STAR.

General Advertiser.

EASTON:—*TUESDAY MORNING*, DECEMBER 25, 1810.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury, in the opposite page, will be found highly interesting—the length of which precludes our usual detail of the proceedings of Congress—they shall be attended to hereafter—but few reports by the numerous committees had been made at last dates; and none whose interest might require their insertion out of detail.

Both houses of the Legislature of this State came to a resolution to adjourn on the 22d inst. but they were in session on Saturday last; and were expected to rise on yesterday—we have received none of the trial of *Judge Hollingsworth*, which was to have come on the 20th inst. other proceedings entire shall appear.

Nothing from the war in Portugal by our last papers—the present week may probably bring something.

The following highly interesting communication came to hand since our last—we regret the delay in the writer—part of the changes have been long wished for by the people; and others require explanation and reflection—the author is invited to the elucidation of a subject in itself of the first importance.

COMMUNICATION.

Mr. Smith,

Most of the Constitutions of the different States contain wise provisions for altering and amending them—and the Constitution of Maryland has provided for its amendment, in a manner much less expensive than by calling a convention. The act of two successive legislatures can effect a change; it has undergone considerable alterations since its first adoption, and it is agreed on all hands, that other amendments are necessary—attempts are made at almost every session, to alter it in some way. If I had the honor of a seat in the legislature, I would endeavor to introduce a bill entitled "An act to alter and amend the Constitution," and under that title completely revise that instrument, and have the alterations which might be agreed on, published for the consideration of the people.——This mode would be much better than delegatory powers to members of a convention;—there might be no appeal from their act, but if done in this way, the people would have it in their power to approve or reject the amendments. I am one of those who think material alterations are necessary in our State Constitution, and I will, as briefly as possible, state some of them, but I offer my opinions on the subject, with great deference to the freemen of Maryland.

In republican governments there ought to be no sinecures—the offices of honor and profit should be as equally distributed as possible among those who are qualified for, and deserving of, public trust. I am not a stickler for rotation in office, in the strictest sense,—I would not force a man out of office, if he was best qualified for, and most deserving of the trust; but I wish to see periodical appointments, in order that there should be an equal participation in those benefits, and that officers should feel their dependence. The term during good behaviour, is too indifinite; there may be great complaint against a public officer, and a general wish to see him displaced, but unless he should be guilty of an act of great turpitude, there will always be an unwillingness to interfere to have him discarded. What is every body's business, is nobody's business—and no one wishes to encounter the wrath of perhaps an influential family, that the public business should be better done: there are very few who like to appear in the character of persecutor. The tenor of office I would change—the term during good behaviour I would expunge——some of the amendments I would propose, are the following:

The Governor to be elected by the people, for three years, eligible two terms in every nine years—his salary to be increased; the Council to be reduced to two or four. The Governor to have a vote on all questions.

The Senate to be elected by the people, for three years; one Senator for each county, and one for Baltimore city—a rotation to be established, and one-third to be elected annually; the people to fill up vacancies by election.

Judges of Courts and the Chancellor to be appointed by the Executive, for three or six years, re-eligible successively. Clerks of Courts to be appointed by the Judges, for three or six years, re-eligible successively.

Registers of Wills, Attorney General, Registers of the Land-Office, Register in Chancery, to be appointed by the Executive, for three or six years, re-eligible successively.

Treasurers of the Eastern and Western Shore to be appointed by the Legislature annually.——The present mode of electing the Governor and Senate is exceptionable, especially the Senate. The Governor's powers are too limited—there is neither responsibility, nor much respectability attached to the office; to accept the appointment now, is to confer a favour—he is an officer without much consequence, and without compensation.

The Judges, the Clerks, &c. would, under those limitations, be continued as long as they were deserving, and unworthy officers, when in place, would not be continued to the exclusion of more meritorious applicants.

I hope it will be understood that I have no objection to any of the present Judges, or any of the officers of any of the courts in the State of Maryland:—Some of them I am personally acquainted with; many of them I know from character, and I have no hesitation in saying, that I believe them, generally, gentlemen learned in the law, and of great integrity; there is not one of them I wish to see displaced—I have no personal enmity to gratify—I have no view to an appointment myself, but I wish to see those changes effected, and I think the present is a proper time to attempt it.

I have merely given an outline, in order to bring the subject before the people, that our representatives may take it into consideration before the session closes, and that it may be discussed before the next Senatorial election.

Your sentiments and mine may possibly not entirely coincide on the subject of this communication—but as by publishing it, you will not stand pledged to advocate the changes contemplated, I hope you will give it a place in the Star, accompanied with such observations as you may think proper: It has not been dictated by any late occurrence—the writer attempted to bring the subject before the people twelve months ago, but the communication to the printer, perhaps, miscarried, as he did not acknowledge the receipt.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Worcester, Dec. 10, 1810.

