

The committee on the petition of John Stagg, jun. chief clerk in the office of the Secretary for the Department of War, reported that his salary be augmented to the sum of 800 dollars per annum, to commence from the 1st of January inst. which report was laid on the table.

Mr. B. Bourne presented a memorial from the legislature of the State of Rhode-Island, praying a further assumption of her State debt, which was read and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury for information.

Mr. Livermore of the committee, appointed to bring in a bill agreeably to the report of the committee on the petition of George Webb late receiver of continental taxes in the State of Virginia, reported a bill for that purpose, which was read the first time.

A report was read from the Secretary at War, on the memorial of Benjamin Lincoln in behalf of himself, Cyrus Griffin and David Humphreys, Commissioners for treating with the Indians, south of the river Ohio, and referred to a select committee of Mr. Ames, Mr. Boudinot and Mr. Steele.

Mr. Benfon, laid on the table a resolution, to this effect, that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill apportioning representatives among the several states, according to the first enumeration, &c.

THURSDAY, January 5.

Read a second time, a bill granting further compensation to certain receivers of continental taxes, and referred to a committee of the whole house on Wednesday next.

Several petitions for compensations, pensions, &c. were read and referred to the Secretary of War.

A petition of Daniel Freer, praying the renewal of certain certificates of public debt which had been destroyed, was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

The committee to whom was referred the report on the memorial of Benjamin Lincoln and others, reported in favor of the prayer of the memorial, which was read and laid on the table.

The House proceeded in the consideration of the post-office bill.

The section offered by Mr. Fitzsimons which provides that the stages which transport the mail, shall be authorized to carry passengers was further discussed, after considerable debate Mr. Barnwell offered a proviso—suspending the operation of the clause in those states in which certain persons are vested with an exclusive privilege, by the law of the state, to carry passengers in stage waggons or coaches, till the expiration of their patents. Further debate took place on this proviso, which was finally negatived—the Ayes and Noes being as follow:

AYES.

Messrs. Baldwin, Barnwell, Griffin, Huger, Lawrance, Madison, Murray, Seney, W. Smith, Sterrett, Sturges, Sumpter, Thatcher, Vining—14.

NOES.

Messrs. Ames, Ashe, Benfon, Boudinot, B. Bourne, S. Bourne, Brown, Clark, Findley, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Giles, Gilman, Gordon, Gregg, Grove, Heister, Jacobs, Key, Kitchell, Kittera, Learned, Lee, Livermore, Macon, Moore, Muhlenberg, Niles, Page, Parker, Schoonmaker, J. Smith, I. Smith, Steels, Sylvester, Treadwell, Venable, Wadsworth, Ward, Wayne, White, Williamfon, Wyllis—43.

The question was then taken on the proposition offered by Mr. Fitzsimons—which was also negatived—the Ayes and Noes being as follow:

AYES.

Messrs. Ames, Benfon, S. Bourne, B. Bourne, Findley, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Gordon, Gregg, Huger, Kittera, Lawrance, Learned, Livermore, Macon, Muhlenberg, W. Smith, Steele, Sturges, Sylvester, Thatcher, Vining, Wadsworth, Ward—25.

NOES.

Messrs. Ashe, Baldwin, Barnwell, Boudinot, Brown, Clark, Giles, Griffin, Grove, Heister, Jacobs, Key, Kitchell, Lee, Madison, Moore, Murray, Niles, Page, Patker, Schoonmaker, Seney, J. Smith, I. Smith, Sterrett, Sumpter, Treadwell, Tucker, Venable, Wayne, White, Williamfon, Wyllis—33.

Several new amendments were offered, and rejected.

It was then ordered that the bill be engrossed for a third reading.

The house proceeded in the consideration of the bill relative to the election of President and Vice-President, &c.—An amendment to the 10th section was proposed by Mr. Gerry—and Mr. Giles moved to recommit two of the sections—but without deciding on either, the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6.

The petition and memorial of John Churchman, presented a few days since, was taken into consideration, and, after some debate, a motion for referring it to a select committee was agreed to, and Messrs. Page, Wadsworth and Wayne, appointed accordingly.

Mr. Benfon's motion for the appointment of a committee to report a new representation-bill, was taken into consideration.

Mr. Gerry moved an amendment to the motion by inserting the ratio of 30,000; this occasioned considerable debate: Mr.

Ames moved another amendment which was to insert 119 members as the whole number to be chosen by the union. These motions were superceded by a motion from Mr. B. Bourne, to refer the original motion with the amendments proposed by Mr. Gerry, to a committee of the whole House, which being agreed to, the subject was made the order of the day for Thursday next.

The House proceeded in the consideration of the bill relative to the election of President and Vice-President, &c.

