

But as certain states have respectively issued their own certificates in exchange for those of the United States, whereby it might happen that interest might be twice payable on the same sums.

Be it therefore further enacted, That the payment of interest, whether to states or to individuals, in respect to the debt of any state, by which such exchange shall have been made, shall be suspended until it shall appear to the satisfaction of the— that certificates issued for that purpose, by such state have been re-exchanged or redeemed, or until those which shall not have been re-exchanged or redeemed, shall be surrendered to the United States.

And be it further enacted, That the faith of the United States be, and the same is hereby pledged to make provision, before the 3d of March, 1791, for payment of interest on the amount of the stock arising from subscriptions to the said loan, upon the like principle with the provision herein before expressed, touching the loan to be made in the said domestic debt of the United States; and also for the payment of the said four per centum per annum on so much of the said debts of the respective states, as shall remain unsubscribed to the said loan.

And be it further enacted, That so much of the debt of each state as shall be subscribed to the said loan, shall be a charge against such state in account with the United States.

And be it further enacted, That the commissioners to be appointed as aforesaid, shall have the like powers and authorities, and shall perform the like services and duties in respect to the said last mentioned loan, as in respect to the one first above proposed, relatively to the said domestic debt of the United States.

Mr. Lee said, he had hoped that the advocates of this measure would have suffered the committee to have proceeded in the business before them, without interrupting it by attempting to unite this subject with another, which has been repeatedly declared to be different in its construction. He thought it would have an inauspicious aspect on the public councils—would delay, if not entirely defeat, an object of the greatest importance, and on which the public expectation is exceedingly engaged—It will revive all those recriminations, and invidious distinctions, which have already created for many disagreeable sensations.—He hoped the gentlemen would not urge the conjoining a business which is in its nature so distinct. He therefore moved that the Committee should rise, and report the bill. He should not, he said, object to the bringing in a particular bill upon the subject: The proposed amendment is lengthy and complex, said he, it will require a lengthy discussion, and can with more advantage be attended to, when taken up as a separate object.

Mr. Sherman observed, that the design of this amendment is to make provision for a class of citizens equally meritorious with any others in the United States—should the bill pass without providing for them, some of the States will be wholly unable to do it, and others of them cannot without burdening the people with very oppressive taxes—it will be leaving the State creditors in a totally destitute situation. He did not wish that the committee should immediately take the proposition into consideration—he was in favor of its laying on the table, that the committee might take time to reflect upon it.

Mr. Sedgwick made some observations similar to those offered by Mr. Sherman.

Mr. Fitzsimons said he was in favor of the Assumption, as much as any man whatever—still he thought it best to finish the bill now before the committee, and make the assumption the object of a particular bill by itself. He thought this would be a saving of time, and that those who advocated the connecting it with the present bill, would find that the greatest difficulties would attend prosecuting it in that connection.

Mr. Ames observed, that as many observations had been made on the propriety of taking up this subject in connection with the present bill. He thought it necessary that some notice should be taken of them.

He observed, that the present opportunity appeared to be the only one, of taking up this business—for if the bill now before the committee shall be completed, without including the assumption, it will then be objected that the funding system is finished; and drawing near the close of the session, it is very improbable that any thing will be done.

Adverting to the report of the Secretary, he observed, that it is evident the Secretary considers the assumption as an essential part of his plan. For his part he could form no idea of a system without it—Gentlemen have been repeatedly called upon to explain their ideas on the subject; they have not done it; they have not pointed out the funds they mean to appropriate to their object. They have not told us what part of the funds appropriated by the states they mean to invade. The idea of bringing in a separate bill he considered as absurd. It was forming two funding systems—making two businesses out of one—and encreasing the perplexities of each—rendering that complex and intricate, which might be simplified and made perfectly easy and intelligible.

Mr. Fitzsimons and Mr. Hartley made some observations in reply to Mr. Ames—and objected to connecting the assumption with the present bill.

Mr. Parker after observing that if the proposition now offered by Mr. Gerry, is added to the bill he should be for rejecting it altogether—moved that the committee should rise and report progress. This motion being agreed to, the Committee rose; but before the chairman could make report, Mr. Gale moved in the House that he should report particularly how far the committee had proceeded in the bill—and that the committee should be discharged from any further consideration of the same.

Mr. Page seconded this motion: He observed that the committee had discharged their commission, which was to provide for the public debt—the last section of the bill had no necessary connection with the preceding parts. He objected to Mr. Gerry's propositions, as informal, as tending to obstruct the passage of the funding bill, &c.

