HIS MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Jan. 21.

Thursday being the day appointed for opening the Session of Parliament, the Lords and Commissioners for delivering the King's Speech took their seats upon the Woolsack, between two and three in the afternoon, and the Commons, with their Speaker, having appeared at the Bar, the Lord Chancellor read the speech, which was as follows:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"We have received his majesty's commands to assure you, that in calling you together at this important juncture of affairs, he entertains the most perfect conviction that he shall find in you the same determination with which his majesty himself is animated, to uphold the honor of his crown, and the just rights and interests of his people.

"We are commanded by his majesty to inform you, that no sooner had the result of the negociations at Tilsit confirmed the influence and controul of France over the Powers of the Continent, than his majesty was apprized of the intention of the enemy to combine those powers in one general confederacy, to be directed either to the entire subjection of this kingdom, or to the imposing upon his majesty an insecure and ignominious peace.

"That for this purpose, it is determined to force into hostility against his majesty, states, which had hitherto been allowed by France to maintain or to purchase their neutrality, and to bring to bear against different points of his majesty's dominions, the whole of the naval force of Europe, and specifically the fleets of Portugal and Denmark.

"To place those fleets out of the power of such a confederacy, became, therefore, the indispensable duty of his majesty.

"In the execution of this duty, as far as related to the Danish fleet, his majesty has commanded us to assure you that it was with the deepest reluctance that his majesty found himself compelled after his earnest endeavours to open a negociation with the Danish government had failed, to authorize his commanders to resort to the extremity of force. But that he has the greatest satisfaction in congratulating you upon the successful execution of this painful but necessary service.

"We are further commanded to acquaint you, that the course which his majesty had to pursue with respect to Portugal, was happily of a nature more congenial to his majesty's feelings; that the timely and unreserved communication, by the court of Lisbon, of the demands and designs of France, while it confirmed to his majesty the authenticity of the advices which he had received from other quarters, entitled that court to his majesty's confidence in the sincerity of the assurances by which that communication was accompanied.

"The fleet of Portugal was destined by France to be employed as an instrument of vengeance against Britain. The fleet has been secured from the grasp of France, and is now employed in convoying to its American dominions the hopes and fortunes of the Portuguese Monarchy. His majesty implores the protection of Divine Providence upon the enterprise, rejoicing in the preservation of a power so long the friend and ally of Great Britain; and in the prospect of its establishment in the new world with augmented strength and splendor.

"We have it in command from his majesty to inform you, that the determination of the enemy to excite hostilities between his majesty and his late allies, the Emperors of Russia and Austria, and the king of Prussia, has been so successful; and that the ministers from those powers have demanded and received their passports.

This measure on the part of Russia has been attempted to be justified by a statement of wrongs and grievances which have no real foundation.—The emperor of Russia has indeed proffered his mediation between his majesty and France. His majesty did not refuse that mediation, but he is confident you will approve of the propriety of its not having been accepted until his majesty should have been enabled to ascertain that Russia was in a condition to meditate impartiality, and until the principles and the basis on which France was ready to negociate were made known to his majesty.

"No pretence of justification has been alledged for the hostile conduct of the Emperor of Austria, or for that of his Prussian majesty. His majesty has not given the least ground of complaint to either of these sovereigns: nor even at the moment when they have respectively withdrawn their ministers, before they assigned to his majesty any distinct cause for that proceeding.

"His majesty has directed that copies of the correspondence between his majesty's ambassador and the minister for Foreign Affairs of his Imperial majesty the emperor of Russia during the negociation at Tilsit, and of the official note of the Russian minister at this court, containing the offer of his Imperial majesty's mediation between his majesty and France, together with the answer returned to that note by his majesty's command; and also copies of the official notes presented by the Austrian minister at this court, and of the answers which his majesty commanded to be returned to them, should be laid before you.

"It is with concern that his majesty commands us to inform you, that notwithstanding his earnest wishes to terminate the war in which he is engaged with the Ottoman Porte, his majesty's endeavors, unhappily for the Turkish Empire, have been defeated by the machinations of France, not less the enemy of the Porte than of Great Britain.

"But while the influence of France has been thus unfortunately successful in preventing the termination of existing hostilities, and is exciting new war against this country, his majesty commands us to inform you, that the king of Sweden has resisted every attempt to induce him to abandon his alliance with G. Britain; and that his majesty entertains no doubt that you will feel with him the sacredness of the duty which the firmness and fidelity of the king of Sweden imposes upon his majesty; and that you will concur in enabling his majesty to discharge it in a manner worthy of this country.

