Eastern Shore REPUBLICAN STAR OR EASTON GAZETTE General Advertiser.

EASTON—(MARYLAND) Printed and Published every *Tuesday Morning*, by THOMAS PERRIN SMITH, near the Court House.

[VOL. I....4.] TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28, 1802. [NO. 17....173.]

THE TERMS OF THE STAR

ARE TWO DOLLARS and FIFTY CENTS per annum—payable half yearly, in advance.——No paper discontinued until the same is paid for.

Advertisements inserted three weeks for ONE DOLLAR a square, and TWENTY-FIVE CENTS per week for continuance.

From the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

SERIOUS CONSIDERATIONS.

Addressed to all sincere Federalists.

No. V.

Fellow Citizens,

The *third* great object of the constitution was *to insure domestic tranquility.*

On this subject there do not appear to be any particular specified provisions of the constitution which do not equally apply to other points. Such as there are respect the raising of armies, the disciplining the militia, and the imposition of taxes.

These may be viewed as the instruments of preserving by coercion the domestic tranquility when violated by the application of illegal force. But as this is a circumstance of rare occurrence, it will not be incorrect to consider this part of the constitution as involving a higher and more important effect, viz. the preservation of domestic tranquility by measures so promotive of the public good, and so consonant with the public sentiment, as to prevent a resort to force.

This is in truth the only point of view in which the subject can, with reference to our present situation, be considered, as there is, at this time, neither real nor apprehended danger of insurrection.

Let us then concisely compare the claims which the nation had on the present administration with the measures pursued by it. In doing this it ought not to be forgotten that since the commencement of that administration but one session of congress has intervened, and that, however solicitous those in authority may have been to satisfy the general expectation, they had not time to accomplish all they may have desired, nor did many important objects admit of accomplishment in any other except the most deliberate manner, involving therein more time than has yet elapsed. This consideration will, it is presumed, satisfactorily account for many omissions.

The nation had a right to expect from the present administration, as the guardians of domestic tranquility.

1. Justice, free from favor, to all foreign powers.

2. All practicable reduction of expences.

3. The speediest payment of the public debt.

4. A distribution of offices in some degree conformable to the prevalence of public opinion.

5. An abridgement of the period of probation before an alien should become entitled to citizenship.

6. The reduction or abolition of all unnecessary taxes.

7. The avoidance to pass any laws, either unconstitutional, or productive of more individual evil than general good.

It is believed that this enumeration embraces all those points on which national expectation had been excited. It certainly embraces all the great points.

Let us distinctly compare each point with the measures of the present government.

In the first place the nation had a right to expect from the administration *justice, free from favor, to all foreign powers.*

If there be such a thing as national policy, it is that of America, while she is just to all the world, to court the friendship or favor of no part of it. There may be emergences, though it is not easy to foresee them, when it may be our interest to give exclusive rights to other nations in exchange for correspondent benefits received from them. But it is most evident that no such emergence exists at present. It is equally evident that since the establishment of the constitution, we have received no favors from foreign powers for which we have not paid more than they have been found to be worth. It is also evident that, judging from the past, it is much more advisable to consider them all in the light of enemies than of friends. Such is happily the present opinion of America, and the measures of the government announce the same conviction. Hence, we hear of no new alliance. One arrangement, it is true, has been made with Great Britain, by which, to avoid the threatened and possible payment of twenty millions, the government has agreed to pay 600,000 pounds sterling, and on the condition that our merchants shall proceed, without impediment, to recover their just claims against the government or subjects of Britain. But, whether this measure be right or wrong, though nominally the act of the president, it is virtually that of the past administration.

A further and conclusive evidence of the disposition of the administration is to be found in the vacation of two foreign embasses, independently of the great effect already sufficiently explained.

In the second place, the nation had a right to expect all practicable reduction of expences.

And has not the expectation been completely realised? In the period of one year, an habitual annual expenditure of one million two hundred thousand dollars has been retrenched. This point requires no comment. All will feel, as all can appreciate its importance.

In the third place, the nation had a right to expect the speediest payment of the public debt.

