## FOR THE STAR.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY

### EDWARD LLOYD, ESQUIRE,

*GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND.*

SIR,

Men who are endowed with solid talents, possessed of great wealth, and placed in stations of high honorable trust, ought to devote a part of their time and talents to meliorate the condition of those who are deprived of a competency; and if they are not bound to aid *directly* their pecuniary pursuits, they ought at least endeavor to contribute to the improvement of their minds and morals.

It has been a favorite object with several members of the Legislature, to endeavor to establish Public Schools thro'out the State; and whether they were governed by popular motives, or sincere desires to benefit the poorer class of our fellow citizens, the subject is deserving of serious consideration. It has been unfortunate for the avowed advocates of this measure, that they have not been able to suggest an eligible system—and it is unfortunate for those who might be benefited by the measure, that those persons who have abilities and influence to effect it, have not sufficiently interested themselves.

I am unacquainted with your sentiments on this subject, not having the pleasure of your acquaintance; but judging from the character you sustain, from your well known philanthropic disposition, and from the many instances of public spirit which you have manifested, I cannot hesitate to believe you would promote the establishment of Public Schools, if a reasonable plan was pointed out—and I take the liberty to call you to a candid consideration of the subject.

Although the possession of great wealth too frequently tends to aristocratic views and manners, in you may be seen an honorable exception; it is acknowledged by all parties, that in your professions and practice, in all your deportment you are truly republican, and no doubt sincerely disposed to adopt such measures as will most effectually secure to your fellow citizens the inestimable privileges we at present enjoy. It is not necessary for me to point out all the advantages which will result from a proper arrangement of Public Schools; the benefits will be extensive and permanent: When the mind is enlightened, and men are made capable of acquiring a knowledge of their rights, they will fix a proper value on them, and feel the necessity of acting conformably to their proper defence and support.

In conversation on this subject, we do not meet with any who will oppose the principle *directly*, but some deny the practicability of adopting a system which will be at once generally beneficial, and sufficiently economical. This is perhaps the only objection which will be urged against it, and I must confess I have not heard of any plan being offered for the consideration of the Legislature, which I would approve of. It is true the State is rich, the money in the Treasury is the common stock of the citizens, but the management of that stock is entrusted to the members of the Legislature, as the guardians of the people, and as faithful guardians they ought to avoid improper or useless expenditures. As public property placed in many hands, is seldom well protected or preserved, I could not approve of the plan *talked* of last session, to *erect* school houses in every district of six miles square:—The expence attending that scheme would have overbalanced any advantage which could arise from it; in many places the buildings would have been unoccupied and useless—our population does not require such an arrangement. The inconveniences which the citizens of our State labour under in the education of the rising generation, is obvious to every one, and I have long thought the Legislature has been governed by a very contracted policy, which it is the duty of every man in the State to endeavour to change. I am sincerely desirous to see a system adopted which might be generally beneficial not only to those in the humble walks of life, but also to the rich and opulent—and when I would contribute freely for the instruction of the former, I would also make provision for the convenience of the latter. Perhaps I am not competent to devise a complete system, but I will give you a sketch of my ideas; and as they are suggested with the greatest sincerity, I hope they will be received with indulgence. I would endow *moderately* one or both the Colleges—I would continue *reasonable* donations to the public schools now established, and encourage the establishment of others, where it might be thought advantageous; those schools would be principally convenient to the poor in their vicinity, and to those families who are sufficiently wealthy to pay for board and tuition of their children from home; but for the instruction of the children of the poorer class of our citizens, I would appropriate *liberally* a sum of money for every Election District throughout the State, and apportion the sum as equally as possibly to the population of the District, having respect to the supposed number of children, whose parents could not themselves pay for their education. The sums thus appropriated. I would place under the direction of Trustees in every District, who would be authorised to place at any school most convenient, such children as would be entitled to the privilege, and draw orders on the Treasury in favour of the Schoolmasters, quarter yearly——This arrangement would not be very expensive, and it would give to every man in the State an opportunity to educate his children, if he thought proper. If there are not a sufficient number of school houses, now erected, to answer that purpose, this plan would promote their increase, and it would induce men to engage in that pursuit, who at present have no encouragement to take charge of country schools.

