the disposition of the President to proceed in the business with the utmost decision, if he is authorised by Congress. Copies of such documents as are calculated to give you a clear view of the subject and enable you to form correct conclusions, will accompany this communication: And should any additional information be desired during the session, it in the power of the executive, it will be furnished with pleasure. I have been the more particular upon this head, because I feel its importance, and because, too, the agency which I have had in it, has been grossly misrepresented, and conduct and motives attributed to me as malicious as they are unfounded. That agency will now be committed to another person.

The Spanish officers in Augustine, St. Mark's and Pensacola are using every effort to stimulate the Creek Indians to commence hostilities against us. As yet those within the United States' line, as I have before observed, profess peace and friendship, but those of the Seminoles, whose towns are in Florida, have been guilty of such outrages as leave no doubt of their intention, and ought to satisfy us that no time is to be lost in applying that chastisement which their crimes deserve. In August last some parties of them made their appearance upon the frontier of Camden county, and killed and scalped a young man about seventeen years of age, the son of Mr. Thomas Wilder, who resided near Trader's Hill on St. Mary's river, and at the same time shot another lad and wounded him very severely, but who had the good fortune to make his escape. As soon as I received information of these facts, and numerous others of less atrocity, I sent an order to Brig. Gen Floyd, to cause a block-house to be erected at Trader's Hill, and to put a small garrison in it for the protection of that part of the frontier, and if the Indians should again make their appearance in a hostile manner, to collect a force and pursue and punish them. I also wrote a letter to Col. Hawkins, demanding that the murderers should be apprehended and delivered up to the civil authority of Camden county, there to take their trial. Col. Hawkins's answer, with subsequent information which I have received, fully convince me that we have no satisfaction to expect from those Indians, and consequently that we ought to look to our own safety. With this view, I have given orders for a stock of provender and provision contracted for and deposited at Trader's Hill, for five hundred Cavalry, and intended, as soon as those supplies were procured, to order that number to take the field. This subject claims the immediate attention of the legislature. Copies of all papers in the executive office relating thereto, from which you can derive any information, as well as those relating to the deceased Mr. Meridith and Mr. Arthur Lott, who were murdered while peaceably travelling through the Creek nation, accompany this communication.

[*Two or three paragraphs of a local nature are here omitted*.]

In all your measures, having for their object the public good, you may rely upon my cordial co-operation; and that the Supreme Ruler of the Universe may so guid and direct your minds, that your labours may result in the happiness of the people, and your own honour, is the sincere prayer of your devoted fellow citizen,

D. B. MITCHELL.

AN ADDRESS

From the Republican Members of both Houses of the Legislature of New Jersey, to their constituents.

The violent and successful effort which has been made by a small and accidental majority in the Legislature of this state, to wrest from the people, and assume to themselves, the right of choosing electors of President and Vice President of the United States, makes it the duty of the minority to inform their constituents of the circumstances which have led to a result, tyrannical in its operation, insulting to the liberties of every freeman in the state, and which may be attended with consequences disastrous to our country.

Although in this state a large majority of the citizens are in favor of the late measures of our general government, yet its enemies, by intrigues unforeseen and unexpected, have gained a small majority in both houses of the Legislature.

In the county of Monmouth the republicans have a decided majority, but owing to a misplaced confidence in their own strength they were remiss in their duty to themselves and their country, while their opponents, by secret intrigue and unremitted exertions, obtained a majority of twenty-five votes securing to themselves one member in council and three in the house of assembly.

In the county of Hunterdon an unfortunate schism had taken place among the republican party which was artfully fomented by our political opponents.—On the federal ticket were placed two candidates, Mr. Wright and Mr. Potts, who had formerly been considered as republicans, and many still believe them to be such. In addition to which a solemn pledge was printed and published throughout the county that Mr. Potts professed to be a republican and would cheerfully and steadfastly support republican men and measures if elected.

Notwithstanding these circumstances only one of the candidates who acknowledged themselves federalists were elected; Wright and Potts were elected under the masque of republicanism—and two republicans, Haas and Van Syckel were elected—five votes would have put in Mr. Case, one of the republican candidates over Mr. Potts, one of the members elected. In fact, twenty-six votes in Monmouth, and five in Hunterdon, would have given republican majorities in both houses of the legislature.

