

The mistaken notions on the subject which have unfortunately found their way even among persons of the highest respectability, only, as I am convinced, from their having been misinformed.

MR. MORROW TO MR. FOSTER.

Department of State, Jan. 9, 1812.

Sir—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 28th ult. disavowing any agency of your government in the hostile measures of the Indian tribes towards the United States. If the Indians desired any encouragement from any persons in those measures of hostility, it is very satisfactory to the President to receive from you an assurance that no authority or countenance was given to them by the British government.

Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, January 13.

The Speaker laid before the House the protest of two members of the Legislature of the Indiana territory against the admission of that territory into the Union. Referred to the select committee to whom the memorials on this subject had been referred.

On motion of Mr. Pickens, it was resolved, that a committee be appointed to enquire whether any and what alterations are necessary to be made in the act or acts concerning Consuls or Vice-Consuls, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Williams, from the committee on the subject, reported the bill from the Senate, establishing a Quarter-master's Department, with amendments, which was committed.

Mr. Little called up his resolution respecting captures made by Great Britain of American vessels and property; but an amendment being moved to add "and any other government," some debate ensued, which was interrupted by

Mr. Porter, who said, though the information which this resolution called for was desirable, he thought a discussion upon it, ought not to prevent a progress with more important public business. He hoped, therefore, the resolution would be suffered to lie upon the table for the present, and that the House would take up the bill authorising the President to accept of a volunteer corps.

The motion was carried, and the house accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole on said bill, when, after considerable debate, the committee rose and reported the amendatory bill with amendments. So that the corps, as the bill now stands, will be a volunteer militia corps, the officers being appointed by the several States.

Tuesday, January 14.

Mr. Dexter presented a representation from the court, bar and jury, who were present at the time Judge Toulmin was presented at the Superior Court of Baldwin County, stating that there was not any good ground for said presentation. Referred.

Mr. Rhea moved that the select committee, to whom was referred the presentation against Judge Toulmin, be discharged from a further consideration of the subject, as every member who had heard the representation read to the House this morning, must be convinced that the charges made against that gentleman were entirely without foundation; and that he had acted the part of an upright man.

Mr. Poindexter was of opinion that the charges brought against the Judge were not only unfounded, but that they proceeded from corruption; but he hoped the committee would not be discharged, as he had received a letter from the Judge, in which he says he shall be able to transmit such evidence as will convince every man that the charges have no foundation. He hoped, therefore, the papers would remain referred, that a report might be made upon the subject which would set the matter in a proper light to the world.

The House then took up the order of the day on the bill for authorising the President to accept of a volunteer corps; when, after a long debate, a question was taken on striking out the words *fifty thousand*, and inserting *twenty five thousand*, and negative 86 votes to 11. This motion was made by Mr. Bacon, with a view, if it was carried, of afterwards bringing in another bill providing for 25,000 other volunteers, to be commissioned by the President, for a short period—that the one force might be kept within the U. States, and the other sent without the United States.

The question was then taken on concurring with the committee of the whole on the amendments reported, which was carried by a large majority. It being late, the house adjourned without taking a question on the bill's being engrossed for a third reading.

Wednesday, January 15.

Mr. Condit understood a gentleman as saying, in the course of the debate which had lately taken place, when speaking of the impressment of our seamen by the British vessels of war, that had not our government asked too much they might have obtained redress. He therefore moved the following resolution, in order to get some information on the subject:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to furnish this House

with copies of the instructions heretofore given to our minister at London, on the subject of the impressment of American seamen to the naval service of G. Britain, excepting so much as it may be improper to disclose, on account of any impending negotiation.

Mr. Newton saw no necessity for this resolution, as he believed all the information which the Executive possessed on this subject, had been laid before congress and printed. He would mention one circumstance to shew, that the pretence which G. Britain makes for the impressment of our seamen is without foundation. Our right to naturalize foreigners is established by our constitution; and it is a late publication of that country, "Abbott on Shipping," be referred to, it will appear, that any foreigner who shall remain in the British navy three years, or marry a wife in England, shall become a subject of that country; so that while they make subjects of our citizens, they deny us the right of making citizens of their subjects.

