STAR

OR,

EASTERN SHORE GENERAL ADVERTISER

*EASTON:* TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 29, 1808.

Mr. Rose, took his leave of the President of the United States on Monday the 21st inst. and proceeded to take his departure in the Statira frigate, for England.

*Washington City, March 25.*

On Tuesday the President laid before both Houses of Congress the following IMPORTANT MESSAGE. The documents are so very voluminous that a considerable portion of them yet remain unread, although three entire days have been devoted to the perusual. A part of them, connected with the others, being confidential, the doors have been kept closed. To morrow, it is supposed, the reading will be brought to a close. In the mean time the Senate have directed 500 copies of the papers relative to the Chesapeake to be printed, and the House have directed 5,000 copies of all the papers to be published, as read. As these communications are of the deepest importance, and ought to be in the hands of every American, we shall push the publication with the utmost spirit.

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

At the opening of the present session, I informed the legislature, that the measures which had been taken with the government of Great Britain, for the settlement of our neutral and national rights, and of the conditions of commerce and intercourse with that nation, had resulted in articles of a treaty, which could not be acceded to on our part; that instructions had consequently been sent to our ministers there, to resume the negotiations, and to endeavor to obtain certain alterations, and that this was interrupted by a transaction which took place between the frigates Leopard and Chesapeake. I shall call on that government for reparation of this wrong produced, as Congress have already been informed, the mission of a special Minister to this country, and the occasion is now arrived, when the public interest permits and requires, that the whole of these proceedings should be made known to you.

I therefore now communicate the instructions given to our Minister resident at London, and his communications to that government, on the subject of the Chesapeake, with the correspondence which has taken place here between the Secretary of State and Mr. Rose, the special Minister charged with the adjustment of that difference; the instructions to our Ministers for the formation of a treaty; their correspondence with the British commissioners, and with their own government on that subject; the treaty itself and written declaration of the British Commissioners accompanying it; and the instructions given by us for resuming the negociation, with the proceedings and correspondence subsequent thereto. To these have added a letter lately addressed to the Secretary of State from one of our late Ministers, which, tho' not strictly written in an official character, I think it my duty to communicate, in order that the views of the proposed treaty, and its several articles, may be fairly presented and understood.

Although I have heretofore, and from time to time, made such communications to Congress, as to keep them possessed of a general and just view of the proceedings and dispositions of the government of France towards this country, yet in our present critical situation, when we find that no conduct on our part, however impartial and friendly, has been sufficient to insure, from either belligerent, a just respect for our rights, I am desirous that nothing shall be omitted on my part, which may add to your information on this subject, or contribute to the correctness of the views which should be formed. The papers which for these reasons, I now lay before you, embrace all the communications, official or verbal, from the French government, respecting the general relations between the two countries, which have been transmitted through our Minister there, or through any other accredited channel, since the last session of Congress; to which time all information of the same kind had, from time to time, been given them.—Some of those papers have already been submitted to Congress; but it is thought better to offer them again in order that the chain of communications, of which they make a part, may be presented unbroken.

When, on the 26th of February, I communicated to both Houses the letter of Gen. Armstrong to M. Champagny, I desired it might not be published, because of the tendency of that practice to restrain injuriously the freedom of our foreign correspondence. But perceiving that this caution, proceeding purely from a regard to the public good, has furnished occcasion for disseminating unfounded suspicions and insinuations, I am induced to believe that the good which will now result from its publication, by confirming the confidence and union of our fellow-citizens, will more than countervail the ordinary objection to such publications. It is my wish therefore that it may be now published.

TH: JEFFERSON.

*March* 22, 1808.

No. I.

*From Mr. Madison to Mr. Monroe.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

SIR, *July* 6, 1807.

THE documents herewith enclosed, from No. 1 to No. 9, inclusive, explain the hostile attack with the insulting pretext for it, lately committed near the Capes of Virginia, by the British ship of war the Leopard, on the American frigate the Chesapeake. No. 10, is a copy of the proclamation issued by the President, interdicting in consequence of that outrage the use of our waters and every other accommodation to all British armed ships.

The enormity is not a subject for discussion. The immunity of a national ship of war from every species and purpose of search on the high seas, has never been molested by any nation. Great Britain would be second to none in resenting such a violation of her rights and such an insult on her flag. She may bring the case to the test of her own feelings by supposing that instead of the customary demand of our mariners serving compulsively even on board her ships of war, opportunities had been seized for rescuing them in like manner whenever the superiority of force or the chance of surprise might be possessed by our ships of war.

