Smith and Smilie, and opposed by Messrs. Griswold and Gregg.

Lost without a division.

Mr. Van Ness presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of the city of Washington, praying congress to open a road by South XIV street, to Rock Creek church.

Referred to the committee appointed on the memorial of the city council.

Mr. Griswold called up his resolution respecting Louisiana, laid on the table yesterday, as follows:

Resolved, That the president of the U. States be requested to direct the proper officer to lay before this house copies of such official documents as have been received by this government, announcing the cession of Louisiana to France, together with a report explaining the stipulations, circumstances and conditions under which that province is to be delivered up—unless such documents and report will, in the opinion of the president, divulge to the house particular transactions not proper at this time to be communicated.

The question was put on taking it into consideration, and carried—Ayes 35—Noes 32.

Mr. Randolph observed that the discussion on this motion might embrace points nearly connected with the subject referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the union and which had been discussed with closed doors. He therefore thought it would be expedient to commit this motion also to the committee of the whole on the state of the union to whom had been committed the message of the president respecting New-Orleans.

Mr. Randolph accordingly made such a motion.

Mr. Griswold only rose to make a question of order, viz. whether the gentleman could move the reference of the resolution to a committee of the whole on a subject whose discussion required shut doors.

Mr. Speaker said the motion was to refer the resolution to a committee on the union generally—There was no special committee on the state of the union.

Mr. Griswold said he made no question of order of that. He had no doubt it was in order.

The speaker decided the motion to be in order.

Mr. Griswold hoped the motion would not prevail. He did not see what arguments could be urged in favor of it. The resolution related to a public transaction stated on their journal. He did not think that any thing which ought to be kept secret could be involved in the discussion of it. What is its purport? It only requests the president to furnish documents respecting "the cession of the Spanish province of Louisiana to France, which took place in the course of the late war,"—and which the president says "will, if carried into effect, make a change in the aspect of our foreign relations, which will doubtless have just weight in any deliberations of the legislature connected with that subject."

Are not, said Mr. Griswold, these papers important to the house? Does not the president refer to them as important to enlighten us? He speaks of the cession as a fact. He took it for granted the president would not make the declaration unless he had official information of its truth. Ought not the house to be possessed of all the important information in the power of the executive to give? It certainly ought. Every gentleman would agree that the house ought to have all the information. If the information is confidential, it will be received with closed doors. But the question, whether the house shall obtain this information is a public question; and there was not a man within those walls, or in the United States, who would not say that the legislature ought to possess every information on a subject so deeply interesting. Why then refer this resolution, calling for information to a committee? Why postpone it? They had but a short time to sit. More than half the session was already elapsed. Is it not time to gain information? Mr. Griswold said, he would venture to declare that no subject so important could be brought before the legislature this session. Ought we not, therefore, on such a subject to take immediate means to gain information? He hoped the house would not agree to the reference, which would have no effect but to put the resolution asleep, and deprive the legislature of information they ought to possess.