FEDERAL WRITERS.

The mode in which the federal writers manage their opposition to the administration, is at once a proof of the "leanness of their pates" and of the weakness of their doctrines. As even a bad cause may, by witty and dexterous men, be so conducted as to "make the worse appear the better reason"—and if the doctrine be sound, the merest dolt may, if he meddles at all, make a tolerably decent figure in print. When our present race of federal writers attack the administration in their most flushing political vein, they give us nothing but gross personal abuse. Thus (to illustrate their logic) they argue that the republican management is bad, because this or that person is wicked. This would do well enough, were the question a *moral* one; for, in that case, individual wickedness would very properly form a part of the enquiry. But, in a political scrutiny, it ought to be shewn that evils have occurred to the public from executive or legislative acts, or are certain to accrue from such acts, before the writer can claim the least pretention to an audience from the people. When ribaldry reigns where reason ought to preside, and calumny meets us full in the face where we ought to encounter legitimate satire, or wit, or humor, it gives us a poor opinion of the writer as well as of the principles of his party. Open the pages of the Federal Gazettes and peruse their columns, and you will find little else but point blank detraction against private reputation, invented by envy and propagated by folly and dullness. All reflecting men perceive in such a course of opposition, that it is the *places* and not the *politics* of the men in power that are the object of the assailants. Hence it is that the progress of the Federalists is like that of a crab. They make great head-way backwards. For where selfishness is so palpable, converts are not easily multiplied.

And why should we wonder at the feebleness of these writers? They are, chiefly, a set of journeymen politicians, who roam about the country at all seasons, like reapers in harvest, ready to cut down any characters for pay. They sell their labor as a small dealer in rope-yarn vends his cordage, by *lines*, regardless of the quality of the raw material of which the lines are made. What care these hireling and vagrant scribbles about sense and reputation? having none themselves, they do not desire that other men should have any: You may pick up half a dozen of these fellows at any time for a trifle, and they will cheerfully do you a summer's job if you will only find them in beef steaks and whiskey.

Things are otherwise conducted in Old England; where, although leading politicians on each side have their scribblers in keeping, as ancient feudal lords once had their minstrels, yet they are compelled to furnish something like sense and are not suffered to deal in personal vulgarities. Really, the Federal Gentlemen of fame and fortune, ought to think a little on this topic; and rescue the cause of their party from the vermin who, instead of promoting it by nibbling at Republicans, only defile it by their excremental method of writing. Bad enough, to be sure, the Federal doctrines are; but they might be rendered less odious by literary ornaments, if better workmen were engaged for the service. Even the Devil himself may be looked upon with composure when he is decently painted with agreeable decorations.

In fine, we feel for the intellectual character of our country, when we see men wielding a pen in politics who ought to be employed with a pick-axe: and whose souls would be much benefitted by a castigation of their bodies at the whipping post. *Virg. Argus.*

Washington, Dec. 18.

The bill for the the apportionment of Representatives according to the third census was yesterday postponed in the House of Representatives, by a majority of 15 votes, till the second Monday in February, by which course a determination is expressed not to fix the ratio of apportionment until the returns from the respective states are received. The time limited by law for the transmission of these returns is the first day of March next; but it was supposed that the retnrns would probably be all received prior to that day, so as to enable Congress to fix the apportionment before the constitutional termination of their present session.

Robert Marion, Esq. Representative from South Carolina, has resigned his seat in Congress, having been taken severely ill on his way to this place.

The following is an extract of a letter from a respectable gentleman at Fort Stoddert, M. T. dated November 12, 1810:

"The account of Pensacola being in possession of the British, is false.—Should England be disposed to take possession of that place and of Mobille, this is doubtless the period at which such a step seems most probable—most to be apprehended. The Baton Rouge Floridian army is said to be on its march to take these places—Colonel Kemper, and some other chiefs of this new army, are now in the vicinity of the fort, associating with such of our citizens, as affords much ground to apprehend that there is something wrong amongst them. If we have a war with England, Pensacola and Mobile must be ours, or New Orleans will fall. At no place could the enemy find so convenient a rendezvous for his vessels, from which to annoy New Orleans, as Pensacola: and the cattle, and hogs and corn of this country, and the Creek and Choctaw nations, and the *savages* of these nations, who love the English, would contribute not a little towards the support of such a rendezvous."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the Mississippi Territory, dated Gibson Port, Nov. 13, 1810.

"I have just time before the departure of the mail to inform you of my arrival here, though it was attended with considerable difficulty and a warm conflict with the Choctaw Indians.—On the 7th instant four of the above nation well armed attacked two of us where we were lodged and beat us very sorely, and tore every rag of clothing from my body, then carried us prisoners about four miles where we remained until morning before we were liberated. I shall in my next give you a circumstantial account of the affray."

Knoxville, November 24.

