veffels and others are cautioned againft harboring faid runaway at their peril.

July 26—1m

TO BE SOLD,

AT PUBLIC VENDUE,

At Gadfby's Hotel, in Alexandria, on Monday the 16th day of September, at 12 o'clock at noon.

ALL that TRACT of LAND late Prefly Thornton, Efquire's, fituated in Northumberland county, Virginia, lying immediately on the Potomac river. The following defcription is given of this property by perfons well acquainted with it:—"It contains 2,500 acres, 1700 acres of which are the moft valuable low grounds on the river, between 3 and 400 acres heavily timbered, and the remainder very high land extremely productive. The foil of this tract is equal to any in the ftate for the cultivation of corn, wheat, tobacco, timothy, and fmall grain of all kinds. On this tract are a large commodious Brick Manfion Houfe and two Offices, a large Brick Stable, valuable Barn, Cow Houfe, and many other out houfes. The Orchards and Garden contain a variety of valuable fruit trees, and the waters abound with excellent fifh and oyfters. It is fituated about a day's fail from Baltimore Alexandria and Norfolk. There are two good mill feats for grift and faw mills on the eftate, and plenty of cedar and chefnut timber, for which an excellent market may be found at the city of Wafhington"

The terms of fale are—one fourth cafh, one fourth in one year, one fourth in 18 months and the refidue in two years from the day of fale. The payments to be fecured by bonds, with mortgages on the premifes, and to be on intereft from the day of fale.

For further information, application may be made in behalf of the fubfcriber, Thomas Robinfon, to Richard Peters, jun attorney at law in the city of Philadelphia, or to William Lewis, in the fame city, (Philadelphia.)

THOMAS ROBINSON,
W. LEWIS.

June 19—ep Sep.16

ALEXANDER M'CORMICK,
Has juft received 2 000 weight of BACON which he offers for fale.

Auguft 9——3t