Eastern Shore REPUBLICAN STAR OR General Advertiser.

EASTON—(MARYLAND) Printed and Published every *Tuesday Morning*, by THOMAS PERRIN SMITH, Printer of the LAWS of the UNITED STATES.

[VOL. 6....9.] TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1808. [NO. 26.....442]

THE TERMS OF THE *REPUBLICAN STAR* ARE TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS per annum, payable half yearly IN ADVANCE: No paper can be discontinued until the same is paid for.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE inserted *three weeks* for ONE DOLLAR, and continued *weekly*, for TWENTY FIVE CENTS per square.

FOR THE STAR.

COLUMBUS, No. II.

On the present situation of the United States, as regards her dependence upon England; and the consequences of an EMBARGO.

It has ever been found, fellow-citizens, that speculative reasonings are weak and inconducive, when opposed to the prevailing prejudices or passions of a nation. There is something so bewitching in luxury and idleness, that nothing short of hard necessity can banish them; perhaps this great reformer is not far distant, when a man sees his fellow-citizens posting to destruction—when he sees them attempt to mortgage their whole estate for a whistle and bells—he comforts himself that the race is nearly run. It was not sufficient that the whole produce of our country during the last thirty years has been exchanged for foreign luxuries; nearly all the hard money that could be collected was also exported, and we are now of specie nearly as poor and pennyless as Tartars. I have for some time looked for those marks of political virtue, those proofs of self-denial, which produced the revolution. I have expected to see associations formed by gentlemen in the several states for promoting American manufactures, and assisted by the legislature. For as soon as we can make our own clothes, and our own arms, we shall be perfectly independent; surely the man who is clothed in American manufactures, which he wears for the sake of enriching his native country, and relieving his fellow-citizens, may be allowed to have some claims to patriotism, which is the most honorable garb that can be worn.

In the city of Baltimore, to their great praise be it said, Messrs. William Patterson, and Isaac Burneston, have undertaken to establish a cotton and woollen manufactory. Their present avowed object, is to give employ to poor persons within the city, who might during the distresses of a suspension of trade, otherwise, starve and perish. This object alone would entitle them to the highest praise: but when we consider the good, the example may ultimately produce their country, in this voluntary contribution to her independence, I feel a difficulty in expressing my joy, that there are some men among us of wealth, who are ready to use a part of it, for patriotic and philantropic purposes. These gentlemen have been fortunate enough to engage a Mr. White, an old English manufacturer, of much knowledge, experience and merit, to superintend and conduct their works. Mr. White, if my informant is correct, has been for many years endeavoring to get to this country; in attempting to come here he has once or twice met with smart losses; at length, last summer he succeeded, being obliged to leave behind him the most valuable, (to us) part of his property—his *machinery*. This however his ingenuity will soon replace, if his life should be protracted a little longer: It is to be lamented that this useful man is far advanced in years.

How much happier would it be for this country, if all foreigners, were as useful as Mr. White; but unfortunately for us, a large proportion of them, are agents, emissaries or inherent royalists; either sent here to defame the government, and produce discord and disunion among her citizens; or come here voluntarily to make a *fortune;* (as they go to the East-Indies) and bring with them, all the hatred to republicanism and liberty, that their royal master himself possesses. So numerous are these classes of foreigners among us, particularly in our large sea-port towns, that on some occasions, when they want to carry a particular point by stratagem, they rise in a body and swear their attachment to America and her true interests!—And some few of our citizens poor silly fools! believe them; forget that they have been *uniformly until just now*, the revilers and haters of the government and soil, that affords them protection and wealth. Reflecting men never place implicit confidence in oaths, imprecations and professions alone: they look back to actions, to the uniform tenor of conduct; and if they find them to be in direct hostility and opposition to the present professions; they know how to appreciate them.

While we are considering of the various means by which our fellow citizens may be relieved from a dependence upon England, and consequently a scarcity of money, the subject of dress, claims our particular attention. Our interest and our honour are united in recommending a national dress. National prejudices are useful: they attach people to those of their own country, and induce them to assist one another. In most cases a national language answers the purpose of distinction: but we have the misfortune of speaking the same language with a nation, who, of *all people in Europe*, have given, and continue to give us fewest proofs of love. We do not, count it an honor to imitate the forms of government that prevail in Europe—why should we think it honorable to imitate the fashion of their coats! "O imitatore; servile pecus!" Why should we imitate the dress of a man from London, more than of a man from Ispahan Pekin, or Constantinople?—Surely we do not mean this as a mark of homage to a Briton—nor do we pay it as a tribute, though it renders us tributary.

