choose those, who will be so qualified.

The election by each state of one member of the convention is strongly recommended by its analogy to the existing organization of the federal legislature, by the utility and necessity of each state having its appropriate organ in a body whose measures may materially affect the literary institutions existing in the states, and by the probability that the high distinction conferred by a state in the choice of one member to so respectable a body would insure the first talents and brightest virtues.

Were such a body as the proposed convention to have permanent, or periodical sittings, whereby its power would be uninterrupted, it might become, perhaps, the theatre of a cabal, and the instrument of oppression; for such, unfortunately, is the tendency of all bodies invested with great powers of a permanent standing. But the limitation of their session to six months and their immediate dissolution for the remaining period of the seven years, would crush every disposition to a flagrant abuse of power, or render it harmless. It is true that the convention would find it necessary to delegate certain powers to one or more boards during their recess, but these need not embrace a wide field of discretion, and the responsibility of those invested with them to a body to be chosen by the people would be found an efficient check. One great preservative of the virtue, and pledge of the wisdom of the convention, would arise from the seat of a member being more an object of distinction than profit. In proportion to the dignity of the honor, would in most cases be the elevation of the human mind, and in consequence its freedom from sordid or sinister motive.

The exclusive devotion of a certain tax or a fixed sum to the advancement of education is another feature of this system calculated to give it duration and extend its usefulness. As there is no object greater than that of educating a nation, so there can be none that possesses stronger claims to the absolute command of means commensurate to its accomplishment.

These are the principal features of a system, which all terminate in rendering it absolutely independent of government. If this great end shall be allowed to be accomplished, more than half the battle is won. For the dread of this effect has been the fatal, perhaps the sole cause that has frustrated every attempt heretofore made.

If a republican government UTILITY ought to be the great end of every institution; but if with this effect there can be connected NATIONAL DIGNITY, calculated to inspire as much respect abroad as affection at home, an additional motive is added for its adoption. Could there be a more sublime spectacle than the septennial assembly of the wisest men of a nation convened together at its centre, at the call of their country, to extend useful knowledge to its remotest extremes? Could a stronger tie be added to the union? I call then upon the patriotism of my countrymen, and the wisdom of their representatives, to lay the foundation of a structure, which, once established, may be imperishable itself, and render the union immortal.

FRANKLIN.

House of Representatives.

Tuesday, December 9.

Mr Bidwell, from the committee appointed on that subject, reported a bill to revive and make permanent an act to prescribe the mode of taking evidence in cases of contested elections for members of the House of Representatives of the U. S. and to compel the attendance of witnesses; and in addition to the same, which was read twice, and referred to a Committee of the Whole House on Friday.

On motion of Mr. *Lattimore*, Resolved that so much of the memorial of the legislative council and house of representatives of the Mississippi territory [presented last session] as relates to the establishment of an hospital in the town of Natchez, an increase of the salary of the judges, and an extension of the right of suffrage in the said territory, be referred to a select committee.

On motion of Mr. *Clarke*, Resolved that the committee on the public lands be directed to enquire whether any, and what alterations are necessary in the act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to land in the territory of Orleans, and the district of Louisiana, with leave to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

Mr. *Lewis*, from the committee on that subject, reported a bill authorising the erection of a bridge across the river Potomac, within the district of Columbia, which was read twice and referred to a Committee of the whole on Thursday.

Mr. *Tracey* presented the petition of Philip Freeman, which was referred to the Committee of Claims.

On motion of Mr. *Lattimore*, the petitions of Edwin Lewis, Young Gaines, William Coleman, John Baker, and James Cellier were referred to the committee on the public lands.

Mr. *J. Clay* remarked that under an existing rule of the House, the member first named on committees was the Chairman, unless another member was chosen by the committee; and that he was instructed to state that, in virtue of the last provision, the Committee of Ways and Means had appointed Mr. J. Randolph Chairman.

On motion of Mr. *Jer. Morrow*, resolved that the committee on public lands be instructed to enquire into the expediency of offering for sale the public lands situated between the U. S. military tract and the Connecticut reserve, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of *Mr. Clopton* the petition of Joseph Jackson and Charles Spencer, executors of Wm. Carter, was referred to the Committee on Public lands.

Wednesday, December 10.

Mr. Elliot presented the petition of Peter Dupuy, which was referred to the Committee of Claims.

