

principle of uniformity, and the competency of the federal legislature to making adequate provision in the case, point out the impropriety of leaving the business to the state legislatures.

Mr. Smith pursued the idea of Mr. Tucker, and observed, that to be consistent, the motion ought to go farther, and extend to exempting Ministers of the Gospel, only while engaged in preaching—The School-Master, while teaching—The Miller while attending his Mill, &c. In short it ought to be so particular as to amount to no exemption at all.

Mr. White spoke in favor of the motion: The Constitution, said he, has sufficiently defined the privileges of the Members. With respect to the State officers, he was in favor of leaving them to be exempted by the state legislatures—nor was he apprehensive they would abuse the power by exempting half their citizens, as this would only encrease the burthen on the other half.

Mr. Jackson said he must be still opposed to the motion from this interesting consideration, if no other existed—That it might in its operation deprive 30000 citizens of their vote in the national legislature.

Mr. Vining added a few observations in favor of the motion—and then the question being taken, it was negatived 24 to 18.

FRIDAY, Dec. 17.

The subject of exemptions was this day further discussed—the propriety of vesting the power in the state legislatures, so far as it respects the legislative, executive and judicial officers of the particular states, was alternately advocated and opposed:—It was finally determined that the several exemptions should be particularized in the bill.

Mr. Seney, moved to add to the exemptions, "persons authorized and received to teach or preach the gospel by the societies of which they are respectively members."—This was agreed to.

Mr. Jackson proposed to add public printers and pilots. The question on the former was negatived—On the latter agreed to.

Mr. Boudinot proposed to add all such as now do, or may hereafter bear a commission in the militia.—Agreed.

This finished the discussion of the second section.

Mr. Jackson touched on the subject of penalties, for neglecting militia duty, and the equivalent to be paid by the exempt; but as this will probably occasion considerable debate when the 16th section comes under consideration, we relieve ourselves to that occasion.

The third section being read, Mr. Fitzsimons moved an amendment, by which the power of arranging the militia in divisions, brigades, &c. is to be vested in the President of the United States, instead of the respective governors of the states.

This motion occasioned some debate; it was finally carried in the affirmative.

The clause giving rank to aids-de-camp was struck out—and "to be taken from the line" added.

MONDAY, Dec. 20.

Mr. Stone took the first reading of a bill to continue in force for the term of five years, an act, entitled an act, declaring the assent of Congress to certain acts of the states of Rhode-Island, Maryland and Georgia, was brought in engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A bill supplementary to an act making further provision for the debts of the United States, was read a second, and ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Mr. Benson, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following bills, viz.

A bill declaring the officer who, in case of the death, removal, or disability of the President or Vice-President, shall exercise the office of President.

A bill for determining the respective times when the electors for a President and Vice-President shall be chosen, and the time when they shall give their votes.

A bill directing the mode in which the lists of the votes for President and Vice-President shall be transmitted to the seat of the government of the United States; all which were read a first time.

Mr. Partridge presented the petition of Barnabas Lucas, read, and referred to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Huntington presented the petition of William Robinson, respecting a lost certificate; read and referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill directing the mode in which the evidences of the public debt shall be renewed.

Mr. Gerry presented the petition of John Miller Russell, praying the remission of the new duty on a quantity of hemp by him imported; read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Fitzsimons presented a petition from a number of the merchants and traders of Philadelphia, praying for the erection of additional piers at Chester, in the river Delaware; read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Gerry laid the following motion on the table, That the Secretary of State be directed to procure and keep in his office, all Charters, Patents, and Documents, which respect the jurisdictional and territorial rights of the respective States.

Mr. Smith laid the following motion on the table, That provision be made for erecting a Beacon at the entrance of the port of Georgetown, South-Carolina; read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

In committee of the whole on the Militia Bill. Progress was made in the discussion as far as the 8th section.

TUESDAY, Dec. 21.

The bill supplementary to an act making provision for the debts of the United States, was read the third time and passed.

The three bills reported by Mr. Benson yesterday, were read the second time, and made the order of the day for Monday next.—100 copies of each of these bills were ordered to be printed for the use of the House.

Mr. Fitzsimons presented a memorial from the Trustees of Wilmington College, which was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.—Also a Memorial and remonstrance from a committee of a number of the creditors of the United States in Philadelphia.

Mr. Seney presented a petition from R. Ford, a mariner, wounded in the service of the United States, referred to the Secretary of war.

Mr. Seney of the committee appointed on the petition of sundry inhabitants of Baltimore, praying for the establishment of a health office, brought in a report, which was in favor of the

petition—and recommendatory of a similar institution in every port where they are wanted.

