

sent with respect to the French establishments in the different parts of the world, not mentioned in the present decree, which by reason of their situation, or being of less importance, have not appeared deserving of being comprehended in the dispositions decreed for the colonies.

NOTE.

This instruction is calculated for all the colonies mentioned in the decree, with this difference :

1st. That with respect to Martinico, the first place of assembling the colonial Assembly shall be at Fort Royal ; at Guadaloupe, Basseterre ; at Cayenne, Cayenne ; at St. Lucia, the Garenage ; Tobago, Fort Louis ; the Isle of France, Fort Louis ; at Bourbon, St. Dennis.

2d. That in Martinico, Guadaloupe, the Isle of France and Bourbon, there shall be appointed in the parishes, one deputy for every 50 active citizens ; in Cayenne and Guiana, one for every 25 ; in St. Lucia, one for every 20 ; in Tobago, one for every 10, observing the same regulations as at St. Domingo, for the fractional numbers, and for the parishes which have not the number of citizens mentioned.

3d. That in the instructions sent to these colonies, there shall be suppressed in the first article, what concerns the provincial Assemblies, provided none exist but at St. Domingo.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

Monday, May 24.

THIS day the Count de Mirabeau proposed to the Assembly an amendment of one of the articles of the decree on the right of making peace and war, viz. "That no treaties that should be at any time entered into with foreign powers, whether of commerce or alliance, should be valid, till ratified by the National Assembly." This amendment was agreed to. He then proposed an additional article, viz. "That all treaties, or conventions, that had been entered into with foreign powers in the King's name, down to the present time, shall be examined by a special Committee, chosen by the Assembly, who shall, previous to the end of the present session, make a report thereon, to the end, that the Assembly may determine which of them ought to be ratified, and to what extent they ought to continue in force." This article meeting with general disapprobation, M. de Mirabeau consented to withdraw it, and the question was adjourned.

Two letters were then read from the Municipality of Montauban, stating that tranquility was restored in that city, that the National guard was new modelled, and that the Protestants forgetting their disasters, were intent on contributing to the happiness of the people. The Municipality expressed their anxiety to the Assembly on the bad consequences of sending a detachment of the militia of Bordeaux to Montauban, and requested the Assembly to consider the subject, and make a new decree. The two letters were ordered to the Committee of Reports.

PROVIDENCE, JULY 24.

Last Saturday afternoon we had some rain here, attended with sharp lightning. The wind blew heavy in the bay, and one vessel was in danger of foundering at her anchors. The sloop Venus, of Norwich, bound from hence to Newport, came to anchor under Warwick neck, and was afterwards struck by a flash of lightning, that tore off several feet of her mast, which, with the rigging, went overboard ; the remainder of the mast was shivered, the splinters flying to a considerable distance, and several butts above water were started, but providentially none of the people were injured. She was next day towed into Newport.

A correspondent at Rehoboth informs, that in the thunder-storm on Saturday afternoon the lightning struck a row of buton-wood trees, into which rails had been let for fence, within three rods of the house of Dr. Samuel Allen, and ran from tree to tree upon the fence, shivering the rails, throwing splinters many rods in all directions, and ploughing the ground in several places. Its effects were discoverable on 13 of the trees. Five men that had been reaping, and who were within a few rods of the place, as also the people in the house, felt a considerable shock, but happily no person was hurt.

An excellent machine for clearing docks, deepening the beds of rivers, &c. on a most ingenious model, has been constructed here, and is now in operation.—

BOSTON, JULY 28.

Extract of a letter from the Right. Hon. Viscount DE PONTEVES, to M. DE LETOMBE, dated on board the Illustre, Fort Royal, June 24th.

"I HAVE the honor to send you duplicates of the papers inclosed in my dispatches of the 17th inst.—Eighty of the banditti have been taken up—several of whom will probably be severely punished here, and the others sent to France. The Mulattoes have been released—eight only remain now in jail.

"The Colonial General Assembly constituted directly in conformity to the decree of the National Assembly, will re-unite and accomplish the necessary measures to secure a durable tranquility, which is the only means favorable to commerce."

"It is impossible to love a second time the thing that we have once truly ceased to love."

WITHOUT examining whether this maxim be true in all cases, I will select a few instances in which its truth cannot be questioned. I believe it will be confessed that a man, who has once lost his attachment to his country, cannot afterwards view it with any degree of complacency. That men do not love their country from any abstract reasoning about its merit, appears from this circumstance, that the inhabitants of the worst country in the world may be ardently attached to it ; and those of the best country may be violently averse to it. The most powerful and universal cause of love to any country, is, a residence in it, at that period of life when first impressions are formed, and when the force of example is strong and irresistible. Such a glow of affection may be excited in favor of a local situation, that it will require an extraordinary incident to eradicate it. The difficulty of destroying this attachment constitutes the difficulty of reviving it. The soul cannot easily forget the agitation it must have been thrown into, by so violent a cause, as that which can extinguish the love of country. A man, who from an inherent perverseness of heart, becomes a traitor to his country, must of course lose his love of it, because being perpetually conscious that he is hated, and deserves to be so, his own feelings must acquire a congenial cast. In like manner, a person who seriously believes, he has received some flagrant injury from his country, may be so irritated by a sense of his wrongs, that his resentment totally absorbs every delightful sensation in its favor. His former affections become transformed into hatred and revenge, and he can never enjoy any impulses of patriotism afterwards.

