



CONGRESS. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. SATURDAY, July 24.

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

MR. GERRY.

(Continued.)

THE gentleman has told us of the exertions of Georgia, that by the assumption injustice will be done to her, and that her's, in particular will be a hard case. I have no doubt the citizens of that State, according to their abilities, made great exertions; they behaved with valor, and have suffered much in the common cause; and if there are any circumstances which will subject her to an injury by the operation of any acts of Congress, let her state them, and she will undoubtedly obtain redress, I think I can be responsible for Massachusetts, that her members will do every thing that is consistent with justice, and even with generosity for Georgia. But the gentleman should consider, that Georgia is but an infant State, that by her utmost exertions she could not contribute in any great degree to accomplish this revolution, and she cannot expect that the measures of this extensive republic will be entirely accommodated to her situation.

The gentleman tells us, that whilst Boston was in possession of the enemy, Massachusetts made great exertions and suffered much, but not afterwards, for her ports being opened and commerce flourishing, she was enriched by the war. [Here Mr. Jackson explained himself, and did not deny that Massachusetts continued her exertions, but supposed, nevertheless, she was enriched by the war.] Mr. Gerry admitted the explanation, and requested him to give any information he pleased respecting his arguments, as it was intended to consider them candidly.—He then proceeded: I conceive, sir, the gentleman is very little acquainted with the history of Massachusetts, as it relates to this subject, for so far was the State from being benefited, that it suffered exceedingly by the war. To judge of this matter, let us further examine the reports which were formerly called for to ascertain the contributions of the States, and see whether they will justify the supposition that the State was benefited by the war.

If we refer to the report of the Secretary at War to ascertain the number of men furnished by the several States, we shall find that some troops were enlisted for the war, some for three years, some for two, and others for one, and the militia for less periods. In order, then, to form a just idea of the comparative exertions of the States in this respect, it is necessary to reduce the number of men to one period of enlistment, whether enlisted for a longer or shorter time. For instance, to consider six soldiers, who were enlisted for two months as being equal to one enlisted for a year; or, if they were enlisted for three years, consider one as equal to three for one year.

By the Secretary's report, it will thus appear, that the whole number of men employed during the war, reduced to one year's term of service, was 311,719. Of this number, Massachusetts, by the average of the requisitions on her, was required to furnish the enormous proportion of 93,508 being 57,066 men, which is between a fifth and sixth of the whole number employed during the war, altho' her proportion was not more than a seventh. What was her conduct on this occasion? Did she fail to furnish the number required? No, sir, she raised the whole, and what is still more extraordinary, she supplied above the requisitions 17,140 men; if to this number we add 12,535 men which she supplied agreeably to the requisitions, and which exceeded her just proportion of one seventh, it appears that she furnished 29,675 men (for the term of one year's service) above her proportion.

Had the State in lieu of 74,205 men which she thus supplied, raised only her due proportion, which was 44,531, the probability is, she would have obtained these for half the average bounty which she paid for them, and have saved at least 1,005,128 dollars.

Let us now consider the effect of this measure, and judge of the benefits resulting to the State by the war. The amount of the specie claims of the State for pay, depreciation of pay, bounties, and clothing for all the troops which Massachusetts furnished is 8,006,553 dollars and this averaged on 74,206 men, will for 29,675 men be about,

Nine years interest due on this sum, is about Dols. 3,201,824  
The increased bounties on her proportion from the causes mentioned 1,728,984

And if to these expenses be added the loss of the State by the absence of 29,675 men the supplies given to them from time to time, the losses sustained by the death of perhaps a quarter part of them the support of the widows, and fatherless children, the amount, at the moderate rate of 100 dollars for each soldier, will be 2,967,500

Making 8,992,346  
which the State has taxed herself to furnish for other States their deficiencies of troops, and the last sum mentioned 2,967,500 dollars will be wholly lost to the State, in addition to this, several regiments were recruited in the State, not contained in the preceding estimate—Much has been said of the extravagant bounties, given by Massachusetts, the cause of which is explained, and notwithstanding the extraordinary requisitions on her for men, the average bounty paid by her, during the war for the term of a year's service, has not exceeded 47-2 dollars for each soldier.