You will observe I have not pointed out the funds from which those schools are to be supported. As I think this would be a proper application of part of the public income, I would not connect with this plan of Public Schools, a tax on Lands or Bank Stock, or any other tax. The support of those schools should not depend on any adventitious or contingent fund: The present state of the Treasury will authorise a sufficient appropriation; one half the income of the State would be sufficient. But if those are proper objects of taxation, *and if additional funds are necessary*, let the product of those taxes be paid into the Treasury, and the whole funds of the State be pledged for the support of the schools. But as we can now boast of an overflowing Treasury—and as the most enlightened men differ in opinion on the propriety of taxing Bank Stock—and as a Land tax is never willingly acquiesced in by Landholders, I would not let the accomplishment of the one measure depend on the other. I am a Landholder, and I would willingly, if it is necessary, pay a reasonable Land tax for this purpose. I am not a Stockholder, but I would not now say that a tax on Bank Stock would be just or necessary. I think taxes ought to be levied as equally as the nature of the case will admit, but I would not interfere with chartered rights, nor would I extort unnecessary contributions from the people.

Thus, Sir, I have taken the liberty to give you my ideas, and I shall be pleased if they meet your approbation. The subject is worthy the consideration of the Governor of Maryland; worthy of him who has as real ostensible cause of attachment to Maryland, as any man in the State; who is qualified for, and destined to be, not only a public character, but one of the foremost in public councils; a man who has a heart to feel for the necessities of his fellow creatures and who, I believe, has a sincere desire to contribute to their happiness. I appeal to you on this occasion, because I think you can effect this measure. And as you were heretofore one of the foremost to extend the privileges of those of our citizens who are not blest with wealth and affluence, so now again be their patron. By enabling them to qualify themselves to contrast their situations here, with the state of the poor under despotic governments, you will insure to yourself their gratitude, and to our happy form of government their hearty support.

REPUBLICAN.

Worcester, June 10, 1811.

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## FOR THE STAR.

### *ENNALLS AND ECCLESTON.*

On September next, my fellow citizens, a very importat election will take place, which demands your most serious attention. It is the election of proper persons to elect your Senate, the highest branch of your legislative body. Whether the old Senate is worthy of re-election, it is not my province to determine—my only object is to designate the merits of your candidates, and to show, in a conspicuous point of view, those men who I think are most worthy of your suffrages. Mr. Washington Eccleston and Mr. Joseph Ennalls are the men that I offer: This choice is not the result of haste, passion or party prejudice; but, it is that of calm deliberation and unbiassed judgment, I am a farmer, past the meridian of life, and well acquainted with named gentleman. Mr. Washington Eccleston is a republican, a plain unassuming man, honest and upright, sensible, but modest. He is well acquainted with the true interest of his fellow citizens, he is not destitute of talents, he is not like many other men, very solicitous of showing them & bringing them into public view. It was a very just remark of a gentleman a few weeks ago, (when speaking of the diffidence which Mr. E. came forward as a public character) "Modesty and diffidence will never derogate from primeval worth." Mr. Eccleston has arrived at that age which employs in its theory the noblest faculties of the soul, and exerts in its practice the cardinal virtues of the heart. You have, my fellow citizens, honored him once with your suffrages, he served you faithfully, and every act that he concurred in, tended most unequivocally to your interest. If there were any slight & inconsiderate errors, they proceeded from the head, not from the depravity of the heart. Mr. Joseph Ennalls is a federalist, and I think one who is always worthy of promotion. He is a zealous supporter of federal principles, when he thinks they tend to the welfare of his fellow citizens. He never suffers zealbegotry or spirit of party, get the ascendency of his sound reason—For this reason he is most unmercifully persecuted, by those of his own party. By inventing the most abominable lies, magnifying the most trifling errors into crimes of the greatest enormity, they wish to stamp his character with perpetual infamy, to alienate the affections of the people from him, and ruin his election. The conduct of the nabobs of Cambridge towards this gentleman is most unprecedented, and reflects the greatest dishonour on those who call themselves gentlemen. When you see a man, like this, fellow citizens, so wedded, so rivitted to your interests, that neither persuasion, threats or ill treatment of his own party cannot wean him from you, you ought to support him the more firmly—He is a true patriot, a true friend to the people, and worthy of the confidence of his fellow citizens. As I am but a poor man, & have not much time to spend, and wish to go out in the cornfield and being very much engaged in preparation for harvest, with reluctance I must bid you adieu, hoping, that if you know your own interest, and can rely on the experience of an old farmer; that you support unanimously Ennalls and Eccleston.

AN OLD FARMER.

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FROM THE NEW YORK GAZETTE.

*Messrs. Lang and Turner,*

SIRS—Having observed in your paper of yesterday, a statement of the meeting of the United States ship United States, off Cape Henry, with his Britannic Majesty's ships the Eurydice, and Atalante, (in an extract of a letter, from on board his Majesty's sloop Atalante, dated June 15, 1811) I am induced, from its incorrectness in some particulars, to furnish you with the following account.