It is an observation no less true than common, that the most violent and lasting disputes exist among those who were once in habits of the strictest intimacy and friendship. When friends seriously disagree, it can only result from some circumstance calculated to excite so high a degree of provocation as cannot easily be forgotten. Family quarrels are, of all others, the most bitter and unrelenting. There may be a suspension of friendship upon some slight causes of disagreement, but this is very different from those severe and deep-rooted enmities, which create in the heart sentiments of real disgust and malevolence. These once formed in the breasts of persons, who have formerly been on a footing of cordial esteem and good will, will perhaps never be eradicated. The maxim contained in the motto may therefore be true as it applies to a friend ; that we can never love him a second time, whom we have once truly ceased to love. This view of the subject should induce us to guard against cherishing any causes of disgust either against our friends or our country ; for it is a most melancholy, as well as a most disgraceful circumstance to have a heart in which the sentiments of patriotism or friendship delight not to dwell.



CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. FRIDAY, JULY 23.

Debate on the Amendment of the Senate to the Funding Bill, to assume a part of the State Debts.

(CONTINUED.)

MR. JACKSON.

THE second argument of the gentleman is, that some States have taken upon themselves greater sums than their proportions or abilities to pay.

This, Sir, I think dubious, nor can it be ascertained but by a settlement of accounts, which alone can determine.—But, Sir, let us examine on the principles of equity, the claims of the two States which complain the most, Massachusetts and South-Carolina. The former has, it is said, greatly exceeded her quota. The fair method to judge of this, is to compare her exertions during the war with her ability. This solid principle of judging, has been lost sight of, although contended for, when the bill for the settlement of accounts was before the house. At the commencement of the war there is no doubt but the citizens of Massachusetts in and near Boston, suffered considerably ; but from the evacuation of that city to the end of the war, she felt the advantages rather than the disadvantages of war—She carried on the medium of commerce for the Union—her merchants and her country of course were enriched—she became enabled therefore to make greater exertions, and no doubt did her part. Contrast this with some others of the States—overrun by the enemy—houses and plantations destroyed—commerce arrested—merchants and citizens totally ruined, and the most opulent families beggared. I will leave to the gentlemen from Massachusetts themselves—I will appeal to their candor to determine if their debt was double the amount, which was the better fate.

South-Carolina I shall however be told is on the other scale, and in a great measure, I will grant it.

The difficulties of that State have been great—the merits of her citizens many, and her sufferings out of proportion with most, but not all of the States. North-Carolina and New-Jersey suffered nearly as much, and Georgia more. A great proportion of the wealth of South-Carolina was preserved by persons who took protection, or who resided in Europe the greatest part of the war—this was not the case with Georgia, her citizens were totally beggared, and her country left a wild uninhabited desert ; few of those who took protection remaining. That wealth preserved, left South-Carolina yet in a State of affluence—she would in the former Congress have felt herself insulted if she had been considered second in resource to any State in the Union. She is as great now in resource, and I believe that I speak with justice when I advance that three-fourths of the back inhabitants of that State are opposed to the measure. Sir, they are republicans who have fought and bled for the cause of liberty, and know the value of it. I know and regard them, such, and although I wish not to wound the feelings of any gentleman present, I assert that they will see through this thin veiled artifice to take their portion of State power from them, and they will feel that continual drain of specie which must take place to satisfy the appetites of balking speculators at the seat of government.

The 3d. argument is, that the funds out of which those debts ought to be paid, are by the constitution put under the direction of the federal government, and this done by the people for the express purpose of paying the debts of the United States of which these are a part.

This argument is in a great measure done away—Congress have rejected the excise, as impolitic and improper—the impost alone is taken, and this is not grumbled at—the States gave it years ago when the payment of State debts was not thought of. The journal the gentleman has referred to does not include the State debts—the impost of 5 per cent. was required from the States for the payment of the real debt of the Union—suppose all the States had agreed to that measure, would they not still have paid their own debts ?

The 4th argument that imposts and excises can be best managed under one direction falls with the third—excises are rejected, and I hope the house have no intention of bringing them forward again—I trust that Congress will not be like the long parliament—suffer them in secret while they openly disavow them.

