

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

MONDAY, *March 4.*

A number of the Members of the Senate, being convened, in pursuance of notices sent them from the President of the United States, in the Senate Chamber, the Speaker and Members of the late House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Treasury and Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Attorney General, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and other officers of Government; the Foreign Ministers, and a number of private Citizens, Ladies and Gentlemen, were also present on the occasion. At twelve o'clock precisely, the President entered the hall. Mr. Langdon, President pro-tempore, then rose and said: Sir, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States is now present, and ready to administer to you the oath required by the Constitution, to be taken by the President of the United States. The President addressed his "Fellow Citizens" in a short but comprehensive speech, as follows:—

Fellow Citizens,

I AM again called upon by the voice of my Country, to execute the functions of its Chief Magistrate. When the occasion proper for it shall arrive, I shall endeavour to express the high sense I entertain of this distinguished honor, and of the confidence which has been reposed in me by the people of united America.

Previous to the execution of any official act, of the President, the constitution requires an oath of office. This oath I am now about to take; and in your presence—that if it shall be found, during my administration of the government, I have in any instance violated willingly, or knowingly, the injunction thereof, I may (besides incurring constitutional punishment) be subject to the upbraidings of all, who are now witnesses to the present solemn ceremony.

Judge Cushing then read the oath, which the President repeated after him; sentence by sentence, as follows:—

I, George Washington, 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.

The President then retired, and was saluted by three cheers of the people.