

reimburse the petitioner for any actual expenses he had been at on account of medicines, but was opposed to an acceptance of the report in its present form.

Mr. Huntington supported the motion for an acceptance, he observed that the petitioner by virtue of his being a colonel, was under no obligation to exercise the office of a physician, and therefore his being a colonel did not render his demand less valid and just—that it would be establishing a very bad precedent indeed, if an officer should not be compensated for services of this kind—Mr. Huntington gave a short account of the services performed by the petitioner, from which it appeared that his labors had been incessant, and rendered in the most interesting circumstances, of which abundant proof was contained in the papers that accompanied the petition.

Mr. Matthews and Mr. Burke spoke of the very important services performed by the petitioner—and said that no claim could be better founded.

The question on the motion passed in the affirmative, and the report was referred to Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Matthews, and Mr. Burke—who are instructed to report a bill or bills pursuant thereto.

The blanks in the bill to promote the progress of useful arts were filled up and the bill passed.

In committee of the whole on the report of the Secretary of the Treasury—for making provision for the support of the public credit.

The proposition, viz. To have two thirds funded at an annuity or yearly interest of six per cent. redeemable at the pleasure of the government, by payment of the principal, and to receive the other third in lands in the western territory, at the rate of 20 cents per acre—was read.

It was moved by Mr. Boudinot—that the clause respecting the western territory should be struck out—and proposed the following amendment in lieu thereof—and to receive for the other third a certificate drawing an interest of 6 per cent. per annum, payable in ten years—which certificate shall be received as specie in payment for lands in the western territory.

This amendment after some debate was negatived and the question on the proposition being put, it passed in the affirmative.

The next proposition or alternative being read, the principle of irredeemability contained in it was objected to—and producing a considerable debate, precluded a decision before the committee rose.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11.

Several petitions were presented and read.

In committee of the whole on the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, for making provision for the support of the public credit.

The following proposition was read, viz.—To have the whole sum funded at an annuity, or yearly interest, of 4 per cent. irredeemable by any payment exceeding five dollars pr. annum, on account both of principal and interest; and to receive as a compensation for the reduction of interest, fifteen dollars and eighty cents, payable in lands, as in the preceding case.

The debate this day turned principally on the irredeemable quality proposed in this alternative. After a lengthy discussion the proposition was negatived.

The next proposition was then read, and further debate ensued. The committee rose without coming to a decision on a motion made by Mr. Jackson to strike out what relates to irredeemability in this alternative.

A second memorial from George Scriba, respecting a purchase of lands in the Western Territory, was read.

Mr. Trumbull brought in a bill for making compensation to Col. John Ely, for his services, as a Surgeon to the late army of the United States—which was read.

Mr. Wadsworth had leave of absence for fourteen days. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, MARCH 12.

The bill for granting compensation to colonel John Ely, was read the second time, and referred to the committee of the whole house, to be taken into consideration this day fortnight.

Several petitions were read and referred.

Mr. Bland observed that private memorials and petitions have encreased so much, that very shortly the attention of every individual member of the house will be taken up in the investigation of the facts set forth in those petitions, to the great interruption of the business of the nation.

He therefore moved the following resolutions in substance.

1st. That all memorials and petitions for claims presented to the house, be referred to the heads of departments to report thereon.

2d. That the committees to whom memorials and petitions have been referred, be discharged from any further attention to the same, and that they be referred as above.—Laid on the table.

In committee of the whole on the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, for making provision for the support of the public credit.

The third proposition or alternative was read viz.

“3dly. To have Sixty Six and Two Thirds Dollars funded at a yearly interest of Six per Cent. irredeemable also by any payment exceeding Four and Two thirds Dollars per annum, on account both of principal and interest—and to have at the end of ten years, twenty-six dollars and eighty-eight cents, funded at the like interest, and rate of redemption.”

Mr. Lee moved that the whole proposition should be rejected—which occasioned a debate, and the question being taken on the motion, it passed in the negative.

