

The majority of the publications on this subject—the various amendments proposed by the States, all plainly declare that the sense of the people is in favor of one for every 30,000.

And what, said he, are the objections?—It is said that the public business will be impeded by a large number of members in the house, and that the expense will encrease the public burthens of the people. With respect to the first objection, it seems to be a general idea of gentlemen, that about 100 members would be the most eligible number—the proposed ratio will give about 112; an addition of ten or twelve cannot embarrass the public business. The objection on account of an encrease of the expense, he did not consider as well founded. The encrease of the representation will be in proportion to the encrease of the people who pay for the support of the government.

The objection he could not consider therefore of sufficient weight to deter Congress from establishing such a ratio as would give a representation fully competent to doing full justice to every part of the Union.

The government is a government by representation, and it is of the last importance that the confidence of the people should be inspired by feeling that their interests are fully represented.

Mr. Lawrance observed, that encreasing the ratio would undoubtedly excite uneasiness and complaint in some of the States, by diminishing their present representation. He concluded by saying that the few remarks he had made, were crude and undigested—not expecting the subject to be brought forward this day, he had not revolved it sufficiently in his mind—he hoped however that what had been said, would prevent a sudden decision of the question.

Mr. Giles moved that the committee should rise, report, and ask leave to sit again. The motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Boudinot, it was resolved, that the report of the Attorney-General on the Judiciary System—also sundry propositions on the same subject, as amendments to the Constitution, which were laid before the late House—be referred to the committee of the whole—and that 100 copies of each be printed. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4.

Sundry petitions were presented, read, and referred to the Secretary of War.

The petition of Charles Corvin, some time a prisoner in Algiers, presented by Mr. Fitzsimons, was read, and referred to the Secretary of State.

The reports of several committees on petitions were taken into consideration, and disposed of.

That on the petition of Jeremiah Allen, was referred to the committee of the whole house on the report of the Attorney-General, respecting the Judiciary System. That on the petition of Susannah Fowle, which was in favor of the petitioner, was referred to the committee of the whole house on the State of the Union. On the petition of Francis and Isaac Choate, which was against the prayer of the petition, was accepted by the house.

Mr. Fitzsimons laid the following motion on the table—That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill or bills, to regulate pilots, and to provide for the appointment of superintendants of light-houses, beacons, and public piers, throughout the United States.

On motion of Mr. Lawrance, the order of the day, on the census of the inhabitants of the United States, was postponed to Thursday next; at which time it was to be expected there would be a fuller representation on the floor of the House.

Mr. Sterrett, member from Maryland, having very special business to transact with the legislature of that State, now in session, and which required his personal attendance, asked leave of absence for ten days, which was granted.

The house then adjourned to Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

ALBANY, October 24.

It is with the most infinite regret, we announce the premature and premeditated death of so worthy a character as CORNELIUS HOGEBOOM, Esq. Sheriff of the county of Columbia, whose disposition and conduct, not only in the walks of social and private life, were such as to gain him the friendship and respect of all his intimate acquaintance, but whose lenity in his official capacity, was such as ought to have made friends of all who knew his benevolent character.—The circumstances attending this much lamented event, as related to us, are as follow :

“ Saturday last, Cornelius Hogeboom, Esq. Sheriff of the county of Columbia, accompanied by two other gentlemen, went to the sale of some property, legally advertised, in the town of Noblestown, expecting that his deputy had arrived there before him and had commenced the sale. When he came to the spot, he found that his deputy had not been there—waited a considerable time—deputy did not arrive—adjourned the sale to a future day—mounted with his companions—a pistol immediately discharged—no notice taken of it by either of them—proceeded about 50 yards from the house—fifty (or thereabouts) armed men, disguised like Indians, started up out of the bushes—fired a shot from the whole without effect!—Mr. Hogeboom said to his companions, “ they only mean to frighten us”—a second charge was fired, when Mr. Hogeboom received the fatal shot, and had time only to say, “ I am a dead man.”