This report being accepted by the house, a committee of five was appointed to prepare and bring in a bill accordingly.

Mr. Williamson gave notice that he should to-morrow move for a committee to bring in a bill to prevent invalid pensioners from transferring the right to their pensions, before they become due.

A report from the commissioners appointed the last session to superintend the purchase of the public debt, was communicated to the house by the Speaker, by which it appears, that the Treasurer of the United States, pursuant to orders received from the commissioners, has purchased the sum of two hundred seventy-eight thousand six hundred and eighty-seven dollars; for which, the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand two hundred and thirty-nine dollars, in specie, has been paid.

In committee of the whole on the Militia Bill.

The committee finished the discussion this day—and the Chairman reported the same to the House with sundry amendments.

It was ordered that it should lie on the table. Adjourned.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 14.

The legislature of this state, now in session at Annapolis, have passed an act to repeal certain parts of an act, entitled, "an act to prevent disabled and superannuated slaves being set free, or the manumission of slaves, by any last will or testament, and of a supplementary act thereto, and for certain other purposes."—It may be necessary, on this occasion, to mention that the act prohibits, (under the penalty of three hundred pounds) the forcible and fraudulent transportation or carrying out of this state, any free Negro or Mulatto—or the selling, or causing to be sold, or otherwise disposed of, out of this state, as a slave for life, any Negro or Mulatto, entitled to freedom at a certain age.

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.

The wisdom and policy of the law passed last session of Congress, appointing Commissioners to superintend the negotiation of a Loan, and to invest the unappropriated monies in the Treasury in the public debt, while sold in the public market under par, are now most apparently made manifest, in that rapid appreciation, which has done more for the public creditors in a few months than they anticipated for many years.

Congress is now deeply immersed in public business—the reports of the Secretary of the Treasury, and those which are expected from the other heads of departments, will probably open a very extensive field of discussion—but that patriotism which has preponderated in the councils of the union, will we doubt not unite the legislature in giving all possible dispatch to the important objects of their deliberation.

The fluctuation of our councils previous to the adoption of the New Constitution, unhinged the public mind, weakened all confidence in the government, and almost annihilated the credit of the United States: A solemn lesson to the present government, that measures adopted after due deliberation, should be inflexibly supported: On this firmness and stability our respectability, our union and credit, our all depend.

Yesterday, between the hours of twelve and one, his Excellency THOMAS MIFFLIN was proclaimed Governor of this Commonwealth, with the usual ceremonies.

The public testimonials of joy exhibited on this occasion, demonstrate the general satisfaction of the citizens on the elevation of this distinguished character to the Chair of Government.

By the Massachusetts Spy of the 9th inst. it appears that the Hon. Artemas Ward is elected Member of the House of Representatives of the United States, for Worcester District, by a very small majority.

By the Cumberland Gazette it appears, that the Hon. GEORGE THATCHER is re-elected a Member of the House of Representatives of the United States for the District of Maine.

Extracts of letters from Cape-Francois of the 6th and 8th of November, to a gentleman in this city.

"In my last, I mentioned that the Assembly had advised the Editor of La Gazette du Jour, to forbear publishing any thing concerning the insurrection here, which indeed was true: but I was not then apprised of the true motives of the Assembly. It appears that a majority of that house are Aristocrats—indeed it is certainly so—and have consequently passed an edict, prohibiting the publishing of the grounds and progress of the revolution, or anything concerning it. This Edict you will see in the Gazette of to day, which I have enclosed.

"There are but few people here who relish the Edict, regarding it merely as if a cock had crowed.

"Since writing my letter of the 6th instant, the insurrection of the Mulattoes has nearly been put an end to: And yesterday the greater part of the volunteers returned, having left a few to watch the motions of the few remaining rebels, who are about 400, the rest having dispersed, and with them their leader, whose name is Oge, not Ojay, as I before wrote it, who has fled to St. Jago, in the Spanish part of the island. A reward of 1000 joes has been offered by the government so apprehending him. Thus has a dangerous insurrection been quelled by the spirited exertions of the volunteers.

In our last, among the names of the Senators, whose times expire in March next, we inserted Mr. Hawkins, which is a mistake, as he drew the class for six years.

We hear that a Resolution is now pending before the Senate of the United States, to the following purport—"That it would be dangerous and inexpedient to make any alterations in the Funding System passed the last session of Congress."

APPOINTMENTS.

THE President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, has been pleased to make the following appointments.

ROBERT MORRIS, to be Judge of the District of New-Jersey, in place of David Brearly, deceased.

JOHN HETH, of Virginia, Ensign in the troops of the United States, in place of Richard Archer, who has declined his appointment.

