

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA.

THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 23.

C O N G R E S S.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22.

Mr. LYMAN presented a memorial from David Ames and Robert Orr, of the Springfield Manufactory of Arms, praying for an allowance of rations—Referred to the Secretary at War.

Mr. REED presented a petition from Jabez Hill, for relief on account of a certificate which had been destroyed by fire.

Mr. ELMENDORPH also presented petitions from Jacob Hofbrook and George Frott; the former to have certificates funded which had not been presented in time, and the latter for a new land warrant for one which he had lost.

The above petitions were referred to the committee of claims; as was also that of Frederick Cyrus, presented yesterday.

Mr. FINDLEY presented the memorial of Benjamin Wills, collector of revenue, who states, that in the years 1791, 1792, 1793 and 1794, and particularly in the last year, he had been greatly obstructed in the performance of his duty by persons opposed to the laws which he had to execute, by which he had experienced considerable loss and injury.

He acknowledges having received from the commissioners, in pursuance of the act passed on this subject, upwards of 800 dollars, but this sum being inadequate to his compensation, he prays for further relief.

Mr. FINDLEY moved that this memorial, being a singular case, and the petitioner being in town waiting the issue of his application, should be referred to a select committee.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Hartley, and opposed by Messrs. Coit and Macon, who were of opinion that the business would come properly under the cognizance of the committee of claims, and that it was desirable, in order to preserve an uniformity in their proceedings, to have this and all other claims referred to the standing committee.

Mr. Macon therefore moved that this petition should be referred to the committee of claims; but, at the request of Mr. Hartley both motions were withdrawn, and the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. FINDLEY gave notice he should call it up to-morrow. A message was received from the Senate, informing the house, that the Senate had formed a quorum, and that they had elected Mr. Read president pro tem.

Mr. WILLIAMS moved that a committee be appointed jointly with one to be appointed by the Senate, to wait upon the President of the United States, to inform him that quorums of both houses are assembled, and are ready to receive any communications which he may think proper to make to them.

The motion was agreed to, and Messrs. Otis, Rutledge and Dawson were appointed a committee for the purpose.

Mr. RUTLEDGE presented a memorial from the merchants of Charleston, complaining of the operation of a law for the regulation of the custom-house at that place, by which the collector is to cause to be weighed by his own officers, all goods and wares imported, which were heretofore weighed by the proprietors of the wharves, who kept persons for the purpose, and which added considerably to the value of the private property of individuals owning the said wharves; they state this grievance to have put them to great inconvenience, and pray for redress—Referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. COIT observed that there were in his opinion, some inconsistencies in the act for the encouragement and protection of the useful arts. By this act, any person swearing that he is the inventor of any improvement, and paying the expense of the patent, may obtain one; and if any person infringes it, he has his remedy by suing him.

The general scope of the act did not go to define who was the real inventor; this was left to be determined. In the former act on this subject, certain of the heads of the departments were to determine whether any object proposed for a patent was really a new invention. In looking farther into the act he found two clauses which he thought inconsistent with the general tenor of the law [these he read] and therefore moved that a committee be appointed to enquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary to be made in the said act.

Agreed and a committee of three members appointed.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the house that they concurred with them in the appointment of a committee to wait upon the President, and that they had appointed Messrs. Bingham and Tracy, a committee on their part.

On motion of Mr. Harper, the report of the committee of revival and unfinished business was taken up, and the following resolution having been read, was agreed to.

"That all petitions depending and undecided upon at the second session of the fourth Congress, and at the last session, ought to be taken up and acted upon by the House, as the same may be called for by any member, or upon application of the individual claimant or petitioner."

Mr. HARPER then observed that amongst the unfinished business, there was a report on the petition of Henry Hill, which was favorable to the petitioner. He wished, as the business had already been long before the house, to have it early decided upon, and would move therefore that it be referred to a committee of the whole house. Agreed, and made the order for Monday.

A message was received from the senate, informing the house, that they had agreed to a resolution for the appointment of two chaplains, one for each house, to interchange weekly and that they had appointed on their part Bishop White.

Mr. LIVINGSTON said, amongst the unfinished business, he found a bill for the relief of refugees from Canada and Nova Scotia. He wished it to be referred to a committee of the whole. Agreed and made the order for Monday.

Mr. HARPER observed, that towards the close of the last session, a very distressing case was brought before the house, and postponed for want of time; he meant that of Antonia Carmichael, widow of William Carmichael. He moved that that report be referred to a committee of the whole. Agreed for Tuesday.

