

## Congress of the United States.

House of Representatives

March 10.

Mr. Giles's Speech concluded.

All this machinery lessens the number of the productive, and increases the number of unproductive hands of the nation in Great Britain. The operation has been extended so far, that the poor rates alone, probably afforded a greater tax *per capita* than the whole taxes paid in the United States. He was astonished with these fatal examples before our eyes, that there should be any gentlemen, who would wish to enter into this fashionable system of politics. He said the United States had already progressed full far enough into this system.

For exclusively of the ordinary expence of the civil list a debt had been funded upon principles of duration. An army had been raised at an immense expence, and now there was a proposition for a navy. He observed that for several years past the appropriations for the support of the military establishment, had exceeded a million of dollars per annum, from one million to one million and a half annually. He believed that if the expence had been foreseen, there would have been more active efforts to have avoided it. It was a policy at this day very generally condemned: yet we are now to exhibit a counter part of this policy upon the ocean, with this aggravation: that it will commence with greater certain expence, and with a more uncertain object. The system of governing by *debts* he conceived the most refined system of tyranny. It seems to have been a contrivance devised by politicians, to succeed the old system of feudal tenures, both systems were tyrannical, but the objects of their tyranny were different. The system of *feud* operated upon the *person* of the individual—the system of *debts* operates upon the *pockets* of the individual. In the feudal system the tenant often received some indulgence and lenity from the martial generosity which generally characterized the Lord. The Lord was gratified with the acknowledgment of the tenant, that he was a slave, and the rendition of a pepper corn, as an evidence of it; the product of the tenant's labor, was left for his own support. The system of *debts* affords no such indulgences; its true policy is to devise objects of expence, and to draw the *greatest possible sum* from the people in the *least visible mode*. It boasts not of economizing in calls upon the people for contributions.—It boasts not of economizing in the objects of expence.—It consults the obedience and not the happiness of the people. There is no device which facilitates the system of expence and debts so much as a navy; and he declared from that consideration, he should value his liberty at a lower price than he now did, if the policy of a permanent naval establishment, should obtain in the United States.

He saw another strong objection to the establishment of a navy. He deemed it a hostage to its full value, for our good behaviour, to the great naval powers, until it should be able to contend with them for the ocean. It will encrease rather than lessen our dependence upon them.

With respect to the other considerations, their utility in affording an additional security for the collection of the revenue, he should make but one observation; When revenue is laid, the expence of the machinery employed in the collection, is the primary consideration. These vessels may therefore be considered as *aquatic sheriffs*; but of the most expensive order, they will be an additional cost of at least 20 per centum upon the whole revenue collected; the expence incurred therefore will exceed the security afforded, and of course ought not to be incurred.

Upon the whole if these considerations were not sufficient to induce the house to negative the bill, he conceived the impressions produced upon his own mind by them, would furnish a justification for his opposition. He said if the bill should pass, he should however find a consolation in a consciousness of his own fallibility, and a respect for the opinions of the majority who advocated it; but impressed as he was with the subject, he felt it a duty, as far as he could, to give a veto to the measure.

A CARD.

Mr. S. finding the citizen entirely mis-

taken in some of the ideas he has taken up in perusing the last note Mr. S. had the honor to address him, he is induced once more to endeavor to set him right, on the point in which he thinks him at variance with the statement; the Active was not carrying provisions to France when taken into Falmouth—she was laden from Philadelphia with sugar and coffee, warranted as was before stated, to be *American* property—she has now however been 6 or 8 months lying in England, her charges and loss of time considerable, and her final fate totally uncertain—depending perhaps on the doubtful construction of what the meaning may be of *adjudication* in a British admiralty court—The Mercury was as unwarrantably seized and carried into Jamaica, and it was lucky for Mr. S. she escaped before the adjudicatory decree had found its way thither—or perhaps the valuable returns the citizen speaks of had never been made—but as it is, there was a long detention sustained, and many expences incurred for which the brig was acquitted, no compensation was made.—With respect to the John, her case was peculiarly hard—she was cleared out with a cargo of American wheat from Falmouth to St. Maloes, before any war or act of parliament or proclamation of the British king had rendered the doing so illegal—yet she was stopped on putting into Guernsey for a pilot—the cargo was taken on account of the British government at the price the French were to pay for it, but the cargo deliverable at the Island of Jersey; on going thither a British sloop of war appointed to convoy the brig, sent a boat on board of her and took the command from the Captain and crew, and proceeding on the voyage, stupidly run the brig on the rocks, where she was to completely wrecked, that it cost near 9000 sterling to repair her, and near 8 months detention, for all which the British court refused to make any compensation—with what justice the citizen will judge.

