Eastern Shore REPUBLICAN STAR OR EASTON GAZETTE General Advertiser.

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

[VOL. 7....10.] TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 7, 1809. [NO. 23....491.]

Terms of the 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.

Latest Foreign Intelligence.

NEW-YORK, January 25.

Yesterday arrived at this port the British packet Princess Amelia, Moorson, from Falmouth, via Bermuda, having left England on the 8th of December; and the ship Phillipsburgh, Leffingwell, from Liverpool and Cork. The latter left Liverpool on the 27th of Nov. and Cork on the 12th Dec. By these two vessels the editor of the Mercantile Advertiser has received London papers of the 3d Dec. and Cork papers of the 8th, nearly a month later than any previous advices.

We have extracted from the latest of the papers whatever is interesting, those of an ulterior date being unusually barren of intelligence. It appears that the army of the French emperor had entered Spain, and that the division under gen. Blake had been defeated with considerable loss; but this defeat is not considered as calculated to excite despondency with respect to the ultimate success of the patriots.

The captain of the packet informs us that on the 6th of Dec. two British regiments of cavalry sailed from Falmouth for Spain, to reinforce the patriotic army; and that on his passage he spoke the Guerrier frigate from the West Indies, and received intelligence that the English had taken Martinique.

Captain Moorson, we understand, brought London papers to the 5th Dec. but gave them to the governor of Bermuda.

Our Lloyd's Lists by these arrivals are to the 25th Nov.

Mr. H. Purviance, passenger in the Phillipsburgh, is the bearer of dispatches for government, from our minister at the court of St. James.

A letter received in this city by the Loudon, arrived in Hampton Roads, dated 25th Nov. quotes wheat at 14s. 3d to 15s. sterling per bushel, and in great demand, large sales having been made.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 25.

Advices are said to have been received from Bombay of the arrival of the French embassy at the Persian court of Taheran.—It is said to consist of the very numerous suit of three hundred officers of infantry and cavalry, and three hundred artillerymen.—The utmost attention appears to have been paid in adapting the costume of the embassy to the taste of the Asiatics; the officers and men are superbly dressed, and provided with every article of European novelty, which can strike the senses, or awaken their curiosity.

It is said that certain intelligence has been received of the arrest of general Liniers, (at Buenos Ayres) and the declaration of South America in favor of the cause of independence.

DECEMBER 2.

It was on Wednesday stated at Lloyd's that intelligence had been received of Bonaparte's arrival at Madrid, on the 17th ultimo; but from what quarter, or by what means such a statement was brought to the coffee-house, we could not ascertain.

Mr. Munro, one of the king's messengers, who arrived yesterday with the Corunna mail, and brought dispatches from lord William Bentick, and Mr. Frere, brought also dispatches from gens. Broderick and Leith, having passing along the line of march of sir David Baird's army. The accounts received by government were given in substance in a Bulletin.

BULLETIN.

"It appears by dispatches received from Corunna, dated the 22d, and from San Vincente de la Barquera, dated 19th ult. that the account of general Blake being defeated is confirmed. He was engaged in continual actions from the 4th till the 18th. On the 11th the Asturians having been worsted on the left, the French got possession of a height which covered the road on which they retreated, and they were thrown into great confusion, and gen. Blake retired to Reyhoso; but a French column appearing upon this road from Burgos, he retreated by Solo to San Vincente de la Barquera. There upon the 17th, he had collected near 20,000 of his troops, and the Marquis de la Romana had taken the command, and they *would soon be in a state of advance again.*

"The French had occupied St. Andero and Santona—the former on the 16th, and the latter on the 20th. But *by the exertions of general Leith*, all the provisions, ammunitions, and stores sent by this country had been *removed.*

"It appears that part of the army at Estremadura, had been defeated near *Burgos* by the French; but there are no accounts of their having advanced beyond it. General Moore arrived on the 10th at *Salamlanca*—general Baird was at Astorga."

To this we add, on the credit however, of private letters, that the French corps that advanced to Valladolid had afterwards retreated to Burgos.

LATER ACCOUNTS.

The Favorite cutter has arrived at Plymouth, from the coast of Spain. The Bonne Citoyenne, capt. Thompson, arrived yesterday at Portsmouth, capt. Thompson has since reached town.—He left Corruna on the 26th ult. and brings accounts from gen. Blake's army to the 24th. The substance of the intelligence by the Bonne Citoyenne, will be found in the subjoined letters:

Portsmouth, Dec. 1.

