Was there ever a stronger illustration of the truth and correctness of this observation than the recent efforts made under the pressure of the embargo laws? The moment the privations, reluctantly but necessarily imposed by those laws, became to be felt, was the moment of signal to every political demagogue, who wished to find his way to office and to power, to excite the distrusts of the people, and thus to separate them from the government of their choice, by every exaggeration, which ingenuity could devise, and every misrepresentation, which falsehood could invent; nothing was omitted, which it was conceived would have a tendency to effect this object. But, Mr. President, the people of the U. States must learn the lesson now, and at all future times, of disrespecting the bold & disingenuous charges and insinuations of such aspiring demagogues. They must learn to respect and rally round their own government, or they never can present a formidable front to a foreign aggressor. Sir, the people of the United States have already learnt this lesson. They have recently given an honorable and glorious example of their knowledge in this respect. They have in their recent elections, demonstrated to the nation, and to the world, that they possess too much good sense to become the dupes of those delusive artifices, and too much patriotism to desert their government, when it stands most in need of their support and energy.

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. Hillhouse) has made the most strict, and I had almost said, uncharitable scrutiny into the objects and effects of the embargo laws, in the delusive hope, I presume, of obtaining a triumph over his political adversaries. I propose to follow the gentleman, in a fair and candid comparison of information and opinions upon this subject; and I shall do so in the most perfect confidence, that, whenever a thorough examination of the objects and effects of the embargo laws shall be made known, and the merits of the measure fully understood, that there is not a man in the U. S. who will not applaud and support the administration for its adoption, who has the uncontaminated heart of an American, throbbing within his bosom.

Mr. President, I have always understood that there were two objects contemplated by the embargo laws. The first, precautionary, operating upon ourselves—The second, coercive, operating upon the aggressing belligerents. Precautionary, in saving our seamen, our ships and our merchandise from the plunder of our enemies, and voiding the calamities of war. Coercive, by addressing strong appeals to the interests of both the belligerents. The first object has been answered beyond my most sanguine expectations. To make a fair and just estimate of this measure, reference should be had to our situation at the time of its adoption. At that time, the aggressions of both the belligerents were such, as to leave the U. S. but a painful alternative in the choice of one of three measures, to wit: embargo, war, or submission. I know that this position has not been admitted, though but faintly denied, in the discussion. I shall however proceed upon this hypothesis for the present, and in the course of my observations will prove its correctness by the statements of the gentlemen in favor of the resolution.

Before the recommendation of this measure, the laudable and provident circumspection of the administration, had obtained tolerably correct estimates of the amount and value of the ships and merchandise belonging to the citizens of the U. S. then afloat; and the amount and value of what was shortly expected to be afloat; together with a conjectural statement of the number of seamen employed in the navigation thereof.

It was found that merchandise to the value of one hundred millions of dollars was actually afloat, in vessels amounting in value to twenty millions more—That an amount of merchandise and vessels equal to fifty millions of dollars more, was expected to be shortly put afloat, and that it would require fifty thousand seamen to be employed in the navigation of this enormous amount of property. The administration was informed of the hostile edicts of France previously issued, and then in a state of execution, and of an intention on the part of Great Britain to issue her orders, the character and object of which were also known. The object was to sweep this valuable commerce from the ocean. The situation of this commerce was as well known to Great Britain as to ourselves, and her inordinate cupidity could not withstand the temptation of the rich booty, she vainly thought within her power. This was the state of information at the time this measure was recommended.

The President of the United States ever watchful and anxious for the preservation of the persons and property of all our fellow-citizens, but particularly of the merchants, whose property is most exposed to danger, and of the seamen whose persons are also most exposed, recommended the embargo for the protection of both; and it has saved and protected both. Let us now suppose, for a moment, that the President, possessed of this information, had not apprised the merchants and seamen of their danger, and had recommended no measure for their safety and protection? would he not in that case, have merited and received the reproaches which the ignorance or ingratitude of merchants and others have so unjustly heaped upon him, for his judicious and anxious attentions to their interests? It is admitted by all, that the embargo laws have saved this enormous amount of property, and this number of seamen, which, without them, would have forcibly gone into the hands of our enemies, to pamper their arrogance, stimulate their injustice, & increase their means of annoyance.