But the present case is marked by circumstances which give it a peculiar die. The seamen taken from the Chesapeake had been ascertained to be native citizens of the United States, and this fact was made known by the bearer of the demand, and doubtless communicated by him to his commander previous to the commencement of the attack. It is a fact also, affirmed by two men, with every appearance of truth, that they had been impressed from American vessels into the British frigate, from which they escaped, and by a third, that having been impressed from a British merchant ship, he had accepted the recruiting bounty under that duress and with a view to alleviate his situation, till he could escape to his own country: and that the attack was made during a period of negociation, and in the midst of friendly assurances from the British government.

The printed papers herewith sent will enable you to judge of the spirit which has been roused by the occasion. It pervades the whole community; is abolishing the distinctions of party; and regarding only the indignity offered to the sovereignty and flag of the nation, and the blood of citizens so wantonly and wickedly shed, demands in the loudest tone an honorable reparation.

With this demand you are charged by the President. The tenor of his proclamation will be your guide in reminding the British government of the uniform proofs given by the United States of their disposition to maintain faithfully every friendly relation; of the multiplied infractions of their rights by British naval commanders on our coasts and in our harbors; of the inefficacy of reiterated appeals to the justice and friendship of that government; and of the moderation on the part of the United States, which reiterated disappointments had not extinguished; till at length no alternative is left, but a voluntary satisfaction on the part of Great Britain or a resort to means depending on the United States alone.

The nature and extent of the satisfaction ought to be suggested to the British government, not less by a sense of its own honor than by justice to that of the United States. A formal disavowal of the deed, and restoration of the four seamen to the ship from which they were taken, are things of course, and indispensable. As a security for the future, an entire abolition of impressments from vessels, under the flag of the U. States, if not already arranged, is also to make an indispensable part of the satisfaction. The abolition must be on terms compatiable with the instructions to yourself and Mr. Pinckney on this subject; and if possible without the authorised rejection from the service of the U. States of British seamen who have not been two years in it. Should it be impossible to avoid this concession on the part of the United States, it ought, as of itself more than a reasonable price for future security, to extend the reparation due for the past.

But beyond these indispensible conditions, the United States have a right to expect every solemnity of form and every other ingredient of retribution and respect which according to usage and the sentiments of mankind, are proper in the strongest cases of insult to the rights and sovereignty of a nation. And the British government is to be apprised of the importance of a full compliance with this expectation to the thorough healing of the wound which has been made in the feelings of the American nation.

Should it be alledged as a ground for declining or diminishing the satisfaction in this case, that the United States have themselves taken it by the interdict contained in the proclamation, the answer will be obvious. The interdict is a measure, not of reparation, but of precaution, and would besides be amply justified by occurrences prior to the extraordinary outrage in question.

The exclusion of all armed ships whatever from our waters, is in fact so much required by the vexation and dangers to our peace experienced from their visits, that the President makes it a special part of the charge to you, to avoid laying the United States under any species of restraint from adopting that remedy. Being extended to all belligerent nations, none of them could of right complain, and with the less reason, as the policy of most nations has limited the admission of foreign ships of war into their ports, to such numbers as being inferior to the naval force of the country, could be readily made to respect its authority and laws.

As it may be useful, in enforcing the justice of the present demand, to bring into view applicable cases, especially where Great Britain has been the complaining party, I refer you to the ground taken and the language held by her in those of Falkland's island and Nootka Sound, notwithstanding the assertion by Spain in both cases, that the real right was in her, and the possessory only in Great Britain. These cases will be found in the Annual Registers for 1771, and 1790 and the parliamentary debates for those years. In the latter you will find also two cases referred to, in one of which the French king sent an ambassador extraordinary to the king of Sardinia, in the most public and solemn manner, with an apology for an infringement of his territorial rights in the pursuit of a smuggler and murderer. In the other case, an ambassador extraordinary was sent by the British government to the court of Portugal, with an apology, for the pursuit and destruction by admiral Boscawen of certain French ships on the coasts of this last kingdom. Many other cases, more or less analagous, may doubtless be found; see, particularly the reparation by France to Great Britain, for the attack on Turks Island in 1764, as related in the Annual Register and in Smollet's continuation of Hume, vol. 10, the proceedings in the case of an English merchantman, which suffered much in her crew and otherwise, from the fire of certain Spanish zebecs cruizing in the Mediterranean; and the execution of the lieutenant of a privateer, for firing a gun into a Venetian merchantman, which killed the captain, as stated in the Annual Register, for 1731, page 94. The case of an affront offered to a Russian ambassador in the reign of Queen Ann, though less analogous, shews in a general view, the solemnity with which reparation is made, for insults having immediate relation to the sovereignty of a nation,

Although the principle which was outraged in the proceedings against the American frigate is independent of the question concerning the allegiance of the seamen taken from her, the fact that they were citizens of the United States, and not British subjects, may have such an influence on the feelings of all, and perhaps on the opinions of some unacquainted with the laws and usages of nations that it has been thought proper to seek more regular proofs of their national character, than were deemed sufficient in the first instace. These proofs will be added by this conveyance if obtained in time, if not by the first that succeeds.