"This afternoon arrived here, the Bonne Citoyenne, capt. Thompson, with dispatches from Gorrunna, from whence the Bonne Citoyenne sailed on Saturday last, the 26th ult. Captain Thompson brings dispatches from gen. Blake's army, which *continued retreating, but bravely defending every inch of ground*, till the 24th, when general Blake made a *firm stand* and repelled his enemies, numerous as they were. *After this action*, general Blake's forces remained 25,000 *strong*. This we must think *very good news*; but we regret to hear that Romana's force, having made some mistake in the route, fell in with the enemy, and after a brave resistance, and having slaughtered a great number of the enemy, he was at length overpowered, and *cut in pieces*. We regret still more to learn, that Bonaparte's emissaries, had but too well succeeded in stirring up faction, and that the prince of peace's party was formidable in Spain. We trust however, that the patriots will ultimately succeed over Bonaparte and the prince of peace.

"The news from Oporto are unfavorable. The party there in opposition to the regency is very strong, and general Beresford had meditated in vain.—The French are at Valladolid."

Another letter, same date.

"This afternoon at 3 o'clock, the Bonne Citoyenne sloop of war, arrived at Corrunna, from whence she sailed on Saturday last, bringing accounts from general Blake's army, up to the 24th ult.

"The dispatches she has brought, will be found to relate to several most dreadful battles between the armies of marshal Ney and general Blake. The marquis Romana's troops, (from the Baltic,) by advancing too far a-head of general Blake's army, were severally defeated; one of the regiments of Catalonia has been cut to pieces.

"The fighting on both sides was most obstinate. The marquis of Romana's *cavalry was preserved.* In the last attack, Blake repulsed the French with considerable loss.—He is now at Cinta, about 40 miles north of St. Andero, with 25,000 men. The communication between him and the centre army, under Castanos, is cut off, the French army being between them, whose head quarters are at Valladolid. There are many fears for the safety of the centre army. The Prince of Peace's party in Spain is very strong, and the patriotic cause looks desponding. Sir David Baird was at Astorgo, with his army, and sir John Moore, at Salamanca. They have not been engaged.

"In the Bonne Citoyenne came passenger capt. Gage, of the royal artillery, with dispatches from sir Robert Wilson, at Oporto. His dispatches are not so favorable as could be wished.—The party against the provisional government is very strong and turbulent. Sir Robert had cloathed, armed, and trained 2000 Portuguese, and formed them into a battalion. There were three British regiments there."

In addition to the above, we have to state, that this day an officer from Oporto arrived in Downing street, with dispatches. He came over in the Bonne Citoyenne. He touched at Corunna on

(*Continued in last page.*)

National Congress.

HOUSE *of* REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25.

IMPEACHMENT.

MR. QUINCY.——*Mr. Speaker.*——I rise to perform a great duty. But one imperiously demanded, as I apprehend by my station, and by the knowledge of facts which I have in possession. By the 2d section of the first article of the constitution, this house have "the sole power of impeachment."

This duty, always painful, it must perform, if occasion calls for it. And every member who has reason to believe that a high crime or misdemeanor has been committed, is bound to state that opinion to the house, and to move such an enquiry as the nature of the supposed offence demands.

Of all the duties of the Executive Magistrate of this nation, that in relation to the filling of important public offices is the most critical, the most likely to be abused, and the one which this house ought most scrupulously to watch. Because these appointments are the avenues of corrupt influence. And of all species, perhaps, that is the most dangerous which keeps men, then acting in high official stations, subject to such an influence, by not only the actual perception of the profit of the places which they hold, but by the assurance of further lucrative advancement, in case of continued fidelity to those who holds the distribution of offices. Under this aspect, sir, I do not hesitate to declare my opinion, that a high misdemeanor has been committed against this nation, concerning which it is the bounden duty of this house to enquire, and either to remove the ground of suspicion, or establish the fact before the world. This is the charge which I expect to substantiate—*That the collectorship of the port of Boston and Charlestown, being a place of great trust and importance, and also of ample emolument, has been now for more than two years, kept in a manner vacant, and ever since left in the condition of a sincecure, in the hands of the then incumbent, after the Executive had full information of the fact, for the purpose of keeping the said office in [illegible] of the present administration, then and now Secretary at War.*

The facts, I expect, and am prepared to prove, are:

First—That in November, 1806, Benjamin Lincoln, esq. collector of that port, did write to the President of the United States, stating his infirmities and advanced years, and requesting leave to resign at the end of that year.