I should suppose, Mr. President, this saving worth some notice. But, sir, we are told that instead of protecting our seamen it has driven them out of the country, and into foreign service. I believe, sir, that this fact is greatly exaggerated. But, sir, suppose for a moment that it is so, the government has done all, in this respect, it was bound to do. It placed these seamen in the bosoms of their friends and families, in a state of perfect security; and if they have since thought proper to abandon these blessings, and emigrate from their country, it was an act of choice, not of necessity. But what would have been the unhappy destiny of these brave tars, if they had been permitted to have been carried into captivity, and sent adrift on unfriendly and inhospitable shores? Why, sir, in that case, they would have had no choice; necessity would have driven them into a hard and ignominious service, to fight the battles of the authors of their dreadful calamities, against a nation, with which their country was at peace. And is the bold and generous American tar to be told that he is to disrespect the administration for its anxious and effectual attentions to his interests? For relieving him from a dreadful captivity? Even under the hardships he does suffer, and which I sincerely regret, every generous feeling of his noble heart would repel the base attempt with indignation. But, sir, the American seamen have not deserted their country; foreign seamen may and probably have gone into foreign service; and, for one, I am glad of it. I hope they will never return; and I am willing to pass a law in favor of the true hearted American seamen, that these foreign seamen never should return. I would even prohibit them from being employed in merchant vessels. The American seamen have found employment in the country; and whenever the proper season shall arrive for employing them on their proper element, you will find them, like true birds of passage, hovering in crowds upon your shores.

Whilst considering this part of the subject, I cannot help expressing my regret, that at the time of passing our embargo laws, a proportion of our seamen was not taken into the public service; because, in my judgment, the nation required their services, and it would have been some alleviation to their hardships, which the measure peculiarly imposed upon them, as a class of citizens, by affecting their immediate occupation; and the other classes, as well as the public treasury, were able to contribute to their alleviation; and I am willing to do the same thing at this time. Indeed, its omission is the only regret I have ever felt, at the measures of the last Congress. I like the character—I like the open frankness, and the generous feelings of the honest American tar; and, whenever in my power, I am ready to give, and will with pleasure give him my protection and support. One of the most important and agreeable effects of the embargo laws, is giving these honest fellows a safe asylum. But, sir, these are not the only good effects of the embargo. It has *preserved our peace—it has saved our honor—it has saved our national independence.* Are these savings not worth notice? Are these blessings not worth preserving? The gentleman from Delaware, (Mr. White) has, indeed, told us, that under the embargo laws the U. States are *bleeding at every pore.* This, surely, sir, is one of the most extravagant effects that could have been ascribed to these laws by the frantic dreams of the most infatuated passions. Blood-letting is the last effect, that I ever expected to hear ascribed to this measure. I thought it was of the opposite character; but it serves to show that nothing is too extravagant for the misguided zeal of gentlemen in the opposition. I have cast my eyes about in vain to discover those copious streams of blood; but I neither see nor hear any thing of them, from any other quarter. So far from the U. S. bleeding *at every pore,* under the embargo, it has saved them from bleeding *at any pore*—and one of the highest compliments to the measure is, that it has saved us from the very calamity which the gentleman attributed to it; but which, thanks to our better stars and wiser counsels, does not exist.

