FOR THE STAR.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

At a numerous and respectable meeting of the democratic citizens of Kent county, held on the 4th ult. at the house of Thomas Peacock, head of Chester, Maryland,

Dr. JOHN THOMAS was called to the chair, and

CORNELIUS COMEGYS, Esq. was appointed secretary.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of a committee of seven citizens, to draw up an address and resolutions. Whereupon, Dr. John T. Rees, Dr. Robert G. Maxwell, Benjamin Massey, Joseph Thompson, William Ferrall, James Brook, and George Palmer, Esqrs. were duly elected, and after an appropriate speech from the chair, reported the following address and resolutions, which were read, and unanimously agreed to.—

TO JAMES MADISON, ESQ.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SIR—It is with the greatest pleasure, we in common with our fellow citizens throughout the union, welcome you with congratulations, to the presidential chair. This is a day of proud triumph for the republic of America; and we hail it with those honest and cordial feelings, that distinguish freemen—You have been elevated to that dignified seat, by the old soldiers of the revolution, and their decendants, the real advocates of liberty: yes, sir, you have been thus honorably supported, through the political storms of a factious opposition, and against torrents of intrigue and corruption.

It is now eight years since the same republican party, placed your predecessor, Mr. Jefferson, in the presidency; at that time, excessive taxation, and laws hostile to the freedom for which we fought, were subjects of just and loud complaint. In their Jefferson, his fellow citizens placed their confidence, and from his administration much was expected:—they were not disappointed.—Those impolitic and unjust measures were abolished; the wisdom of his administration redounded to the interest of his country, and the republic flourised beyond example.

That clangor of arms—that "*horridem bellom*" which has convulsed all Europe to its centre, covered its plains with human blood, and revolutionized nations, was not be viewed with indifference, by the wise government of our country; accordingly, the administration observed its progress with a vigilant eye, and by a judicious policy, guarded us from it ruinous effects.—Thus while other nations were bleeding by the sword and bayonet, and expiring in the agonies of war and famine, our country presented the most secure and pleasing aspect. A great and increasing nation, under a mild and free government, peace smiling through the land, industry enlivening the inhabitants, and a universal plenty cheering alike the peasant and citizen, the cottager and the statesman.

Although a wise and just policy has thus preserved us from the political vortex of Europe, which has swallowed nations in its eddy, it has not been able to preserve us from insult and injury. The two great belligerents, England and France, in the deadly contest between them, have aimed blows at each other, which in their effects, had they not been warded off by our government, would have crippled the independence of our country. Regardless of all justice, those powers have trampled on the rights of neutrals, and treated with contempt the laws of nations.—Our commerce has been fettered by their arbitrary restrictions, our merchantmen subject to piracal capture, and our native seamen seized on board our own ships, and shamefully forced into foreign service.—These multiplied aggressions have brought us into a collision, and nearly to hostilities, with those powers. Our government, while it has taken a dignified and manly attitude, has at the same time, manifested every disposition for an honorable adjustment; thus proving to the world, that they are directed by the most liberal and enlightened policy.

In this important and critical situation of our national affairs, you, sir, ascend the chair of state. It is unnecessary to recount the past transactions of your political life, it is sufficient to say, we have viewed you in subordinate stations, and the zeal and ability with which you have discharged the trust reposed in you, has given us the utmost confidence in your talents and integrity.—Whether our differences with the European powers will be amicably settled, or settled by an appeal to arms, is yet uncertain; for either event the nation is prepared, and rests satisfied, that the government will prefer an honorable war, to a dishonorable peace. If in the issue, the freeman must shoulder, his firelock, to preserve his liberty, that spirit which in '76 led our fathers to victory, will again be distinguished in the heroism of their children.

With the united wisdom of a patriotic congress to assist you, and supported by a people who glory in their freedom, we trust you will be able to surmount all difficulties, to act with energy, to guard the republic on all sides, and to crush the enemies of its independence;—alike domestic traitors and foreign foes.

