

MR. SINICKSON and Mr. STONE took their seats, this day.

A petition of James Hubbs, of the State of New-Jersey mariner, was presented to the House and read, praying a relief from a prosecution commenced against him at the suit of the United States, for neglecting to deliver manifests of goods transported from one district in the same State to another, according to law, of which he was totally ignorant.

Ordered, that the said petition together with the memorial of John Cochran, presented on Friday last, be referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

A petition of — Dobbins, of the kingdom of Ireland, praying that Congress may grant him a tract of land on such reasonable terms, as may encourage him to bring settlers to this country, was read and referred to Mr. Page, Mr. Scott and Mr. Partridge.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Treasurer of the State of New-York, together with a copy of the revised laws of the said State, sent in pursuance of concurrent resolutions of the Senate and Assembly thereof, for the use of the House.

Mr. Foster from the committee appointed, presented according to order, a bill providing for the actual enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, which was read the first time.

The House adjourned early in the day, in order to give time to the committees to report upon the various matters referred to their consideration.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19.

Mr. Ames, Mr. Wadsworth and Mr. Sturges, respectively introduced a number of petitions, which were read and laid on the table, viz. of Nathan Fuller, John Holbrook, Ruth Roberts, Jeremiah Ryan, & Lemuel Cravath, praying the interposition and relief of Congress in sundry cases of losses, depreciation, &c.—also the petition of Benjamin Bird, stating the loss of a pocket-book in the year 1781, in which were eight Continental certificates, and praying that new certificates in his favor in lieu thereof, may be issued from the Loan-Office in Massachusetts.

The bill providing for the actual enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States, was read a second time: This bill provides that the business shall be specially committed to the Marshals of the several districts, who under oath are to make returns of their proceedings to The President of the United States—for which services they are to receive a stated compensation, proportioned to the extent of their respective districts.

Voted, That this bill be taken into consideration on Friday next—and that 100 copies be struck off for the use of the Members.

Mr. Sedgwick of the committee appointed to bring in a bill for making provision for persons employed in the intercourse between the United States and Foreign Countries, informed the house that the committee had their doubts respecting the object of the House in the Resolution appointing the committee, Whether the idea was to make provision for persons now employed in the public service—or whether the design was to extend the provision to appointments of such different grades, as in the judgment of The President of the United States may be necessary—and requested further instructions from the House.

It was observed that from the spirit of the Resolution, upon which the subject was taken up, it was evident that it was understood the matter should come generally before the committee, but as the business involved a variety of questions, on which the House could not determine with so much precision, as they could from the information which may be received from the Secretary of State, respecting the arrangements necessary to be made previous to making any provision, it was moved that the committee should be discharged.

This motion was objected to, as it is necessary that provision should be made for those persons now employed: The President is vested, by the Constitution, with power to make such appointments as he may think necessary—all that the House have to do, is to make such provision as may appear proper: The Legislature may at any time check an excess in such appointments, by withholding supplies for their support—That it is evident from the tenor of the President's speech that he expects the Legislature should go into a full consideration of the subject—and in the bill, make the necessary arrangements of the several officers which it may be proper to employ, and the provision proper for the several grades—the necessity of the respective appointments, must be determined by the President with the advice of the Senate.

The question for discharging the select committee was put, and negatived.

It was then moved, that the committee be instructed to make provision in the bill for the compensation of those persons now employed or that

may be employed in the intercourse between the United States and foreign nations.

Mr. Partridge observed, that there is a resolve on the journals of the late Congress, providing that no foreign minister higher than a Minister Plenipotentiary, should be appointed—whether that resolution is now in force he would not pretend to determine—but he supposed that the House was not then prepared to determine upon establishing a diplomatic corps of Embassadors, Ministers Plenipotentiary, Envoys, &c.

Mr. Boudinot advocated the motion for referring the whole business to the committee, as the House in the discussion of their report would be able to come to more adequate decisions on the subject.

The motion was carried in the affirmative.

The committee on the petition of — Dobbins, respecting lands, reported that the Secretary of the Treasury be empowered to locate to the petitioner a tract in the western territory, within certain limits.

The petition of Christopher Saddler having been referred to the Secretary of the Treasury, the following report was received this day.

Treasury Department, Jan. 19, 1790.
In obedience to the order of the House of Representatives of the 11th instant, referring to the Secretary of the Treasury the petition of Christopher Saddler,

The said Secretary
Most respectfully reports,

That except the letter from the Collector of the district of Boston and Charlestown, accompanying the petition, there is no evidence immediately within reach, respecting the ground of the application for relief.

That tho' that letter is entirely satisfactory to the mind of the Secretary, that the affair is of a nature to entitle the petitioner to relief; yet he does not consider it as such a document, as in point of precedent, would justify the interposition of the Legislature to grant it. The Secretary will therefore take measures for a more regular authentication of the nature of the transaction, and will submit the result. To this there is the further inducement of its being necessary to ascertain whether the persons who may be interested in the forfeiture are disposed to relinquish their right.

The Secretary however, begs leave to avail himself of the occasion, to represent to the House, that there are other instances which have come under his notice, in which considerable forfeitures have been incurred, manifestly thro' inadvertence, and want of information—circumstances which cannot fail to attend the recent promulgation of laws of such a nature—and seem to indicate the necessity, in conformity to the usual policy of commercial nations, of vesting some where, a discretionary power of granting relief.

