

A message from the President of the United States, was delivered by Mr. Secretary Lear, together with a statement of certain articles of expense, which have occurred in the department of foreign affairs, and for which no provision is made by law.—[The expense alluded to, was incurred for the relief of a number of American sailors, impressed in England to serve on board the British navy.]—The message and accompanying papers were referred to a select committee, to examine and report.

A bill for apportioning representatives among the several states, according to the first enumeration; and making provision for a second enumeration, and an apportionment of representatives thereon, to compose the house of representatives after the 3d day of March, 1797—was read a second time, ordered to be printed, and referred to a committee of the whole house on Monday next.

The committee, to whom was referred the report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the petition of Comfort Sands and others, made a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. W. Smith laid on the table a resolution, that the Secretary of State be directed to lay before the house copies of such laws as have been adopted and published by the governor and judges of the territory north west of the Ohio.

Mr. Gerry gave notice, that, if the post-office bill is, by the approbation of the President, passed into a law in its present form, he will move for bringing in a bill, to amend it, by reducing the postage of newspapers.

The committee, appointed for that purpose, reported a bill, providing for the settlement of the claims of persons under particular circumstances, barred by the limitations heretofore established;—which was twice read, ordered to be printed, and referred to a committee of the whole house on Wednesday next.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the fishery bill, and having gone through, and amended it, rose and reported it with the amendments, which the house immediately took into consideration, and adopted. The bill was then further amended, and the house adjourned.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9.

The bill for the encouragement of the bank and other cod-fisheries, and for the regulation and government of the fishermen employed therein, was read a third time, and passed—Yeas 38, Nays 21.

YEAS.

Messrs. Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, S. Bourne, B. Bourne, Clark, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Gregg, Griffin, Hartley, Hillhouse, Huger, Kittera, Lawrance, Learned, Lee, Livermore, Madison, Muhlenberg, Niles, Schoonmaker, J. Smith, I. Smith, W. Smith, Sterret, Sturges, Sylvester, Thatcher, Treadwell, Vining, Wadsworth, Wayne—38.

NAYS.

Messrs. Ashe, Baldwin, Brown, Giles, Grove, Heister, Key, Macon, Mercer, Moore, Murray, Page, Parker, Seney, Steele, Sumpter, Tucker, Venable, White, Williamson, Wyllis—21.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole—Mr. W. Smith in the chair—on a bill (received from the Senate) relative to the election of a President and Vice-President of the United States, and declaring the officer who shall act as President in case of vacancies in the offices both of President and Vice-President.

The ninth section was struck out, in which the President of the Senate pro tempore was designated to act as President, in case of vacancies in both of the above mentioned offices.

A motion was then made to add a new section to the bill, appointing the senior Associate Judge as the person to fill the vacancy. A motion was made to amend this proposition, by substituting the Secretary of State, instead of the senior Associate Judge. A short debate ensued, after which, the committee rose without taking the question, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Mr. Lawrance presented a petition from the tanners and curriers of the city of New-York, praying relief from the hardships they labor under, in consequence of the exportation of tanner's bark. Referred to the same committee to whom a similar petition was referred yesterday.

Mr. S. Bourne, from the committee of enrolment, presented to The Speaker the post-office bill duly enrolled; who signed the same.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

Sundry petitions were read and referred to the heads of departments.

Mr. Muhlenberg presented a petition from the tanners of Philadelphia, similar to the petitions from the tanners of New-Jersey and New-York; a motion to refer this petition to the committee on the two last petitions, occasioned some debate—the motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Fitzsimons, the petition of C. and C. Marshall was referred to the committee

tee of the whole house on the subject of manufactures.

Mr. Wayne moved the following resolution in substance: That the sitting member for the lower district of Georgia, and James Jackson, the petitioner against the validity of the election of said member—should be furnished respectively on application, with copies of such depositions and documents relative to said election, as may be received by the Speaker; this resolution was agreed to.

The resolution, that the Secretary of State lay before the house copies of the acts and resolves, passed by the Governor and Judiciary of the Western Territory—was agreed to.

In committee of the whole on the bill relative to the election of a President and Vice-President of the United States, &c.

Mr. Benson's motion to insert the Senior Associate Judge, as the officer to fill the vacancy in the office of President and Vice-President, was negatived.

Mr. Giles's motion to insert the Secretary of State, was then discussed, and, after some debate, adopted—28 to 21.

The committee rose and reported the bill, with the amendments, to the House, which took the same into consideration; The first amendment was to strike out the 9th section, which provided that the President of the Senate pro tempore, should act as President in case of vacancy—this amendment was agreed to—ayes 32—noes 24.

The substitute which provides that the vacancy shall be filled by the Secretary of State for the time being, was also adopted—33 members rising in the affirmative.

Several amendments in addition were proposed—some of which were disagreed to—One moved by Mr. Hillhouse, to determine the number of electors, was discussed till an adjournment was called for, and no decision took place.

A message from the Senate informed the House that they have agreed to their amendments to the fishery bill.

Adjourned till Monday.

BOSTON, January 28.

On Thursday afternoon came before the House of Representatives, the report of the committee on the law for preventing stage plays, and other theatrical entertainments—"That it was not expedient to repeal that law." The report was opposed, in a sensible and judicious speech, by Mr. Tudor; Mr. Gardiner delivered an elaborate and learned essay to prove it consistent with the principles of christianity and good morals, and Dr. Jarvis displayed the blaze of eloquence in a speech, pure, forcible and refinedly ingenious. Yet all this, enforced by observations from other gentlemen, and not opposed by any other speaker, did not produce conviction in the house, who accepted the report by 99 votes out of 143.

Philadelphia, February 11.

The British December Packet arrived at New-York on Tuesday last. Accounts by her, are received to the beginning of December.