Mr. Gues moved to recommit the whole bill, which, after some debate, was agreed to, and made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

Mr. Lawrance reported a bill to ascertain and regulate the claims to half-pay, and to invalid pensions—this bill provides for a partial repeal of the limitation ordinances of the late Congress, and makes the most ample provision for the cases of all those who have claims on the public justice—read the first and second times, and made the order of the day on Wednesday next.

The report on the memorial of Benjamin Lincoln and others, was taken into consideration—this being in favor of the memorialists, it was moved that a resolution should be adopted pursuant thereto, which was for granting a sum of money equal to defraying their reasonable and necessary expenses—After considerable debate, a substitute for this motion was proposed, in moving that a committee should be appointed to bring in a bill, appropriating 1611 dollars, pursuant to the prayer of the memorial.—The House, without deciding the question, adjourned till Monday next.

LONDON, November 8.

On the 31st ult. M. de Montmorin went to the National Assembly, in obedience to orders, to inform them how the King's acceptance of the constitution had been received by foreign powers.

The letters written in answer to the King's notification by the Emperor, by the Kings of England and Denmark, by the States-General of Holland, by the republic of Geneva, by the Electors of Treves and Saxony, and by the Dukes of Deux Ponts and Brunswick, simply wish the welfare of the King of France and his subjects.

The Elector of Treves says formally, that "as to any thing else he has no answer to give."

The King of Spain says in plain terms, that "the King was not free when he accepted the constitution."

The King of Sweden "refused to receive the packet which was officially sent to him." And he assigned, as the motive of his refusal, "his own will and pleasure not to receive any mission from France."

M. de Montmorin observed, that as soon as Louis XVI. was informed of this answer, he had ordered his ambassador to renew his application to his Swedish Majesty; that if Gustavus should persist in his refusal, to quit Stockholm without taking leave.

This resolution of the King was highly and loudly applauded.

The Empress of Russia, the court of Rome, the King of Sardinia, the Queen of Portugal, the Swiss Cantons, and the Elector of Mayence, have not returned any answer.

The National Assembly have decreed thanks to the King of Great-Britain, to the English nation, and to Lord Effingham, Governor of Jamaica, for his generous conduct in relieving the planters of St. Domingo, from the horrors of famine, and furnishing them with arms and military stores, against their rebel negroes.

The Prince of Wales, it is reported, has cleared ten thousand pounds by the present meeting at Newmarket!

HARTFORD, December 26.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Cape-Francois, to the Editor, dated Nov. 19, 1791.

"The day before yesterday, a 74 gun ship and one frigate, arrived at this port, to assist in quelling the disturbances, but have only made them greater—the officers being of the Aristocratical party, the Assembly have demanded them—and I am informed that the seamen have risen and delivered them to the guards of this place, that they may be sent to France."

BALTIMORE, December 30.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Cape-Francois, to his friend in this town, dated the 1st inst.

"The mulattoes were driven from Port-au-Prince by the regiments of Artois and Normandy, and were, when the dispatches came off, encamped at the Croix de Bouquet—Report says above 180 of them were left dead in the streets. A terrible pillage attended the fire. The women and children were taken on board the King's ships; and, we are told, few have sustained other injury than the loss of property."

Extract of another letter from a respectable mercantile house in the same place, to a gentleman in this town, dated the 3d inst.

"Further particulars from Port-au-Prince have come to hand since our last. We learn, that from 30 to 32, instead of 27, squares are destroyed, (the town is composed of 44) and these the most valuable. All Captain's-street is consumed, and but very few, if any, of the principal merchants have escaped. Not one of the sufferers had time to save his books or papers. We are momentarily expecting further information. We are, as yet, quiet here, and have little to apprehend from the mulattoes. At Fort-Dauphin they have delivered up their cannon, and joined our army in that quarter. We have every reason to suppose that Aux-Cayes has suffered the fate of Port-au-Prince. The insurgents were in the neighbourhood of the town, when advices, received last evening, were dispatched—Fort St. Louis was

then in their possession. It is said they had warned the planters to retire to their plantations, on pain of fire and sword. The whites, at Leoganne and Petit-Guave, are disarmed. St. Marc has, probably, experienced the same fate."

Philadelphia, January 7.

Reports from India, via France, say, that Lord Cornwallis has found it necessary to retire, Tippoo having laid waste the country in such manner as to impede his march.

At the Revolution Society Dinner in London, Mr. Paine gave the following Toast—"THE REVOLUTION OF ALL THE WORLD."

Accounts from Detroit, received by a gentleman from the Genessee country, say the Indians in the late battle at the Westward, amounted to between 3 and 4000—That they were commanded by one of the Miffalago Tribe, who had been in the British service the late war—that he planned and conducted the attack—That the account of the commencement and continuance of the action, agrees with Gen. St. Clair's letter to the Secretary of War.

