

agree to receive all its demands in the paper of the existing banks, it would give to them every advantage, which in the opinion of gentlemen, renders the present system objectionable, without stipulating for any equivalent to the government. But are, he asked, gentlemen serious in these observations? Do they believe the capitals of the present banks adequate to the exigencies of the nation? Do they believe that those banks possess any powers by which they can give a projectile force to their paper, so as to extend its circulation throughout the United States? Or do they really wish to have the government repose itself on institutions, with which they have no intimate connection, and over which they have no control?

Mr. Sedgwick concluded by observing, he was very confident a majority of that house could never be induced to believe that it was the intention of the constitution to deprive the legislature of one of the most important and necessary means of executing the powers expressly delegated.

WEDNESDAY, March 2.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Secretary Otis, informed the house, that they have resolved to postpone, to the next session of Congress, the consideration of the land-office bill\*; and, that they had passed, with amendments, the bill relative to the six dollar of Denmark.

The house having taken the said amendments into consideration, concurred therein.

Passed the bill for making compensation to the widows and orphan children of certain officers, who were killed, or who died in the service of the United States, during the late war, and for the relief of certain invalids, and other persons therein mentioned.

Mr. Floyd, from the committee on enrolled bills, presented, and the Speaker signed, an act supplemental to the act establishing the Treasury Department, and for a further compensation to certain officers; and an act to amend the act for establishing the temporary and permanent seat of the government of the United States.

Mr. Burke, reported a bill, for the relief of David Cooke, which was read a first time.

In committee of the whole (Mr. Livermore in the chair) on the bill supplemental to the act establishing the salaries of the executive officers of government, with their assistants and clerks; the same was reported without amendment, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. Being brought in engrossed, it was read a third time, and passed.

In committee of the whole (Mr. Boudinot in the chair) on the bill making further provision for the collection of the duties by law imposed on teas, the same was reported without amendment. The bill being then taken up in the house, was amended by the addition of a clause respecting the duties on wines. It was then recommitted to a committee of the whole house. The committee having further amended the bill, and the amendments being adopted by the house, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

A message was delivered by Mr. Secretary Lear, informing the house, that the President of the United States had this day approved and signed.

An act giving effect to the laws of the United States, within the state of Vermont.

An act to explain the act making further provision for the payment of the debts of the United States:—

An act supplementary to the act, incorporating the subscribers to the Bank of the United States;—and

An act fixing the time of the next annual meeting of Congress.

In committee of the whole [Mr. Boudinot in the chair] on the bill concerning consuls and vice-consuls; the bill was reported with sundry amendments. The house having agreed to the report of the committee, and further amended the bill, it was read a third time and passed.

Sundry reports from the Secretary of the Treasury, on petitions referred to him, were read, and laid on the table.

The house then proceeded to consider the amendments of the committee, to the bill for granting lands to the inhabitants and settlers at Vincennes, in the Illinois country, in the territory N. W. of the Ohio; and having adopted the same, the bill was passed.

A message being received from the Senate, which required secrecy, the gallery was ordered to be cleared.

The amendments, proposed to the bill concerning consuls and vice-consuls, having been communicated to the Senate, and by them disagreed to, the house, (after the opening of the doors) took the same again into consideration; and the question for *receding* being put and lost, it was [on motion of Mr. Sedgwick] resolved, that the house do *insist* on their amendments.

An engrossed bill, to grant to George Gibson the sum of one thousand dollars, for services rendered to the United States, was read a third time, and passed.

An engrossed bill, making further provision for the collection of the duties by law imposed on

\* Erroneously stated in a few of our last numbers to have passed the Senate with amendments.

teas, and for extending the term of the payment of the duties on wines, was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Boudinot, resolved, that Gifford Dally be, and he is hereby authorized to take care of the rooms appropriated for the use of the House of Representatives, until the next meeting of Congress, and also to make the necessary provision of firewood, for the next session.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 3.

Mr. Floyd of the committee of enrolment, reported a bill, making certain appropriations for the purposes therein mentioned—and a bill relative to the six dollar of Denmark; as duly enrolled; to which the speaker affixed his signature.

The petition of Thomas Claxton, assistant door keeper; was read the second time—and on motion of Mr. Madison, the following resolution was adopted—That certain expences incurred by the petitioner in the discharge of his duty, not to exceed one hundred dollars, be included in the Clerk's account of contingent expences of the present session.

The committee on the petition of John Tucker, Clerk of the Supreme Court, reported, that said petition be deferred to the next session. Report agreed to.

