

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Friday, May 19.

Mr. Brent, from Virginia, appeared and took his oath and seat; and Jeremiah Smith, from New-Hampshire, did the same yesterday.

The speaker observed, that there was a rule of the House in these words: "No committee shall sit during the sitting of the House, without special leave." He thought it necessary to observe, that he had sent to the committee to whom it was referred to prepare an answer to the President's speech, to learn if they were ready to report. They returned for answer, that provided they had leave to sit, they should be able to report the answer in half an hour.

On motion, leave was given.

Mr. Coit, from the Committee of Elections, made a report from the documents which they had received, of members entitled to their seats.

The speaker informed the House that he had received a communication from the Department of State, containing sundry Documents referred to by the President in his Speech to both Houses, numbered from 1 to 18. He proceeded to read No. 1, viz.

1. A letter from General Pinckney to the Secretary of State, dated Paris, Dec. 20, 1796, giving an account of his arrival at Bourdeaux; of his journey from thence to Paris, in which, from the badness of the roads, he broke three wheels of his carriage; of the ill treatment he received from M. Delacroix, &c. He remarks that it is not surprising that the French Republic has refused to receive him, since they have dismissed no less than thirteen Foreign Ministers; and since they have been led to believe by a late Emigrant, that the United States was of no greater consequence to them than the Republic of Genoa or Geneva. He also mentions, that it seemed to be the opinion in France that much depended upon the election of the President, as one of the candidates was considered as a friend of England, and the other as devoted to France. The people of France, he observes, have been greatly deceived, with respect to the United States, by misrepresentations, being led to believe, that the People and Government have different views; but, adds he, any attempt to divide the People from the Government, ought to be to the People of the United States, the signal for rallying.—Gen. Pinckney several times mentions Mr. Monroe in this letter with great respect; and says that before his arrival the Directory had been very cool towards him, but since that time, they had renewed their avilities to him.

2. Is a report of Major-General Mounthfrence to General Pinckney, dated Dec. 18, 1796, on the subject of American vessels brought prizes into the ports of France.

3. Extract of a letter from Gen. Pinckney to the Secretary of State, dated Paris, January 16, 1797, in which he mentions the distressed situation of American citizens, arriving in the ports of France, who were immediately thrown into prison, and could not be released, until an order was got from the American Minister, counter-signed by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs; and no Minister being acknowledged there at present, no relief could be afforded. He now ever applied to M. Delacroix on their behalf, by means of his Secretary Major Rutledge, and got them attended to through the Minister of General Police. Gen. Pinckney gives a further account of conversations which passed between his Secretary and M. Delacroix, on the subject of quitting Paris, in which he told him, he must do so, or be liable to the operation of the Police laws; but refused to commit his orders to writing.—He mentions Barras's answer to Monroe's address, as a curious production; but says it was not particularly calculated as an answer to what was said by Mr. Monroe, as he had it prepared, and was unacquainted with what would be said by Mr. Monroe.

4. Extract of a letter from Gen. Pinckney to the Secretary of State, dated Amsterdam, Feb. 18, informing him, that having had official notice to quit the French Republic, he had gone to Amsterdam.

5. Extract of a letter from Gen. Pinckney to the Secretary of State, dated Amsterdam, March 5, in which he observes, that before he left Paris, it was rumored that the Dutch were determined to treat American vessels in the same manner as the French had done. He now believes that the French wished them to do so, as he had lately received intelligence that the Dutch had objected to do this, alleging that it would be a great injury to them, as they should then lose their trade with this country, and if so, they would be deprived of furnishing that support to the French, which they then gave them. France acquiesced, because she saw it was for her interest; and having 25,000 troops in Batavia, it was generally known, they could do what they pleased with that country. The General adds, with desolation, that there are American citizens who fit out privateers to cruise against the trade of this country.

6. Extract of a letter from Major-General Mounthfrence to Gen. Pinckney, dated Paris, Feb. 14, mentioning the capture of a vessel from Boston, and another from Baltimore, by an American citizen on board a privateer; adding that American citizens, of this class are continually wishing for more rigorous laws against American commerce.

