That Mr. S. should write a letter to Burr and direct it to Blannerhassett has been satisfactorily explained. But it is not easy to explain nor has it been explained, by what means Burr could devise that the letter directed to Blannerhassett was a letter written to him, or contained a letter for him. The construction which this transaction, and the letters written by Mr. S. and B. to each other, have received from the gentleman from Mass. is the only candid and rational construction of which they are susceptible.'

The Senate have been cautioned not to lay much stress upon the testimony of Col. James Taylor, not because he is unworthy of credit, but because he deposes to a conversation which has long since past, and because Dr. Sellman was present and heard no such expressions. Sir, I believe the deposition of Col. James Taylor contains not only a perspicuous declaration of what he believed, but also a correct statement of facts; a correct statement of what he heard. His deposition, it is true, was made long after the conversation happened; but shortly after that event he reduced it to writing, and communicated it to the Secretary of State, and to that writing he referred when under examination before the Senate. He also swears he conversed with General Findley, and that his understanding of that conversation was the same. Compare the circumstances under which Col. Taylor testifies, with those which attends Dr. Sellman's deposition. If he was present at all, it does not appear, that any circumstance whatever occurred to impress that conversation upon his mind—it does not appear, that he ever thought of it afterwards, until he was called upon to depose, which was more than fifteen months subsequent to the conversation; but it does appear that Dr. S. has acted the part of a partizan of Mr. Smith's. In truth, sir, there is not a single circumstance tending to confirm his statement of that conversation, in opposition to that of colonel James Taylor.

I agree with the gentleman from Massachusetts, that it would be improper to declare a member of this body unworthy of his seat for the expression of mere speculative opinions; but the expression of these opinions, connected with other circumstances which preceded, and followed after it amounts to very strong proof. We are called upon by the gentleman from Virginia, and also from Kentucky to lay our fingers upon that particular part of the testimony which produces conviction in our minds, of the guilt of Mr. Smith. To this call, sir, I will observe that in all cases of circumstantial evidence, convictions are the result of a combination of circumstances; they are not produced by any one link in the chain of testimony, but by the whole chain taken together. If, sir, a conviction could [illegible] place in a court [illegible] the jury could put their fingers upon the particular part of the testimony which established the guilt of the accused, it might happen that in nine cases out of ten the culprit would be acquitted.

My friend from Kentucky says if J. S. has participated in B's treasonable and unlawful projects it must have been by performing some act or in concealing it—that he is not charged with having performed any act, and that therefore the charge must be founded on his concealment of what he knew. I will not say that Mr. S. has been charged with enlisting troops for A. B.; but sir, I will say, that he has been guilty of an act very much like it—an enlistment of the strongest character—an engagement, or enlistment of his two sons to go with A. B.—to march under his banners—subject to his control, under his absolute government, dependent upon him for their their future prospects and station in life. And here, sir, I refer to the deposition of Mr. S. himself. He swears, that A. B. did at his second visit to Cincinnati, disclose his views of invading Mexico; and yet, sir, he engaged his sons in the enterprise.