Ordered to lie on the table. The House then took up the order of the day, viz. the bill authorising the President of the United States to accept of a volunteer corps. The whole day was occupied in debate. Several unsuccessful attempts were made to amend the bill. The House adjourned without taking the question on the bill's going to a third reading.

Thursday, January 16.

The Speaker laid before the House a Report from the Secretary of State, in obedience to a resolution of the 29th Nov. of American Seamen impressed into the service of Foreign Powers.

Also, a Report from the Secretary of War, in obedience to a resolution of the 19th December, of the capital employed in the Indian trade, the amount of annual purchases, the number of Agents employed, &c.—Ordered to be printed.

A message from the President of the United States on the subject of the contingent fund, stating that there had been expended therefrom \$3393 in taking possession of the territory bounded on the eastward by the river Perdido.

The House then took up the unfinished business of yesterday, viz. the bill authorising the President of the United States to accept of certain Volunteer Corps; and after two unsuccessful attempts to amend the bill, and some debate, the question was taken on the bill's being ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, and carried 96 to 25.—The Yeas and Nays were as follow:

YEAS—Messrs. Alston. Anderson. Baker. Bard. Bartlett. Basset. Bibb. Blackledge. Bleeker. Blount. Boyd. Breckenridge. Brown. Burwell. Butler. Calhoun. Cheves. Clay. Cochran. Clopton. Condit. Crawford. Davis. Dawson. DeSha. Dinwiddie. Earle. Emott. Findley. Franklin. Gholson. Gold. Green. Grundy. O. Hall. Harper. Hawes. Luffly. Hyneman. Johnson. Kent. King. Lacock. Little. Livingston. Lowndes. Lyke. Macon. Maxwell. Moore. M'Brade. M'Coy. M'Kee. Metcalf. Morgan. Morrow. Nelson. New. Newbold. Ormsby. Paulding. Pickens. Piper. Pond. Porter. Quincy. Reed. Ridgely. Ringgold. Rhea. Roane. Roberts. Rodman. Sage. Sammons. Seaver. Sevier. Shaw. Smilie. G. Smith. Stanford. Sullivan. Steward. Stow. Strong. Tallman. Talliaferro. Tracy. Troup. Turner. Van Cortlandt. Whitehill. Williams. Wigdery. Wilson. Wright.—96.

NAYS—Messrs. Archer. Bacon. Bigelow. Brigham. Champion. Chittenden. Davenport. Ely. Fisk. Fitch. B. Hall. Jackson. Key. Law. Lewis. Mosely. Pearson. Pitkin. Potter. Seybert. Sturges. Taggart. Tallmadge. Wheaton. White.—25.

The following message was received from the President of the United States, read, and ordered to be printed:—[See the first page of this paper.]

On motion of Mr. D. R. Williams, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill from the Senate, (for establishing a Quarter Master's Department) with the amendments recommended by the Army Committee, to whom it had been referred.

The bill, with the proposed amendments being gone through,

Mr. Williams said, he would, in a few words as he was able, explain the nature of the amendments which the select committee had recommended.—This bill, he said, was predicated on the destruction of the office of Purveyor or of Public Supplies, who is properly the Commissary General of the United States; and contemplates the establishment in its place, not only of a Quarter-master General for the U. States, but a Commissary General in the same person. In investigating this subject, the committee could see no reason for blending these two important offices in one, the duties of both which are important, perfectly distinct, and never were blended in any country in the world; and for this good reason, those officers are a check upon each other; one being the purchaser, and the other the distributor of supplies; whereas, if they were united in one person, frauds to any amount might be committed without the possibility of detection. Besides, it is necessary the Quarter-master General should be a military man; indeed his presence is at times required in the field, to distribute the supplies; whilst the Purveyor, or Commissary General, whose business it is to purchase supplies of every kind for the army, ought to be a man well acquainted with mercantile concerns.