With full confidence that you will emulate the bright example of the illustrious statesman who has gone before you, and that when you retire from office, it will also be with your blushing honors thick upon you, we wish you long life, health and happiness.

Resolved, That we hail this day, which ushers James Madison to the presidential chair, and with pleasure anticipate that each revolving year will witness its aniversary, commemorated by plaudits of encreasing thousands of republicans. President Madison is not esteemed by us through party considerations only, but for his tried virtues, independence, integrity and patriotism; we have the most exalted opinion of his talents, and have full confidence of his administering the government with the like wisdom, mildness, and dignity which has ever characterised his former public conduct.

Resolved, That Thomas Jefferson, late president of the United States, is entitled to the gratitude of his country for his long and beneficial public services, and his consistency in maintaining the policy corresponding in principles with that which gave America independence and liberty; and although our country is deprived, by his resignation, of the talents of one of its greatest statesmen, yet we greatly approve of the motives which have thus actuated his conduct. He has now virtuously practised what he has long taught in theory, that rotation in office is eminently essential to the happiness and prosperity of our country.

Resolved, That we highly approve of the measures of the late administration of the general government, and view the laying the embargo as a manly and prudent measure, calculated to restore our property, then on the seas, and avert the horrors of war; or give us time to prepare for the combat, should the lawless & infamous conduct of either belligerent nation, render such an event ultimately necessary.

Resolved, That we view with the utmost indignation and contempt, the insolent letter of Mr. Canning and his endeavor to alienate the good opinion of the people from our present happy form of government. We also view in the same light, the infamous dictatorial letter of the French minister Mr. Champagny.

Resolved, That we have no preference for any foreign nation whatever, and are ready, at the risk of the loss of our lives and property, to assert and maintain our independence, our honor, and our rights, against any nation who may dare assume the temerity to outrage or insult them.

Resolved, That those characters who pledged themselves to support the constituted authorities, immediately subsequent to the attack on the Chesapeake, and are now clamoring against the measures of the government, were insincere in their professions, and should not be forgotten.

Resolved, That it is with the most indignant astonishment, we hear American citizens apologizing for British aggressions—justifying them in the repeated violations of our neutrality—hinting at an alliance offensive & defensive with England extolling the wisdom, the firmness & magnanimity of the British government—attempting to weaken and distract our own, by slandering the president, the administration and congress—endeavoring to foment division—creating suspicion in the minds of the people unfriendly to their government, and charging the administaation with being under French influence!—Such language we despise, and must ever look upon the man who is capable of making use of it, at a time like this, when unanimity is so essential, as inimical to the freedom of our country.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1809.

SIR,

I have received your letter of the 16th inst. enclosing the proceedings of "the Democratic Citizens of Kent county, on the 4th inst." I am greatly obliged by the kind expressions towards me, which have a place in those proceedings—and the more so as the value of them is enhanced by the patriotic spirit which characterizes the meeting. In prefering peace, though prepared for a suspension of its blessings, when the national rights cannot be otherwise maintained; and in doing justice to the measures and motives by which those blessings have been cherished, without an abandonment of those rights they have shewn themselves worthy of the country and government of which they are citizens. It is a grateful reflection that alike disposition prevails throughout the great mass of our countrymen; and it may reasonably be hoped that the number forming an exception, will every day diminish under the influence of truth, and of the general example.—I tender to the citizens of Kent county, to whom I am indebted for the address transmitted by you, my sincere respects and friendly wishes.

JAMES MADISON.

To Cornelius Comegys, Esq.
Kent County, Md.

FROM THE NEW YORK MERCANTILE ADVERTISER.

VERY LATE AND IMPORTANT FOREIGN NEWS.

At a late hour last night, the British Packet Prince Adolphus, capt. Boulderson, arrived at this port from Falmouth, via Bermuda. She sailed from the former place on the 21st of February, and the latter 8 days since. A gentleman passenger, has politely furnished us with a file of London papers to the 4th of February; and the following verbal intelligence.