Mr. Jackson's motion for striking out these words “irredeemable also by any payment exceeding four and two thirds dollars, per annum, on account both of principal and interest,” was then read, and after some further debate, was also negatived.

Mr. Fitzsimons after premising some observations respecting a more rapid extinction of the principal, than is contemplated by the secretary, proposed that four and two-thirds dollars should be struck out, in order to introduce a higher rate of payment per annum.—He mentioned six per cent. on account of principal and interest.

Mr. Madison mentioned a still higher sum.

Four and two-thirds dollars after some debate were struck out, and the proposition with the blank passed over.

The following propositions were rejected, viz.

“4thly. To have an annuity for the remainder of life, upon the contingency of living to a given age, not less distant than ten years, computing interest at 4 per cent.”

“5thly. To have an annuity for the remainder of life, on the contingency of the survivorship of the youngest of two persons, computing interest in this case also at 4 per cent.”

The Committee then rose, and the house adjourned till To-morrow.

N. B. The debate in our last under Tuesday, Feb. 23, should have been introduced by the proposition for the assumption of the State debts.

THE GIFT OF SUBLIMITY.

TO WILLY SHAKESPEARE.

ON the biforked hill, with Fame's ever-green crown'd, Encircled with azure serene, Whilst the sylphs of his fancy play'd wantonly round, WILLY SHAKESPEARE enlivn'd the scene.

As all thoughtful he sat, keen-ey'd Wisdom drew near, Just sent from the regions above, And, stooping, she whisper'd this truth in his ear, “Thy lays breathe the spirit of Jove.”

To his side came the muse of the bowl and the blade, To hail him great prince of her art; Whilst Comedy near all those dimples display'd, That gave a brisk pulse to the heart.

Bright Genius approach'd him with pleasing respect, In her arms a young eagle she bore, To shew, if unshackled by icy neglect, To what wonderful heights she could soar.

Recumbent before him, straight dropt the sweet maid, When expanding the wing of her bird, “Take the quill of Sublimity SHAKESPEARE,” she said, “And go fashion the tear-flaring word.”

To Genius he bow'd as he pluck'd forth the quill; To the breeze were his vestments uncurl'd; Like a Sun-beam with Fancy he fled from the hill, To charm and illumine the world.

For the good of mankind he rare precepts convey'd, And his strains had such pow'r o'er the Ear, That whenever he pleas'd from the concourse that stray'd, He could call up the smile or the tear.

Old Time knew his worth—with the sigh of esteem, From the earth bid sweet WILLY arise; With his Genius he fled, but has left us his theme, Which shall ever be dear to the wife.

THE TABLET.—No. XCVI.

“Why should an actor complain of being called from the Theatre, when he has either finished his part, or can carry it on but badly.”

SHORT as the life of man is represented to be, it is still long enough for him to accomplish all the purposes for which he was created. When the affairs of a person are perpetually involved in hurry and confusion, it betrays a want of system or diligence: But it is no proof he is too circumscribed with respect to time. Had he more time, or had he less to perform, the same difficulty would exist, while he errs in laying his plans, or is dilatory in executing them. The best systems will not succeed, when managed by indolent men; nor will the most active industry turn to much account, where there is a defect of system. It is not the quantity of business any one has to perform that embarrasses him, for nothing can perplex a person of method and activity.

The complaints therefore of the shortness of life are not founded in reason. If a man has lived to the age of three score years and ten, without having accomplished the main objects that deserve attention, no period would be long enough to gratify his expectations. The genius of every person is limited within certain bounds, which are more or less extensive in different men. Those of a narrow comprehension come to their full perfection, before they half run out their existence. Were the life of such people limited to forty years, they should not complain of the shortness of it, because if it were ten times as long, they would make no new attainments. There are other men whose faculties are formed upon a larger scale, and who continue to make improvements till they are sixty years old. But whatever is the period, when the talents cease to be progressive, a man gains no advantage from living, more desirable than he has already gained.