After all, it is but a sorry way of reckoning, to set off the wrongs we sustain from one nation, in defiance of all law and reason, by throwing into the scale temporary inconveniences suffered in the course of an arduous revolution from another—yet the French depredations have been few in number, and not that Mr. S. knows of, sustained without suitable reparation being made when demanded: whether this can be said with justice of Britain, a few months will enable all of us fully to decide.—Mr. S. has certainly not so far done with them, but to have sincerely the wish, that they may speedily discover—how vain are their projects of starving or conquering the French; and consequently how much more beneficial it would be even for themselves, politically considered, to suffer our commerce to proceed on without interruption, since its riches at last, however circuitously, center in the recompence of their own artizans and industrious manufacturers.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

Discussions on public men and measures while conducted with decency and pursued with candor, merit attention, as the public have a right to be vigilant and informed as to the conduct of their servants—but how far Mr. Fenno your correspondent Honestus comes under this description, the public will judge, since he has ventured in disguised allusions to arraign the character of one, who, though he is pleased to stile him an orator lately sprung up among us—he hath probably better, or at least as well founded claims of public usefulness as most of his age.—In 1776, from the early period of the life of the Orator, it was certainly not in his power to take an active part in the field with his American brethren, but his taking the oath of allegiance to the government in 1777, was certainly sufficiently indicative of his disposition to prove serviceable when he could to the cause of American independence and freedom: In 1781, he was appointed receiver of taxes for Pennsylvania, and treasurer to the department of finance, in which stations of great importance at that day, he was happy to have a power of lending an aiding hand in the transactions which led to the peace of 1783.—Ever since employed in active and extensive scenes of commerce, beneficial at once to the country and himself, he has never concerned himself with politics, further than to assist and support men and measures, he thought calculated for public usefulness on the plan of 1776, & in this independent

career, neither the venom of private malice nor the rage of public factions shall interrupt him—no, nor even the polite insinuations of good Mr. Honestus.

Z.

## Foreign Intelligence.

RECEIVED BY THE

BRITISH JANUARY PACKET.

COPENHAGEN, December 24.

THE ministers of the powers actually at war with the French Convention, having seen a Note appear, printed and addressed to those engaged in commerce in the north, signed PH. GROUVELLE, who therein calls himself Minister Plenipotentiary of the French Republic, were not less surprized at it than was the public in general.

Whatever may be the policy of the Danish government, of which the form is so absolute, in permitting the French missionaries to propagate here, under pretext of negotiations of commerce, their system, whose end is to separate the people from their government, they thought it their duty not to see with indifference a step so bold and remarkable. In consequence thereof, they presented, in a body, a Note, to be informed whether the said Grouvelle had really been acknowledged as such by his Danish Majesty: which note the minister, Count de Bernstorff, answered by a formal disavowal.—The public will wish to see the official notes which passed on the occasion.

## STATE PAPERS.

Note of the Foreign Ministers to M. Bernstorff.

"The ministers of the powers at present at war with France, at the Court of His Danish Majesty, having been made acquainted with a paper, printed and addressed to the Danish merchants, signed by Grouvelle, styling himself minister plenipotentiary of the *soi disant* French Republic, have the honour to transmit a copy of it to his excellency the Count de Bernstorff, praying him to be pleased to inform them, whether the paper is authentic and authorized, and if, in reality, the said Grouvelle is authorized by his Danish Majesty in that character, as this public act makes them presume.

(Signed) "J. Fagel, D. Hailes,  
"Goltz, Breunner,  
"Knudener, Musquæz."

"Copenhagen, Dec. 13, 1793."

Answer of the Danish Minister, Count de Bernstorff.

"Having given an account to the King, my master, of the note transmitted to me on the 13th instant, by the ministers of the powers at war with France, his Majesty has ordered me to answer, that he had seen in the note, with pain, a proof of that distrust for which he was certain he had given no occasion; that, if it was notorious that the National Convention had appointed Grouvelle minister plenipotentiary in Denmark, it was equally known, that he had neither been received nor acknowledged in Denmark in that quality; and such an acknowledgment, which, by its nature, is a public act, could not but be generally known. His Majesty, always faithful to his declarations, cannot and ought not to be suspected of having any intention of failing in them. I ought to make one remark—no truth is more evident, nor more universally acknowledged, than this, that nobody can be answerable for the actions of another; and still more, when it relates to a step unforeseen, unknown, and with which it was impossible to have any concern.