Mr. Randolph said, as he had expressed his disinclination to discuss a proposition with open doors which would trench on the decision of the house to discuss a subject to which it intimately related with closed doors, it could scarcely be expected that he should indulge the gentleman in entering into arguments calculated to carry him from his purpose. But he denied that the adoption of his motion would be a refusal to give information. He well knew that there was nothing easier than to declare the subject vastly important and make an eloquent harangue upon it, and to infer that those who did not immediately agree to the resolution were averse to giving information, and to going into a discussion of the merits of the main subject. It would, however, not be expected that he should enter upon these on a preliminary resolution. But he would assure the gentleman, who had submitted this resolution, that so far from indulging any disposition to be dilatory in his attention to this important subject, he came yesterday prepared to make a motion that the house should go into a committee of the whole on the subject, which motion he should have then made but for that offered by the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. Rutledge said that did he consider that the giving publicity to any information on this subject would in the least interfere with the constitutional functions of the president, he would be the last man to support the resolution of his friend from Connecticut. But he could not conceive that this could be its effect. What were they about to ask? They were about to ask in respectful terms the president for information relative to what he states as a fact; so much information as he may think it expedient to give. Surely there would be no impropriety in this. The cession of Louisiana had been stated in all the public prints of Europe and this country, and on the floor of the British parliament. This cession had been made a year ago: and notwithstanding the elapse of this time, we have received no official information on this subject. Is it not natural for the people to ask why congress do not call for this information? Will they not say that the president has done his duty in stating the fact? Upon this subject, so very important, are they to be kept in the dark? Mr. Rutledge could not conceive any turn of the debate on this resolution that could produce a discussion of the merits of the message refered to the committee of the whole. If the president shall say the information he gives us ought not to be made public, he would answer for himself, and he believed he could answer for his friends, that they would not seek a public discussion. And if the information is imparted without confidence, the house, if it see fit, can itself control a public discusion. Mr. Rutledge concluded with saying that in the present case he was for deciding on the resolution with open doors.

Mr. S. Smith thought this point ought in a great measure to be determined by the custom of the house in similar cases. He did not assert it as a fact, but from recollection he believed it was so, that when a call was made for papers in the case of the British treaty, the question was referred to a committee of the whole, and there fully discussed. According to his recollection, one side of the house called for papers on the principle that after negociations were terminated, the house had a right to information before they made a grant of money under the treaty; but acknowledging that a call for such information might be improper during a pending negociation. He was one of those who thought it proper, on that occasion, that the house should have the papers; but he also thought it improper, and had then so declared, to call for papers during a pending negociation. Whether in the present instance a negociation was pending or was not, he did not know. He was therefore for postponing the resolution till this was known to the house.

[*Debate to be continued.*]

Mr. Randolph's motion to refer the subject to the committee of the whole on the state of the union, was supported by Messrs. Smilie and Gregg, and opposed by Messrs. Dana, Davis, Huger and Bacon.

The question was taken by yeas and nays, and carried in the affirmative—yeas 49—nays 39.

The house immediately resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the union.

Mr. John C. Smith in the chair.

When Mr. Randolph rose and said he held in his hands certain resolutions connected with the message of the president, the discussion of which had been ordered to be carried on with closed doors. He appealed to the chair to know whether the doors were not first to be closed.

The chairman thought the clearing of the galleries must be the act of the house.

Mr. Randolph then called for the reading of the president's message.

The chairman declared this call not in order, as that message could only be read with closed doors.

Mr. S. Smith moved, that the committee should rise, in order to obtain the direction of the house to clear the galleries.

This motion was opposed by Messrs. Griswold, Dana, Rutledge, and L. R. Morris; and supported by Messrs. S. Smith and Macon. Carried. Ayes 49—Noes 37; the yeas and nays being called.

The question was then taken on clearing the galleries. Ayes 41; noes 41. The speaker declaring himself in the affirmative, the galleries were cleared at about 3 o'clock. They remained so for about ten minutes, when the doors were opened, and the house adjourned.

NEW-YORK, January 6.

We learn from a respectable quarter, that there is a letter in town from our minister at Paris, as late as the middle of November, stating, that the French had given up the idea of taking possession of Louisiana for the present.

Entered, brig Amiable Matilda, Graham, Amsterdam, 52 days; schr. Gulielma, Rudyard, Baltimore, 6; Jenny, Pirme, Halifax, 13.

Cleared, ships Eugene, Penaires, Bordeaux; John, De Cost, Charleston; brigs Anna, Rogers, Leghorn; Wealthy Ann, Boyd, Cadiz and a market; schrs. Enterprize, Barry, St. Johns; Three Sisters, Strickland, Yarmouth.