After some objections from Messrs. Alston and Rhea, and some remarks in reply, from Messrs. Tallmadge & Findley, the amendments which went to keep up the Purveyor's office, were agreed to; and the committee rose and reported the bill. The House took it up and

conturred with the amendments, and ordered the bill to a third reading to-morrow.

Friday, January 17.

The bill authorising the President of the U. States to accept and organize certain volunteer corps, was read a third time and passed, 87 to 23. The yeas and nays were the same as upon the question of ordering the bill to be engrossed; except that some of the members who voted on the former question, were absent on this.

The bill for establishing a quarter-master's department, was read the third time, and after some objections, passed its third reading.

The House then went into a committee of the whole, on the bill concerning the naval establishment; when Mr. Cheves spoke for about two hours in support of the bill. A message having been received from the President of the United States, and the usual hour of adjournment being arrived, Mr. C. said, if it were agreeable to the committee, he would finish his observations to-morrow. The committee accordingly rose and had leave to sit again.

The following message from the President of the United States, was then read, and ordered to be printed:—[See the first page of this paper.]

Saturday, January 18.

Mr. Condit called for the consideration of his resolution, which was ordered to lie on the table, and objected to by Mr. Newton; of Virginia; on the ground that the President had communicated all the information on the subject of impressment, which he possessed. Mr. C. modified his resolution, so as to read "information not heretofore communicated," &c. Mr. N. then supported it, which was however lost.

Mr. C. offered a second resolution for the appointment of a committee to prepare and bring into one view such subject matter, which was agreed to.

The navy bill reported by Mr. Cheves was then taken up, and he concluded his remarks. Messrs. Seybert & M'Kee followed in debate, which consumed the whole of this day.—The committee rose, reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE ADDITIONAL ARMY.

The act for raising an additional Regular Force of twenty-five thousand men having now become a law, all predictions of its rejection having failed—the opposition have undertaken to excite distrust and jealousy by declaring the Cabinet, that is the Executive and Heads of Departments, to have been opposed to it. We apprehend these assertions to be as erroneous in this case, as the passage of this very law has proved their predictions to have been in another; and our belief is formed from circumstances as they have arisen to our view.

The President in his message to Congress at the commencement of the session, as was his duty, exhibited to the assembled People his views of public affairs; in doing which, he went as far as he could with propriety in addressing himself to a Legislative Body. He expressed his conviction of the necessity of a change of attitude, leading to more energetic and decisive measures. The opinion of the Executive, as indicated by the tenor of his message, cannot be, nor has it been, mistaken. His voice was for War, the last resort of Republics as well as Kings, to enforce our rights and avenge our wrongs.

In the face of this public manifestation of the views of the Executive, confirmed and supported as it is by his reply to the address of the Legislature of Tennessee, and his more recent message to Congress, we are told, that a smaller force than 25,000 men, would in the President's opinion have been sufficient to meet the present exigency therefore he was inimical to the law as it passed. Let us admit for argument sake, that in the opinion of the President a smaller regular force would have been sufficient. We should suppose, that the Executive, having a specific object in view, had also formed an opinion as to the quantum of force which would be necessary to execute it. The exigency peculiarly requiring celerity of movement, of course that species of force ought to be employed which can be most speedily & readily raised. It appears to us, a volunteer force is of that description which can be most easily raised, and may be most relied on for immediate service; and that although a certain regular force would be necessary to follow up the operations commenced by the volunteers, the latter may at first be advantageously employed. The regular force necessary would of course be the smaller, in proportion to the amount of volunteer force to be employed. Ten thousand men, the number said to have been desired by the Executive, we should have deemed, in this view, to have been amply sufficient; and as it was probably a great number as could be enlisted in any reasonable time, (for we trust volunteers would be attracted in much greater numbers by the American standard alone, than regulars would be by the recruiting drum and file,) the authorization of a larger number did appear to us unnecessary, and calculated to produce no other effect than to fatten on the public purse a vast corps of officers

without men to command or services to perform. But it was not for the Executive to designate the force necessary.—It was for another department of the Government, which has performed its duty, according to the dictates of its judgment; and in the same spirit in which it was authorized, we have no doubt it will be employed in the service of the country as advantageously as possible.

