

employed in collecting the duties, &c.—This resolution was adopted.

Mr. W. Smith called the attention of the House to a report of the Secretary of State, on the subject of procuring fresh from salt water—and proposed a resolution pursuant to the Secretary's report, authorizing him to cause the several collectors to be provided with blank clearances, on the back of which shall be printed directions for the process. This resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Heister moved the following resolution in substance—That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to report to this House at their next sitting,—The quantities, kinds and values of foreign merchandize imported into the several districts of the United States, since the operation of the Revenue Laws—specifying the ports at which such importations were made and the laws under which the duties were paid; this resolution was not agreed to.

Mr. Fitzsimons of the committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the failure of the late expedition under General St. Clair, brought in a report, which was read—after a detail of facts; the report contains the following result in substance, That the failure of the expedition was principally to be attributed to the deficiency of the necessary articles of military stores, &c. the failure in the quarter-masters' department, failure of the contractors and the want of experience and discipline in the army.

The commander in chief, General St. Clair, is fully exonerated from all blame or imputation whatever.

This report was ordered to be printed.

It was then moved by Mr. W. Smith that the House should resolve that they would take the said report into consideration early in the next session; this resolution was agreed to.

A message from the President of the United States by Mr. Secretary Lear, informed the House that the President has approved and signed the following acts:

An act relative to the compensations of certain officers employed in the collection of the duties of impost and tonnage: An act concerning spirits distilled within the United States; and an act providing more effectually for the national defence, by establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States.

A message from the Senate informed the House that the President had notified the Senate that he had approved and signed an act for the relief of persons imprisoned for debt—and an act to continue in force an act providing for mitigating or remitting certain forfeitures and penalties arising under breaches of the revenue laws—and to provide for the payment of invalid pensions.

The committee on enrolled bills, reported as truly enrolled a bill to compensate the services of the late Col. George Gibson—which was signed by the Speaker.

In committee of the whole on the bill entitled an act, in addition to the act to provide for the Territory North West of the River Ohio.

The committee discussed the several sections, and made sundry amendments, which were reported to the House—The House adopted these amendments, and then the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

A resolution was offered for indemnifying the officers who have attended the committee of enquiry for their extra necessary expenses, also for compensating the clerk employed by the committee on this occasion—laid on the table.

A message from the Senate informed the House, that they concur in the resolution authorizing the Secretary of State to provide the printed clearances, agreeably to his report.

Mr. Williamson called up a report of a select committee on the petition of sundry inhabitants of the state of North-Carolina, praying Congress to authorize that state to pass a law imposing a duty on tonnage, to be appropriated to defraying the expence of clearing obstructions in the navigation of a particular part of that state—the report is in favor of the petitioners, and was agreed to.

Mr. Parker moved the following resolution: That the Secretary of the Treasury cause such returns to be made as will show the quantities and qualities of the exports from one state to another coastwise—to report the next session—laid on the table.

An engrossed bill, entitled, "An act in addition to an act to provide for the territory north-west of the river Ohio," was read the third time, the blanks filled up, and the bill passed.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Secretary Otis, informed the House that they have passed the bill making certain appropriations therein specified, with an amendment—also, that they have passed the bill relative to the claim of J. B. Cutting, against the United States. The amendment to the appropriation bill, appropriates the sum of 50,000 dollars, for the purpose of carrying on negotiations and facilitating the intercourse with foreign nations. This amendment was concurred in by the House.

Adjourned till 6 o'clock, P. M.

The remainder of yesterday's proceedings are unavoidably postponed till our next.

DUBLIN, February 28.

The popery bill received a first reading on Friday in the House of Lords, and was ordered to be printed.

March 1. Yesterday the Members of the House of Commons assembled in the Coffee-Rooms, as the House had been entirely destroyed by fire the day before.

The Speaker said, he was happy in being able to inform the House, that notwithstanding the dreadful accident which had happened, none of the records or journals of the House were destroyed, except the roll which contained the signatures of the Members, which had been burnt with the table upon the floor, in a drawer of which it lay.

A committee of the House met in the Speaker's Chamber, which escaped the conflagration. They sat a very considerable time, for the purpose of enquiring into the cause of the late dreadful fire which consumed the House of Commons.

None but Members admitted into the Chamber. We understand, however, that though several evidences were examined before the committee, nothing satisfactory transpired as to the real cause of that dreadful catastrophe.

Philadelphia, May 9.

Last evening Congress closed their session—when both Houses adjourned to meet again on the first Monday in November next.