Mr. OTIS, from the committee appointed to wait on the President of the United States, reported that they had attended to the service, and that the President had signified to them that he would make a communication to them to-morrow at twelve o'clock in the representative chamber.

Mr. LIVINGSTON said, there was a report of a select committee on the operation of the act for the relief and protection of American seamen, which included the subject of an establishment of a marine hospital, and other important matters. He wished this subject referred to a committee of the whole. Agreed for Tuesday.

Mr. A. FOSTER moved that a report of last session on the petition of George Curwen Ward, be referred to the committee of commerce and manufactures. Agreed.

On motion of Mr. Coit, the report on the case of North and Beazy, was referred to a committee of the whole for Tuesday.

Mr. VENABLE thought it not right that business which was perfectly new to many members, should be thus referred to committees of the whole. He did not think the resolution of the committee of revival and unfinished business went so far. He thought it meant only that the petitions and reports should be taken up and read, and then disposed of as the house should think proper.

The speaker decided that the order taken was agreeable to the reported resolution of the committee of revival and unfinished business, which had been agreed to.

Adjourned.

The members attending to day for the first time were; in the house of representatives, Messrs. Sitgreaves and Bard. from this state; in the senate, Messrs. Jackson and Anderson, from Tennessee, and Mr. Chipman, from Vermont.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

THIS DAY, At Twelve o'Clock, the PRESIDENT of the United States, met both Houses of Congress, in the Chamber of the Representatives, where he addressed them in the following SPEECH.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

I was for some time apprehensive, that it would be necessary, on account of the contagious sickness, which afflicted the city of Philadelphia, to convene the National Legislature at some other place; this measure it was desirable to avoid, because it would occasion much public inconvenience, and a considerable public expense, and add to the calamities of the inhabitants of this city, whose sufferings must have excited the sympathy of all their fellow citizens; therefore, after taking measures to ascertain the state and decline of the sickness, I postponed my determination, having hopes, now happily realized, that without hazard to the lives or health of the members, Congress might assemble at this place, where it was next by law to meet.

I submit however to your consideration, whether a power to postpone the meeting of Congress, without passing the time fixed by the Constitution, upon such occasions, would not be a useful amendment to the law of one thousand seven hundred and ninety four.

Although I cannot congratulate you on the re-establishment of peace in Europe, and the restoration of security to the persons, and properties of our citizens from injustice and violence at sea; we have nevertheless abundant cause of gratitude to the source of benevolence and influence, for interior tranquility and personal security, for propitious seasons, prosperous agriculture, productive fisheries, and general improvements; and above all, for a rational spirit of civil and religious liberty, and a calm but steady determination to support our sovereignty, as well as our moral and religious principles against all open and secret attacks.

Our envoys extraordinary to the French republic embarked one in July, the other early in August, to join their colleague in Holland. I have received intelligence of the arrival of both of them in Holland, from whence they all proceeded on their journey to Paris, about the 19th of September. Whatever may be the result of this mission, I trust that nothing will have been omitted on my part, to conduct the negotiation to a successful conclusion, on such equitable terms, as may be compatible with the safety, honor, and interest of the United States—Nothing in the meantime, will contribute so much to the preservation of peace, and the attainment of justice, as a manifestation of that energy, and unanimity of which on many former occasions, the people of the United States have given such memorable proofs, and the exertion of those resources for national defense, which a beneficent providence has kindly placed within their power.

It may be confidently asserted, that nothing has occurred, since the adjournment of Congress, which renders, inexpedient, those precautionary measures, recommended by me, to the consideration of the two houses, at the opening of your late extraordinary session.—If that system was then prudent, it is more so now, as increasing depredations strengthen the reasons for its adoption.

Indeed, whatever may be the issue of the negotiation with France, and whether the

war in Europe is, or is not to continue, I hold it most certain, that permanent tranquility and order will not soon be obtained; the state of society has so long been disturbed, the sense of moral and religious obligation so much weakened, public faith, and national honor have been so impaired, respect to treaties, has been so diminished, and the law of nations has lost so much of its force; while pride, ambition, avarice, and violence, have been so long unrestrained, there remains no reasonable ground, on which to raise an expectation, that a commerce without protection, or defense will not be plundered.