This, of all murders within our knowledge, seems to be the most horrid!—A public officer returning, not from the discharge of his duty, but before it had been executed, murdered by a cowardly set of assassins, who had taken upon them the appearance of savages, a badge, which even nature did not entitle them to; and under this garb perpetrated a crime far below the meanness of savage brutality!

This is one of the numerous instances which frequently occur, either of the loss of life or some personal injury being sustained by public officers in the legal discharge of their duty. We would not presume to reform, but there is a fault somewhere—there can therefore be no impropriety in suggesting an enquiry.

This day, observes a correspondent, the second Congress under our free constitution, are to meet in Philadelphia, after a recess of nearly 8 months.

On this occasion it must occur to every one, the clamor that was made two years past, respecting the exorbitant wages of the members of Congress.

If under the new system, Congress can dispatch the business of the Union by sitting one third of the year, they will be less burthensome to the Union than the Congress under the old confederation, who were a perpetual body—to a very small purpose.

It gives us singular pleasure to have it in our power to inform the public, that on Friday last at the trial of Mr. Molter, proprietor of the glass-house, that gentleman was acquitted. After hearing the evidence, it was deemed unnecessary, by the counsel on each side, to say any thing either pro or con; and the jury without hesitation declared his innocence of the charge.

CARLISLE, October 26.

Last week the courts of quarter-sessions and common-pleas were holden at this place for the first time under the new constitution of this commonwealth.—A charge, adapted to the occasion, was delivered to the grand jury, by Thomas Smith, Esq. president of the circuit.—He afterwards addressed the officers of the court, and the gentlemen of the bar, and after stating briefly and in general terms, the several duties of each, he added, “ Let us conclude, by impressing upon the minds of all our fellow-citizens, of every class, whose duty it is to attend at court, that it is only by our united exertions in a punctual, diligent and faithful discharge of the duties of our several stations, that the real dignity of the court can be supported; and justice administered to the satisfaction of the public.”

The counsel who first addressed the court, beginning with the words, “ May it please your honours,” the president requested him to postpone the motion for a few minutes, and made the following observations: “ The gentlemen of the bar frequently use this expression in addressing this court; but the appellation not being given to us by the constitution or laws of our country, it will be agreeable to the court, if you decline giving it in future. The expression “ this honorable court,” has indeed crept into one of our acts of Assembly:—Should that form of address be used in the other circuits, we shall not say that it is improper. For, as on the one hand, it would be false modesty, or rather false pride, under the mask of modesty, to refuse any titles given us by the constitution or the laws; so on the other, it would disclose uninformed minds, should we arrogate to ourselves appellations not given by either.

“ If we possess sufficient legal abilities, and an intimate and accurate knowledge of the practice—if we administer the laws with decision, dispatch, and rigid integrity—if we consult and promote the real and permanent interests, and social happiness of our fellow-citizens, as far as in our power, in our present station, they will respect us without any titles!—But should we appear unequal to our office—should we betray the want of legal abilities, or should our judgments be led or influenced by our affections, or passions, or by any personal or party considerations, no titles or appellations, however pompous, could secure to us the respect of an enlightened people.

“ We beg leave on this occasion to point out another impropriety, of which, indeed, I was as guilty as any of you when I was at the bar, although I scarcely ever was in the other instance: The gentlemen in whose favor the court gave judgment, generally rise and thank the court. We request you will discontinue this practice; were the counsel on the other side to say, we blame the court, the expression would certainly be thought improper—the one indeed flows from politeness—the other would be looked upon as rude; in every other point of view they are equally exceptionable.

“ We must give judgement according to law—we could not give it otherwise than we do, to gain the applause or to shun the censure of millions—we must be actuated by considerations infinitely higher than the applause or censure of men. God forbid that any of the parties in this court, or in any of the other courts in which I sit, should ever have it in his power to say, with truth, either that he has a friend or an enemy on the bench.”

LONDON, September 6.

Mrs. THURLOW.

The remains of the widow of the late Bishop of Durham were on Tuesday brought from Wansley, in Suffex, and interred in the Temple.

