

Mr. SHERMAN supposed there would be an impropriety in appointing a committee, unless the House should first rescind their former vote—he thought that to make the journals appear contentious, this was a previous question.

Mr. JACKSON observed, that although he was as much opposed to titles and distinctions as any gentleman whatever; he thought however, that there was a propriety in appointing a committee of conference, that the result being known, might prevent the publication of ridiculous and absurd contradictions and titles in the news-papers, which had a tendency to bring the government into contempt.

Mr. MADISON thought that Mr. SHERMAN's ideas were not just: he supposed that a committee might be appointed with as much propriety in the present case as in any other, and assigned a variety of reasons to prove that the subject was open to discussion, and that every dictate of policy and sound judgment, pointed out the expediency of paying all possible respect and attention to the communications of the Senate.

Mr. SENY expressed his mind fully in opposition to a committee, as he considered the measure fruitless, and occasioned a loss of time—wished that Mr. PARKER'S motion might be adopted, and an end put to the business.

Mr. CLYMER was opposed to the conferring of titles, observed, that the most impotent nations assumed the most pompous addresses—that they were not indicative of power and influence was evident from facts, for when the Kings of England, had only the title of HIGHNESS, their prerogative was much greater than it had been since under that of Most Sacred Majesty.—He differed however, from gentlemen, who supposed that the people were averse from distinctions. It was evident he said from a variety of facts, that they had a powerful predilection for them, and this propensity he thought should be counteracted and checked.

Mr. PAGE observed, that titles naturally led to honors and distinctions not founded always on merit, till in time the Supreme Executive comes to be considered as the fountain of honor. Inducing a train of consequences derogatory to the dignity of a freeman.

Mr. LEE moved that the previous question should be taken in words to the following effect: Whether the House would now proceed to consider the subject of the message from the Senate,—this passed in the affirmative.

A variety of motions were then introduced—and the one from Mr. TRUMBULL, was adopted to the following effect. That a committee be appointed to confer with the committee of the Senate, upon the difference which appears in the votes of the two Houses, upon the evidence in report of the joint committee, upon the question respecting titles the vote of the Senate; appointing a committee to take up the same subject upon quite opposite principles.

This motion being adopted, Mr. MADISON, Mr. TRUMBULL, Mr. PAGE, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. BENSON, were appointed.

A message from the Senate was then read, informing the House, that they had appointed a committee consisting of Mr. FEW, Mr. MACKLAY, and Mr. STRONG, to join with a committee of the House, for the purpose of viewing the apartments in the city-hall, and to determine how they should be appropriated—Mr. SCOTT, Mr. WHITE, and Mr. STURGIS, were appointed.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, when the impost bill was taken up.—Mr. GERRY proposed, that six cents on molasses should be struck out, and two inserted—This produced a debate, in which Mr. AMES, and Mr. MADISON, were the principal speakers, but the House adjourned without coming to a vote upon the proposition.

TUESDAY, MAY 19.

A petition from J. DIDIAH MORSE, author of the American Geography, praying the interposition of government to secure to him his property in that publication; also, that the law may extend to the prevention of curtailing, epitomizing, or altering that work, or the maps that it contains, to the injury of the author and compiler.

A petition from some of the inhabitants of New-Jersey, in opposition to a former petition upon the subject of the election of that State's national Representatives, was read.

Committee of elections reported a number of papers (titles and references to which were read) as admissible evidence in the cause of the Hon. WILLIAM SMITH, member from South Carolina.

The House then took up the Order of the Day, and proceeded to the choice of a Serjeant at Arms. The petitions and accompanying certificates from the several candidates were then read—and the ballots being collected, it was found that Mr. WHEATON, was chosen.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with a committee of the Senate, respecting the disposal of the public papers in the office of the late Continental Secretary was read, by which it appeared, that those papers were removed from the late office, and were now deposited in a room in the City Hall: The committee also reported, that Congress would probably think proper, from

the nature and importance of those papers, to make some arrangement respecting them, accepted.

In Committee of the whole.

The Impost Bill was taken up, and the debate upon the duty of 6 cents on molasses was resumed.

Speeches upon this occasion, were similar to those which had been made upon the previous discussion of the subject: Many of the former ideas in favour of a reduction of the duty, were amplified, and the substitution of an Excise on Rum and other spirits distilled in the country, was contended for—on the side of the question the speakers were Mr. AMES, Mr. GERRY and Mr. GOODHUE—their observations were closed by a proposition, to strike out six cents and leave a blank for the sum to be annexed—The speakers on the other side were Mr. MADISON, Mr. FITZSIMONS and Mr. SHERMAN—This part of the question had equal justice done to it, and the vote on the above proposition being taken, it passed in the affirmative.

It was then moved that the blank should be filled with five cents, this after some further debate passed in the affirmative, by a vote of 25 to 23.

