WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26.

PUBLIC MEETING.

IN Consequence of application made to me, I request a meeting of the Citizens of Washington, for the purpose of taking into consideration whether any, and what measures, it may be necessary to take for the interest of the City, in consequence of the accident which has happened in the North Wing of the Capitol by the falling in of the Vault of the Court Room—the meeting to be held at *Lindsay's Hotel* on *Wednesday Evening* next at 6 o'clock, P. M.

ROBERT BRENT, Mayor of the City of Washington.

September 24th, 1808.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FELLOW-CITIZENS,

Never has there existed a more momentous crisis in your affairs. By the glorious struggle of the revolution you vanquished your enemies and established your republic. The wisdom of your best men submitted to you a form of government unrivalled for its capacity to secure your rights and advance your interests. You had the virtue and intelligence to adopt it. Under the administration of the great Washington you prospered. A wayward policy followed, and your march to greatness was arrested. It was the object of this policy to mingle your destiny with that of an ambitious nation, and if not to make you subservient to the views of Great Britain, at least to make you rise with her greatness and sink with her fall. You had the virtue to resist these machinations, to consign to private life those who enforced them, and to confer your power upon men influenced by different views. Jefferson was raised to the Chief Magistracy, surrounded by men ready to co-operate with Him in the disinterested promotion of your interests, and the firm maintenance of your rights.

For seven years past, under the councils and measures of these men your interests have been promoted to the fullest extent of your wishes and greatly beyond your expectations, while your rights have been maintained with vigilance and impartiality. Of this the astonishing progress of the country in wealth, in numbers and in power, are the indisputable proofs. Such a progress has never attended any other nation.

Such was the flourishing and proud attitude of your affairs, when a new English administration supplanted that of one of the greatest and best men that ever lived, whose last solicitudes were engaged in the godlike effort to reconcile the discordant interests of the two countries. This mournful change was soon succeeded by the black affair of the Chesapeake, and in its train followed those atrocious orders of council, which have robbed us of our repose, arrested every man's occupation, and exposed our country to the complicated evils of war, or a submission to that tyranny, which even in our infancy we thought too intolerable to be borne.

Your government, that government, whose wise measures & disinterested patriotism had commanded your affections to such a degree as almost to have hushed into silence the clamors of faction, to save you from these dreadful evils, to save you from war or slavery, withdrew you for a while from the enevitable collisions that must have flowed from the usual pursuit of trade upon the high seas. There was, and could be, no other alternative. It was not they, but Britain, that perpetrated the outrage on the Chesapeake; it was not they, but Britain, that issued those orders that exposed your whole trade to the continent of Europe to confiscation; it was not they, but France, that issued those decrees that condemned every thing that England had not destroyed. Hence the embargo alone could avert war or slavery. It has averted them. Not, it is admited, without producing great and distressing evils, but less ones than either of the other alternatives would unavoidably have created.

These evils, however, are sensibly felt, and faction has determined to profit by them. Its most Herculean efforts are roused to persuade you that your government are their authors. Every species of misrepresentation is drawn on, and prodigally and industriously disseminated to convince you that they proceed from the measures of your government, instead of being, as they truly are, the unavoidable consequences of the measures of your enemies. You are told indeed that your government is your worst enemy by men who once told you that you were your own greatest enemy, and that Britain is your best friend, as the tories also told you at the commencement of your glorious contest for independence.

Before you believe these things, I call upon you to pause and reflect, to draw upon the treasures of experience, and to confide in your own independent judgements, instead of consigning them to the caprice of prejudice or the billow of passion. I call upon you, I implore you not merely to look backward, but likewise to look forward, that you may perceive the situation in which you will be placed, should you exchange your present rulers, for federalists, for Britons in principle, or for old tories at heart. I ask you if you are aware of the situation into which you will be rapidly hurried, if federalism is again armed with the power of the nation. Rest assured that *hay will be made while the sun shines*. The friends of an *energetic* government will not falter in their course. They will raise the embargo, it is true. But what will follow? Commerce must be protected, from the warfare upon it that will instantly ensue; and that warfare will be principally made by Britain, as she has ten ships of war for one possessed by her enemy, unless she is propitiated. And now can she be propitiated? By nothing short of absolute submission, by your becoming her colony, by supplying her exhausted treasury with tributary millions, by raising or lowering your flag at her pleasure, by carrying your ships and goods wither she pleases, and finally by making a common cause with her against all her enemies, by a treaty of offensive and defensive alliance. For what? That she may make us "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for her aggrandisement, and protect us, as she would any other species of her property, against her enemies.

This is the momentous view I call upon you, fellow-citizens, to take. Attend to me with patience, and I will convince you of its truth.

HAMPDEN.