We have conversed with a gentleman from the garrison in Madison county, who informs that orders had been issued by Col. Smith, of the rifle corps, to the settlers on the Indian lands, particularly those on the tract commonly called Doubleheads Reserve, requiring them to remove, before a given day in November. The colonel accompanied his orders by an address, in which he points out the propriety of obedience, and the disagreeable consequences that would follow resistance. The people residing on the reserve, in their answer to the colonel's address, promise a compliance with his orders and feelingly describe their situation, and the difficulties they must encounter in their removal from the want of waggons, boats, &c. They state the entire loss of their crops, and the want of sustenance for their families will ensue, if their removal takes place at the time appointed, and pray all the indulgence the colonel had power to grant. Our informant adds, that the time was prolonged till some time in January next.

New York, Dec. 14.

The British Packet Lord Hobart, sailed yesterday direct for Falmouth, with despatches.

A letter from Copenhagen, Oct. 6, says, three American vessels have been tried in the High Court within a few days—two cleared, one condemned.

Col. Joseph Constant resigned his command of the sixth U. S. regiment of infantry, and of Fort Fayette, to the next senior officer on the 30th ult. An affectionate leave was reciprocated between the colonel and the officers under his command. Col. C. retires with a *furlough* from the secretary at war, retaining his rank and renouncing all emoluments until called into actual service, to obey which call he holds himself in readiness.

The Banking companies of New Jersey are about to contest "not only the reasonableness, but the legality" of the late act passed in state for taxing them. It is said they have employed as counsel, Messrs. A. Ogden, R. Stockton, and Wm. Griffiths, of New Jersey; Thomas A. Emmett, of New York; and A. J. Dallas, of Philadelphia. *Even. Post.*

APPOINTMENTS

By the Governor and Council.

Thomas Emory, captain of a troop of horse, attached to the 6th brigade. Henry R. Pratt, first lieutenant of Capt. T. Emory's troop, do. Samuel Wright, jun. second lieutenant of do. Bedingfield Hands, ensign of Capt. I. Spencer's company, 21st regiment, Kent county.

NINIAN PINKNEY.

PUBLIC FESTIVITY.

A splendid entertainment was given at the City Hotel on Thursday, in compliment to gen. Armstrong, for his able and manly conduct, as the honest and stedfast representative of a free and independent republic, at the court of France.

The meeting was a meeting of all parties, in fact no parties were to be seen, for American honor called for the festivity, and American feelings pervaded the whole. *Aurora.*

A sumptuous and elegant dinner was on Tuesday last, given to *General Armstrong*, by the citizens of Baltimore.

The population of Washington county, (Md.) is ascertained to be 18,750 souls—of which 2656 are slaves.

London papers to the 27th October, have been received at Boston—their contents are said to be unimportant.

Longevity.—In Anderson county, (Tennessee) we are informed there is a couple living, who have been man and wife 77 years—the husband 107 years old, the wife about 95 or 96, both healthy, and likely to enjoy many years of felicity.

Married, at Cambridge, on the 13th inst. by the rev Dr Kemp, *Arthur Upsher*, Esq. of Nortnampton county, Virginia, to Miss *Anne Steele*, second daughter of James Steele, Esq of Cambridge.

Married, on Thursday evening last, by the rev. Mr. Markland, Mr. *James Martin*, to Miss *Mary Baldwin*, all of this town.

——, At Friends' Meeting, *Thomas Atkinson*, to *Rebecca E. Bartlett*, all of this town.

LAW OF THE UNITED STATES

[BY AUTHORITY.]

AN ACT.

To authorize the transportation of certain documents free of postage.

Be *it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the members of Gongress, the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives, be, and they are hereby respectively authorised to transmit, free of postage, the message of the President of the United States of the fifth of December, one thousand eight hundrsd and ten, and the documents accompanying the same, printed by order of the Senate and by order of the House of Representatives, to any Post-Office within the United States and territories thereof, to which they may direct, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

J. B. VARNUM.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GEO: CLINTON.

Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

December 17, 1810.

APPROVED, JAMES MADISON.

IN CHANCERY, Dec. 18, 1810.

Ordered, That the sale made by George Gillaspie, trustee for the sale of the real estate of *Samuel Davis*, deceased, shall be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary be shewn before the 23d day of January, 1811, provided a copy of this order be inserted three successive weeks, in the Star, at Easton, before the said day. The report states the sale of 241 acres, 1 rod, 15 perches of land, was sold at 22 dollars per acre. True copy. Test,

NICHS. BREWER, Reg. Cur. Can.

FOR SALE,

A NEGRO WOMAN and her two Children. Apply to the Editor.

Easton, December 25, 1810——m

LIVINGSTON's ESSAY on SHEEP, AND *WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES*, &c.

—LATE EDITION—

For sale at the Star Office.——Dec. 25.

