

Extract from His Excellency Gov. Hancock's Speech, to both Houses of the Legislature.

"WE have, by the blessing of Divine Providence, achieved a situation truly enviable in the eyes of other nations: Our persons and possessions are governed by standing and known laws, and secured by a Constitution formed by ourselves. This Constitution is a law to the legislative authority itself—and least the pride of office, or the hand of lawless power, should rob the people of their constitutional security, a proper balance is provided in the Judicial Department, occasionally arising from the body of the people. The price of our freedom has been great toil, and much expence, and we yet feel the weight of it: But we feel as freemen, while the people of some other countries are oppressed with heavy burthens which have been accumulated, not to secure, but to destroy their freedom.

Though the national affairs of our country are more immediately under the attention of the General Government, yet we have very important business which demands our attention.

Having formed our governments and established our independency, we sit down quietly and peaceably, to enquire into, and to perform those duties, which may be reasonably expected from us in our tranquil situation. And I am very happy to inform you, that the business of our meeting is principally confined to the devising ways and means for answering the just demands of our public creditors—making such additional laws as may be necessary to mark out the paths of distributive justice—to adopt such measures as may facilitate the settlement of the uncultivated parts of the State—and to devise ways for promoting useful knowledge, and for inculcating those virtues which are the only solid foundation of public and private felicity.

Many of the citizens of this Commonwealth, while the country was pressed on every side by danger and distress, freely loaned their property to the public safety: And had the most solemn assurances for a re-payment with interest. Others ventured their lives in the war for our defence, and received the public faith pledged for a compensation, when the war should be terminated. The eyes of these creditors are now upon us for justice: And the sufferings of the widow and orphan demand our attention.

I am sensible that some of the public securities, evidential of these loans and services, have been thrown into the hands of persons who have given but a small consideration for them; but while we are convinced that this has in some measure been owing to the failure of governmental promises, we ought not to increase the calamity, by unnecessary delays in doing justice. Was it within the power of the people to pay the debt they owe, as a government, it would be for their honor and advantage to do it immediately—but as this cannot be done, the making provision for the punctual payment of the interest annually, will be nearly as well for the creditors. But then in order to produce this effect, the payment of this interest must be assured upon funds which may be depended upon. In a republican government, the idea of responsibility is generally divided amongst too many persons to insure that punctuality in the performance of promises, which some other forms of government may afford: Therefore the security of punctual payments is not frequently well-established, without appropriated funds—and yet the happiness of every government, in whatever form it may be, depends essentially upon the rectitude and punctuality of it. When I speak of the happiness of a government, I mean that situation of a civil community, which has a tendency to make those who compose it, happy, by affording them security against foreign invaders, as well as against internal commotions—and in defending the individuals over whom it is extended, against oppression and injustice.

The debt we are involved in, and which I have now under consideration, was contracted for the common defence of the United States, and I flatter myself that justice will finally prevail, so that the government lately established will consider the whole of the Union as responsible to each State for debts of this nature. In the report of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States there is a proposal for Congress to assume the debts of the several States—but I am not convinced of the propriety of the General Government's assuming to pay the debts of this Commonwealth without the request or consent of this government—but as it will be more congenial to any system of Finance which the Congress may adopt, for this class of the creditors of this State, to transfer the demands to the General Government, on the idea of the standing credit of our Government, and to have them involved in the funded debt of the United States, than to have a claim open in favor of the Commonwealth, I recommend it to your serious deliberation, whether instructions may not be given to our Senators and Representatives on this point.

We hear that there is a prospect of a happy union of sentiment in the Legislature of Massachusetts upon all great national subjects, both with respect to public credit and the federal government.



LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.
PUBLISHED

By Authority.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

AT THE SECOND SESSION.

Began and held at the City of New-York, on Monday the fourth of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

AN ACT supplemental to the act for establishing the Salaries of the Executive Officers of Government, with their Assistants and Clerks.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the more effectually to do and perform the duties in the Department of State, the Secretary of the said department be, and is hereby authorized to appoint an additional clerk in his office, who shall be allowed an equal salary, to be paid in the same manner as is allowed by law to the chief clerk.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States
and President of the Senate.