The right of choosing electors by a general vote of the state was established by a law of one thousand eight hundred and seven, under which the election was to take place on the third and fourth of November, inst. as the preparatory measures for conducting the election had already taken place, and as no more than six days could elapse between the meeting of the legislature and the time fixed for the election, it was hoped the majority would not have resorted to a measure of such unparalelled violence as the hasty repeal of that law, for the purpose of securing to themselves a short, an useless and a dangerous triumph.

It is well known that a considerable portion of the federal party sincerely deplore the repeal of the election law, deeming it under present circumstances a hazardous experiment—but unfortunately the leaders among their representatives are governed by no such principles of moderation or forbearance; they are still actuated by the same aristocratic spirit and contempt for the democratic principles of our institution as that twelve years ago precipitated them from power.

On the morning after the House of Assembly was organized, a bill was introduced providing for the appointment of electors by a joint meeting of the legislature, and repealing the election law of one thousand eight hundred and seven. As this bill was of the utmost importance to the state, and contained a variety of provisions which required investigation, a motion was made that it should be printed for the use of the members; but strange to tell, every member of the majority (except Mr. Parker) voted against the printing—At three o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, it was called up for a second reading—in vain was it urged, that there had been no time allowed for considering the bill; that there had been no opportunity of seeing it;—that it was indecent to proceed with so much precipitancy, in making a law of the utmost importance to the country; that it was beneath the dignity of a deliberative body to act without investigation, or consideration—but with the friends of the bill, dispatch was of more importance than justice—a little delay might defeat their favorite object, and they determined that not a moment's time should be lost.

The minority were insultingly told, that they had no cause to complain, inasmuch as the bill was intended to secure the election of a President from the republican ranks, & therefore could not fail to be acceptable to the democratic party!

Against the bill it was urged that the appointment of electors, by the citizens at large agreeably to the law of eighteen hundred & seven, was the only way in which the choice of the people could be completely ascertained;—that it was most consonant with the constitution of the United States, and most agreeable to our republican form of government;—that under the law in force, the election was to take place in five days—that the law was already, in part executed,—that the officers had in part performed their duties under it;—that a part of the expenses of the election were already incurred!—that the nominations were already made at the different offices;—transmitted to the executive of the state, and by him published and distributed into the different counties as the law required.

It was stated that a large majority of the people of the state were in favor of the measures lately adopted by our general government; that they were about to express this, by the exercise of their right of suffrage, upon an occasion more important than any other, which had occurred since the establishment of our liberties—that to wrest from them that privilege under present circumstances, would be considered as an act of tyranny and oppression, and that at this time of danger and difficulty, they would not patiently submit to any glaring infringement of their rights.

The answer to these as well as other arguments, was a call for the question. The friends of the bill had counted their strength;—although they had not reason they had votes on their side. With them discipline was superior to argument, and it was an unnecessary waste of time to make speeches when there was no necessity of making proselytes.

The bill has become a law, and the citizens of New Jersey are stigmatised (so far as this law can stigmatise them) as unworthy to be trusted with the exercise of their right of suffrage on so important an occasion, as the choice of electors for the chief magistrate of the Union. They are debarred of this privilege by a measure as violent as it is unprecedented, inasmuch as the members of the legislature were not expected to pass such a law, nor elected for that purpose. A measure which makes the minority prevail over the majority; a measure calculated to bring our republican institutions into contempt, and if not corrected in time, to endanger our liberties.

It is to be hoped that this absolute perversion of the public voice, by legislative interference, will shew the necessity of an amendment to the constitution of the United States—the security of the Union requires that some uniform mode should be adopted, by which the states respectively should choose their electors by a general vote of the people—this would in a great measure put an end to the scenes of intrigue, which now disgrace our country.

All the electors of New Jersey, are now federalists, not one of whom would have been chosen by the people.