7. Extract of a letter from the same to the same, dated Paris, Feb. 21, giving an account of two more American vessels being brought into L'Orient by the same man, and of another vessel taken by a French privateer.

8. Extract of a letter from Gen. Pinckney to the Secretary of State, dated Amsterdam, March 8, mentioning the capture of several American vessels; he also speaks of the disagreeableness of his situation; and was of opinion that the new Third of the French Councils would determine whether this country and France were to remain at peace, or go to war. Though the former was desirable, he wished the measures of our government to be firm.

9. Speech of Barras, President of the Directory, on Mr. Monroe's recel.

10. The Decree of the Executive Directory of March 2, relative to the seizing of American vessels.

11. Extract of a letter from John Quincy Adams, Esq. Minister Resident of the United States, to the Batavian Republic, to the Secretary of State, dated at the Hague, Nov. 4, 1796, giving an account of the disposition of the people of that country towards this, which he states to be friendly; and this he attributes to its being their interest to be so. This country, he remarks, is the only quarter from which they receive regular payments. He adds, however, that they have no will in opposition to the French Government.

12. Extract of a letter from the Committee of Foreign Relations of the Batavian Republic to the above Minister, dated Sept. 27, 1796, making it appear very desirable that the United States should join them in their common cause against Great Britain, reminding him of the many services which they had rendered to this country.

13. Extract of a letter from John Quincy Adams in answer to the above, wherein he says he shall not omit to forward their letter to his government.

14. Extract of a letter from John Quincy Adams, to the Secretary of State, dated Hague, Feb. 17, 1797, representing the French Republic as paying as little attention to other Neutral Powers as to the United States. He alludes to their conduct towards Hamburgh, Bremen, Copenhagen, &c.

15. Extract of a letter from Rufus King, Esq. to the Secretary of State, dated London, March 12, 1797, to the same effect.

16. A letter from the minister of Spain, resident in Philadelphia, to the Secretary of State, dated May 6, 1797, complaining of the injurious operation of the British Treaty against Spain, in three respects, viz. as it destroys the doctrine of free ships making free goods; as it makes certain articles contraband of war, which in former treaties were not considered so; and as it gives to Great Britain a right to navigate the Mississippi, which that minister justly belonged not to us to give, as it belonged wholly to Spain before it gave the right to the United States, by the late treaty, to navigate that river.—He concludes his letter with saying, that the King of Spain is desirous of harmony between the two countries, and relies upon the equality of his complaints for satisfaction.

17. A letter from the Secretary of State to the Spanish minister, in answer to the above; in which he acknowledges that the treaty lately concluded between the two countries, had proved satisfactory to the United States, as it put an end to a dispute which had existed for many years respecting the navigation of the Mississippi, and also as it afforded satisfaction to our mercantile citizens for the capture of our ships and cargoes. All these, he allowed, were acts of substantial justice; but all the other stipulations were wholly voluntary, and perfectly reciprocal. With respect to the three articles of complaint respecting the British treaty, he justified the stipulations as being just and consistent, and such as this country had a right to enter into.

18. A letter from general Pinckney to the Secretary of State, dated Paris, February 1, stating that the day after the arrival of the news of the French general Buonaparte's success in Italy, he received a letter from M. Delacroix, directing him to leave Paris. Gen. Pinckney concludes this letter with observing, that the French seemed to speak of this country as if it were indebted to them for Independence, and not to any exertions of our own. Our treaty with Great-Britain is execrated: they wish us to have no connection with that country; they wish to destroy the trade of Great-Britain, and they look upon us as her best customer.

The whole of these documents having been read, on motion, they were committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and 300 copies ordered to be printed.

Mr. Venable, from the Committee appointed to prepare an answer to the speech of the President, reported one (pretty much an echo of the speech) which was twice read and committed to a committee of the whole.

On the speaker enquiring for what day it should be made, Mr. W. Smith mentioned tomorrow—Mr. Nicholas Monday.