APPROVED, JUNE FOURTH, 1790.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

(TRUE COPY)

THOMAS JEFFERSON, Secretary of State.

AN ACT for finally adjusting and satisfying the Claims of Frederick William De Steuben.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to make full and adequate compensation to Frederick William De Steuben, for the sacrifices and eminent services made and rendered to the United States during the late war, there be paid to the said Frederick William De Steuben an annuity of two thousand five hundred dollars during life, to commence on the first day of January last, to be paid in quarterly payments at the Treasury of the United States; which said annuity shall be considered in full discharge of all claims and demands whatever of the said Frederick William De Steuben against the United States.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG
Speaker of the House of Representatives

JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States
and President of the Senate.

APPROVED JUNE FOURTH, 1790.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

(TRUE COPY)

THOMAS JEFFERSON, Secretary of State.

AN ACT for giving effect to an act, intituled, "An act to establish the Judicial Courts of the United States," within the State of North-Carolina.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act, intituled, "An act to establish the judicial courts of the United States" shall have the like force and effect within the State of North-Carolina, as elsewhere within the United States.

And be it further enacted, That the said State shall be one district, to be called North-Carolina district; and there shall be a district court therein, to consist of one judge, who shall reside in the district, and be called a district judge, and shall hold annually four sessions; the first to commence on the first Monday in July next, and the other three sessions progressively on the like Monday of every third calendar month afterwards. The stated district court shall be held at the town of Newbern.

And be it further enacted, That the said district shall be, and the same is hereby annexed to the southern circuit: And there shall be held annually in the said district, two circuit courts; the first session of the circuit court shall commence on the eighteenth day of June next, the second session on the eighth day of November next, and the subsequent sessions on the like days of every June and November afterwards, except when any of the days shall happen on a Sunday, and then the session shall commence the next day following: And the sessions of the said circuit courts shall be held at Newbern:

And be it further enacted, That there shall be allowed to the judge of the said district, the yearly compensation of fifteen hundred dollars, to commence from his appointment, and to be paid at the treasury of the United States in quarterly payments.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States,
and President of the Senate.

APPROVED, JUNE FOURTH, 1790.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President of the United States,

(TRUE COPY.)

THOMAS JEFFERSON, Secretary of State.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY JUNE 7.

A BILL for extending the judiciary system of the United States to the State of Rhode-Island, was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The house proceeded to the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole, on the bill for settling the accounts between the United States and the individual states, and agreed to the same. Several amendments were then proposed to the bill, some of which were agreed to; and on motion of Mr. Scott, a clause was added to increase the salaries of the clerks of the commissioners from 400 dollars per annum, the present allowance, to 500, the salaries given in all the other offices.

Mr. Madison then moved for another amendment, the consideration of which was postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. Livermore from the committee appointed for the purpose, reported a bill for the regulation of the post-offices and post roads.

Mr. Sedgwick from the committee appointed for the purpose, reported a bill for extending the enumeration law of the United States, to the State of Rhode-Island.

A message was received from the President of the United States, informing that he had approved of, and signed the resolutions respecting the arrears of pay due to the troops of Virginia and North-Carolina, lately serving in the army of the United States.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8.

The bill for giving effect to the law for establishing the Judicial Courts of the United States, in respect to the State of Rhode-Island, having been engrossed, was read the third time: The salary of the District Judge was fixed at One Thousand Dollars: The blanks being filled up, the bill was passed to be enacted.

The bill for extending the law of the United States, providing for the enumeration of the inhabitants, to the State of Rhode-Island, was read the second time, and re-committed, for the purpose of adding a clause, empowering the Deputies of the Marshals to require of the heads of families and others, an oath to the truth of the returns made by them of the numbers of inhabitants.

On motion of Mr. Boudinot, a committee was appointed to enquire, and report to the House, the business necessary to be transacted previous to an adjournment.

The bill providing for the settlement of the accounts between the United States and individual States, was taken into consideration.

Several amendments were proposed and debated. Some of them were agreed to, and others rejected.

The bill being finished, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the House, that they have taken into consideration the Resolution passed the House the 31st May, respecting Congress' meeting, and holding their next session in Philadelphia—and have not concurred therein.