That the British army in Spain, had retreated to Corunna, where they had a very desperate battle with the French, in which the commander in cheif, Gen. Moore was killed, and Sir David Baird wounded, having lost an arm. That all the British troops that could get on board the transports at Corunna, had arrived in England, and that from 8 to 10,000 men were stated to be missing, and only 300 horses saved out of about 5000—that the emperor Bonaparte had returned to Paris, being fearful that the emperor of Austria was going to declare war against him. That king Joseph had been defeated by the Spaniards and driven from Madrid, but had returned there again—that the Spaniards were concentrating all their forces in the Southern part of Spain, and if defeated by the French, would retire to Cadiz, from whence it was supposed the would embark for South America. The British had recently sent 10,000 troops to Spain, and 30,000 more were preparing to go—that the British Parliament met about the 21st of January, and that no change had taken place in the British Ministry—that the sloop of war Halifax, sailed from Bermuda, two days before the Prince Adolphus, for Norfolk, having on board Mr. Oakley, bearer of Dispatches, said to be of the utmost importance, that were brought to Bermuda, by a ship of war, which sailed from England two day after the packet.

A London paper of Feb. 4, states, that Mr. Oakley was going out to America, with dispatches to Mr. Erskine, containing offers to rescind the orders in Council, provided the American government would enter into certain commercial regulations.

In our next paper, we shall probably be able to furnish our readers with a regular series of datails from London papers to the 16th or 17th of February. Our file being irregular, we have no paper that contains the King's Speech at the meeting of Parliament.

LONDON, Feb. 3.

The 29th and 30th French Bulletins reached town this morning; the former contains an account of the surrender of a Spanish army of 12,000 men, under the command of General Panegas, who was killed, to Gen. Victor.

The 30th Bulletin, which is dated Valladolid, the 21st ult. contains an account of the battle before Corunna, and of the victory which the French obtained there, with the loss only of 100 men killed and 150 wounded! The loss of the English, of course, is represented as immense; but it is singular that no notice is taken of the death of gen. Moore, or the wound of Sir D. Baird; from this circumstance we may infer that the French had not entered Corunna, or they must of course have been informed of the death of the commander in chief.

The bulletins do not state the French had entered either Ferrol or Corunna.

It is with pleasure we learn that the accounts which government have this day received from Lisbon, dated the 24th ult. are of a contrary nature to those which were yesterday mentioned.

No advices had reached Lisbon to that time, of the arrival of the French in Portugal. The people were arming and appeared determined to resist the enemy. The British troops were not, as reported, evacuating Lisbon, but as one of our regiments had embarked on a particular service, that circumstance might naturally give rise to the rumour.

London Feb. 4.

It is reported Lord Cochrane and part of his ships crew have been taken in a Spanish fort, which he assisted in defending against the French.

Dispatches were yesterday received from Admiral Berkley at Lisbon, brought by captain Reilly, who left the Tagus on the 24th of January. The British troops had all come in from the frontiers of Portugal in consequence of the approach of the French. The 14th and 20th Light Dragoons, and the 29th foot, with two battallions of the German Legion, were preparing to embark in the Tagus. Their destination is supposed to be Cadiz.

We are sorry to state that the fleet of transports which lately sailed from Yarmouth Roads, under convoy of the Niobe, for Cadiz, have been dispersed in a tremendous gale of the 30th ult. The Lord Hood, one of the transports, has put into Portsmouth, and the master states that when he parted, only 13 out of the 37, which left Yarmouth were in company.

The British troops from Spain, which had arrived at Plymouth, were ordered to re-embark (with the exception of the sick) on the 2d inst.

The interment of Sir John Moore took place at Corunna, the next day after his death, at an early hour.

Major Campbell of the 42d, Ensign Hall, of the 38th, and the Rev. M. Cooley attached to the horse brigade of Lord Paget, died last Friday; the two former of their wounds.