The gentleman from Connecticut, (Mr. Hillhouse) not content with describing the general horrors of the embargo laws, has addressed himself in plaintive tones, to several particular classes of citizens, and has kindly informed each of his particular hardships and sufferings. The gentleman asks what has become of the merchant? What has become of the farmer? I know something of the situation of the farmer; and, as to the merchant, I had felt serious apprehensions for his situation until they were materially relieved by the information given by the gentleman. The gentleman tells us, that the great capitalists do not suffer; they are in favor of the embargo; but the young, dashing, enterprizing merchant, without capital, is destroyed. This statement is highly honorable to the embargo laws, and proves a great deal. The capitalist, who has property, finds its security under the embargo; he is therefore in favor of the measure; but the merchant, who has nothing, is deprived of an opportunity of making something out of that nothing. But his rights are not affected by the embargo; he is left in the enjoyment of the nothing he possessed; and has no reason to complain that the embargo does not give him something without laboring for it. I regret, however, that these merchants, without capital, have lost the chance of making their fortunes by the embargo; but even the most of these, the gentleman tells us, would probably have become bankrupt, by their wild speculations, even if the embargo wer not in being; and of course, their situation cannot be much worsted by it.

But, Mr. President, I am willing to admit, that there are many worthy merchants of small capital, who do suffer by the suspension of their employments; and I am very sorry for them: but this suffering is incidental to every coerced state of things; and is attributable, not properly to the embargo, but to the causes that rendered its adoption indispensable.

The gentlemen, however, tell us, with the most sympathetic feelings, that the ships of the great capitalists are rotting at our wharves, and yet these capitalists are in favor of the embargo. Why, sir, this is a very plain case, when stript of its exaggerations. The ships are precisely twelve months elder than they were twelve months ago; and the owners would rather have them there, with this difference of age and proportionate decay, than to see them torn away by lawless plunderers, and wholly lost forever. But, sir, what would have become of many of these capitalists, if it had not been for the embargo? Their property would have been plundered, and they become bankrupts. Is it any wonder then, sir, that these men should be in favor of the embargo? Review, then, this statement made by the gentlemen, respecting the merchants, and what is the actual result? Why this, sir—that, although they do suffer by the necessary interruption of their particular occupation, (a suffering I deplore as much as any gentleman in the United States) yet the real owners of the property do not complain; and almost the only grumblers are those who have nothing to grumble about.

Speech to be continued.

By his excellency ROBERT WRIGHT,
Governor of Maryland,
A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the General Assembly of Maryland, did by an act passed at November session eighteen hundred and five, entitled "An act to reduce into one the several acts of assembly respecting elections, and to regulate said elections, do direct that the governor and council, after having received the returns of the election for Electors to choose the President and Vice President of the U. States, should enumerate & ascertain the number of votes for each and every candidate personated for an Elector aforesaid respectively, and shall thereupon declare by proclamation, signed by the Governor, and without delay disperse through the state the name of the person or persons duly elected as Elector in each respective district. We in pursuance of the directions of said act, do by this our proclamation declare, that by the returns made to us, it appears that John Bously Plater, esq. was elected an Elector for the first district; Robert Bowie, esq. was elected an elector for the second district; Edward Johnson and John Johnson, esqs. were elected electors for the third district; Dr. John Tyler and Nathaniel Rochester, esqs. were elected electors for the fourth district; Tobias E. Stansbury, esq. was elected an elector for the fifth district; Thomas W. Veazy, esq. elected an elector for the sixth district; Richard Tilghman Earl, esq. was elected an elector for the seventh district; Perry Spencer, esq. was elected an elector for the eighth district, and Henry James Carroll, esq. was elected an elector for the ninth district.

Given in Council at the city of Annapolis, under the seal of the state of Maryland, this third day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight.

ROBERT WRIGHT.

By the Governor,
Ninian Pinkney, *Cl. of the Council.*

RUNAWAY.

WAS Committed to the jail of Washington county, district of Columbia as a runaway, on the 3d inst. a black woman who calls herself KITTY THOMAS, and says she belongs to Domindigo Gambers, of Charles county, Maryland; she is about 24 years of age, 5 feet 3 inches high; had on when committed, blue petticoat and jacket striped white. Her owner is desired to prove her and take her away or she will be sold for her jail fees and other expenses as the law directs.