Census of the Inhabitants of Richmond, just taken by the Master of Police.

Whites,	4,241
Free colored,	929
Slaves,	3,394
Total	8,564

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Halifax, to a merchant in this town, dated Sept. 7.

The troops here, commanded by Sir George Provost, are under orders for a distant secret expedition, and are nearly prepared. The number is about 4000. There are various conjectures as to the place of destination. Some persons suppose they are bound to Spain or Portugal to assist the Patriots; some that they are going against a French colony." *Bost. Pal.*

Boston, Sept. 19.

By the ship Globe, Captain Coffin, arrived here on Saturday, in 50 days from Liverpool, we have London dates only one day later than by the recent arrival at New-York. The Spanish accounts by this arrival are to July 16; but excepting the news of the battle near Valladolid, do not announce any events of consequence, not heretofore published.

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BENEVENTO, JULY 9.

Yesterday arrived here Sir T. Dyer, the commissioner from England, and Don Ramon De Lano Ponte, from Oviedo. It is said that Sir T. Dyer will accompany our army, in order to have the satisfaction of seeing put to the route, that common enemy, who have so unjustly applied that appellation to the generous nation, which has known how to arrest and frustrate the ambitious plans of the man who seeks to enslave the continent.

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Battle between the Spaniards and French, near Valladolid.

The intelligence we have to communicate to day is of a different complexion from that which we have for some time had the happiness of laying before our readers. The Spanish Patriots have sustained a check in Leon—Government last night received dispatches from Sir Thomas Dyer, dated on the 16th, from Benevento. They state that a battle was fought on the 14th between the Spaniards under general Cuesta, and the French under general Lassolles. We stated on Saturday that general Cuesta was a Villepauda, and that it was his intention to march against Valladolid, with a view of cutting off the communication between the enemy in the North of Spain and the troops at Madrid. The French were aware of his intention, and of the importance of keeping Valladolid if possible. They marched to meet the Patriots—the battle took place at Rio Seco, near Valladolid.—The force of the Patriots was—

Infantry,	14,000
Cavalry,	800

Besides a body of peasants, and twenty-six pieces of cannon.—The French had in

Infantry,	10,000
Cavalry,	2,000

And a very great quantity of cannon.—The ardor and impetuosity of the new levies in the Patriot Army were not to be restrained, and consequently they fell upon the French, and in the first onset drove the enemy back, capturing four pieces of cannon, which they spiked. But the battle being fought on an extensive plain, the Patriots were not able to secure their flanks, and their cavalry was much inferior to the enemy's—The latter, in consequence, were able to take them in flank, and the Patriots, who had the advantage in the outset, were not able to preserve it. They were, after four hours and a half's fight, from eight till half past twelve, compelled to retreat. But this they effected in good order to Benevento, under cover of a Spanish regiment of caribineers, leaving behind them 13 pieces of cannon. But the French, superior as they were in cavalry, suffered so much in the battle, that they were unable to pursue them, and they did not even enter Rio Seco till four hours after the battle. It was reported that the French general Lasolles was killed, as his horse was said to have been found without a rider. General Cuesta remained at Benevento when Sir Thomas Dyer sent off his dispatches on the 26th, and as reinforcements were pouring in from all parts, it was hoped he would soon be able to attack the enemy with every prospect of success.

It is undoubtedly of the greatest importance that the French should, if possible be cut off from Madrid, but certainly the plains of Leon and Castille afford a great advantage to the enemy, who have a superiority of cavalry and artillery, and who fight against troops not yet completely disciplined.

It is with regret that we communicate the above intelligence; but it was not to be expected that victory would attend the Patriots in every encounter. That in the outset they should have made head at all against the French is to be wondered at. Besides there is nothing in this defeat disgraceful to them—far from it. There was no great inequality of numbers, and the enemy, by being so superior in cavalry, fought with manifest advantage. The Patriots behaved with great courage—they were not thrown into confusion—they retreated in good order, and the French did not dare to pursue them. The enemy, we have no doubt, will see no reason to be proud of their success. The affair of Rio Seco affords them a specimen of the kind of resistance they have to expect in every part of Spain. The defeat of gen. Cuesto, therefore, does not by any means weaken our belief that the French will not be able to conquer Spain.

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Among the troops which have embarked for Spain, is the king's German legion, amounting in the whole to 13,000 men. Lieut. gen.. Dalrymple, is to have the first command of the British forces in Spain; Sir Harry Burrard, the second, and Sir John Moore, the third. Generals Hope, lord Paget, Murray, Sontang, Stewart, Frazer, and Ed. Paget, have commands in the expedition.

ERRATA.

The reader is desired to correct the following *Errata*, in the last number of *Plain truth*.