Arrived yesterday,

Schr. Gulielma, Rudyard, 7 days from Baltimore. Sailed from the Capes in company with 15 sail of square-rigged vessels. Spoke, January 1, in lat. 37, 30, long. 75, 30, schr. Eliza, Whittridge, 2 days from Baltimore for Boston. Capt. R. was within 30 miles of the Hook when the late snow storm came on, and was driven back at least 80 miles—he says he never experienced a more severe gale, which continued for 24 hours from N.E. He is of opinion we shall hear of some damage to vessels along the coast.

January 7.

Captain Graham, of the brig Amiable Matilda, informs that a number of English and American vessels had been chartered at Amsterdam, for the purpose of transporting troops to the Dutch West-India possessions, and to Louisiana; and that American produce was generally dull at Amsterdam. Rice being the only article which bore a good price.

Entered, ships Andromache, Pierce, Madeira, 42 days; Mary, Crocker, Amsterdam, 62; brigs Phœbe, Bell, Wilmington, N. C. 7; Harriot, Wheden, St. Croix, 15; Lydia, Williams, Alexandria, 10; Minerva, Bain, Trinidad, 18; sch'rs Lucy, Lawson, Georgetown, S. C. 10; Sally, Gardner, Fredericksburg, 14; Resolution, Nicholls, do. 14; Iris, Persain, do. 14; Minerva, Rutherford, Newburyport, 9; Peggy, Baker, Edenton, N. C. —; Sukey and Polly, ——, N. Carolina, —; sloops Connecticut, Hammond, do. 6; Favorite Patsey, Evans, Petersburg, 10.

Cleared, brig Sally Tracey, May, Gibraltar, Malaga and Cadiz.

Ship Columbus, Burger, arrived at Madeira, in 25 days.

Arrived, brig Harriot, Wheden, St. Croix. The brig Plymouth, Bradshaw, of New-York, left St. Croix Dec. 21, for St. Domingo, had touched at every island to leeward of Barbados, and could get but 6 dollars per bbl.—schooner Nancy, Confield, of Saybrook, was at Dominique, December 12, to sail for St. Vincent. Lat. 32, 30, long. 63, 40, spoke ship Fame, Jones, 50 days from Amsterdam for Philadelphia, who informed, that there were 5000 French troops embarking at Rotterdam for the river St. Mary's. December 31, off Cape Hatteras, spoke a new ship from New-York for Charleston. Captain W. informs us, that the schooner Maria, Mix, from Norfolk, was cut out of one of the out bays, in Tobago, by the crew of a French frigate, and ordered for Martinique, which however, they could not make, and the French gave her up to captain Mix, and he brought her into St. Croix the 17th Dec. They had not permission to land when our informant sailed.

Prices at St. Croix, December 21.

Pork 20 dollars; beef 15; half bbl. 12; flour, best. 6; corn meal, 26 to 30; puncheon hoops, 56 to 60 per M.

From a file of Bordeaux papers to the 31st October, inclusive, received at the office of the Mercantile Advertiser.

Port of Bordeaux, October 10—31.

The American ship Henrietta, advertised for sale.

The Olive-Branch, Tear, advertised for sale, freight or charter, to any port.

The Plough-Boy, of Philadelphia, lately arrived from Guadaloupe, advertised for sale.

Brig Friendship, Reynolds, advertised to sail for New-York, the first week in November.

Ship Lydia, of and for Charleston, advertised to sail positively on the 6th November.

Ship John & Francis, of & for Charleston, advertised to sail about the middle of November.

Ship Tewen, of Petersburg (Vir.) arrived from Norfolk the 28th October, loaded with Tobacco.

PHILADELPHIA, January 7.

Arrived, ships Hampden and Sydney, Goodwin, Madeira, 42 days; Four Friends, Waite, St. Ubes, 50; brigs Julia, Terris, St. Croix, 25; Globe, Shallcross, Antigua, 18; schrs. Lion, Vaux, Aux Cayes, 23; Sally, Childs, Trididad, 23.

Captain C. of the schr. Sally, left at Trinidad, December 9,
Ship Alexandria, of Alexandria
Brig Neptune, ——, Portland
Sloop Anna, Hammond, Philadelphia.