But, sir, there is one point in the testimony, which of itself produces something like conviction on my mind, that Mr. S. was guilty of participating in B's plans. And here, sir, I will refer to the deposition made by Mr. Smith, and that of A. D. S. already referred to by the gentleman from Tennessee, for a different purpose. Mr. S. swears that he never communicated to his son the engagement with A. B. until the day he returned from Marietta, and not till he had expressed a disinclination to co-operate with Col. Burr's object. This deposition was made on the 6th January, 1807, and by a deposition of A. D. Smith of the same date, it appears he returned from Marietta on the 3d day of that month. It also appears in evidence, that for some time previous to this day, that Mr. S. had been in Kentucky, and that during that time A. D. S. had become the bearer of a letter to Bl. from A. B. and for that purpose had gone to Marietta and Belle Pre; and that the 3d of January was the day he met his father on his return. But A. D. Smith on the 13th August, at Richmond, swears, that he never received any overture from A. B. on that subject; yet he considered himself as engaged under him, for he says—"From the papers which daily teemed with the treason of Col. Burr's designs; the frequent solicitations, and injunctions of my father, to relinquish the idea of descending the Mississippi as an accomplice of Col. B's; and Gen. Eaton's deposition alone induced me to abandon him and his projects." Here, sir, the son declares he did not engage himself with A. B. yet he was engaged; he knew that he was engaged, and reluctantly broke that engagement. The father swears he engaged him; but that he never disclosed that engagement to him until he expressed his disinclination to go. From whom did A. D. S. receive the knowledge of this engagement? The answer is too plain; from his father, and not communicated to him on his return from Marietta, but before he set out for that place; before the father set out for Kentucky; and a knowledge of this engagement is the only probable reason of his becoming the bearer of that letter. But, sir, there is another contradiction which ought to be noticed here. A. D. S. and his father met on his return from Marietta, and the *frequent solicitations and injunctions* of the father induced the son to abandon B. yet the father swears he never disclosed the engagement he had made until the son had expressed a disinclination to go with B. This expression of Mr. S's is a contradiction in itself; but when compared with the declarations of the son—the contradiction is gross and palpable. How could he solicit and enjoin his son to violate an engagement which he knew nothing of? Sir, it is impossible to reconcile these contradictions. Upon this occasion my mind has received no bias whatever from the conversations and whispers alluded to by the gentlemen from Kentucky. I have lived in a section of the country that has not felt the general impression made by the movements and enterprizes of A. B. I have attended to nothing but the testimony. I have had no acquaintance with Mr. S. I entertain no prejudice against him. I should feel as much gratified as any member of this body, to be able, consistently with my duty, to vote for his retaining his seat. Sir, the feelings of this House have been addressed—an appeal has been made to the humanity of the Senate. We have a duty to di[illegible] which is paramount to humanity [illegible] of resigning our[illegible] our feelings, we ought to exercise our judgment, and do that which the public good imperiously requires. From a full examination of the evidence, I am constrained to say, that the conduct of Mr. S. has been such as to render it highly improper for him to retain his seat in the highest council of the nation.

ST. ANDREW's SOCIETY.

A Stated meeting of the Society will be held in the house of WILLIAM RATRIE, in George Town on Friday next, of which the Members will please to take notice.

JOHN MURDOCH, Sec.

August 17—2t

COLUMBIAN DRAGOONS.

The members of the *Troop of Columbian Dragoons* are requested to meet at LINDSAY's hotel to-morrow evening (Thursday) at seven o'clock for the purpose of electing a Second Lieutenant of the Troop in the place of Mr. Cherry, resigned.

WM. BRENT, Capt.

August 17—

THE *President and Professors of George Town College*, return their warmest thanks to the gentlemen of the "UNION LIGHT INFANTRY BAND," who politely volunteered their services on the night of their Exhibition, and will ever esteem the favor conferred on that occasion amongst the first entitled to their grateful remembrance. They take the liberty to remark that the able manner in which they performed, contributed not a little to the general satisfaction experienced by the polite and numerous company assembled on that occasion.

August 17—3t

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having claims against the estate of *Elizabeth Philpot*, late of Charles county deceased, are hereby warned to exhibit them legally authenticated on or before the 8th day of December, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said estate, and all those indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to Mr. Laurence Posey, who is fully authorised to conduct the said administration.

Millersburg, Bourbon County Kentucky, August 17—3t

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17.

The French armed brig Surveillante sailed from this place on Sunday.

Among the late productions, which have issued from the British Press, is an interesting, and in some respects an extraordinary tract, written by Mr. Spence, the object of which is to shew that Britain is independent of commerce, and need not therefore be dismayed at the prospect of a declension or even destruction of her trade. Although the writer may not have succeeded in establishing the ostensible object of his work, he has presented several views of the true sources of national wealth and prosperity no less worthy of the attention of an American than a Briton, and set forth numerous facts, all of which strikingly prove the wisdom of the course pursued by our government. We have not room for an analysis of this performance; we shall therefore confine ourselves to exhibiting some of the views and facts to which we have alluded.

The most impressive fact mentioned is the small proportion of individuals employed in Britain in producing the whole mass of articles of consumption and exportation. Of the twelve millions which compose the nation, only two millions appear to be engaged in agriculture, and two in trade and manufactures. This accounts for the wretched state of the poor, and shews how great the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the government and individuals must be, to support two thirds of the whole community independently of labor.