The 5th argument of the gentleman if it is not fully refuted by my reply to his first and second, can be easily accomplished.

It is, that equal justice ought to be done to all the creditors, but this cannot be done by individual States ; some of them being unable to make provision ; burthened beyond their quota, and deprived of former revenues.

By the present mode, the argument is defeated, for the creditors are not on a footing—the whole is not assumed—a proportion will therefore still be left to the mercy of the States, which may be as backward in their payments now, as formerly. Without the assumption at all, the distinction was not hard to be borne. It was to be borne. It was only between the State creditors and those of the Union. At present, the distinction is between the same State creditors—those who will benefit are the speculators near the seat of government, and those near the commissioners ; whilst those at a distance and who in most probability are the only original holders, will not be benefited. The creditors of one State are not even on a footing with those of another. Massachusetts, South and North-Carolina, have the one half of 21,000,000 allotted them—the two former have near their whole debt. I will call on gentlemen to know if any within this house, can suppose they have a balance of 10,000,000 dug them ? The amount of the debt of Georgia is more than was supposed, it amounts to seven hundred thousand dollars—three hundred thousand of which are only to be assumed. If the measure is wise, the whole ought to be assumed.

I am not for this partial method—either the assumption ought to be proportioned to the representation, or taken generally, or certificates ought to issue to the States for what they have sunk, as to individuals.

The 6th argument is, that the measure is founded in good policy, as well as justice, as it will promote harmony among creditors and different States, attach them to the government and facilitate operations.

That it is not founded in justice I think has been pretty well shewn—Its policy was clearly proved at a former day, to have been a consolidation of the government ; and Sir, I believe with it a consolidation of the people's liberties.—The object certainly was the absorbing the whole of the State powers within the vortex of the all devouring general government—seven years were we fighting to establish props for liberty, and in less than two years, since the adoption of the constitution, are we trying to kick them all away, and he is the ablest politician and the best man of the day, who can do most to destroy the child of liberty of his own raising. A friend Sir, to the State governments, or the liberties of the people, is as much lost at the present day, as if he had belonged to the last century, and had a resurrection in the present age.

But, Sir, if so much of this patriotism is lost near the seat of government, let us not suppose it is the case with the whole of the United States—The States will not tamely submit to a measure calculated to distress, and manifestly founded in injustice and the ruin of the State governments.—So far will it be from producing the harmony the gentleman has supposed, that I think I can venture to prophesy, it will occasion discord and generate rancour against the Union. For if it benefits one part of the United States, it oppresses another. If it lulls the Shayes of the north, it will rouse the Sullivans of the south. (To be continued.)

MONDAY, AUGUST 2.

MR. GILMAN of the joint committee for enrolled bills reported, that the committee had examined and found duly enrolled the following bills—

1. "An Act to provide more effectually for the collection of the duties imposed by law on goods, wares and merchandize imported into the United States, and on the tonnage of ships or vessels."
2. "An Act for the relief of John Stewart, and John Davidson."
3. "An Act to continue in force for a limited time, an Act, entitled, An Act for the temporary establishment of the Post-Office."
4. "An Act making provision for the debt of the United States."

The above were then signed by the Speaker—and afterwards presented to the President of the United States for his approbation.

The Report of the Secretary at War on the petition of Lady Stirling, was read the second time, and agreed to.

The following Resolution was then passed, viz. Resolved, That there be paid to Sarah Stirling, the widow of the late Major General Lord Stirling, the sum of six thousand nine hundred and seventy-two dollars, being the half pay of a Major-General in the late American Army for the term of seven years.

Mr. Boudinot, Mr. Thatcher, and Mr. Ashe, were appointed a committee to bring in a bill for the purpose.

Mr. Jackson gave notice that he should to-morrow move for leave to bring in a bill to provide for the assumption of three hundred thousand dollars State debt, on account of the State of Georgia, in addition to the sum in the Funding Bill.

Mr. Ames moved that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to declare the consent of Congress to an Act of the State of Rhode-Island, passed before the adoption of the Constitution by that State, laying a duty on Tonnage for the purpose of enabling an incorporated company to improve the navigation of Providence River.

Mr. Smith, (M.) observed, that the provision ought to be general—There are, said he, several other rivers in States that have incorporated companies for the purpose of improving the navigation of those rivers. He mentioned the Potowmac, and Petapsco rivers.

After some debate the motion was amended by adding Savanna river in Georgia, and Petapsco river in Maryland—and then a committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Ames, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Seney, to bring in a bill.

The Speaker introduced a letter from the Treasurer of the United States, enclosing his accounts for the last quarter.

The report of the committee on the petition of Henry Emanuel Lutterloh, was taken into consideration. The report being in favor of the petitioner, considerable debate ensued. The report was finally negatived.

Mr. Parker gave notice that he should to-mor-