

situation may lead them to make such as are necessary for carrying the British Treaty into full and complete effect, as the only means of promoting the best interests of America, and, in the opinion of your memorialists, of prolonging, to this happy country, the inestimable blessings of peace.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will pray. Signed by upwards of 200.

On Monday the 25th of April, at the instance of some friends to the British Treaty, a meeting (on short notice) was held at the capitol in the city of Richmond, when a resolution was proposed expressing the wish of the people that Congress would carry that Treaty into full effect, without any reservation as to constitutional impediments, or other consideration of expedients. In opposition to that resolution the annexed were offered and subscribed by a vast number of the meeting, and are now circulated through this city and the county of Henrico, for the subscription of all those who concur in the sentiments therein expressed, and who are willing to leave the Representatives of the people, in Congress, to the free exercise of their rights, till they shall be explained or altered in a constitutional mode. We the subscribers, freeholders and inhabitants, do therefore give our hearty concurrence to the annexed resolutions:

WHEREAS the Representatives of the people, in the Congress of the United States, have already assumed the consideration of the Treaty with Great-Britain, which was submitted to them by the President of the United States.

Resolved, That no reason as yet, presents itself to justify an apprehension that those representatives will abuse the confidence of their constituents, or will be unmindful of the great interests of their country.

Resolved, That when any difference may arise between the co-ordinate departments of government, respecting their several functions, it is unsafe for the people to decide between them, except in those constitutional modes, which, combining a just representation of the people, with the means of free enquiry and of full information, will be most likely to ensure the peace of our country and the improvement of its constitution.

Resolved therefore, That it is not necessary or expedient, at this time, for the people of this district to offer any instructions to their Representative in the Congress of the United States, and that they do firmly rely, that he will heartily co-operate with the Representatives of the good people of these states in Congress, to preserve the sacred principles of the constitution, and to promote the best interests of our common country.

### BOSTON, April 23.

#### CRITICAL JUNCTURE.

The critical juncture of public affairs in the United States, has arrested the attention, and united the endeavours of the friends to peace, order, and the public good, to ward off the evils which threaten our tranquility. At the same instant we see the commercial part of the community, uniting in one common prayer to the House, that no partial considerations of policy may influence their decision on the important question before them; but that the faith, honour and interest of the nation, may be preserved by making necessary provisions for carrying the treaty into fair and honourable effect. In Philadelphia and New-York, the number of petitioners is greater than was ever known on any former occasion. In this town, a memorial was set on foot yesterday morning, and last evening we were told, that the subscribers amounted to one thousand.

The meeting at Salem yesterday, was generally attended, although the warrant for it was not granted until nine o'clock on Thursday evening: near five hundred citizens assembled, of whom only four dissented to the first vote, which was to present a memorial to the House of Representatives to carry the treaty with Great-Britain into full and honourable effect. The number expected to sign the memorial will be near 700.

### NEW-YORK, April 25.

On Monday arrived at Newport the British frigate Thetis, Capt. Cochran, from a cruise. We learn that two American seamen have been discharged from her.

Affairs at Philadelphia are rather gloomy. Witness the following extract of a letter from a person of character and information in Philadelphia, dated the 21st inst.

"The men in trade and navigation have almost all signed the petition to the House, for carrying the treaty into effect. Great exertions have been made in the vicinity of the city, to gain signers against the treaty. In the Northern Liberties two houses have been kept open as places of rendezvous, designated by a French and American flag; and among the most active persons employed to collect signatures, is a Mr. Barrere, who was Genet's agent here.

"All as yet goes swimmingly for the opposition. Findley yesterday intimated the expediency of a non-importation of British manufactures. If the treaty is defeated, the House of Representatives will renew the projects of 1793, and we shall, probably, see resolutions for suspending intercourse with G. Britain, sequestrating British debts, &c. &c."

The memorial sent to Congress from this city, requesting the treaty may be carried into effect, is signed

by three thousand two hundred and eighty-six names. These names represent undoubtedly most of the property of the city.

