

ject—that a compliance with the resolution would operate against the interest of the United States.

The officers of the treasury are proceeding in this business; no charge of remissness has been adduced—they have already made greater progress in settling the old accounts since the new government came into operation, than had been done in many years previous thereto; and their investigations receive no interruption but what arises from the more important business of the present government.

It was enquired what would be the effect of this resolution?—it would bring forward 1000 or 1500 names of persons apparently debtors to the United States; but the principal part of whom were either creditors, or did not owe the public one farthing. What is intended to be done as a consequence of this disclosure?—is it designed that suits shall be instituted against these persons?—that would induce an unproductive expence, to an amount which cannot now be estimated. The Comptroller is empowered by law to sue every delinquent; but is he to exercise no discretion in the discharge of his duty?—It had been stated as a reason for adopting the resolution, that its object was to ascertain to what amount these balances if any, would supercede the necessity of additional taxes—but it was asked, would the government be justified in assessing one farthing less on account of these balances, which must be considered in a great measure as fictitious?—It was further said that it was utterly impossible for the officers of the treasury to make out the statement in question during the present session.

In support of the resolution it was said that it did not imply either directly or indirectly any imputation against the Comptroller—the House has undoubtedly a right to call on any of its officers for information—it is an opinion abroad, that there are large sums due from individuals, and the public has a right to be satisfied that the proper steps have been taken to recover those sums,—those steps may have been pursued, but it is not known that they have—further it was said that this information was necessary in order to being able to form a competent judgment of the state of the public accounts—that the information in question, the House had a most undoubted right to receive; and that it was a very strange idea indeed to suppose that it contained any reflection on the Comptroller, or any other officer of the Treasury; it was further said, that no difficulties ought to deter the House from going into the investigation; it was immaterial whose names were brought forward in consequence—the balances due to the public ought to be known—That similar objections to those now offered, will always lay against going into this investigation, and in proportion to the urgency of the enquiry, will be the strength and ingenuity of those objections—with respect to the disclosure of names, it was observed that the truth once known, would set every man's character in a just point of light—the enquiry, so far from proving injurious to such characters, appears to be the most direct method to do away the prejudices and suspicions that have been circulated against them. It is said to be problematical whether there are any balances due; but if it should appear that there are, they may be obtained, and a much greater sum realized than is now thought of, and new burthens on the people to that amount may be prevented.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24.

A petition from A. McCall, and others, merchants, praying to be indulged in a longer term for the payment of the duties on a quantity of teas, by them imported from China,—was referred to the same special committee, who have already under consideration a similar petition from New-York.

A memorial was presented, from the merchants of Philadelphia, who trade to India, China, and other parts of Asia, praying the interposition of Congress to protect their trade, by making a greater discrimination in the duties imposed on Asiatic commodities, directly imported from Asia, and on articles of the same kind imported from Europe.—Referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The house proceeded to consider the amendments proposed by the Senate, to the frontier bill;—whereupon the galleries were cleared, and the doors continued for some time shut.

After the opening of the doors, The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole—(Mr. Muhlenberg in the chair)—and resumed the consideration of the resolution, proposed by Mr. Livermore, respecting the indemnification of General Greene's estate.

After some debate, the resolution (amended as follows) was agreed to;—yeas, 25; nays, 23. Whereas the late Major Gen. N. Greene, on the 8th day of April, 1783, the more effectually to procure rations and supplies for the southern army of the United States, became bound as surety for John Banks & Co. to Messrs. Newcomen and Collet, merchants, in Charleston, for the

payment of \$7431. 15s. 6d. sterling money, being the condition of the said bond; and whereas, on the first day of May, 1786, the balance of principal and interest of the said bond, being then \$6881. 6s. sterling, was paid by the said General Greene:—Therefore,

Resolved, That the United States shall indemnify the estate of the said Gen. Greene for the said sum last mentioned, and the interest thereof, or for such sum as (upon due investigation, by the officers of the treasury, of the transaction between John Banks & Co. and Messrs. Newcomen & Collet, in which Gen. Greene was security for said Banks & Co.) it shall appear, that neither Gen. Greene, nor his executors, shall have received any payment or compensation for:—Provided, the executors of the said General Greene shall account for a sum, being about 2,000l. (be the same more or less) recovered of John Ferrie, one of the partners of the said Banks & Co. to be in part of the indemnification aforesaid, to be sued for in the name of the said executors, for the use of the United States."

