

they may treat. That power, sir, has existed above twelve months, and might have been long since applied to; but I believe it never will be applied to, unless Congress render the application necessary, by some such measures as are now proposed by the resolutions before us. I believe the wisest and best men in England wish we would compel their King to treat; for to him is entrusted the regulation of the commerce with America. The wisest minister that nation ever had (Mr. Pitt) proposed, as soon as the preliminary articles of peace were signed, to put the trade with America upon the same footing on which it stood before the war; but his wife plan was rejected merely because the American States seemed disposed to be as dependent in their commerce upon Britain, as when they were her colonies: and a bold experiment has been made of the truth of Lord Sheffield's assertion, that America cannot exist without the trade of Britain, and that even Massachusetts would return to her former subjection to that country, rather than be deprived of the carrying trade and fisheries. Sir, such assertions ought to rouse an honest indignation, or at least a firm resolution to shew that they are groundless. I repeat it again and again, that it is the wish of Virginia to do this. I have been asked why we do not make a discrimination between our friends and enemies? Sir, I call not the British enemies, they are enemies no more; but I have been told by my countrymen, that so long as they hold posts within our territories by an armed force, they ought to be viewed as enemies; that so long as they restrain our merchants from trading with them, and burn our vessels in their ports, they cannot deserve the name of friends.

Mr. Bland was nearly of the same opinion with Mr. Page, and said he could see not the least reason to apprehend any danger of a commercial warfare. He stated sundry arguments of the opposers of the amendment, and read extracts from their speeches, which he proved to be perfectly contradictory to their present mode of reasoning. He further quoted some historical facts, respecting the conduct of Britain not long since, in regard of making a discrimination between the wines imported from Portugal and those imported from France. This was refuted by the Portuguese, who immediately prohibited the importation of British cloths, which had such an effect, that Britain instantly entered into a commercial treaty, and put Portugal wines on a better footing than the French wines, by giving them exclusive privileges. I would therefore ask, said Mr. Bland, is the trade of Portugal, that small country, of more consequence to Britain than the trade of this continent? I think not. Neither have I the least apprehension that they will risk the loss of our commerce; and should they attempt it, we need not give ourselves the trouble of complaining; their own merchants and planters in the West-Indies will remonstrate as hath already been experienced. He concluded, by observing, that the proposed amendment would hold out the language of this country and of the house, by shewing them what we meant to do at a future day; and he thought the time mentioned (1st of January next) a very proper one. If they wish to enter into a commercial treaty, it may be completed before that day arrives.

JAMAICA INTELLIGENCE.

IN the Antigua Gazette of the 13th April is published several resolutions of the council and assembly of Jamaica, on the subject of the slave trade.

The first states that the partial abolition of the slave trade would lead to the necessity of purchasing only prime slaves on the coast, in order to having the same work done with fewer hands—the effect of this would be that the old people who are offered for sale in Africa, would not be bought, and would in that case, according to the custom of that country be killed.

II. That the loss of seamen in this business has been proved on the testimony of Admiral Edwards, to be much more inconsiderable than has been asserted—and that the abolition would be prejudicial to navigation, and many branches of trade dependent on it—the consumption of herrings and flated fish by the negroes, being immense.

VII. States that the number of negroes in Jamaica is 250,000—140,000 of which are males and 110,000 female.

VI. That it is absolutely impossible to cultivate the West-India islands, so as to produce any commodities that would enrich the mother country, by white labourers. Fatal experience demonstrates the fallacy of such an expectation. In the year 1749, the legislature of this island passed a law holding out great encouragement for the introduction of white families into this colony, which proved ineffectual; very few families having come in consequence thereof, and of those that came, not a vestige is left. The French ministry, in 1763, attempted to settle a colony by means of white labourers at Cayenne, on the coast of America: Twelve thousand miserable people were the victims of this impolitic scheme. If further instances are wanting to prove, that Europeans cannot withstand the climate when exposed to the sun and the rains, recourse may be had to the accounts of the siege of Carthage; the expedition to Cumberland-Harbour; the siege of the Havannah; the returns of the regiments that came out under the command of General Garth, in 1779 and in 1780; and the expedition to Fort St. Juan, on the Spanish Main.

X. That It is the opinion of the joint Committee, that the charges which have been brought against the Planters of this island, of improper and inhumane treatment of our Slaves, may be fully refuted and disproved; first by an appeal to our laws, and secondly, by the evidence of respectable men who have resided among us, and have been witnesses to our manners. Whatever may be said of our ancient colonial Slave laws, the acts which have been passed, within the last ten years, are written in characters of justice, mercy and liberality. Concerning the general treatment of our Slaves, we refer to the evidence already personally given to the Lords of the Council, by the Right Hon. Lord Rodney, Sir Peter Parker, Admiral Barrington, Sir Joshua Rowley, Admiral Hotham, Vice-Admiral Edwards, and Sir George Young: and to the further evidence that may be produced from gentlemen of character in England who have resided many years in this

island, and are intimately acquainted with our conduct and manners. We conceive that the testimony of such persons is unanswerable and conclusive; and shall therefore only remark, that it is notorious our Slaves in general are not only treated with kindness and humanity, but they are also protected by law from immoderate chastisement or cruel treatment, and enjoy more easy, comfortable, and happy lives, than multitudes of the labourers in Great-Britain.

