

The committee at length rose, and reported the bill to the House without amendment.—In the House the debate was renewed.

Mr. Boudinot objected to the bill, as it seemed to involve a necessity for altering the Arms and the Seals of the United States, which would be a serious difficulty and expence.

Mr. Niles observed that he did not conceive there was much stress to be laid on the objection of the gentleman from New-Jersey; he did not suppose the idea of change was to be extended in the manner he suggested.

Mr. Madison observed on Mr. Boudinot's objection, that however well founded it may be, yet the present subject included a clear and indisputable right of the states in question—and as to other alterations which may be supposed proper, they are not immediately before the House.

Mr. B. Bourne urged a variety of objections arising from the inconvenience and expence which will attend carrying the alteration into effect.

Mr. S. Smith urged the impropriety of taking any steps in the business; it is a new subject—the sentiments of the constituents of the members were not known; he hoped the business would be suspended.

Mr. Hillhouse observed, that as the alteration of the flag would be attended with considerable expence, it was but just that the government should make provision to defray the charge.

Mr. W. Smith moved that the bill should be recommitted to a select committee—this motion was negatived.

It was then voted that the bill be read the third time—and to-morrow was assigned for that purpose.

A report on the memorial of Henry Hill was read, which is in favor of the prayer of the memorialist.

Mr. Fitzsimons observed, that among the resolutions which had been passed by the house, while the doors were shut, there were two, which he conceived ought to be made public, as they would tend to relieve the anxiety of the commercial and other parts of the community respecting the measures which the government proposes to adopt for the protection and security of their interest.

Mr. W. Smith, after some remarks similar to the above, moved that the injunction of secrecy so far as respects the two last resolutions passed by the House on Thursday last, should be taken off.

Mr. Nicholas gave notice that he should move for a committee who should select such parts of the communications from the Executive, as were necessary to give more full and more important information to the people than the resolutions referred to.

Mr. Venable said he did not comprehend the scope and design of the motion—he did not see what advantage would result from detailing scraps of information to the people. The business is not matured, and the resolutions may never pass into a bill; in that case, the information would prove illusive. He tho't the most eligible mode would be to wait till a full disclosure of the whole business could be laid before public.

Mr. W. Smith observed that the gentleman's reasoning appeared to him to involve perpetual secrecy in respect to all business privately discussed. The information now proposed to be laid before the people, is complete as far as it goes; it will show that the government has not been inattentive to the peculiar situation of the Commerce of the United States, and that they are taking measures for its security. This, surely, is information that the people have a right to be in possession of.

Mr. Smilie said that the gentleman last speaking, had been uniformly opposed to opening the doors. The resolutions now proposed to be made public, are agreeable to that gentleman, and now he is for making them public: But at the same time, he is for keeping the discussions and reasonings on which those resolutions are founded—secret. He then noticed the immaturity of the business, and observed that there was a resolution connected with the others, which he supposed was designed in the progress of the business, to defeat the whole.

Mr. S. Smith supported the motion—he urged several reasons in its support—it was due, in justice to the people on the Sea-board thro' the United States, to inform them that the Government had not been inattentive and remiss, in relation to providing for the protection of their property. Congress has been more than four

weeks in session—most of their time has been occupied in reading papers—the people are anxious to know what has been done—the resolutions involve a very popular measure—and the people ought not to be kept in suspense. As to the remark of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, That a resolution which is tacked to the others is intended to defeat the whole, he considered the suggestion as totally unfounded. He conceived it would have directly the reverse effect, and would be the means of completing the business.

Mr. Giles remarked on the idea thrown out respecting the popularity of the measure proposed—that he had no doubt that at the present moment it was popular; but this he conceived, was not the time to judge. When the expence comes to be felt—when taxes are called for—then will be the time to test the popularity of the measure.

Mr. Madison coincided with his colleague, and added, he hoped the publication, would be accompanied with that of every document, necessary to elucidate the subject.

Mr. Ames observed, that as to the popularity of the measure, he should not enter into a discussion of that question. He trusted, that the duty of the representatives of the people would always be popular. The reasoning of some gentlemen he observed, seemed to involve a doubt, whether the Commerce of the United States, was worth protecting. If that was the case, he could wish gentlemen would openly avow their opinion. He tho't differently—he was therefore in favor of the motion.

