

TUESDAY, JUNE 22.

The amendatory bill providing for the settlement of accounts between the United States and individual States, having been engrossed—the house filled up the blanks, and passed the bill.

Mr. Goodhue, of the committee appointed for the purpose, brought in a bill laying an additional duty on tonnage, pursuant to resolutions of the House; the bill was read and referred to a committee of the whole, to be taken up to-morrow.

Sundry reports of the Secretary at War were read—among others on the petition of the heirs of William Gould, deceased, praying an allowance of his half pay for his children, for reasons set forth—the report was in favor of granting the petition, and that 1680 dollars, the half pay of a captain for 7 years, be granted—this report, on motion of Mr. Seney, was accepted, and a committee, consisting of Mr. Seney, Mr. Heister and Mr. Moore, was appointed to bring in a bill accordingly.

The amendment of the Senate to the bill for satisfying the claims of John McCord was agreed to.

Mr. Lawrence presented a petition from certain inhabitants of the county of West Chester in the State of New-York, praying payment for losses sustained during the war—which was read, and referred to the Secretary at War.

On motion of Mr. Boudinot, the report of the Secretary at War, on the petition of William Oliver, was read, and agreed to.

In committee of the whole, on the bill to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian Tribes.

Mr. Boudinot in the Chair.

The committee agreed to sundry amendments to this bill, which were reported to the House and adopted.

Mr. Sherman moved that the 4th section should be struck out of the bill—viz. That a sum not exceeding thousand dollars, be appropriated out of the monies arising from duties on imports and tonnage, subject to the orders of the President of the United States, to be laid out in goods and articles of trade suitable for supplying the wants and necessities of the Indians, and to be vendid and retailed to them, through the agency of the said Superintendants, and persons to be licensed by them for that purpose, in such manner, and conformably to such regulations, as the President of the United States shall establish.

On this motion, Mr. Jackson called for the ayes and noes—which are as follows.

AYES.

Messrs. Ashe, Bloodworth, Coles, Floyd, Foster, Gerry, Goodhue, Hathorne, Heister, Huger, Huntington, Jackson, Leonard, Livermore, Parker, Renfeller, Schureman, Sedgwick, Seney, Sevier, Sherman, Sylvester, Stone, Sturges, Sumpter, Tucker.—26.

NOES.

Messrs. Ames, Baldwin, Benson, Boudinot, Brown, Cadwallader, Cates, Fitzhinson, Gale, Gilman, Griffin, Hartley, Lawrence, Lee, Madison, Matthews, Moore, P. Muhlenberg, Page, Scot, Sinnickson, Smith, (M.) Smith, (S. C.) Steele, Trumbull, Wadsworth, White.—27.

On motion of Mr. Seney, a clause was added limiting the duration of the bill to two years.

It was then ordered that the bill be engrossed. Adjourned.

English Papers by the Packet are as late as the 8th of May—from them we learn,

THAT affairs between the Emperor of Germany and the King of Prussia, are drawing to a crisis—that the latter is making, and has made great preparations for war.—The National Assembly of France has passed a decree to exempt all the French parishes from the jurisdiction of every foreign bishop—they have passed several new decrees respecting criminal jurisprudence—among others, that a copy of the indictment shall be given to the prisoner, free of expence.—The celebrated Paoli appeared at the bar of the National Assembly, and was received with uncommon applause—the following is his address on the occasion.

“Messieurs,

“This day is the happiest and most fortunate of my whole life. I have spent that life in the ardent pursuit of liberty, and I now behold that noble spectacle. I left my country in chains, I find her free. What can I wish for more? I know not what change the iron hand of oppression may have had upon the minds of my fellow-patriots, in an absence from my country of 20 years; but you have restored to the Corsicans their liberties—you have bestowed on them their pristine virtue. In returning to my native country, my sentiments can hardly be doubted. You have been generous to me—and I have never been a slave. My past conduct, which you have honored by your approbation, will be a pledge for my future principles. I will be bold to assert, that my whole life has been spent as if bound by an oath to liberty. It has been already made to the Constitution which you have established. It now remains for me to make it to the nation which has adopted me, and the sovereign whom I acknowledge. It is the favor that I request of this august assembly.”