It was not expected that this interesting object would be furthered by the imposition of new taxes. It was felt that the public burthens had been extended quite far enough. But it was expected that the debt would be early discharged by an inflexible purpose not to hazard the resources of the nation in any wild scheme, which, however flattering in prospect, might prove disastrous in result; by an hostility to war; by avoiding all new unnecessary expences, and by lopping off all present ones that are useless. All this has been done the first session of the republican congress. More still has been done. Seven millions three hundred dollars out of the aggregate revenue has been *primarily pledged*, in preference, and to the exclusion of all other interfering appropriations, except 60,000 dollars annually appropriated to the civil list, before the funding of the debt. Whatever, therefore, may be the fate of other appropriations of the government, this is sacred and intangible; and by its efficacy the whole debt will be paid in the year 1817. Do not these measures equal; do they not surpass public expectation.

In the fourth place, the nation had a right to expect a distribution of offices in some degree conformable to the prevalence of public opinion.

It is well known, it has not indeed been disputed, that under the late administration, and for the twelve preceding years, at least nineteen-twentieths of the public offices were in the hands of federalists. Why was this so? It was because public opinion operating through the successive administrations, as its organs, had so willed; or, if this was not so, then the exclusive appointment of one class of political men must have been a violation of public opinion. If the latter was the case, then it became the duty of the new administration, as the organ of public opinion, thus violated, to restore to its legitimate efficacy; and if the former was the case, it was the duty of the new administration as sacredly to respect the existing demands of public opinion, as they had been respected by the preceding administration. In either case some change was justified and demanded.

Other administrations have dismissed all officers inimicable to them. The present administration has not dismissed one in ten. Is this intolerance, or forbearance? To your judgment be the appeal! Remember that an office is not conferred to oblige or benefit an individual, however distinguished or meritorious; but to promote the public interest. Do not all who accept offices know this? And when the public interest, dictated by the public will, required a change of public officers, was it not the duty of the president to make the change, and the duty of the minority of the nation, including the removed offices, to acquiesce, and should not that minority feel grateful that they are left in possession of far the greater number of civil offices in the gift of the government.

In the fifth place, the nation had a right to expect an abridgment of the period of probation before an alien should become entitled to citizenship.

When we became an independent nation so far from frowning upon the admission of foreigners, our political declarations and institutions invited them to our shores, and our government was vigilant to discover and prompt to reward their merit by notice and employment. Our revolutionary contest produced no prejudice against them. Our state constitutions and laws, almost without exception, rendered the acquisition of citizenship easy; in most instances but one or two years residence was required — The constitution of the United States imposed no prohibitions; it only empowered congress to make them.

A new state of things occurred a few years past, alarms, certainly beyond reason, arose, and a period of fourteen years residence was fixed before a foreigner could become a citizen. This was a long term; considering the age at which most men emigaate, it amounted almost to a prohibition to become a citizen.

At the commencement of the new administration, this alarm subsided, and five years of residence was situated in the place of fourteen.

Consider a few circumstances. An alien in the bosom of our country must be its friends or its enemies. Which is most desirable? Surely that he should be its friend. What will be most likely to make him such? Our friendship to him, our holding forth the hand of philanthropy, our admitting him to an early participation in our common rights. Can human nature resist these attentions? It cannot. He will become one of us, and feel as much attached to our gorernment as our native citizens. He will feel that when a citizen of the United States, his destiny is connected with theirs. In the character of a citizen, he becomes entitled to acquire and hold real property, which in many of the states is prohibited to aliens. Once required, he will defend it with as much zeal as any of us. Reverse the picture. What will be most likely to make him the enemy of the country? Our ill-will, our jealousy, our refusing him a participation in our common rights until a period too distant to render them an object even of hope.—For fourteen years he is no citizen, possessed of no real property, nor one of us, subject to the power of the government, viewing him in the light of an alien enemy, to remove him from the country.—His destiny is but slightly connected with ours. He will not view this as his permanent country. He will constantly look to the period, when, after accumulating wealth, he may return to his native soil. Calculate the number of souls so situated that would be produced by the lapse of fourteen years, and say whether the vast amount of men, in the bosom of the country, inimical to its welfare, would be a circumstance calculated to impart security or benefit?

In the *sixth* place, the nation had a right to expect the reduction or abolition of all unnecessary taxes.