The committee to whom was re-committed the bill for the relief of Nathaniel Twining, reported several amendments to the bill.—Laid on the table.

The Message from the Senate was read.

A motion was then made to adjourn—which was negatived.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill for repealing, after the last day of the duties heretofore laid on distilled spirits of foreign manufacture, and laying others in their stead. The bill being read, some progress was made in the discussion—the committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

IN SENATE, TUESDAY, JUNE 8.

On motion, the Senate agreed to postpone the bill for establishing the seat of government of the United States, and the report of Committee thereon—and to take up the Resolution of the House passed the 31st of May.

This Resolution was non-concurred—13 to 11.

The opinion of the Senate was taken "Whether it is expedient at this time to determine the permanent seat of government of the United States, and the question determined in the negative.

On motion to fill up the blank in the bill for fixing the permanent residence with the words—"The easterly banks of the Potowmack."—It passed in the negative.

Baltimore and Wilmington were then proposed and were also negatived.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

NOTHING evinces more forcibly the high value of a federal government, founded on the great democratic principle of representation, than the conduct of the House of Representatives of the United States. Its members extend their paternal care equally over every part of this great empire—nothing escapes their minute researches to benefit every part of the Union—While many regulations in the collection laws show how attentive they have been to avoid oppression; they have uniformly manifested an ardent desire to accommodate all their constituents, by assigning numerous ports and districts for the convenience of commerce—nay, in some instances, this disposition seems to have led them almost to sacrifice that security, which the due collection of the revenue requires. These observations are corroborated by a late transaction.

The committee recently appointed for the purpose of bringing in a bill for extending the revenue laws of the United States, to the State of Rhode-Island, reported that foreign ships, and all vessels coming from China or the East Indies, should be limited to the port of New-port—the size of that State would lead one to suppose that one port was fully sufficient for all its purposes of foreign commerce; but such was the desire of that body to extend the advantages of commerce to all ports that were in a capacity of enjoying and benefiting by them, that they added the port of Providence, on the motion of Mr. Sedgwick, who assigned this reason, in favor of it, that he had been informed by a worthy and intelligent gentleman from that State, that it was the wish of some of its inhabitants.—What could justify the foregoing remarks more fully?

Americans! while you employ such men as agents, regard not the malvolence of the snarling and insidious—creatures who live in faction, and exist upon the vapors of a foul imagination—who may be traced like the snail upon the rock, by the slime of defamation they leave behind them? L.

NEW-YORK, JUNE 9, 1790.

APPOINTMENTS.—BY AUTHORITY.

Made the 7th and 8th instants.

RICHARD HARRISON, of Virginia, Consul for the port of Cadiz, &c.

JOHN MARSDEN PINTARD, of New-York, for the Island of Madeira, &c.

JAMES MAURY, of Virginia, for the port of Liverpool, &c.

WILLIAM KNOX, of New-York, for the port of Dublin, &c.

JAMES FENWICK, of Maryland, for the port of Bourdeaux.

BURRELL CARNES, of Massachusetts, for the port of Nantz.

NATHANIEL BARRETT, of Massachusetts, for the port of Rouen.

SYLVANUS BOURNE, of Massachusetts, for the port of Hispaniola.

FULIVAR SKIPWITH, of Virginia, for the port of Martinique.

District of North Carolina.

WILLIAM R. DAVIE, Judge.

JOHN SITGREAVES, Attorney.

JOHN SKINNER, Marshall.

Territory of the United States South of the River Ohio.

WILLIAM BLOUNT, Governor.

DAVID CAMPBELL and JOHN MC NAIRY, Judges.

DANIEL SMITH, Secretary.

or "Thomas Secupes," in the appointments in our last, read Thomson Seayres.

The Ship Margaret, Blaine, from New-York,

is arrived at Londonderry, in 24 days passage.

The Astrea, Magee, is arrived at Boston, after a passage of 125 days from Canton in China.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.—NEW-YORK.

Packet Duke of Cumberland, Falmouth 49 days.

Brig Betsey Motley Charleston 9 days.

Schooner Queen, Potter, Shelburne, 6 days.

—Return, Olwood, St. John's 16 days.

—Brothers, Peters, Demarara, 24 days.

—Betsey, Brooks, Philadelphia.