In the 23d line of the 2nd column omit the words "*of a letter*."—In the 11th line of the 2nd paragraph, in the same column, for "*We admit*" read "*He admits*."

FOR SALE.

ON Monday the 10th of October if fair, if not the next fair day, I will offer at public sale, 308 *acres of LAND*, laying on St. Clement's Bay, and nearly between Chaptico and Leonardtown, handsomely situated on the said Bay, with a large and commodious Dwelling House with comfortable dry cellars, a convenient kitchen, dairy, meat house, corn house, stables, barn, and every other necessary outhouse nearly new, and in good order—Eighty acres of the above land is heavily timbered with large white oak, cedar, and some pine—the situation perfectly healthy and within three miles of the river Potomac—fish, oysters, and wild fowl in abundance during the season, and to be had within 300 yards of the door; the soil fertile and a perfect level only whereon the houses stand. One half the purchase money will be required on the first day of January 1809, when possession will be given, and the balance a credit of twelve months will be given from the day of sale on giving bond with approved security. Sale to be on the premises, and to commence at 2 o'clock.

JOHN BOND.

St. Mary's county, August 24—3tw.

POSTSCRIPT.

By the arrival of the ship Alknomac, at N. York, London dates to the 28th July, two days later than those received via Boston, and contain no news of consequence. The Swedish army has retired within its own frontiers & the Russians are said to have withdrawn from Finland. Accounts from Oporto state that the force under Junot is stronger than was at first supposed and that he has received reinforcements. The Spanish Gen. Cuesta with 71,000 men is said to be in pursuit of a French force of 17,000 under Bessieres.

FOR SALE.

THE Two story Brick HOUSE, situate on square number 930 in the city of *Washington* now occupied by Mr. Tunis Craven, as a retail store. The eligibility of this stand for the retail business is excelled by none in this city; being situate on the principal street to the Navy Yard, and very near the Navy Yard Gate. Any person desirous of purchasing the above property may be shewn it by applying to the subscriber, who will also make known the terms of sale

WM. BRENT.

Washington city, Dec. 18—wtf

To holders of NON-RESIDENT LANDS, within the state of OHIO.

WELL knowing that many gentlemen, non-residents of this state, and who own lands within it, and particularly those who hold it within the *Virginia Military District*, are subjected to many inconveniences and impositions by men in this state; and, upon a particular examination of the books in the Auditor's office, of this state, I discover that many gentlemen holding lands within the above mentioned district, have, from a non-payment of the taxes due thereon, subjected them to be sold for the taxes so due, by the collector of the taxes on non-resident proprietors lands for said district. And it frequently happens that the purchaser at such sales will not relinquish his title to the original owner, under one-fourth of the real value of the land.

From the circumstances above mentioned, and many more that might be recited of equal if not greater importance to land holders, I am now prompted to come forward and offer my services to such gentlemen, as an agent to superintend the payment of their taxes, the redeeming of their lands sold by the collector mentioned above; and also for the selling of any lands which they may wish to sell, which business I will transact on moderate terms; much more so than those on which many within the compass of my knowledge have their business of that nature transacted.

Any gentleman who shall think proper to entrust to me the management of his business, may be well assured that entire justice will be done him.

As I reside with the Auditor of this state, and have always access to his books, I have every opportunity of ascertaining the precise situation of any lands within the state, which are subject to taxation, and as I am not engaged in any land speculations, will have no inducement to withhold correct information.

By an act of the last session of the legislature of this state, the rate of land tax was raised to the following rates, viz. *First rate 100 cents, Second rate 75 cents, and Third rates 50 cents per 100 acres.* And under the said act, all lands which are hereafter sold for the payment of taxes, may be redeemed by paying to the purchaser thereof, 100 per cent. and interest on the purchase money and costs: Provided such redemption shall take within one year after the purchase.

All lands subjected to taxation within this state, & which shall not be paid between the first day of August past, and the first day of December next, will, as has always been customary, on that day, be offered for sale for the taxes due thereon.

Any letters on the above business, postage paid, will be strictly attended to, by

CADWALLADER WALLACE.

Chillicothe, Ohio, Aug. 15—3w

Orphan's Court, Prince Georges county, July 19th, 1808.

IT being represented to this court by Petition in writing of Robert McGill administrator of Benjamin Gaithe late of said county, deceased, that in consequence of the absence of the deceased's representatives from the state of Maryland, and of doubts being entertained whether the said absent representatives are in existence or have left any issue to represent them, he cannot safely make distribution of the assets in his hands without the interposition of this court. It is therefore ordered, that unless the said absent representatives appear before this court on or before the 20th day of January next to receive their respective dividends, that the court will then proceed to make distribution of the assets in the hands of the said Rbt. McGill, among the deceased's representatives residing in the state of Maryland, provided the said Robert McGill shall cause a copy of this order to be inserted in the National Intelligencer one a week for eight weeks before the 20th day of November next.