That taxation had been wantonly extended was unquestionably believed by those who had produced the recent change of rulers, that is by a majority of the nation. It is also well known that a considerable portion of federal citizens disapproved many of the measures of the late administration which had been most productive of expence. Both these descriptions of citizens had reason, therefore, to expect that men who had opposed these measures and checked, as far as in them lay, the vast expenditures under them, would by removing the occasion for all unnecessary taxes open the way to their reduction or abolition.

This has been done. The internal revenues, those last resorted to by the government, most odious to the people, and most expensive of collections, have been abolished; and, in addition a system of economy has been commenced, which may enable the government at an early period to reduce the duties on impost, if the country continues to prosper.

In the *seventh* place, the nation had a right to expect the avoidance to pass any laws, either unconstitutional, or productive of more individual evil than general good.

It is not my purpose, neither is it in my heart, to criminate the late administration. Whatever their errors, their motives may have been pure. But it is impossible to decline here remarking that the present administration, though covered in the short period of eighteen months with more vulgar and insolent abuse than has issued from the American press since the era of independence, has passed no *sedition bill*, subversive of the constitution and destructive of the liberty of the press;—has passed no *alien law*, equally subversive of the constitution, and placing an immense host of foreigners at the mercy of executive favor or vengeance;—has passed no naturalization law inhibiting to aliens of merit the enjoyment of rights, denied them in their own countries on account of their virtue;—has not, in truth, passed a single act in favor of a few at the expence of the many. Under the present administration not a right has been impaired that previously existed; the entire study has been to defend and extend every political blessing.

Such, fellow-citizens, are the means pursued by the present administration to insure domestic tranquility. When they came into the possession of power they found public opinion divided on a number of important acts of the government. To restore harmony to the nation they repealed them. Though there was not a single act of this nature that did not invest them with considerable power over men and things, they parted with them without a sigh, because their object was not to exercise authority for their own gratification, but to promote the public good.

A TRUE FEDERALIST.

FROM THE BOSTON CHRONICLE.

In the progress of *federalism* every *passion* of the human mind has been assailed: interest, fear and pride have been the bulwarks more immediately exposed to the attack of the enemy. The *young men* of all ranks in society have been arrested by the federal party; the weight of pecuniary influence has threatened them with poverty, and in many instances with the ruin of themselves and families. How often have we seen the overbearing spirit of a rich despot, exercised on the days of election—and it is known as a fact, that many *tradesmen* were explicitly told, at the time the British treaty was in agitation, if they did not sign in favor of its adoption, that every means would be taken to deprive them of the emyloyment of *federalists*. Even since the *last election*, certain *petty tyrants* have refused to employ some *independent mechanics*, because they exercised their right of suffrage as *conscience* dictated; when they had ever fulfilled their engagements with undoubted honesty and fidelity.

But the most powerful and artful method pursued was the exciting a kind of *fashionable currency* to the politics of the day. Those who presumptuously stiled themselves the "better sort" introduced a cant phraseology of *federal* and *jacobin*. *Federalism* was as fashionable as a *spencer* or *pantaloons*—in all those *refined circles*, federalism was the card of invitation or introduction, which admitted the respective guests—"Mr. Such-a-one, a *federalist*," was the common passport which urged him into these polite associations. Masters and misses were taught to reverence and respect all those who were complimented with this appellation; young *gentlemen* and young *ladies*, were notised by their respective Mamas and Papas, in proportion as they gave evidences of their *federal inclination*.