Mr. Giles said the answer could not be printed before tomorrow. As it was, perhaps, the most important answer which ever was returned to a speech since the commencement of the present government, and therefore ought to be well considered, he thought Monday as early as it ought to be taken up.

Mr. Livingston said there was another reason for delay. In the reading of the answer, it appeared to him to go to an approbation of all the measures of the executive in relation to foreign nations. If so, it was of the utmost consequence that the papers which had just been read, should also be laid before them previous to its discussion, as they could not form an opinion on that subject until they had an opportunity of perusing these papers.

The question was carried for Monday.

Mr. New presented the petition of Robert Rutherford, complaining of the undue election of gen. Morgan (for the district which he formerly represented) and praying for redress in the premises. Referred to the Committee of Elections.

Mr. W. Smith moved, that as the consideration of the answer to the President's speech was made the order for Monday; that when the House adjourned, it might adjourn to that day. Agreed, and Adjourned.

Foreign Intelligence.

HAMBURGH, March 23.

Letters from Petersburg of the 24th of Feb. state, that the councils of the emperor Paul appear to have taken a decisive opposition to every overture of interference in the subsisting war; in consequence of the late deliberations on this subject, the militia establishment is already reduced to the limitation of 1791, by which 5 major generals, 13 brigadier generals, and 26 colonels are struck off the establishment. This reduction of the military, does not operate with like effect in the several naval departments, where measures are carrying forward for the effectual revival and support of the great naval neutral system, which has been eagerly adopted by the emperor at the instance of his Prussian majesty.

Advices from Copenhagen of the 21st March, state the indisposition of the king, and that the Prussian ambassador, baron Senf, had left that city, on his return home, with his lady and suite.

On the 20th, the fleet, appointed to protect the trade in the Sound, during the summer, fell down to the Baum, where they drop anchor, they consist of the St. Thomas, Lintworm, and Seaworm, of the line, and several of inferior rates.

On the 13th March, his Serene highness the duke of Brunswick, was seized with a disorder in his breast of which he died in the 76th year of his age—he had heard of the fall of Mantua, and other serious news before his decease:—his unexpected death has excited grief, and it has been notified in form to the several courts of Europe. [This is the celebrated duke who commanded the Prussian troops that invaded Holland in 1784, and France, in 1794—with various successes.]

In the proceedings at Rome on the 11th February, before the surrender of Mantua, a general council was held, consisting of twenty cardinals and count Galleggi, on the question of continuing the war, or executing the treaty of peace formerly proposed. On the

division, there appeared sixteen votes in favour of prosecuting the war, and but four against it.

From London Papers to April 3.

VIENNA, March 15.

The Austrian army in Italy has now taken a concentrated situation on the river Tagliamento; as the inundations of the Piava prevents taking an advantageous situation on the latter river.

During the last three days, public prayers have been put in all the churches and chapels of this city and suburbs, for the success of the imperial arms; from which we are inclined to augur a continuance of the war, though our hopes of peace are not entirely vanquished.

Prince Nicholas Esterhazy has set out from this city for the Italian army; he carries with him 12,000 ducats, a part of a subscription raised here to be distributed by the archduke Charles among the soldiers, according to their merits.

Yesterday it was reported, that the archduke Charles had had a fall from his horse, near Udina, and hurt himself in the right foot, though not dangerously.

Several officers of the Italian army, who have been guilty of misconduct, have been rigorously punished by the archduke; but it is not true that any have been hanged.

Great quantities of heavy artillery have been sent to the Italian army.—20,000 men of the new raised Hungarian troops will go to the army on the Rhine; and a corps of reserve of 12,000 men will be formed from the recruits from Bohemia, Galicia, &c.

THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

LONDON, April 1.

We lament to say, that according to the reports in the best informed political circles, the accounts which ministers received from the continent on Thursday, by no means announce the prospect of peace to any of the belligerent powers. The league of the Protestant princes of Germany begins now to manifest its force and intentions. The army of the king of Prussia is actually in motion, and his designs are no longer equivocal. He threatens to fall upon Bohemia, while Buonaparte penetrates by the Tyrol, and Hoche by the Lower Rhine. This formidable attack, in the exhausted state of the house of Austria, threatens the very existence of the emperor, and there is no doubt but he must finally yield to their unprincipled demands.