The commerce of the United States is essential, if not to their existence, at least to their comfort, their growth, prosperity and happiness.—The genius, character, and habits of the people are highly commercial, their cities have been formed, and exist upon commerce; our agriculture, fisheries, arts and manufactures, are connected with and depend upon it; in short, commerce has made this country what it is;—and it cannot be destroyed or neglected, without involving the people in poverty and distress;—great numbers are directly and solely supported by navigation; the faith of society is pledged for the preservation of the rights of commercial, and sea-faring; no less than of the other citizens; under this view of our affairs, I should hold myself guilty of a neglect of duty, if I forbore to recommend, that we should make every exertion to protect our commerce, and to place our country in a suitable posture of defense, as the only sure means of preserving both.

I have entertained an expectation, that it would have been in my power, at the opening of this session, to have communicated to you, the agreeable information of the due execution of our treaty with his Catholic Majesty, respecting the withdrawing of his troops from our territory, and the demarcation of the line of limits, but by the latest authentic intelligence, Spanish garrisons, were still continued within our country, and the running of the boundary line, had not been commenced, these circumstances are the more to be regretted, as they cannot fail to affect the Indians in a manner injurious to the United States, still however, indulging the hope, that the answers which have been given will remove the objections, offered by the Spanish officers to the immediate execution of the treaty, I have judged it proper that we should continue in readiness to receive the posts, and to run the line of limits—further information on this subject will be communicated in the course of the session.

In connection with this unpleasant state of things, on our western frontier, it is proper for me to mention, the attempts of foreign agents to alienate the affections of the Indian nations, and to excite them to actual hostilities against the United States; great activity has been exerted by those persons, who have insinuated themselves among the Indian tribes, residing within the territory of the United States, to influence them to transfer their affections and force to a foreign nation, to form them into a confederacy, and prepare them for war against the United States. Although measures have been taken to counteract these insinuations of our rights, to prevent Indian hostilities, and to preserve entire their attachment to the United States, it is my duty to observe that to give a better effect to these measures, and to obviate the consequences of a repetition of such practices a law providing adequate punishment for such offenses may be necessary.

The commissioners appointed under the fifth article of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation, between the United States and Great Britain, to ascertain the river, which was truly intended under the name of the river St. Croix mentioned in the treaty of peace, met at Passamaquoddy bay in October, one thousand seven hundred and ninety six, and viewed the mouths of the river in question, and the adjacent shores and Islands, and being of opinion, that actual surveys of both rivers to their sources were necessary, gave to the agents of the two nations instructions for that purpose, and adjourned to meet at Boston in August; they met, but the surveys requiring more time than had been supposed, and not being then completed, the commissioners again adjourned to meet at Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, in June next, when we may expect a final examination and decision.

The Commissioners appointed in pursuance of the sixth article of the Treaty, met at Philadelphia in May last, to examine the claims of British subjects, for debts contracted before the peace, and still remaining due to them from citizens, or inhabitants of the United States. Various causes have hitherto prevented any determination, but the business is now resumed, and doubts will be prosecuted without interruption.

Several decisions on the claims of citizens of the United States, for losses and damages sustained, by reason of irregular and illegal captures or condemnation of their vessels, or other property have been made by the commissioners in London, conformably to the seventh article of the Treaty.—The sums awarded by the British government, a considerable number of other claims, where costs and damages, and not captured property, were the only objects in question, have been decided by arbitration, and the sums awarded to the citizens of the United States have also been paid.

The commissioners appointed, agreeably to the twenty-first article of our Treaty with Spain met at Philadelphia, in the summer past, to examine and decide on the claims of our citizens for losses, they have fulfilled in consequence of their vessels and cargoes, having been taken by the subjects of his Catholic Majesty during the late war between Spain and France—their fittings have been interrupted, but are now resumed.

The United States being obligated to make compensation for the losses, and damages sustained by British subjects, by reason of the capture of their vessels, and merchandise, taken within the limits and jurisdiction of the United States, and brought into their ports, or taken by vessels originally armed in ports of the United States, upon the awards of the commissioners, acting under the seventh article of the same Treaty, it is necessary that provision be made for fulfilling these obligations.

The numerous captures of American vessels by the cruisers of the French Republic, and of some by those of Spain, have occasioned considerable expenses in making and supporting the claims of our citizens, before their tribunals—the sums required for this purpose have in divers instances, been disbursed by the Consuls of the United States; by means of the same captures, great numbers of our seamen, have been thrown ashore in foreign countries, destitute of all means of subsistence, and the sick in particular have been exposed to grievous sufferings—the Consuls have in these cases also advanced monies for their relief; for these advances, they reasonably expect reimbursements from the United States.

