

8. It is objected, that the debts of Georgia are not on interest.
 9. If any thing to the purpose can be inferred from this objection, it is in favor of the assumption; for, if the debts are just, they ought immediately to be paid, or put on interest.
 9. It is objected, that the debt of the United States will be so increased by the assumption of the State debts, as to make direct taxes or excises necessary to be laid by Congress, which would be odious to the people.

Answer, The assumption of the State debts is a part of the plan reported by the Secretary of the Treasury.—He does not propose direct taxes, nor excises, further than those that have already been adopted by the house—and I think some reliance ought to be had on the opinion of the officer whom government have placed at the head of the department of finance.

The whole of the debts must be paid by the citizens of the United States; they do now exist, and government is under obligation to do justice to all the creditors. The people have put all the sources of revenue in the power of Congress, for that purpose, and will doubtless be satisfied with their administration of them. The resources of the nation will be abundantly sufficient, if prudently managed, to pay the annual interest of the debt, and gradually to discharge the principal within a reasonable time. The Western territory if properly disposed of, will sink a considerable part of the national debt. It was observed that excises are the most expensive taxes to collect, but Dr. Smith, on the wealth of nations, says, that in Britain the collection of excises costs at the rate of but 5 per cent. but that imposes cost at the rate of 10 per cent. this is according to my best recollection. I have not the book now before me.

10. It is objected, that the securities will probably center in large towns, or get into the hands of foreigners.—I think it is probable that the securities, will center in the hands of such citizens in the several States, as shall chuse to live on the interest of their capital; and in the hands of corporate bodies instituted to promote science and other useful purposes; but the securities will not get out of the possession of the original owners without their consent, nor (if well funded) will they be induced to part with them for less than their just value, and it is reasonable that they should be left at liberty to dispose of their own property.

11. It is objected, that funds are not to be provided for the State debts this session, and we do not know what may be the opinions of our successors. Answer, The provision is proposed to be made by the present Congress at their next session.

12. Objection, the house are divided in sentiment, and it will be safer to negative the proposition, than to adopt it by a small majority.—It appears to me that the greatest safety will be on the other side, there is no dispute about the justice of the claims of the creditors, the only point in dispute is, which would be the most expedient mode of payment, and which would be most agreeable to the public opinion. My reasons for supposing that it will be safer to adopt the measure by a small majority than to negative it, is, because people are more influenced by their feelings, than by speculative reasonings, or nice calculations. If the debts are assumed, what inconveniences will the people feel from it? and, if they reason upon it, they will find that no injustice will ultimately take place, but all will be set right by a liquidation of the accounts. But if the state debts are not assumed and the creditors are not provided for by the states, or if the states are subjected to heavy direct taxes in making the provision, these evils will be severely felt; and must create uneasiness and complaints which may prove very prejudicial to the administration of government.

13. It is said that "several of the legislatures have lately been in session and have not applied to Congress or instructed their representatives to obtain an assumption of the state debts."

I think their opinions cannot be inferred from their silence on the subject.—In matters that concern only the particular interest of a state, the state may properly instruct their representatives, who in such case would act only as agents for the state; but in matters which concern the Union in general, such interference might be of dangerous tendency, for all the members ought to be at perfect liberty to act their best and unbiassed judgment, upon public measures, according to the light and information that may be obtained by a public discussion of them in the house which may not be known to the legislatures of the particular states. I have endeavored briefly to give the reasons which have induced me to be in favor of this measure, and to obviate the objections that have been made to it, which I submit to the opinion of the committee, without troubling them with any observations

TRANSLATED
 FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FROM THE LEYDEN GAZETTE.

Published by STEPHEN LUZAC.

[The translations from the Leyden Gazette which were commenced in this paper some weeks past, are again resumed. Although the dates are old, the Editor considers the authenticity of that paper of such importance, as to merit the insertion of its contents, which will serve to check European accounts that are published in this country, received through other channels. A succession of intelligence derived from this source, will be constantly kept up, as regularly as the papers come to hand, and the established veracity and reputation of the Leyden Gazette will warrant perfect dependence to be placed on any intelligence it may contain.]

LEYDEN, Feb. 19, 1790.

