

longer, or had it included certificates of only one description, the land-office would probably have swallowed up the greatest part of our proportion of the debt.

The objections, says a correspondent, to the wages of the members of Congress, are not well founded. They are no greater than they were during the late war. Let it be remembered that they will only fit one half, or one third of the year,—that most of them relinquish all private and professional pursuits, and that many of them will carry their families with them to the place where Congress resides.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

An ACT for establishing an EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, to be denominated the Department of FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be an executive department, to be denominated the department of foreign affairs, and that there shall be a principal officer therein, to be called the Secretary for the department of foreign affairs, who shall perform and execute such duties as shall, from time to time, be enjoined on or entrusted to him by the President of the United States, agreeably to the Constitution, relative to correspondences, commissions, or instructions, to or with public ministers or consuls, from the United States, or to negotiations with public ministers from foreign States or Princes, or to memorials or other applications from foreign public ministers, or other foreigners, or to such other matters respecting foreign affairs, as the President of the United States shall assign to the said department: And furthermore, that the said principal officer shall conduct the business of the said department in such manner as the President of the United States shall, from time to time, order or instruct.

And be it further enacted, That there shall be, in the said department, an inferior officer, to be appointed by the said principal officer, and to be employed therein as he shall deem proper, and to be called the chief clerk in the department of foreign affairs, and who, whenever the said principal officer shall be removed from office by the President of the United States, or in any other case of vacancy, shall, during such vacancy, have the charge and custody of all records, books, and papers appertaining to the said department.

And be it further enacted, That the said principal officer, and every other person to be appointed or employed in the said department, shall, before he enters on the execution of his office or employment, take an oath or affirmation, well and faithfully to execute the trust committed to him.

And be it further enacted, That the Secretary for the department of foreign affairs, to be appointed in consequence of this act, shall forthwith after his appointment, be entitled to have the custody and charge of all records, books, and papers in the office of Secretary for the department of foreign affairs, heretofore established by the United States in Congress assembled.

FREDERICK A. MUHLBERG, Speaker of the House of Representatives. JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

APPROVED, JULY 27, 1789. G. WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

SKETCH OF PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.

MONDAY, JULY 27, 1789.

The engrossed bill for settling accounts between the United States and individual States was read, and the blanks filled.

To the chief Clerk to the commissioners, 600 dollars a year was allowed, and 400 dollars to the other Clerks.

A message from the Supreme Executive, was received by Mr. SECRETARY LEAR, with the bill for establishing an executive department, to be denominated the Department of Foreign Affairs; to which THE PRESIDENT had affixed his signature.

The memorial of Nathaniel Gorham, praying, that Congress would take measures for determining the principles of the cession of the western territory from the State of New-York to the United States, previous to running the line of jurisdiction and property between that State and individuals on the one part, and the United States on the other part—which was presented on Friday last, was this day taken up, and on motion for the commitment of the same, a lengthy debate ensued:—The motion was supported by Mr. SEDGWICK, Mr. BENSON, Mr. GERRY, Mr. LAURANCE and Mr. SHERMAN; and opposed by Mr. SCOTT and Mr. BOUDINOT—on the question being taken it was carried in the affirmative, and the memorial committed to Messrs. Huntington, Jackson and Lee.

In committee of the whole House, on the order of the day—

Mr. BOUDINOT in the chair—

The report of the committee appointed to confer with a committee of the Senate, in preparing joint rules to be established between the two

houses for the enrollment, preservation, attestation and publication of the acts of Congress, and to regulate the mode of presenting addresses, and other acts to The President of the United States, was taken up.

On motion of Mr. SEDGWICK, the following resolution was agreed to, viz. That it is the opinion of this committee, a select committee ought to be appointed, to prepare and report a bill, to provide, without establishing a new department, for the safe keeping of the acts, records, and great seal of the United States—for the publication, preservation and authentication of the acts of Congress—for establishing the fees of office, and prescribing the forms of commissions, &c.—This resolution being added to the report, and the discussion being finished, the committee rose, and the chairman reported the same with the amendments, which were acceded to by the House: A committee consisting of Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Matthews and Mr. Wynkoop, was appointed agreeably to said resolution. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1789.

Mr. VINING, of the committee on amendments to the Constitution, brought in a report, which was read, and laid on the table.

Upon motion of Mr. GERRY, it was voted that 100 copies be struck off for the accommodation of the members.

A message from the Senate was received by their Secretary, informing the Hon. House, that they had concurred with amendments in the bill to regulate the collection of duties imposed on goods, wares, and merchandize imported into the United States.—These amendments were immediately taken into consideration, and acceded to by the House.

The bill for registering and clearing vessels, and for regulating the coaling trade, was read a second time—and on motion the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, for the discussion of the same—the committee made considerable progress in the bill, but the time did not admit of finishing it—they therefore rose, and the House Adjourned.

NEW-YORK, JULY 29, 1789.

THE PRESIDENT of the United States was so well as to receive visits of compliment from many official characters and citizens yesterday; but we learn, that, until his strength shall be more fully restored, he proposes to receive them only once a week, and that on Tuesdays.

Mrs. WASHINGTON, we are informed, will be at home every Friday, at eight o'clock, P. M. to see company.

On Saturday last the Most Hon. RUFUS KING, and on Monday the Most Hon. PHILIP SCHUYLER, took their seats in the Congress of the United States, as Senators from the district of New-York.

We hear, that the Supreme Executive of the United States, in consequence of the resignation of Charles Thompson, Esq. has committed the records and papers of the late Congress, and the Great Seal of the United States, to the custody of ROGER ALDEN, Esq. till further orders.

