

Mr. LIVINGSTON then called up the resolution which he had laid upon the table for appointing an agent to defend before the commissioners now sitting, the citizens of the United States against the claims made upon them by Great Britain, in pursuance of the late treaty.

Mr. W. SMITH submitted to the consideration of the House, whether it would not be better to place in his hands the Attorney General. It might, in that case, be proper to afford him a sum of money to enable him to employ additional clerks for the purpose.

Mr. LIVINGSTON had no objection to modify the resolution in this way, "to appoint an agent to assist the Attorney General in the defence of the United States."

Mr. MASON said this might be a good proposition, but it did not strike him as necessary. He thought the commissioners would be competent to do the business.

Mr. GOULD thought the business would be best referred to a select committee.

Mr. LIVINGSTON saw no use in referring the matter to a select committee, except it were to report a bill. When gentlemen reflected upon the nature of these debts, and the time at which they were contracted, they would see the opportunity for collusion. He did not mean that an agent should be appointed to reside at Philadelphia, but a person who might be employed to investigate, in the best manner, the justice of the claims. The President might, perhaps, think it necessary to appoint a person near to the places where the debts were contracted.

Mr. NICHOLAS thought this a more serious business than was generally supposed, and that it would be found so, when the money came to be paid. He knew not whether two or three agents would not be necessary.

The resolution was referred to a select committee, to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. LIVINGSTON, from the committee appointed on the subject of fortifications, reported sundry documents together with a bill to provide for the fortifications of the forts and harbors of the United States, in which it is provided that the money necessary for carrying it into effect, shall be borrowed of the bank of the United States, or in such other way as shall be found best. The bill was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole on Monday.

The House took up the resolution agreed to in the committee of the whole yesterday, authorizing the President to call on the Executive of the several States, to hold 80,000 militia in readiness, apportioned according to the number of white inhabitants in each State.

Mr. W. SMITH wished one part of the resolution to be modified or omitted. He meant that part which directed the men to be apportioned according to the number of white inhabitants in each State. This, he said, might have an injurious effect. For, in case of an invasion were to take place in a State where white population was the weakest, the proportion of men detached would be so small as to be, in a great degree useless; and in other States, the number would be greater than there was any necessity for. For instance, if Georgia were to be the place of attack (and if an invasion did take place that was the most likely quarter for it) where the white population is small, there would not be a sufficient number of men to afford any protection, on the plan proposed. He thought if they fixed upon the proportion, the constitutional estimation would be best, viz. to add to the white population three-fifths of the number of negroes. He moved to strike out the apportionment, in order to have the regulation to be inserted in the bill.

Mr. MASON did not think there was any weight in the objection of the gentleman last up; as, in case of invasion, the Executive of the State might call out more than the number here contemplated, or even the whole of the militia, until assistance could be got from the neighbouring States. The resolution, being in the form of that agreed to on a former occasion, could not reasonably be objected to.

Mr. THATCHER enquired whether it had been customary to train blacks to arms?

Mr. W. SMITH said he was not understood. He meant that the number of whites to be detached, should be in proportion to the number of whites, with three fifths of the blacks added to the number.

Mr. VENABLE did not think there would be justice in such a regulation, as the duty would lie heavier upon States thinly inhabited than upon others. In case of invasion he said, the neighbouring States would be called upon.

Mr. McDOWELL said, that should the gentleman from South Carolina's proposition be agreed to, the duty would fall heavier upon any other part of the Union; besides, when so many whites were taken from home on this business, the rest would be exposed to the blacks. He trusted therefore he would not press it.

Mr. W. SMITH wished only for the subject to be left open, that the apportionment might have been left to the President. [He read the form of an amendment which he would have proposed.] He did not at present contemplate an invasion, though it might be necessary to adopt this cautionary measure. He withdrew his amendment.

