

A message was received from the Senate, communicating for concurrence, a bill passed in that body, entitled an act relative to the election of the President and the Vice-President, and declaring the officer who should act as President in case of vacancy in the office of President and Vice-President. Adjourned.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1.

An engrossed bill making compensation to widows, orphans and invalids in certain cases, was read the third time, and passed—the title was altered to read—"An act for the relief of widows, orphans, invalids and other persons."

The bill which has passed the Senate, entitled, "An act relative to choosing electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, &c." was read the first time.

A report from the Secretary of War, on the petition of Captain Thomas Campbell, was read and laid on the table.

In committee of the whole on the bill for the relief of David Cook. This bill received considerable discussion—various alterations were proposed, and rejected—the bill was finally agreed to, without any amendment, and so reported to the house.

Mr. Parker moved in the house, to add a clause to the bill providing for the placing Capt. Thomas Campbell, an invalid, on the pension list. This motion being agreed to, it was ordered that the bill be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Fitzsimons, resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to explain and amend the acts relating to the 7 years half-pay, promised to the widows and orphans of officers who have died in the service of the United States, and of persons who are or have been entitled to pensions as invalids—and Messrs. Lawrence, Fitzsimons and Barnwell, were appointed.

A representation of the legislature of New-Hampshire, on the subject of invalid pensioners, was read and referred to the above committee.

A number of petitions were read and referred to the Secretary of War.

A petition from sundry seamen who were in the service of the United States the late war, was read and referred to the Secretary of War.

A petition of Peter Hezler, praying the renewal of a lost certificate, was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Passed, the bill for the relief of David Cook and Thomas Campbell.

Read the second time, and referred to a committee of the whole house on Wednesday next, the bill relative to the election of President and Vice-President—also determining the officer who shall act as President in case of vacancy in the office of President and Vice-President.—Ordered to be printed in the interim.

A petition from the Society of the United Brethren, respecting certain lands in the Western Territory, was presented by Mr. Heister—read, and referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill providing for the sale of vacant lands.

In committee of the whole, on the bill making appropriations for the support of Government for the year 1792.

Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair.

The bill and estimates being read, Mr. Parker observed that he could have wished the result of a full enquiry into the expenditures of monies heretofore appropriated, had been communicated to the committee of the whole, by the select committee—if such enquiry had been made, he should wish to hear it; for he should not think himself justified in giving his vote for the bill, until some information on this subject was obtained.

These observations led to a lengthy discussion of the business—the remarks principally respected the gross sums in the estimates, on which the bill was founded—it was contended that the items which composed those sums should be particularly detailed to the committee, in order to judging of the propriety of making the appropriations mentioned in the bill; the discussion ended in a motion for the committee to rise, and report progress—which being put, was carried in the affirmative.—The committee accordingly rose and had leave to sit again.

On motion of Mr. Lawrence it was voted, that the Treasurer's account of the receipts and expenditures of public monies shall be printed.

Mr. Gerry laid the following motion in substance on the table, that the executive officers of government should, on the third Monday of every annual session of Congress lay before the house a particular account of the expenditure of public money, committed to their disposal by acts of appropriation.

Mr. Fitzsimons laid on the table the following motion—That a committee be appointed to examine and report, at every session of Congress, the state of the Treasury Department—and that such report be made to the house on the second Monday of the session.

A representation from the legislature of Massachusetts on the subject of invalid pensioners, was communicated by Mr. Ames, and read. Adjourned.

BOSTON, November 19.

The receipt of the intelligence of the Ratification of the French Constitution, by Louis XVI. spread satisfaction and joy through all ranks of citizens in this metropolis. The bells were rung, and amidst the Thanksgivings of the day offered to Almighty God, in our Temples, that pleasing event very largely partook. In the evening the house of the Hon. Consul of France, and several others, were beautifully illuminated.

NEW-YORK, November 29.