Extract of a letter from Connecticut, July, 1789.

"You inform me that the probable plan of appointments will be—first, to continue those already in office in the several States, who have given indubitable proof of fidelity and capacity, excepting in instances where superior political, and official abilities may point them out, as proper subjects of promotion—secondly, that those characters of the late American army, who may be qualified, who merit much, but from the unfavorable circumstances of the country, have never been suitably rewarded, will next be noticed—and thirdly, that persons who in civil life have evinced a firm attachment to the cause of their country in all the different views in which it has been placed; more especially the advocates and friends of the new constitution, whose characters and qualifications entitle them to patronage, will also receive attention.

"This arrangement meets my approbation entirely; but at the same time great caution is requisite to avoid essential mistakes—in the first place, it is not difficult for persons in office who are unworthy of, and incompetent to the places they hold, to procure factitious testimonials in their favor.

"It must be granted, also, that many persons mistake their own talents—and men who have done well in one situation, may be totally unqualified for others: There is a sort of claim which military characters possess, that may unduly bias the judgment—and it is possible, that some candidates for office cannot with propriety, wholly impute their present depressed circumstances to the deficiencies of their country.

"The third description affords the greatest range for the selection of competent public officers—and from this, all other considerations being equal, no doubt a preference will be given to those who have supported the Constitution,

in appointments which have for their object the promotion of the public interest, upon the principles of that Constitution."

Every pleasing anticipation is entertained with respect to the nominations to office that are immediately to be made.—The hackneyed proverb, that "kissing goes by favor," will be found totally inapplicable on this occasion; an inflexible independency of determination having always distinguished the appointments of the late Commander in Chief of the American army—there is every reason to expect that real abilities and desert will be the only influencing considerations.

A correspondent observes, that however plausible the idea, in an economical view, of preventing the encrease of offices by jumbling a great variety of heterogeneous business in one department, may be, yet it will be found that such arrangements must be made, to prevent confusion, as will in the issue be as expensive as openly establishing so many distinct offices.

A correspondent observes upon the subject of Titles, that a total renunciation of them involves an idea, that is levelled not only at the existence of government, but of all society whatever.—Society supposes order—order, grades and distinctions—Mankind have never yet devised any other mode of designating these distinctions than by titles.—To suppose therefore that they are unnecessary, is to suppose that human nature possesses an intuitive faculty of discerning merit, & of ascertaining its various degrees, so as never to fail of spontaneously paying it due respect, without any external indication whatever—the absurdity of this is too gross for reflection.

Extract of a letter from a young gentleman at Academy, to his father in G———t.

HONORED SIR,

"I think it my duty to give you some inimitable evidence of my progress in literature; when I first came to this academy, scarce an hour in the day passed without some strictures on my mode of speaking—but by perpetual hints from every quarter, my stupidity was overcome, and my attention so quickened, that at length I have become so habichuated to the proper sound of du, tu, &c. that the old fashioned pronunciation sounds quite unnatural—having surmounted this difficulty, in speaking the following words, I no longer make the least mistake, viz. virchue, nachure, fuchure, indiviual, infatchuation, machurate, sachurate, forchune, shootable, shupreme, shuperior, chufeday, and many others—there is a further improvement talked of, and that is to pronounce debts, jets, &c. but how this will succeed is uncertain.

"I hope my improvements will receive your approbation, and am your dutiful son, TIMOTHY TON.

DEATHS.

At Constantinople, (Turkey) April 7, 1789, ACHMET IV. Grand Signior to the Ottoman Empire, aged 64—after reigning 45 years. It is supposed he was poisoned by some of the party in favor of the continuation of the war with Russia, to which he reluctantly consented. And it is thought his death will put an end to all ideas of peace for some time. Prince SEMLIN, his nephew, it is said, succeeds him.

In Germany, the PRINCE of GELNHAUSEN, the last Protestant Prince of the Palatine family. At Newport, Capt. DAVID GARDINER, aged 48.

ARRIVALS. NEW-YORK.

Sunday Sloop Delight, Campbell, Newfoundland, 25 days Sloop John, Gilbert, Kingston, 21 days Tuesday Sloop Hancock, Brown, Rhode-Island, 2 days Sloop Rambler, Peterfon, do. 2 days Brig Nelly, Buchanan, Martha Brae, 21 days

MR. FENNO, IN the translation of an Ordinance of the Gov. of Hispaniola, published in your last, the words of the preamble, "with his Majesty's good pleasure," seem to imply that the King has consented to it: The meaning of the words "Sous le bon plaisir de sa Majesté" is, that in case the King should consent, then the law should have its effect. The expression is conditional, whereas in the English translation it seems to be positive, and may mislead your readers. CAUTION.

[We conceive that the Translator's idea as conveyed in the sentence alluded to, exactly coincides with the writer's of the above: The words "provisionally enacted," sufficiently indicate that the Ordinance is subject to the King's revision.]

PRICE CURRENT. NEW-YORK.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Items include Jamaica Spirits, Antigua Rum, St. Croix, do., Country, do., Molasses, Brandy, Geneva, Do. in casks, Muscovado Sugar, Loaf, do., Lump, do., Pepper, Pimento, Chocolate, Cocoa, Coffee, Indigo, (Carolina), Rice, Superfine Flour, Common do., Rye do., Indian Meal, Rye, Corn, (Southern), Do. (Northern), Beef, first quality, Second quality, Pork, first quality, Second quality, Hams, Carolina Tobacco, Virginia.