Let us now turn our attention for a moment to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury which contains an account of the receipts and payments of the several States, in specie and indents, and in paper money reduced to specie. It is readily admitted, that the paper money in some instances is extended at a rate of depreciation, less than that which will be finally adopted, but by recurring to the report, I think it will be evident that the comparative view of this matter in its present form, is less favorable to Massachusetts, than it will be when the depreciation is further extended—as the accounts now present themselves, the amount of the sums received into the treasury from the several States is 14,200,777 dollars, reduced to specie value; the sum paid from the treasury, to the several States, amounts to 10,672,770 dollars, so that the balance of receipts, at the Treasury is, 3,528,003 dollars; of this sum Massachusetts furnished, exclusive of what she received from the Treasury, 1,921,283 dollars, which is nearly 4-7 of the balance of all the receipts at the Treasury, from the States, to this day. Her proportion of the balance mentioned of 3,528,003 dollars, being one seventh, is 504,000; so that she has supplied in this instance, 1,417,283 dollars, reduced to specie, above her proportion. By the above statements made from authentic documents on the files of the House, it is evident that Massachusetts has advanced for other States,

Table with 2 columns: Description and Dollars. Rows include: By troops (3,201,812), Interest thereon, 9 years (1,728,984), By supplies to the Treasury (1,417,283), Interest thereon 9 years (765,333), Making in the whole (7,113,214).

And from hence we may form some judgment of the benefits she has received from the war, which has almost impoverished and ruined her.

If we advert to the proposition of the Senate, for assuming the State debts, we shall find the whole sum to be assumed is 21,500,000 dollars, and that Massachusetts, if she had not advanced more than other States on an average, would be entitled to 3,071,428 dollars, being a seventh of the sum to be assumed. She is to receive thereof four millions dollars, so that for all her advances, she will be reimbursed by the assumption only, 928,672 dollars and yet this paltry sum compared with her demands is grudged by States, for whom, she has made such large advances.

(To be continued.)

LONDON, June 7.

Extract of a letter from Naples, April 22.

ON the 4th inst. early in the morning, a fire broke out in the Ruggiero, a 74 gun ship belonging to the royal navy, in the port of Castellamare; as soon as the fire was discovered at Naples, all the workmen at the arsenal, without having received any orders, went on horseback and in carriages to contribute their assistance. It is remarkable to their honor, that this was Easter time, when the workmen generally choose to spend their time with their wives and families. The fire, in spite of every resistance, almost consumed the above ship to the water's edge, and had communicated to another vessel laden with corn, and from that to another of the King's ships of 75 guns. In the midst of this consternation, and when the whole dock yard was in danger, a young workman of the arsenal of Castellamare, observed that sufficient assistance was not given to the second vessel on fire; with amazing courage and spirit he threw himself into the sea, and swam to the ship, stripped himself in the midst of the flames, and tried to extinguish them. His example inspired his companions with courage, and by their spirited efforts, all the ships in the harbor, except the Ruggiero and the corn vessel, were saved. The king, when informed of the zeal and bravery of those men, ordered that all those who had come at their own expence to Castellamare, should be recompensed, especially the young man who had so bravely hazarded his life; but not one man would accept of the recompense; refusing it in the handsomest terms.

"The Neapolitans have voted a gratuity to the king of 2,250,000, and the Sicilians 900,000 livres tournois, to make up the loss the marine has suffered by the destruction of the Ruggiero. The king has ordered General d'Action to express his satisfaction with this mark of their loyalty and affection."

BRABANT AND FLANDERS.

It is very difficult to procure any authentic intelligence of the affairs of Brabant at present. No person there dare write with any freedom, for fear of their letters falling into the hands of those who watch to detect spies, and who are ready to construe every kind of intelligence, as given from some improper motive.