We do not mean to acknowledge that Britons are superior to ourselves in every thing, whence we should imitate and strive to copy them. How, then are we to account for this sycophantism?—Though it was profitable, we are placed thereby in a point of view so humiliating, and so offensive to the common feelings of man, that we ought to break the fetters, and give another proof that Americans will be free. But since the imitations of English fashions cannot cost the United States less than nearly three millions of pounds sterling more than their exported produce, &c. amounts to—Every argument from economy as well as pride seems to recommend a national dress. What would be the best form of a national dress from head to foot—a dress to be adopted and persevered in? This question may possibly be answered by some person who may attempt the change. If a few respectable citizens in every state should undertake the change, beyond doubt it would soon become universal.

The measures to which I have referred above, would certainly, I think produce the effect desirable: but they are rather to be affected by the spirit of the nation, perhaps, than by legislative interposition. They are rather to be affected by voluntary patriotic associations, than by express and particular statutes. It is impossible to tell where any salutary measure of this sort is to have its beginning: but as the amendment in question will doubtless be produced by the combination of sundry causes, I should naturally expect that some of the eastern states would give us the example. Not because the citizens of those states, are at this time distinguished by the frugality of their dress; for we believe that no people in the United States have sought more gredily to ruin themselves by the luxury of dress, than some of the inhabitants of the eastern states. Nor is it because the tradesmen or mechanics in those states have any particular claim to patriotism, if it be true, as had been reported, that as soon as the legislature of Massachusetts, many years ago, had imposed a heavy tax on certain imported goods to encourage the manufacture of similar articles at home, the mechanics raised the price of those very articles by the full amount of the tax. For instance, two dollars being the price that was laid on beaver hats—The hatters immediately added two dollars to the six they had formerly demanded for a beaver, as if they wished by extravagance to provoke a repeal of the law, or to promote smuggling. If such reports were then well founded, and if *now* such instances of extortion are common among the mechanics in the eastern states, we are not to look for proofs of a signal patriotism among them. This I am sorry to say is too much the practice with the mechanics in this state: It hurts themselves, and their country still more.

The eastern states are particularly circumstanced with regard to foreign commerce. They produce little or nothing fit for exportation. The fishery cannot be considered as theirs: for it is common: and the trifling amount of lumber and live stock, the produce of the country, that is exported, cannot be sufficient to clothe one tenth of the inhabitants. In the mean while it is very observable, that no people can be more conveniently situated for the purpose of extending manufactures, than the citizens of Massachusetts, New-Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode-Island. The climate is extremely healthy, nor is it too warm for a white man to labour through the whole summer. Domestic slavery, which has ever been found unfriendly to manufactures, does not prevail among them. A great proportion of the inhabitants are contiguous to one another in small towns, which are the proper nurseries of manufactures: and most of those towns are situated on or near a water-carriage. The citizens are naturally industrious and tractable. Whatever raw materials they want, could easily be produced, (ever in time of maritime war, if the internal navigator was once opened, as contemplated, at a trifling national expence,) from the southern states. Here I cannot help making another stroke, however feeble, at our national legislatures—in saying, that in not appropriating sums to obtain this great and important national object, they discover a want of national spirit that is mean and disgraceful. We deem a navy useless, and extremely oppressive and burdensome, and perhaps shall not be plagued with one for ages to come—Then does not saftity, natural position—geography—a commerce between the southern and eastern states—The great risk in coasting in times of war—all point out the imperious necessity of the work. I hope the legislature of this state will soon attach to this work its proper merit; and inquire at the same time how much Baltimore interest there is in the Houe, more than is the cities just due.