XII. That, It is the opinion of this joint Committee, that the present value of property in this island may be fairly and reasonably estimated as follows viz. 250,000 Negroes, at 50l. sterling per head, is 12,500,000l. The patented lands, with their erections, and the personal property appertaining thereunto, at double the value of the Negroes, (being the best general rule of valuation) amount to 25,000,000l. and the article of houses in the towns, the coasting and trading vessels, &c. may be estimated at one million and an half at the least; it appearing by the Report of the Committee of the Lords of the Privy-Council, that the houses in Kingston and Spanish-Town are alone worth 1,428,521l. sterling. The total, is thirty-nine millions of pounds sterling; the whole profits and produce of which capital, as also of the various branches of commerce to which it gives rise, center in Great-Britain, and add to the national wealth, while the navigation necessary to all its branches establishes a strength which wealth can neither purchase nor balance.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAXIMS FOR REPRESENTATIVES.

NO man can be safely entrusted with the important concerns of a country, who is deficient in knowledge, principle, or industry—who is extremely avaricious, or under the controul of ambition. He must be firm, laborious, but not obstinate, nor jealous, nor too much concerned about his own honor. He must express many ideas in few words, as long speeches, (even when excellent) generally displease some of the hearers. He must be undisguised, open, candid, and attentive to his opponents—always manifesting a disposition to accommodate. Never aim to carry a point by any means which the most impartial minds will not approve—and never triumph in success. Study to avoid hurting the feelings of his opponents—while he brings strong arguments against his opinions, clothed in soft and respectful language.—No appearance of cunning should stain his political character—man-kind associate the ideas of cunning and roguery together—and whenever a measure is effected by mere cunning, its opponents will ever after view its advocates as dishonest men—it ought therefore to be constantly impressed upon his mind that finesse, craft and cunning, are miserable expedients, and commonly issue in defeat and loss of character. Moderate abilities, if exerted only in the strait line of truth and honor, with a single eye to the public good, will save the nation, and render the plain honest Statesman the delight and glory of his country. But the artful and designing, however learned, are always seen through, and detested. Altho this hath been the fate of cunning men in all times, yet all times to come may expect to be curst with such characters.

HARTFORD, June 7.

On Saturday the 29th of May last, died at Brooklyn, of a fever, in the 73d year of his age, that justly celebrated Hero, Patriot and Philanthropist, ISRAEL PUTNAM, Esq. Major-General in the late Continental Army. He enjoyed his reason to the last moment of his life, and with remarkable cheerfulness, and solid satisfaction, left this for the everlasting rewards of a better and more glorious country; and on Tuesday following his Funeral was attended by the largest and most respectable collection of the inhabitants ever known there on the like occasion.—After a well adapted Sermon, delivered by the Rev. Josiah Whitney, the procession moved to the Burying ground in the following order:

- Company of Grenadiers.
Militia of the Town with reversed Arms.
Music.
Company of Artillery.
The Masons, in the Badges of their order.
The CORPSE.
Mourners.
The Clergy.
The Church of Brooklyn.
Military Officers.
Inhabitants.

When the procession had arrived at the burying ground, the troops opening to the right and left, the Masons passed on to the grave, and after performing their accustomed antient ceremonies, and pronouncing a brief Elogium on the character of the deceased, the Grenadiers advanced and fired three platoons, which was succeeded by a discharge of Artillery. The whole was conducted with that order and decorum, which the love and respect of the inhabitants inspired.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9.

THE bill providing for the settlement of accounts between the United States and individual States, having been engrossed, and amended by sundry additions, was recommitted to a select committee.

Mr. Parker moved the following Resolution, viz. That when the two houses adjourn to close the present session, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives adjourn their respective Houses to meet, and hold their next session at the city of Philadelphia.

The introduction of this motion occasioned some conversation about order. It was asked if it had been laid on the table, or the house had been in possession of it agreeable to the rules of the House? The Speaker observed that the gentlemen gave notice of his intention to bring forward such a motion yesterday; but that he had not observed it on the table. He said he would read the rules, and leave the house to determine, whether the motion thus circumstanced is in order, or not.

Mr. Gerry thought the motion was not in order. Mr. Vining contended that it was; and enlarged on the subject. Mr. Livermore appealed to the chair for a decision.

The Speaker declined giving his opinion, and observed, that circumstanced as he was, he supposed, by leave of the house he might be excused; numbers cried out by all means.

Mr. White observed that as it would be attended with very pernicious consequences for the two Houses to disagree respecting the place of their meeting, he would propose that there should be a conference with the Senate.

Mr. Lawrence observed that he had always aimed to act upon national principles; agreeable to this idea he thought that the permanent residence of Congress should be the subject of consideration in preference to the temporary residence.