The next step was to divide the state into such districts as would give the minority four of the six representatives in Congress. As no fair division could possibly give them more than two representatives, and as it was necessary, if possible to keep up some little appearance of impartiality & justice, the calculations were involved in much intricacy—different opinions prevailed, various places were proposed & considered—at length a bill was offered for dividing the state into the six lowing districts:—

1st. Sussex and Bergen with a population, (excluding 2-5 of slaves) of	41,090
2d. Morris and Essex	47,019
3d. Middlesex and Monmouth	41,416
4th. Hunterdon & Somerset	38,047
5th. Burlington with the townships of Egg Harbor, Galloway, Debtford, Gloucester, Gloucester town, New town, and Waterford, of Gloucester county,	37,799
6th. Salem, Cumberland, and Cape May, with the townships of Woolwich, Greenwich and Weymouth, of Gloucester county,	35,859

By this arrangement the second district would contain nearly two thirds as many inhabitants, as the 5th and 6th districts together—and nine thousand more than the fourth district;—But by taking the townships of Rahway, Westfield and Providence from the county of Essex, which would reduce the 2d district to 42,308, and adding them to Somerset and Hunterdon, which would increase the 4th district to 42,668, this difficulty would in a great measure be obviated—and no objection would have been made to such an arrangement although it would still operate unequally upon the upper counties. But it was well known that no such amendments to the bill could take place—indeed although the partiality of it was too gross & palpable to be disguised yet it was not sufficiently so, to please the leaders of the majority in the Legislature, inasmuch as some apprehensions were entertained for the safety of Somerset and Hunterdon, where the popularity of Mr. Southard might give them trouble—it was thought weakness to be over squeamish, when an important object was to be gained—the first scheme was abondoned & another agreed on—& the following plan was submitted for dividing the state into three districts each to elect two representatives.

1st. Bergen, Sussex, Essex, and Morris,	88,109
2d. Middlesex, Monmouth, Somerset and Hunterdon	79,463
3d. Burlington, Gloucester, Cumberland, Salem & Cape May	78,658

By this the first district contains nearly nine thousand inhabitants more than the second, and nearly fifteen thousand more than the third.

On the discussion of the bill a motion was made to amend it, by subsituting the counties of Sussex Hunterdon, Morris and Somerset, (containing 84,892 inhabitants) for the first district and the counties of Bergen, Essex, Middlesex and Monmouth, (containing 82 680 inhabitants) for the second district.

It was stated that this amendment, without disturbing the third district would equalize the first and second districts and that as the counties named for those districts respectively were contiguous to each other, no possible reason could exist for refusing to adopt the amendment, that any member would dare to avow—that it was the sacred duty of the Legislature to divide the state into as equal districts as could conveniently be made, without regard to party considerations—that if the majority in the house were determined to secure to their party, four of the six representatives in Congress, and if their calculations were predicated upon that determination, they would find it difficult to reconcile their conduct with their duty to their country, or to satisfy their own consciences.

Every federalist voted for the bill, and it has now become a law.

The same party which in the year 1800 a few days before a congressional election was to take place by districts, repealed the law then in force, and passed one to vote by a general ticket, now with a versatility that betrays the weakness of their cause, have repealed the law for voting by a general ticket and passed one for voting by districts;—their violence then ended in their complete defeat;—it rests with the citizens of New Jersey to determine, what shall be its effect now.

The undersigned have endeavored to discharge their duty by resisting these measures, which cannot fail to injure the county but their efforts have been unavailing—the remedy must be applied by the People.

Charles Clark,	*Silas Condit,*
Isaiah Shinn	*Charles Kinsey,*
John Haas,	*Jeremiah Dubois,*
Benjamin Ludlow,	*James Newell,*
Ebenezer Seely,	*Robert H. Vanmeter,*
Barnabas Swaze,	*Aaron Vansyckel,*
Samuel Pennington,	*Mahlon Dickerson,*
James Wilson	*Stephen Dodd,*
Jeptha B. Mum,	*Ephraim Bateman,*
Stephen Willi,	*Joseph Sharp,*
Simon Cortwright,	*James Davison.*
Wm. W. Rutherford	

Trenton, 9th November, 1812.

GINEVA. Nov. 26.

From the Western Frontiers we hourly expect important intelligence. We are informed the Armistice on the Niagara river was terminated on Friday afternoon last at 6 o'clock, and at day light the next morning fort Niagara opened a fire on the British, which was continued until night. It was confidently expected general Smyth would make an attempt to cross at Black Rock in a day or two. The long expected 2000 Pennsylvania militia arrived at Buffalo the 18th inst.

CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.

Friday, November 27.

The Senate proceeded to ascertain the classes in which the two Senators from Louisiana should be arranged, when having drawn lots, it appeared that Mr. Magruder's term of service will expire on the 3d day of March next, and Mr. Posey's four years after the 3d day of March next.

The senate resumed the consideration of the bill from the House concerning the pay of the army, &c. and amendments reported by the committee thereto.

On montion to strike out the 3d section which authorises the enlistment of all young men *over eighteen years of age*, there were—

For striking it out, 26—Against striking it out, 4.

The further consideration of the bill was, after debate, postponed to Monday.

Monday, Nov. 30.

Mr. *Smith of Md.* reported a bill to increase the Navy of the United States, which was read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. *Smith of Md.* reported the bill in addition to the prize law, with amendments.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill respecting the pay of the the army of the U States; and after amendment it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Tuesday, Dec. 1.

The bill from the House concerning the Pay of the Army of the U States, as amended, was read a third time and passed—Yeas 19.—Nays 4.

The bill to increase the Navy of the U. S was read a second time.

Wednesday Dec 2.

On motion of Mr. *Worthington*,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to inquire if any and what further provisions are necessary for the disposition of the public lands of the United States, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Messrs *Magruder Worthington*, and *Anderson*, were accordingly appointed the Committee.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, Nov. 27.

Mr. *Bassett*, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made a long argumentative report on that subject, concluding with reporting a bill "to increase the Navy of the U S"—[This bill is blank as to the proposed ratio of increase.]

Mr *Bassett* also reported a bill making provision for certain Navy Pensions.

These bills were twice read & committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The engrossed bill concerning Territorial and District Judges, was read a third time; and on motion, recommitted to a select committee. Adjourned.

Monday Nov. 30.

Mr. *Seaver* presented the memorial of sundry owners of privateers, of Boston, praying a remission or diminution of duties on prize goods. Referred

There being no business offered to the consideration of the House—

On motion, adjourned, by 43 votes to 42.

Tuesday, Dec 1

On motion of Mr *Lucock*, the House resumed the consideration of the bill supplementary to the naturalization laws.

EXPORTATION OF PROVISIONS.

Mr *Newton* offered the following resolution for consideration, viz.

Resolved, That the committee of Commerce and Manufactures be instructed to inquire whether any and if any what restrictions on the exportation of provisions and of all articles necessary for naval equipment, in vessels of foreign nations at amity with the United States may be at this time expedient; and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise

Mr *Basset* moved to modify the resolution so as to read as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the committee of Commerce and Manufactures be instructed to enquire into the expediency of requiring bonds on the exportation of provisions and all articles necessary for naval equipment in vessels of foreign nations at amity with the United States; and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise."

Mr *Milnor* proposed to amend it by adding, after the words "United States," the words "*conditioned that such vessel and cargo shall not proceed to an enemy's port.*"

Mr. *Rhea* moved to amend the amendment by adding thereto the words "*or to any port or ports in possession of the enemy.*"—Agreed to, 54 to 44.

The question was then taken on Mr. Milnor's motion, as amended, and negatived, 51 to 50.

The question was then taken on the resolution, in the form proposed by Mr Bassett, & negatived, 56 to 49.

Wednesday, Dec 2.

Mr. *Williams* reported a bill supplementary to the act making provision for arming the whole body of the Militia of the United States; which was twice read and committed

Mr. *M'Kim* presented the petition of sundry persons of Baltimore, subscribers to the late loan, praying a removal of the loan office from Annapolis to Baltimore—Referred to a select committee.

MERCHANTS' BONDS.

On motion of Mr *Cheves*, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the report of the Committee of Ways & Means on the subject of the bonds given by sundry merchants on account of recent importations of British goods. [The report, it will be recollected, recommends a reference of all the petitions on the subject to the Sec'y of the Treasury.]

EXPORT OF PROVISIONS.