The committee having risen, and reported the resolution, as amended—the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the amendments, proposed by the Senate, to the bill making further and more effectual provision for the defensive protection of the frontiers of the United States—whereupon the galleries were cleared.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27.

Mr. S. Bourne brought in the enrolled bill relative to the election of a President and Vice-President of the United States, &c. which was signed by the Speaker.

The order of the day on the contested election of the member for the lower district of Georgia being called for,

Mr. Wayne rose, and after observing that the last postponement had not afforded sufficient time to receive the evidence which he meant to bring forward on this occasion, offered a resolution for a further postponement to the Monday in March next.

On motion, it was unanimously voted that a seat be assigned for the petitioner Mr. Jackson, in which he might, either by himself, or his attorney, state his objections, if any, to a further postponement.—Mr. Jackson accordingly took a seat within the bar, and addressing the chair, offered several objections to a further postponement. To these objections Mr. Wayne replied; and after sundry observations from various parts of the House, the question on taking up the order of the day was put and carried.

The resolution for a postponement was then further discussed and amended, and finally agreed to in the following words, viz.

Resolved, That the trial of the contested election of Anthony Wayne, returned as a member of this House to represent the state of Georgia, be postponed to the second Monday in March next"—36 members rose in favor of the motion.

Mr. Baldwin informed the House that he had received certain papers relative to this election from the supreme executive of the state of Georgia, which he asked leave to lay on the table agreeable to instructions.

Many objections were made to receiving these papers from all parts of the House. Mr. Baldwin, after remarking that they contained many documents which the house must necessarily recur to in the course of the trial—and that he had so far pursued his instructions, as would fully exculpate the executive of Georgia from any charge of remissness in duty on the occasion, took back the papers.

A report was received on the petitions of the importers of teas from India, which was in favor of the petitioners—and proposes extending the time for payment of the duties from one to two years—Laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. W. Smith, the laws for the government of the Western Territory, received from the Secretary of State, were committed to the committee on the petition of Judge Turner.

Mr. Murray laid the following motion on the table:

Resolved, That the Clerk, on every Monday morning, call over the names of committees to whom business has been referred. Adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the House that they recede from some of their amendments to the bill making further and more effectual provision for the defence of the frontiers, disagreed to by the House, and insist on others.

A memorial was read from the inhabitants of Chester county, (Pennsylvania) in favor of the excise law—and praying it may not be repealed. This was signed by fifty persons.

Mr. Murray presented an address from J. Churchman; praying, for reasons set forth, a speedy decision on his memorial presented some weeks since, and reported on by a select committee.

The House took into consideration the message from the Senate on which it was ordered that the galleries should be shut.

The doors being opened, the House went into committee of the whole on the militia bill—Mr. Muhlenberg in the Chair.

The committee finished the discussion of the first section of the bill; the second section which designates the exemptions being read; Mr. Sumpter moved that the several descriptions therein mentioned should be struck out.

This motion was debated without coming to a decision till a motion was made for the committee to rise; the committee accordingly rose.

The House, on motion of Mr. Williamson, took up the report of the committee on the memorial of John Churchman; the report being read—a motion for an adjournment was made and carried.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

In the House of Representatives, December 20, 1791. RESOLVED, That the Delegates of this State in Congress be requested to express in both Houses of Congress the sense of this State of the propriety of Congress assuming the whole of the public debt of this State, incurred in the prosecution of the late war.

Ordered, That the resolution be sent to the Senate for their concurrence.

By order of the House,

JOHN SANDFORD DART, C. H. R.

In the Senate, December 20, 1791.

Resolved, That this House do concur with the House of Representatives in the above resolution.

Ordered, That the resolutions be sent to the House of Representatives.

By order of the Senate,

FELIX WARLEY, C. S.

A true extract, and which I attest.

JOHN SANDFORD DART,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Columbia, December 27, 1791.

Philadelphia, February 29.

On Sunday the 19th inst. left this city, for the Cherokee country, the six Indian Chiefs who arrived here on the 29th of December last, together with the Squaw who came with them. They were attended with six waggons, containing their baggage, provision, &c. and accompanied by a white girl, who had imprinted the heart of one of the chiefs, during his residence in this city; and, it is said, has consented to become his wife.