Test TRUEMAN TYLER, Reg. of Wills for Prince Georges' county.

August 19—w8t

WASHINGTON THEATRE.

LAST NIGHT.

ON MONDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 26, 1808.

Will be presented a celebrated Comedy;

(NEVER PERFORMED HERE,)

CALLED, THE

HONEY MOON.

Duke of Aranza,	Mr. M'Kenzie,
Count Montalban,	Mr. Cone,
Rolando,	Mr. Jefferson,
Balthazar,	Mr. Cross,
Lopez,	Mr. Miller,
Jaquez,	Mr. Bray,
Lampedo,	Mr. Bissett,
Campillo,	Mr. Harriss,

Juliana, (with the celebrated song of "*At the front of a Cottage*") Mrs Wilmot,
Zamora, (late Miss Hunt) Mrs. Bray,
Volante, Mrs. Francis,
Hostess, Mrs. Seymour,

In act 4th—A characteristic dance.

To which will be added A Melo-Drama, (in three Acts,)

CALLED

A TALE OF MYSTERY.

Bonamo,	Mr. Charnock,
Romaldi,	Mr. M'Kenzie,
Francisco,	Mr. Jefferson,
Stephano,	Mr. Cone,
Montano,	Mr. Cross,
Michelli,	Mr. Bissett,
Malvoglio,	Mr. Miller,
Pierro,	Mr. Bray,
Exempt,	Mr. Jacobs,
First Gardener,	Mr. Seymour,
Second Gardener,	Mr. Harriss,
Selina	Mrs. Wilmot,
Fiametta,	Mrs. Francis.

In ACT 2d—*An introductory dance*—By *Mrs. Bray, Messrs. Francis, Harris and Briers.*

In ACT 3d—*A wild mountainous Country, called the Nant of Appennaz, with Pines and Massy Rocks, Rude wooden Bridges thrown across from rock to rock.*

A rugged Mill Stream in the back ground—the Miller's House on one side, and a steep ascent by a narrow path to the Bridge.

*** Tickets to be had of *Mr. Charnock* at *Mr. Stibbins's*. Cabinet-maker, in F street, near the Bank.

†‡† Box One Dollar—Pitt Three-quarters of a Dollar.

Doors will be open at Six—Curtain rise a quarter before Seven o'clock.

FOR RENT,

A *THREE STORY BRICK HOUSE* in F Street, near the Bank. For particulars enquire of Wm. Cocking, the owner and occupier,

ALSO

A Frame Store in Georgetown, next door to Mr. Bridges, enquire as above.

Possession may be had the First of October.

Sept. 26—3t.

A RUNAWAY.

WAS committed to the jail of Washington county, in the state of Maryland, on the 7th inst. as a runaway, a negro man who calls himself TOM, alias *Michael Thomas*—says he belongs to Robert Locher, living between Winchester and Romney, Frederic county Virginia; he is about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, 21 or 22 years of age; had on when committed, a pair of blue corded cassimere pantaloons, a tow shirt and an old beaver hat. His owner is desired to take him away or he will be sold for his jail fees, &c. according to law.

ISAAC S. WHITE, *Sheriff.*

September 26—w3t

ROSS & GETTY,

Opposite the UNION TAVERN George Town,

Have now in store and offer for sale on the lowest terms for cash or short credits, the following goods, viz.

Old London Part. Madeira, Sicily Madeira, Lisbon, Port, Sherry, } WINES.
10 pipes, six years old Cogniac brandy,
4 do. Holland gin,
4 hhds. Jamaica spirits,
6 do. molasses,
6 do. first quality St. Croix Sugar,
4 do. second do.
7 tierces summer and winter strained spermaceti oil,
57 chests and boxes of Gunpowder, Imperial Hyson, Hyson Chulan Hyson skin, Young Hyson & Souchong, } TEAS, all of the first quality, and of this year's importation.
80 2lb. cannisters gunpowder, tea put up in China for family use,
2000 lb. prime green coffee,
20 boxes Spanish segars,
20 boxes olives,
100 dozen half pint tumblers,
50 do. pint do.
80 do. wine glasses,
60 boxes mould and dipped candles,
30 do. brown soap,
3 hhds. crab cider, two years old,
A few boxes London mustard, powder and shot, all kinds of spices, Spanish and Carolina indigo, country gin and whiskey, together with a great variety of articles in their line which renders their assortment complete.

N. B. Store-keepers in town and country supplied on the most reasonable terms.

September 2—w3t