Extract of a letter from Hartford, dated the 21st inst. to a merchant in this town.

"This day there was a very full meeting of the inhabitants of this town relative to the treaty with Great-Britain. A memorial to Congress for granting the appropriations for carrying the treaty into effect, was unanimously agreed to—in fact there were but three dissenting voices. You may rest assured, that seven-eighths of the people this way, are in favour of its being honourably fulfilled."

The following is an extract of a letter from Boston, dated April 22.

"This goes by an express which is employed to carry a memorial to Congress in favour of carrying the treaty into effect, signed by eleven hundred and fifty-seven citizens of this town, who are proprietors of at least nine-tenths of all the navigation in it.—Business is at a stand—the stores are all neglected to attend to what is deemed all important to the well being of our country."

Extracts of letters from a commercial town in Connecticut, dated April 21st.

"The merchants and traders here have had a meeting on the subject of the present critical situation of public affairs, and have, with great unanimity, agreed to a memorial to Congress, requesting that no considerations of partial policy may prevent the execution of the treaty with Great-Britain.—This day a town-meeting will be held, and I have no doubt will unanimously express their sentiments with that spirit and energy which the state of affairs requires. The Leaders of the House of Representatives are universally execrated. Rarely, if ever, has the public mind been so much agitated. The memorial of the merchants goes by the present mail.

"I have long been of opinion that the clashing interests and discordant views of the Northern and Southern states threaten a division. The northern states, as far as Maryland, are distinguished for habits of industry, for mercantile punctuality and credit. The southern states are less proud of a commercial character, and the mode of cultivating their lands, renders a large portion of their people indolent and extravagant; consequently they are and must be involved in debt. The effect of these opposite habits, is as might be expected—the northern states have a high commercial character abroad, which they are ambitious to maintain—the southern states are perpetually in arrears—their reputation for commercial punctuality is low, and they are striving, on frivolous pretences, to suspend payment of their debts. This defrauds the creditors and increases the evils of the debtors.

"It is, I conceive, not possible for those opposite habits to be reconciled to the same system of legislation. It appears to me that nature never intended the northern and southern states to be long united—but sure I am, that habits and the state of society in each extremity, absolutely forbid that union. The union has hitherto been maintained by a spirit of accommodation merely—a spirit that is forever liable to be dissipated by the interference of local interests.

"This spirit of concession is obvious in the rule of the constitution apportioning the representation.—On this principle alone the northern states consented to have three-fifths of the slaves represented—a thing unreasonable in itself—for slaves are considered as chattels, and ought no more to constitute the basis of representation than horses. If slaves are considered as a portion of the body politic, they ought all to be represented—but as they have none of the rights of electors, none of them ought to be represented. The very article of the constitution, which allows only a part of the slaves to be represented, is a proof therefore that none of them ought to be.—Yet three-fifths of the slaves of the southern states, beginning with Maryland, give ten representatives—all the slaves of the northern states do not give one.

"If the whites alone were represented, as they ought to be, the population of the northern states, including Pennsylvania, would give 57 members—the states to the southward, about 40 or 39.

"If we take commerce as a rule, it will give as great or greater proportion of representatives.—Two-thirds of the exports of the United States, the last year, were from the northern ports, viz. 22 millions out of 48. In every point of view the sacrifices of the northern states are great, and they are such that a little more obstinacy on the part of the southern members, will destroy the spirit of conciliation which induced them.

"The northern states, I presume, and I am sure the eastern states, were never more unanimous on any subject of great political consequence, than on that of the treaty—and if the House of Representatives persist in violating it, it is believed here that a Congress of the northern states will be requested, for the purpose of maintaining neutrality and preserving their public faith."

By the arrivals from London and Bristol on Saturday, we have London papers to March 16, which furnish a variety of information. The most agreeable account is, some prospect of peace. The only ground of this expectation is, that some ministerial papers announce from high authority that negotiations are on the carpet between G. Britain & France.

The ship Sceptre, of 64 guns, and the Crescent, are ordered to convoy nine sail of transports, with

the 78th regiment and a detachment of artillery, to the Cape of Good-Hope.