January 8.

By our papers from Cape-Francois, which we received from an obliging friend, we find that gen. Rochambeau is actively engaged in endeavoring to restore tranquility to St. Domingo. It appears that the negroes took the garrison of Merbalais after a vigorous resistance, but were soon afterwards obliged to retreat, a reinforcement having arrived. Leogane has been twice attacked by the negroes, but they were obliged to retreat, having lost a considerable number of men and arms. All the establishments made by the negroes on the river Massacre, in the bay of Mancenille, were destroyed on the 23d of Frimaire by sixty grenadiers, commanded by captain Deverre.

Cleared, snow Hero, Moggridge, Lisbon; brig Agnes, Walters, Surinam; schooner Fair Trader, Meade, Trinidad.

NORFOLK, January 1.

Entered, barque Mary, Cooper, Cape-Francois; schrs. Fish-Hawk, Allen, Martinique; Virginia, Forsyth, Cape-Francois; President, Emmerson, Montserrat; Rover, Nickerson, Barnstable; Polly, Chace, ditto; Joseph, Chace, Providence, R. I. sloop Nimble, Denham, Grenada.

FEDERAL GAZETTE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10.

Roger Nelson, esquire, is chosen a senator of this state, in the room of John Tyler, esquire, resigned.

The Ship Atlantic, captain Tucker, was left at St. Ubes the 12th of November, to sail for Baltimore the 1st of Jan.

A Philadelphia paper informs that markets at Antigua, for American produce, were very low; flour 8 dollars 50 cents, paid in light joes; Rum 5s.

Arrived at Charleston, on the 27th ult. the ship Susanna, Forrester, from this port, in 10 days; the sch'r Nancy, Endicott, from Alexandria, in 8, and the sloop President, from ditto, in 7.

The schooners Adventure, Butterworth; Sally, Loveland, and Lark, Tucker, all of this port, were at Halifax, N. S. on the 2d ultimo.

A Newbury-Port paper states, that a schooner from Halifax for this port, was spoken on the 23d ultimo, out 9 days.

Boston, Jan. 3. Arrived, Jane, Mudge, from Baltimore. Cleared, Mentor, Atkins; Federal George, Field; Ethan Allen, Buel; and Hero, Brayton, for Baltimore.

From Bryden's Marine List.

January 8.

Arrived, brig Alliance, Porter, 14 days from Basseterre (Guadaloupe)—sugar and coffee—James Biays—spoke nothing. Saw a square rigged vessel lying at anchor at Swan Point, bound up.

Captain Porter, brought off three negro convicts, forced on board of him by the government of Guadaloupe.

BALTIMORE

GENERAL DISPENSARY.

The bye-laws of the institution require the following statement to be submitted to the contributors:

	D. C.	D. C.
To amount of balance in hands of the treasurer, Dec. 31, 1801,	1520 70	
Amount of original subscriptions collected last year,	270	
		1790 70
Cr.		
By amount of bills paid for house rent, apothecary's salary, medicine, and incidental expences for 1802, and part of the former year,	887 12	
Balance in bank,	903 58	
		1790 70

The following is an account of patients who have been under the care of the Dispensary for the last year, ending the 31st of December:

Patients admitted,		260
cured,	232	
died,	9	
removed to hospital,	3	
poor-house,	3	
remaining under care,	13	
		260

The subscribers to the institution are informed, that agreeably to the rules, an election for twelve managers will be held at Mr. Evans's tavern, on *Friday evening next*, at 6 o'clock.

WM. P. MATHEWS, Sec'y.

January 10, 1803.

Annapolis, 7th January, 1803.

This day the bill to alter, change and abolish such parts of the constitution and form of government as relate to the establishing a general court and court of appeals, was read the second time, agreeably to the order of the day, and the question put that the said bill do pass.