"It remains for us, according to his majesty's commands, to state to you that the treaty of commerce and amity between his majesty and the U. States of America, which was concluded and signed by commissioners duly authorised for that purpose, on the 31st Dec. 1806, has not taken effect, in consequence of the refusal of the President of the United States to ratify that instrument.

"For an authorised act of force committed against an American ship of war, his majesty did not hesitate to offer immediately and spontaneous reparation. But an attempt has been made by the American government to connect with the question, which has arisen out of this act, pretensions inconsistent with the marine rights of Great Britain; such pretensions his majesty is determined never to admit. His majesty nevertheless hopes that the American government will be actuated by the same desire to preserve the relations of peace and friendship between the two countries, which has ever influenced his majesty's conduct, and that any difficulties in the discussion now pending may be effectually removed.

"His majesty has commanded us to state to you, that in consequence of the decree by which France declared the whole of his majesty's dominions to be in a state of blockade, and subjected to seizure and confiscation the produce and manufactures of his kingdom, his majesty resorted, in the first instance, to a measure of mitigated retaliation; and that this measure having proved ineffectual for its object, his majesty has since found it necessary to adopt others of greater rigour, which he commands us to state to you, will require the aid of Parliament to give them complete and effectual operation.

"His majesty has directed copies of the orders which he has issued with the advice of his privy council upon this subject, to be laid before you; and he commands us to recommend them to your early attention.

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

"His majesty has directed the estimate for the ensuing year to be laid before you, in the fullest confidence that your loyalty and public spirit will induce you to make such provision for the public service as the urgency of affairs may require.

"His majesty has great satisfaction in informing you, that notwithstanding the difficulties which the enemy has endeavored to impose upon the commerce of his subjects, and upon their intercourse with other nations, the resources of the country have continued in the last year to be so abundant, as to have produced, both from the permanent and temporary revenue, a receipt considerably larger than that of the preceding year.

"The satisfaction which his majesty feels assured you will derive in common with his majesty, from this proof of the solidity of these resources cannot but be greatly increased, if as his majesty confidently hopes, it shall be found possible to raise the necessary supplies for the present year, without any material addition to the public burthens.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"We are especially commanded to say to you in the name of his majesty, that if ever there was a just and national war, it is that which his majesty is now compelled to prosecute. This war is in its principle purely defensive. His majesty looks but to the attainment of a secure and honorable peace; but such a peace can only be negociated upon a footing of perfect equality.

"The eyes of Europe and the world are fixed upon the British Parliament.

"If, as his majesty confidently trusts, you display in this crisis of the country the characteristic spirit of the British nation, and face, unappalled, the unnatural combination which is gathered around us, his majesty bids us to assure you of his firm persuation, that, under the blessing of Divine Providence, the struggle will prove successful and glorious to Great Britain.

"We are, lastly, commanded to assure you, that in this awful and momentous contest, you may rely upon the firmness of his Majesty, who has no cause but that of his people; and that his majesty reciprocally relies on the wisdom, the constancy, and the affectionate support of his parliament.

To the Editor of the N. Y. Citizen.

The following letter, received by mail, has been communicated to several of the friends of governor Clinton, but finding the opinion it was intended to refute, more extensive than at first imagined; the gentleman to whom it was addressed, conceives he will be justified in giving it publicity through the medium of the press.

"*Washington, March 5, 1808.*

"DEAR SIR,

"Yesterday I had the honor to receive your letter of the 1st instant, and am not surprised to learn that some of my friends in your city are induced to infer from my silence on the subject of the nomination of candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President, made some time ago at this place, and since published in the newspapers, that my name was mentioned for the latter, with my knowledge and approbation. The inference is a natural one, although in the present instance incorrect.

"Viewing with great anxiety the critical and alarming situation of our national affairs, and deeply impressed with a belief that it would require the united wisdom and patriotism of the different branches of the government, to avert the dangers which threaten our country, I formed a resolution at the commencement of this important session, not to participate in any conversation touching the ensuing Presidential election, or to express any sentiment or determination respecting it, that might have a tendency to disunion, or any baneful effect on our public deliberations.—This resolution I have hitherto scrupulously observed, and now regret the necessity I feel myself under, of a partial departure from it, in order to remove the false impressions which it seems my silence has occasioned, by assuring my friends, through you, that I never have been directly or indirectly consulted on the subject, either before or since that nomination was made; nor was I even apprised of the meeting held for the purpose, otherwise, than by having accidentally seen a notice or summons to one of the members to attend, from S. R. Bradley, Esq.

"However correct and forcible the objections you have stated against this proceeding may be, yet as it is a business in which I have had no agency or participation, and over which I can have no control; it might be considered improper in me, situated as I am, to make any comments on it.

"I am with great respect and esteem,

"Your most obedient servant,

"GEORGE CLINTON."

