

in convention the question was taken for striking out the penalty, only 7 or 8 members rose in favor of it.—But he thought this proposition improperly added to the first amendment, and wished it might be withdrawn, till the question whether the exemptions should be made by the states or by the general government is determined.

Mr. Madison, replied to Mr. Smith, he said that he conceived his motion a proper amendment at this place—as the gentleman from Connecticut only moved that the exemptions made by the several states should be sanctioned by the general government:—but it is conceded that this exemption is not made by the several states, and therefore ought to be here specified. He said he should acquiesce in an equivalent—tho he would prefer a gratuitous exemption.

THURSDAY, Dec. 23.

The Amendments to the Militia Bill under consideration.

The subject of exemptions was further discussed this day.

Mr. Madison withdrew for the present his proposition in favor of persons religiously scrupulous of bearing arms. The question then was, whether the power of exempting should be exclusively vested in Congress, or be exercised partly by the several States.

The question being called for, Mr. Stone moved that it should be divided, and the question for striking out the words "except as herein after excepted," in order to admit the proposed amendment, being put, was negatived—the substitute was superceded of course.

Mr. Moore proposed as an amendment to the first section, to add these words, "or with a good rifle, a shot bag, &c." which was agreed to.

The amendments to the second session being read, the debate on exemptions was renewed.—The amendment by which the particular States are empowered to exempt from militia duty, the legislative, executive, and judicial officers of the respective States, was agreed to by a great majority.

Mr. Madison then renewed his proposition in favor of persons religiously scrupulous of bearing arms, in a different form from that before offered, and to the following effect: "That all persons religiously scrupulous of bearing arms, who shall make a declaration of the same before a civil magistrate, shall be excused from performing militia duty; but be liable to a penalty of — dollars, to be appropriated as the monies arising from the post-office are appropriated.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. Boudinot, and objected to by Mr. Jackson, and Mr. Smith.

After some debate, Mr. Madison proposed that it should lie on the table for consideration—and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, Dec. 27.

Mr. Goodhue presented the petition of Isaac Osgood, which was read, and referred to the secretary of the treasury.

Mr. Burke's motion respecting a bill for altering the time of the meeting of Congress, was taken into consideration and negatived.

Several petitions, praying compensation for services rendered during the late war, were read, and referred to the secretary at war.

Mr. Fitzsimons from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported a bill, to ascertain how far the owners of ships or vessels shall be liable to the freighters; read a first time.

On motion, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole house, to take into consideration the report of the secretary of the treasury, on the means of making further provision for the support of public credit.

Mr. Livermore took the chair, and the committee agreed to the following resolutions, viz.

That an additional duty of 8 cents per gallon, be laid and collected upon all distilled spirits of common proof, and in like proportion for all other distilled spirits which shall after the — of day of — be imported into the United States.

Also, that from and after the — day of — next, a duty of 11 cents per gallon be imposed upon all spirits of the first class of proof, distilled within the United States, from sugar, molasses or other foreign materials—Also, a duty in like proportion on all other classes of proof.

Also a duty of nine cents upon all spirits, of the first class of proof, distilled within any city, town or village within the United States, from materials of the growth, or production of the United States, also a duty in like proportion on all other classes of proof.

That for each still employed in distilling spirits in any other place than a city, town or village, there to be collected and paid, a yearly sum of — cents for every gallon, English wine-measure, of the capacity of each still, including its head.

After which the committee rose and the chairman reported the resolutions, which were read and agreed to by the house.

And a committee of five members was appointed to prepare and bring in a bill agreeable to

said resolutions. The committee appointed, are Messrs. Sedgwick, Trumbull, Lawrence, Wynkoop, and Mr. Smith of Maryland.

The committee of the whole was then discharged from further consideration of said report

Mr. Fitzsimons moved, that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill on the other parts of the report, for altering the mode of collecting the duty on wines and teas, and to allow a longer time for collecting the same, this motion was referred to the foregoing committee.

In committee of the whole.—Mr. Livermore in the chair.

On the report of the Secretary of the Treasury for the establishment of Land-Offices for the disposal of the vacant lands belonging to the United States. After some discussion of the subject, the committee rose, and reported progress.

A message was received from the Senate, informing, that the President of the United States has this day approved and signed the act, making further provision for the debt of the United States.

On motion of Mr. Fitzsimons, a committee of three was appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, to enable the collector of the district of Pennsylvania, to permit the landing of goods, at other places within this district than the port of Philadelphia, the river being obstructed by ice.

TUESDAY, Dec. 28.

The affreightage bill was read the second time, and referred to the committee of the whole.

A memorial and remonstrance of the public creditors of the United States in the county of Burlington, and town of Trenton, in New-Jersey, was read.

Mr. Lee, of the committee appointed for the purpose, reported a bill directing the mode in which the evidences of the debt of the United States, which shall be lost or destroyed, shall be renewed—which was read the first time.

Mr. Lee also reported, from the committee on the petition of William Robinson, that the case would come within the cognizance of the bill now reported. The committee was discharged from any further consideration of the said petition—and the petitioner had leave to withdraw the same.

The petition of John Philip De Haas was read, and referred to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Fitzsimons reported a bill authorizing the unloading of goods, wares, and merchandize, at places, other than at the port of Philadelphia—read the first and second time—and referred to the committee of the whole, to-morrow.

In committee of the whole House on the state of the Union.—Mr. Boudinot in the chair.

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the subjects of a Land-Office, and the unappropriated lands in the Western Territory under consideration. Further progress was made; but the discussion not finished. Adjourned.

ANNAPOLIS, (Maryland) Dec. 23.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, DECEMBER 16, 1790.