Some discussion took place respecting the propriety of instructing the committee in the House, to report differently from the sense of the motion made in committee—which was, that the committee should rise, report progress, and ask leave to set again.

Mr. Boudinot, in particular, enlarged on the impropriety of precluding the advocates of the assumption from replying to the observations of the gentleman from the southward, who spoke the last on the subject—He said the idea of preventing a free and full discussion, is not consistent with candor, fair-dealing, and the rules of the House. The debate was continued with ardor on both sides. In opposition to the committee's sitting again, it was said the assumption has been twice rejected—that it has a tendency to excite heats and animosities—that it will be protracting the public business, and in the issue, occasion a loss of the funding system altogether.—In favor of the committee's sitting again it was said that the observations of gentlemen, opposed to the Assumption, had gone out into the world unanswered, and unreplyed to—that in consequence of the very extraordinary and unfounded assertions made by a gentleman from Virginia, papers had been called for, which contained statements that the advocates for the assumption mean to make use of: The business of assumption has received a different determination at different times—the friends of the measure may bring forward such arguments in its support as may convince a majority of its propriety and expediency.

Mr. Gale having withdrawn his motion—it was determined that the committee have leave to set again. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, MAY 25.

In committee of the whole house on the funding bill.

Mr. Seney in the chair.

Mr. Gerry's proposition for the assumption of the State debts was read—This proposition was advocated by Mr. Sherman, Mr. Boudinot and Mr. Ames—who severally entered into a full discussion of the subject of assumption, and replied particularly to the observations of Mr. Madison.

No member rising immediately after Mr. Ames, and the chairman being about to put the question, Mr. Sedgwick after premising a few observations respecting the probability that some other gentlemen would wish to express their minds on the subject—in order to allow them an opportunity to do it, moved that the committee should rise. Mr. Gale moved an amendment to this motion, by adding that the chairman should report, "that the committee have gone through the discussion of the 12 first sections of the bill, and that they be discharged from any further consideration thereof."—This amendment occasioned considerable debate—an appeal was made to the chair whether it was in order; the chairman gave it as his opinion that it was; an appeal from the judgment of the chairman was made to the committee, who confirmed the declaration—32 members rising in favor of the affirmative; some further debate ensued on the idea which had been suggested of taking up the business of assumption in a separate bill—Mr. Smith (S. C.) moved an amendment to the amendment proposed by Mr. Gale—which was to strike out what relates to discharging the committee—this motion the chairman declared was not in order.—The question being put on Mr. Gale's amendment, it was carried in the affirmative.

The committee then rose, and the chairman reported "that they had gone through the discussion of the twelve first sections of the bill making provision for the public debt of the United States." The question whether the committee should be discharged was prevented from being taken, by an adjournment's being called for—Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

DR. FRANKLIN.

COLUMBIA weep! Thy studious sage is dead,
Who taught to turn the Thunder from thy head;
The Sage, to whom Heav'n gave the envied lot,
To live below'd, and ne'er to be forgot;
Tho' oft remember'd, still as often blest,
For toils endur'd that thou in peace might rest.

Nor shall the philosophic Sage alone,
Bless FRANKLIN'S name for light on Science thrown;
The humble housewife will his mem'ry love,
Who cur'd her chimney by his useful Stove;
Nor to the splendid was his thoughts confin'd;
All arts are great that benefit mankind.
His wide, his deep researches, lift the soul,
And teach weak man all nature to controul:
Nor less his Maxims form for lowly life,
The thrifty husband, and the frugal wife.
Earth, Fire, Water, Air, confess'd his power—
Nor could Time steal from FRANKLIN one half hour;
But forc'd by INDUSTRY, his tribute brought,
And still each moment for his honor wrought;
Crown'd him at last with never-fading fame,
Then, forc'd by Fate—remov'd him whence he came. D.

STOCKBRIDGE, May 17, 1790.

THAT Liberty is essential to happiness, that without it, LIFE LOSES ITS RELISH, AND BECOMES INSIPID, the wisdom of the wife must impel them to acknowledge. So mistaken however have been the true principles of this most inestimable blessing, that in aiming to obtain it, many have plunged into a worse state of slavery than that from which a fortuitous concurrence of events (as they conceived) have released them.—Perhaps history furnishes not a single instance of a people, for any length of time, continuing to enjoy the blessings of freedom, under the administration of a government composed of but one