ACCOUNTS from Hungary of the 26th of January, inform that general meetings have been held in the several counties—that at a meeting of the nobility of the county of Preburg, Count Charles Palfy d'Erdody, chancellor of the kingdom, was present. That certain resolutions were read at a second meeting passed at a former, which were confirmed and sent by an express to the Emperor. That universal joy prevailed throughout the kingdom, from a report that the Emperor was about reinstating Hungary in all its ancient privileges and usages. Of the 22 articles containing the subjects of grief which the Hungarians required to be redressed, his Majesty consented to 19. Excepting only 3, which are, toleration in religion, the care of the national studies, and the right of judging between the chiefs of the kingdom and the other subjects. Consequently the use of the German language which the Hungarians opposed so much, will no longer be necessary in the tribunals and public acts, and Latin will again be resumed. The crown will be restored to the custody of the nation, and the coronation is to take place as soon as possible. What is of still greater importance, the register for taxing lands, according to the new system which the Emperor wished to introduce throughout his states, is absolutely given up with respect to Hungary.

The foregoing accounts are confirmed by a letter from Vienna, of the 29th of January, which

moreover mentions, that the German Provinces are in expectation of being restored to their former Constitution and privileges.

PROGRESS OF THE BRABANT REVOLUTION.

By a letter from Brussels of the 14th of February, it appears that a misunderstanding prevails among the leaders of the revolutionists. The Duke d'Urfel, president of the war department, had resigned, assigning his bad state of health as a reason.—A writing was handed about, setting forth other reasons for his retiring, particularly that he did not chuse to serve with Baron Schonfeld, a prussian general, who had been taken in to pay by Congress, with the rank of lieutenant general, and to command the foreign troops in their service; which measure he conceived contrary to the interest of his country, and countenanced by a Congress subservient to the committee of Breda, of which Mr. Van der Noot was the chief agent. The Duke contradicted this writing, but in terms which still implied a dissatisfaction with public measures. At the intercession of the five companies of Brussels volunteers he has resumed his post. To remove his distrust, he has been informed of the grand secret, till that time unknown, of connections formed with foreign courts—these connections are not generally approved of, and it would appear that Mr. Van der Noot's interest is on the decline.

The adherents of the revolution are divided into parties, which are differing more and more from each other—the one party consists of those who wish to support what is called the present constitution; that is to say the arrangements by which the Assembly of the three Estates have taken possession of the sovereignty, without the consent of the people, which constitution tends to an oligarchy of the worst kind, a clerical oligarchy. In order to support this system, the states of Brabant resolved to administer an oath of fidelity to the corps called *sermans*, some of that body took it whilst the greater part refused, requesting that it should be printed, to see whether it was conformable to the interest of the country. This refusal created great debates in the states. Duke d'Ahremberg with his brothers, Count de la Marck and Prince Lewis d'Ahremberg, together with Duke d'Urfel, are at the head of the other party and possess the confidence of the people, as the illustrious defenders of their rights not only against the efforts of the Austrians, but likewise against the projects of those who without the consent of the nation have seized the exclusive management of affairs.

The divisions and animosities run very high. The Three Estates of Brabant have opened a subscription for the support of their troops, under the direction of the clergy, together with the magistrates of the different cities. The Abbé Tongerlo, one of the principal members of the committee of Breda, has raised a regiment at his own expence, commanded by Major Van der Gracht. Both parties seem disposed to call in foreign aid to their assistance, the popular party looks up to France.

To be continued.

The following ADDRESS from the HEBREW CONGREGATION of the City of Savannah, was on Monday presented to the PRESIDENT of the United States, by Mr. JACKSON, one of the Representatives of Georgia.

SIR,

WE have long been anxious of congratulating you on your appointment by unanimous approbation to the Presidential dignity of this country, and of testifying our unbounded confidence in your integrity and unblemished virtue: Yet, however exalted the station you now fill, it is still not equal to the merit of your heroic services through an arduous and dangerous conflict, which has embosomed you in the hearts of her citizens.

Our eccentric situation added to a diffidence bounded on the most profound respect has thus long prevented our address, yet the delay has realized anticipation, given us an opportunity of presenting our grateful acknowledgments for the benedictions of Heaven through the energy of Federal influence and the equity of your administration.

Your unexampled liberality and extensive philanthropy have dispelled that cloud of bigotry and superstition, which has long as a veil shaded religion—unriveted the fetters of enthusiasm—franchised us with all the privileges and immunities of free citizens, and initiated us into the grand mafs of legislative mechanism. By example you have taught us to endure the ravages of war with manly fortitude, and to enjoy the blessings of peace, with reverence to the Deity, and benignity and love to our Fellow-Creatures.

May the great author of worlds grant you all happiness—an uninterrupted series of health—addition of years to the number of your days, and a continuance of guardianship to that freedom which under the auspices of Heaven your magnanimity and wisdom have given these States.

LEVI SHEFTAL, President,
 in behalf of the Hebrew Congregation.