Second—That he did receive an answer from the President in December following, expressing a high sense of his revolutionary services, and requesting him to give him a little longer time to look out for a suitable character to fill the said office, and limiting the time to the last of March then following—viz. March, 1807—"beyond which he assured him he should not be detained"—That gen Lincoln, in reply, consented to continue until the last of the said month.

Third—That no appointment in March was made, and that general Lincoln did on the 30th of September, 1807, write to the President, stating his infirmities, and total inability to perform the duties of his office, and again requested to be relieved from his office, at farthest by the end of the year—That to this he never received any answer.

Fourth.—That he has been continued through another year, without any reason assigned for such continuance, in a situation totally unable to perform any of his duties; so much so, that he has not been in the town of Boston since June last.

So far the facts are to be proved, as I have reason to believe, in a court of law. The next fact, I have no doubt, will be made out perfectly to the satisfaction of the house and nation.

Fifth—That this office has been thus kept in effect, vacant for more than two years, for the purpose of gratifying a favorite of the Executive, Henry Dearborn, Secretary at War, by that appointment, and that, for him, it has been, in this manner reserved.

I need not use any arguments to show that these facts, if they be proved, constitute, to say the least, a high misdemeanor, into which this house ought to inquire, and to take such course thereupon as to its wisdom shall deem it expedient, under the high duties imposed upon it by the constitution.

I am instantly impelled to this duty by a paragraph in a paper, the National Intelligencer of this day, which I now hold in my hand. In this paper Major General Benjamin Lincoln, one of the chief glories of our revolution—a hero the halting victim of war—his body all seamed and scarred, with wounds gotten in the cause of his country—now on the brink of the grave—his laurels not yet tarnished—and though the aged root is descending into the tomb, yet their leaves upturn to the eye a youthful green, and shed all around a celestial fragrance—This hero, the companion, the beloved friend of Washington, is stigmatized as "A FEDERALIST, *whom the forbearance of administration has long retained in office, in opposition to the wishes of a respectable class of the community.*" I have not language to express my indignation. And I am quickened to a duty, which I had before made some preparation to perform. I therefore move the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to lay before this house, all correspondences touching the offers to resign, and the resignation of his office, by Benjamin Lincoln, esq late collector of the port of Boston and Charlestown.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the causes, which prevented the acceptance of the resignation of Benjamin Lincoln, late collector of the port of Boston and Charlestown, in the years 1806, and 1807, and into the reasons which have occasioned a postponement of the appointment of a successor, and that they report the result of such enquiry to the house.

The House agreed to consider the resolutions by Yeas and Nays, 93 to 24.

Mr. QUINCY moved that they should lie on the table till to-morrow, and be printed.

Mr. GHOLSON said, he hoped that they would neither lie on the table, or be printed. He acknowledged that the present attempt had excited his astonishwent, more than any thing which had occurred during the session. He could scarcely credit his hearing, when a member rose and moved to institute an enquiry with a view to impeachment on a subject like this. What was the charge? Was it a charge of mal-administration? Was it any charge which would authorise the course pursued? Was it alleged that the duties of collector had not been faithfully performed? Nothing of this had been urged. But the President had not appointed a person to fill the office of collector. Mr. G. said, that the late collector had only resigned within a day or two, and there had been therefore no vacancy to be filled. The former collector had an undoubted right to resign whenever he thought fit, and had not resigned. Why then this ridiculous proposition? If the collector had resigned, the President would have been compelled to fill the office; but this was not the fact. He therefore hoped the resolutions would receive an immediate rejection.