By this league, and in the event of the secularization of the bishopricks, the emperor will have the inadequate compensation of Salzburg; the king of Prussia will seize on the rich bishoprick of Munster, and the elector of Hanover, upon Osnaburgh. The stadtholder will have the bishoprick of Fulda, and each of the contracting parties will have the slice most convenient to his present estates.

A meeting of the clothiers and woollen manufacturers of Gloucestershire, is to be held on Monday next, to petition parliament for peace. The corporation of Salisbury met on Tuesday, and the manufacturers and inhabitants of Salisbury met yesterday on the same business.

Dupont de Nemours, in the French council of ancients of the 14th inst. announced, that he had long entertained an *amorous passion for Truth, Morality and Justice*; and that he was then to consolidate his intimacy with them by marriage.

April 3.

The Hamburg mail which arrived on Saturday brings still further confirmation of the important fact, that the emperor of Germany, with a constancy that does honor to his courage, though it will be probably unavailing, mutters all his strength to stem the torrent just ready to break in upon his hereditary dominions, and to force him to the surrender of his preponderance in the Germanic body. He is perfectly aware of the tendency of the league which is formed for the aggrandizement of the house of Brandenburg. In the month of February last he presented a rescript to the diet of the empire, in which we find the following remarkable passage:

His majesty has repeatedly apprized the states of the empire, and particularly the ecclesiastical states, of their danger. He has endeavored to convince them, that their eventual existence, as independent states, was threatened; that projects of secularization were secretly forming, and that it was apparently in contemplation to grant an indemnity to the ecclesiastical states, with a view to compel the empire of Germany, divided and incapable of defending itself, to accept this sacrifice as the principal basis of the terms of peace; and this object is attempted to be accomplished by a junction and co-operation of the power of France with the Protestant interest dependent upon Prussia.

The danger is now brought to its head. The armies of France have no other object; and he has no ally but England. What aid she can give him, is a question that a parliament representing the people of this country would speedily decide; what decision a parliament answering the description of the sincere and candid bishop of Rochester will give it is easy to determine. The chancellor of the exchequer has said, in his place, that it is for the interest of this country that we should send him more money; and accordingly more will be sent.

The emperor Francis's address to Paul has not been so fortunate. Letters from Vienna say that his answer is equivocal, in consequence of which a favorable interpretation has been given to it. Our readers shall judge for themselves. The following article is from Hamburgh. It will appear that our ministers are more zealous in the cause. They have not only agreed to give the house of Austria succour in money direct, but they have held out most tempting offers to Russia of a large subsidy to engage that court to interfere.—The article from Hamburgh is as follows:

HAMBURGH, March 22.

Our accounts are, that the emperor Paul has given an unfavorable answer to the court of London relative to his support of the triple alliance; and that his promise of an equipage of another fleet is couched in very doubtful terms. To the court of Vienna his answer has been still more explicit, urging that he found the Russian army in so bad a

state that not more than 15 or 20,000 men could be spared as auxiliaries; that his finances were remarkably low, and therefore his advice to the emperor was to think seriously of peace; and at the same time announcing that he had written to the king of Prussia to induce him to become a mediator between Austria and France; and that he should determine what part to take, by the answer he should receive from his Prussian majesty.—This, it is observed, is laying the pride of Austria at the feet of its rival with a witness.

The mail brings no other news. The armies are generally in motion, and all appearances indicate a most obstinate campaign; in which, through the infatuated councils to which we are condemned, this country is to be deeply involved.

It is only by the declaration of the united sense of the country that we can deliver ourselves from this dreadful calamity. London has given a grand and laudable example. The common hall have solemnly confirmed their first resolution; and we have seen that the body of contractors and jobbers, who thrive upon the public spoil, have not dared, as heretofore, to agitate the question of a counter address in the common council.

