

Mr. Williamson stated certain particulars to shew, that a just idea of the sum paid by North-Carolina could not be known by any statements from the public offices—their business is carried on coastwise—To judge of their consumption, recourse must be had to the exportations of that State—He said the exportations of North-Carolina amounted to a million of dollars annually.

Mr. Clymer said that a gentleman from Georgia had mentioned the averfion that the people of Pennsylvania bore to an excise law. Such a law he observed had been in force in the state for upwards of 50 or 60 years, and that the excise officers were vested with as much power as it was proposed to give them by the bill before the house; that some resistance had been offered to those officers acting in the line of their duty; but that those who opposed them in the execution of their business were severely fined.—He was not convinced that the duty which it was proposed to lay on spirits by the bill under consideration was odious to a majority of the states;—they most of them had excise laws of their own, and he conceived the present bill was as well guarded as possible, by wholesome provisions against every objection.—From the statements which had been produced, there would be no great excess in the revenue, he apprehended; but if there was, it would be well applied in lessening the public debts.

Mr. Madison remarked on the observations of Mr. Fitzsimons, respecting the southern States not paying their proportion of the Impost: He shewed that the trade of the southern states was carried on by the eastern and northern States—That the consumption of the southern States was proportioned to their numbers, and in this way they bore their full proportion of the public burthens.

Mr. Jackson replied to Mr. Clymer, and said, that if the people had been severely fined for a breach of the Excise Law in this State, he had been well informed, that the fine had been as severely remitted.

The question on striking out the 13th section, was negatived—33 to 17. Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 19.

A bill, declaring the assent of Congress to a certain act of the State of Maryland, being read a second time, was referred to a committee of the whole on Monday next.

Mr. Sedgwick, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill, authorizing the President of the United States to cause the debt due to foreign officers, the interest whereon is now payable in Paris, at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, to be paid and discharged—being read a first and second time, was referred to a committee of the whole, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

A letter from the Directors of the Library Company of Philadelphia, making an offer of the use of the Books in said Library to the Members of both Houses of Congress, was communicated by the Speaker.

Mr. Huntington presented a memorial from the Baptist Association in the State of Connecticut, requesting the interposition of Congress to prevent incorrectness in future editions of the Bible, published in the United States—read and laid on the table.

A petition from sundry surgeons and surgeon's mates, in the service of the United States, during the late war, was read and referred to the Secretary at War.

A petition from William Dewees, and a petition from William Blackledge, were referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Another petition from the same person, praying that certain claims against the state of North Carolina be discharged, was referred to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Fitzsimons, from the committee appointed to consider the petition of Joshua Barney, late an officer in the American navy, reported a resolution, that a committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, to allow to Capt. Joshua Barney, the sum of dollars.

Agreeable to the order of the day, the House proceeded in the further consideration of the amendments proposed to the new Revenue Bill. A motion to recommit the bill was negatived: It was then moved to re-commit the fourth section, which specifies the compensations to the inspectors—this also was negatived: The debates were spun out to a considerable length—but an adjournment being called for, the further consideration of the bill was postponed.

THURSDAY, Jan. 20.

Mr. Fitzsimons presented a memorial from the merchants of Philadelphia, trading to India, and China—praying that an additional duty may be laid on all goods imported into the United States from India or China in foreign bottoms—this was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

A petition of Robert Mead was presented by Mr. Lawrence, which was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

A petition of C. and J. Sands, and W. Livingston in behalf of themselves and associates, praying compensation for damages sustained by a contract, for supplying the army, with provisions—read and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Otis, their Secretary—informing, that they have passed a bill for incorporating the subscribers to the Bank of the United States.

The house resumed the consideration of the amendments proposed to the new revenue bill—and after some debate the latter part of the fourth section, referring to the compensation of the inspectors, was struck out.

A motion was again made to re-commit the bill generally to a select committee, this was lost—30 to 27.

Mr. Lee then moved that it should be re-committed for the purpose of inserting a clause devising a mode of collecting the revenue—this was negatived, 33 to 24.

Several amendments proposed by Mr. Fitzsimons were adopted—Some sections were expunged—The further consideration of the bill was postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. Sedgwick laid the following motion on the table, that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for making compensation to the inspectors of the duties on distilled spirits.

Mr. Tucker, Mr. Partridge, and Mr. Lee were appointed a committee on the part of the House, to join a committee of the Senate to consider of and report a time for the commencement of the next Congress. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, Jan. 21.

The act to incorporate the subscribers to the bank of the United States received from the Senate yesterday, was read the first and second time, and referred to a committee of the whole house on Wednesday next.