Monday arrived here, in 38 days from Marseilles, the ship Louisa, Capt. Birkhead. The Captain informs, that the parties for and against the revolution, had, in some instances, proceeded to acts of violence, and that several persons, on account of their political sentiments, had been put to death.

A letter from Eustatius, of 12th April, states, that immense damage has been sustained there and at St. Kitts by heavy rains, and that 30 lives were lost.

The most recent accounts from Hispaniola, teem with disagreeable representations of the state of affairs in that island. Dissensions among the whites appear to be the cause of protracting the misery of the colony. One of the three commissioners lately arrived there from France, is returned, and the other two have conducted so as to create many enemies. The troops that have arrived, do not amount to more than making up the losses previously sustained by the insurrection—and the insurgents continue in force.

By the ship Catharine, from London, arrived at Norfolk, papers are received to the 6th March—in addition to the articles under foreign heads, the following miscellaneous epitome of intelligence is extracted from them:—

The Austrian forces on their way to the low countries are truly formidable—the object, to secure the tranquility of the peaceable citizens, and prevent external attacks. The forces of the emigrant Princes appear to have no resting place, they are perpetually shifting their quarters.

A rebellion now exists in the kingdom of Morocco, and it is said the Spaniards assist the usurper.—The affairs of the Dutch West and East-India Companies, by articles under the Frankfurt head, are verging fast to ruin—and the credit of their bank is said to be so low, that the merchants will not trust their money in it.—On the 27th February M. Marbot presented to the National Assembly, in the name of the extraordinary committee of finance, a plan to substitute for the whole mass of assignats now in circulation, other assignats, so fabricated as to defy forgery or imitation. The Assembly referred this to the three committees of finances.—The political augurs foretell mischief from the frequent conferences between the Ministers of Prussia, Spain and Sardinia, and Prince Kaunitz. The concourse of spectators to see the Turkish Ambassador enter Vienna, was as great as that on the arrival of the Pope, in 1782.—A treaty offensive and defensive, between Austria and Prussia, is signed.—An article under the Leyden head, of the 28th February, says, there can be no doubt that France will be vigorously attacked in the month of April or May, if between that time and then, affairs should not be changed by the civil war which appears on the point of breaking out.—The same article says, there are but French emigrants in Holland, notwithstanding there is no cabinet in Europe more active than that of the Hague.—The French funds are in such discredit at Amsterdam, that 1000 French livres were offered on the exchange for 160 Holland florins. Notwithstanding these accounts, peace and general tranquility appear to prevail in France; and the Assembly are proceeding with spirit in the administration of the government.

The bills to repeal taxes, as opened in the British budget, have been read the third time, and passed the House of Commons.

The remains of Sir Joshua Reynolds were buried with great funeral pomp, after laying in state at Somerset-House. Forty-two mourning coaches, a mute on each side, and 46 noblemen's and gentlemen's carriage: attended and formed the procession.

Doctor Priestly has been unanimously elected successor to the late Doctor Price, and has commenced his ministerial labors accordingly.

CONGRESS.

The new government when it was adopted, was known to have many evils to redress, and many good things to attempt. It is a pleasant retrospect which we have now to take. We find that every session has advanced the work which the sense of America as well as the preamble of the constitution has marked out as the duty of Congress. Two primary objects appear to have given birth to the new form of government. During the war, all America felt the want of national credit. Our liberties were exposed to extreme hazard, because Congress had only paper means of resource.—It is true a free people supplied by an ardent enthusiasm in the common cause almost every thing that was wanting. But at length time that cools all strong emotions, and adverse fortune exhausted the powers of paper money. The illustrious General in his farewell letter, Congress in their addresses to the people, the attempt to prevail on the states to grant the five per cent. impost, and the general sense of America, shewed the necessity of a government adequate to the support of national credit. Accordingly, Congress in the 2d session made provision for the public debt, and in doing it, they have not been unmindful of the other common object, the protection and advancement of our trade and manufactures. The laws which impose duties on imported articles, have given a spur to the activity of trade and manufactures. The wealth of the nation has grown with its industry in a wonderful manner. Experience, the judge of nations, and their forms of government, has decided in favor of the American.