(Signed) "BERNSTORFF."  
"Copenhagen, Dec. 18, 1793."

Reply of the British Minister to the answer of Mr. Bernstorff.

"The Note of Count de Bernstorff, in answer to that from the Ministers of the powers actually at War with France at the Court of his Danish Majesty, in satisfying the Envoy extraordinary of his Britannic Majesty, individually, as to the object which had occasioned, about eighty years ago, their Note, which only contained a simple question on the real or supposed existence of a fact, implies, in the terms used in it, an accusation against which he protests for himself (while those with whom he had the honor to act may make their representations on it either verbally or in writing) with the same emotion with which he felt how little it was merited. If it could have been believed for a moment that his Danish Majesty could forget his declarations, the novelty of the fact, such as the usurpation of an active and public character, left unpunished by the Government, was a very just and natural motive for their common Note. The undersigned Minister is ready to avow, that he had not one equally strong for supposing, that it was possible for the King of Denmark to receive, as Plenipotentiary to his august and sacred person, him who undertook the office of reading to his unhappy and innocent Sovereign the sentence which brought him to the Scaffold.

(Signed) D. HAILES."

PARIS, December 31.

On this day was celebrated the grand Fete in honor of the successes of the Republican army. The following general order was issued.

"By a decree of the Council General of the commons, the adjutants and others are forbidden to seize upon the arms placed upon the coffins of their late brothers in arms, under pain of prosecution. The Republicans are forbidden to take off their hats, or to forbid any others to do so. Every man is to do as he pleases.

(Signed)

"HENRIOT."

Total of the prisoners, 4621.

LEWES, January 6.

On Saturday last the earl of Egremont's Christmas bounty, consisting of ten fat oxen, and 3000 gallon loaves, was distributed amongst 800 poor families, at Petworth, and in the adjacent parishes.

Two fine oxen were lately slaughtered and distributed to the poor of Battel, by order of Sir G. Webster, bart.

The Rev. Mr. Fearon, at Cuckfield, gave a good dinner to all the soldiers quartered in that town, about 40 in number, on Christmas day last.

The inhabitants of Brighton, at a vestry held at the New Ship, on Friday last, decided against a general inoculation in that town.

## CONGRESS.

IN SENATE,

Wednesday, March 19th, 1794.

The bill sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence, entitled, "an act to provide a naval armament," was read the third time.

Resolved, That this bill pass with amendments.

Ordered, That the Secretary desire the concurrence of the House of Representatives in the amendments to this bill.

The report of the committee to whom was referred the petition of Jabez Rogers, junr. was read.

On motion,

Ordered, That it be adopted and that the committee be instructed to bring in a bill for the purposes therein expressed.

Mr. Bradley from the committee last mentioned, reported a bill for the remission of the duties on distilled spirits destroyed by fire, which was read the first time.

Ordered, That this bill pass to the second reading.

The bill sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence, entitled "an act to prohibit the carrying on the slave trade from the United States to any foreign place or country," was read the third time.

Resolved, That this bill pass.

Ordered, That the Secretary notify the House of Representatives of the concurrence of the Senate in this bill.

The bill sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence, entitled "an act making appropriations for the support of the military establishment of the United States, for the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety four," was read the third time.

Resolved, That this bill pass.

Ordered, That the Secretary notify the House of Representatives of the concurrence of the Senate in this bill.

The bill sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence, entitled "an act to provide for the erecting and repairing of arsenals and magazines and for other purposes," was read the second time.

Ordered, That this bill be referred to Mr. Gunn, Mr. King and Mr. Bradley, to consider and report thereon to the Senate.

On motion,

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill to authorize the President of the United States in certain cases, to alter the place for holding a session of Congress.

The bill was accordingly laid on the table and read the first time.

Ordered, That this bill pass to the second reading.

A message from the House of Representatives by Mr. Beckley their Clerk:

"Mr. President—The House of Representatives agree to the amendments of the Senate, to the bill entitled "an act to provide a naval armament."—And he withdrew.

Mr. Vining reported from the committee on enrolled bills, that they had examined the enrolled "Resolution authorizing the President of the United States to employ as dispatch boats, such of the revenue cutters as the public exigencies may require," and that it was duly enrolled.

A message from the House of Representatives by Mr. Beckley their Clerk:

"Mr. President—The Speaker of the House of Representatives having signed an enrolled resolution, I am directed to