The present situation of the State debts, is a curious one. Congress resolved that as those debts were contracted for the support of the war, they ought to be paid out of the Continental treasury. They were therefore adopted as Continental debts, but under certain restrictions.—It was clear enough that if one State debt which was incurred for the general defence, ought to be assumed; another of the same complexion ought likewise to be assumed; yet from an overstrained squeamishness, a certain limit was fixed, and only a given sum assumed in each State, tho' it was previously well known that the debt exceeded that limit in several of the States. The creditors of those States subscribed to the loan opened by Congress, but it turns out that there is an overplus beyond the sum assumed—what is to be done with it? If the creditor ap-

plies to the State to pay, or lend that overplus, the State will naturally say to him, "your debt is no longer a State debt—it is a Continental debt—Congress have so declared it—we are bound by their acts—you must look to them for it—you have taken them as paymasters, by subscribing to their loan, and you have shown that you preferred their credit to ours, you cannot therefore with any decency resort to us." Unless Congress make a provision for this overplus, the Creditors must lose it. This is, however, not to be apprehended: the strict regard hitherto shown to justice by that body, is a flattering presage, that they will not leave undone that work they have so honorably begun, more especially as they have by their act seduced the State creditors into this dilemma, and as from the present suspicious state of the public revenues, it is manifest that a complete assumption will require no impositions of further burdens.

THE SOUL.—AN EXTRACT.

"LET others boast that they are brutes, I glory that I'm a MAN. Let others wish for eternal sleep, I shall be for ever awake. Let others waste their golden hours in proving that God is false, I feel something within which proves that his word is true, though others consign soul and body to the dust, the clods of the valley cannot cover my soul. No! legions of angels can't confine me to the grave, my body was designed for the dust; but my soul will inherit the world of souls! ALAS! WHAT IS LIFE IF WE LIVE NOT FOR EVER!"

Philadelphia, December 3.

Accounts from the Southward inform, that the Commissioners who met at Rock Landing, in Georgia, for the purpose of running the line agreeable to the treaty with the Creeks, waited till the beginning of November for the Creek Chiefs, when they despaired of being able to effect the business this season. The difficulties which prevented the Chiefs from attending, are said to be raised by the famous Bowles, who arrived in the Creek country in September last.

The samples of Buttons from the manufactory in Connecticut, which are presented for inspection to the members of Congress, afford the fullest evidence of the practicability of furnishing, without importation, that necessary article, upon the cheapest terms, and of the best quality.

We have the pleasure of announcing to the public, that the subscription book for opening the Canal and Lock Navigation, between the rivers Susquehanna and Schuylkill, by the waters of Quittapahilla and Tulpehocken, in this State, was opened by the Commissioners appointed by law, at the State-House, on Thursday last, when upwards of 500 shares, the number required by law to empower the Governor to incorporate the said Company, was subscribed for before one o'clock. This is another instance of the public spirit of the inhabitants of this State.

We received by yesterday's post, No. 3, of "THE MORNING RAY; OR IMPARTIAL ORACLE," a new paper published at Windsor, state of Vermont. Motto,

"The wilderness shall bud and blossom as the rose."

Extract of a letter to the Editor.

"Your papers for three months past, have not more than two-thirds reached this place, and not one since the 9th inst. whereas we ought to have them as late as the 16th or 17th. Many times their transportation may be impeded by the quantity of public dispatches to the different officers; but this is not the sole cause.—The salaries of Postmasters do not pay anything for their trouble, and until some law of the United States is passed for the safe transportation of papers, they will continue to be stopped. The office of Postmaster is a confidential one, and the pay should be sufficient to employ men who are attached to the public interest, as connected with the means of information."

Why should we be terrified at the charge of opening free-schools for all the children? It is not every expence that makes us the poorer. It is buying feed corn—it will sprout and bear a crop that will pay the first cost an hundred fold.

The more men can be made to think, the better; books have the tendency.—But they are dear and scarce. All the lazy, and almost all the busy, neglect them, because it is a task. Who would begin that could not or would not finish the reading one? Every body reads the Almanac—it is the poor man's library—but the lesson, though good, is too seldom taught.