The question was about to be put on the resolution; when

Mr. VARNUM said he did not see any occasion for this resolution. He did not think they had any reason to suppose an invasion probable; but if it should take place, there was sufficient power in the Executive of the different Governments to call out the militia. He did not know how the militia was regulated in other States, but in the Eastern States, he knew it was always in readiness, and that 20,000 men could be landed in a few days, at any point, from Portsmouth to Rhode Island. This being the case, he did not think it necessary to make any detachment from them. It was true, an invasion might take place from France, but he thought it was equally probable it might come from England; though he believed it was equally probable it might be from Nooka Sound.

It was said that this regulation would be no expense to the United States: it might be no expense to the Government, but it will be a serious expense to the people. He thought the situation of the United States very different now from what it was in 1794. The British were at that time, not only taking our property at sea, but they had large provinces adjoining upon the United States, and could have brought large bodies of troops against us. It also appeared that they had hostile intentions against us; it appeared from the Proclamation of the Governor of Canada, that Great Britain meant

to declare war; that the Indians were prepared to make attacks on our frontiers; and fortifications were erecting within our territory. In this case it became prudent to have a detachment of militia in perfect readiness. But said Mr. V. the situation of the United States is now very different.—The nation with whom we have now a misunderstanding, had no possessions adjoining upon us, and there was not much probability of troops being sent against us from France. He did not wish, therefore, to go into the present measure. It might be well to call upon the Secretary at War to know the condition in which the militia was in the different parts of the Union; but he did not think more was necessary.

Mr. BLOUNT agreed with gentlemen in opinion, that they had no reason to expect any invasion. But it was well known the President of the United States, in his speech had spoken of raising a provisional army; but if he had not done this, he thought the measure now before them was at all times proper. The expense would depend upon the time at which the regulation was carried into effect. If the States did not call extraordinary levies, no expense would be incurred. He believed he would at all times to have a military force standing in readiness, which would at any time convince the world that we were not a divided people. The best defence, he said, was to be always prepared to meet the attacks of an enemy. When the measure was formerly gone into, he had as little apprehension of an invasion as at present; and if we had no misunderstanding with any nation, he should be in favour of it.

Mr. THATCHER believed it was true (as his colleague had stated) that the Massachusetts militia could at any time be called out at a moment's warning; but if the Militia in the Southern States were not in this readiness, he thought it would be well that they should be put into such a state.

Mr. J. WILLIAMS thought it would be proper to have a select corps of militia in readiness; but he denied that this could be done without expense. The expense of the corps which he commanded, when called out in 1794, was very considerable. If the gentleman from Massachusetts thought there was no immediate necessity for the measure, he might move to have the power of making the call whenever the President should see it necessary.

The question was put on the resolution and carried.

The resolution reported by the committee of the whole, proposing to authorize the President to provide galleys or other vessels for the defence of our coast, was next taken up.

Mr. GILES wished to have it clearly ascertained what was to be the employment of these vessels. As a coast, he said was an indefinite phrase and liable to be misunderstood. He was decidedly against their being employed as a convoy. In order to make the meaning clear, he moved to strike out the words "for defending our sea coast," to be employed within the jurisdiction of the United States.

Mr. RUTLEDGE supposed, if the resolution stood as it was reported, the vessels would be employed within the jurisdiction of the United States; but he thought it would be absurd to say, these vessels should on no account pass the limits of the jurisdiction.—The pirates would know this, and our vessels might have the mortification of seeing our merchant ships taken or plundered, without having the power of affording them relief. Or, if one of these pirates were to come within the line, and be pursued by one of these vessels, though he might be on the point of taking her, yet she must venture across the line. He did not wish these vessels to be employed as convoys; but he thought their destination might be safely left to the executive; and had no objection of doing the business by law.

Mr. BROOKS said, it appeared to him, that this principle had been decided yesterday, and did not require further discussion.

Mr. NICHOLAS supposed it was not from an apprehension that the executive would not do his duty, that it was wished this business should be put into a definitive form. No one, he believed, would put the same construction upon the amendment that the gentleman from S. Carolina had done. It could not be supposed to be the intention of the supporters of this amendment, that these vessels should be prevented from crossing the line in pursuit of a pickeroon which had come within the jurisdiction of the United States. Indeed the gentleman himself had concluded, that such an idea would be absurd. To do away all objection, he proposed to insert the words, "for the defence of the sea coast within the jurisdiction of the United States," instead of Mr. Giles's amendment.