A message from the Senate, was at this stage of the business announced, when the committee rose—The purport of this message was, that the Senate concurred with the House in the appointment of a committee, to confer with the committee of the Senate upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the report of the joint committee, upon the subject of titles proper to be annexed to the President and Vice-President—The Speaker having again left the chair.—The House in committee of the whole continued the consideration of the impost bill, when the several articles from molasses to tea inclusive, were read and accepted in committee in the bill.—Hyson tea was substituted in lieu of “superior green tea.” Adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, MAY 8.

*Extract of a letter from New-York, May 3.*

“ I was extremely anxious to arrive here, in order to be present at the meeting of the President and the two Houses. That event, however, did not take place till Thursday last, when THE PRESIDENT was qualified in the open gallery of the Congress House, in the sight of many thousand people. The scene was solemn and awful, beyond description. It would seem extraordinary, that the administration of an oath, a ceremony so very common and familiar, should, in so great a degree, excite the public curiosity. But the circumstances of his election—the impression of his past services—the concourse of spectators—the devout fervency with which he repeated the oath—and the reverential manner in which he bowed down and kissed the sacred volume—all these conspired to render it one of the most august and interesting spectacle ever exhibited on this globe. It seemed, from the number of witnesses, to be a solemn appeal to Heaven and earth at once. Upon the subject of this great and good Man, I may, perhaps, be an enthusiast; but I confess, that I was under an awful and religious persuasion, that the gracious Ruler of the universe was looking down at that moment with peculiar complacency on an act, which to a part of his creatures was so very important. Under this impression, when the Chancellor pronounced, in a very feeling manner, ‘ Long live GEORGE WASHINGTON,’ my sensibility was wound up to such a pitch, that I could do no more than wave my hat with the rest, without the power of joining in the repeated acclamations which rent the air.”

NEW-YORK, MAY 13.

Last Saturday the Mayor and Members of the Corporation of this City, attended by the proper Officers, waited on THE PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES, and presented the following ADDRESS:

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,

The Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New-York, beg leave to offer you our most respectful and affectionate congratulations on your safe arrival in this Metropolis, and at the same time, to express the general joy of our fellow citizens, of every order, on this auspicious event.

In thus presenting ourselves before you, we experience all the emotions which naturally arise from a high veneration for your character—an exalted sense of your services—and a perfect conviction that a trust, the most momentous which could be conferred by a free people, has been committed to a citizen, who has given unequivocal proofs of his possessing all the good and great qualities, requisite to its successful discharge.

With peculiar pleasure, Sir, we recall to mind that illustrious display of wisdom, virtue, and valor, which distinguished your military command. With equal pleasure we recollect the exemplary moderation which characterized your retreat from the head of a victorious army to the shade of private life. Permit us to add that we contemplate with pious gratitude that unparalleled coincidence of circumstances which has constrained you, by motives of patriotism could not resist, to re-engage in the arduous duties of a public station.

Long is the habit of revering you as the father of our country, we rejoice at the happiness of being once more placed under your protection; we consider the unanimity which prevailed in your appointment, as a preface that our national government will be firmly established in the hearts of all the people, and receive their united and zealous support; and we are fully persuaded that under the divine favor, its operation will be productive of the most extensive benefits and blessings, and render the union respectable in peace, as under your auspices, it was triumphant in war.

To our most fervent wishes for your personal happiness, and for the success of your administration, we should not do justice to the sentiments of our fellow-citizens, if we did not add the strongest assurances of their inviolable attachment to you, and their earnest disposition to render you all the support which can flow from the most cordial respect, gratitude and confidence.

Signed in behalf of the Corporation,

JAMES DUANE, Mayor.

May 9, 1789.

To which the President was pleased to make the following answer.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of New-York.

GENTLEMEN,

The affectionate address presented by the Magistrates, and the general joy testified by the citizens of New-York, on my arrival in this metropolis, have filled my mind with the mingled emotions of gratitude and satisfaction.

In accepting the momentous trust, which has been spontaneously committed to me by a free people, it was not enough to have felt a consciousness of having acted in conformity to the dictates of patriotism; it was not enough to have known that I met the wishes of my fellow-citizens; but it seemed that these farther pledges were wanting to overcome the diffidence I had in

my own abilities, and the reluctance I experienced at engaging in such new and arduous affairs.

Unrelated by your too favorable appreciation of my past services, I can only pour forth the effusions of a grateful heart to Heaven, if I have been made in any degree an instrument of good to my country. And, although I am far from claiming any merit for retiring in the manner I did, from a military command, to the shade of private life; yet I am pleased to find that your candour has done justice to the principles by which I have been actuated on the present occasion. No circumstance, in my conception, can be more consolatory to a public man, especially to one truly sensible that the purest intentions cannot always preserve him from error, than a knowledge that his countrymen are disposed to consider the motives for his conduct with that liberality, which is reciprocally necessary for all who are subject to the frailties of human nature.