An article in the "Democratic Press," a newspaper published in Philadelphia, boasts of the firmness of *George Clinton*, saying it is as easy to move the sun from its sphere as him from his principles, and at the same time accuses Mr. *Madison* of mutability, which it describes as rendering him unworthy of the high office of President of the United States.

We are not disposed to deny the republican virtues and uniform firmness of Mr. *Clinton* before his faculties were impaired by time. Our present venerable President, the failure of the full strength of whose intellectual powers has not been perceived by any body but himself, had yet had modesty enough to yield to the call of age and infirmity, and retire from the arduous duties of office: but Mr. *Clinton*, though much older, and, though conscious of his infirmities several years ago, has now approached so far towards a state of second *youth*, that we suppose he feels a return of his mental vigor and is better qualified than ever to fill the most difficult station in the United States. This may be the case; but as the miracle of boiling or grinding an old man young has ceased to operate since the fabulous ages, we may be excused for doubting the restoration of the faculties even of so exalted a personage as *George Clinton*, who for some time past has been but the ruins of departed greatness, and therefore for questioning also his firmness, at present, however unquestionable it was formerly.

As to Mr. *Madison's* mutability and want of firmness, we positively deny that his conduct has ever afforded any proofs of the existence of such defects in his character. When did he ever change or vary from his political opinions or principles?

It is true that when the party who called themselves erroneously *federalists*, began to deviate from and infringe the principles of the federal constitution, Mr. *Madison*, its first founder and undeviating advocate, without regarding the *name* they had usurped, or his being nick-named an *anti-federalist* for his opposition to their measures, did with gallant firmness combat, and in many instances repel their attacks upon that sacred instrument, which is truly the palladium of our liberties. For this he was stigmatized by the *false federalists* as a turn-coat, who had forsaken their cause; but we never expected to have seen the charge repeated in these times by a democratic printer. The charge is however, so ridiculously opposite to the whole tenor of Mr. *Madison's* political career, that we shall say no more on the subject.

Virginia Argus.

WASHINGTON CITY, March 21.

We understand that the *negociations* between our government and Mr. Rose were, on Friday last, brought to a close by the receipt of his final note. They are said to have been suspended on the preliminary requisition made by him that the President's proclamation should be rescinded. Mr. Rose, in the first instance, apprised our government of his authority to offer reparation for the attack on the Chesapeake, without specifying what that reparation would be; but required that previously to its being made the proclamation should be revoked. Much interlocutory matter passed; when he was informed that if he would state the reparation and assurances he was empowered to make, and they should be considered by our government as satisfactory, they would be taken as a pledge of amity, and that the act of reparation and revocation of the proclamation should bear co-temporaneous date. This, in his ultimatum, he declined doing.

It is understood that early in the week a very comprehensive communication will be made to Congress, embracing the whole of the negociations relative to the Chesapeake, the whole of the correspondence on our general relations with England, and so much, respecting the other European powers with whom we have had differences, as will give a full view of the state of our relations with them.

Mr. Pickering, of the Senate of the United States has caused to be published a long letter written by him on the 16th of February to gov. Sullivan, principally against the embargo, which that gentleman has most correctly, we are advised, returned to the writer. Nothing but its extreme length (it occupies more than five columns of a newspaper) prevents us at present from republishing it. We shall certainly hereafter give it to the public, when we are released from the great press of original matter connected with the measures of Congress. In the mean time, we cannot refrain from expressing a hope that the republican prints may generally give it to their readers. It will present to the [illegible], already, perhaps, sufficiently known; of a man, whose rare felicity it has been to gain confidence only to abuse and lose it, and of whom it is difficult to decide, whether at this moment he ranks lower in the estimation of his political friends or enemies. Indeed it is rather absurd to talk of political enemies of one who in the zenith of his power excited neither admiration or envy.

An abler defence of the administration and of the embargo could not have been made. Its tissue of misrepresentations in point of fact, and its total destitution of any thing having the semblance of logic, prove, to demonstration, that the Essex junto (of which Mr. P. is a member) and to whom belongs almost the exclusive honor of reprobating the embargo since it was laid, are the victims of infuriated passion, and are animated altogether by the hope of embarrassing the measures of government. But the attempt will be in vain. The American people have no personal or sinister interests to subserve; they are neither hurried away by passion, nor guided by pique. They do not feel the mortification of disappointed ambition; and they can contemplate superior virtue and talents without a blush. They, in short, know their interests too well to be misled.

We find that a call has been made in the Senate of Massachusetts on the governor for the letter, and very properly rejected—Ayes 12, Nays 18.