Lord Cornwallis writes from India, that he had attacked and totally defeated Tipoo before Seringapatam—but on account of the Monsoons setting in earlier than usual, he found himself obliged to retreat to Bangalore, without making an attempt on Tippoo's capital.

The English and Parisian articles of intelligence, are to the 2d December—They refer principally to the movements of the counter revolutionists—some in a ridiculous way, others more serious. No decisive steps appear to have been taken by the ex-princes.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

The people have seldom cause to fear that accusers of their government will be wanting. The risk is, that a sudden and passionate censure will be passed upon their rulers. The pleasure of the people is often opposed to their interest. Public men are at least apt enough to yield to the love of popularity. The greater danger is that they will want firmness when great things are to be obtained by disregarding little ones. It concerns the people therefore to deal out their censure sparingly; and never till enquiry has first been had. In that case, many men who possess virtue, but want firmness, will dare to serve the public faithfully.

Every thing has its season—There is a kind of fashion in the turn of writing, on political subjects especially, which every warrior of the quill is fond of following. He likes to step to the tune that is playing; when the government was first adopted, they came forward in ranks, keeping time to the music; *What a blessed government—what a wise government—the wonder of the world; public credit will be restored—trade protected, we shall be a nation, &c.*—then the tune changed again—*This government wants amendments—without amendments 'tis a terrible government, a tyranny—lordships will be as thick as taverns, and we*

shall get as much intoxicated with them—The amendments, like cold water, will keep us temperate and sober. After the first Congress met, what salaries—what a burden on the country—the public debt will not be paid—the money all goes for salaries—trade is taxed to death—the land is ready to sink under the weight of taxes, which are not laid to pay them—the wheat will blast—the grass will not grow—the ships will not sail—the tide will not rise, because of high salaries. The second session of the first Congress brought a new system of grievances into fashion—Why does Congress hear Quaker petitions, and neglect providing for the public debt?—why is it not funded?—the public creditors are starving—Congress is growing fat in sloth and good pasture—while the time is lost in making and hearing Quaker sermons, for and against slavery. The debt was funded:—our ruffian angry tribe of writers, crying, rogues and cheats—Congress has cut off the just demands of the creditors—4 per cent. instead of 6—and one third of the debt deferred for ten years, without interest. The state governments pursued the idea, and made up the deficiency to their creditors.—That topic was worn out, and then the opposite doctrine was taken up:—Congress has given too much—the public creditors are living in luxury—such a flood of wealth will drown us—What will become of all this sea of money?—Industry will turn lounge—economy will keep open doors—virtue itches to take a bribe, and republicanism has lost her voice, and is choking with her own fat. We might have gone on without funding the debt and mortgaging the revenues—we pay too much to the creditors—we might have paid the debt easier—we might have paid it without paying, and have kept our money and our tempers, and have had no taxes—and all this we might have done, and have kept our credit as good as it was.

Now the Indian war seems to have beaten the debt, and the lordships, and the Quakers, and the amendments, as soundly as it has beaten the brave St. Clair, and his army. Nothing but the Indian war—How cruel to kill the Indians—how foolish to send regular armies, which will not kill them. Poor humanity is ready to die of grief, because you take their lands—you seek their lives, and advise to send volunteers to kill them all.—It is not strange that a subject should be left as soon as the public is tired of it;—but the curiosity is, that one side of it should be taken, and then the other, so that the accusation may never languish. I find by reading the papers, that Congress is always in the wrong—it errs by forbearing to act, as well as by acting;—and if the advice of the complainers is followed, they turn about to the other side, and condemn them for having done it. Is the public opinion unsteady—or are there a few men (a few can make a great noise) who lie in wait, and seize every opportunity, especially public disasters, to make the people hate the government as bitterly as they do themselves?

"Between two stools we are likely to fall to the ground."—The people found the state governments incompetent to the preservation of the Union, or the support and encouragement of their TRADE, AGRICULTURE, & MANUFACTURES; it is a late discovery that the general government is equally incompetent to these objects, particularly in regard to the two last.—If we are thus circumstanced, our boasted sovereignty and independence are but empty sounds.

How different have events turned out from the predictions of those who opposed the funding system!—Have any of the Ethiopians changed their skin?—Let recent publications answer—

"All human virtue to its last breath,
Finds envy never conquered but by death;
The great Alcides, ev'ry labor past,
Had yet this monster to subdue at last."

This day the PRESIDENT of the United States enters into the 61st year of his age.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Bank of the United States, on Monday last, the following Gentlemen were chosen Directors for the office of Deposit and Discount in the town of Baltimore:

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|----------------------|------------------------|
| Thorowgood Smith | Stephen Wilson |
| James West | Nicholas Slukey |
| James Carey | David Stewart |
| Adrian Valek | George Gale |
| Archibald Campbell | James Dall |
| John Swain | John Holmes, jun. |
| Christopher Johnston | David Harris, Cashier. |

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.
Friday, Feb. 10, 1792.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment—present
The Hon. WILLIAM CUSHING,
JAMES WILSON,
JOHN BLAIR,
JAMES IREDELL,
Associate Judges.
No business being before the Court, it adjourned till to-morrow 11 o'clock.
The Judges appeared on the bench in their robes of office.

** Sundry favors omitted, shall appear in our next.

ERRATUM—In our last, under the Philadelphia head, middle column, for "a small schooner from Jamaica," read, from *Jeremie*; which is a port in Hispaniola.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Subscribers for this Gazette, in the City and State of New-York, or to the Eastward of said State, are requested to pay any arrearage which may be due from them respectively, to Messrs. PROSPER WETMORE & BROTHERS, No. 9, Butling-Slip, New-York.

JOHN FENNO.

Philadelphia, February 11.