The consular act relative to seamen requires revision and amendment; the provision for their support in foreign countries, and for their return, are found to be inadequate and ineffectual. Another provision seems necessary to be added to the consular act; some foreign vessels have been discovered sailing under the flag of the United States, and with forged papers; it seldom happens that the Consuls can detect this deception, because they have no authority to demand an inspection of the registers and sea letters.

It is my duty to recommend to your serious consideration, those objects, which by the constitution, are placed particularly within your sphere, the national debts and taxes. Since the decay of the feudal system, by which the public defence was provided for, chiefly at the expense of individuals, the system of loans has been introduced; and as no nation can raise, within the year, by taxes, sufficient sums for its defence and military operations in time of war, the sums loaned, and debts contracted have necessarily become the subjects of what have been called funding systems; the consequences arising from the constant accumulation of public debts, in other countries, ought to admonish us, to be careful to prevent their growth in our own—the national defence must be provided for as well as the support of government, but both should be accomplished as much as possible by immediate taxes, and as little as possible by loans.

The estimates for the service of the ensuing year will by my direction be laid before you.

JOHN ADAMS.

United States, November 22, 1797.

SALT & WINE, AT AUCTION.

For sale at 11 o'clock, on Saturday morning next, on Martin's wharf, for approved indorced notes at 60 days, about 3,000 bushels Cadiz Salt, from on board the Polaris St. Domingo, in lots of 200 bushels; also, 24 cases of good Sherry Wine.

Footman & Co. Auctioneers.

Sale of an elegant Country Seat AT AUCTION.

On WEDNESDAY evening next, the 29th inst. at the Merchants' Coffee-house, WILL BE SOLD, AN ELEGANT COUNTRY SEAT, containing 6 acres and 40 perches, with a neat two story brick House and Kitchen thereon, an apple Orchard, &c. situated on the Irish road, in the township of Moyamensing, about one mile from the city of Philadelphia. Further particulars will be made known upon application at the office of the Philadelphia Gazette, or at the Auction Room of the subscriber.

The improvements upon this place, for sale and elegance, stand unrivalled.

John Connelly, Auctioneer.

NOW LANDING, At South-street Wharf, The Cargo of the Ship Concord, Captain Thomson, from Batavia. About 300 tons first quality Java Coffee (the whole having been selected) 80 tons Java Sugar, in candelers and bags 10 legures of old Arack Nutmegs, Mace and Cloves

FOR SALE BY PETER BLIGHT. Who also offers For Sale, Just landed from ship Anity, from Jamaica, 205 hhd's Jamaica Sugar, and 170 do. do. Rum.

november 23. d6w

All Persons who are indebted to the estate of WILLIAM HEYSRAM, sen. of Philadelphia, deceased, are requested to make speedy payment; and those who have any demands against said estate, will please to present them, properly ascertained, to the subscribers.

William Heysham, Robert Heysham, Francis Bepes Sayre, Executors.

MARINE LIST. PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

Ship John St. Paul, from Amsterdam to this port, was spoke Oct. 15, N 191, 31, 17, long. 53, 35, out 29 days.

Ship Dispatch, bound for this port, arrived at Philadelphia, from Baltimore, the 19th Sept. Schooner Virginia, C. King, has arrived at Norfolk, in 28 days. Salem, Mass. Nov. 8.

On Saturday arrived brig Leopard, capt. Putnam, from Isles of France and Bourbon, 110 days from the latter. He communicates the following articles: The Convention of the Isle of France have laid a duty of 6 per cent. on all importations, with a duty of half a dollar a ton on all foreign vessels which took place July 1.

The French examine all neutral vessels which call at the Isle of France with the greatest strictness. A ship under Swedish colours came into Port N. West from Bengal, in order to get some ballast, and a fresh supply of provisions and water; she was labelled tried and condemned, vessel and cargo. A Danish bark arrived July 10 from Copenhagen, which had called at the Cape of Good Hope the captain and officers were put on board the prison ship, and the vessel's hatchways sealed up.

July 26, there were at the Isle of France three frigate, two of which had lately arrived from a cruise, in which they had taken nothing. There were some prizes also, which had been more successful, having sent in several prizes. One prize ship arrived the day the Leopard sailed, and another was unfortunately expected. Sailed from the Isle of France.—June 27, Bark Sally, Webb, of Salem, for Bengal.—July 1, Ship Seafower, Colman, of Philadelphia, and Brig Hope, Well, of Salem, for Bengal.—July 3, ship Ascension, Chafe, of R. Island, for Africa.—July 5, ship Nancy, Butler of New-York, for Batavia.—July 24, ship John and Richard, Newland of Philadelphia for Europe.