This day the city of Westminster, the residence of the king, the parliament, the courts of law, as well as of the nobility and gentry of England, also meet to consider of a petition for the removal of ministers. We shall see whether the voice of sound wisdom and independence will not triumph even in the chosen abode of influence and corruption.

On Wednesday a meeting of the freeholders and taxed householders of Boston in Lincolnshire, was held there, John Cartwright, Esq. in the chair.—The chairman, after entering at large into a description of the state of public affairs, and endeavouring to shew the true source of our calamities; proposed a petition to the House of Commons, which was seconded by Samuel Barnard, Esq. and met with no opposition whatever.

COMMON HALL.

On Saturday the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Livery of the City of London, assembled in Common Hall, to consider the report of his Majesty's answer as to the time of receiving their address voted on the 23d of last month.

The Hall being open with the usual formalities, the lord mayor informed the meeting that the report of the Sheriffs would be read by the Common Sergeant.

Mr. Sylvester (the Common Sergeant) read the report. It stated that the Sheriffs had attended at St. James's on Friday, the 24th of March, to know when the address, carried in the Common Hall, which was held on the 23d, should be presented to his majesty; that the duke of Portland had informed the Sheriffs that his majesty received addresses from the city of London as a corporate body only, and that he would receive the address of the Livery in the common form at the Levee on the Wednesday following, or upon any other Levee day.

Mr. Haslon addressed the Livery. After a speech of considerable length, in which he very forcibly related the insults which his majesty's ministers had, in this instance, given to the Citizens of London. He moved—

That the Sheriffs of London have at all times a right to an audience of the King, and when deputed by the Livery of London, they are in duty bound to demand it.

Mr. Farmer seconded the motion. He said he had more respect for his majesty than to believe that the answer given to the sheriffs was the king's answer. Precedents had been sought for to support the present refusal to receive the city address, and it had been said that it was in some degree warranted by an act of Parliament passed in the reign of Charles II. but that was surely an act too inauspicious to liberty to permit any of its regulations or practices to be now held up as examples.

The question being put, the resolution was carried in the affirmative, as were all those which followed: On the shew of hands only two appeared against each resolution. One of the non contents was Mr. Kumble, a tea-breaker.

Mr. Waddington said the resolution he had to propose would have come with peculiar propriety from the Alderman of the ward of Farringdon Without, (Mr. Wilks) who he was sorry to observe, was not present on that day. He thought the sheriffs had acted very improperly in taking an answer from the duke of Portland, and returning without an audience of the king. The duke of Portland acted, in this instance, only as a servant, and it did not become the citizens of London, in Common Hall assembled, to receive the answer of a servant of servants. He hoped the Livery of London would not suffer the rights and liberties of the city to be infringed. He concluded a very able speech by moving—

That the lord mayor, attended by the sheriff, and the representatives of the city in Parliament, be again requested to present to his majesty, the address voted in the Common Hall of the 23d of March, and that no answer be received through the medium of a Secretary of State.

Mr. Waithman seconded the motion. The following resolution, moved by Mr. Hanson and seconded by Mr. Waddington, was next carried:

That the sheriff of London, attended by the city remembrancer, do wait on his majesty to know when he will be graciously pleased to receive the said address on the throne.

On the motion of Mr. Farmer it was resolved:

That the sheriffs be instructed, if necessary, to inform his majesty, that the lord mayor, aldermen, and livery of London, cannot deliver their address in any other manner than to the king on his throne.

After this resolution was passed, Mr. Sheriff Langston came forward and informed the livery, that they might depend upon the sheriffs of London doing their duty agreeable to their instructions.

Mr. Waithman stated that the proceedings relative to the calling of the last Common Hall had not been entered upon the journal. He therefore moved,

That the answer of the lord mayor to the requisition of the livery for holding the last Common Hall, together with their remonstrance, be entered upon the journal of their proceedings.