It is remarkable that she first struck the late Dr. Thurlow with her charms, when she was weeding a garden belonging to a gentleman with whom he was dining. Such was the humble sphere in which that lady originally moved. The Doctor had her called into the hall, where with her singing and native beauty she so much enraptured him, that he sent her to a boarding school, and in due time married her.

Monsieur, the King's brother, was, on the 25th of August, appointed Regent of France, with the unanimous consent of all the emigrants, who celebrated, on that day, the feast of St. Louis, at Coblenz.

Philadelphia, November 5.

A southern paper by yesterday's mail informs, that the Court Martial which sat for the trial of General HARMAR, has acquitted him with honor.

By the Boston Independent Chronicle, it appears that the town of Boston has voted in town meeting, to instruct their representatives to endeavor to effect a repeal of the law against Theatrical Exhibitions.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Bank of the United States, on Wednesday evening, the following Gentlemen were appointed a committee to prepare and report a plan for Offices of Discount, viz. WILLIAM SMITH, JONATHAN MASON, WILLIAM BINGHAM, JEREMIAH WADSWORTH, and JAMES WATSON, Esqrs.

In consequence of the late daring attempts to burn this city, the most spirited measures have been adopted to guard against the incendiaries—and to detect and bring them to justice, patrols of citizens are formed in the several wards, whose nightly vigilance will secure the repose and preservation of the inhabitants, and their property.

On Monday last JOSEPH RAVARA, Esq. was introduced to the President, by Mr. Jefferson, as Consul-General in the United States from the Republic of Genoa.

Within these few nights past several attempts have been made to set fire to buildings in different parts of the city, but they were happily frustrated by the activity of the citizens, different parties of whom have patrolled the streets for the purpose of preventing those diabolical incendiaries from executing their horrid designs.

His Excellency Governor CLINTON has issued a proclamation offering a large reward for apprehending and securing the murderers of Mr. HOGEROOM.

The Constitution of France was exactly two years, three months, and fifteen days in forming—the empire of despotism, on the ruins of which this fabric of Freedom is raised, was the work of ages. At the moment of finishing the Constitution, all parties seemed to unite—Feuillans and Jacobins joined in equal expressions of triumph.

The motion of Mr. Languinai, that the Constitution cannot be changed, was carried unanimously.

SAYS A CORRESPONDENT,

In consequence of the success of the Boston Tontine, a plan for an United States Tontine will be published in a few days, in all the principal towns throughout the Continent; and as the object is to effect a union of public and private benefits, there can be little doubt of its succeeding.

A system of Bankrupt Laws has long been expected by many persons. It has been said that the United States is almost the only civilized country in the world, which is not in possession of such a system; an idea is excited by this circumstance, which some may construe to the disadvantage of the general character of the people of America. If we can boast of equal honesty with the rest of mankind, we do not appear to stand on an equal footing with the citizens of European governments in this respect.

There may be peculiar difficulties attending this business in this country, owing to the extensiveness of our circle of credit; but we certainly in this case, as in many others, enjoy superior advantages by having all the light to direct us, which can arise from the practice and experience of the greatest commercial, and most enlightened nations of Europe.

It is doubtless for the interest of individuals and communities, that men should pursue the paths of honor and rectitude. An enlightened people will always make it for the advantage of their public officers to be honest and patriotic. How highly favoured is our country, in having those to conduct her public affairs, who feel the force of the above remark.—On every occasion, the promoting the public good will be the supreme motive to action, so long as the people distinguish worth and abilities by their suffrages.

On the 21st ult. at a meeting of the American Philosophical Society, agreeably to the order and rule of proceeding in the choice of new members, the following gentlemen were duly elected:

- Andrew Murray, M. D. Professor of Botany in the University of Gottingen.
Peter Simon Pallas, M. D. Professor of Natural History at Peterburgh, &c. &c.
Dugald Stewart, Professor of Moral Philosophy in Edinburgh.
Alexander J. Dallas, Esq. Secretary to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
SAMUEL MACAW, Sec'ry.

ARRIVALS at the PORT of PHILADELPHIA.

- Brig Active, Balfet, Bermuda
Union, Bell, Hamburg
Scho'r Fanny, Bents, North-Carolina

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