Mr. GILES thought the phrase "sea coast" indefinite. It might be supposed, perhaps, to extend to Bermuda.

Mr. W. SMITH said the gentleman last up had supposed the sea coast might extend to Bermuda, yet our vessels were not to go beyond the jurisdiction of the United States, for the defence of the coast. This, he said, involved a contradiction.

He wished the gentleman to define what he meant by jurisdiction of the United States; he believed it was not decided whether it extended three or nine miles. If it were even nine miles, he said, these vessels might sometimes be obliged to go beyond the line merely for the purpose of avoiding shoals. Why, then, confine them so very tightly, when the purpose was expressly for the defence of the coast, it could not be expected they would be employed in any other way; to employ them as convoys would be unlawful.

Mr. SEWELL proposed the following:—"To defend the sea coast of the United States, and to repel any hostility to their vessels and commerce within their jurisdiction."

Mr. R. WILLIAMS thought this amendment more objectionable than any other which had been proposed. The jurisdiction not being ascertained, disputes would of course be the consequence. He thought the resolution better without any of its amendments. He was disposed to defend our commerce wherever attacked; but, if we had not the means to do this, he would not do any thing which would seem to infer that we had not the will to do it, by confining our defence of it without our own territory.

Mr. NICHOLAS was in favor of the amendment.

Mr. ALLEN thought the whole of the business trifling, and wished to postpone the business, until the bill came down from the Senate; or, if they did pass the resolution, they ought not to confine it within such narrow bounds. After alluding to the various amendments which had been proposed and opposed, which he called "catbats and paralogisms," he moved to postpone the subject till Monday.

Mr. S. SMITH agreed with the gentleman from Connecticut that the present was a trifling business, and he would agree to extend his motion till next session. It was a trifling business. It was the British navy, he said, which kept possession of our coast, and what else he believed, would these small vessels have upon them? Some of our destroyers had lately gone on board one of the British ships of

war at Norfolk, and when they were demanded back, they were refused; and suppose, said he, one of these vessels had been there to have enforced the demand, could any one suppose, it would have produced any thing more than insult upon insult? They could not? He wished to leave these trifling subjects for the Senate, and to go on to substantial business; he meant the business of the country.

Mr. BROOKS was in favor of coming to a decision at present, since the business had been fully discussed.

Mr. ALLEN wished it postponed till Monday; by that time, he thought, the House would have come to its senses.

Mr. GILES also thought the business trifling, and proposed to postpone it till the first Monday in November next.

Mr. HANPER said, if he was of opinion with the gentleman from Connecticut, that the House would have more understanding on Monday than at present, he would agree to postpone the question till that time; but he believed gentlemen must receive some lessons of experience before they could be convinced of their error. The arguments of the gentleman from Maryland went to this; if we cannot resist a British 74, we will not resist a French privateer. But Mr. H. trusted they should not be diverted by a jess from doing what he believed good sense and good policy require them to do.

Mr. S. SMITH said he did not mean to make a jest of the business; but merely to express his desire to go on to more important business.

Mr. THATCHER asked, if this business was postponed, whether when the bill came from the Senate, they could not proceed with it?

The SPEAKER answering in the affirmative, Mr. Giles recalled his motion.

Mr. SEWELL said the bill in the Senate had not the same object in view with this measure. It was their intention to provide vessels as a convoy.

Mr. GILES believed it was not very orderly to refer to business doing in the Senate. He believed that bill was recommitted.

The question for postponing the business till Monday was put and negatived; Mr. Sewall's amendment was then put and carried without a division.