Upon motion of Mr. Target, it was decreed, without any debate, that

“All persons born out of the kingdom, of foreign parents, shall, if established in France, be reputed Frenchmen, and admitted as such, to the exercise of the rights of active citizens, after taking the civic oath, and after being domiciliated for five years in France; provided they shall also have either acquired a real estate, married a French woman, formed a trading establishment, or received admission as Burgesses into certain cities: And this notwithstanding any usage to the contrary.

If a war between Spain and England should take place, it will be occasioned by a refusal on the part of the former to make satisfaction for several English vessels captured by Spanish men of war at Nootka sound—and their insisting, by virtue of some ancient grant, on an exclusive right to navigate in those Seas.—These circumstances are detailed in a message of the King of Great Britain, to the Parliament.—Representations have been made to the Court of Spain—who, so far from discovering any disposition to accede to the British demands, asserts its claim and has made great preparations to support it—in consequence of this an address was presented to the King of Great Bri-

tain, a full echo of the message—and a fleet of six Ships of war have sailed from Portsmouth—and, as stated in our last, a very hot press for seamen has taken place in all the maritime towns.—There are great commotions in the Pope's dominions—many estates have been laid waste—and the city of Avignon was in hourly expectation of being attacked and pillaged; the dissensions continue among the patriots in the low countries—the Emperor taking advantage of this was marching a body of troops towards the States.

Orsova a Turkish fortress has surrendered to the Austrian army—other places of strength were expected to fall in consequence. The English papers contain sketches of debates in the House of Commons on the recent armament—Fox, as usual, attacks the minister; his most material charges against him, appear to be, that he kept that secret, which ought not to have been disclosed—and did not inform the public of that which he himself was ignorant of; a minister who is exposed to such crimination only, must stand on a firm foundation indeed.

EPILOGUE

To the WIDOW of MALABAR.  
Spoken by Mrs. HENRY.

WELL here I come—and almost out of breath,  
Twixt love, fire, fear, and widowhood and death;  
While I for such fictitious bliss am harness'd—  
I feel—I suffer—more than half in earnest:  
By Bramius seiz'd—those bloody-minded fellows—  
My hair-breadth scapes were greater than Othello's!  
Nought could have sav'd me from the jaws of fate,  
Had my French lover come one breath too late—  
The Pile prepar'd and kindling brisk as tinder,  
They'd burn'd your poor Lantilla to a cinder!

But well our Author had contriv'd the whole,  
And seems, in truth, a right good-natur'd soul:  
He swears himself his Drama, without vanity,  
Is founded on the basis of Humanity;  
Without one RULE or UNITY infringing,  
He sav'd his HEROINE from a mortal stinging—  
So after all this mighty fire and rattle,  
Our bloodless Play is like a bloodless Battle.

Am I to blame, if, this dear life to save,  
I lik'd a lover better than a grave;  
Prefer'd your chistian maxims for a Drama,  
To all the murd'rous rites of Pagan Brama;  
And held, retreating from my fun'ral Urn,  
“'Twas better far to marry than to burn?”  
No—I'll be burn'd but every Maid and Widow,  
Would do, in such a case, just as I did do.

Yes—thank your stars, Columbia's happy Dames!  
Ye need not fear those frightful fun'ral flames:  
Of other lands let foreign Bards be dreaming,  
But this, this only is the land for women:  
Here ye invert the Bramin's barb'rous plan,  
And stretch your sceptre o'er the Tyrant-Man.

