

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1813.

No 215

## CONGRESS.

## IN SENATE.

Monday, May 24.

At twelve o'clock, Lebridge Gerry, Esq., the Vice-President of the United States, took his seat.

On calling over the roll, it appeared that there were twenty five members present, viz.

New Hampshire. Nicholas Gilman, Chas. C. Smith.

Massachusetts. Joseph B. Varnum.

Connecticut. Samuel W. Dana, David Dag-

Rhode Island. William Hunter, Jeremiah B. Bowler.

Vermont. Jonathan Robinson, Dudley Chase.

New Jersey. John Lambert.

Pennsylvania. Michael Lieb, Abner La-

Delaware. Outerbridge Horsey.

North Carolina. James Turner, David

South Carolina. John Taylor, John Gail-

land.

Georgia. Charles Tait, William B. Bul-

lock.

Tennessee. Joseph Anderson, George W.

Campbell.

Ohio. Thomas Worthington, Jeremiah

Morrow.

Louisiana. James Brown.

Kentucky. Jesse Bledsoe.

The Vice-President then rose and

delivered the following

## ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the Senate—

Our fellow-citizens, in the free

exercise of their constitutional authori-

ties, having been pleased to honor the

person addressing you, with this distin-

guished station, have conferred on him

an indispensable obligation to meet their

just expectations. To attain this desir-

able object, and to preside over this

honorable body in conformity to their

magnanimity and dignity, which at all

times have been conspicuous, will be

his primary pursuit. Whilst the con-

stitution has invested him with Legis-

lative and Executive powers, in cases

only that are casual, to the decisions of

these it has attached a great responsi-

bility; in anticipating which and his

other duties, he has the pleasing pros-

pect of reposing on your liberality and

candor. But in this high and influ-

ential branch of the government, such

unanimity should prevail as to decide

for themselves every question of policy,

the example will still increase their lu-

cre and add to his happiness.

It is a subject of cordial congratula-

tion, that the liberties of the people in

so great a degree rest on that wisdom

and fortitude, which mark the charac-

ters of the exalted personage who fills

the Supreme Executive, of the digni-

fied members who constitute the Na-

tional Legislature, and of the eminent

officers who direct the Ministerial De-

partments. Public virtues, emulated

by few governments, need no encomi-

ast. Fidelity and integrity, unsubdu-

ed by the severest ordeals and presig-

ing to public calamities a favorable

issue, will be ever held in high estima-

tion; whilst a government, so vigilantly

faithful to its trust, and measures

which merit the highest applause, have

a just claim to the public support.

The present epoch is momentous

and leads to observations which would

not occur on ordinary occasions.

Our country is again involved in a

anguinary conflict, the issue of which,

in the estimation of the enemy, is to de-

termine, whether the republican system

adopted by the people is imbecile and

transient, or whether it has force and

duration worthy of the enterprise. That

it can never fail whilst they are true to

their interests, is beyond doubt. And

it is not equally so, that they will never

desert the government of their choice,

or attach themselves to a foreign domi-

nation, from which, under the benign

smiles of Divine Providence, they have

been lately by their own valor emancipated

themselves? Can they need arguments

to convince them, that in proportion to

the purity of republican governments,

have ever been the reproaches and ef-

forts for overthrowing them, by imper-

ious sovereigns who once ruled them?

"To divide and to conquer," have

long been the objects of the enemy. He

has presumed on his own arts; and on

impotency in our system of govern-

ments; but in both instances he will

be convinced of his error. The people

and constituted authorities of the

several states, those great pillars of our

confederate system, numerous as they

are and inevitably discordant in some of

their interests, have evinced in various

ways, a firm determination, to support

the interior frontier states, where

the territorial war commenced and con-

tinues, assailed by innumerable diffi-

culties, have surmounted them, and by

their unanimity and Spartan valor are

establishing for themselves immortal

honor. Through the extensive wilds

of our military operations, some of

these as in all wars, have been success-

ful, and others unfortunate. But to

whatever causes the latter may be im-

puted, they never can be imputed to those

heroic officers or privates of the army

or of the militia, who have bravely com-

bated the enemy; and of whom, some

have been crowned with laurels, others

have submitted to irresistible misfor-

tunes, and many have nobly fallen, en-

shrined with glory. The Atlantic states

have repelled with magnanimity mari-

time invasions, and have also given

proofs of their patriotic ardor, by con-

quests on the ocean. Their enterpris-

es and victories have been sources of

national triumph and renown. Are not

our officers and mariners, in naval com-

bats, unrivalled by fame? Have they

not presented infallible securities for sig-

naling themselves on great occasions?

How vain then is the hope of division

or conquest? Does the enemy expect,

by burning defenceless towns and villa-

ges, to promote his views? Such con-

duct may entail on the nation which

sanctions it eternal infamy, but can ne-

ver subdue the elevated souls of our

brave fellow-citizens; or even depress

the sublime minds of our innocent fair,

of the ornaments of our country; who

amidst the unmerited distresses inflict-

ed on them and their tender offspring

by a merciless foe, will soar above sym-

pathy, and claim the just tribute of uni-

versal admiration and applause.

Whilst the Executive, in the full ex-

ercise of his authority, is left to test the

sincerity of pacific overtures, it is a hap-

py circumstance, that the United States,

at all times desirous of an honorable

peace, and superintended by an officer

whose capacious mind embraces, and

whose patriotic fervor will pursue

every interest of his country, thus meet

with ardor an indispensable war. Is

not their power a pledge that they can,

and their sacred honor that they will

with intrepidity maintain the conflict?

They demand justice; and can they

relinquish it, without a surrender of

their sovereignty?