In this place I cannot avoid expressing an anxious apprehension, that the partiality of my countrymen in my favor has induced them to expect too much from the exertions of an individual. It is from their co-operation alone, I derive all my expectations of success.—Indeed, the unanimity which has prevailed in some instances, is a happy preface that our national government will be firmly established in the hearts of the people, and receive their united and zealous support.—From the accommodating spirit which has been displayed in respect to the constitution, I anticipate that the government will, in its operation, be productive of the most extensive utility, by rendering the Union as respectable in peace as it was triumphant in war.

I feel a just sense of your fervent wishes for my personal happiness and the success of my administration. I pray you, gentlemen, to accept in return, my cordial thanks for these demonstrations of your affection, as well as for the assurances you have given of the attachment of our fellow-citizens.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

*Extract of a letter from Madras, Sept. 10, 1788.*

“ The English it is said are at War with some of TRIPPOSAIB's family; but the people here are in such perfect slavery and subjection, that no particular information can be obtained. I saw large quantities of military stores and troops embarked from this place, with the utmost despatch.

“ Three large ships, filled with troops, sailed five days past; but nothing has transpired since.”

*Extracts of letters from Boston—April 29, 1789.*

“ Yesterday there was a considerable seizure of Goods, run in from Philadelphia. Silks, Calicoes, &c. in bread-casks; as also a quantity of Sugars, for short entry.

“ There will be great vigilance to detect smuggling, when the Federal acts are in force—you may depend on it.”

MAY 7, 1789.

“ We have just received from New-York, the Speech of our POLITICAL FATHER, to both Houses of Congress. It contains sentiments, which warm every heart, and animate every serious mind.

“ I read it to a circle of friends, but could not avoid involuntary pauses, nor suppress the rising tear, with aspirations to Heaven for the author.

“ There is but one sentiment respecting it here—UNIVERSAL APPLAUSE.

“ To the virtuous, which always includes the sentimental part of the community, it causes sensations too pleasurable and strong, to be transferred from the heart—as it seems to insure a blessing upon the government, and felicity to our country, agreeably to the words of inspiration, ‘ when the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice.’

“ May every legislator, and every officer in the United States, imitate the sublime example before them, and our Nation will soon rise to glory.”

Yesterday the Company at THE PRESIDENT'S was highly respectable, and much more numerous than usual.

We hear the State of Connecticut are about presenting every Member of the New Congress, with cloth sufficient for a suit of cloths; and that it is to be manufactured in that State, and of one colour.

In His Britannic Majesty's Packet, Tankerville, came passenger FRANCIS VAN BERKEL, Esq. Resident from their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands, to the United States; and Mrs. CHURCH, daughter of the Hon. Philip Scuyler.

*THEATRE.*

On Monday evening, THE PRESIDENT of the United States, His Excellency the Vice-President, His Excellency the Governor, His Excellency the Count De Moultrie, and several other foreigners and natives of distinction, honored the Theatre with their presence. There was a most crowded house, and the ladies who were numerous made a most brilliant appearance. The judicious choice of performances for the evening, and the proper adjustment of the parts to suitable characters, rendered the exhibition in a high degree entertaining.

On the 28th ult. died, at Pittsburgh, in Pennsylvania, THOMAS HUTCHINS Esq. Geographer-General to the United States; a gentleman, whose abilities, and modest deportment through life, gained him the applause and esteem of all who were acquainted with him.

Mr. FENNO,

AN American Citizen wishes to know, from your Correspondent, whose remark is published in your paper of the 9th inst. what Officer under the American Government, in the Diplomatic, or other line, is entitled to the style or title of Excellency. He has read the Constitution with attention—has been a strenuous supporter of it—but the part alluded to by your Correspondent has escaped his notice.

12th May, 1789.

*LETTERS SUBSCRIPTIONS for the “ COURIER DE BOSTON,” a new weekly paper, published at Boston in the French Language, are received at No. 9, Maiden Lane. [The utility of a paper in this almost universal language need not be hinted to those, who wish to acquire the French tongue.]*

*ERRATUM.*  
In “The Tablet,” 2d line, of 2d paragraph, for “cultivation,” read civilization.

THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSEHOLD.

WHEREAS, all Servants and others, employed to procure provisions, or supplies, for the Household of THE PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES, will be furnished with monies for those purposes. Notice is therefore given, that no accounts, for the payment of which the Public might be considered as responsible, are to be opened with any of them.

SAMUEL FRAUNCES, Steward of the Household.

MAY 4th, 1789.

*ARRIVALS.*

At the Port of New-York.  
 Saturday, Ship Eagle, Colquain, Glasgow, 10 days.  
 Brig Industry, Atwater, New-Providence. 33 days.  
 Packet Tankerville, Bell, Falmouth and Halifax 56 days.  
 Ship Bristol, Adamson, Bristol, 49 days.  
 Sloop Mary and Esther, Webb, Charlestown, 8 days.  
 Tuesday, Sloop Hancock, Brown, Rhode-Island, 2 days.  
 Sloop Rambler, Peterson, Ditto, 2 days.  
 Sloop Luciana, Fipes, Charlestown, 6 days.  
 Sloop Two Friends, Hopkins, Edenton, 9 days.