Mr. Waithman said, that however he might have disapproved of the conduct of the chief magistrate with regard to the calling of the last Common Hall, his lordship on the present occasion had acted in such a manner as could not fail to procure him the approbation of the livery. Impressed with this sentiment he moved,

That the thanks of this meeting be given to the lord mayor for his impartial conduct this day.

Carried unanimously. On the motion of Mr. Farmer, the resolutions were ordered to be correctly copied, signed by the town clerk, and published in all the morning and evening papers.

PORTSMOUTH, March 30.

This day arrived lord Bridport, with the whole of his fleet.

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,

SATURDAY EVENING, MAY 20, 1797.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in London, to a merchant in Philadelphia, dated March 25, 1797.

Yesterday strong reports and indeed publications were circulated, of Prussia having joined France with 60,000 troops, and that the Emperor had in consequence concluded Peace. It proves however to be nothing more than a development of the secret articles of the Treaty of Basle, in 1793—between Prussia and the Republic, by which the former it seems has guaranteed to the latter the possession of Belgium, the independence of Holland, the establishment of the Stadtholder in some part of Germany, after retaining a few of its provinces for himself. It is supposed that the knowledge of these articles will draw Russia into hostilities against Prussia and France: whether or no, it may not contribute to a general peace is matter of speculation.

Every thing remains here much as it did; the credit of the Bank-paper remains unimpaired; the Minister and Parliament are still engaged in very important enquiries into the finances of the country, and though every thing is certainly very critical, and a change of Ministry with many other measures are talked of, yet the Government seems strongly supported, nor do I see much probability of either taking place.

The brig Nancy, Ellison, 40 days from Cowes, arrived at New-York, 18th instants, brought London papers to the 1st of April only.

LAILSON'S CIRCUS,

South Fifth-Street. The Performances at the NEW CIRCUS. This Evening, May 20th, Will begin by a Grand Parade of Equestrian Performers of both sexes.

A grand display of Horsemanship, By Messrs Langley, Sully, Herman, C. Vandergelde, Berg, and McDonald, the Clown.

The Lofty-Tumbling Group, Composed of Messrs. Langley, Sully, McDonald, the Clown, and Reano, will execute several difficult exercises on the Stage—which will be pleasantly decorated.

MR. LANGLEY, the American Equestrian, will perform several curious and difficult Exercises which he has never performed here. He will jump over several bars of a prodigious height with the greatest facility.

MR. McDONALD, in the character of Clown, will perform a variety of Comic Feats.

MISS VANICE Will perform several astonishing feats which have never been attempted by her self.

Mr. Langley will perform numerous exercises too tedious to insert in an advertisement, and leap over a ribbon, landing upon two hoofs.

After which, will be presented (for the first time) a beautiful French Comic Opera, called, Les Deux Petits Savoyards,

OR, THE LITTLE CHIMNEY SWEEP. The music by D'Alezyras.

Lord, Clermont, Judge, James, The Sweeps, Joseph, The evening's entertainments will conclude by a ballet, called

La Guinguette; Or, THE GOOD HUMORED GIRL. In which Madame Douvilliers will dance several Pas Seuls.

At O'Ellers's Hotel. READINGS and RECITATIONS, Moral, Critical, and Entertaining; FOR ONE WEEK ONLY. On Monday evening, May 22d, at eight o'clock, WILL BE DELIVERED.

Part I. Essay on Taste and Oratory Part II. Othello's address to the Senate Shakespeare Brutus's speech on the death of Caesar do. Anthony's Funeral Oration do.

Part III. Satan's address to the Sun Milton Ode on St. Cecilia's Day Pope Ode on the Passions Collins

Tickets (half a dollar each) to be had of Mr. Foulton, at the Library, and at the Bar of O'Eller's Hotel.

The nights of the Readings will be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Brig GAYOSA For SALE, THIS EVENING, At the Merchants Coffee House,

At 7 o'clock in the evening. SHE will be in good order, having been just hove down, and may take in a cargo immediately, and be sent to sea at little or no expense. Inventory to be seen, and terms made known at the time of sale.

Filed May 20.