If a person, having passed the middle age of life, finds that he has acquired little honor or property, he may generally conclude there is

some deficiency in his capacity or exertions. To such a man length of life will bring no acquisition of character or riches. Why then should we complain of that which is in itself no evil? Had human nature been so constituted, that our faculties did not soon arrive at their most perfect point, great would be the misfortune that our sublunary existence had not a longer duration. Confined however to as small a compass as it is, if we employ our moments with care and diligence, we may finish our career, with joy and reputation.

NEW-YORK, MARCH 13.

A Correspondent says,—“I love short Speakers, who hit the mark with a single ball—One ball thro the heart will as surely kill as a thousand grape shot—”

Extract of a letter from Boston—March 3.

“The dispatch with which business is carried on in our House, as we call it, must in a great measure be attributed to the activity and genius of our Speaker, Gen. COBB. His independence, quickness of apprehension and comprehension—his industry and attention are universally applauded: And in turning a question when the vote has been equal, he does it with a promptitude and native firmness, which nothing but a mind directed by right principles could inspire.”

“The papers will inform you how our legislators go on. Altho Praifegod Barebones, in his rage of Law-Reform, has let in a flood of impertinences, yet the measures adopted by the Court have been far better than some persons wish to effect elsewhere.”

“The House has expressed its disapprobation of paper taxes—voted the product of the Excise to pay the interest of the State Debt—has raised the salaries of the Superior Judges, &c.—and repealed the Warden Act.”

“There is however much anti-federalism in the house; and **** has brought forward in the senate, a budget of alterations to the federal constitution.—One of which is that the members of Congress, shall depend on the legislatures of the states for their pay, and the quantum of it—blessed effect of individual folly! To suppose that one set of the servants of the people, should make wages for another—and a higher set too! If our legislature should adopt this *mess*, I hope that Congress will send out an amendment that the pay of the state legislatures, shall be stated by the representatives of the union.”

A Joint Committee of both Houses of the Legislature of Massachusetts, have reported the following propositions, as the basis of further amendments to the Constitution of the United States—viz.

First.—That Congress shall not interfere in the regulations of the elections of its Members, except in cases, where the State Legislatures shall neglect, or refuse to make regulations; and that the qualifications of Senators and Representatives, be expressly defined in the Constitution.

Second.—That Congress erect no company with exclusive advantages of commerce.

Third.—That Congress have power to establish a uniform rule of inhabitancy or settlement of the poor of the different States throughout the United States.

Fourth.—That republican forms of Government be established in the districts which are, or shall be ceded to the United States.

Fifth.—That Congress shall by law provide for calling forth the *posse comitatus* for executing the laws of the United State.

Sixth.—That the general Government exercise no power but what is expressly delegated.

Seventh.—That a part of the internal resources of taxation be appropriated to the United States, and that a part thereof be exclusively reserved to the respective States, with such exceptions, however, and under such limitations as a war and other extraordinary exigencies may require.

Eighth.—That no system for forming the militia be established, and that no establishment of troops in a time of peace, beyond a limited number, be made, if disapproved by a specified number of the State Legislatures, within a limited time after the bills for those purposes shall be laid before them.

Ninth.—That the Judiciary powers of the United States be more explicitly defined, and more accurately distinguished from those of the respective States.

Tenth.—That the Senate shall not possess all the Executive and Judicial Powers now vested in that body.

Eleventh.—That it be left to the several States, to make compensations to their Senators and Representatives respectively, for their services in Congress.

Twelfth.—That the State Legislatures have power to recall when they may think it expedient their Federal Senators, and to send others in their stead—And that the Senators be chosen, all at the same time, and for the term of four years.

ARRIVALS.—NEW YORK.

Thursday. Sloop Rambler, Rogers, Edenton (N. C.) 10 days.

Friday. Schooner Hetty, Peebe, Charleston, 21 days.

Ship Union Dekay, that was a shore on the East bank, is arrived at this port with the loss of her Rudder and other small damage.

Capt. Cook arrived off Georgetown-Bar Feb. 23, and landed his passengers, with the loss of his horses and cargo on deck.