

post duties must increase, and a sufficient revenue for every purpose from that source, is to be expected. Why then should we lay this odious tax? He concluded by saying he should lay his estimate before the house.

Mr. Wadsworth said he had also made some calculations which he should submit to the house: In these he had taken pains to be as accurate as possible. He then read his estimate, by which it appeared that the probable amount of the impost would be diminished even below the sum stated by the Secretary of the Treasury. The tonnage he said would be diminished, owing to the change in the present situation of Europe, and the cessation of the demand for grain.

The importation of molasses and sugar must be lessened as the articles are not to be had. Great part of the European importations for the past year have been made on speculation, and are not to be again expected—and there will be, said he, a very great decrease in the amount of the revenue on wines.

He adverted to the Western Expedition, and observed, a greater sum than what has been mentioned will be wanted on that account—and the pension list, he feared, would be increased, rather than diminished: On the whole he thought there was no danger of a great excess in the revenue. The duty on domestic spirits he considered as proper—it is a duty that will be submitted to by the people—and even a direct tax would be paid without murmuring, if the necessity was made apparent.

Mr. Jackson replied to Mr. Wadsworth—he controverted the estimate offered by that gentleman and then entered into a recapitulation of his arguments against the bill, and urged the postponement of it to the next session.

Mr. Stone observed that the house had at last got into a mode of considering the subject, which ought to have been attended to at first.

He adverted to the drawback stated by the gentleman from Pennsylvania; but he desired to know why this sum, which amounts to upwards of 10,000 dollars, is not mentioned by the Secretary of the Treasury: He considered the sum stated by the Secretary for the year '89, as the neat produce of the revenue—and he believed, that would be found to be the sum. With respect to the decrease in the importations, this had been the cry for seven years back: He believed this would continue to be the case, tho the importations, he was well satisfied, would continue to increase—and this would be owing to our increasing population.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania has noticed the probable decrease in the importation of teas, wines, &c. but takes no notice of the increase in the importation of other articles. He said gentlemen had called our attention to the Mediterranean and Indian Expeditions; but neither of these subjects are now before the committee. If these subjects are to be considered, let us go into a committee on them, and see what is necessary to be done. At present we are devising ways and means to pay the interest of the State debts—and with respect to this object, he conceived the revenue to be derived from the present establishments, will be sufficient for that and all the other exigencies of government, till the year 1793.—It is now said, that the Excise will be sufficient for all the demands of government; but he suspected, that he should hear something on the subject of Tonnage before the end of the session.

(To be continued.)

MONDAY, Jan. 17.

Mr. Gale took his seat this day.

On motion of Mr. Livermore, the memorial of Andrew Brown was referred to the Secretary of State.

The petition of George Glentworth, was read and referred to the Secretary at war.

The petition of Brigadier General Donald Campbell, praying compensation for services, was read—a motion to refer this petition was negatived.

Sundry other petitions were read and referred.

Mr. Tucker gave notice, that to-morrow he should move for leave to bring in a bill that a committee may be appointed to join a committee of the Senate, to consider and report a time for the next meeting of Congress.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the House proceeded to consider the amendments proposed by the committee of the whole, to the bill, repealing after the last day of next, the duties heretofore laid on distilled spirits and laying others in their stead—these amendments were agreed to by the House.

It was moved by Mr. Jackson to strike out the thirteenth section, and the Yeas and Nays on the question being taken, it passed in the negative, Ayes 16. Noes 36—the Ayes and Noes being as follows:

YEAS.

Messrs Baldwin, Bloodworth, Brown, Burke, Heister, Jackson, Matthews, Moore, Messrs P. Muhlenberg, Parker, Scott, Sevier, Steele, Stone, Tucker, Williamson.

NAYS:

Messrs Ames, Benson, Boudinot, Bourne, Cadwallader, Clymer, Fitzsimons, Floyd, Folter, Gilman, Goodhue, Griffin, Grout, Giles, Lawrence, Lee, Leonard, Livermore, Messrs Madison, Partridge, Van Rensselaer, Schureman, Sedgwick, Seney, Sherman, Sylvester, S'mickson, Smith, (M.) Smith, (S.C.) Sturges, Thatcher, Trumbull, Vining, Wadsworth, White, Wynkoop.