JOHN SITGREAVES, Judge of the District of North-Carolina, in place of John Stokes, deceased.

WILLIAM HILL, Attorney for the United States in the district of North-Carolina, in place of John Sitgreaves.

ZACHARIAH ROWLAND, Surveyor of the port of Richmond, in the State of Virginia, in place of Corbin Braxton, who has resigned his appointment. And

JEREMIAH NICOLS, Collector of the port of Chester, in the State of Maryland, in the place of John Scott, deceased.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

Table with columns for FUNDING DEBT and UNFUNDED DEBT, listing various securities like 6 pr. Cents, 3 pr. Cents, etc. with their respective prices.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

DECEMBER 13, 1799. In obedience to the Order of the House of Representatives of the ninth day of August last, requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to prepare and report, on this day, such further provision as may, in his opinion, be necessary for establishing the public credit—the said Secretary Respectfully Reports,

THAT the object which appears to be most immediately essential to the further support of public credit, in pursuance of the plan adopted during the last session of Congress, is, the establishment of proper and sufficient funds, for paying the interest which will begin to accrue after the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one, on the amount of the debts of the several states, assumed by the United States; having regard at the same time, to be probable, or estimated deficiency in those already established, as they respect the original debt of the union.

In order to this, it is necessary, in the first place, to take a view of the sums requisite for those purposes.

Table showing the amount which has been assumed of the state debts, the sum of annual interest upon that amount, and the estimated deficiency in the funds already established.

For the procuring which sum, the reiterated reflections of the Secretary have suggested nothing so eligible and unexceptionable, in his judgment, as a further duty on foreign distilled spirits, and a duty on spirits distilled within the United States, to be collected in the mode delineated in the plan of a bill which forms a part of his report to the House of Representatives, of the ninth day of January last.

Under this impression, he begs leave, with all deference, to propose to the consideration of the house—

That the following additions be made to the duties on spirits imported from foreign countries, which are specified in the act making further provision for the payment of the debts of the United States, namely,

- On those of the first class of proof therein mentioned, per gallon, eight cents.
On those of the second class, per gallon, eight and a half cents.
On those of the third class, per gallon, nine cents.
On those of the fourth class, per gallon, ten cents.
On those of the fifth class, per gallon, ten cents.
On those of the sixth class, per gallon, fifteen cents.

And that the following duties be laid on spirits distilled within the United States, namely:

- If from Molasses, sugar, or other foreign materials, and of the said first class of proof, per gallon, eleven cents.
of the said second class of proof, per gallon, twelve cents.
of the said third class of proof, per gallon, thirteen cents.
of the said fourth class of proof, per gallon, fifteen cents.
of the said fifth class of proof, per gallon, twenty cents.
of the said sixth class of proof, per gallon, thirty cents.

If from materials of the growth or production of the United States, distilled within any city, town or village, and of the said first class of proof, per gallon, nine cents.
of the said second class of proof, per gallon, ten cents.
of the said third class of proof, per gallon, eleven cents.
of the said fourth class of proof, per gallon, thirteen cents.
of the said fifth class of proof, per gallon, seventeen cents.
of the said sixth class of proof, per gallon, twenty cents.

And upon each still employed in distilling spirits from the like materials in any other place than a city, town or village, in lieu of the rates above mentioned, the yearly sum of sixty cents for every gallon English wine measure of the capacity of such still including its head; exempting nevertheless all such stills, within a certain defined dimension, as are used essentially for domestic purposes of their respective proprietors.

The product of these several duties (which correspond in their rates with those proposed in the report above referred to, of the ninth of January last) may, upon as good grounds as the nature of the case will admit, prior to an experiment, be computed at eight hundred and seventy seven thousand five hundred dollars; the particulars of which computation are contained in the statement which accompanies this report.

This computed product exceeds the sum which has been stated as necessary to be provided, by fifty thousand eight hundred and seventy-five dollars, and twenty-seven cents; an excess, which if it should be realized by the actual product, may be beneficially applied towards increasing the sinking fund.

The Secretary has been encouraged to renew the proposition of these duties, in the same form in which they were before submitted, from a belief, founded on circumstances which appeared in the different discussions of the subject, that collateral considerations, which were afterwards obviated, rather than objections to the measure itself, prevented its adoption during the last session; from the impracticability which he conceives to exist, of devising any substitute equally conducive to the ease and interest of the community; and from an opinion that the extension of the plan of collection, which it contemplates to the duties already imposed on wines and distilled spirits, is necessary to a well grounded reliance on their efficacy and productiveness. (To be continued.)