The yeas and nays being required, appeared as follow:

Affirmative.

Messrs. Angier, Hatchison, Frisby, Moore, Stansbury, Love, Lemmon, Lloyd, Rose, Sheredine, Miller, Alexander, Veazey, Bowie, Wood, Van Horn, Carr, Thompson, Nelson, Hawkins, Montgomery, Harwood, E. Davis, Lyttle, Orrell, Hardcastle, Dixon, Kershner, Smith, Tilghman, Bayard, Simkins, Cretap—33.

Negative.

Messrs. W Neale, Dorsey, Harwood, Merricken, Hall, Blake, Graham, Summervell, Bourne, P. Stuart, Jones, Chapman, M'Pherson, Dashiell, Cotman, Hyland, Goldsborough, S. Frazier, Keene, Steele, Quinn, Ridgley, Quinton, Purnell, Wilson, Kemp, Purviance, Sweringen, T. Davis, Selby, Veach, Tomlinson—32.

So it was resolved in the affirmative by a majority of one vote.

Port of Baltimore.

ENTERED,

Brig Alliance, Porter, Guadaloupe
Sloop Mary-Ann, Addison, Madeira, via Norfolk

CLEARED,

Brig Two Brothers, Kilburn, St. Thomas

☞ *The Members of the Female Humane Association are requested to meet at Mr. William Baker's on Tuesday morning, the 18th instant, at 10 o'clock, to choose nine directors for the orderly management of the charity school for the ensuing year.*

MARY HESSELIUS,
President F. H. S.

January 5. eot17J

Annapolis,

In St John's College, Jan. 4, 1803.

AT a meeting of the visitors and governors of St. John's college, *Resolved*, That this board, on the first day of February next, appoint a professor of languages, viz. Latin and Greek, and that he receive for his services at the rate of 800 dollars, £300, per annum, to be paid quarterly.

By order, &c.

A. C. HANSON.

N. B. The candidates must submit to an examination, in respect to their qualifications, in presence of the visitors. (J10.) 2awtiF

Notice.

THE Subscribers offer to Lease, for 99 years, renewable forever, Nineteen LOTS on German and Sharpe-streets. The lots are about 25 feet by 100, and will be made larger if required. Apply to RANDLE H. MOALE, at the counting-house of Smith, Calhoun & Co. No. 92, Baltimore-street, who is authorised to contract with persons desirous of leasing said property—A plat whereof is left with him.

JUDITH C. MOALE,
THOMAS MOALE.

January 10. eo

☞ The Creditors

Of Mr. Anthony Lamariere are requested to meet This Evening, at 6 o'clock, at Mr. James Bryden's inn.

January 10. 1t

Sale by Auction.

To-Morrow Morning,

The 11th instant, at 10 o'clock, at our auction room at the head of Frederick-street dock, will commence the sale of a variety of DRY GOODS, *consisting of*

Cloths, cassimeres, calicoes, German linens, sailors' jackets, great coats, &c.

After which, at 12 o'clock,

41 hhds. and 34 barrels sugar
30 boxes Havanna brown do.
23 hhds. and 15 barrels green coffee
5 pipes gin
4 puncheons rum
20 chests bohea tea
110 jars raisins
20 boxes lemons
14 casks dry ground paints, &c. &c.

VAN WYCK & DORSEY, Auct's.

January 10.

Sale by Auction.

ON MONDAY,

The 17th instant, at 12 o'clock, on the premises, will be sold, on terms that will then be made known,

A three-story Brick WAREHOUSE, No. 5, M'Elderry's wharf.

VAN WYCK & DORSEY, Auct's.

January 10.

Red Morocco.

25 dozen best Red Morocco, just received and for sale by

GEORGE M'DOWELL,
No. 5, South street

January 10. d3t

Wanted immediately,

A YOUNG MAN who has been accustomed to the retail dry good business—none need apply but who can bring the best recommendations. Apply to the printers.

january 10. d3t‖

COAL.