As the number of citizens increases in the manufacturing towns, in the eastern states, provisions may become more scarce: but the wheat, corn, and rice of the southern states must afford them a convenient and constant supply. Vessels that are not employed in winter by the fisheries, may be usefully engaged in carrying provisions in exchange for manufactures, for in such a soil and climate as the southern states, there must ever be a redundance of provisions.—surely then it is to be expected, that the citizens of the eastern states will be among the first manufacturers—There we see a people who are persuaded by every argument of prudence and sound policy to adopt these measures. We scarcely know many of us, and have cause to rejoice too, that our revenue rises principally from our importations of foreign goods—Yet if other arguments are wanted to induce us to promote domestic manufactures, and a national dress, we had better consider the question concerning imported goods, as it affects the revenue of the government we import them from, England.

From an English calculation made for the year 1805, it appears that she imported from the United States £9,615,-161, sterling, and *exported* to the United States £12,163,907 like money, of which £11,208,986 are for *British goods*: consequently the subjects of Great Britain are enriched by us, to the full amount of that sum per annum. Then how much do we contribute towards the taxes of Great Britain by such a consumption of her manufactures? This is a question that thousands of us do not consider: but I think the amount may be fairly stated at £8,600,000 sterling, by the year. To some this computation may appear extravagant, but persons who have a tolerable idea of the burdens borne in foreign countries, will not think it too large. It is generally alleged that a man pays seventeen shillings for the use of government, out of every twenty shillings that he spends in England. Take an instance in the article of beer. The land pays a tax, the barly which grows on it, when malted, pays a tax of 6d. by the bushel, hops pay one penny by the pound, the beer when brewed pays an excise, greater in some cases, than the original value, and strange we import it! and all the persons who labour in the premises, contribute to the national revenue, by their sundry consumptions to the amount of seventeen twentieths of the whole price of their labour: This also must be charged to the beer. Surely then the consumer of beer pays more than seventeen shillings to the government, for every twenty that he expends in that liquor. It follows of course that we have, annually, been paying into the British treasury, a tax of £8,600,000 sterling.

From these calculations, added to the wise measure of congress in laying an embargo, I am induced to believe that, England is engaged with too many enemies *now* to make *open* war upon us: but if ever she again gets ability, we need look immediately for more "Chesapeake play," outrage and tyranny, that know no example in modern history. It is therefore devoutly to be wished, that whether we have peace or war, the few manufacturing institutions now commencing, may be nourished, supported, and protected both by our citizens and legislators, and considered by them as the rising pillars of a lasting independence.

COLUMBUS.

Queen-Ann's county, Feb. 22, 1808.

FROM COLVIN'S WEEKLY REGISTER.

SKETCH, of the PUBLIC CHARACTER OF JAMES MADISON.

Mr. JAMES MADISON is a native of the county of Orange, in the state of Virginia. His family in all its branches are respctable, opulent, and independent. His father colonel J. Madison, was a man of great respectability; he provided handsomely for a large family, and to Mr. Madison, his oldest son, he gave a considerable estate, including his family seat.

Mr. Madison completed his education at Princeton College; where he was so much distinguished for his genius, application, acquirements, and amiable qualities, that he possessed the esteem and respect of the president, professors, and students of that seminary, in as high a degree, as any young man ever did.

Mr. Madison's first appearance in public life was in the year 1776. He was elected in the spring of that year a member of the convention of Virginia for his native county. By that convention the present government of Virginia was formed, and the delegates of Virginia were instructed in the month of May of that year, to vote in Congress for a Declaration of Independence. Mr. Madison, it is said, took no part in the business of that assembly, owing to his extreme diffidence. He was soon afterwards appointed a member of the executive council of Virginia, and continued a member of that board until he was delegated to represent that commonwealth in the Congress which sat in the year 1779. During all this time it is not known that Mr. Madison ever made a public display of his abilities, and it is presumed he owed his advancement to the strong pledge that was made by some of our most distinguished citizens for his talents. Of that number Mr. Jefferson is believed to have been the first to distinguish and the most active to bring into his country's service the superior mind of Mr. Madison, whose diffidence and backwardness were such, that it is possible his services might have been lost to the nation, if the utmost efforts had not been made to draw him into the active exercise of his powers. It is believed by a gentleman who knew Mr. Madison well when he first went to Congress, that he would not in that body, small as it was, have been able to conquer his extreme embarrassment, if it had not been for the great pressure arising from the importance of the crisis, and his being sometimes associated with men who could not, without his aid, sustain the common burthen. From their first acquaintance to this moment, it is believed there has subsisted between Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison the utmost intimacy and confidence, founded upon mutual esteem and respect.