Ye Men, if I offend, I ask your pardon,  
I would not for the world your sex bear hard on.  
Ye are the fathers, founders of a nation,  
The Gods on Earth, the Lords of this Creation!  
And let Philosphers say what they please,  
You've not grown less by coming o'er the seas:  
We know your worth, and dare proclaim your merit—  
The world may ask your foes, “if you want spirit?”  
Your vic'tries won—your revolution ended—  
Your Constitution newly made—and mended—  
Your fund of wit—your intellectual Riches—  
Plans in the closet—in the Senate Speeches—  
Will wake this age of Heroes, Wits and Sages,  
The first in story to the latest ages!  
Go on—and prosper with your projects blest,  
Till your Millenium rises in the West:  
We wish success to your politic scheming,  
Rule ye the World!—and then be rul'd by women!

For here, ye fair, no servile rites bear sway,  
Nor force ye (though ye promise) to obey:  
Blest in the mildness of this temperate zone,  
Slaves to no whims, or follies—but your own.  
Here Custom, check'd in ev'ry rude excess,  
Confines its influence to the arts of dress,  
O'er charms eclips'd the sidelong hat displays,  
Extends the hoop, or pares away the stays.  
Bedecks the fair with artificial gear,  
Breast-works in front, and Bishops in the rear?  
The idol rears, on beauty's dazzling throne,  
Mankind her slaves, and all the world her own;  
Bound by no laws a husband's whim to fear,  
Obey in life, or burn upon his bier;  
She views with equal eye, sublime o'er all,  
A Lover perish—or a Lap-dog fall—  
Coxcombs or Monkeys from their chains broke loose—  
And now a Husband dead—and now a Goose!

But jesting all apart—and such droll strictures;  
We'll strive to charm you with still fairer pictures—  
For 'tis our object to divert—not tease you—  
To make you laugh or cry, as best shall please you—  
So as it suits each kind Spectator's turn,  
You'll come to see me play the fool—or burn—  
Ladies and Gentlemen! on this condition,  
I humbly offer my sincere Petition,  
That you'll come oft to hear me Sing or Say—  
“And poor Lantilla will forever Pray!!!”

THE TABLET.—No. CXXV.

“The voice of the people is the voice of GOD.”

IT is remarkable that so old and celebrated a truth, as that contained in my motto, should be so often disputed, and so often misapplied. The voice of the people is frequently referred to, when it does not exist; and it is sometimes denied, when it has an existence. I made some observations in the last number, to shew that the public opinion is often too indefinite to be admitted as a rule of conduct. But still there are cases where it is not indefinite, and where it furnishes a good rule of conduct.

In all situations, where instinct is a better guide than reason; and where habits have so long prevailed, as to make it presumable they are founded in natural propriety, it should be supposed the general sense of the people will seldom

be erroneous. In situations likewise, where the people have it in their power to know all the circumstances of a case, and where the effects of a decision will operate uniformly in all parts of the community, the public voice will generally be the voice of truth and nature. But there are few occasions where all these advantages concur in fixing a public opinion. Most of the questions that are discussed by a Legislature are attended with new and extraordinary circumstances. The most essential facts that come into consideration, in any given question, may be known only to part of the community; and the operation of a measure proposed may not be alike beneficial in the several districts of the commonwealth.

It will readily be acknowledged that a representative should deem the opinion of his constituents as a safe and proper rule of conduct, unless he makes some new discovery of facts or reasons, which were unknown to them, when they communicated their ideas to him. The people of the United States entertain a general sentiment that they cannot safely relinquish the practice of choosing their own Representatives; and that civil liberty would receive a dangerous blow, if the right of trial by jury was surrendered, or the liberty of the press abolished. It is not probable any convention of the people, or any Legislature can have better means of determining such points than the people at large possess. The general impressions of the community on those permanent subjects should be viewed as a better criterion of judging, than the theories or reflections of learned and sagacious individuals.

(To be continued.)

PORTSMOUTH, June 12.

