

An irregular debate ensued on these several nominations, without a question's being taken on either. Some of the members appeared desirous of coming to a decision; a motion however, for the committee's rising and reporting progress was carried in the affirmative.

The committee on enrolled bills, reported the bill, intitled an act, to continue an act, declaring the assent of Congress to certain laws of the states of Rhode-Island, Maryland and Georgia, so far as it respects Rhode-Island and Georgia— which they had examined and found duly enrolled. The speaker then signed the same.

Mr. Williamson bro't forward his motion for leave to bring in a bill to prevent the invalid pensioners from alienating their pensions before they became due. A committee was accordingly appointed, consisting of Messrs. Williamson, Brown, and Griffin.

Mr. Fitzsimons presented a petition from the inspectors of the port of Philadelphia—praying for an addition to their compensation. Laid on the table.

Mr. Ames moved that a committee be appointed to consider whether any, and what further provision, shall be made to the commissioners of loans in the respective states, to defray their extra expences.

A message was received from the President of the United States, to inform the house that the act above mentioned had received his approbation, and signature. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 11.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of the state of Pennsylvania was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Bloodworth presented a memorial from the merchants and others of the town of Fayetteville; and another from the merchants of Wilmington, respecting the judiciary system; proposing certain alterations therein. Referred to a committee of five, consisting of Messrs. —, Burke, Bloodworth, Giles and Brown.

In committee of the whole on the bill, repealing after the last day of — next, the duties heretofore laid on distilled spirits, and laying others in their stead.

The 13th section, which provides for laying a duty on spirits, distilled from materials, the produce of the country was read.

This section Mr. Jackson moved, should be struck out; a lengthy debate ensued, which employed the residue of the day; the question on striking out being at length put, passed in the negative—33 to 17—the committee then rose and reported progress.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the House, that they have passed a bill entitled an act for granting lands to the settlers at post St. Vincennes; read the first time. Adjourned.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

A Letter from Joseph to his Friend Aminadab, on the Exemption of the Quakers from the Militia Service, &c.

MY DEAR FRIEND AMINADAB,

I HAVE to return thee my thanks for the Memorial thou hast sent me, and which our Society have caused to be presented to the Congress of the United States. I like it well, because it saveth much of our carnal interest, and is expressive of that subtle policy which is known to guide our tender consciences. Surely we ought to be exempted from the dangers, fatigues, and expences of the militia-service, because we have, in general, been such tried friends to the independence of this country, and our conduct hath been so truly patriotic, as to merit every encouragement and distinction.

It gives me also great pleasure, friend Aminadab, to see our great men pay such attention to our Memorial, and spend whole days in debating thereon: Verily, the light will arise, and we shall be quite happy in sitting quietly under our own Vines and Fig-Trees, in having our lives and property protected, while others will be called out to the field of slaughter, and obliged to fight with the savages, in defence of our lands and possessions. This will be true Quakerism, and if not quite agreeable to the written word, yet altogether consonant to the dictates of that Monitor within our bosoms, which warneth us to take care of ourselves, and to avoid all concern with ungodly quarrels and dissensions.

I know the carnal man objecteth to our peaceable Spirit, and maintaineth the doctrine of war and self-defence, so contrary to our interest and personal safety. Hence it is, that we are often told, that being a part of the community, and receiving the advantages of defence and protection, we are bound to bear our proportion of the public burdens; and that we ought not to be indulged with an exemption from these services, because a too great extension of our principles might endanger the very existence of government. Thus it sadly grieveth us to find, there is no living upon earth without wars and fightings.

To me, Aminadab, it seemeth strange, that men should make use of scripture arguments in defence of military establishments; for they tell us, that Wars have been, and will be, in all ages, to the end of time; that the great Melchizedek met Abraham, the father of the faithful, when he returned from the slaughter of the Kings, and blessed him, which he would not have done, had he been engaged in an unlawful action; that the profession of a soldier, or militia-man is no where forbidden, or condemned in scripture:—When the Baptist was interrogated by the soldiers, as to their conduct, he said unto them, "do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely, and be content with your wages." In which reply, we do not find that in order to prepare themselves for the reception of the kingdom of God, it was required of soldiers to relinquish their profession, but only that they should beware of the vices, of which that profession was accused. The precept which follows, "be content with your wages," supposeth them to continue in their situation.

How great was the encomium pronounced by the saviour of mankind on the Roman Centurion, or Captain, "I have not found so great faith, no not in Israel." The first Gentile Convert: who was received into the Christian Church, and to whom the Gospel was imparted, by the immediate and especial direction of Heaven,

hold the same station; and in the history of this transaction, we discover not the smallest intimation, that Cornelius, upon becoming a Christian, quitted the service of the Roman Legion; that his profession was objected to, or his continuance in it considered, as in any wise, inconsistent with his new character.