As the entire mass of production must ultimately be in proportion to the productive classes of her inhabitants, how marked is the contrast between Britain and this country, and how vast may we expect the difference to be in the relative progress of the two countries, even independent of the rapidity with which our numbers increase! In the U. States, it is no exaggeration to say that nine tenths of our population is employed in agriculture, manufacture or trade; while in Britain there is but one third, or a little better than three tenths. If it be admitted, as we believe it safely may be, that the labor of an American produces as much as that of an Englishman, it will follow that the mass of annual products in this country will be three times as great in proportion to our numbers as in England. These products are either consumed among us, or exported, or constitute a capital for internal improvement. There is undoubtedly a much greater relative consumption in this country, and hence the more comfortable living of our citizens and the diminutive number of our poor. But notwithstanding this liberal consumption, there remains an immense accumulation of property which finds its principal employment in advancing the agriculture of the country, in the erection of new manufactories, in the making roads, building bridges, erecting houses, and the rapid increase of every thing that administers to our real or imaginary wants.

Let any one make a calculation of the relative effect of this circumstance upon the progress of Britain and the U. States for a period of twenty-two years, and connect with it the concomitant effect of an increase of our numbers, and he will perceive with almost mathematical certainty the comparative situation of the two countries at the expiration of that period. He will find that we shall then have doubled our numbers, and more than quadrupled our riches and power; and have, probably, outstripped the wealth of Britain.

In this tract it is stated that the annual production of England amounts to 480 millions of dollars in value. There is strong reason to believe that our annual production is even at present not inferior in value. For if there are more individuals employed in the U. States on articles of production than in England, and if the quantity produced by each individual is equally great, it follows that the whole amount produced in this country is greater than in that.

But let us, independently of this consideration, estimate the value of the labor employed in the U. States. Of the seven millions, which compose our population, about one fourth is made up of adult males, neither too young or too old for work, amounting to 1,750,000. Computing the value produced by their labor at two thirds of a dollar a day, the annual amount will be 350 millions of dollars.

Computing, that of the remaining males one half do nothing, and valuing the labor of the residue, amounting to 875,000 at 20 cents a day, the annual amount will be 52 millions.

And computing the labor of the women as producing 20 cents a day, and reckoning one half of the whole female numbers, we have the annual amount of 104 millions.

Making an aggregate of 506 millions of dollars. It would not, perhaps, be incorrect to estimate the labor of the men as producing a dollar a day. If so the amount would be 681 millions.

If there be any truth in this view is it not high time for us to dismiss our private habits of imitation, no longer to look upon ourselves in the light of an inferior nation, but to estimate our true importance, to assume a national character, and in all respects to think and act for ourselves? The fact is, that, wherever we have asserted this independence we have prospered. Let us then not doubt that the more we assert it the more we shall prosper.

Under this view of the subject if Britain be independent of commerce, how much more so are we? Britain, with her crowded population, her luxurious habits, her expensive government, her gigantic national debt, her immense navy and army; and we with our scattered population, our frugal habits, our economical government, our trifling debt, and inconsiderable naval and military establishments.

The advocates for a close commercial alliance with England will do well to give this performance an attentive perusal. Although some of its positions be exceedingly paradoxical, it is evidently the production of a vigorous and enlightened mind, and consequently presents many sound and interesting views, of which none can be more instructive than that taken of the inevitable declension of British trade and manufactures at no distant day. Such an acknowledgement from a writer, who has been considered as having penned his performance as an apology for the British orders, and to shew that if their effect should be a diminution or even destruction of trade, there would be no reason for alarm, and who speaks contemptuously of the measures of our government, will be admitted to be deserving of great weight, and forcibly to exhibit the impolicy of interweaving our permanent fortunes with that power, under the impression that she will be able on better terms to supply all our wants than all the other nations of Europe. The following extract displays the sentiments of Mr. Spence on this point:

"How is it, that we have been able so greatly to surpass the other nations of the globe, in the extent of our commerce? Because, from the amount of our capital, and the excellence of our machinery, we have had the power of underselling all competitors in the foreign market. The question is, whether we shall be able to retain this superiority? For the moment the manufacturers of France, or of Germany, can offer as good an article as ourselves, at a lower price, our commerce with these countries, and with other nations, to which they have unrestrained access, must naturally cease. Now there are many reasons, which make it probable, that we shall not long retain this superiority in the foreign market, arising from the lowness of price, and goodness of quality, of our manufactures. The advantages derived from our extent of capital, and excellence of machinery, are already counterbalanced by the high wages of labor in this country, which are probably twice as much as on the continent. Even in Dr. A. Smith's time, the English manufacturers complained, that the wages of labor were so high, that they could scarcely enter into competition with the foreign manufacturer. Since then, wages have greatly risen, and if we advert to the cause of their rise, we shall see reason to believe, that they will be still higher.