The first motion being extended by Mr. Fitzsimons to all the resolutions, was put and carried in the affirmative, without a dissenting voice.

Mr. Nicholas then moved for the appointment of a committee, to select from the communications, respecting Algiers, such parts as are not proper for publication, that the residue may be made public. This motion was agreed to without a division.

Adjourned.

Wednesday, January 8.

Sundry petitions were read, praying compensation for services and supplies, also for allowances for depreciation on payments received in paper money; referred to select committees.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Treasury containing a statement of the tonnage of the United States and of the progress of their commerce since the establishment of the Federal Government, read and ordered to be printed.

The petition of William Lawrence, a refugee from Nova Scotia during the late war, presented by Mr. Sherburne was read, praying relief from Congress on account of losses and services—referred to a select committee.

The bill making an alteration in the Flag of the United States was read the third time.

Mr. B. Bourne moved that it should be referred to a select committee—Mr. Watts seconded the motion; he said his object was, to have a clause added to establish the Flag of the United States, so that in case of new accessions to the Union, future applications for alterations may be precluded—he added, that he supposed the title of the bill, should the amendment he proposed take place, ought to be a bill to establish the Flag of the United States.

The motion for a reference to a select committee being put, was negatived—49 to 39.

Mr. Watts then moved that the bill should be recommitted to the committee of the whole, for the purpose of introducing a clause to fix for ever the Flag of the United States—this motion was lost.

The question then was, Shall this bill pass—the yeas and nays being required by one fifth of the members, are, Yeas 50, Nays 42—as follow:

AYES.

Messrs. Armstrong, Bailey, Baldwin, Blount, Carnes, Christie, Claybourne, Dawley, Dearborn, Dent, Dexter, Findley, Giles, Greenup, Griffin, Grove, Hancock, Harrison, Hartley, Heath, Heister, Hunter, Irvine, Lyman, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Montgomery, Moore, P. Muhlenberg, Murray, New, Nicholas, Niles, Orr, Parker, Pickens, Preston, Rutherford, Scott, Smilie, I. Smith, S. Smith, Treadwell, V. Cortlandt, Venable, Walker, Williams, Winn, Winston. 50.

NOES.

Messrs. Ames, Beatty, Boudinot, S. Bourne, B. Bourne, Cadwallader, Clark, Cobb, Coffin, Coit, Coles, Fitzsimons, Forrest, Foster, Gilbert, Gillespie, Gilman, Glen, Goodhue, Hillhouse, Holten, Learned, Lee, Locke, Malbone, Mebane, Neville, Sherburne, J. Smith, Sprigg, Swift, Talbot, Thatcher, Tracy, Trumbull, V. Alen, V. Gaasbeck, P. Wadsworth, J. Wadsworth, Ward, Watts, Wingate. 42.

The committee appointed to enquire whether any and what alteration would be proper to be made in the ration of the troops of the United States, brought in a report, which was read and laid on the table.

In committee of the whole on the bill providing for the renewal of lost or destroyed certificates of certain descriptions; Mr. Trumbull, chairman.

In discussing this bill, the old difficulties occurred in respect to making provisions competent to securing the United States from imposition and fraud in applications for the renewal of certificates.

Various amendments were proposed & rejected, others agreed to.

The committee proceeded through the discussion of the bill—they then rose and reported the same with sundry amendments—which were read, and with the bill laid on the Clerk's table.—Adjourned.

UNITED STATES.

NORFOLK, Dec. 25.

Yesterday arrived here the ship Bacchus, Capt. Vanneman, from Jamaica; which place he left the 28th of November. The papers received contain nothing particular. Captain Vanneman informs, that the Governor of Jamaica issued a proclamation on the 15th of November, opening the ports of that island, for the importation of Red and White Oak Staves and Heading, in American bottoms for four months.

An Antigua paper, of the 18th Nov. received yesterday by the brig Experiment, Capt. McKoskie, says, "The French privateers are still cruising off St. Bartholomew, but they are not permitted to carry their prizes there, or even go there themselves, in consequence of some regulations which have lately taken place between the courts of London and Sweden."

SALEM, (Mass.) Dec. 4.