Mr. Madison continued in Congress until the latter part of the year 1783, when he became ineligible under the confederation, which limited the service of a member of the Virginia assembly. From the circumstance of Mr. Madison's having been educated out of the state, and his long service in Congress, when he took his seat in the Virginia assembly he found himself almost a stranger: But the very high reputation he had acquired in Congress, gave him a place in the confidence of those who did not know his person. The period was deeply interesting. It began then to be understood that the union of the states must be lost, or the government new modelled. In that session Mr. Madison made some efforts to give to Congress resources to comply with the engagements of the nation. To the state the time was peculiarly important. The revisal of their body of laws, so as to make them conform to republican principles, had been referred to commissioners, had been reported to the legislature four years before, and remained unacted on. That work was now taken up, and was carried through principally by the efforts of Mr. Madison. And in particular, the bill for religious freedom, which made a part of that work, was indebted mainly to his able and zealous advocation, for its passage without any retrenchment of its liberal principles. Through all the interesting scenes of that session, Mr. Madison displayed such talents, integrity and patriotism, that at the end of that year there was no man who stood higher in the confidence and affections of all who knew him. In 1785 he was re-elected to the Virginia assembly. During the session of that year he proposed and carried through that body a recommendation that deputies should meet from all the states, at Annapolis for the purpose of making some change in the confederation. It is known that this effort did not produce all the good effects expected from it; but it is likewise known, that the recommendation of that meeting caused the convocation of the convention at Philadelphia, that gave us our present constitution. Mr. Madison was, it is believed, elected a member of that convention by the unanimous vote of the legislature. It is said in that body there was no member more distinguished for wisdom and love of country. About the same time Mr. Madison was re-elected a member of the old Congress. The evidence of the very able support given by him to this constitution is in print: Upon that subject the reader, is referred to the Debates in the Virginia Convention. Mr. Madison was elected a member of the first House of Representatives that convened under the constitution. His services in that body during the eight years of the administration of General Washington are known to all. For several years before the establishment of this government and until the commencement of the war between France and England, there was no man in America in whom Gen. Washington confided more than in Mr. Madison; and if he was afterwards less frequently consulted by him, it was owing to the ascendency which Col. Hamilton had obtained in the administration. He retired when Gen. Washington did, but had not been long reposing in the quiet of domestic life when, aroused by the danger into which the principles of administration pursued by Mr. Adams were evidently bringing our republican institution, sensible that the torrent could no longer be resisted in Congress, and that the state legislatures could alone arrest its course, he again took his stand in the legislature of Virginia, and there prepared and carried through his celebrated report against the alien and sedition laws. This we may affirm without danger of contradiction, to have given to federalism its first mortal blow and to have first planted the standard to which the republicanism of the nation so rapidly rallied. With Mr. Jefferson he came into the present administration.

Mr. Madison has been in public life for thirty-two years. He is about fifty-five years of age. During his whole life it is believed there is not a single act for which he can be reproached as a man or as a citizen. He is a singular instance of a person who has been so much the object of envy to some, & so much in the way of the views and interests of others, escaping the imputation of having done an improper act, from an improper motive.

It is believed Mr. Madison has not at this time, and that he never had a personal enemy, for a cause that could be avowed.

Light-Infantry Company.

SUCH persons as wish to attach themselves to a company of LIGHT-INFANTRY, now forming in Easton, will please to take notice, that an election will be held at the Court-House, in Easton, on Thursday the 3d of March next, for the purpose of choosing officers—Those intending to join, are requested to subscribe to the articles of said company, on or before the day of election, that they may be entitled to vote for officers.

February 23, 1808. 2

A Farm for sale.

THE Subscriber will sell at private sale, on advantageous terms, that well known Farm, lying in Caroline county, on Choptank river, known by the name of *Hog Island*. As this farm is known to be equal, if not superior, for raising stock, to any on this shore; and also, for the growth of corn, wheat and tobacco—he solicits any person desirous to purchase to view the premises. For further particulars apply to the subscriber, living in Cambridge.

ALEXANDER TARLTON.

February 9, 1808. 4