The question was then taken on the resolution as amended, by yeas and nays, as follows:

YEAS.
Messrs. Allen, Baer, Baldwin, Bayard, Bradbury, Brookes, Bullock, Cabell, Champlin, Clay, Clopton, Cochran, Craik, Dana, Davenport, Dennis, Dent, Ege, Elmendorf, Evans, Findley, A. Foster, D. Foster, Fowler, J. Freeman, Gallatin, Gillespie, Glenn, Goodrich, Gordon, Hanna, Harper, Harrison, Hindman, Holmes, Homer, Inlay, Livingston, S. Lyman, Machir, Mathews, McClenachan, Milledge, Morgan, Nicholas, Parker, Potter, Reed, Rutledge, Sewall, Shepard, Skinner, Sinton, J. Smith, N. Smith, S. Smith, W. Smith, (C.) W. Smith, (P.) Stanford, Swanwick, Thatcher, Thomas, Thompson, Van Allen, Van Cortlandt, Wadsworth, J. Williams, R. Williams.—68.

NAYS.
Messrs. Blount, Brent, Bryan, Chapman, Clairborn, Coit, Dawson, N. Freeman, Giles, Gregg, Grifwood, Havens, Jones, Locke, Lyon, Macon, McDowell, New, Sprigg, Varnum, Venable.—21

Committees were appointed to report bills in pursuance to the two resolutions which had been agreed to.

Mr. VARNUM said there was a subject of importance referred to in the President's speech, which had not yet been touched upon, he meant the revision of the militia laws. In order to bring the business before the House, he moved a resolution for the appointment of a committee to report whether any and what alterations in them were necessary. Agreed to, and a committee appointed.

Mr. W. SMITH called for the order of the day on the bill from the Senate for raising an additional corps of artillery and engineers.

Mr. BLOUNT asked whether it was necessary, when they were going into these expenses, to go into an enquiry on the subject of ways and means. He moved that a Committee of Ways and Means be appointed.

Mr. W. SMITH thought it better to proceed with the business in the way he proposed. Before they went into the subject of ways and means, he thought it was necessary they should know what money would be wanted, that they might provide accordingly; and they could not know this, until they had gone through the several measures which lay before them.

Mr. NICHOLAS said if it was necessary to have additional revenue, it would be well to appoint a Committee to be calling about as to the proper way of raising it. If the money were to be borrowed, they might be enquiring upon what terms it could be got.—If they did not do this, when all the other business was done, they would have to wait until these enquiries were made.

Mr. GILES thought the bill for raising additional troops might be very well put off till next session. He did not believe there was any necessity at present for an increase of the military establishment. He thought this was the proper time for taking up the subject of the revenue, since they must either borrow, or raise money by taxes, and he trusted a Committee would now be appointed.

Mr. W. SMITH withdrew his motion, to give way to the appointment of a Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. BLOUNT said money would certainly be wanted. It was presumed it might be borrowed; but no enquiry had been made on the subject. He was of opinion that the difficulties which would present themselves on this subject, would throw out of view a number of measures which he thought might very well be dispensed with.

Mr. J. WILLIAMS thought if they appointed a Committee of Ways and Means, and were to go into the Militia Laws, they

might fit all summer. He hoped they should have gone on with the bill for raising troops, and if they had rejected that, and declined furnishing convoys, and the measure of purchasing vessels for the defence of the coast, was left to the discretion of the President, that a Committee of Ways and Means would not have been necessary.

A Committee of Ways and Means, consisting of seven members (after 15 and 13 had been proposed and negatived) was appointed. Adjourned.

By this day's Mail.

BOSTON, June 8

Late Important Intelligence!

Yesterday afternoon, arrived here the ship TELEMACHUS, Capt. PRENTIS, in thirty days from Liverpool, by whom we have received London papers to May 4th—which contain Paris news to April 28th—much later than before received.—These papers abound with events of the greatest magnitude.