Sundry other amendments were proposed, but postponed until to-morrow.

A message was received from the President of the United States, with sundry papers, which have not been read. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 18.

The papers communicated to the house yesterday, by the President of the United States were read—which are, a statement of the expenditures made out of the sum of 10000 dollars, appropriated for contingencies the last session—A letter from the Governor of Virginia; inclosing sundry resolutions of the legislature of that state, respecting the lands North-West of the Ohio granted by an act of Congress to the officers and soldiers of that state—A petition from the officers therein referred to—and a letter from the Governor of Maryland, enclosing an act of the legislature of that state, empowering the wardens of the port of Baltimore, to collect the duty therein mentioned.

A letter was read from the Secretary of State, enclosing a supplement to his report on the subjects of coins, weights, and measures.

Sundry memorials and petitions were read and referred.

Mr. Goodhue made the following motion, that the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to report to the house whether any, and what further provision is necessary to be made for the respective officers employed in the collection of the revenue—which was agreed to.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Seney, Smith (M.) and Mr. Mathews was appointed to report a bill declaring the assent of Congress to a certain act of the state of Maryland therein mentioned.

Mr. Huntington laid the following motion on the table, that a committee should be appointed to bring in a bill providing for the settlement of the accounts of John Lamb Esq. late agent at the court of Algiers.

The additional amendments proposed to the new revenue bill were taken into consideration, and after a considerable debate were all disagreed to: an amendment proposed by Mr. Gerry was not decided upon when an adjournment was called for, and took place.

Philadelphia, Jan. 19.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of distinction in London, to a gentleman in this city, dated Nov. 6, 1790.

"I have looked attentively over the proceedings of Congress, which you have sent me, and with pleasure observe, that they are marked with wisdom and moderation: The trade and navigation bill, or something like it, I am of opinion ought to pass.

"I cannot see why American vessels should be restrained from a due proportion of the carrying business: If the pusillanimous disposition, and disregard to the interests of commerce of the European powers, has induced them to submit to the Navigation Laws of this country, it is no reason that America should do the same; and the policy the latter seems now to be pursuing, I think will at length oblige Great Britain to enter into a commercial negotiation, to settle these matters, on a fair and equal foundation; for it is certainly the interest of both countries, to do so.

"The news of the Peace with Spain has occasioned a rise in the Stocks here from 4 to 5 1/2 per cent. A sloop of war was dispatched yesterday from Portsmouth, in pursuit of Admiral Cornish's fleet, which failed lately, supposed for the West-Indies, to bring it back."

Extract of a letter from Boston, December 28, 1790.

"The Secretary's Report of the plan of a National Bank appears to be calculated for good national purposes, and, if adopted, will completely establish the credit of the United States. I think HAMILTON will rise to fame as a Financier. He has a fine field, and if Congress support him, as I think they will, (policy and experience being incontestably in favor of the idea, and I may justly add, the public opinion too,) he will become a star of the first magnitude in our political hemisphere, and a luminary to the world.

"The great rise in the funds is beyond all calculation, and is extremely auspicious to the national government. If the present session of Congress is wisely employed, it will unalterably fix the established government, and make it illustrious.

"There is yet a small game to be played by some characters in the state-governments, who will attempt to sow the seeds of dissension between the state-legislatures, and the general government; but their efforts will be ineffectual. The people are tired of these state empiricks, whose politics for seven years past have been retrograde to the public prosperity."

We hear that one million and half dollars of the continental securities have been funded by the Loan-Officer of this State.

On the 10th December one and half million had been funded in Massachusetts, and it is supposed that about two and half millions have been funded by this time; a very considerable proportion of the State debts is also subscribed; the non-subscribers who have taken out new certificates, are as the drop to the bucket.

While the supreme executives of the several states are congratulating the people of their charge, on the peace and prosperity they enjoy; and the flattering prospects which their commerce, arts, and agriculture exhibit—the auspicious effects of the general government, is forcibly realized in all these pleasing events—for tho the happiness of the people is immediately connected with a righteous and patriotic administration of the particular governments; yet to the prevailing influence of the general government—do the people principally ascribe the happy contrast in their situation, compared with what it was a few years ago.

The convention between Great-Britain and Spain was signed the 28th October, at the palace of St. Laurence, Madrid—the ratifications to be exchanged in six weeks.