Mr. Jackson, after observing that on the idea of accommodating his constituents, by having the seat of government nearer the centre of the Union, he had before voted in favour of adjourning to Philadelphia, said as the subject had now assumed a different aspect, and he saw no probability of the resolution's being carried in the Senate, in order to prevent the delay of public business of the greatest importance, he should vote against bringing the temporary residence forward again.

Mr. Vining observed, that with respect to the permanent residence, it was not in his opinion the proper time to bring the question forward: It would require perhaps 20 years to bring it to a decision.—He enlarged on this subject, and said the motion would not be in order; and if it was, there is no prospect of its being carried in the Senate, as they have already decided against the measure.

The question on the temporary residence he was anxiously solicitous to have determined, as he conceived the public mind was much agitated—the House is agitated by it, and the business before them is embarrassed for want of this decision.

The speaker finally determined that it was not in order to take up the motion at the present time: it was therefore ordered that it should lie on the table till to-morrow.

Mr. Sherman of the committee appointed for the purpose reported sundry additional rules to be observed in conducting business between the two houses.

Mr. Gerry gave notice that he should to-morrow bring forward a resolution to fix the permanent residence of Congress somewhere on the Eastern banks of the Delaware.

In committee of the whole on the bill for repealing, after the last day of next the duties heretofore laid on distilled spirits, &c.

Mr. Goodhue moved to strike out the twelfth section which provides for an excise on spirits distilled in the United States. This motion occasioned considerable debate.—The excise was opposed, as interfering with those funds of the particular States on which they depend for paying the interest of their State debts, which would be a most glaring act of injustice, unless those debts are assumed by the United States; others objected to the principle of excises altogether; the motion was however negatived by a majority of 3—25 rising in the affirmative, and 28 in the negative; the committee proceeded to the 26th section of this bill before they rose.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10.

A report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the petition of Stephen Moore, was read and referred to a select committee.

Mr. Clymer presented a petition from the tanners of Philadelphia, which was read.

Mr. Vining moved that the House should take up for consideration the motion made yesterday by Mr. Parker, to remove Congress from New-York to Philadelphia.

Messrs. Smith [S. C.] Sedgwick, Boudinot, Lawrence, Gerry, Jackson, Burke, Bloodworth, Ames, and Livermore, opposed the motion.—It was supported by Messrs. Hartley, Vining, Parker, Page, and White.—After much debate on the question for taking up the proposition, it was decided by calling the yeas and nays.

AYES.

Messrs. Ashe, Baldwin, Brown, Cadwallader, Carroll, Clymer, Coles, Contee, Fitzsimons, Gale, Gilman, Griffin, Hartley, Heister, Lee, Madison, Matthews, Moore, P. Muhlenberg, Page, Parker, Scott, Seney, Sinnickson, Smith, (Maryland) Steele, Stone, Sumpter, Vining, White, Williamson, Wynkoop. 32.

NOES.

Messrs. Ames, Benson, Bloodworth, Boudinot, Burke, Floyd, Foster, Gerry, Goodhue, Grout, Hathorn, Huger, Huntington, Jackson, Lawrence, Leonard, Livermore, Partridge, Van Rensselaer, Schureman, Sedgwick, Sherman, Sylvester, Smith [S.C.] Sturges, Thatcher, Trumbull, Tucker, Wadsworth. 29.

The motion being before the House for a decision—a motion was made that the same should be committed to a committee of the whole, and that the proposition moved yesterday by Mr. Gerry, should at the same time be referred to the committee, with instructions that they examine into the question relative to a place for fixing the permanent seat of government.

This motion for commitment, also gave rise to considerable debate about the usual time of adjournment.

A motion was made to adjourn.—On this motion the house divided—ayes 29—noes 28. The Speaker declared himself in favor of the minority. The house was then equally divided, and the motion in consequence lost.

The question being at length put for commitment, it was negatived—ayes 28—noes 33.

AYES.

Messrs. Ames, Benson, Boudinot, Burke, Floyd, Foster, Gerry, Goodhue, Grout, Hathorn, Huger, Huntington, Lawrence, Leonard, Livermore, Partridge, Van Rensselaer, Schureman, Sedgwick, Sherman, Sylvester, Smith (Maryland) Smith [S.C.] Sturges, Thatcher, Trumbull, Tucker, Wadsworth. 28.

NOES.

Messrs. Ashe, Baldwin, Brown, Bloodworth, Cadwallader, Carroll, Clymer, Coles, Contee, Fitzsimons, Gale, Gilman, Griffin, Hartley, Heister, Jackson, Lee, Madison, Matthews, Moore, Muhlenberg, Page, Parker, Scott, Seney, Sinnickson, Steele, Stone, Sumpter, Vining, White, Williamson, Wynkoop. 33.

A motion was again made for an adjournment.—The House divided—Ayes 30—Noes 31.

Mr. Bloodworth then moved, that Philadelphia should be struck out of the resolution, and Baltimore inserted.

After some debate on this motion, another motion was made to adjourn—and carried.

This debate was supported by arguments and observations similar to those stated in a former paper; but greatly enlarged on this occasion. Those in favor of determining on the temporary residence, or an adjournment to Philadelphia, urged its greater cen-