THIRTIETH BULLETIN OF THE ARMY OF SPAIN.

VALLADOLID, Jan. 21.

The Dake Dalmatia left Batanzos on the 12th inst. Having reached the Mero, he found the bridge of Burgo cut. The enemy was dislodged from the village of Burgo. In the mean while Gen. Franceschi ascended the river, which he crossed at the bridge of Bela. He made himself master of the hige road from Corunna to Santiago, and took six officers and 60 soldiers prisoners. On the same day a body of 30 marines, who were fetching water from the bay near Mero, were taken. From the village of Perillo, the English fleet could be observed in the harbor of Corunna.

On the 13th, the enemy caused two powder magazines, situated near the heights of St. Margaret, at half a league from Corunna, to be blown up. The explosion was terrible, and was felt at the distance of three leagues.

On the 14th, the bridge at Burgo, was repaired, and the French artillery was able to pass. The enemy had taken a position at two leagues distance, half a league before Corunna. He was seen employed in hastily embarking his sick and wounded, the number of which, according to spies and deserters, amounts to three or four thousand men. The English were in the meanwhile occupied in destroying the batteries on the coast, and laying waste the country on the sea shore. Commandant of the fort of St. Philip, suspecting the fate intended for his fortification refused to admit them in it.

On the evening of the 14th we saw a fresh convoy of 150 sail arrive, among which were four ships of the line.

On the morning of the 15th, the divisions Merle and Mermot occupied the heights of Villaboa, where the enemy's advanced guard was stationed, which was attacked and destroyed.

The rest of the 15th was spent in fixing a battery of 12 pieces of cannon—& it was not till the 16th at 3 o'clock P. M. that the Duke of Dalmatia gave orders to attack.

The assault was made upon the English by the first brigade of the division of Mermot which overthrew them and drove them from the village of Elvina. The second regiment of light infantry covered itself with glory. Gen. Jordan, at the head of Voltigeurs wrought a terrible carnage. The enemy, driven from his position, retreated to the gardens which surround Corunna.

The night growing very dark, it was necessary to suspend the attack. The enemy availed himself of this to embark with precipitation. Only 6000 of our men were engaged and every arrangement was made abandoning the positions of the night, and advancing next day to a general attack. The loss of the enemy has been immense. Two of our batteries played upon them during the whole of the engagement. We counted on the field of battle 800 dead bodies, among which was the body of two other General officers, whose names we are unacquainted with. We have taken 20 officers, 300 men and 4 pieces of cannon. The English have left behind them more than 1500 horses, which they had killed.—Our loss amounts to 100 killed & 150 wounded.

The Colonel of the 47th regiment distinguished himself. An ensign of the 31st infantry killed with his own hand an English officer, who had endeavoured to wrest from him his eagle.

At day break on the 17th, we saw the English convoy under sail. On the 18th, the whole had disappeared.

The Duke of Dalmatia had caused a carronade to be discharged upon the vessels from the fort of Santiago—Several transports ran aground and all the men who were on board were taken.

We found in the establishment of the Palloza (a large manufactory, &c. in the suburbs of Corunna, where the English had previously been encamped,) 3000 English muskets. Magazines also were seized, containing a great quantity of ammunition and other effects belonging to the hostile army. A great number of wounded were picked up in the suburbs. The opinion of the inhabitants on the spot, and deserters, is, that the number of wounded in the battle exceeds 2500 men.

Thus has terminated the English Expedition which was sent into Spain.—After having fomented the War in this unhappy country, the English have abandoned it.—They had disembarked 38000 and 6000 horses. We have taken from them, according to calculation 6000 men, exclusive of sick. They have re-embarked very little baggage, very little ammunition, and very few horses. We have counted 5000 killed and left behind. The men who have found an asylum on board their vessels are harrassed and dejected. In another season of the year not one of them would have escaped. The facility of cutting the bridges, the rapidity of the torrents, which in winter swell to deep rivers, the shortness of the days, and the length of nights, are very favourable to an army on their retreat.