Among the objects of the present session, the provision for the Indian war has been the most adverse. The government has nothing to hope for. It has more than land enough to sell—and as to the honours of victory, experience has not afforded much to expect. Neither the pride nor the cupidity of the administration could desire the continuance of the war.—Unwelcome as the prosecution of it certainly is, government had no choice to make. The frontiers were bleeding.—An enemy, scorning peace, can be made to forbear only by chastisement.—The war with the Indians, which has continued ever since that with Britain, imposes a heavy burden on the people.—Yet the duties imposed will cherish manufactures, and encourage the raising of hemp, flax, cotton, and various products of the farms. The success of manufactures is now put beyond hazard, and the demand for raw materials will increase that intercourse between the different states, that mutual dependence and common interest, which every friend to the union will rejoice to see.

The alterations made in the excise law are intended to conciliate the affections of the complaining part of the country. The rate of duties holds out signal advantages to the manufacture of grain spirits. They will not surely condemn a law which affords to those who produce grain, who distil the spirits and who consume them, a preference, which considering the duties on all other spirits, gives them reason to desire the continuance of the law, rather than its total repeal.

All America has a common interest in the encouragement of the cod-fishery. The fishermen as a militia by sea, afford a security to the exports and imports of the nation in time of war, which is absolutely indispensable.—We have no other means of effecting the same important end. The act for the encouragement of the fishery, while it costs no money, will hasten the naval strength of America to a very early maturity.

At length a mint is established, and the coin of the United States being regulated with accuracy, we shall no longer be subject to the capricious changes of the foreign standard; a copper coin will be of no small accommodation and saving to the poorer classes of society.

The militia law will probably seem a feeble system to many persons versed in military affairs. The great difference of the militia laws of the several states is such, that some will improve, and others perhaps run retrograde in consequence of this law of the United States. But improvements and amendments will be made from time to time, and it is to be hoped that eventually this act will not be one of the least perfect parts of the national system.

Of all the subjects which have occupied Congress, none has been so fruitful of debate as the law apportioning representatives. The contruction of the constitution adopted and expressed by the President in his objections to a bill presented to him, finally prevailed, and has become a law.—The people of the United States have reason to felicitate themselves that the difference of opinions in respect to apportioning representatives turns on smaller inequalities than any other nation has in its assemblies.

The law for admitting the unsubscribed debt to be loaned, completes the system of credit, excepting the provision for the state debts, which at the next session many expect to see assumed.

The humane purposes of Congress in favor of the invalids are in some measure thwarted by the unconstitutional objections of the judges. It might be arrogant to express a doubt whether the opinion they have expressed be sound.—It is hoped the invalids will not be neglected.

The table of Congress is still covered with business, Yet the people have reason to hope it will in due time be dispatched, under the direction of the same national principles which they have seen adopted thus far by Congress.

Some part of the measures of government may want wisdom, and some parts of the country may want moderation and candor, but on the whole, no nation has prospered more, or enjoyed tranquility in a greater degree than the United States since the establishment of the present happy constitution—and surely none can look forward into futurity with more pleasing anticipations.

Since government has a right to pay off its debt in full proportion to its ability, with what propriety can it be said that the debt is irredeemable?

There is nothing which gives general, much less universal satisfaction. Some complain of the administration of the new government, while they acknowledge the constitution to be excellent: Others consider the system as essentially defective, and say that there is the greatest danger of its imperfections being overlooked, in the wisdom and splendor of its administration.

SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVALS AT THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

Ship Adriana,	Robertson,	Liverpool
Louisa,	Birkhead,	Marseilles
Brig Molly,	Raser,	Havre de Grace
Betsey,	Russel,	Port au Prince
Sch. Sally,	Smith,	New-York
Dolphin,	Dunbar,	N. Carolina
Sloop N. Y. Packet,	Bailey,	New-York
Carlton,	Wilson,	Hispniola
Rainbow,	Mackie,	N. Carolina
Betsey,	Lewis,	Aux Cayes
Speedwell,	Smith,	New-York
Ranger,	Story,	Savannah
Lively,	Bunker,	Rhode-Island
Roba,	Easterbrook,	N. Carolina
Dolphin,	Carhart,	Virginia

Price of Stocks as in our last.

Bank of the United States,

MAY 8, 1792.

RESOLVED, That the specie proportion of the third payment due on the first Monday of July next, on each share of the Bank of the United States, may be made at the Bank, or at any of the offices of discount and deposit; and that transfers of public debt on account of such payment, may be made on the books of the Treasury of the United States, or in the office of any of the Commissioners of Loans in any of the States, certificates of which transfers to be deposited in the office in which the specie proportion of such payment shall be made.

Resolved, That the transfer books be closed fourteen days previous to the first days of July and January of each year.

By Order, JOHN KEAN, Cashier.