"On the 9th of June, at 10 A. M. the frigate United States got under way from Hampton Roads, and made sail for sea, with the wind light from the westward. At 2 P. M. it became almost a calm; at 3 a light breeze sprung up from S. S. E.—at half past 3 squally with rain and hail; and at 4 P. M. we had not yet passed Cape Henry, when we discovered over the land in the S. E. quarter, two ships of war, either lying by under their topsails only, or at anchor with them up. At this time our colors were flying. Soon after, on passing Cape Henry, we perceived they had descried us, had made sail, and were standing down for us, under studding sails and royals, shewing English colors. As there was not any other sail in sight, in the direction that they steered, but the United States, it gave us reason to believe that they might wish to know what ship it was. We immediately hauled up our courses, and made every preparation for battle. The wind being light they approached us slowly, and it was dusk before the largest of the two ships passed to leeward of us, and hailed, saying, "this is his Britannic majesty's ship Eurydice; what ship is that pray?" The reply was, the United States' ship United States. The English capt. then said "I presume you are from the Chesapeake." Yes I am, was the reply. The English commander then said, "I am here the bearer of dispatches; if I had any news it would give me pleasure to communicate it! Have you any sir?" Commodore Decatur answered, I have not; if I had, I should feel equally pleased to impart it to you. Commodore Decatur then asked what ship it was in company with him. The British capt. answered it was his Britannic Majesty's ship Atalante. Commodore Decatatur again hailed, and asked the name of the Commander of the Eurydice: he was answered, "Bradshaw," who accompanied his reply with "I presume Commodore Decatur commands the United States." The Commodore replied, "at your service sir!" These words were scarcely uttered, when a gun was fired from the quarter deck division of the United States, by accident, while the capt. of the gun was in the act of training her.

"The Commodore immediately stepped down from the poop, and asked the Lieutenant of the division, who fired the gun. He replied he could not assertain who it was, but that it was by accident. Commodore Decatur then hailed the Eurydice, and told her commander that the gun was fired by accident, and repeated this assurance.—The commander of the Eurydice answered, that he was aware that such accidents would sometimes occur, and that he was willing to believe this to have been one. Commodore Decatur again hailed, and told him, on his honor, it was. The English commander replied, as you have given me your word, I am perfectly satisfied that it was one; and then asked permission to send his boat on board; which was granted "with pleasure." A lieutenant came on board and was introduced to the Commodore, who expressed to him his regret at the occurrence. The Lieut. observed, that his commander was convinced it was an accident, and that he should not notice it farther; and then said, you say on your honor, sir, it was an accident. Commodore Decatur replied, I have already assured your commander that the gun was fired by accident, and I repeat to you the same assurance. No other pledge was required of the Commodore, none other was given; nor was there any cause assigned for the gun's going off.

*An officer of the U. States.*

U. S. ship U. States, off Quar. ground. 17 *June*, 1811.

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SECRET SESSIONS of CONGRESS.

Every reader will recollect that during the late sessions of Congress both Houses sat more than once with closed doors. Their proceedings during those sittings have not yet been published.—We find in the *Connecticut Mirror* of Monday last the following articles which we present to our readers as we find them: Accompanying this Message, and these acts, of which we have no knowledge but through this medium, are several letters from Mr. Morier, from Gov. Folche, &c. which we shall give in our next, on the subject of Floridian affairs. If these acts, letters, &c. be authentic, they must have been treacherously divulged by some member of the Senate or House of Representatives, in violation of that sentiment of honor which would forbid the disclosure of facts which the good of the commonwealth, in the opinion of all branches of the government, required to be kept secret for the present by its officers. *Nat. Intel.*

CONFIDENTIAL.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives.*

I RECOMMEND to Congress, *in confidence*, a letter of the 2d of December, from Governor FOLCH, of West Florida, to the Secretary of State, and another of the same date from the same to John M'Kee.

I RECOMMEND, in like manner, a letter from the British Charge d'Affaires, to the Secretary of State, with the answer of the latter; although the letter cannot have been written in consequence of any instruction from the British government, founded on the late order for taking possession of West Florida, well known to be claimed by the United States.—Although no communication has been made by that government to this, of any stipulation with Spain, contemplating an interposition, which might so materially affect the United States; and although no call can have been made by Spain, in the present instance, for the fulfiment of any such subsisting engagement; yet, the spirit and scope of the document, with the accredited source from which it proceeds, required, that, it should not be withheld from the consideration of Congress.

Taking into view the tenor of these several communications, the posture of things with which they are connected, the intimate relation of the country adjoining the United States, eastward of the river Perdido, to their security, and the peculiar interest they otherwise have in its destiny:

I RECOMMEND to the consideration of Congress the seasonableness of a *Declaration*, that the United States could not see, without serious inquietude, any part of a neighboring territory, in which they have, in different respects, so deep and just a concern, pass from the hands of Spain into those of any other foreign power.