JOHN JOHNSTON,

SADDLER AND HARNESS-MAKER,

Washington Street, Easton:

Has the pleasure of informing his friends and the public, that he has lately returned from Baltimore with a new assortment, selected by himself, of the most fashionable GOODS, proper for his line of business. He is now ready to receive the orders of all who would favor him with their custom, and pledges himself that the workmanship of his saddles and bridles shall be neater and stronger than those imported.—He has received patterns of the most fashionable saddles, both for Ladies and Gentlemen, now in use in England, and requests his patrons and friends to call on him and view his assortment.

Those who favor him with their custom may depend on having their work executed with neatness and dispatch—and the liberal patronage of a generous public will be duly appreciated and acknowledged by integrity, attention and promptitude. ☞ Leather Trunks for travellers, and hair trunks of the newest patterns, made at the shortest notice.

December 25, 1810——m

THE UNION TAVERN.

The subscriber has opened a *Public House* at Easton, in those commodious buildings lately erected at the corner of Washington and Goldborough streets. He solicits public patronage, and invites the attention as well of the gentlemen of Talbot, whose business or pleasure may call them to town, as of all travellers.

No exertions shall be wanting on the part of the subscriber for the accommodation of those who may favor him with their calls; and he trusts that the assurance, which he flatters himself, the character he has sometime maintained in the line of his business must afford, will be amply fulfilled by his unremitted endeavors to please and gratify his customers.

Dinners or suppers will be prepared for select parties of gentlemen, on the shortest notice, and in private apartments.

Particular attention will be paid by the subscriber to the accommodation of *Horses*: the extensive Stables belonging to his establishment, and the well tried care of his servants, authorise him to give this assurance.

THOMAS PEACOCK.

Easton, December 25, 1810——m

To Journeymen Boot and Shoe Makers.

We the subscribers, master cordwainers of the city of Baltimore, do engage to give to any number of Journeymen Boot and Shoe makers, who will come to the city of Baltimore, and commence in our employ the most profitable work, constant employment, good wages, and punctual payment:

James Sloan	Wm. Darrington
Sherm & Dillon	James Ives
Robert Buchanan	John Clarke
John Jephson	Wm. Millar
Angello Atkinson	Jas. Lambee
James Dryden	John Vernon
Danl. M'Jilton	D. M'Henry
John Edwards	Richd. Spencer
Benj. W. Caldwell	Sewall Long
Alex. B. Hanna	Benj. Walters
Heslip and Son	John Wamaling
Jno. N. Miller	L. Donsce
Wm. Jones	Wm. Dungan
Edwd. Hagthrop	John Martin
Peter Shallie	Robt. Boggas
Jas. H. Clarke	Jas. White
Jno. W. Keirle	C. B. Long
Solm. Shields	Abrhm. Wright
Henry Huber	Philip Wirts
Rezin Pool	John Harman
Wm. M'Cleary	Jno. M. Lampley
Patrick Savage	Geo. Schroder
Jacob Laffettra	Edwd. Hall

☞ The editors of the Aurora and Philadelphia Gazette at Philadelphia; Intelligencer, at Lancaster; Maryland Herald, at Hagerstown; Star, at Easton, and National Intelligencer, at Washington, are requested to insert the above eight times successively, and forward their accounts to this office for payment.

December 25, 1810——8

SEPTEMBER TERM, 1810.

Whereas *William Wright* and *Thomas Huffington*, by their petitions in writing to the honorable the judges of Somerset county court, have set forth that they are included in the act of assembly, entitled, "an act for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors," passed at November session, eighteen hundred and five, and the several supplements thereto, praying the benefit of the said acts, upon their complying with the several provisions thereof. It was thereupon ordered by the said court, that the said William Wright and Thomas Huffington, give notice thereof to their creditors in one of the Easton papers, to meet at the court house in Princess Anne, on the first Saturday in April term next, to propose such interrogatories to them as they may think proper, and to choose a trustee for their benefit.

WM. DONE, Clk. Som. C'ty.

December 25, 1810——4

NOTICE.

Was committed to the gaol of Frederick county, Maryland, on the 2d inst. as a runaway, a mulatto man who calls himself *Harry*—he is 5 feet 5 inches high, slender made, appears to be about 21 or 22 years of age, has a scar on his left arm, occasioned as he says, by a burn—likewise a scar on his right leg occasioned by a cut of a scythe: His cloathing when committed were, a drab colored cloth roundabout, a dark coloured cloth waistcoat, pantaloons, shoes and stockings, all much worn; says he belongs to a Mr. William Valandigam, of Fairfax county, Virginia, on the turnpike, twenty miles from Alexandria. The owner is hereby requested to come and release him, otherwise he may be sold for his prison fees, as the law directs.

EZRA MANTZ, Sh'ff of Frederick county, Md.

December 17 (25) 1810——8