Five new ships of the line and two frigates, are ordered to be built under the inspection of a French refugee from Toulon.

The news of the employment of dogs from the Havana to hunt down the Maroons in Jamaica, excited much repentment and severe animadversions in the House of Commons. This conduct was compared to that of the first Spanish settlers, whose barbarous treatment excited universal horror.

But, aside of custom, what is the real difference in point of humanity, between setting dogs to tear men to pieces, and ordering men to shoot them?

Late London papers assert, and a gentleman who has passed through England the winter past confirms the account, that there is no real scarcity of wheat in that country. The scarcity is artificial—created by the farmers, who keep back their grain, while the price is rising, or by combinations for speculation. There is doubtless much truth in this account.

The forced loan in France has had good success. The Directory has stated that ten milliards, one fourth of the assignats in circulation, are withdrawn from circulation.

A French paper, under date of Feb. 20th, announces that Mr. Adet is recalled from the United States, and is to be succeeded by Mr. Fantano, of Bourdeaux.

Mr. Liston, the English Minister to the United States, has taken leave of his court, and is on his way.

The Austrian armies are 200,000 strong upon the Rhine.

Prince Hohenloe has written a letter to the Editor of the Frankfort Gazette, to correct some misstatements, in which he gives very good advice.—He says, "Gazettes, in general should say only what has happened without hazarding conjectures."

A great improvement may be expected in the agriculture of England, in consequence of the bill inclosing commons and dividing waste lands, introduced into Parliament by Sir John Sinclair.

The Directory of France have, in pursuance of constitutional powers, levelled a terrible blow at the Jacobins and Royalists, by shutting up all the rooms where the new clubs used to assemble. It is found in France that these clubs are the centres of intrigue, for anarchists and royalists—both resort to the same means. It is there as here, men who are opposed to the existing constitution, collect as many people together as they can deceive, and by various arts persuade them to second their views of ambition, and all under the cloak of patriotism.

One Tauferer has been detected spreading French principles in the heart of Germany and in Italy.

In the court of the King's Bench, one Jeffries has recovered of the commissioners for discharging the Prince of Wales debts, the sum of 50,997l. sterling for jewels furnished for the Princess of Wales wedding.

His Britannic Majesty has appointed David Thornton, Esq. to be his Secretary of Legation to the United States.

His Majesty has made the following promotions of flag-officers, viz.

Admiral Earl Howe to be Admiral of the Fleet—Vice Admiral Forbes, deceased.

Admiral Lord Bridport to be Vice-Admiral of England—vice Earl Howe.

And the Honourable Vice-Admiral Cornwallis to be Rear-Admiral of England—vice Lord Bridport.

The following Letter from an American of information in London to his brother in this city, contains many interesting ideas.

"London, Dec. 30, 1795.

"My dear Brother,  
"With respect to the state of public affairs in America, we are at present in a state of suspense, which is unpleasant enough. Much will depend upon the proceedings of Congress at this time, and I confess the western political sky looks rather more lowering than I could wish.

"There is nothing very remarkable in the present situation of European politics. There have been recently some symptoms of an approximation towards a peace; but little dependance is to be placed upon them. Before the close of the season, all the parties at war will be in great want of bread, and I do not know but they will drain it off from America, even beyond what we could wish. But in a national point of view, the advantages of neutrality are increasing in geometrical proportion to the United States. In the course of the year now expiring it has given us peace with the Indians, peace with Algiers, and a treaty with Spain.—Let the Mediterranean be fairly opened to our Commerce, and the consequences will soon be felt in respect to other branches of trade. In this country the restrictive system is already gasping, and will be forced to yield for a time, at least, to necessity. But there seem to be people in America, who are not enough aware of all these things, or who think like Mandeville, that national happiness and virtue are inseparably connected with national weakness and poverty.

"The neutrality of the present time has not only produced an unexampled course of prosperity, during the period itself, but has laid the foundation for a series of advantages, which I cannot imagine that madness itself would throw away. Our politi-