

the necessity, in many instances, of increasing it, by devolving much of the legislative power upon the executive department, arising from the difficulty of making particular provisions and details in our laws, and accommodating them to the various interests of so extensive a country.

The other branch of the legislature has many traits of a perpetual, at least of a very solid constituent part of the government. He did not mention these as imperfections in the government, they are perfections if the other parts can be in due proportion; but it is surely a sound reason against taking positive measures at this time to diminish the representative branch; for his own part he was not well satisfied as to the intention. If there is any reason to apprehend that the government will depart from the point on which it was first placed, he could scarcely suppose that any one could be honestly alarmed with the fear that the departure would be towards democracy. He concluded by expressing his hopes that the representation to the next Congress would be fixed at one for thirty thousand, as it had hitherto been, and that the motion for striking out would not prevail.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

The Speaker laid before the house a memorial from General Moses Hazen, which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. Baldwin presented the petition of General James Jackson, stating that an improper and undue return has been made to the house of the election for the lower district of the state of Georgia—and praying that the house would postpone any determination on the election of General Anthony Wayne, for such reasonable period as may enable the petitioner to come forward with such proofs as the case may require.

Mr. Lawrence presented a petition of sundry inhabitants of the state of New-York, holders of the continental paper called new emission, or forty for one money—laid on the table.

A message was received from the President of the United States by Mr. Secretary Lear, with a copy of a resolution of the Legislature of Virginia, ratifying the first article in the amendments proposed by Congress to the Constitution of the United States—also sundry papers relative to a purchase of land on the Great Miami, by John C. Symmes.

Mr. Seney presented a memorial from the distillers of Baltimore, praying a modification and a reduction of the duty on spirits of domestic manufacture—read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sundry petitions were read, praying for pensions and compensations—these were committed to the Secretary of War, to report thereon.

The petition of Stephen Zachary, merchant, of Baltimore, was read, stating that in consequence of an unintentional error in a bill of sale of a vessel purchased at Port-au-Prince, he had been obliged to pay extra tonnage duties, and prayed relief. On motion, this petition was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Fitzsimons, Huger and Gilman.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the petition of Gen. Jackson should be referred to the committee of elections. He offered several observations to shew the propriety of giving early attention to the business, particularly as the contested election took place in the remotest part of the remotest state in the Union.

It was observed that a reference to the committee appointed to bring in a bill for establishing a uniform mode of proceeding in cases of contested elections, appeared to be the most eligible.—A reference to the committee of elections was objected to, as the subject did not come within their cognizance, as that committee can only determine respecting the certificate, &c. which are required from the executive of the state to entitle to a seat in the house. A reference to the committee appointed to report a bill, was also objected to, as that committee was not authorized to take notice of past transactions, or to report a retrospective regulation.

A select committee was mentioned, agreeable to the mode adopted in the two contested elections which occurred in the first Congress—but it being observed that the petition was unaccompanied with the requisite documents mentioned in it, Mr. Baldwin withdrew his motion, and the petition was laid on the table.

The message from the President of the United States being read, the papers respecting the purchase of land in the Western Territory, were referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill providing for the sale of vacant lands.

A report, pursuant to orders of the house, was received and read, from the Board of Commissioners appointed to settle the accounts of the United States with the individual States. The report stated that those accounts may be settled by the first of July, 1793.

Mr. Parker laid before the house sundry papers respecting a Marine Hospital which had been erected in the State of Virginia; also an act of the Legislature of that State, authorizing the sale thereof to the United States.—These being read, on motion of Mr. Parker, they were referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Two reports from the Secretary of State on petitions referred to him, were read—one on that of William Howe; the other, on that of Charles Colvin.—On motion of Mr. Madison, William Howe had leave to withdraw his petition—the other report was laid on the table.

The report of the Secretary of War, made to the late Congress, on the petition of Rufus Ha-

milton, which was against the prayer of said petition, was, on motion of Mr. Ward, taken into consideration. A subsequent petition from the same person was also read—and on motion, it was voted that the prayer of said petition cannot be granted.

The order of the day, on the Census being called for, the house went into a committee of the whole.—Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair.

Mr. Heister moved that the Clerk should inform the house of the state of the ratifications of the amendments to the Constitution proposed by Congress to the several States.—It appeared that nine States had ratified the first article of these amendments.

The debate was then renewed on the amendment proposed to the motion of Mr. Lawrence, for striking out thirty before thousand.

Mr. Findley and Mr. Giles spoke largely against the motion for striking out—and Mr. Boudinot replied. The committee rose without taking a vote, and had leave to sit again.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15.

Mr. Wayne presented the petition of J. Davis, a surgeon in the late army of the United States; which was read, and referred to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Sedgwick reported a bill respecting fugitives from justice, and from the service of Masters; which was read the first and second times, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on Friday next—100 copies to be printed for the accommodation of the members.

In committee of the whole, on the Schedule of the Census.

Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair.