"The much greater value of land and of food, and consequently of labor, in this country, than in the neighboring nations, must be attributed to the operation of some internal and peculiar cause: for if it had arisen from the depreciation in value of the precious metals, this circumstance would have influenced the prices of land and food and labor in an equal degree in the rest of Europe. Some have accounted for this rise, from the great issue of a fictitious, circulating medium in this country, but probably without reason: for though, when we compare the mint and market price of bullion, there seems ground for believing that our paper currency is depreciated to the extent of 2 or 3 per cent. this circumstance by no means accounts for the rise in price of nearly 100 per cent. within the last 25 years. It is more probable, that these advanced prices are to be attributed to the existence of our immense national debt, in which circumstance it is, we chiefly differ from the rest of Europe. In the creation of the national debt, large sums have, at intervals, been converted from capital into revenue, and have been expended, either in articles of food, or of manufacture. In both instances, the demand for food has increased; its price has advanced; and, in the end, the price of labor and of every thing else, which naturally depends on the price of food, has advanced in an equal degree. Now, if the increased rate of wages in Britain, has been brought about in consequence of the augmented amount of the national debt, as this debt will, according to the present appearance of things in Europe, be yet considerably increased, we must look forward to a still greater rise in the price of food and labor, and consequently our manufacturers will find it more than ever difficult to meet the competition of foreign rivals, who can purchase labor at a price so much less. Even if we look forward to a continuance of the present price of labor, the increased industry and capital, and improved machinery of the nations we now supply with manufactures, will, in the course of twenty or thirty years, when added to the advantage which their low rate of labor gives them, enable them to undersell us in their own, and perhaps in foreign markets. If we cast a glance at the probable improvements which would take place in the manufactures of other nations of Europe, in a few years, if peace should be concluded, we shall be satisfied of the accuracy of this statement. France, for instance, has, at present, five or six hundred thousand soldiers, When this mass of population (a much greater mass than we now employ in the manufacture of our articles of export,) shall be disbanded, and have ceased to live on the plunder of other countries, they will naturally become manufacturers; and, as France already fabricates nearly as much as she has occasion for, she will then not only fully supply her own wants, but probably have a considerable portion to dispose of. The manufactures of Germany, too, will, in time of peace, regain the importance they once had. Spain and Portugal, in their present state of apathy and indolence, need not to be feared as competitors, but if their energies be aroused as seems likely to be the case, by a new government appointed by Bonaparte, we certainly cannot calculate upon their custom for any length of time, since they possess within themselves a profusion of materials, for manufacturing all we furnish them with. Russia, even now, does not consume any great amount of our manufactures, and in proportion as she advances in civilization, and increases her manufacturing class, will require still less. So that, even though America should find it her interest to purchase her manufactures for a century to come, and even tho' other openings for commerce should be made in South America, in Asia, or in Africa, still we should have so many competitors, all able to afford goods cheaper than we could, by reason of the cheapness of the labor employed on them, that our trade would, upon the whole, be greatly diminished. It is in vain to talk of the excellence of our machinery, as insuring us a decided advantage over other nations. From the very nature of things, it is impossible that we should be able to keep secret the construction of any large machine made use of in an extensive manufacture, and, accordingly, the fabrication of our improved cotton and woollen machinery, is as well understood in France, as in England. Our capital, then, will be the only remaining circumstance in which we shall probably, for a time, be superior to the rest of Europe. But this superiority cannot last long. When capital is at all acquired, it rapidly accumulates; and even supposing our capital to increase, in the same degree with that of our rivals, this event would reduce the profit of stock so low in this country, that we should be willing to lend it, as the Dutch did, to any other nation, which, in consequence of the cheapness of labor, could afford to give more for it."

In the perusal of the petition given in this days paper as adopted by the federalists of Boston, our readers will see with regret what may be effected by artifice & intrigue in a country where, thanks to the blessings of a republican administration, the press & tongue are equally unshackled. They will see to what lengths a party struggling to regain the reins of government, may be led. The plot ripens apace; in a few weeks we shall be overwhelmed with effusions of the junto which was, previous to the late adjournment of Congress, employed in copying and forwarding petitions from "the poor fishermen" of Massachusetts.

Are [illegible] called upon to prove that [illegible] is the result of a preconcerted [illegible] electioneering plan?