The articles most interesting to Americans contain well corroborated accounts, that preliminaries of peace had been signed between the Emperor and French Republic; having been concluded by the Archduke Charles, and Gen. Buonaparte. The events which led to this measure were an unexampled series of victories by the French army of Italy over the Austrians, in which the latter lost between 15 and 20,000 men in killed and wounded, and prisoners; great quantities of ammunition, military stores, provisions, &c. and two millions worth of Quicksilver from the mines of Idria. Our corroborating intelligence are:—First, Mr. Fox, in the British House of Commons the 3d of May, announced the event, and Mr. Pitt did not contradict it.—Second, the French Executive Directory, on the 26th April, in a message to the Council of Five Hundred, says a dispatch from General Moreau is terminated by the following postscript:—"A Courier which I received this moment from Gen. Buonaparte, announces me the signing of the Preliminaries of Peace with the Emperor." This message created the liveliest emotions of joy as the harbinger of a speedy peace. Third, The Directory in another message on the same day, to the Council of Five Hundred, respecting the French Colonies, says, "The Constitution ought not to be put in activity until after the Peace; but every thing announces that this peace will be concluded in less than a month."

It may be necessary here to state, that the reason why the Directory did not receive a Courier from Buonaparte, announcing the above event, as early as General Moreau, was, that General Buonaparte in order to stop the useless effusion of blood, directed the Courier he sent with the intelligence to proceed to Moreau's and Hoche's armies on the Rhine before he went to Paris.

Fourth, Gen. Vernier, Governor of Strasbourg, announced by the sound of trumpet, on the 24th April, a letter from general Regno, to Gen. Vandamme, as follows:—"I have the pleasure to inform you, General, that the preliminaries of a peace have just been signed by the army of Italy; and an armistice has just been proclaimed between the Austrian army and that of the Rhine and Moselle; and in consequence you will cease all hostilities, and the advanced posts will remain in the same position."

This event caused unusual demonstrations of joy at Strasbourg, which was brilliantly illuminated. At Paris numerous discharges of artillery announced the peace—business was suspended—and the streets and gardens resounded with the shouts of *vive la Paix! vive la Republique!* Fifth, General Leclerc, arrived at Paris, from the army, left the two generals settling the preliminary terms of peace. Gen. B. required, that the formal acknowledgment of the French Republic, by the Emperor, should be expunged from the treaty, as the Republic stood not in need of it, for its existence.—A number of less prominent occurrences, convince us, that Peace now exists between the French Republic and the Emperor of Germany.

It will be asked, does the peace include Great-Britain? We can give no decisive answer on that head.—A Paris paper of April 26, says, "The Directory also seeks on a peace with England:—And on the 2d of May, the British Parliament voted 1,880,000. loan to the emperor; likewise provision for guaranteeing 3,500,000. to be raised on account of the emperor. This was on the day the news arrived of the emperor's having made peace; the officiality of which Mr. P. seemed unsatisfied with; but told the house, if it was necessary to stop the loan, it could be done in any stage of the bill.

The conditions of the peace are variously stated.—Some say that "Austria consents to the boundaries of the Rhine and the Alps, and the liberty of Lombardy and Mantua." Others state, the conditions to be, "1st, the independence of Italy. 2d, the cession of part of Upper Austria to the prince of Orange. 3, the expenses of the war to be paid by the emperor. 4, The terms are only editorial conjectures.

The French armies of the Upper and Lower Rhine, both passed that river about the 19th April. General Moreau attacked and carried at noon day the strong post of Kehl, and before 7 o'clock planted the tri-colored flag on the battlements of that very Kehl which they had defended for 52 days, against prince Charles and all the vigour of his veteran army. General Hoche established his position on the right side of the Rhine, after a pitched battle, and three actions, in which he took 7000 prisoners, 27 cannon, 7 standards, and 60 waggons.

A SERIOUS MUTINY
Broke out in the whole British channel fleet the 15th April. On that day, Adm. Bridport ordered the fleet to prepare for sea, instead of weighing anchor, the crew of the

Queen Charlotte, gave 3 cheers, as the signal of disaffection—as the plan had been premeditated, the rest of the crews followed: the officers thunderstruck; could do nothing. They were soon confined, and ropes hung from the fore-yard arm in testimony to the unpopular of the fleet.—Deputies from each ship repaired on board the Queen Charlotte, a first rate; and the mutiny, in consequence of an intemperate procedure of admiral GARDNER, assumed the most alarming aspect.—The demands of the seamen were an advance of pay to 30s. per month; a due allowance of provisions; a more equal distribution of prize-money; and the displacement of several obnoxious officers. These demands created the most alarming apprehension in the British ministry; but they were complied with in their fullest extent. Admiral Bridport communicated to the crews the concession of the government, and a pardon from the king; on which they all returned to their duty. The contagion spread thro' every port in England; but at the sailing of the Telemachus order had been restored.