A resolution, received from the Senate, was concurred in, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before Congress, at their next session, an estimate of the quantity and situation of those lands, not claimed by Indians, nor occupied by citizens of the United States, in the territory ceded in North-Carolina, N. W. of the Ohio.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Secretary Otis, informed the house, that they *adhere* to their disagreement to the amendments proposed by the house to the Consul Bill.

A resolution was received from the Senate at same time, for the establishment of a *Mint*, pursuant to law, and authorizing the President to cause such principal Artists and Apparatus to be engaged, as may be necessary to carry said resolution into effect.

The house *insisted* on their amendments to the bill; and concurred in the above resolution with amendments.

Another message received from the Senate, informed the house that they have passed the bill making compensation to the Commissioners of Loans for extra services, with an amendment.—The house after some debate, non-concurred the amendment.

Another message informed that the Senate *adhere* to their amendment—On which a motion was made in the house to *recede*, which was carried in the affirmative.

The bill making further provision for a collection of the duties on teas, and for prolonging the term of payment of the duties on wines; and the bill, with amendments, in addition to the act establishing the salaries of the executive officers, their assistants and clerks, having passed the Senate, were sent to the house, which concurred in the amendments.

A message from the President of the United States, by Mr. Secretary Lear, informed the house that the following acts had received his approbation and signature, viz.—

An act repealing, after the last day of June next, the duties heretofore laid on distilled spirits imported from abroad, and laying others in their stead—and also upon spirits distilled within the United States, and for appropriating the same.—An act supplemental to the act establishing the Treasury Department—and an act relative to the six dollar of Denmark.

Sundry messages from the Senate, informed that they have passed with amendments, the temporary Post-Office bill—the bill granting lands to the inhabitants of Vincennes—the bill making compensations to the officers of the judicial courts, jurors and witnesses—the bill supplementary to the act making provision for the reduction of the public debt; also informing that the Senate concurred in the amendments to the resolution for the establishment of a *mint*.

The house concurred in the amendment, to the Post-Office bill—and to those in the supplementary bill, for the reduction of the public debt; to some of the other amendments they disagreed.

A message from the Senate informed the house that they have postponed till the next session of Congress; the bill making compensations to the widows and orphan children of certain officers &c and the bill to compensate George Gibson.

A resolution proposed by Mr. Smith (S. C.) was agreed to—authorizing the marshals of such districts, as are unprovided with goals for the detention of prisoners, under the authority of the United States, to provide convenient houses to serve as temporary goals, till permanent provision is made by law.

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, it was voted, that the proposed amendment to the constitution offered by Mr. Benson, to be considered by the next Congress—be printed.

A message from the Senate, informed the house that they *recede* from such of their amendments to the bill making compensations to the officers of the Federal Courts, &c. as they disagreed to by the house.

A bill was then originated and passed the usual forms to the third reading, for carrying into effect the consular convention between his most Christian Majesty, and the United States of America.

Sundry enrolled bills, and the resolutions respecting a *Mint*, and unappropriated Lands, were signed by the Speaker.

The house then adjourned till 6 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY EVENING.

Passed—the bill for carrying into effect the Consular Convention. A bill to continue the act therein mentioned, and to make further provision for invalid pensioners, and for the support of Light-Houses, &c. was read the first, second, and third time, and passed.

Sundry enrolled bills were signed by the Speaker.

A bill for the relief of David Cook was read the second and third time, and passed.

A message from the Senate, informed the house, that they concur in the resolution for the safekeeping of prisoners &c. also that they have considered the bill for carrying into effect the consular convention; and the bill for the relief of David Cook, and resolved that said bills do not pass to a second reading.

Seven enrolled bills and resolutions were signed by the speaker.

A message from the President of the United States, by Mr. Secretary Lear, informed the house, that the following acts have received his approbation and signature viz: An act making compensations to the commissioners of loans, for their extra services; an act in addition to an act, establishing the salaries of the officers of the Treasury Department, their assistants and clerks.

An act to provide compensations for the officers of the Judicial Courts, and for Jurors and Witnesses, and for other purposes.

An act making further provision for the collection of the duties on teas, and to prolong the time for the collection of those on Wines.

An act to continue in force an act, for the temporary establishment of the Post-Office.

An act, supplementary to the act, making further provision for the public debt; and a resolution for the safe-keeping of Prisoners, confined under the authority of the United States.

A message from the Senate informed the house, That the President had signed the following acts, which originated in the Senate.