It is also asserted by these carnal reasoners, that self-defence, both in individuals and society, is justifiable. Thus when our life is assaulted, it becomes necessary for our preservation, to kill the assailant. This is evident in a state of nature, unless it can be shewn that we are bound to prefer the aggressor's life to our own; that is to say, to love our enemy better than ourselves, which can never be a debt of justice; nor any where appears to be a duty of charity. This mode of reasoning is applied to nations, who are therefore led to oppose the violence of each other.

Thus, friend Aminadab, have I suggested to thee, some of the objections to our received opinions, to the end that thou mayest be enabled to answer them, with the meekness of wisdom, and shew the reasonableness of exempting the Quakers from bearing arms, because they live in an expectation of a kingdom of peace, wherein dwell eth righteousness. I will assure thee, good friend, that these subjects have lately mightily agitated my spirits, so that one day, being in a profound meditation thereon, I fell into a sleep by the fire side, sitting in my elbow-chair: During the short time of my repose, methought I saw before mine eyes a wide extended plain, on which were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people; and in the middle of this plain, I beheld a huge mountain, on which a great number of these people were endeavoring to ascend. While I considered these things, behold a venerable man stood by me, clothed in white raiment, whose affable, agreeable countenance encouraged me to enquire the meaning of the sight I was then contemplating. He informed me, that the huge mountain was called MOUNT-EXEMPTION, and that the persons ascending the same, were the professors of various religious denominations. Observing to my good genius, that these sectaries were so numerous as to cover the mountain, he said, that it could not be wondered at, since by getting a place on the mountain, they were exempted from the fatigues and dangers of war, to which the poor folks beneath were exposed: He then gave me the following particulars, descriptive of those elect favorites, viz.

Of the tribe of Quakers were exempted,	40,000
Of the tribe of Methodists were exempted,	40,000
Of the tribe of Menonists were exempted,	10,000
Of the tribe of Moravians were exempted,	5,000
Of the tribe of Dunkards were exempted,	5,000
	100,000

I then looked again, and behold! the Methodists were harmoniously chaunting their Hymns of triumph, for the advantages they had received over the multitudes on the plain beneath, and their song was, O, be joyful! While the Menonists and Dunkards skipped like bearded Rams, and the Moravians like young sheep, around the mountain; but the Quakers, fearing that profane singing might hurt their tender consciences, testified their approbation, with such a strange dissonance of sounds, that the noise thereof awaked me out of sleep, and lo! it was a dream.

JOSEPH.

Elkton, the 7th day of the first month, 1791.

To the EDITOR of the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

SIR, SINCE the arrival of Congress in this city, there has been a constant and general complaint of the scarcity of hackney-coaches, and of the exorbitant price demanded for their fare.

In London, the hackney-coaches (to prevent their being too numerous) are limited to 1000, and this number is always complete. The fare is also limited, to prevent imposition; four persons taking a coach for one hour, or one mile, pay one shilling, or three-pence sterling each, and no more, although the proprietors pay a severe tax to government for their licences.

Perhaps a statement similar to the following, may induce some enterprising citizen to make his own fortune, and benefit the public.

A good hackney-coach may cost	150
A pair of horses,	150
Keeping per year,	150
Coachman,	200
Wear of Horses harness, &c.	50
	700

The Coaches in this city earn at present from 5 to 10 dollars per day: Take the smallest sum—5 dollars per day, is 1825 pr. annum. 10 Coaches would bring in, at 1825 each, 18250 drs. per year. Deduct for stock, interest, and whole ann. ex. 7420

Thus may be gained in one year, 10830 drs. by any individual who may have the spirit, with the property or credit, to procure 7 or 8000 dollars on interest, for one year.

N. B. From 15 to 30 Coaches, it is supposed, would find immediate employ. A TRAVELLER.

Philadelphia, Jan. 12.

A principal cause of the low state of Agriculture is the want of capital to make improvements: The plan of the National Bank holds up the prospect of relief: Such a great capital thrown into circulation, will diffuse new health to quicken the industry of the country: Many millions of new property will be set in motion, and a new celerity given to the old stock. The farmers may now look forward to a more improved state, and of course to a higher degree of prosperity: With the means, it is to be hoped, the spirit of improvement will be diffused.

The trade, manufactures, and husbandry of a country, will remain far behind the most prosperous state to which they may be carried, until Banks and inland Canals are formed: They afford a surprising aid: They seem to assist industry, and to bear relation to the whole society, as machines do to particular arts: Our improving country will soon be equal to any attempts of this nature.