On motion, the question was put, That it is the opinion of this house that the assumption of the State debts by the United States, is a measure dangerous in its consequences to the governments of the several States? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Forrest, were, Affirmative 32—Negative 26.

On motion, the question was put, That it is the opinion of this house that the said assumption is particularly injurious to this state? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Forrest, were, Affirmative, 30—Negative, 28.

The following question being propounded to the house, viz. That it is the opinion of the house that the said assumption is in no manner authorized by the constitution of the United States? the previous question was called for and put, That the said question be now put? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Denwood, were, Affirmative, 26—Negative, 33.

Ordered, That the said resolutions, with the yeas and nays, together with the third proposition, and the yeas and nays on the previous question relative to the same, be published in the Annapolis, Baltimore, and Easton newspapers. December 21.

The following proposition being propounded to the house, viz. That the resolutions on the propositions respecting the assumption of the state debts, and the subsequent proceedings thereon, be and they are hereby rescinded and annulled. The previous question was called for and put, That the said question be now put? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Forrest, were, Affirmative, 26—Negative, 26.

The house being equally divided, it was declared in the affirmative by the honorable the speaker.

The main question was then put. The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Forrest, were, Affirmative, 27—Negative 26.

PROVIDENCE, December 11.

On Saturday last the circuit court of the United States for Rhode-Island district was opened at the court-house in this town. On the following Monday, the court, consisting of chief justice JAY

and justice CUSHING, of the Supreme court of the United States, and justice MARCHANT, of this district court, proceeded to business.

A charge was given to the grand jury by the chief justice—full of good sense and learning, though expressed in the most plain and familiar style.

A number of actions were commenced in this court; but they were either settled or continued, without a trial on the merits of any of them, either before the court or jury. And on Tuesday evening the court adjourned, to meet again according to law.

At length have the mild beams of national justice began to irradiate this State, and opened a dawn of hope for better times.

All descriptions of people, who witnessed the proceedings of the court, discovered their entire approbation.

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.

OF FRANCE.

The following order was taken by the National Assembly, on the bold protest of the Parliament of Toulouse against their proceedings.

October 9, 1790.

"On the report of the committee on the Constitution, the National Assembly DECREES, That the members of the heretofore-court of Parliament of Toulouse, who passed the Resolves of the 25th and 26th of Sept. last, shall be impeached before a Tribunal forthwith to be established, to take cognizance of High Treason against the Nation. And considering the nature of the Charges against them, furthermore Decrees, That the KING shall be intreated to give the necessary orders for apprehending all the persons concerning in said Protest."

A request has been made by the inhabitants of LOUISIANA—a district of South America, belonging to the crown of Spain, to be taken under the protection of, and to receive the benefit of the laws of the National Assembly of France.

The first 400,000,000 of Assignats, issued by the French National Assembly, bore an interest of five per cent. October 8, the Assembly decreed that the interest should cease, after the 16th of that month. Some call this an *ex post facto* law.

The National Assembly, in some of the French papers, is denominated the Long Parliament. They labour incessantly, Sundays and all days—but they seem to be weaving the web of Penelope—

"Who though she stoutly did besire her,
Her finishing was ne'er the nearer."

Every citizen of the United States is interested in the rise of the public paper—whether a proprietor or not; for in proportion as its value approaches to that of specie, an additional medium is introduced, by which every person who has any thing to do with trade, commerce, agriculture or manufactures, is benefited.

It is undoubtedly a fact, that this country has never been in possession of a sufficient quantity of the precious metal to constitute a competent circulating medium, without the auxiliary of paper money; hence, before the revolution, the principal part of the then provinces, had their particular emissions, funded on various principles—to this circumstance may perhaps be chiefly attributed the facility with which the immense emissions of continental paper slid into circulation; and though an unfunded debt is the bane of a country, because it will encrease, and because it will depreciate; yet, an addition to the present medium of the United States of bank paper, bottomed on substantial funds, such as, through the favor of heaven, are now within our reach, will most undoubtedly invigorate every spring of industry and enterprize that can possibly be set in motion.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.		
6 pr. Cents	18s. pr. £.	or 90 pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	9s.	or 45 do.
Deferred 6 pr. Cents	9s.	45 do.
UNFUNDED DEBT.		
Final Sett. and other	Certificates 15/6.—16s. 80 do.	
Indents	9s.	45 do.
State debts	12/6	62½ do.

The purchases of public debt made yesterday by the Treasurer of the United States, were at the following rates: Funded, 6 per cents a 18s. Deferred, 6 per cents, and 3 per cents at 9s.

THE Subscribers for this paper, in the city of New-York, are respectfully informed, that the charge of the papers proving inconvenient to Mr. Wetmore, at the Post-Office, the Editor has engaged Mr. Samuel Campbell, Book-seller, Hanover-Square, to receive them and superintend their delivery—by whom Subscriptions will be received.

HENRY KUHLE,

At No. 143, Second-Street, near Race-Street,

By advice of his friends in New-York and Philadelphia, he opened an office for the purpose of buying and selling, on commission, the different species of Stock, and of liquidated and unliquidated paper in the market.

He will obtain such Certificates as are required by the funding law, for those who have unliquidated Securities; and transfer Stock from and to the Treasury and the Offices of the Commissioners of Loans, on moderate terms.

Having for several years past been employed in the Treasury of the United States, he is well acquainted with its operations and forms; and flatters himself that on that score he has a decided advantage in transacting business here. He is fully impressed with the truth of the adage that "dispatch is the soul of business," and will always make the interest of his employers an object of the first importance.

Philadelphia, December 29th, 1790.