

8 fathoms ; but the wind hauling more to the eastward, and the sea rising, the ship dragged her anchor and again struck on the ledge ; shortly after the stern gave away, and the salt emptied itself into the sea ; they then cut the best bower cable, and their main and mizen masts, in order to getting on shore on the beach and saving their lives. But night coming on, and after they had beat over the reef, the tide of flood setting in, they could not effect it. Their situation was truly deplorable. The vessel, by the violence of the sea was so rent asunder in many places, it was dangerous to pass : one of the seamen in endeavouring to get forward was entangled in the wreck, and was nearly cut in halves.

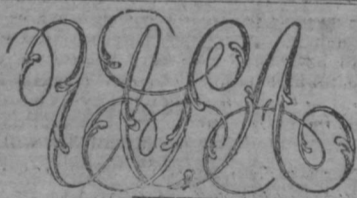
The captain, two passengers, a seaman and the cabin boy were forward ; in that situation they remained until about 8 o'clock A. M. when the seaman proposed to the captain to get ast for the ship went on the beach stern first, and attempt gaining the shore ; but the captain replied, that " he was unable to attempt it," and gave his papers to the cabin boy : He then resigned himself to his fate : The seaman and the boy left him, and jumped into the sea, and had the good fortune to reach the shore. Wet and fatigued they crawled up among the bushes, where they would have perished but for the exertions of the two Mr. Burgesses, who early in the morning found them. The remains of the wreck were spread on the beach for 4 miles in length, and perhaps the most dismal that was ever seen on this coast. The following is the list of the unhappy crew that perished in the wreck, and whose remains were found on the succeeding Monday, and decently buried at Duxbury meeting house, except the captain, two passengers and one of the seamen, who were buried at Marshfield.

Isaac Chauncey, captain. Charles Roberts, mate. Joseph Heldridge, Philip Heldridge, brothers, passengers of Birmingham. George Dunnells. John Sidney. Charles Hicks. Daniel Buffit. Charles Humphreys. Timothy Harris. James Floyd. — Harris. James Weaun. Augustus Jenney, a negro.

John Charles Martin, seaman, and Jacob Tucker, cabin boy, were saved.

Much credit is due to the people in saving the things out of the wreck ; a laudable spirit of emulation appeared in them to preserve the property.

Their humanity to the little remnant saved, does honor to them as men and as christians, and will no doubt be returned to them double fold, by that being, who, the father of compassion himself, admires the imitation of this exalted attribute in his offspring :—Nor were the living alone the objects of their kind solicitude. No ! they became interested in depositing with reverence and respect the remains of the unfortunate crew with a sympathy which none but the virtuous possess, and none but the good will imitate, they paid the last sad offices to departed nature.—Like the Samaritan they bound up the wounds of the unfortunate living, and like the founder of their religion, they wept at the tomb of their deceased friends—for friends they esteemed them.



CONGRESS.

PHILADELPHIA.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
THURSDAY, MARCH 8.

*Debate on the resolution reported by a select committee—That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to report his opinion to the House, on the best mode of raising those additional supplies which the public service may require for the current year.*

MR. SEDGWICK said that when the law was passed, constituting the department of the treasury, and making it the duty of the secretary to report to the legislature, plans for the management and improvement of the revenue ; he had fondly indulged the hope, that a great principle in the administration of the government, had been so far settled, that it would not have been called in question at so early a period. This principle he then and still understood to be, that a great officer should, by appointment for that purpose and an adequate salary, be responsible to the community, to produce to the consideration of the national legislature, such systematic arrangements in the intricate business of finance, as should give the highest assurance of the support of public credit, with the least possible burden to the citizens of America. That if this great principle remained still to be determined, he ardently wished that we might profit by the experience of other nations, and by our own—that he knew of no nation that suffer-

ed under the weight of a public debt, but had found it indispensable to its welfare, to appoint some officer, whose duty it should be to superintend this important branch of business ; and that without such appointment, it was impossible for him to conceive that an orderly administration of the finances could be effected. It was not long since, that all America had attempted to provide for the public exigencies, by the indigested schemes of legislating financiers. The effects are remembered by all—the revenue was incomparably less productive, and yet the people infinitely more burdened than at present. These facts would render any other arguments superfluous, with those who believed that experience was the best guide to well founded political conclusions. But on the other hand, if gentlemen were disposed to calculate on the data afforded by imagination, and to build systems on arguments a priori, not only unsanctioned by experiment, but in opposition to all experience ; we might render the debts we owed, which had been justly stiled the price of liberty, and for which therefore we were under the highest obligation to provide, an intolerable burden. For he would run the venture to pronounce, that the measures which would result from such a desultory mode of procedure, would create grievous exactions on our constituents, disappoint the expectations of government, and prove inadequate to the support of public credit.

By these observations, he did not mean to derogate from the responsibility of the character of the House collectively, or of any individual member of it. There might be many who had sufficient talents ably to preside in the management of our finances, provided their minds were confined to the contemplation of that subject alone. But it should be remembered that while separated in the recesses of the legislature, the avocations of professions, or other business, left to most of the members but little leisure for the investigation of political questions: That while in session, they were obliged to pay attention to every subject of legislation committed to the national government. That considering the limited faculties of the human mind, he did think gentlemen should feel themselves wounded in reputation, by the supposition that they were not collectively, minutely acquainted with every branch of science, a knowledge of which might be involved in the subjects of our legislation. Without such an extent of information and science, a man might be an excellent legislator. Otherwise the business of popular legislation must altogether cease, or be very badly managed. It would not produce the smallest uneasiness in his mind, to have it universally known, that he pretended not to the deep knowledge of jurisprudence of the Attorney-General—the acquaintance of the Secretary of State with the political interests and relations of the community—or the profound knowledge of the Secretary of the Treasury, of the intricate subjects of finance. Yet he felt some degree of confidence in the ability which he possessed, of judging of the expediency of adopting such measures as those officers should recommend.