Arrived.—July 13, Capt. Cartwright, in a ship from Nantucket, after a long passage of 9 or 10 months.

New Bedford, Nov. 8. Arrived, ship Columbia, Clafly from a whale voyage; 400 bls. whale and 500 sper.—Capt. Clafly has handed up the following list of vessels left—

In Delagoa-Bay, September 21. Table with 4 columns: Name, Date, etc. Sarah, Handy, New-Bedford, 1000, 500. Commerce, Toby, do. 1000, 500. Rebecca, Gardner, do. 500, 400. Fox, Whippy, do. 650, 350. V. Swain, Nantucket 730, 270. Edward, Coffin, do. 850, 250.

In Wolwich-Bay, September 1st. Belonging to Nantucket.—Capt. G. Pollard 1700 bls.—D. Barard, 1300—V. Swain, 1300 A. Barard, 1200—J. Allen, 1200—Zenias Coffin, 1100—M. McKenzie, 500—R. Long, 350.—In Tiger-Island-Bay, captain Zabdiel Coffin, 500 bls.

Lat. 37, 30, long. 54, 30 spoke schooner Hannah, Hall, 28 days from Middleton (Con) bound to Guadaloupe, had lost 10 head of cattle, been calm 15 days, had 6 hhd's water, and 7 bundles of hay.

October 7th. Arrived at Nantucket, schooner—of this port, Gardner, from a Bohemia whale voyage, 35 bls, 14 days past killed a 100 bbl. whale, which he secured for 48 hours, when both cables parted.

Boston, November 15. This day arrived, ship Merchant, Bates, 42 days from London, 56 from lands end. Long. 11, lat. 50, was boarded by a French privateer of 42 guns, papers and role d'equipage examined, treated politely and dismissed—same privateer had boarded the brig Lucy of Orrington, from Bristol bound to Boston, was dismissed after putting on board 6 English prisoners. Oct. 13, lat. 48, 35, long. 16, 26, spoke brig Nancy, Grant, 10 days from Bristol for Boston. Oct. 11, lat. 48, long. 20, spoke l. Mary, Dawson, from Hamburg bound to Philadelphia who had spoke the sloop Catherine, Cocks, 26 days from Marblehead for Hamburg. Spoke on the Grand Banks, brig George, from Liverpool.

Cabin Passengers—Miss Smith, Messrs. John Avery, David Hinkley, and Peter Richardson, of Boston—capt. Robertson, of Portland and John Spencer of New-York. Steerage Passengers—Mrs. Stoaks and four children; Mr. Carr, wife and two children; Mr. Martin and Mr. Pitts. Brig Success, Gridler, Hamburg, 56 days.

Brig Brothers, Collins, Bourdeaux, 40 days, with several French passengers. Schr. Nancy, Haskill, Malaga, 43 days.—Sailed day before the Atalanta.

A sloop from Halifax; 6 days passage arrived last evening. Also, a sloop from Amsterdam, 76 days passage; a brig, captain Smith, from Liverpool, 39 days, and two other brigs from Lisbon and Bourdeaux—names not ascertained.

BALTIMORE, November 21. Yesterday arrived ship Adelaide, captain Mann, from Rotterdam, which she left the 28th of September. By the Adelaide we have received a number of late papers, from which we promise ourselves the pleasure of laying something new before our readers, as soon as translations can be made.

Mr. Pinckney and Mr. Marshall, sat out from Rotterdam for Paris, on the 19th September. The same day Mr. Gerry arrived at Rotterdam, and a few days after left that place for Paris. A Paris article of the 28th September, announces the arrival there of the three American Commissioners.

NOTICE.

To holders of JAMES GREENLEAF, and EDWARD FOX'S Engagements. In consequence of many having been prevented, from late unavoidable circumstances from obtaining their Certificates, agreeable to former notice. The Trustees now inform them, they are ready to issue the same to those who may apply within sixty days, at No. 8 Chestnut Street, and those who do not, will be considered as relinquishing their claim on the Aggregate Fund provided for their payment.

HENRY PORTER, THOMAS W. FRANCIS, JOHN MILLER, JUN., JOHN ASHLEY, JACOB BAKER. November 23. tuth&fcm.