branch. Experience has evinced, both in the old and new world, the benefits derived from a government composed of three branches, with proper checks upon each other.—In all governments, distinctions, in some degree, will exist, and the idea of PERFECT EQUALITY must, with every judicious and candid mind, be viewed as chimerical, except mankind revert back to a state of nature. Merit claims a distinction; nor would any law, which the utmost stretch of human ingenuity could fabricate, prevent popular respect from being paid to characters whose talents and exertions had promoted in an eminent degree the public weal. It has been customary in despotic governments, however, frequently to establish distinctions upon no other basis than regal favour, and these have been very improperly made hereditary. This has been the case in France, the National Assembly of which are about to abolish ALL distinctions, orders, and privileges, at one stroke, (if credit may be given to late foreign intelligence.) This will be deemed by many rather too precipitate a stroke at this period of their affairs, and indeed, unwise at any period; for, as we have before hinted, distinctions must always exist in every government. Were the National Assembly of France to abolish such distinctions among them as are hereditary, and by degrees go on to eradicate other evils engendered by despotism, the probability would be in favour of their establishing a government calculated to support and defend the just rights of human nature. But, as at this early stage of their progress, they have seized on the possessions and property of the clergy, (to the amount it is said of 400 millions livres) who are a numerous and powerful body—as they have in fact taken all power from the King, and transferred it to a single assembly—as they are about to abolish all orders, distinctions and privileges, it is very much to be doubted whether the sunshine of peace will long continue to illumine their hemisphere, notwithstanding European accounts mention that affairs at present wear a peaceable aspect. The King, it is evident, makes a virtue of necessity, and his party is not inconsiderable, though doubtless they find it most wise at present apparently to concur in sentiment with a majority of the National Assembly. When this Assembly shall rise, we are of opinion a new scene will open to the view of the world, very different from that which the body of the French nation expect. It is sincerely hoped, however, that this opinion is founded in error, and that a constitution of government will yet be formed to secure the freedom and happiness of France.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

By European accounts it appears that the courts of Spain and Portugal are exceedingly solicitous to prevent the contagion of the French influenza from spreading among their subjects. Their efforts will however prove in vain—they may as well try to exclude the light of the Sun. The rays of knowledge have pervaded the former of those kingdoms. The arts and sciences within a few years have been encouraged in Spain. Several valuable publications in history, laws and philosophy have appeared.—Knowledge softens the human mind—the sweets of property are but half enjoyed, while in secure—these reflections are inseparably connected with every encouragement that arts and manufactures receive. The Clergy of those countries appear to be the *dernier resort* of despotism, but the time is fast approaching when the meridian splendor of truth & right reason shall dissipate the dark mists of error—when those, long bound in the prison house of blind bigotry, shall spring to "light, liberty, and life."

Extract of a letter from Liverpool, to a Gentleman in Kingston Jamaica.

Mr. Wilberforce has mustered all his forces for another attack on the trade; they are very sanguine, and go again for a total abolition. The Presbyterians are in commotion about the test act. The minister will have enough to do this session. I have been told that if these two points are carried, an attempt will be made to equalize the Clergy, and to pluck them a little; nay, they even go so far as to say, there is a wish to annihilate the whole bench of Bishops.

"I cannot say whether this be from a spirit of liberty or not, but there is some deep laid scheme amongst the Presbyterians, assisted by their brethren of America, to distress this country, if possible, to the aggrandizement of their own."

The holy flame of liberty is kindling in Britain—it is laughable to hear british letter writers charging Americans with fomenting distresses in their country—they have only to cross the channel for the example which has affected their citizens.

On Saturday last happened a very melancholly accident in this city. A daughter of Captain Hamilton, in Crown Street, an amiable girl of near sixteen years of age, went with her brother in her arms (an infant of two years old) into the steeple of the New Dutch Church, within a small distance of her father's dwelling house. Unfortunately, when she had ascended as high as the fourth story, and inadvertently treading upon some loose boards, they gave way, and both came to the pavement juokingly bruised, and the girl with part of her skull beaten in. The latter died instantly, the infant survived about three quarters of an hour.

We hear it was moved in the Senate of the United States on Monday last that when Congress adjourn, they adjourn to the City of Philadelphia. The President of the United States is so far recovered that he rode out in his carriage on Monday last.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.—NEW-YORK.

- Brig Princess Ann, Richardson, Leghorn, 77 days.
- Schooner Three Sisters, Marschalk, Curracoe 21 days.
- Royal Captain, Houston Grenada, 22 days.
- Experiment, Goram Port au Prince, 17 days.
- Sloop Ranger, Allin, St. Croix, 13 days.
- Polly, Dodds, Charleston, 8 days.
- Dauphin, Mills, Bohama, 13 days.