That necessity, tho' peculiarly great, in the early stages of new regulations, does not cease to operate throughout the progress of them.—There occasionally occurs accidents from which heavy and ruinous forfeitures ensue, that require the constant existence of some power capable of affording relief—the proper investment of such a power is a matter of too much delicacy, and importance, to be determined otherwise than upon mature deliberation.—Yet the Secretary begs leave to submit to the consideration of the House, whether a temporary arrangement might not be made with expedition and safety—which would avoid the inconvenience of a legislative decision on particular applications.—All which is humbly submitted.
ALEXANDER HAMILTON,
Secretary of the Treasury.

On motion this report was referred to a committee consisting of Mr. Ames, Mr. Sturges, Mr. Stone, Mr. Griffin and Mr. Wynkoop.

Mr. Wadsworth introduced the following resolution, that the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to lay before the House such information as he may have obtained respecting any difficulties which have occurred in carrying the several laws for the collection of duties on goods, wares, and merchandize—imposing duties on tonnage, and regulating the coasting trade, into execution, and to report his opinion thereon.

Adjourned.

LEGISLATURE OF STATE OF NEW-YORK.
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1790.

THE Speaker laid before the House the following communication from Gerard Bancker, Esq. State Treasurer, which was read, and entered on the Journal.

State of New-York—

IN pursuance of the 11th section of an act entitled, "An act authorizing the Auditor to audit certain accounts and claims, and for other purposes therein mentioned," passed the 22d day of April 1785, We the subscribers, having this day examined the Cash account of Gerard Bancker, Esq. Treasurer of this State, and counted the money remaining in the Treasury, do hereby certify that the same amounting to £.14,416 0 8½ (which is the ballance according to the said cash

account) is now actually in the Treasury.—Witness our hands this thirteenth day of June, 1789.

COMFORT SANDS,
HENRY REMSEN,

State of New-York,
Dec. 31, 1789. To amount of
account of payments made since
the 31st Dec. 1788. 64,676 12 7½
To balance now in the Treas-
ury 34,522 7 10½

State of New-York,
Dec. 31, 1789. By balance
due to the State on a settlement
of my account on the 31st Dec.
1788. £. 99,199 0 6
23,285 12 10

By amount of an account of receipts into the Treasury, since the 31st Dec. 1788. 75,913 7 8

I, Peter T. Curténus, Auditor of the State of New-York, do hereby certify, that I have examined the above account current of Gerard Bancker, Treasurer, and the accounts therein referred to, as well as the several vouchers for the payments therein charged, which are now delivered up to me; that I find them regularly stated and balanced, and that the sum of £.34,522 7 10½ is the true balance this day justly due from the said Treasurer to the State of New-York.—Witness my hand this 31st December, 1789.

PETER T. CURTENIUS, State Auditor.
We, the subscribers, the committee appointed by law to assist the Auditor of this State in the settlement of the public accounts, do, in pursuance of the directions contained in the 4th section of an act entitled, "An act further to continue the Treasurer of this State in office," certify, That the balance of money due from him to the State, to wit, £.34,522 7 10½ has now been produced to us, and is actually in the Treasury.—Witness our hands in New-York, this 31st December, 1789.
HENRY REMSEN,
WILLIAM DENNING,
COMFORT SANDS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 18.

A petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city of New-York, praying to be enabled by law to raise the sum of 10000l. in the said city by tax, for the support of the Poor in the said city, and other contingent charges, was read.

Ordered that the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill for the purposes mentioned in the petition.

Another petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city of New-York, praying the aid of the legislature to raise money by lottery, for the discharge of debts accrued in repairing and improving the City-Hall for the accommodation of the Congress of the United States, was read and referred to the members attending this house from the city and county of New-York.

Mr. Watts reported a bill declaring it to be the duty of the several sheriffs of the several counties within this state to receive and safe keep such prisoners as shall be committed under the authority of the United States, was read a first time and ordered a second reading.

NEW-YORK, JANUARY 20, 1790.

The several state Assemblies which have been, or now are in session, discover a most cordial disposition towards the General Government. The amendments to the Constitution have been adopted fully in some of them, and by one branch in others, particularly in Virginia; and what is singular perhaps in that State, by the immediate representatives of the people; justly considering those amendments as an earnest of what may still take place, should they be found inadequate.

Congress have discovered so tender a regard for the rights of the people, and there has been such a spirit of candor and fairness in all their proceedings, that there is an universal confidence reposed in them by the wise, judicious and patriotic characters in all the State Governments; and the honor and dignity of the Union is considered as the glory and happiness of every part of the great Republic, and of every individual citizen.

ADVERTISEMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given to all the Creditors of THOMAS EATON, WILLIAM PELLIS, JABEZ SAYRS, ANTHONY SAYRS, and GEORGE WELCH, Insolvent Debtors, now confined in the common goal of Newark, in the county of Essex, and State of New-Jersey, that they are requested to appear on Monday the Twenty Second Day of February next, at Nine o'Clock in the forenoon of said day, at the Court House in Newark aforesaid, before the Judges of the Inferior Court, and shew cause, if any there be, why an assignment of the above Insolvent Debtor's Estates should not be made, and they the Insolvents be discharged agreeable to law.

Thomas Eaton, William Pellis, Jacob Sayrs,
Anthony Sayrs, George Welch.
Newark, 18th January, 1790. w. 4th