The President has an evident right to expect from the British government not only an ample reparation to the United States, in this case but that it will be decided without difficulty or delay. Should this expectation fail, and above all, should reparation be refused, it will be incumbent on you to take proper measures for hastening home, according to the degree of urgency, all American vessels remaining in British ports; using for the purpose, the mode least likely to awaken the attention of the British government. Where there may be no ground to distrust the prudence or fidelity of consuls, they will probably be found the fittest vehicles for your intimations. It will be particularly requisite to communicate to our public ships in the Mediterranean, the state of appearances, if it be such as ought to influence their movements.

All negociation, with the British government on other subjects, will of course be suspended until satisfaction on this be so pledged and arranged as to render negociation honorable. Whatever may be the result or the prospect, you will please to forward to us the earliest information.

The scope of the proclamation will signify to you that the President has yielded to the presumption that the hostile act of the British commander did not pursue the intentions of his government. It is not indeed easy to suppose that so rash and so critical a step should have originated with the admiral, but it is still more difficult to believe, that such orders were prescribed by any government, under circumstances such as existed between Great Britain and the United States.

Calculations founded on dates, are also strongly oppossed to the supposition that the orders in question could have been transmitted from England. In the same scale, are to be put the apparent and declared persuasion of the British representative, Mr. Erskine, that no orders of a hostile spirit could have been issued or authorised by his government; and the co-incidence of this assurance with the amicable professions of Mr. Canning, the organ of the new administration, as stated in the dispatch of April 22d, from yourself and Mr. Pinkney.

Proceeding on these considerations, the President has inferred that the justice and honor of the British government will readily make the atonement required; and in that expectation, he has forborne an immediate call of Congress; notwithstanding the strong wish which has been manifested by many, that measures depending on their authority, should without delay be adopted.—The motives, to this forbearance have, at the same time, been strengthened by the policy of avoiding a course which might stimulate the British Cruisers, in this quarter, to arrest our ships and seamen now arriving and shortly expected in great numbers from all quarters. It is probable, however, that the legislature will be convened in time to receive the answer of the British government on the subject of this dispatch, or even sooner, if the conduct of the British squadron here, or other occurrences, should require immediate measures beyond the authority of the Executive.

In order to give the more expedition and security to the present dispatch, a public armed vessel, the Revenge, is specially employed; and doctor Bullus is made the bearer, who was on board the Chesapeake, on his way to a consulate in the Mediterranean, and will be able to detail and explain circumstances which may possibly become interesting in the course of your communications with the British government.

The vessel, after depositing doctor Bullus at a British port, will proceed with dispatches to a French port, but will return to England with a view to bring the result of your transactions with the British government. The trip to France will afford you and Mr. Pinckney a favorable opportunity of communicating with our ministers at Paris, who being instructed to regulate their conduct of the present occasion by the advices they may receive from you, will need every explanation that can throw light on the probable turn and issue of things with Great-Britain.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) JAMES MADISON.

[The foregoing very important message, and document, is all that the late hour, and crowded state of the paper, will permit us to lay before our readers this morning—they shall be continued; and we solicit subscribers to retain their papers in order to test the result with the causes.]

Much ado is making about the letter of *Timothy Pickering*, by men of similar sentiments; we shall publish it, with some of the writer's *consistencies*.

MARRIED, on Thursday evening last, by the rev. Joseph Jackson, Mr. *William Clark*, merchant, to Miss *Sally S. Logan*, both of this town.

## Attention

*THE Mechanical Company of Easton, will meet at the Court-House, on* SATURDAY *next, 2d of April, without uniform, with wooden snappers—Roll will call at 3 o'clock, P. M.*

*By order,*

JOHN BARTON, Sec'ry.

*March* 29.

*ATTENTION.*

☞ *The attendance of the "Talbot Patriot Troop," is requested at* 10 *o'clock, A. M. at Easton, on* Saturday, *the second of April.* *By order,*

J. BENNETT Sec'ry.

March 22, 1808.

## Farmers Bank of Maryland.

BRANCH BANK, AT EASTON.

THE President and Directors have declared a dividend of four per cent on the capital of this Bank, for the last six months, ending the first April next, which will be payable to the stockholders or their legal representatives, on Monday the 4th.

By order,

HALL HARRISON, *Cashier.*

March 29, 1808. 3

## *J. B. Duclairacy,*

RESPECTFULLY informs the *Ladies* and *Gentlemen* of EASTON, and its Vicinity, that his DANCING SCHOOL will commence on Friday and Saturday, the first and second April; and in consequence of his having to return to Baltimore, he will teach on the Monday and Tuesday following—On his return, he will keep every Wednesday and Thursday, beginning the 20th April. He also intends keeping a *Night School*, if a sufficient number of scholars will attend.