The Hon. JEREMIAH WADSWORTH, Esq. is re-elected member of the House of Representatives of the United States, for the State of Connecticut, vice PIERPONT EDWARDS, Esq. resigned.

The New-York Daily Advertiser of Monday, mentions that 150 dollars were received by Dr. MOORE—150 by Dr. LIVINGSTON, and 50 by Rev. Mr. JESSOP, from persons unknown, for the use of the poor.

The Representatives in Congress for the state of North-Carolina are to be chosen the last Thursday and Friday of this month.

The interesting view of the "state of the English nation" in the first page of this paper, is published with a view of inducing some of our ingenious readers, or correspondents, to furnish a statement of the actual situation of this country; it is presumed that a tolerably accurate account of the United States on a similar scale, would exhibit a most pleasing perspective of the American republic.

Net amount of duties on Goods, Wares and Merchandise imported into the United States from the 1st day of August, to the 30th of Sept. 1790.

	Dols.	Cts.
New-Hampshire,	2,980	76
Massachusetts,	52,697	30½
Connecticut,	11,112	78
New-York,	86,215	36
New-Jersey,	1,200	32
Pennsylvania,	99,349	86
Delaware,	3,363	77
Maryland,	25,163	57
Virginia,	89,003	9
South-Carolina,	37,060	57½
Georgia,	7,011	78½

415,159 17½

Net amount of duties on Goods, Wares and Merchandise imported into the United States from the 1st day of October, 1789, to the 30th of September, 1790.

	Dols.	Cts.
New-Hampshire	14,550	19½
Massachusetts,	320,430	98½
Rhode-Island,	17,675	29½
Connecticut,	64,336	20½
New-York,	446,646	38
New-Jersey,	4,291	85½
Pennsylvania,	472,756	35
Delaware,	9,914	21½
Maryland,	206,750	27
Virginia,	214,341	31½
North-Carolina,	14,340	15½
South-Carolina,	102,438	62
Georgia,	15,237	64½

1,903,709 48½

The following comparison will shew, that what are called Charity Schools, are hostile to the interests of education and the poor.

In the city of New-York, which contains about 30000 inhabitants, there are 3 Charity Schools: In which, according to a statement published in the New-York Magazine for December 1790, one hundred and eighty-six children are instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic.

In the town of Boston, which contains about 18000 inhabitants, there is not one Charity School—but in the Public Schools of that place, supported by a tax, near FIFTEEN HUNDRED CHILDREN are taught the above branches—and in one of the Schools, Greek and Latin.

In New-York there is probably one third more children than in Boston: The number therefore of those, who are unprovided for in the former, is greatly disproportionate.—Of the fifteen hundred who are educated in the public schools in the latter, more than a thousand would be deprived of all opportunity of acquiring learning without this public provision, agreeable to the experience of New-York, with those Charity-Schools.—This makes good the old saying, that "CHARITY covereth many omissions."

Learning ought to be free as air:—This can only be effected by laws, which shall throw the burthen of supporting schools on the whole community, that the provision may be made so ample, as to be within reach of the poorest member of society—surely it is in the power of the free citizens of every capital in the United States, to devise ways and means for the education of their children without depending on charity; the foregoing example proves that it is.

The legislature of the state of North-Carolina finished their session at Fayetteville, on the 15th ult. after having passed fifty-seven laws.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.		
6 pr. Cents	17½ pr. £.	85 pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	8½.—8½.	43½ do.
Deferred 6 pr. Cents	8½.—8½.	43½ do.
UNFUNDED DEBT.		
Final Sett. and other Certificates	15½.	75 do.
Indents	8½.—8½.	43½ do.
State debts	12½.—8½.	

AMERICAN CLOTHS.

SUPERFINE and ELASTICS, CONGRESS BROWN, LONDON SMOKE, LEAD DRAB, BLUE and OTHER fashionable Colours,

Manufactured at Hartford, (State of Connecticut,) just received, and are now offered for Sale, at the

CHEAP STORE, No. 38,

North Third Street,

At which Store are also opening a large and general assortment of EUROPEAN and INDIA GOODS.

CLOTHS,	ELEGANT Vest Patterns—
Linen,	adapted to the season,
Cambrics,	Silk, Cotton, and Worsted
Painted, sprigged, tambour-	Hose,
ed book, and jaconet Mullins,	Corduroids,
Chintzes,	Velvetts, and Royal Ribs,
Cottons and Calicoes,	Best Buck, Beaver, and White
Silks,	Kidd Gloves,

A Variety of STUFFS.

And many other Articles, too numerous to insert in an Advertisement; all of which are now selling by Wholesale and Retail, on low terms, as to make them an object to the purchasers.

N. B. A few Barrels of MACKAREL, and Nova-Scotia HERRINGS. Philadelphia, Jan. 12, 1791.