From the Lexington Reporter.

TORYISM.

If we turn back and puruse the history of Britain for two hundred years past, we shall find, that the principles of *Torism* have been the foundation and parent of all the bloodshed, and all the horrors which have marked her progress, during that lengthy period.

When Charles I. of England, attempted to exalt himself to arbitrary power, and to overturn the liberties of the people of that country, he was certainly actuated by no other principles than those of *toryism*.

The whole attempts of Louis XIV. to establish himself the chief or arbiter of Europe, as well as the uniform principles upon which he, and the worst of men buoyed up by arbitrary power have acted, are nothing more nor less than principles of *toryism*.

The monarchs of Britain of the *Guelph* family pretended during their two first reigns, to pay some attention to that liberty which *professed* to have placed them on that throne: but since the reign of the present *madman* all restraint and moderation has been totally discarded.

It is a well known fact that the Scotch nation have always been attached to the *Stuart* family. They were advocates for despotism; for the allegiance and obedience which they professed for the leaders of their *Clans*, deprived the most of that nation of all enquiry into the principles of liberty. The clans supported the pretentions of the Stuarts, and the Guelph family in some measure, satiated their thirst for blood, by the repeated massacres, hangings and gibbeting of the Scotch during several rebellions.

This system was continued, until George III. who is supposed to be the *bastard son* of lord Bute, a Scotchman, acceded to the throne. Immediately on his elevation, all persecutions against the Scotch, were terminated, the cabinet of St. James adopted the arbitrary principles and manners of the Stuart family, and the candidates for despotism, as well as the Scotch nation, who had been highly agrieved, found a "*gracious*" father in the natural child of a branch of the exiled family.

From this moment, the history of the British nation, has been a history only of the most savage and inhuman cruelties which could possibly disgrace any period of the world—and George III. can boldly vie with a Domitian, a Caligula or a Tiberius!!

When we confine ourselves to G. Britain alone, and view the massacres in St. Georges Fields—or when we remember the murdered millions of India, and reflect on the horrors and cruelties of our revolution—the scalpings of Indian savages, and the burnings and desolation of our towns and villages, together with the ten-fold more horrid torments inflicted on unhappy Ireland and her patriotic sons—we cannot but feel convinced, that the most profligate and savage of the Roman tyrants would shrink from a comparison with *George Guelph*.

ALL THESE CRUELTIES ARE THE EFFECT OF TORYISM. *Toryism* is *arbitrary power*, desirous of raising the aristocracy of wealth over the heads of the *farmers*, the *mechanics* and the *manufacturers*.

At the commencement of our revolution, the attempts of Britain to *tax* us were encouraged by the *tories*, and the whole was a *tory* principle. It was an attempt to establish a principle which would have introduced all the herd of priests and nobility, and other vermin attached to the roots of monarchy and aristocracy.

The *tories* who resorted to Britain at that period, declared that a *grenadier's* cap could march from one end of the continent to the other without any opposition from the *rebels*. The *tory* falsehood was acted on by the British government, and in the final event, they found themselves woefully disappointed.

The government of George III. has acted upon the same principles ever since that period. They know that the *lenity* and moderation of the American government had permitted all the old tories of the revolution to retain their possessions and estates. They knew that by sending out *spies* and *agents* under the shape of merchants and commercial travellers, who would penetrate into the INTERIOR PARTS of our country, and mixing with the old tories of the revolution, they could always keep up a spirit of disaffection.

It is from this source and this source only, that we now have fears of REBELLION to the only free government on the globe.

By the agency of BRITISH and SCOTCH MERCHANTS, aided by the treason of TORIES, who are dependent on them for COMMERCIAL CREDIT—for their *callicoes*, their *laced muslins*, and other *superfluities*—traitors who would sink their company to the most abject slavery for foreign commerce.