A newspaper is cheap, of small bulk, and goes everywhere—besides, it is a treat which always creates an appetite, for curiosity is fauce to it. Add to all this, it is daily, or weekly, served—it is a kind of standing dish. A newspaper, therefore, is a valuable utensil of knowledge—it tells us facts at the minute we are curious to know them—it tells us also the opinion of the world upon them. We keep company with the absent; we are, by their means, made acquainted with strangers—we feel, in solitude, a sympathy with mankind—without abstruse thinking, we receive the truths which others have hammered out. Men stick to their business, and yet the public is addressed as a town meeting. Yet the Gazettes follow us to our closets, and give us counsel there. With all this pleasure, and more than all this use, they need not cost any thing, to the public, to be made easy of circulation thro' all parts of the country.

Where equal laws secure property, men will exert all their faculties to get it. The cause being general, the efforts will be so too. Industry will spring up, and work wonders. In this way, the nation will grow rich. Government has nothing to do, in this affair, but to maintain the laws which protect property. For who would work for what he could not be allowed to keep? The English boast of their laws of navigation—their bounties on the cod and whale fisheries, &c.—as if the hands of industry could work the better for being tied. They may have more seamen, for having bounties and prohibitions—but they certainly have less wealth. The fact proves it—for if more was not to be gained otherwise, there would be no occasion for bounties to the whalemen, &c. A rich nation will have much to buy—an industrious nation much to sell. This is traffic or commerce. When will nations follow the laws of nature, and depend, for the prosperity of trade, on the abundance of the sources of individual industry, from which it is to be supported.

The public good is the supreme object in forming the social compact—and every government is good in proportion as its administration appreciates that object—but a strange insatiation has prevailed at different periods of the world, which has led the rulers of states and kingdoms to draw a fatal line of separation between their own interest and that of the people. Mankind are at length awaking from their lethargy, and asserting their own dignity and importance. It will not be long before a just policy will lead the legislators of the earth to adopt the public opinion as the guide of their conduct—This will ensure present applause, and future fame, for the people are always in favor of conferring honors and rewards on the benefactors of the human race.

It sometimes happens that the love of one truth is so warm as to make men cold towards another. The right to worship God according to one's own conscience, is no longer disputed in our country. Perhaps the care which has been wisely taken to prevent any violation of this right, has produced an over jealousy in regard to the provisions which are made in some States, and not made in others, for the public teaching of morality. It seems to

be manifestly improper to make a man of one persuasion pay taxes for the propagation of another. But the great duties of morality are alike inculcated by all sects. The world is doubtless mended by the pains which have been bestowed upon it once a week.—The Clergy of this country have been the patrons of literature, and the examples of good morals, ever since it was settled. Who can say that the laws we have in force would have been found strong enough, had not the love and respect for good morals, which for more than a century have been infused from the pulpit into the minds of youth, as well as confirmed in persons of mature age, contributed all their influence to enforce them? The more is done by opinion, the less occasion for law and for punishments. As no provision is made by law in several of the States for the regular support of the Clergy, should not this great advantage be secured by the munificence of individuals? While, therefore, so many new establishments are making, new funds created, and new settlements forming, it will be proper to reserve lands, or by other means to begin funds for so laudable a purpose. What better use could be made of wealth than to form such funds by subscriptions?—If to this should be added provision for schools, it would be a further security against vice and barbarism. When men live alone, they run wild—to tame them, they must be brought together. The advantages resulting from regular public worship, have been too long enjoyed by society to require any illustration. It is to be lamented if there is any part of our country where these advantages are yet to be secured.

It is proposed by the bill reported for the establishment of the Post-Office, that Newspapers shall be sent to subscribers through that medium, subject to a tax of half a cent each. This idea has been objected to, as a precedent on which a heavy imposition may be founded at some future period; it is said also, that it will check the circulation of those useful vehicles of information.