Mr. R. Nelson presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Frederick county in Maryland, and Adams county in Pennsylvania, praying for a mail from Frederick Town to Gettisburg, which was referred to the Post office committee.

Mr. R. Nelson also presented a petition from John Hargishimer, which was referred to the Committee of Claims.

On motion,

A committee of enrolment was appointed, composed of Messrs. T. M. Randolph and Porter.

On motion of *Mr. Wilson*, the petition of sundry inhabitants of Kenhaway county, Virginia, presented last session, praying for a new post road, was referred to the Post office committee.

On motion of *Mr. Thomas*, the bill passed by the House at their last session, for the relief of certain British refugees from the provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia, was referred to a select committee composed of Messrs. Thomas, Wilson and Green.

On motion of *Mr. Magruder*, the petition of William Brawner, heretofore presented, was referred to the Committee of Claims.

Thursday, December 11.

Mr. Holmes, from the Committee of Claims, made a report adverse to the petition of Joseph M'Craken, which the House considered; whereupon—

Resolved, That the prayer of the said petition ought not to be granted.

Mr. Clopton rose, and addressed the Speaker in a speech of considerable length, which he concluded with the proposition of the following amendment to the constitution of the U. S.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, That the following article be submitted to the legislatures of the several states, which when ratified and confirmed by the legislatures of three fourths of the said states, shall be valid and binding as a part of the constitution of the U. S.

The last clause of the 8th section of the 1st article of the constitution which contains the following words: "to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this constitution in the government of the U. S. or in any department or officer thereof," shall be construed so as to comprehend only such laws as shall have a natural connection with and immediate relation to the powers enumerated in the said section, or to such other powers as are expressly vested by this constitution in the government of the U. S. or in any department or officer thereof.

The House immediately considered the said amendment, and referred it to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the union.

Mr. *Holmes*, from the Committee of Claims, made a report adverse to the petition of Martha Strong, in which the House concurred.

On motion of *Mr. D. Williams* resolved that the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures be instructed to enquire into the expediency of rebuilding the Light House on North Island, and fixing buoys in Winyaw Bay, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. *Mac Creery* sundry petitions, presented the last session, relative to new arrangements respecting the port of Nanjemoy, were referred to the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

On motion of Mr. *Mac Creery* the petition of sundry sugar refiners of Baltimore, heretofore presented, was referred to the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

Mr. J. Clay presented a petition from sundry patentees, praying for an extension of the periods for which they have patent rights, which was referred to Messrs. J. Clay, Jones, Livingston, Alexander, and Elmer.

On motion of Mr. *Stanton* the petition of Edmund Briggs was referred to the Committee of Claims.

On motion of *Mr. Stanton*, resolved that a committee be appointed to enquire whether any, and if any, what description of claims against the U. S. are barred by the statute of limitations, which in reason and justice ought to be provided for by law, and that said committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Referred to a committee of seventeen members.

On motion of Mr. *Dana* the memorials of Moses Tryon and Richard Law, junior, were referred to the Committee of Claims.

Committees appointed in the House of Representatives.

Committee on the Mississippi Territory memorial—Messrs. T. M. Randolph, Lattimore, Taggart, Wickes and Hamilton.

SENATE UNITED STATES.

Dec. 9.

The bill from the House of Representatives, for suspending the operation of the non-importation law, was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Giles, Mitchill and Baldwin.

December 10.

The bill which had yesterday been reported without amendment by the select committee, was considered as in committee of the whole House, when *Mr. Mitchill* proposed a new section to the bill, empowering the President to give a further suspension to the law beyond the 30th June, 1807, until the 31st of December, if in his opinion the public interest should require it. On this the bill with the amendment was recommitted.

Dec. 11.

Mr. Giles reported the bill with the new section, and another amendment; and Mr. Mitchill's proposition being thus incorporated into the bill, the whole was ordered to be printed.

In the proceedings of the Senate, given in our last, the reference of the bill prohibiting the importation of slaves, was erroneously stated. It was referred to Messrs. Bradley, Stone, Baldwin, Gaillard and Giles.

FROM THE WESTERN WORLD, OF NOV. 15.

The following certificate which we have just received from Mr. A. Wherry, a gentleman of the greatest respectability, who lives in the district of St. Charles, may be regarded as a corroborative proof of the project of Col. Burr.