The Delaware is now so free from Ice, that great numbers of vessels put to sea from this city yesterday.

The state of New-York is found by the late census to contain 324, 127 inhabitants.

A correspondent observes that one of the most extraordinary solecisms in modern politics, is the proposition that apprentices, and minors should be debarred from the privilege of bearing arms, in the defence of their country.

Should the legislature of the United States, accede to this proposition, the consequences are justly to be dreaded by every friend to an efficient militia.

Our young men are the vital spring of the national defence—and without them the protection of the country must devolve on a standing army—that bane of freedom.

As our young men are in general inspired with high ideas of personal independence, and glowing ardour to defend their country—it cannot be expected that they will quietly submit to a deprivation of the great privilege of acquiring the art military, by being immured in workshops, while their fathers and masters are exhibiting their military talents in the field.

It is expected that the attempt to debar the flower of our country, the rising hopes of these States, from an opportunity to perfect themselves in that most noble acquisition, the science of military defence, will produce a remonstrance to "THE POWERS THAT BE," on the part of those immediately concerned. If perfection in the mechanic arts depends on being kept ignorant of military discipline, this perfection will be dearly purchased. It is the glory of our country that the whole volume of nature and art is open to the study of every freeborn American.

Extract of a letter from Petersburg, to the Editor, dated Jan. 7.

"As Congress have had it in contemplation to lay a small postage on newspapers, I have thought it necessary to acquaint you, that if this should take place, that your subscribers here will probably withdraw their subscriptions; not from any wish of injuring you, or your paper, because they seem to give it a preference; but the idea of a postage on newspapers, however trifling, seems to alarm them.

"For my part, I do not pretend to much knowledge in politics, or in the policy of this measure; but it appears to me very extraordinary, that our political rulers should, so early, attempt to draw a revenue from a source, that they ought, in my humble opinion, to contribute to the support of—or at least to promote the circulation of newspapers with as much facility as possible.

"Periodical publications in this country (indeed in every country) have heretofore been found extremely beneficial—and are more particularly so at this period, when every one is anxious to be informed of the proceedings of Congress; and should any measures be adopted to deprive the people of that information, there is no knowing what might be the consequence—for when the people are in the dark as to what is going forward at the head of affairs, they are apt to make enquiries, begin to grow suspicious—and designing men might take advantage of their ignorance, and lead them to believe what might prove dangerous to the peace of society.

"But I need not dwell on this subject, because these are circumstances that must be apparent to every one. All I can say is, that so long as the people are well informed of the measures of Congress, they will remain perfectly satisfied, as they will then judge for themselves, from facts, and not be abused by misrepresentations; but should any measures be entered into to check the circulation of newspapers, the only source thro' which they can be informed, I will venture to say their measures will be rendered very unpopular.

"I feel myself interested in the free circulation of well-conducted periodical publications, because I am so sensible of the great benefit our country derives from them—and I hope nothing will ever be adopted to debar the people of this great source of political information."

AMINIDAB to JOSEPH, tho a very good composition, yet, being a reiteration of the ideas of Joseph, the Editor postpones publishing it.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

Table with columns for FUNDLED DEBT and UNFUNDLED DEBT, listing various securities and their prices.

THE Copartnership of HEWES and ANTHONY having expired the 31st ultimo, they request those, who have any demands, to exhibit their accounts and receive their money; and those who are indebted, are desired to make speedy payment, to either of the Subscribers, at their Compting-House, No. 5, Chestnut-Street-Wharf.

JOSEPH HEWES, JOSEPH ANTHONY.

Philadelphia, Jan. 15, 1791.

N. B. They have yet on hand, and for SALE, at their STORE above-mentioned,

HYSON, Souchong, and Bohea TEAS,

- List of goods for sale including Three cases Cassia, Pimento in bags, Martineo Coffee, Muscovado Sugar, A few Cases old Batavia Arrack, One cask of Durham Mustard, New England Rum in hogsheads and barrels, A quantity of prime Boston Beef, Spermaceti, right whale and tanners' Oil, Best pickled Mackerel, 6 by 8—7 by 9—8 by 10—9 by 11—and 10 by 12 Window Glass, A quantity of excellent carrot Tobacco, And an elegant CHANDELIER.