The motion for striking out thirty, from the resolution proposed by Mr. Lawrence was further discussed; Mr. Page, Mr. Findley, Mr. Gerry, Mr. Kitchell and Mr. Heister opposed the motion for striking out. Mr. Steele, Mr. Clark, Mr. Hillhouse, Mr. Vining and Mr. Sedgwick, were in favor of the motion; the debate was continued till 3 o'clock, when the question being generally called for it was put and negatived—and the original motion, That until the next enumeration, the number of Representatives shall be one to every thirty thousand persons was agreed to. The committee then rose and reported the resolution to the House, and on the motion to agree to the same, the yeas and noes being demanded are as follow:

A Y E S.

Messrs. Baldwin, Benson, Brown, Findley, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Giles, Gordon, Gregg, Griffin, Heister, Huger, Jacobs, Kitchell, Kittera, Lawrence, Learned, Lee, Muhlenberg, Madison, Moore, Murray, Page, Parker, Seney, Sheredine, Sumpter, Sylvester, Treadwell, Tucker, Venable, Wadsworth, Wayne, White, Willis—35.

N O E S.

Messrs. Ames, Ashe, Barnwell, Boudinot, S. Bourne, B. Bourne, Clarke, Gilman, Goodhue, Grove, Hillhouse, Livermore, Macon, Niles, Sedgwick, J. Smith, I. Smith, W. Smith, Steele, Sturges, Thatcher, Vining, Ward—23.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Page, Murray and Macon, was appointed to report a bill pursuant to the above resolution.

Adjourned.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Number of Representatives in Congress.

WHEN the present Constitution of the United States was first formed, the Senate consisted of twenty-six members, and the House of Representatives of sixty-five. The proportion was as two to five. By the accession of Vermont and Kentucky, the number of Senators will be increased to thirty. To preserve the original proportion, the number of Representatives should be increased to seventy-five, and apportioned to the several States agreeably to the Constitution, according to the late census. Would it not be best to amend the Constitution, so that for the future the number of Representatives may be always in the same proportion to the number of Senators as at first?—That rule would ascertain the number, without the interference of Congress, which will not be done by the amendment that has been already proposed; but as that is not yet become a part of the Constitution, Congress can fix the number at the rate aforesaid for the next election, and recommend the amendment here proposed in lieu of the former.

The objects of legislation in a federal government are few, compared with those in a national or state government, and therefore will not require so great a number of Representatives. Those gentlemen who are acquainted with doing business in a legislative assembly, can judge better by experience than argumentation, what number will be most convenient to transact the public business. Any greater number would add nothing to the power of that branch of the legislature, but would render the exercise of its powers more inconvenient, and lessen the weight and responsibility of each individual member. An increase of members would also enhance the public expense. If seventy-five members can transact the public business as well as one hundred, the saving the expense of twenty-five members (which in a session of six months would amount to 26,000 dollars) would be an object worthy of attention.

A C I T I Z E N.

FROM THE GEORGIA GAZETTE, OF OCTOBER 13.

THE Light-House on Tybee Island will hereafter be regularly lighted, and the following directions are given for sailing in or over the bar:

Bring the Light-House to bear West, or not more than W. 1/2 S. or W. 1/2 N. and calculate the tide, at 1/2 past 7, at full and change of the moon, to be full sea. If little wind, in standing in, allow for the tide. The ebb setting to the southward, over the fourth breakers, you must steer W. N. W. as soon as you shoal your water, haul up more to the northward; but be sure not to vary from the course above mentioned. Observe the flood tide sets to the northward; then you must steer W. S. W. with light winds. When you get the Light-House to bear from S. E. to S. you may bring up from 3 1/2 to 5 fathoms, at low water, muddy bottom, being within 1 1/2 cable's length of the shore. There you may lie safe with any but an easterly wind. When you get on the bar, you will have 18 feet at low water, with a hard bottom; at high water, from 3 1/2 to 4 fathoms. After passing the bar you will have a soft bottom. The distance from 3 fathoms water, coming over the bar, until the water deepens, is half a mile. The width of the channel, from breaker-head to breaker-head, is half a mile. Observe when you find you get either to the southward or to the northward of the foregoing directions, and have no wind, let go your anchor.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.			
6 pr. Cents	21/10	22 1/2 pr. £.	110 pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	12/6		62 1/2 do.
Deferred 6 pr. Cents	13/ 13/2		66 do.
UNFUNDED DEBT.			
Final Sett. and other Certificates	19/		95 do.
Indents	11/6		56 1/2 do.
Bank Subscriptions,		140	Dollars.

Philadelphia, November 16.

Accounts from London, via Bermuda, are received to the 19th Sept. On the 14th of that month died at Weymouth, the Marquis de la Luzerne, Ambassador from the Court of France. A treaty of peace is signed between Russia and the Turks; the Empress retaining Oczakow and its dependencies. The King of France has accepted the new constitution, and had been put in possession of the crown; a general amnesty has been published in favor of all who assisted the King in making his escape, as well as those who have resisted the decrees of the National Assembly; passports and momentary restrictions in regard to entering into or departing out of the kingdom are done away; the goals of the kingdom are to be thrown open on the occasion.