"About the 10th of October, 1806, I saw a letter from col. Burr to a friend by a col. Dupister, stating "that col. Dupister was in his confidence, and that he need not be afraid to make to him any communications that he thought proper." In conversation with the person that had received the letter respecting the intentions of Burr, he said to me, "that col. Burr was going to bring about a revolution in the U. S. to separate the western states from the eastern, and that he had his agents in Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee states and the territories, & that the operations were to begin in Kentucky by the 15th of November next, by the militia of that place. A. WHERRY."

Frankfort, Nov. 20, 1806.

On Tueſday laſt the legiſlature proceeded by joint vote of both houſes, to the election of a ſenator to repreſent this ſtate in Congreſs after the third of March next. The candidates were general John Adair, John Pope eſq. and general Samuel Hopkins. On the firſt ballot the votes were for John Pope, 38; John Adair 28 and Samuel Hopkins 15. On the ſecond ballot Pope 39 Adair, 28, Hopkins, 14. On the third ballot the ſame; and on the fourth John Pope had 45, and John Adair 37—Mr. Pope was conſequently duly elected.

On the ſame evening general Adair reſigned, and on Wedneſday the legiſlature proceeded to elect another ſenator to ſerve until the 3d of March next; for which period the general was elected laſt ſeſſion. Henry Clay eſq. was choſen by a large majority. The votes were for, Henry Clay, 58—George M. Bibb, 10—John Pope. 1.

Captain Lewis arrived in this place on Thurſday laſt, and on Saturday morning proceeded on his journey to the city of Waſhington, by way of the Old Wilderneſs road. He was accompanied by the chief of the Mandane Indians, and a party of the Oſages. Mr. Choteau, with the latter, took their route through Lexington.

A reſolution paſſed the ſenate laſt week for taking the ſenſe of the people, on the ſubject of calling a convention; but it was immediately negatived in the houſe of repreſentatives by a large majority.

Boston, Dec. 3.

Yesterday, in the supreme court, the grand inquest for the county, returned a bill of indictment against Thomas Oliver Selfridge, Esq. for manslaughter, in shooting Mr. Charles Austin, on the 4th August last. He was soon after arraigned, and pleaded not *Guilty* to the charge. The court inquired when he would be ready for his trial; and named Friday and Tuesday next.—Mr. Selfridge replied, he could not possibly say he could be ready so soon. He had not yet consulted his counsel on the subject; and he had witnesses to collect, one of whom, he understood, was at New-York, and another in the district of Maine. The court, after a consultation with the attorney general, did not assign any particular day; but directed Mr. S. to be ready for trial as soon as possible. His counsel then moved that he be admitted to bail, to attend from day to day until his trial.—The attorney general (Sullivan) was asked, if he had any objection to make to the motion.—He replied, "That manslaughter was a bailable offence, he could therefore have no objection."—Mr. S. was then required to find bail in 2000 dollars penalty, to abide his trial.—He has, we learn, found the bail, and will be restored to his liberty this day.

Boston, Dec. 4, 1806.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By an arrival at Glouceſter, from Rotterdam, a great number of letters have been received in town, dated from the latter place, as late as the 16th Oct. They uniformly announce the important intelligence that Lord Lauderdale actually quitted Paris on the 9th Oct. without having completed the object of his miſſion.

In one of the letters it is added, that an action had taken place between the French & Pruſſian armies, in which the latter was victorious

It is to be obſerved, that the former intelligence agrees exactly with the date of the Telegraph news, received by Lord Howick and officially announced by him to the mayor of London. Vide our Gazette of Thurſday laſt.

No mention is made in theſe letters, by what route the intelligence was received. Thoſe of the 13th & 15th, briefly ſtate that Lord Lauderdale quitted Paris on the 9th Oct. but in one of the 10th, it is mentioned, that his Lordſhip had returned to England.

The following letter was sent by the king of Prussia to general Von Kloeckeldt, commandant of the royal guards at Potsdam:

"Though it was my first intention to come to Potsdam to morrow, to be present when the battalions march out, I have been obliged to wave my design, on account of several temporary affairs and business which have intervened.—Let the troops therefore be informed, in my name, that I wish them all, high and low, much happiness on the occasion of their march. What I have a right to expect of them and the high degree of confidence which I have placed in them, have long been known to each individual; I shall therefore not repeat it. Hitherto the Prussian army has known how to preserve its glory—it will not suffer it to sink now. But if we can obtain our object without the sword, that is to say, the necessary security of our own, and the neighboring states, so much the better—otherwise, rather than flatter ourselves with the vain though honorable hope of peace, I shall expect that each of these states will think of distinguishing itself still more for the general welfare against the enemy. I wish you the continuance of your health, and hope to see you all together in a short time.