Last Wednesday, the Marblehead Regiment, consisting of 300 men, turned out, under the command of Lt. Col. WATSON. They were reviewed and inspected; after which, a rain prevented any manoeuvres. The conduct of the troops, while under arms, justified the opinion of THE PRESIDENT, in his late Speech—"That the Militia may be trained to a degree of energy, equal to every military exigency of the United States"—and they received the approbation of numerous interested observers. A generous entertainment was given to the officers, and other gentlemen, in the Academy; and every thing was conducted in a most agreeable manner.

PHILADELPHIA,

JANUARY 8.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Bank of the United States, held last evening, THOMAS WILLING, Esq. was re-elected President.

The Directors of the manufacturing Society of the State of New-Jersey, have published the scheme of a Lottery for raising the sum of 39,000 dollars on 266,000 dollars, deducting 15 per Cent. from the prices. This Lottery consists of 38,000 Tickets in which there are 14,539 prizes, and 23,461 blanks—being about one and an half blanks to a prize—Tickets at 7 dollars each—The high prizes are, one of 20,000—one of 10,000, Two of 5,000—five of 2,000—Ten of 1000, and Twenty of 500 dollars.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

The peace, honor and prosperity of the United States, are considerations of no importance in the view of men who appear determined to award the palm of merit to those exotic politicians, who have for months been laboring to disaffess the people to the government, and to the administration—but, says a correspondent, impartial and candid minds will do justice to the patriots of their country; the early disclosure of the machinations of

these who intended that the United States should, on this day, have been plunged in the horrors of war, was the dictate of real patriotism—and was made by men who have uniformly manifested proofs of love to their country in a series of labors for the public good. It is a fact that the most distinguished American patriots are made the objects of the vilest abuse, from the pens of the vilest slanderers—some of whom are exotics, who have no feeling for the American name, Fortune or Character.

Proceedings of the Legislature of South-Carolina.

The governor sent to the house the following message:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

I have this moment received a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, a copy of which I take the earliest opportunity of communicating to your honorable house.

WM. MOULTRIE.

Columbia, Dec. 9, 1793.

Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury.

SIR,
The commissioners for settling the accounts between the United States and the individual States, having made their final report to the President, dated the 29th of June, 1793, I am to announce to your excellency, that a balance of one million two hundred and five thousand, nine hundred and seventy eight dollars, has been reported by the said commissioners in favor of the state of South-Carolina.

I have the honor to be, with esteem, your excellency's most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER HAMILTON,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Referred to Messrs. Rutledge, Ford and Holmes.

Tuesday, December 10.

The committee, to whom was referred the message of his excellency the governor, enclosing a letter from Alexander Hamilton, Esq. secretary of the treasury of the United States,

Report, that it appears, from the said letter, that a balance of one million, two hundred and five thousand, nine hundred and seventy eight dollars, has been reported by the commissioners for settling the accounts between the United States and the individual states, in favor of the State of South-Carolina. That it moreover appears, from the act of the United States, passed on the fifth day of August, 1790, that the settlement of the said commissioners is final and conclusive; and that the states in whose favor the balances are found, are entitled to have credit for the same on the books of the treasury of the United States, and have the same funded upon the like terms with the other part of the domestic debt of the United States, but that the same should not be transferable.

Your committee beg leave to observe, that the said balance will enable the public to discharge not only that part of the debt which has not as yet been funded, but also to make considerable, and they hope adequate provision for the payment of all the debts which are justly and fairly due from this state to the creditors thereof.

Your committee therefore, recommend, that the foregoing report be printed in all the gazettes of this state, so as the good citizens thereof, who are holders of indents and other public securities of this state, should be guarded against the schemes of speculators, and prevented from parting with such indents and securities, for considerations that may be below their value.

Resolved, that this house do agree to the report.

Ordered, that the several printers of this state do publish the report in their gazettes.

By order of the House,
JOHN SANDFORD DART,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.

SHIP NEWS.

Arrived at Norfolk, Dec. 28.
Ship Bacchus, Vanneman Jamaica
Brig Experiment, McKoskie Antigua
Sch. Porcupine, Barron, St. Bartholomew's

PRICE OF STOCKS.

PHILADELPHIA, January 8, 1794.
6 per cents, 18/
3 ditto, 10/ to 10/1.
Deferred, 11/
U. S. Bank, 14 per cent. advance.
N. A. ditto, 20 ditto ditto.
Pennsylvania do. 7 ditto ditto.