Billy Dapper was a federalist, and *Sam Steady* a jacobin, the former was received with every mark of cordiality, while the latter was reprobated as the most abandoned profligate. *Billy* would talk with a peculiar flippancy about politics, and lament the progress of infidelity; he would repeat with rapid volubility, *d—n the jacabins, d—n the disorganizers. d—n the deists, d—n a republican government*, and generally concluded his *pious* rhapsody with, *d—n Tom Paine*. He was a prodigy of perfection, and every thing *Billy* said was considered a wonderous wise and wonderfully profound; he gained such an ascendancy that all he proposed was adopted, and many deep speculations were made in consequence of his sage recommendations. His notes were readily endorsed, and Billy had only to ask and receive; he pursued his plans, and encreased his reputation to the amount of about 100,000 dollars.—At length his affairs began to grow a "little squally;" his "checks," on the bank were all "balanced;" and finally he had no other resource than to betake himself to the *place of refuge* in "Scolly's Buildings," and there, like many of his predecessers, enriched himself by impoverishing his creditors; thereby cancelling all his debts, dues and demands by a *nolli prosiqui* of "*sit transit gloria mundi.*" *Billy Dapper*, after thus legally and honorably disencumbering himself from the rude assaults of impertinent *dunners* and more insolent *baliffs*, strutted about with a dignified deportment; took new apartments, decorated them with fashionable furniture, and commenced *gentleman* under the "modern philosophy," of the bankrupt-act. He now renews his old language: *d—ns the jacobins, d—ns the president*, and is peculiar energetic in anathematizing *Tom Paine the infidel*. He is greatly concerned for the cause of religion, and laments the consequences of demoralizing the rising generation; he will often exclaim: what will become of society when men are not held to do justice by *moral obligation*.—But Billy is a federalist; he has assumed his credit, goes on, his business, and even now looks down with ineffible contempt on *Sam Steady*.—During the *reign of terror* Billy and his comrades were outrageous against every man who dared to think different from themselves; the card table would sometimes be disturded by their vociferations; even this the tranquil game of whist would be thrown into confusion; all the *honors* would oftentimes be lost, and the *tricks* would be the only part of the game to count upon.

Thus much for the history of *Billy Dapper*—but, alas, *Sam Steady* was peculiarly unfortunate under his political denunciation. He was a young man who had received a virtuous education, and was well instructed in the principles of honesty and economy; he had not only applied himself to business, but had appropriated his leisure hours to reading history, and from thence had been able to judge with propriety of those systems of government which secured the rights of the people; he knew the baneful effects of monarchy, the destructive tendency of aristocracy, and from reflection approved a republican form as most congenial to his country. Knowing that economy was the basis of this government, he always reprobated these expenditures and establishments under the former administration, which led to a subversion of the purity of its principles.—In the reign of terror, therefore he had the resolution not to wear a *cockade;* he exploded the idea of a standing army; he did not approve of excise laws or stamp acts, and thought it was an imposition for Mr. Adams to allow eight per cent, for the loan money, at the time when all the federalists had pledged their lives and property, in support of his measures. He would often say, why did Mr. Adams thus sport away the public credit in giving such excessive usury, when he had the strongest assurances from the addresses of the federalists, that their property was at his disposal? Sam, by this kind of conversation, and by adhering to these principles, was early denounced in all circles of his acquaintance, as a *jacobin*; the young *gentlemen* forsook him, the young *ladies* eye'd him askant; even when he entered into company, it was quickly whispered that he was a *cajobin*; if any parties were proposed in his presence, it was soon hushed till *Sam* had retired—no *gentleman* would be seen abroad in his company; no *lady* would condescend to ride with him, none to walk with him, none to talk with him, none to curtesy to him, even if he submissively bowed to them;—Alas, poor Sam was forsaken by all his former acquaintance: and even the young *ladies*, who always before were pleased with him, took a strong aversion, and he was left alone to wander about like Rachel mourning for her first born.

However, *Sam* adhered to his principles, pursued his business with industry. By not being admitted into so many parties of pleasure, he had more leisure to prosecute his business. He got forward in opposition to the vile means of his enemies to injure his reputation; he acquired a commercial character by punctually complying with his engagemenes; his credit was established by the rectitude of his conduct; his notes were never hawked upon the exchange at a discount; he baffled his opponents by the uniformity of his principles, and now stands in that elevated situation, as it relates to property and honor, that his enemies envy him. He is not disturbed by the cries of the injured widow and orphans; he walks through the streets without the curses of honest creditors; and when he passes, no man can say, *there goes a villain!*—He does not carry the bankrupt-act as a passport, or a "WHEREAS" as a receipt in full for all delinquencies; his payments are 20 shillings in the pound, and what he eats, drinks and wears are not the earning of other men's industry. He does not make religion a cloak for licentiousness, or curse Tom Paine for a mask to cheat an indiscreet tradesman; he esteems honest men, let their religious professions be what they may, and never embraces a hypocrite to gain an advantage by his sycophancy; he speaks his mind on all proper occasions with the sincerity of a freeman, and scorns to flatter, though he might obtain the approbation of the powerful; he remains collected in the various changes of parties, and steady to his purpose when he is threatened with the frowns of the opu-