FREDERICK WILLIAM."

Philadelphia, Dec. 8

Extract of a letter from Cork, dated Oct. 16th, received in this city by an arrival in New-York.

"In conſequence of the return of Lord Lauderdale to England American produce of every deſcription has taken a riſe"

Philadelphia, Dec. 8.

The following instance of outrage on the commerce of our country, is of a nature to excite extraordinary indignation. At the present moment, when our government is offering a full measure of moderation to Great Britain, it is lamentable that any thing should occur to revive a temper hostile to the interests and repose of both countries—a temper, which we were happy to believe, was mutually yielding to the influence of liberal and candid explanation.

Ship Titus, Cushing, of and for this port, for Bordeaux, was captured on Monday last by a British ship of war, in sight of Cape Henlopen light-house, after she had taken a pilot on board. The pilot and passengers, 17 in number, were afterwards put on board a pilot boat, which was blown ashore in the gale of Wednesday, in Lewistown creek, where they all landed in safety.

Philadelphia, Dec. 9.

Extract of a letter from Jamaica, dated October 28.

"I am ſorry to find you have property in the Eclipſe, for you will be informed, by the captain, of the late condemnation.—Yeſterday the cargo of the brig Mary, of Philadelphia, was condemned, and from a principle adopted by the court of vice admiralty here, I fear very few will eſcape found in the Haytian trade, or that of the Spaniſh colonies, one general agent here for all your inſurance companies in Baltimore and other places, might have a very ſalutary effect, and embolden him to come forward in moſt caſes, being ſecured of being indemnified for the advance in the firſt inſtance neceſſarily incurred in claiming.

Our letters from New Orleans are to the 3d Nov at which time no ſatisfactory adjuſtment had taken place between Gen. Wilkinſon and the Spaniſh Commandant at the Sabine river.—Rumors reſpecting the deſigns and movements of Mr. Burr had reached that place, and occaſioned much unpleaſant ſpeculation.

New Orleans, Oct. 28.

By a letter received from Nachitoches of the 13th inſt. we learn that apprehenſions are ſtill entertained of hoſtilities being contemplated by the Spaniards—it appears an officer from the Spaniſh force has viſited General, Wilkinſon, ſince they re-croſſed the Sabine, with diſpatches, informing the general, that the commanding officer of the Spaniſh force intends to re-occupy his former poſition at Adige, and Bayou Pierre, his reaſon for falling back, was only to get forage for his horſes, and let his troops recover their health, and that he never intended to abandon the right of the ground, 30,000 men were at his diſpoſal, and were ready to march from Mexico, if found neceſſary to eſtabliſh their right.

Gen. Wilkinſon is making preparations to advance to the Sabine river & there erect a Fort—In conſequence of this arrangement he has detained the Appeluſ's militia and a troop of Dragoons from Natchez.

Baltimore, December 10.

The bill to incorporate the stockholders in the Mechanic's Bank of Baltimore, was passed into a law by the senate on Monday last. On the same day a supplement was passed to the act incorporating the stockholders in the Union Bank of Maryland, repealing so much of their charter as rendered the directors incapable of being elected after having served three years; so that the rotation of directors in the Union Bank will now be the same as in the Bank of Baltimore.

By the Aberthal, M'Neil, from New Orleans we have received from our correspondents a file of New Orleans papers to the 8th ult. inclusive.—Their contents are entirely uninteresting. The following extract is from our correspondent's letter—

"*New Orleans, Nov.* 8, 1806.

"*(Evening.)*

"Dear Sir,

"We have sent you regular files of our Gazette down to this date.

"Our last advices from Natchitoches state, that general Wilkinson had marched on the 22d ult. with all the troops from that place for the Sabine, to establish a garrison on the bank of that river; and that the commander of the Spanish forces declared he would oppose the Americans establishing a fort there to the utmost of his ability.