C. TIPPETT, Keeper of the jail for Washington Boyd, marshal.

WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9.

A letter from the Collector of Penobscot to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Collector's Office, District of Penobscot.
Castine, Nov. 23d, 1808.

Sir,

On the evening of the 1st of November, I had information, that an English vessel had come up the Penobscot bay in the afternoon, in such a way that rendered her very suspicious; and that she had followed a small vessel twenty miles, out of her way, and had come to an anchor, under Long Island, about sun-set, although she had a fair wind, and a fine moon all night. I went immediately after her, and found her in a snug harbour. She had a clearance from Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, for Nova Scotia—and was undoubtedly after a load of Mr. Master's flour—I made seizure of the vessel (and took her to Castine that night) under the ninth section of the embargo act.

Being sensible that there was a plan forming at Buck's-town and the Isle of Haut, and that they were determined to evade the laws by force, I went to Buck's-town, and placed an officer on shore, and put an officer on board a sloop that was loading under a permit—the only suspicious vessel that was there at that time. The officer on shore was to give information to me by land, in case any violence should be offered to the officer on board. I then proceeded to the Isle of Haut, and placed five men there, with a boat to guard the flour, &c. there, as I have previously stated, their orders were to stop any boat or vessel that should come past there, that appeared suspicious, and to see that the flour, &c. was not taken away without a permit—they were armed to defend themselves, and their orders were to commence no attack but what was strictly their duty to do. I then went to Castine, and was preparing the small schooner to cruise from the Isle of Haut to Buck's-town, armed as I stated in my last—and am sensible that she will out sail any vessel that should attempt to make their escape. On the 6th inst. on the Sabbath night, the wind blew fresh at North, my officer at Buck's-town had turned in about nine o'clock, and all things were peaceable, he was awoke by five men, masked and armed, coming into the cabin, and telling him to be quiet, or they would bind him; there were then thirty or forty men who came down on the wharf, blacked and dressed in disguise, and put on board a quantity of flour and fish, and got her under way, and sent her to sea, taking the officer on board with them, whom they carried down the bay about forty miles, and landed him; but at such a place that he could not get any assistance; at the same time these men came on to the wharf, there was thirteen men stationed on the bridge, about two miles from Buck's-town, to prevent my officer on shore from giving me information, and by the time I had received the information, she had got ten hours start, and with as much wind as she could carry sail to.

On the same evening there came in amongst the islands, an English schooner from Nova Scotia, with eight men on board, armed with muskets and cutlasses; and after cruizing five or six days amongst the islands, they were boarded by a boat from Buck's-town, with five men armed with muskets, blunderbusses, and boarding pikes; they then took a pilot from Mount Desert, and proceeded to the Isle of Haut, all on board the schooner, except two men in the boat, who towed the schooner into the reach, not far from the store that contained the flour, and came to an anchor; it was then about seven o'clock in the evening, and very dark; the boat was then ordered along side, and ten men armed with nine muskets and a pistol, all loaded with ball, got into the boat. She was then ordered to row on shore to the wharf, where the flour was, the boat was discovered by my men, and they prepared themselves to stand their own defence. The master of my revenue boat hailed the boat from the shore, as she was coming towards the wharf, and they answered from Vinalhaven, in this district. The officer then ordered them to row on shore. Immediately they rowed up to him, sprung from the boat, with their guns cocked, took the officer prisoner at the bows of the boat; they then rushed on the rest of my men; killed one man and took another prisoner, took his gun from him and let him go; the other two made their escape; they took the revenue boat, and all the other boats on the island, as they thought, and hauled them up and secured them; they then took the man, that was shot, and dragged him into the water, hauled the schooner into the wharf, and took one hundred and sixty barrels of flour and rice, and made sail for sea, with the master of the revenue boat on board; the two men that made their escape, very luckily found a boat on the back side of the island, and came to Castine and gave me information. I sent immediately for the schooner that was ordered to cruize from Buck's-town to the Isle of Haut, to report to me from the guard at each place. She was on her way to Buck's-town, I took thirteen men in the shoonor with me, and put four men into a small sail boat, to accompany us; and we started for the Isle of Haut, as soon as possible, it was then night, and soon came on a violent gale of wind, and the boat has not been heard of since; and the men are lost beyond all doubt. We arrived at the Isle of Haut the next morning. I found there my deputy from Deer Isle, with twenty men, who arrived the evening before; but the schooner was gone when they arrived; as they had carried off one of my men a prisoner, I thought it my duty to pursue them, although it then blew a very severe gale of wind. I took into the schooner a part of the men from Deer Isle, and run over to Fox Island, and came in sight of the schooner, in what was called Fox Island Thoroughfare; they discovered our colors, cut their cables, and got under way immediately; we chased them about ten miles to sea, when they were obliged to strike their English colours. I then ordered my officer (who was on board) to take the helm, and carry her into Owls Head for a harbor. When we arrived in the harbor, I went on board and secured the men, and put them down in the hold of my vessel. And after the storm I proceeded to Castine, and eight of the men that went on shore in the boat, armed as before stated, were examined before the hon. Job Nelson, D. Howe & Bradshaw Hall, esquires, and were committed to goal, for the murder of Lazaro Bagodanovich, an Italian. His body has been found, and the verdict of the jury of inquest was—Wilful Murder. This is a correct statement of facts, and nothing exaggerated.