3000 bushels Scotch COAL, of superior quality, hourly expected from Norfolk, and for sale by

FERGUSSON & ROBERTSON,
No. 80, Bowl's wharf.

January 10. d3t‖

For Sale,

Lymington SALT
Lisbon and Calcavello WINE, by
JAMES CLARKE.

January 10. d

For Sale,

150 barrels of ROSIN, of a superior quality, suitable for the European market.

Also,

SPIRITS of TURPENTINE, black and white VARNISH, and 100 barrels of TAR, at

JOHN STICKNEY & CO's
Turpentine manufactory, near Jones' falls, Water-street.

January 10. eo3t

CARD.

MR. DUPORT respectfully informs the ladies and gentlemen of this city, that his SCHOOL for young ladies will commence *to-morrow*, the 11th instant, at 3 o'clock, P. M. and for gentlemen at 7 the same evening, at Mr. Bryden's, in Light-street, and will continue on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

N. B. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, appropriated for private tuition.

January 10. d4t

Notice.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of the late Mr. Thomas Croxall, deceased, are requested to make payment; and all persons having claims against the deceased, will be pleased to exhibit them, as soon as possible, legally authenticated to the subscriber, who has taken out letters of administration on said estate,

JAMES CROXALL, Adm'r.

January 10. 1aw6t

Notice is hereby given,

THAT I intend to apply to the court of Kent county, at their next March term, for a commission, under the act of assembly of November session, 1786, ch. 33, to mark and bound the following tracts of land, viz. Mitchell's Risk, and Mitchell's Park, and the resurvey thereon, called by the same name, likewise my part of the said lands; also to mark and bound the Remain of his Lordship's Gracious Grant, and the several tracts of which it consists, viz. the Remains of his Lordship's Grant, and Mitchell's Park, including a tract of land originally taken up by a captain Richard Smith, and a tract called the Beaver Dam, originally taken up by a certain John Parsons, and also to mark and bound my land called the Remains of my Lord's Gracious Grant, and the resurvey made thereon, and part of Mitchell's Park aforesaid, called by the patent of confirmation thereof by the name of the Remains of his Lordship's Gracious Grant—these lands lie in Kent county, Maryland, and in New-Castle and Kent counties in the state of Delaware.

WALTER DULANY.

Duck Creek Cross Roads,

January 10. 2aw8t

"The Philadelphia Company of Bookfellers"

Respectfully inform the trade in the United States, that they have now in the press,

Walker's Dictionary 8vo.

And that there is now in the press, or preparations making for printing, the following Books, by individual members of the company:

Mavor's Voyages and Travels, 20 vols. and continuation, 4 vols.
Hooper's Anatomist Vade Mecum, 12mo.
Knox's Christian Philosophy, 8vo.
Pinkerton's Modern Geography, 2 vols. 4to.
Songs of Solomon, by T. Williams
Scott's Family Bible, 4 vols. 4to
Zion's Warrior, or the Christian Soldiers Manual
Converse with God in solitude
Zion's Pilgrim, by Robert Hawker
Pocket Bible, on pearl type
Quarto Bible, on paper of different qualities
Romance of the Forest, the 2 vols. in one
Oriental Customs, by Samuel Burder
Newtonian System of Philosophy, improved
Medical and Physical Journal of London, 7 vols. 8vo. with the continuations
Simpson's Euclid, 8vo.
Ferguson's Astronomy, 8vo.
British Classics
Franklin on Chess
Parents' Friend, 2 vols. 8vo.
Ferguson's Lectures, 8vo.

The company earnestly request information from every bookseller in the United States, addressed to the Secretary, *post paid*, of their intentions with respect to publishing books; they also inform the trade that they intend to publish monthly what books are in the press, or for which arrangements are making, either by the company or any of its members.

WILLIAM BRADFORD, Sec'y.

N. B. The printers of Newspapers are requested to insert the above as often as convenient.

January 10. 3t