MESSAGE

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I have heretofore communicated to Congress the decrees of the government of France of November 21, 1806, and of Spain of February 19, 1807, with the orders of the British government of January and November, 1807.

I now transmit a decree of the emperor of France of December 17, 1807, and a similar decree of the 3d of January, by his most Catholic majesty. Although the decree of France has not been received by official communication, yet the different channels of promulgation through which the public are possessed of it, with the formal testimony furnished by the government of Spain in their decree, leave us without a doubt that such an one has been issued. These decrees and orders taken together, want little of amounting to a declaration that every neutral vessel found on the high seas, whatsoever be her cargo, and whatsoever foreign port be that of her departure or destination, shall be deemed lawful prize: and they prove more and more the expediency of retaining our vessels, our seamen and property within our harbors until the dangers to which they are exposed, can be removed or lessened.

TH: JEFFERSON.

March 17, 1808.

FROM THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN.

Extract of a letter from Washington, to the editor, dated 13th March, 1808.

DEAR SIR—The vice president has appeared in the American Citizen of of the 10th inst. under his own signature.

It is to be regretted that he has not signified his approbation or his disapprobation of the nomination that has been made. Will he serve again as vice president if re-elected?—Or will he offer himself as a candidate for the presidency? If he do, the union of the republican party will be insured, and the vain attempts of ambitious schismatics be defeated. He ought, however, to declare his intentions; for a gentleman *in* office, is generally considered as willing to continue therein, unless he declares to the contrary.

The Caucus at Lancaster had but one great object in view, that of making Snyder their next governer. No question as to the person who would be put in nomination for president, was agitated. The electors are each left to determine for himself as to the proper character. The different parties here each claim a majority. For your satisfaction, I send you a statement of the probable result of the election. Indeed, without some unforeseen event should happen, it is almost certain.

Yours, &c.

N. B. The manner of election in each state—L. legislature, G. T. general ticket, D. district.

For Madison—Georgia (L.) 6, South Carolina (L.) 13, N. Carolina (D.) 14, Virginia (G. T.) 24, Tennessee (D.) 5, Kentucky (D.) 8, Ohio (G. T.) 3, Massachusetts (L.) 19, Vermont (L.) 6, Rhode Island (G. T.) 4, New Jersey, (G. T.) 8.—Total, 107.

Uncertain or divided—Connecticut (L.) 9, New Hampshire (G. T.) 7, Delaware (L.) 3 Maryland (D.) 11, Pennsylvania (G. T.) 20—Total 50, New-York 19.

[If the observation and information of the editor of this paper are correct, the votes of Pennsylvania will not be divided, they will be decidedly for Mr. *Madison*. So that, as things now appear, the majority will probably number 127—leaving to certain and uncertain 40 votes. To promote a completed [illegible] unanimous vote, as the vice presi- in that [illegible] wise and proper to take up Mr. *Dewit Clinton* as the republican candidate for vice president. We suspect no measure could be more effectual in allaying angry passions.] AURORA.

The 'man Timothy' Pickering, a senator from the state of Massachusetts, has addressed a long letter to governor Sullivan,—reprehending the embargo and abusing the government. Timothy seems to be a 'day after the fair,' for even *Supposing* that which, as Paddy might say, *cannot be supposed*, that the *merchants* and others in congress passed the act laying an embargo for the express purpose of injuring *themselves* and their countrymen, after events have convinced all honest men that the embargo in the present state of things, is the only measure which could have been adopted to protect and defend the best interests of the country; however hard it may bear upon a large portion of society, it is certainly preferable to war, which would necessarily result from an attempt to trade with the nations of Europe or their colonies, in the distracted state of the world.

If the embargo and the pacific representations of our government shall have no effect on the belligerent nations, and war must ensue, we shall be much better prepared to meet it, by having our citizens and their property at home, than we should otherwise have been.—Since the passage of the law, property to the value of more than one hundred million of dollars has arrived in our ports and is in *safety*, which would have been exposed to the *mercy* of the *merciless*, and the *justice* of the *unjust*.

Balt. Ev. Post.

Racing.

WILL be run for on Easter Monday next, through the New-Market Lane, Dorchester county, a purse of FIFTY DOLLARS, half a mile heats, free for any horse, mare or gelding who has never won a purse, carrying weights agreeably to the rules of the late Jockey Club of this place. Non-subscribers to pay double entrance.

On the following day, a first rate *Saddle, Bridle*, and *Whip*, all of the best imported materials, to be paid for with the entrance money of the day preceding, and the race to be run agreeably to the same rules. Gentlemen sportsmen of Talbot and Queen-Ann's, and others, are invited to attend. Good accommodations and attendance will be had by

JAMES OREM.

New-Market, March 22, 1808. 3