Mr. *Harper* said, that the House had yesterday refused to consider a resolution, offered by a gentlemen from Virginia (Mr. Newton) on the subject of enquiring into the propriety of restricting the exportation of food stuffs, &c. when the House was thirty-six at present some members having been absent. With a view to try the question in a full house, he moved that the house do now proceed to a consideration of the resolution:

The question was decided by Yeas and Nays, as follows.

Yeas, 58 — Nays, 58.—

The votes being equally divided—

Mr *Speaker* said he believed he should vote against the proposition at any time, and it was rather too late in the day to take it up now.

He therefore voted in the negative.

Adjourned.

Legislature of Maryland.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Wednesday, November 25.

Mr. T. N. Williams delivers a bill to confirm an old road in Worcester county—Read.

The bill for the benefit of Thomas Colston, and the resolution relative to letters and packets addressed to the presiding members of the legislature, were sent to the senate.

Mr. Hogg a petition from sundry inhabitants of Cæcil county, praying a road may be altered and amended.

Mr. A. E Jones a letter from John Landreth, of Somerset county, an insolvent debtor, praying relief—Referred.

Mr. Evans delivers a bill to incorporate a company under the name of the Elkton Library Company. Mr. Bayly a bill to alter and change the name of Theodore Gunby—Read.

The bill to repeal all such parts of the acts of assembly of this state as require the payment of twenty-five shillings for a marriage license, was read the second time, and the question put, Shall the said bill pass? Determined in the negative.

Thursday, November 26.

The speaker laid before the house the report of the clerk of Talbot county court, relative to the attendance of the judges of that court—Read and Referred.

Mr Frey delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of Cæcil county, residing at and near Creswell's Ferry, praying that the village at that place may be called and publicly known by the name of Port Deposit—Read and referred.

On motion by Mr. Lecompte, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, An act to authorise John Newton, late sheriff and collector of Dorchester county, to complete his collection.

Mr. Evans delivers petitions from Jacob Allen and Edward Griffith, of Cæcil county, revolutionary soldiers, praying relief. Mr. Hogg a petition from sundry inhabitants of Cæcil county, praying that a law may pass to prevent the depredations of foreign fishermen who come to fish in Elk and North rivers.

Mr. Hambleton delivers a bill annulling the marriage of Vincent P. Taylor, and Elizabeth his wife—Read.

Friday, November 27.

On motion by Mr. Hambleton, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, a further supplement to an act, entitled, An act to regulate and discipline the militia of this state.

Mr. Wilson a petition from Jesse Wright, of Worcester county, a revolutionary soldier, praying relief. Read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. A E. Jones delivers a bill for the relief of John Landreth, of Somerset county.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill, entitled, An act for the valuation of real and personal property within this state, endorsed, "will not pass."

On motion, Ordered, That the bill to alter, change and abolish all such parts of the constitution and form of government which relate to the time and manner of electing the senate of this state, be made the order of the day for Tuesday, December 8th.

Saturday, November 28.

The speaker laid before the house letters from the clerks of Charles and Montgomery county courts relative to the attendance of the judges—Read and referred.

Monday, November 30.

Mr. Bayly delivers a petition from sundry inhabitants of Somerset and Worcester counties, praying the establishment of a bank at Salisbury. Mr. Lecompte a petition from Thomas Edmondson, of Dorchester county, praying that a law may pass to confirm his title to certain lands therein mentioned. Severally read and referred.

On motion by Mr. A. E. Jones, leave given to bring in a bill, entitled, an act to make valid the proceedings of the levy court of Somerset county, relative to the sale of certain lots of ground.

Mr. Caldwell delivers a petition from Richard Trippe and Susannah Trippe of Talbot county, praying that they may be authorised to manumit certain negroes.

Tuesday, December 1.

The clerk of the council delivers a communication from the executive, enclosing a statement of the number of arms distributed within the last year, from the public arsenals—Read.

Mr. Arnold Jones delivers a bill to make valid the proceedings of the levy court of Somerset county relative to the sale of certain lots of ground.

Mr. Hambleton delivers a petition from Thomas Helsby, of Talbot county, an insolvent debtor, praying relief.—Read.

Mr. Lecompte delivers a bill for the benefit of Thomas Edmondson, of Dorchester county. Twice read [illegible]

On motion by Mr. Stansbury, leave