Mr. Madison presented the petition of W. C. Webb and Conyers Wythe, which was read and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Williamson reported a bill for preventing the invalid pensioners from selling their pensions before they shall become due; read a first and second time, and made the order of the day on Thursday next.

Mr. Sedgwick's motion for a committee to bring in a bill to provide for the compensation of the inspectors of the duties on distilled spirits, was taken into consideration, and a committee consisting of Messrs. Sedgwick, Madison and Lawrence was appointed.

The house proceeded in the consideration of the amendments proposed to the bill laying duties on distilled spirits.

A motion was made by Mr. Jackson, in the following words: And be it further enacted, That if any inspector or other officer or person concerned in the collection of the revenue to be raised by this act, shall, by word, message or writing, or in any other manner whatsoever, persuade or endeavor to persuade, an Elector to give, or dissuade or endeavor to dissuade any from giving his vote for the choice of any person to be a member of the House of Representatives, member of the Senate, or President of the United States—such inspector or other person so offending, shall be forever disabled from holding an office under this act, and shall be subject to a penalty of dollars.

This motion occasioned a lengthy debate. The yeas and nays being required by Mr. Jackson, were, Yeas 21—Nays 37. The further consideration of the bill was postponed till to-morrow.

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Otis their Secretary, informing that they have concurred in the vote of the house, in appointing a committee on their part to consider and report a time for the commencement of the next Congress.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

MR. FENNO,

I CALLED this morning for the first time, to hear the proceedings of the House of Representatives of the State of Pennsylvania; and was much surprised to find them warmly engaged in a business that in my humble opinion; and I believe in the opinion of their constituents generally, they had no more to do with than with the King of Great-Britain's late speech to both Houses of Parliament.

The contention was about passing a set of resolutions said to relate to a law pending in the house of representatives of the United States, respecting revenue. No person will pretend to question the right of the house in expressing their sentiments on the public measures of the national legislature; but in the present case, I very much question if there was a necessity for such caution, and much more the propriety of the mode of exercising it.

We trust it will never be disputed that the Assembly of a free State have a right to bear testimony against any law, that is "established upon principles, subversive of the peace, liberty, and rights of its citizens;" but did the gentlemen, who offered the resolutions, make it appear that the proposed law was founded on such principles, or that it would have such a tendency? I believe it will be acknowledged, they did not, either in the debates or otherwise, only by an indirect charge or insinuation, contained on the face of the resolutions. If there was real cause of complaint, why not come forward and remonstrate boldly and openly; and if there was no cause, why found an alarm, and take up so much time about a visionary evil that did not exist?

If popularity was the object the gentlemen had in view, the good sense of the people of Pennsylvania will certainly disappoint them; for it is not to be doubted, that they have as well-founded a confidence in their representatives in the one body as in the other.

It is notorious that the members of that body, with regard to whose conduct and views too many endeavor to promote jealousy and distrust, have at all times evinced the most sacred regard to the rights and liberties of the people; and from their means of obtaining information, are more likely to be able to judge on questions which have for their object the general interests of the nation.

Philadelphia, Jan. 20, 1791. A PENNSYLVANIAN.

Philadelphia, Jan. 22.

The advocates of the present government, before it was adopted by the people, were thought to be very sanguine in their anticipation of the blessings which would result from its establishment. It has turned out on the trial, however, that the event has exceeded the expectation—more is perhaps fulfilled than was promised: But many who allow that our situation was deplorable before the union was secured by the new government, and that it is at present more prosperous than the most sanguine could then have expect-

ed, yet will not give all the credit of the change to the new Constitution. But a correspondent thinks it useful to remark, that there is one point in which all parties may agree, which is, that whether the surprising prosperity of the country is, or is not, in any degree, the work of the national government, it is plain, that nothing can secure the continuance of that prosperity but the preservation of the government: Weakening the government, or overthrowing it, would immediately change the condition and prospects of the people. While we enjoy so much, and hope so much more than we enjoy, we should reverence our government, and consider any attempt to excite the people to destroy it, as more injurious to our wealth, than the Hessian Fly in our wheat-fields. That insect attacks but one grain, and not every species of that: But anarchy and civil discord spare nothing. The insect takes the seed—violence would seize the crop. The adoption of the Constitution saved us from these evils: By supporting it we may hope in future to avoid them.