The object contemplated by the committee which reported the bill, it is fairly to be presumed was not to check, but to promote the circulation of Newspapers. The complaints of irregularity in receiving the papers published at the seat of government are innumerable; supposing a small addition to the expence of the subscription would insure their punctual reception by the subscribers, it must be evident, that their circulation would be greatly extended. Something must be done to remove present complaints and difficulties, or the idea of a general diffusion of intelligence by the means of Newspapers will be abandoned altogether—on its present plan, it is ruinous to the printers.—Additional trouble and expence in the Post-Office department, will be the consequence of making that a *sure and certain* medium for the circulation of Newspapers. The question is, how shall this expence be defrayed? Let the government of the United States say, that the expence shall be a public charge. A correspondent is firmly persuaded that such a measure would meet the approbation of the citizens of the United States, he is very sure it would merit the applause of every friend to the "rights of man" throughout the globe.

At a meeting of the Subscribers to the National Manufactory on Monday last at Trenton, the following gentlemen were chosen Directors.

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| Thomas Lowrey, | George Lewis, |
| John Bayard, | Benjamin Walker, |
| Elisba Boudinot, | John Dewhurst, |
| Archibald Mercer, | Nicholas Low, |
| Moore Furman, | Royal Flint, |
| John Neilson, | Alexander M'Comb. |
| William Duer, | |

William Marshall, a tinker, of Crossmichael, is now 118. He might pass for a man of 60.

Here is a fine fellow for a Tontine!

An action was lately tried, brought by Mrs. Beckford, against farmer Throp, her tenant, for leaving her farm, at the expiration of his lease, greatly out of repair; and for carrying the dung and compost off the farm, during the last year of his term. Verdict for the plaintiff 20l. damages.—This verdict establishes the fundamental law that tenants, holding under a repairing lease, shall leave the premises in a tenable condition; and that the dung made upon the land shall, be expended upon it. London pap.

IMPROMPTU.

THE people pay, and ought to know
For what the public taxes go;
To this no mortal e'er said nay,
And yet they talk'd the live-long day.

From PELOSI'S MARINE LIST.
ARRIVALS at the PORT of PHILADELPHIA.

Brig Jason,	Meafe,	Aux Cayes
Betsy,	Ruffell,	Cape-Francois
Lydia,	Vanfise,	Martinique
Snow Jane,	Prance,	Oporto
Schooner Sanfoucie,	Cooper,	Virginia
Mary,	Welden,	do.
Metompkin,	Barafit,	do.
Tryal,	Vannenan,	St. Thomas
Eagle,	Spen,	Halifax
Sloop Ann,	Forrest,	Virginia
Sophia,	Connell,	Curracoa
Philadelphia Packer,	Tanner,	Eustatius
Polly,	Bunker,	Fayal
Favorite,	Smith,	Marseilles
Dolphin,	Bailey,	New-York

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.		
6 pr. Cents	22f 22/2	pr. L. 111 pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	12/6 12/8	63 1/2 do.
Deferred 6 pr. Cents	13/ 13/3	66 1/2 do.
UNFUNDED DEBT.		
Final Sett. and other Certificates	19/6 20f	par.
Indents	11/6	57 1/2 do.
Bank Subscriptions,	144	Dollars.

American Lead Manufactory.

STEPHEN AUSTIN, & Co.

HAVE just now opened their LEAD-WAREHOUSE, two doors south of Walnut-street Wharf, adjoining their New Factory—where they have now made, and ready for sale, a general assortment of SHOT of all sizes, with SHEET and BAR LEAD, the production of the Mines in Virginia. As they have employed a number of experienced English workmen, they warrant it to be equal in quality to any manufactured in Europe, and at a reduced price from the prime cost of imported.

They also continue to manufacture all the above articles at Richmond, in Virginia. All orders addressed to either of the above Factories, will be thankfully received, and executed on the shortest notice.

N. B. Wanted, industrious, sober, Labouring Men, at the said Mines, where constant employ, good wages, and other encouragements will be given, means of conveyance being provided, and houses for their reception.

For further particulars enquire of Messrs. MOSES AUSTIN & Co. at their Factory in Richmond, or as above.

Philadelphia, December 3, 1791.