Mr. BURWELL said, he partook of the surprise of his colleague at the resolutions thus submitted. He knew but of one parallel to it, in the history of impeachments, and that would be found in Gulliver's travels.—The recollection of gentlemen would save him the trouble of specifying the prticulars of that case. The gentleman wanted an enquiry into the reason, why the President did not wish to accept the resignation of Mr. Lincoln. How would a committee of this House proceed in this enquiry? They must either go to the President and ask him the motives of his conduct, or they must have some other mode of penetrating his motives. After the handsome panegyric of the gentleman on the late collector, Mr. B. asked, how he could come forward and impeach the President, for keeping in office a man whose merits transcended all description? It appeared to him, from the speech of the gentleman, that he had been long in possession of these facts. The paper of this morning certainly could not have gone to Boston and returned since its publication. The gentleman must therefore have been previously possessed of this information; and why, if it was so very important, had it not been previously brought forward? As to the subject of this appointment being destined for any particular person, Mr. Burwell observed, that the President, if he had any such intention, certainly had not communicated it to the gentleman from Massachusetts. The gentleman's statement in this respect must therefore be mere inference and conjecture; and however the gentleman's passions had been influenced by a paragraph in a newspaper; his ideas thus excited could not have an influence on the judgment of those who are not under the same irritation. If the gentleman from Massachusetts wished to conduct an enquiry to any result, he ought to shew that the misconduct of the officer in question had produced effects which ought to have compelled the President to remove him. If the gentleman would shew that the revenue had been defrauded, or the laws evaded through his negligence, or by his connivance, and that the President having knowledge of such facts, had refused to remove him, there might be some ground for the resolution.

Mr. LOVE asked of the gentleman from Massachusetts when the late collector actually resigned—and, whether the gentleman knew of any misconduct of the officer alluded to? If so, whether this had been within the knowledge of the President of the United States.

Mr. QUINCY said, whether it was or was not an offence to keep in an office, the salary of which is 5000 dollars a year, a man who had declared his inability to execute it, was for the House to determine. The charge which he made was simply this: that an officer had been compensated for doing no services, and kept in a situation the duties of which he was unable to perform. It was an offence that so great an office as the collectorship of Boston should be kept in this position; the United States paying to an individual 5000 dollars a year for inadequate services, contrary to the express wish of the gentleman himself, who, ever since June, had not been in the town of Boston; and of consequence the execution of the duties of the office had been totally dependant on one individual, the deputy collector. You send a law on (said Mr. Q.) to be executed, and by one individual. The deputy says he will not act, the collector is unable to act, and the consequence is, that that law is not executed. In answer to the question whether the country has suffered. I will state a fact; the deputy collector of that port had a right to resign his office to the collector; and if the collector had been an efficient man, there would have been no difficulty; but, because he was not efficient, the law is not in a state of execution. I take this position, because the facts which I have stated can be proved.—Whether the House will or will not agree to these resolutions, is no concern of mine; nor, if gentlemen chuse to utter any abuse, do I regard it. I stand before this nation, and fear not to do my duty.

Messrs. John[illegible] Williams, J. G. Jackson, Dana, M'Creery, Bacon, Rhea, Macon, Bibb, Southard, Masters, Fisk, Stone, Rowan, and Key followed Mr. Quincy in the debate, all of whom differed with Mr. Quincy as to the propriety of adopting the resolutions. The reasons assigned by gentlemen were various but generally to this effect: that it would be indecorous, if not beyond the power of this House to call upon the President of the United States, for his private correspondence with any individual, without doing which it would appear that none of the facts could be established: that were the facts established and the charges maintained, they constituted no crime or misdemeanor, and it was said by some of the gentlemen, no ground for reprehension; that, constituting no crime or misdemeanor, it was not a matter coming within the cognizance of the House, or on which an impeachment could be grounded; and being a matter on which the House had no constitutional power to act, it was also a matter into which it was not their province to enquire.—[The debates which now take place in the House on important topics, are so frequent and extensive, that their length precludes any one paper from giving the whole of them. We therefore select Mr. Bacon's observations on this subject in reply to Mr. Quincy, as he is a representative from the same state with him; and as his speech will give a general view of the arguments against the resolution.]

Mr. BACON said, that whatever might have been his feelings on the subject matter of these resolutions at the moment when they were first propounded to the House in so menacing a style by the hon. mover; yet from the course of reflection which had since taken place in his own mind, as well as from a view of the reception which the resolutions had since met with on all sides of the House—the feelings which their extraordinary nature were at first calculated to excite, had in his bosom totally changed.—he really thought that the gentleman by the indiscreet course which he had taken on this occasion, had reduced himself to a condition in which he was an object of sensations very different from those of resentment. For himself he now harbored no other passions in relation to him than those of sympathy.—It was now very evident that his ill-advised zeal had led him into a labyrinth, where his own political friends could not consent to follow him. From the first moment when the proposition was submitted he had not entertained a doubt,