A plan was lately concerted at Courtray, and that neighbourhood, supposed to have been planned under Austrian influence, the purpose of which was, with a force of 15,000 men, to release General Vandermerch from the Citadel of Antwerp, and to conduct him to Flanders, to be tried by the provincial council.

The attempt, however, failed, owing, as it is believed, to some of the chief people concerned, having at the time they pretended to join in this plot, been absolutely in the pay of the Patriots.

The states of Brabant, in the mean time, have removed M. Vandermerch, from the Citadel of Antwerp to a convent in Louvain, where they think he will be more out of the reach of those who wish to rescue him.

The discovery of this plot occasioned suspicion to fall on many people at Brussels; a general search therefore, took place, when in different houses they discovered deposits of arms and ammunition, for the use of the force intended for the rescue of Vandermerch.

In consequence of this, about 150 people have been seized and thrown into prison—and it is even asserted that two or three of them were hanged up by the mob.

PARIS, June 7.

On Thursday last [Corpus Christi-Day] his majesty, accompanied by the queen and the rest of the royal family, walked in procession to St. Germain l'Auxerrois, his parish, from the Thuilleries, through the Rue St. Honore, to the Louvre, and thence returned, by a different route, to the palace. On his right was the president of the national assembly (M. Treilhard) and on his left the great almoner of France, cardinal de La-val Montmorency. This ceremony had not its accustomed brilliancy, from the absence of so many of the princes of the blood, and the total abolition of all distinction of orders. The queen was dressed with an elegant simplicity that by no means obscured, if it did not heighten, her natural charms, which, even her enemies allow, are of the first class; and she was received by an incredible number of people with every possible mark of attachment and respect.

Dr. Price's Revolution Sermon may be had of the Editor.—Price 1/7.

PRICE CURRENT.—NEW-YORK.

AUGUST 27.—DOLLARS at 8c.

Table of market prices for various commodities including spirits, oils, grains, and metals. Columns list item names and their corresponding prices in dollars and cents.

ADVERTISEMENT.

PURSUANT to a Resolve or act of Congress of the 10th day of May, 1780, relative to the destruction of Loan-Office Certificates by accident; notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern, that on the 2d day of January 1780, the house occupied by the subscriber in Market-Street, Philadelphia, took fire and was consumed, in which was lodged a number of Loan-Office certificates as pr. list below, all which were destroyed by the said fire: Therefore if any person, hath any objection why the said Certificates should not be renewed, agreeable to the resolves of Congress, they must make them before the expiration of three months, from the date hereof.

Table listing destroyed Loan-Office certificates with columns for date, number, name, and value.

In testimony whereof I have signed the present for publication. New-York, July 26th, 1790. HOLKER.

The Mail Diligence,

FOR PHILADELPHIA,

LEAVES the Ferry-Stairs, at New-York, Ten minutes after Eight o'clock every morning except Sunday. Stage Office, City Tavern, Broad-Way, New-York June 5, 1790.

And to be sold by THOMAS ALLEN, Queen-Street, corner of Fly-Market, A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS AND FUGITIVE WRITINGS, On various subjects. By NOAH WEBSTER, Jun.

TO BE LET,

On very low terms—and entered upon immediately, until the first of May next.

THAT elegant new TWO STORY BRICK HOUSE, in the Bowery-Lane, formerly occupied by ROBERT GILBERT LIVINGSTON, deceased; it has seven Fire Places with a good Cellar under the whole House—a convenient out-House in the rear, with a Coach-House, and Stables; for further particulars enquire of MANGLE MINTHORN. Corporation Dock.

This Day published, And to be sold by THOMAS ALLEN, The American Museum, for August, 1790.

CONTAINING, among many other interesting articles, several Letters from WARNER MISSELYN, on the Quaker's petition to Congress, for the abolition of the Slave Trade. August 21, 1790.

A large impression of this paper having been struck off from the commencement of the second vol. April 14.—Those who incline to become subscribers from that period, may be furnished with the numbers complete.