The King of Spain has declared war against the Emperor of Morocco. Accounts from India to the 23d March, inform that Lord Cornwallis was carrying every thing before him; the Russian and Turkish trade from England was getting into the usual prosperous channel.

It appears from the best information from Cape-Francois, that the island of Hispaniola must be lost for some time; the force not being sufficient by any means to disperse, much less conquer the revolters. The American property at the island which is of a perishable nature, must be intirely lost; no kind of provisions are wanting, it is uncertain whether the Cape is not at the mercy of the revolters when they choose to make a small sacrifice. All agree that the island can never be recovered but by a great and early exertion of France.

On Friday last Mr. HAMMOND was introduced to the President of the United States, by the Secretary of State, and presented his credentials as his Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary.

Col. HENRY LEE is elected Governor of Virginia by the Legislature of that state.

Mr. BOURNE, Consul of the United States for St. Domingo, who arrived here on Thursday last in the brig Theodofia, from Cape-Francois, informs that the Colonial Assembly had taken off the embargo from all American vessels previous to his departure from the island.

The Ship Sampson, Capt. Howell, arrived at the Ile of France on the 24th April last, and was to sail for Canton the first of June; The Ship President Washington, Capt. Nicolson, was also at the above place on the 27th May. The Ship Neptune, Capt. Earl, had sailed from thence for Madras.

Much has been said about making the Post-Office the medium of news and information to the people; and it seems to be the general sentiment that, if it is practicable, this medium should be adopted for this truly patriotic purpose. It is however said, that there are very great obstacles in the way—the expense is the most formidable—another is, that it will interfere with that dispatch so necessary to give satisfaction to the mercantile interest, which is considered as the great support of the Post-Office department; and whose convenience and accommodation ought therefore to be primarily consulted. With respect to the expense, it may be presumed, that if newspapers were particularly specified in the contracts for transporting the mails, those contracts might be made on nearly the present terms; and it is universally supposed, that punctuality in receiving the papers, would induce every person cheerfully to pay such a sum over and above the subscription, as would amply compensate the deputy Post-masters for the small addition to their business, which a more particular attention than is now paid would occasion. A separate portmanteau, and separate accounts, would prevent an interference with the letters; which ought always to receive the first attention. At present, it is a mere matter of courtesy, according to the existing resolutions of Congress, that newspapers, even exchange papers between Printers, are permitted to be sent by the mail—this is so generally known, that the idea of property is scarcely ever affixed to them; at least after they once leave the Post-Offices. It seems as if it was proper that the Printers should know on what ground they stand; for their present indulgence in regard to distant subscribers, is illusory and destructive to them, and proves a vexatious deception and discouragement to their patrons.

Extract of a letter from Edinburgh, August 22.

Yesterday, a gentleman riding by the sea coast, betwixt Limekills and North Queensferry, observed three whales playing in the water. He rode directly to the ferry and gave the information to the fishermen there, who immediately launched their boats, and set off in pursuit of them. In a short time they overtook them, and the moment they struck them with their harpoons all three ran ashore. In the afternoon they were brought into the North Queensferry. One of their measures sixteen feet in length, another twenty feet, and the third twenty-two feet.

At Davis's Straits, forty-six ships have caught 151 fish, which are computed to yield 1812 tons of oil, and 120 tons of whalebone. Fourteen Amsterdam vessels caught 17 fish.

GEORGE MEADE

Has for SALE, at his Stores on WALNUT-STREET WHARF,

A FEW pipes of 3 and 4 years old bills of exchange Madeira WINE, which he will dispose of by the pipe, hoghead or quarter cask.

London market Madeira WINE, 5 and 6 years old.

Old Sherry WINE of the first quality, by the hoghead or quarter cask.

Three and 4 years old Lisbon WINE, of a superior quality to what is generally imported, by the pipe, quarter cask, or larger quantity.

Choice old Coniac BRANDY, by the pipe, tierce, or larger quantity.

A few quarter chests of first quality Hyson TEA.

He has just received by the Pigou, Loxley, master, from London, a few quarter casks of old Madeira WINE—And

By the brig Mercury, Capt. Stevens, from Dublin, a few boxes of Irish LINENS, low priced and well assorted; a few bales of red and white FLANNELS, and some GLUE.

A few boxes of Spermaceti CANDLES of the first quality, and Burlington PORK of prime quality.

He has also to dispose of, a quantity of dressed White Oak STAVES.

He means to keep a constant supply of First Quality Madeira and Lisbon WINES, and whoever is pleased to favor him with their custom, may be assured of being well served.

He will, through the Winter and Spring, buy undressed HAND-SPIKES. He is purchasing FLAX-SEED and BEES-WAX, and will give the highest price for them.

N. B. A few hampers of excellent London PORTER and Taunton ALE, just received, and to be disposed of.

Philadelphia, November 16, 1791.

(ep 6w.)