

[Alexandra Gazette, Saturday, March 11, 1797, page 2]

After concluding his speech, the President descended from his seat to receive his oath of office from the Chief Justice, who pronounced the following oath with great intensity, which was repeated by the President in an equally audible and solemn manner.

“I do solemnly swear, that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the constitution of the United States.”

Having taken the oath; the President again resumed his seat and, after sitting a moment, rose, bowed to the audience, and retired.