A late account from Port-au-Prince, published in a New-York paper, says, that it was not the people of colour, who burned the town, but that it was done by the inhabitants—and that it was a premeditated plan of the Aristocrats!

How often is the saying contradicted in fact, that no man is an enemy to himself!

The following resolution was adopted in the House of Representatives of this Commonwealth, and sent to the Senate for their concurrence, on Thursday last.

That in commemoration of the important and meritorious services rendered to his country by GEORGE WASHINGTON, whose character and conduct have triumphed in proportion to the difficulties they have encountered, and have attracted the admiration and respect of all nations where valour and virtue are held in estimation, there be procured at the public's expence, a full length portrait painting and marble bust, expressive of his person, and as far as possible characteristic of his talents.

Resolved, That the said painting and bust be deposited wherever the Legislature shall deem expedient.

Prejudices are battered down by writers—yet, prostrate in the dust, they maintain their authority over the multitude. They resist reason, but they yield to time. They must be suffered, even in the councils of nations, to wear out. No truth is better proved, than that trade should be free: yet not one nation has fully yielded obedience to the principle. Commercial restrictions and prohibitions are even multiplying, and the hands of industry, (one would almost tear) are going to be bound faster than ever. This is the golden age, tho not in the fabulous sense. The desire of wealth governs politics, as well as trade; the assembly house, as well as the work-shop. The enquiry, in the former, is only, how shall we make a law to increase the riches of the people? The answer is, by letting them alone—give their industry room to act in, without the obstruction of government's meddling, and it will find its own reward. The European nations, unfortunately for them, and for the world, have colonies; the system of commercial monopoly follows the system of conquest. 'Tis there that one abuse is made to produce, and to justify, another. Every trading nation needs some naval defence;—but the ambition and avarice of the great maritime powers, have carried these burdens to an oppressive extreme. A great navy, they pretend, must be kept up to defend colonies, and seamen must be hired to catch cod-fish and whales, at three times their worth, to man a navy. All their ships barely suffice to defend their monopoly; a tenth part of them would protect a free trade. But it is fortunate for mankind that the excess of these abuses is providing a cure for them. The colony and monopoly system of Europe has kindled their wars; their navies have been the chief instrument and heaviest charge of them. Their national debts have been contracted, in a great measure, to defray that charge. They have drained all that the monopoly of trade could supply, and more is still wanting; and now they begin to perceive, that free trade only can furnish it.

Before the constitution of the United States was adopted, or even published, the opinion of the public was settled on this point, that the old form of government was carrying us hastily forward into anarchy and ruin; men of sense and virtue were zealous and active in using arguments and persuasions to get the constitution received by the people. Then they watched and laboured long and hard and succeeded; they felt an affection for the work they had so much assisted: But now the government is going prosperously forward, it is to be apprehended, that such men will withdraw their attention and affection, at least in a great degree; they will say let it now take care of itself, it is able to do it—But they may have cause to lament their neglect; a thousand occasions happen in which a good government would almost stop its course if it was not assisted by the zeal and virtue of the men of abilities and merit who live under it.

The only reason assigned for enhancing the postage of newspapers sent more than 100 miles, fifty per cent. is, that it will prevent a monopoly of the business on the part of those Printers who publish at the Seat of Government, to the injury of the Printers at the Southward, where labor and materials in that line, are dearer than at the Northward. This is one of those bad rules that will not work both ways—for if it would tend to equalize the matter at the Southward, it will entirely prevent any papers being sent to the Northward.

The half cent originally proposed as a postage on newspapers, would be found fully competent to defraying every expence. All that is to be considered with respect to the contracts for carrying the mail, is the weight—the trouble would not be increased, provided all newspapers were lodged in the post-office, as they ought to be—but it has never yet been made to appear that the newspapers might not be included in all the mail contracts, without one farthing's addition to the expence.

A writer in the Farmer's Journal, printed at Danbury, (Conn.) says—Were some regulation established whereby editors of periodical works might receive communications free of postage, the publishers of the NATIONAL PAPERS would, undoubtedly, receive many entertaining and instructive essays, from every part of the Union, which are now withheld for want of a proper conveyance.

FOREIGN APPOINTMENTS.

Pierre Francois Barbe de Marbois, Vice-Consul from his Most Christian Majesty within the states of Connecticut, New-York and New-Jersey, to reside in New-York.

Charles Gottfried Palefke, Consul-General from the King of Prussia, within the United States of America.

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.		UNFUNDED DEBT.	
6 pr. Cents	23/4	pr. £.	116 3/4 pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	13/10		69 do.
Deferred 6 pr. Cents	14/		70 do.
Final Settl. and other Certificates	20/6		102 1/2 do.
Indents	12/6		62 1/2 do.
Bank Stock—half shares	97		per cent premium.
			—whole shares from 50 to 55 per cent.