"The bomb ketch Etna, lieutenant Jones, arrived here on Thursday last. Two gun boats have also arrived at the Balize; all from Boston. It is said the gun boats are to cruize in lake Postchartrain. These, with the two gun boats which sailed up the river a few days ago, and the revenue cutter Louisiana, which is now gone with a surveyor to survey our coast, constitute the naval force in Louisiana.

"It is presumed, from the returns of the census of a few counties, that there are in the territory of Orleans 30,000 free white people."

LAND FOR SALE,

By the Subſcribers.

IN Northumberland county—840 acres called Exeter Lodge, reſidence of the late Col. John Gordon; good farming land, adapted to the growth of corn, wheat and tobacco. On this tract which lays on Yeocomico, a branch of Potomac river, there is a large brick dwelling houſe, within 200 yards of navigable water, abounding with oyſters, equal to any in Virginia; fiſh and wild fowl in abundance, and remarkably healthy ſituation.

In Fauquier county—about 800 acres wood land, adjoining Mrs. James and Mr. Buſtace, near Elk Run Church.

In Caroline county—2700 acres, being part of what is called Beverly Chace.

In Spotſylvania county—100 acres wood land, adjoining Col. Joſeph Brock, Meſſrs. J. Brock and S. Schooler. Alſo, the middle tenement in the brick buildings in the town of Fredericksburg.

In Culpeper county—960 acres, joins Landon Carter eſqs farm on Rappahannock river, at Norman's Ford—815 acres, adjoining Wm C. Carter, eſq and Col. M Green. Two thirds of this tract is in wood, and the whole of equal quality to any high land in the county. Alſo about 1100 acres in the Little Fork, laid out and rented in ſmall farms.

In Albemarle county—that elegant and well known place called Blenheim; containing, by a late ſurvey, 2900 acres, which will be ſold altogether, or divided in Lots to ſuit purchaſers.

The whole or any part of the above property will be ſold on very low terms, payable one third in caſh or country produce, on giving deeds, and for the balance long credits will be given, payment being ſecured on the property.

COLIN & JAMES ROSS.

Fredericksburg Virg. Dec 12—3w

F. MAURO,

HAS to his former Stock received a new ſupply of beſt and choiceſt Groceries, Wines, Liquors and Fruits, and offers for ſale at his ſtore oppoſite the Seven Buildings, at very reduced prices by wholeſale and retail.

Tea, Hyson,	Citron
Young hyson,	Lemonade
Hyson skin,	Raisins
Souchong,	Currants
Imperial	Figs,
Gunpowder	Walnuts, English
Coffee	Filberts,
Chocolate warranted,	Oranges,
Sugar, Loaf	Lemons
Lump	Cranberry's
Brown	Barley
Candles, Spermaceti	Rice
Mould	Nutmegs
Dipped	Cinnamon
Soap, Brown	Mace
White	Cloves
Salt in baskets	Allspice
Liverpool	Ginger
Muſtard, London	Pepper
Oil, Spermaceti	Saltpetre
Florence in flasks	[illegible] Scotch
Marseilles in bottles	Rappee
Olives	Chewing tobacco
Capers	Pipes and cut tobacco
Anchovies	Fig blue
Segars, beſt Havanna	[illegible] bitters
Country made	Eſſence of peppermint
Molaſſes, ſugar-houſe	Potatoes, looſe
Weſt India	Do in barrels
Malaga grapes in jars	Scotch herring
	Hams.

Wines & Liquors.

Madeira, genuine London Particular

Do. of an inferior quality

Sherry

Liſbon

Teneriffe, London Particular

Port, old

Brandy, cogniac 4th proof

Do. French

Rum, beſt Jamaica 4th proof,

Gin

Whiskey

Vinegar, beſt table.

Waſhington city, December 12—w3t

FARMERS MUSEUM.

THE Subſcribers to that paper about to be publiſhed in Charleſtown, Jefferſon county, Virginia, are reſpectfully informed, that the difficulty of getting in the ſubſcription papers in due time—which is not a little increaſed by the early ſetting in of ſevere weather, will neceſſarily retard the publication of the firſt number beyond the time propoſed; although there is no doubt but that there are obtained more names upon the Liſt, than was thought ſufficient to commence with. At the ſame time all thoſe entruſted with propoſals are requeſted to forward to the Editor of that paper, without delay the names already obtained.

N. B. As ſoon as the Printing Office is fixed for buſineſs, the advance money will be called for, by agents properly conſtituted.

Dec. 12.—w1Jan