But it has been insinuated in some prints, because the Executive did not require so large a force, that an indisposition was shewn to follow up the sentiments expressed in the message by correspondent measures. There always have been, and always will be, in government, as in society, men who are disposed to set up their own judgment as the standard of infallibility; and to such men, a difference in opinion from them may appear to be political heresy. But, addressing ourselves to the reason, not the passions of men, we ask whether there be the slightest ground for the imputation? On a reference to the message which is the basis of the measures adopted and in agitation we see volunteers, militia and regulars expressly and distinctly recommended. Having a regard to the detachment of militia and enrolment of volunteers a certain regular force is thought sufficient by the Executive. The Legislature, desirous of simply strengthening the Executive arm, authorise a greater force. The law for that purpose, without the least delay, receives the sanction of the Executive, who, if he wished not for so large a force, hesitates not for a moment to yield his opinion to that of the Legislature.—Nay, more, he takes occasion, in a message subsequent to the passage of that law, to enforce his former recommendation to make adequate preparations for the support of our rights.

With the Legislature, where it ought to be, not the Executive, now rests the responsibility; and to them their constituents do anxiously look for the adoption of such measures as the times call for—measures, the necessity for which every friend to his country deprecates; but which, once commenced, must be vigorously prosecuted to their completion.

From an unity of sentiment in all branches of the government, we may expect efficacy of action. Without it our chain of measures will prove a rope of sand. Let those, then, be regarded with Argus eyes, was seek to sow distrust and disunion, to array one department of the government against the other, and scatter dissension in our public councils.

Domestic Intelligence.

New-York, January 4.

Humanity!—The ship Alkomaac, Capt. Hicks, from Sligo, was cast on shore on Martha's Vineyard, about the middle of December last. Commodore Rodgers, in the President, on a cruise, made a harbor there the same evening; and to his credit be it said—and particularly by Irishmen be it ever remembered—he generously gave the passengers, in number 80, two dollars each, and also offered them any further assistance they might require until they arrived at N. York, their port of destination. The gratitude of some of the passengers induced them, immediately on their arrival, to acquaint the subscriber with the circumstances; and never did he give publicity to an act of humanity and good will with more satisfaction.

R. MULLANY.

Extract of a letter to the Editor of the Aurora dated "Washington, Miss. Dec. 20, 1811.

"Orders have been just received here by Col. Simonds, who commands at this cantonment, to move with the troops under his command to Baton Rouge. Whatever may be the motives for this movement, conjecture is afloat, and each anticipates what he most wishes.—Some say that a force is expected in Florida by sea, whether from Europe or the West-Indies is not said, but such is the impression with some—others, however, suppose that the force is to proceed to occupy the territory to the margin of the Perdido, and to occupy the fort of Mobile. The Spanish troops that were at Pentacola, having erected some strong works on an island in the bay. Should any foreign force be landed, we are committed and must drive them off."

Extract of another letter, dated

"Washington, Cantonment, Dec. 22.

"Our force here received orders the day before yesterday to proceed without delay for Baton Rouge. Col. Simonds, who commands, has detached 100 men, under a captain and subaltern, for Natchez, to prepare transports for our reception. All I can learn is that the troops are not to remain at Baton Rouge. The orders came from General Hampton.

Extract of a letter from a federal gentleman of the first respectability in New-Hampshire, to a member of Congress, dated Jan. 16, 1812.

"We have, some days ago received the decisions of Congress, on the several resolutions reported by the committee of foreign relations. There appears to be a greater degree of unanimity in the national legislature on this occasion than I have observed on any important question, since the conclusion of the revolutionary war.