On Thursday last arrived here the Brig Betsy, Capt. Rollins, in 32 days from Tobago. Capt. Rollins informs, that three days before he sailed, a fire broke out in Port Louis, which raged with such violence that but one house (the property of Messrs. M'Kean and Co.) escaped falling a prey to this destructive element. It was supposed at the time, by the inhabitants, that the town purposely set on fire by the military.

Capt. Rollins further informs, that at the time of his sailing, the soldiers were embarked on board two transports, and were to sail in a few days for France.

NEW-YORK, JUNE 23, 1790.

Extract of a letter from England, dated April 21st, 1790.

“The French patriotic party will, I trust, establish liberty, but not perpetuate it, unless they provide for the amendment of their present constitution; a single house of assembly is a one-handed body; and consisting of aristocrats and democrats, will never incorporate any more than oil and water, though they may be jumbled together and intermixed by accident; one or the other will be uppermost.—The political influenza does not seem to have seized the inhabitants of Britain as yet; but I conjecture wrong, or those that hold or wish to hold places and power under the grant of royalty, are afraid lest some ill wind, as they would stile it, should waft it over, and produce that reform which, though they have talked of, they have never wished, and now oppose in the first instance under the plausible pretended plea of innovation. See Burke and Pitt; were they what they once professed to be—friends to a reform—now is the time to effect it, when the spirit of liberty is so prevalent and spreading, that men of arbitrary principles would be glad to compound and agree to every necessary reform through fear of endangering their whole system. We have a dissolution of parliament at hand; what might be the conclusion if at the moment it commences, the influenza should become general in Great-Britain? Early concessions to moderate reasonable demands might have secured governing privileges and powers, which for want thereof have been forever lost. See the history of the American revolution, and the transactions of France during the reign of the present Louis.

The late Emperor was succeeded in his hereditary dominions by a person of most amiable disposition, according to general concession. He enters upon a very involved government, and it will require all his abilities and address to secure his possessions, and render them permanent and prosperous.

The King of Prussia has probably long imbibed the principles of his predecessor, to secure and improve his dominions by weakening the house of Austria. I therefore credit the information given in the papers of his having formed an alliance with the Turks, and intending to enter into a war with the Emperor's successor. This step, I am fearful, will eventually make us parties in the quarrel. The apprehension of approaching hostilities on the continent I view as a political reason for hastening the dissolution of Parliament as much as possible; that so ministry may be secure of pliant tools for seven years certain; but I hope the electors will be so far apprized of it in time, as to let their representatives know, when about choosing them, that it is expected they should seek the peace and prosperity of the nation, and prevent a general ruin from the increase of the public debt by a new war.

Extract of a letter from Providence.

Gen. JOSEPH STANTON, of Charlestown—and THEODORE FOSTER, Esq. of this town, are chosen Senators of the United States—they are to proceed in a few days.—There were only 28 candidates.

His Excellency ARTHUR FENNER, Esq. Governor of the State of Rhode-Island, has issued a Proclamation, requiring all Officers, Executive and Judicial in that State, to take the oaths prescribed by the laws of the United States.

We hear that the Senate of the United States has amended the funding bill, by striking out all the alternatives proposed by the House of Representatives, and fixing the rate of interest on the whole of the public debt at four per cent. Also that they have concurred in the bill respecting the indents, so far as to fund them as principal.

ARRIVALS SINCE OUR LAST.—NEW-YORK.

Ship Nancy, Wilson, Philadelphia, 9 days.  
Brig Fame, Harvey, Greenock, 42 days.  
Snow Aurora, King, Kingston, 28 days.  
Schooner Stag, Thompson, New Providence, 9 days.  
—Harmony, Brewster, Boston, 9 days.  
—Jenny, Schermbergh, Savannah, 9 days.  
—Eliza, Godfrey, Philadelphia, 4 days.

Wanted No. 73 and 83 of this paper—Six-pence each will be paid for them by the Editor.