Before the Constitution was adopted, it was charged with tending to oppression and tyranny: A man who believed all that he had heard against it, must have expected in 1791, to wear wooden shoes, and to want spirit to say his soul was his own.—How things are changed!—The government has been tried: And what is said against it now?—That it does injustice?—No: But that it does more than justice exacts of it.—It pays debts, which say the accusers, it did not owe; but which are allowed to be honestly due—which on settling the accounts, this government stood bound to pay, and which the worthy creditors would have been likely to lose, if it had not consented to admit, without delay.—So much for its tyranny, and treading on men's rights and property.—Now for its oppression: Why; that its revenue is so ample, that new taxes are declared to be superfluous.—Americans, you have tried your government: You have tried to do without one:—Which do you like best?

A correspondent observes, that agreeable to the sketch of the debates in the Pennsylvania house of Representatives, as published in Mr. Dunlap's paper—the cause of the union, so far as it depends on revenue to support it, is in a very sickly condition.—A torrent of oratorical declamation in favor of interfering with the legislature of the United States, is counteracted by a few detached sentences; and the "industry" of an individual federalist only—even appears that when called upon to give their reasons, the federalists do "not offer any particular arguments."

It appears to be the general wish of the legislatures of the several states, that the debates of the Senate of the United States should be public.—North-Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New-York have expressed that sentiment.

According to some recent resolutions passed in the legislatures of particular states—we appear to be in a fair way to get rid of the expence of supporting a federal government; especially as the work of legislation for the whole union appears to be better understood, by detached bodies than by the concentrated wisdom of the states—even in the opinion of some who are sworn to support the federal constitution.

We hear from Albany that the convention of Vermont made a house on the 6th inst. in order to deliberate upon the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. From the degree of unanimity which appeared among the members, it is (says the Albany account) probable that they adopted the constitution on Saturday, the 8th instant.

The Governor of this state has been pleased to appoint Alexander James Dallas, Esq. his Secretary.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.		
6 pr. Cents	17/4 pr. £	86½ pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	of	45 do.
Deferred 6 pr. Cents	of 1/4.	46½ do.
UNFUNDED DEBT.		
Final Sett. and other Certificates	15/9.	78½ do.
Indents	of	45 do.
N. and S. Carolina, debts,	11/6.	57½ do.

WANTED, TWO OR MORE

Convenient ROOMS,

in Chestnut-Street, or as near the Bank as possible. Enquire of the Printer. (opt.)

South-Carolina Lands for Sale,

ABOUT one hundred miles from Charleston, for any kind of Goods. One third part of 63 Tracts of Land, containing 51,900 acres, lying near the rivers of Savannah, Big and Little Salt Chachees, and the fork of the Edisto: These Lands are a dark, or a copper-coloured soil, in an inhabited part of the State.

Also 5 tracts of Land in Ninety-Six district, 4 in Orangeburg district, 6 in Camden, all containing 7,600 acres, all good land, with streams of water running through them. These Lands will be sold so low, that a man may make his fortune in buying them, for the purpose of selling them again, as emigrants are daily arriving there from Europe, to settle.

Duplicate Plots and Grants may be seen, and indisputable titles will be given by the subscriber. FREDERICK KING.

Morrisstown, Jan. 1791. (77-6w1w.)

Forty Dollars Reward.

LOST by the Subscriber, on the 12th day of January 1791, between Penollop and Freehold, in the county of Monmouth, and State of New-Jersey, the following Certificates, issued by the said State, to sundry Soldiers, for the three-fourth parts of the depreciation of their pay; all of which are signed by John Stevens, jun. Treasurer, and countersigned by James Ewing, Auditor, viz.

No.	Dated,	Payable to	Amount.
323	June 26, 1781,	Powel Allison,	£.60 8 9
399	January 27, do.	Jacob Long,	30 16 10½
593	June 29, do.	Oliver Cromwell,	60 8 9
664	June 30, do.	James Kinsey,	57 12 6
740	July 2, do.	George Long,	5 4 4½
869	July 4, do.	Ananias Clark,	3 12 4½
928	July 30, do.	Samuel Dotey,	135 7 6½
1060	March 20, 1782,	Ephraim Patren,	31 13 9
1128	August 8, do.	James Coullton,	30 7 10½
1123	August 8, do.	Moses Thompson,	150 5 9½
1230	January 27, 1783,	Afa Gilderleaves,	63 7 5½
1237	April 9, do.	Michael Lane,	61 16 10½
841	July 4, 1781,	James Clark,	4 17 10½

Any person who may have found the said Certificates, and will return them to the subscriber, living at Penollop as aforesaid, shall receive the above reward; and in proportion for any part of them which may be returned.

All persons are hereby cautioned against purchasing any of the above Certificates, as payment is stopped at the public offices. If any of them should be offered for sale, the person to whom they are offered is requested to stop the same, and give notice thereof to their humble servant. KENNETH HANKINSON. Monmouth County, New-Jersey, Jan. 15, 1791.