Extract of a letter dated Cape-Francois, 24th January, 1792. to a respectable house in this city, received by the brig Pratt, Capt. Florence.

Referring to a few lines I wrote you two weeks ago, by way of Baltimore, I have now to add, that prospects here, in almost every respect, are daily growing more distressing; the troops expected from France have not yet arrived, and the people are almost ready to doubt their coming.

I am truly sorry that I, as well as many others, have been too sanguine in my expectations, respecting matters being accommodated with the Blacks, because I am fearful it may have induced you to adventure property to this port sooner than you would otherwise have done. The treaty with them is entirely laid aside, and they have again began deprecations with additional vigour. Last week the Blacks revolted in the neighbourhood of Fort Dauphin, and immediately put to death all the troops, say from 40 to 50, that were stationed at a village about four leagues from that post, and have destroyed all the plantations in that quarter, except a very few adjoining the town. Two nights ago we were exceedingly alarmed at this place by a severe attack on the out posts of this town, by the Blacks, who succeeded in getting possession of one of the small forts, when they turned the guns on the town; but fortunately it was again retaken by a party of regular troops. Last night this town was again alarmed by small parties of Blacks, but were soon repulsed."

Extract of a letter from Cape Francois, dated January 23, 1792; received per brig Pratt, Capt. Florence.

The drums beating to arms last night was occasioned by the negroes wading through the river, and surprizing a small fort at the hospital, which they took, and fired several shot into the town; several whites were killed, and seven negroes taken prisoners, six of whom were hanged about 12 hours after, and one brutally mangled by breaking his arms and legs, made fall to a cross, and there left to die."

FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

One man may steal an horse while another must not look over the hedge.

This proverbial saying is verified in the Philadelphia papers, by the writings which of late have pointed out the ruinous effects resulting from members of Congress being permitted to be Directors of the National Bank. Many members of the State Legislatures are Directors of the State Banks—and the propriety of their conduct has not been questioned. Have these fault-finders just received the gift of wisdom to discern the evil tendency of Congress men being Bank Directors—and is that wisdom blind of one eye, so that they can see but half the evil? It seems the Directors of the State Banks have the luck to stand on the blind side of these censurers for the public.

Congress has been wicked enough to fund the debt—and so the horn is blowed, and the world summoned to arms to defend republican liberty which is sinking under its enemies, the monied men. Congress is to answer for all this. But have not several of the States even gone beyond Congress, and given an additional two or three per cent. to such of the creditors as hold the certificates of those States? These States, however, are innocent of this mischief; and though what they have done may have increased the evil, the whole sin lies at the door of Congress.—And what is the sin?—After keeping our creditors 12 or 14 years out of their dues, we promise to pay them; and to make the promise appear better than a score of old promises which we have broken, we say, we pledge certain revenues which shall remain sacred to pay the interest. Yet for having done this, certain writers have seen fit to treat the government as bad as if it was managed by pickpockets.—They insinuate that the debt was not funded till it had changed hands. If the funding act was a long time delayed, after it was first debated, it was not the fault of the advocates of that act. They would have been glad to hasten its passage. The length and violence of the debates spread through the country as general a knowledge of the act and its principles as can be expected to accompany any measure of the government.

No New-York papers were received by yesterday's mail—Some of the Boston papers reach the Editor about once a month, others not so often.

The lines addressed to a young lady we are apprehensive would give offence—there are other objections to them.

Died lately in Pencader, Newcastle County, State of Delaware, in an advanced age, Mrs. EDWARDS, consort of the Rev. Mr. MORGAN EDWARDS.

—In the Western Country, Col. GIBSON, of the wounds he received in the action on the 4th November last.

ERRATA—In Mr. Murray's speech in our last for "the payment of the Duties," read bounties: And in Mr. Gerry's, last paragraph, after the word branch, add, which stands in need of the support of government more than any other branch in the United States."

PRICE CURRENT.—PUBLIC SECURITIES. FUNDED DEBT. 6 pr. Cents 24/6 pr. 7. 123 1/2 pr. cent. 3 pr. Cents 14/4 71 1/2 do. Deferred 6 pr. Cents 14/0 74 do. UNFUNDED DEBT. Final Sett. and other Certificates 22s 110 do. Indents 14s 70 do. half shares Bank Stock—104 per cent premium.