I am, sir,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JOSIAH HOOK, *Collector.*

Hon. Albert Gallatin,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. GILES, from a committee appointed in the Senate, yesterday reported "*A bill making further provision for enforcing the Embargo.*"

Accompanying the bill, were the following letter to, and answer from the Secretary of the Treasury. The provisions of the bill are generally correspondent with the recommendations of the Secretary.

Committee Chamber, Nov. 14, 1808.

Dear sir—I am instructed by the Committee appointed to consider the several embargo laws, &c. to request you to lay before them with as little delay as possible such information as your Department affords upon the following questions.

First. What measures would be most effectual in preventing the violations or evasions of the several Embargo laws; and enforcing a due observance thereof?

Second. Can any of the inconveniences of the present system be remedied by further modifications; and what modifications would effect that object?

Be pleased, sir, to accept, assurances of my high consideration and regard.

(Signed) W. B. GILES.

Hon. Albert Gallatin,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Treasury Department, Nov. 24, 1808.

Sir,

Indisposition has prevented an earlier answer to your letter of the 14th inst.

For better preventing coasting vessels regularly cleared from violating the embargo, two measures appear necessary:—

1st. That the amount of the bonds should be increased.

2dly. That neither capture, distress or any other accident should be admitted as a plea, or be given in evidence on trial.

By the first regulation the temptation of going to a foreign port, in hopes that the profit on the sale of the cargo will indemnify for the forfeiture of the penalty will be done away. By the second, every expectation of escaping the payment of the penalty under fraudulent pretences will be disappointed; and the power of remitting the penalties in the few cases of unavoidable accidents which may occur, will remain as heretofore and as in other cases with the treasury.

As the object of those two regulations will be to make the bond a sufficient and complete security, they will have a tendency to relieve, in a considerable degree, the coasting trade from the inconvenience resulting from detentions. The sufficiency of the bond will in many doubtful cases remove the necessity of detaining vessels, or what amounts to the same, of informing the owners that unless they reduce the amount of their cargoes they will be detained.

I would also submit the propriety of placing under the control of the President, that power of detention vested in the Collectors by the act of the 25th April last. That subject has been a constant source of complaint and difficulty. It has been the uniform practice from the establishment of the government of the U. S. to give positive instructions to the collectors respecting the execution of the laws, and which they were bound to obey unless a different construction should be established by a legal decision. This indeed was essentially necessary in order to secure an uniform construction and execution of the