N. B. Immediate application is necessary at Mr. Owen Kennard's Store, where the subscription paper is left.

March 29, 1808. 3q

*THE Medical, and Chirurgical Board of Examiners for the Eastern Shore of Maryland will meet at Easton on Wednesday the 20th of April for the purpose of granting Licenses to practise Medicine and Surgery agreeably to law.*

*March* 29, 1808. 3

## For Sale,

A FARM at the head of Caroline county near the *Long Marsh*, and adjacent to the lands of Mr. *Thomas Hardcastle*. There are about two thirds of this land in woods, and well timbered. It contains about 250 acres; the improvements but indifferent. Also a farm in the same county near Hillsborough, which contains 100 acres of fertile land. There is also a lot of a few acres, within half a mile, which is valuable. Also, a lot of ground in Easton, enclosed. All of which the subscriber will sell on good terms.

PRICE MARTINDALE.

March 29, 1808.

## In Chancery, March 16, 1808.

*Henry Pratt, Samuel Harvey & others,* AGAINST *Jacob, Elizabeth Thomas, & Nathaniel David heirs of Joseph David, deceased.*

THE object of the Bill in this cause filed, is to obtain a decree to foreclose a mortgage executed by Joseph David, deceased, for securing a sum of money to Joseph Baker, and Cornelius Comegys, or for the sale of the mortgaged premises, to wit: part of several tracts of land in Queen-Anne's county called Pasture, Bathsheba and David's Chance, containing in the whole four hundred and twenty Acres, and five eighths of an Acre, for the payment of seven hundred and eighty dollars; the bill states that the defendants reside out of the state of Maryland.—It is thereupon adjudged and ordered that the complainants by causing a copy of this order to be inserted once in each of three successive weeks, in a newspaper at Easton, before the 16th day of April next, give notice to the defendants of this application, and of the object of the bill; that they may be warned to appear in person or by a solicitor of the Court, on or before the 16th day of August next, to shew cause if any they have, wherefore a decree should not be passed as prayed.

True Copy—Test.

NICH. BREWER,
Reg. Cur. Can.

## In Chancery, March 16, 1808.

*Robert Walters, Philip Fideman & others,* AGAINST *Jonathan and Robert Seney and others.*

THE object of the Bill in this cause filed is to obtain a decree for the sale of the real estate of John Seney, deceased, for the payment of his debts, upon the ground that his personal estate is insufficient for that purpose; the bill states that Jonathan and Robert Seney, two of the defendants, reside out of the state of Maryland.

It is thereupon adjudged and ordered that the complainants by causing a copy of this order to be inserted once in each of three successive weeks before the 16th day of April next, in a news-paper at Easton, give notice to the absent defendants of this application and of the substance and object of the bill, that they may be warned to appear here in person or by a solicitor of this Court, on or before the 16th day of August next, to shew cause if any they have, wherefore a decree should not be passed as prayed.

True Copy—Test.

NICH. BREWER,
Reg. Cur. Can.

## Notice.

ON application in writing, to the judges of Queen-Anne's county court, of *Benjamin O'Bryon*, an insolvent debtor, praying the benefit of the act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, passed at November session Eighteen hundred and five, and of the supplementary act of November session Eighteen hundred and six, on the terms mentioned, in the said acts; a schedule of his property and a list of his creditors, on oath as far as he can ascertain them as directed by the said acts, being annexed to this petition and the court being satisfied by competent testimony that the said Benjamin O'Bryon has resided the two preceding years within the state of Maryland, prior to his application, it is thereupon ordered that the said Benjamin O'Bryon by causing a copy of this to be inserted in the Baltimore Evening Post, and Easton Star, four weeks successively, before the next session of Q. Anne's county court) give notice to his creditors, to appear before the said court, to be held for Q. Anne's county, on the first Tuesday in May next, for the purpose of recommending a trustee for their benefit, on the said Benjamin O'Bryon, then and there taking the oath by the said act, prescribed for delivering up his property.—Given under my hand this 18th day of March, eighteen hundred and eight.

4 SAM. T. WRIGHT, Clk.

## Notice

IS hereby given, to all persons indebted to the estate of *Mary Pinkind*, late of Talbot county, deceased, to make immediate payment to the subscriber; and all persons having claims against said estate, are (by order of the orphan's court of Talbot county) warned to exhibit the same, properly authenticated, for settlement, on or before the 3d day of October next, on which day a final settlement of said estate will be made, and delinquents barred by law. Given under my hand this 29th day of March, 1808.

BENNETT PINKIND, *Adm'r of* Mary Pinkind, dec'd. 3