Great Britain is in collision with her

best customers, and once her commer-

cial friends, who had viewed peace as a

mutual blessing; and who by their mo-

deration had preserved it, until neces-

sity has pointed to a different line of

conduct. They had annually sent to her

their productions, and specie to a vast

amount, had thus employed her me-

chanics, purchased her manufactures,

extended her commerce, and become a

great source of her national wealth.

Hence her zealous and persevering op-

position to their commercial restraints,

representing (in high strains) their

great injury to the country; but pre-

serving silence on a most important

point, their destructive effects on her

own manufactures and commerce.

The United States are now her en-

emy, and it is not easy to foresee, that if

the war should continue, the Canadas

will be rendered independent of her;

and as friends or allies to the U. States

national government; nor (excepting

in two instances) state governments;

nor the knowledge either of military or

of naval tactics? Will he not also re-

member, that Great Britain was then in

the zenith of her power; that neighbor-

ing nations trembled at her nod; that

the colonies were under her controul;

that her crown officers opposed every

mean for resisting her; excited amongst

the colonial governments, (over which

they presided) unfounded jealousies of

each other, and embarrassed every mea-

sure for their union; that she was load-

ed with less than a fifth of her present

national debt; that she was then at

peace with all the world, and that she

is now at war with a great part of Eu-

rope, as well as with the United States?

If Great Britain herself reflects on these

things, will she not relinquish her vain

attempts to awe the citizens of the U.

States, by exaggerated statements of

her military and naval power—or by de-

lusive views of their unprepared state

for a war; of the great expence of it;

and of the difficulties they are to encoun-

ter, in defence of all that is valuable to

men? If, in lieu of fruitless artifices,

she will make rational and equitable ar-

rangements, which the government of

the United States have been always re-

ady to meet, can there be a doubt that

the two nations will be speedily resto-

red to their wonted friendship and com-

merce?

Your fellow-citizen, with sensations

which can more easily be conceived

than expressed, perceives that there

are in the government many of his for-

mer friends and co-patriots, with whom

he has often co-operated in the perilous

concerns of his country; and with un-

feigned pleasure he will meet the other

public functionaries, whose acknowl-

ed abilities and public services in like

manner claim his high consideration

and respect. With a sacred regard to

the rights of every department and of-

ficer of government, and with a respect-

ful deference to their political princi-

ples and opinions, he has frankly de-

clared his own; for to have concealed

them at a crisis like this, might have

savored too much of a deficiency of

candor.

And may that Omnipotent Being

who with infinite wisdom and justice su-

perintends the destinies of nations, con-

firm the heroic patriotism which has

glowed in the breasts of the national

rulers, and convince the enemy, that

whilst a disposition to peace, on equi-

table and honorable terms, will ever pre-

vail in their public councils, one spirit,

animated by the love of country, will

inspire every department of the nation-

al government.

E. GERRY.

Washington, 24th May, 1813.

The usual preparatory orders were

then adopted, and the Senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Precisely at twelve o'clock, the late

Clerk of the House of Representatives

called to order the members of the

House of Representatives present in the

Hall; and the roll of the members was

called over by states, when it appeared

148 members had answered to their

names, viz.

From New Hampshire—Daniel Webster,

Alley Bradbury, Wm. Hale, Samuel Smith,

Roger Vose, Jeduthum Wilcox.

Massachusetts—Levi Hubbard, Artemas

Ward, Timothy Pickering, Wm. Reid, John

Reid, Samuel Taggart, William Ely, Abijah

Bigelow, Elijah Brigham, Laban Wheaton,

Wm. Baylies, Nath. Ruggles, John Reid, Cy-

rus King, Geo. Bradbury, Sam. Davis, John

Wilson.

Connecticut—Benj. Tallmadge, Timothy

Pitkin, Lewis B. Sturges, L. Law, Jonathan

O. Mosely, Epaphroditus Champion, John

Davenport.

Rhode Island—Richard Jackson, Elisha R.

Potter.

Vermont—James Fisk, Ezra Butler, Chas.

Rich, Rich. Skinner.

New York—Ebenezer Sage, John Lefferts,

Jonathan Fisk, E. Benson, Thos. J. Oakley,

T. P. Grosvenor, Sam. Sherwood, J. Lovett,

Hosea Moffitt, J. W. Taylor, Zebulon B.

Shepherd, E. J. Winter, Jacob Munkill, Joel

Thompson, Morris S. Miller, Wm. S. Smith,

Moss Kent, James Geddes, Samuel W. Hop-

kins, O. C. Comstock, Peter de Noyelles, Dan-

iel Avery.

New Jersey—J. Huffy, L. Condit, — Ward,

B. C. Stockton.

Pennsylvania—R. Brown, Jon. Roberts, S.

D. Ingham, Wm. Crawford, Wm. Piper, D.

Hard, Wm. Findley, J. Whitehill, Adam Sey-

bert, Wm. Anderson, C. J. Ingersoll, J. Con-

ard, R. Davis, A. Tannehill, Isaac Smith, J.

Irwin, A. Lytle, J. Glominger, J. Griffin.

Maryland—P. Stuart, Stevenson Archer,

Robt. Wright, Jos. Kent, S. Kinggold, Alex.

M'Kim.

Virginia—John W. Eppes, Thos. Newton,

J. F. Rutherford, Jos. Lewis, T. M. Bayley,

Jno. Dawson, Thos. Gholson, Peterson Good-

wyn, William M'Coey, John Clopton, Francis

White, Wm. A. Burwell, Hugh Nelson, Jas.

Pleasants, Aylet Hawes, John Roane, J.

Breckinridge, H. Caperton, J. Kerr, John