To which the President was pleased to return the following answer.

To the HEBREW CONGREGATION of the City of Savannah.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you, with great sincerity, for your congratulations on my appointment to the office, which I have the honor to hold by the unanimous choice of my fellow-citizens; and especially for the expressions which you are pleased to use in testifying the confidence that is reposed in me by your congregation.

As the delay which has naturally intervened between my election and your address has afforded an opportunity for appreciating the merits of the federal government, and for communicating your sentiments of its administration—I have rather to express my satisfaction than regret at a circumstance, which demonstrates (upon experiment) your attachment to the former, as well as approbation of the latter.

I rejoice that a spirit of liberality and philanthropy is much more prevalent than it formerly was among the enlightened nations of the earth; and that your brethren will benefit thereby in proportion as it shall become still more extensive. Happily the

people of the United States of America have, in many instances exhibited examples worthy of imitation.—The salutary influence of which will doubtless extend much farther, if gratefully enjoying those blessings of peace which (under favor of Heaven) have been obtained by fortitude in war, they shall conduct themselves with reverence to the Deity; and charity towards their fellow-creatures.

May the same wonder-working Deity, who, long since delivering the Hebrews from their Egyptian oppressors, planted them in the promised land—whose providential agency has lately been conspicuous in establishing these United States as an Independent Nation—still continue to water them with the dews of Heaven, and to make the inhabitants of every denomination participate in the temporal and spiritual blessings of that people, whose God is Jehovah.

G. WASHINGTON.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16.

HON. JOHN SEVIER, member from the State of North Carolina, appeared, produced his credentials, and took his seat in the House.

A message was received from the President of the United States, with the ratification of the Constitution of the United States by the State of Rhode Island.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the Post-Office bill.—Sundry amendments were made, and the discussion of the whole finished.—The committee then rose, and reported the same.

The House took the amendments into consideration.

The first amendment respected the particular routes to the various parts of the United States by which the mail is to be carried.—Several alterations were made in two sections, on motion of individual members.

Mr. Sedgwick after observing that it was impossible for every particular member perfectly to understand the reasons on which a variety of alterations had been agreed to.—He instanced the establishment of roads, to several places, which run nearly parallel.—Gentlemen said he, who move for different establishments, may fully understand themselves in the motions they make—but for his own part he confessed, that he could give as good a reason for his negative, as his affirmative, on several that have been adopted.—He therefore moved that the two first clauses should be struck out—and offered a clause as a substitute which was to authorize the Post-Master-General, with the approbation of the President of the United States, to establish the Post Roads from Wicasset in Massachusetts, to Savanna in Georgia.

This motion was objected to by Mr. Hartley, Mr. Livermore, Mr. White, and Mr. Gerry. It was observed that a similar clause had been rejected by the committee of the whole, when the first bill was before them.—It was further said that it cannot be supposed that the Post-Master-General knows what routes are most eligible better than many of the members—the constitutionality of the motion was doubted. Those in favor of the motion stated the difficulties which would probably arise upon the present plan—if a road is established which is found on trial to be improper, it will be difficult to alter it—and at any rate it cannot be done without an act of the legislature.

In reply to the objection of the unconstitutionality of the motion, it was said the motion goes no farther than delegating a power to an executive officer, consonant to the office which he sustains, instead of the House, attempting to exercise that power, when it does not appear that it can be exercised by them—besides, if the discretionary power is unconstitutional, there are several other parts of the bill which are unconstitutional, for the power of establishing such extra roads as to him may appear necessary, is vested in the Post-Master-General. If the House mean to avoid a great deal of unnecessary business, which will probably come before them in petitions to abolish old roads, and establish new ones, the proposition appears necessary.

The motion was negatived by a great majority.

The amendment of the first and second sections were agreed to. Several new roads were proposed to be added—when Mr. Boudinot observed, that he plainly perceived it would be necessary to vest some discretionary power in the Post-Master-General, relative to this particular object—for he very much apprehended that the roads already agreed to, would render the Post-Office a very great burden on the United States.—These observations were followed by a motion for an adjournment—which took place.

THURSDAY, JUNE 17.

The ratification of the Constitution of the United States by the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, with the amendments annexed, were read.

The bill to authorize the purchasing of West-Point was read the second and third time—and passed.

Mr. Gilman of the committee to whom was re-committed the bill for the regulation and government of seamen in the Merchants' service, reported that the committee had agreed to sundry amendments to said bill, which he laid on the table.

Mr. Vining presented the memorial of Wm. Piery, which was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.