A new loan for 18,000,000. was carried in the House of Commons, May 2, 1803 again 50.

No intelligence had been received from Mr. HAMMOND, who had been sent to Vienna on a pacific embassy.

Twenty-one counties, cities, and towns have petitioned for peace and the dismissal of PITT. Other counties, &c. were assembling.

Three per cent. consol. May 4, 48 1/2.

The official detail of the above spreads over many columns; which had we time or room, we should copy.

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,

MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 11, 1797.

An error, in the omission of several sentences, inadvertently took place in Mr. HARRIS's speech, published on Saturday.—A correction will be inserted to-morrow.

For the remainder of Mr. Dennis's speech, &c. see fourth page.

GAZETTE MARINE LIST.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

ARRIVED.	DAYS.
Brig Nancy, Buck,	Bordeaux 63
Sehr. Hopewell, Clark,	Cape Francois 29
Dove, Mays,	Charleston 7
John, Wafs,	Boston 3
Crisis, Brown,	N. Carolina 8
Virg. and Phil. Packet,	Portsmouth 3

CLEARED.

brig Newton, Dacolla, St. Croix

Harmony, Morris, Wilmington, D

NEW-YORK, June 10.

Capt. Pratt, from Carthage, informs that a Spanish frigate, with the vice-king on board, and about 9 millions of dollars, sailed from Carthage while he lay there, and arrived safe at the Havana the 12th of February, and sailed from thence for Cadix the 20th April.

He further informs, that while there, 8 vessels, 1 ship, 6 brigs, and a sloop, sailed from Carthage for the Havana, under convoy of a schooner of 14 guns—that about the 27th of April, 3 had arrived at the Havana, and 2 missing. They were laden with sugar, coffee, cocoa, and indigo, valued at 3 millions.

Left at Carthage schooner Lucy, Bostwick, of Norfolk, to sail for New-York.

June 6, in lat. 37, 23, long. 73, 49, spoke the schooner Triton, of 14 guns, Howard, 24 hours from Philadelphia, to St. Thomas, all well.

LAILSON'S CIRCUS,

South Fifth-Street.

NEXT Tuesday, 13th June, after various equestrian Exercises, will be presented (for the second time) the grand, serious, historical and heroic Pantomime *PIERRE DE PRUVENCE*, and *HANDSOME MACQUELON*.—With Military Evolutions, Battles, Tournaments, and three Scenes painted by M. Peronny. (The particulars will be given in the bills of the day.)

For Sale,

The fine and remarkably fast sailing Schooner

Virginia and Philadelphia

Packets,

burthen about 100 tons. For terms apply to

Rofs & Simfon.

June 12.

The sale of 40931 1-2 acres of Land on the waters of Wheeling and Fishing Creeks, in Washington county, advertised for 15th inst. is postponed to a future day, of which due notice will be given, if a private sale does not take place.

St. Ubes Salt.

3000 bushels St. Ubes SALT, for sale by

Philips, Cramond, & Co.

June 12.

For Sale, a new three story Brick House.

AT the Merchants Coffee House, on Friday next, the 16th inst. at half past 8 o'clock in the evening, will be sold by Public Vendue, a genteel three story brick House; it is pleasantly situated on the South side of Arch Street, the fourth house above Fourth Street.

It may be viewed any time before the sale.

Terms are, one fourth in approved notes of 60 days, and the residue if required may remain seven years, on security and interest annually.

Sold clear of all incumbrances, and immediate possession may be given.

Further particulars will be made known at the time of sale, by

Richard Footman & Co. Auctioneers.

For Sale,

THE unexpired time of a likely Negro Girl, about 10 years old, who has upwards of 11 years to serve.—She is of a good temper, and very smart, active and useful in a family. Apply at No. 143 South front, or 35 Union Street. June 10 — 215 & 21