An act to continue in force the act therein mentioned, and to make further provision for invalid pensioners, and for the support of light houses, &c.

An act, for granting lands to the settlers at Vincennes, in the Illinois country.

The Secretary then informed the house, that the Senate having finished the legislative business before them, are ready to adjourn.

On motion of Mr. Vining, the following was unanimously agreed to.

Resolved, That the thanks of the House of Representatives of the United States be presented to FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUEHLBERG, in testimony of their approbation of his conduct in the Chair, and in the execution of the difficult and important trust, reposed in him as Speaker of the said house.

To which, the Speaker made the following reply.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

THIS unexpected mark of your approbation of my conduct has made so deep an impression on my mind, that I cannot find words to express the high sense of gratitude I entertain on this occasion.

I have not vanity sufficient to suppose, that my feeble, tho' well-meant endeavors merit so great a reward; for it was your kind indulgence and support alone, which enabled me to go through the duties of the station which you were pleased to assign me; but I shall ever consider this distinguished and honorable testimony as the most pleasing circumstance of my life.

Gentlemen, I most sincerely thank you.—May every possible happiness attend you, and every individual of this body; and may your zealous endeavors to promote the welfare of our beloved country, which I have so long, and so often been a witness to, be crowned with unbounded success.

On motion of Mr. Jackson, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to—That the Speaker communicate to the Mayor and corporation of the city, and the Commissioners of the county of Philadelphia, the thanks of this house for the elegant and convenient accommodations furnished by them for the use of Congress.

The house then adjourned *sine die*.

P A R I S, Dec. 7.

AMONGST the strongest instances of the fluctuation of popular opinion, may be reckoned the change of sentiment which has taken place with respect to M. de la Fayette. At one time the idol of the people, he is now the object of suspicion with many; and suspicion in certain situations is nearly equivalent to hatred. Of this the Marquis has experienced a recent instance.

He was attacked on Tuesday last by 8 men armed when accompanied by only 2 of his guards de corps.—The latter were fortunately armed with pistols, by the discharge of which two of the assailants were wounded. After a short contest, these, with two others, were taken; the rest saved themselves by flight.

ARISTOCRATIC FINESSE DEFEATED.

The late overflowing of the rivers having in many places in France, retarded the arrival of the post, the Aristocratic Horde (as they are now politely called) enjoyed the triumph of a moment, by giving out that the National Assembly was dissolved; that Paris was given up to be plundered to the king's troops, and that all the patriots who refused laying down their arms, were butchered on the spot. The people believed the report, but instead of yielding to despair, or any other unbecoming weakness, they assembled and repeated their civic oath, "to defend the constitution until death!" In many places in Languedoc the national cavalry were ready to fly to the assistance of the capital; their hangers were whetted in the presence of the preachers of slavery, who were given to understand that, on the first signal of a counter-revolution, they should be the victims of national indignation.

The Municipality of Paris went on Thursday to L'isle des Cygnes, to see a mill put in motion by a fire pump; it contains twelve mill-stones, which in twenty-four hours, grind seven hundred septiers of corn; [a septier is twelve bushels] this curious piece of mechanism, will be found wonderfully useful for Paris, as the Seine is frozen over every winter.

A new military body is established here, under the appellation of the federal club; the protection afforded to it by M. de la Fayette, the service the soldiers are employed in, being at the Louvre, give much food for conversation, and last week the whole was denounced at the Jacobins, as pregnant with mischief.

Virtue, modesty, and experience, will now occupy in the French Church, the dignified places, hitherto, too often usurped by ambition, intrigue, pride and ignorance; where the people have a bishop to name, their choice is worthy of the primitive church. A parish priest, of Sedan has been lately elected to fill the episcopal chair of that city; his elevation is the reward of beneficence, toleration, patriotism, in short every virtue.

National Assembly, Sunday December 5.

PUBLIC TREASURY.

M. Pinteville Cernon's statement of the public treasury afforded the greatest joy to the assembly. Imposts are therein represented as much accelerated, and indeed settled. The public coffers full of bills and specie—last month there was only three millions, now there are twenty-six; and the value of specie considerably lower.

MONDAY, Dec. 6.

M. de la Rochefoucault presented his statement of the supplies for the year 1791, and with the most lively satisfaction, the assembly learned that the anterior contributions exceed now, by a hundred and sixty millions, the amount exacted by the expences of that year, since their estimate was only 560 millions. When the reporter, however, stated, that 300 millions of this were to come from the landed property, long and loud murmurs proceeded from a great part of the members.