"I believe that if our government will take that attitude with respect to both of the

great belligerents, that is necessary to maintain our national character and independence, they will be supported by every well wisher to his country.

"There is no doubt but that Upper Canada, and that part of Lower Canada, lying south of Quebec, in the event of a war with G. Britain, would fall into our hands in a single campaign—Quebec is very strong, both by nature and art, and could not be reduced but by a regular siege, which would probably be of long continuance, as the British would be able by means of their navy to reinforce the garrison in the summer months, and in winter the severity of the weather is such that nothing could be effected by a besieging army. Canada exports to Great-Britain, furs, peltries, lumber and pot ashes, to a large amount—to the British West-India islands flour, pork, beef and staves, and receives in return English manufactured goods, and the produce of the West-India Islands. The furs and peltries pay a heavy duty into the British treasury—and on the greater part of the other Canadian exports, and on all their imports, a considerable duty is levied.

"The loss of Canada, to the manufacturers, and the ship-owners in G. Britain engaged in that trade, would be severely felt, and would be ruinous to the West India Islands, who in a time of war with the United States, would be cut off from those supplies of provisions, &c. indispensable to their existence. Still a war with G. Britain is to be deprecated—She can inflict upon us, in war greater injuries than any other nation, and in peace, her trade with us is of great importance.

"I have no confidence in her enemy—his views are to make us, as well as all other nations, subservient to his ambition. Should we take Canada from Great-Britain, in the event of a general peace, Bonaparte would probably agree to use his influence with us, that it should be returned to G. Britain, as an equivalent for his W. India Islands, or for the Cape of Good Hope—or G. Britain might part with her title to Canada to France, and retain the conquered Islands. In all treaties, the interests of the weaker party are sacrificed. However notwithstanding all the gloomy prospects that attend war in the present state of the world, if there is no alternative but that of submission, my voice is for war."

GOV. GERRY'S SPEECH

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

An official interview of the delegated friends of the People, assembled here in various capacities, to promote their general and individual happiness, cannot fail to inspire us with an ardent desire to attain those important objects, and with a firm determination, in the pursuit, to be guided by candor, justice and unbiassed deliberation.

To divest our minds of party principles and feelings, ever productive of public and private calamity; to trace the streams of contention to their morbid fountain, and to liberate from them our happy clime, are indispensable duties. And shall we not, by a faithful discharge of them, render abortive the illusive attempts of foreign influence in domestic guise, to excite to phrenzy our brave Republican and Federal brethren, who in the Revolutionary War, were united by sincere friendship, and who never have had reason for dissolving it—to urge them to sheath their swords in the generous bosoms of each other, and to render them alternately, their own criminal executioners—lest, when called on by their country, they again may act in union, avenge her cause, and repel her haughty & unjust foes?

What are the causes of our public dissensions? Let us ascertain them, and apply a remedy. It may require a full view of the subject, but will render them of the most essential service to our country.

When, as colonists, our charter rights were infringed, and a political connection with Great Britain was no longer compatible with the public safety, we united in a common cause, and determined to die or to be free—We drew the sword, and threw away the scabbard. The conflict was with a SOVEREIGN, who had injured us too much to forgive us. The GOD of Justice commanded our armies and crowned them with victory.

Congress, placed by Divine Providence on untrodden ground, attempted, at an early period a national constitution. This was in the form of the confederation. It was a feeble chain—too feeble to preserve the Union.

At the time when that project was formed, the patriotic officers of our army, unrivalled in merit, but ill requited for their services, extended their views to hereditary honors. A proposition to this effect, was presented to the Commander in Chief. He had recently received the plan of the Confederation; which to them was then unknown, and which precluded that measure. Justice demanded a generous reward for the officers, and Congress decreed it.—This was unavoidably discharged by unfunded paper. It depreciated to an extreme, and did not remunerate the officers. They again soared to rewards of honor, established the order of the Cincinnati, and it was alarming to the States. To quiet these; alterations were proposed, but failed of adoption. The States view-