He observed that the House, ever since the organization of the executive departments, had conducted as if convinced of the justness of this reasoning, by their frequent references to the heads of those departments. That particularly when it had been suggested that the judicial system required amendment, the subject had been referred to the consideration of the Attorney-General. That when the commerce of the country came under deliberation, it was referred to the Secretary of State. That these subjects comprehended the most important and dearest interests of the people. That he heartily concurred in those references, and would take the liberty to add, that they had the support of the gentlemen who were now so strenuous in opposition to the present motion. That if the House was then right, those would not be wrong who were in favor of this question.

He observed that gentlemen in the two cases which in argument they had supported, had given very opposite opinions of the collective character of the members of the House ; when they were considering them solely devising the ways and means necessary to supply the deficiency of the revenue, they gave them all the qualities of profound financiers. But when they were to consider the reports of the Secretary they became at once transformed into resitless dupes, incapable of manly investigation and quietly sailing down the stream of ministerial influence. Did gentlemen feel, he asked, in the latter instance the want of that independence of spirit which is necessary to enable them to investigate and decide for themselves ? If so they would want much of that greatness of character which would enable them in the former case to act for the public benefit.

He observed that it appeared by what gentlemen had said during the course of the debate that members were not to be absolutely restricted from receiving every species of information on this interesting subject, from the man who

was constitutionally selected, as the best qualified to give it, and amply paid by the public to devote all his time and talents to understand and communicate respecting it. It was however curious to observe the narrow limits within which that information was to be restricted, and the incomprehensible mode by which it was to be obtained.

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Madison) who had heretofore approved the references which he had mentioned to the Attorney-General and the Secretary of State ; and who had given efficient aid in making it by law the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to report plans for the management and improvement of the revenue, had on this occasion taken some pains to shew the consistency of his political conduct, by attempting to prove that management and improvement implied neither project nor appropriation. This gentleman had given in detail the several proceedings which ought to take place to obtain on one hand the benefit of the knowledge of the Secretary, and to maintain on the other the independence of the House. Thus according to his plan was the business to be pursued. The House was in the first place to call on the Secretary for a state of facts ; it was then to resolve itself into a committee of the whole to form opinions—these opinions were then to be referred to the Secretary, for him to report, respecting them, a systematic arrangement. Let this scheme, so far as it is intelligible, be examined. First the House is to obtain from the Secretary a state of facts ; The House had been left to conjecture to what subjects those facts were to relate—we already knew the deficiency to be provided for—the subjects of revenue—such as were pre-occupied, and such as still remained untouched—we also knew how far those which had been occupied were productive. These facts were already known ; we must not receive any opinions or argumentative deductions respecting them ; this would go in destruction of the independence and purity of the House, and some gentlemen seemed to suppose to the subversion of liberty. The facts, whatever they might be were to be referred to a committee of the whole, who as financiers were to form opinions respecting them—and those opinions were to be sent to the Secretary for a systematic arrangement, and this systematic arrangement was to be made without suggesting any opinion. How this was to be done the gentlemen had not been pleased to declare ; we only know that no opinions were to be recommended to the adoption of the House. This was the dreadful enemy to our independence and freedom that was to be avoided with the utmost caution. He himself had hitherto supposed that a systematic arrangement for the execution of a complicated and intricate subject could not be made without suggesting many opinions. That he believed this singular and as yet inexplicable scheme of forming systematic arrangements without opinions would be as curious as it would be new in practice.

He said no gentleman could doubt but that the plans of the minister would find their way into the House, if regularly introduced as they had hitherto been ; the officer whoever he might be, would be responsible at least in reputation to America and to the world, which alone would form the strongest motives to industry and integrity, in the various plans he should recommend. That it appeared to him that gentlemen who so strenuously opposed the present motion, would, if they should succeed in their wishes, destroy most of the benefits intended by the institution of the office of Secretary of the Treasury, and wholly screen the officer from every species of responsibility.

Mr. Goodhue supported the reference—he generally remarked that in his opinion the most eligible mode to be adopted for raising the supplies on the present occasion would be by way of loan. He then entered into a consideration of the various objects which ought to be within the knowledge of every man who pretends to manage the finances of a country—here he said that he did not think it any derogation from the character of any member of the House to suppose that they were less competent to a thorough investigation of fiscal arrangements than an individual who had made the subject the particular object of his study and attention ; the mischievous consequences of committing these arrangements to numbers had been severely felt in some of the States—in the present case the House does not however commit its judgment—it is at liberty to approve or reject—and the measure in fact is only taking the best means to get the best information. (To be continued.)

TUESDAY, APRIL 3.

Ayes and noes on the motion to amend the resolution for a farther assumption of the state debts, by adding " whether discharged by said states respectively since the peace, or undischarged."

A. Y. E. S.

Messrs. Ahe, Baldwin, Brown, Findley, Gile, Gregg, Jacobs, Key, Mitchell, Livermore, Mall-