I RECOMMEND to their consideration, also, the expediency of authorising the Executive to take temporary possession of the said territory, in pursuance of arrangements, which may be desired by the Spanish authorities, and making provision for the government of the same, during such possession.

JAMES MADISON.

January 3, 1811.

[On receipt of the above *confidential recommendations* from the President, Congress went into conclave, and passed the following *act* and *declaration*.]

RESOLUTION; OR, DECLARATION.

"Taking into view the peculiar situation of Spain and her American provinces, and considering the influence, which the destiny of the territory adjoining the Southern border of the United States may have upon their security, tranquility and commerce, therefore—

Resolved. *By the Senate and House and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled*, That the United States, under the peculiar circumstances of the existing crisis, cannot, without serious inquietude, see any part of the said territory pass into the hands of any foreign power; and that a due regard to their own safety compels them to provide, under certain contingencies, for the temporary occupation of the said territory; they, at the same time, declare, that the said territory shall, in their hands, remain subject to future negociation."

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*An act entitled an act authorising the President of the U. States to occupy the territory therein mentioned, and for other purposes.*

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised to take possession of and occupy all or any part of the territory lying east of the river Perdido, [East Florida] and south of the state of Georgia and the Mississippi Territory, in case an arrangement has been, or shall be, made with the local authority of the said territory, for delivering up of possession of the same, or any part thereof, to the United States, or in the event of an attempt to occupy the said territory, or any part thereof, by any foreign government; and he may, for the purpose of taking possession and occupying the territory aforesaid, and in order to maintain therein the authority of the United States, employ any part of the army & navy of the United States, which he may deem necessary.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That 100,000 dollars be appropriated for defraying such expenses, as the President may deem necessary for obtaining as aforesaid, and the security of the said Territory, to be applied under the direction of the President, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, until other provision be made by Congress, the President be, and he is hereby authorised to establish, within the territory aforesaid, *a temporary government*, and the military, civil, and judicial powers thereof shall be vested in such person and persons, and be exercised in such manner, as he may direct, for the protection & maintenance of the inhabitants of the said territory in the full enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion.

"*An act supplementary to an act entitled an act authorising the President of the United States to occupy the territory therein mentioned and for other purposes.*

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That this act, the act, entitled "an act, authorising the President of the United States to occupy the Territory therein mentioned, and for other purposes," and the *Declaration* accompanying the same, be not printed or published, until the end of the next session of Congress—unless directed by the President of the United States, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding."

☞ The above act passed in a *secret sitting*, on the evening of the 3d of March.—(Sunday night.)

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FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

*Mr. Gales,*

It becomes important to have a simple composition, in the application of which, the durability of bridges constructed of wood will be extended for a long period of time without a roof; whereas, if left exposed to the weather, ten years is their estimated limit of duration. It well deserves the attention of the directors of the city bridge company, for, as the timbers are new, well seasoned, and have suffered no apparent decay, the mixture being now put on will be in time to prevent the operation of the rot.

I send you too receipts, one for the preservation of wood or timbers liable to be injured by the weather; and one for the roof of a house, to defend it not only from the weather, but also from fire, and, I doubt not, they will both be acceptable to many of your subscribers, among whom I am ONE.

City of Washington, 17th June, 1811.

*Composition for preserving weather boarding, and all other work, liable to be injured by the weather.*

Lime, it is well known, however well burnt, will soon become slacked by exposure in open air, or even if confined in a situation not remarkable dry, so as to crumble of itself into powder. This is called air slacked lime in contradistinction to that which is slacked in the usual way, by being mixed with water. For the purpose of making the present useful composition to preserve all sorts of wood works exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather, take three parts of this air slacked lime, two of wood ashes and one of fine sand, pass them through a fine sieve, and add as much linseed oil to the composition as will bring it to a proper consistence for working with a painters brush. As particular care must be taken to mix it perfectly, it should be ground on a stone slab with a proper muller, in the same manner as painters grind their white lead, &c. But where these conveniences are not at hand, the ingredients may be mixed in a large pan and well beat up with a woden Spatula. Two coats of this composition being necessary, the first may be rather thin, but the second should be as thick as it can conveniently be worked.

This most excellent composition for preserving wood when exposed to the injuries of the weather is highly preferable to the customary method of laying on tar and ochre. It is indeed every way better calculated for the purpose: being totally impenetrable by water; and so far from being liable to injury by the action of the weather, or heat of the sun, that the latter, though such a powerful enemy to tarred and ochred pailings, &c. even hardens; and consequently increases the durability of the present proposed composition.

*Another receipt for the roof of a house, to defend it from the weather and from fire.*

Take one measure of find sand, two measures of wood ashes well sifted, three of slacked lime ground up with oil; laid on with a painter's brush; first coat thin, second thick.

I painted a board with this mixture; it adheres so strongly to the board, that