

Philadelphia, Nov. 17.

A correspondent observes, that there must be some mistake in the paragraph which assigns the casting vote of the Vice-President on the Representation Bill, as the cause of the opposition in the State of Virginia, to the re-election of that gentleman. It is well known that the Vice-President is in favor of a large and equal representation—his vote against the ratio of 30,000, was therefore probably on the idea that such a ratio would increase the inequality resulting from the operation of an unequal principle in the bill—but it would be highly derogatory to the honor of any state in the Union, to throw an odium on a member of a legislative body, for exercising the first principle of republicanism in a free independent vote—therefore the above insinuation against the truly republican state of Virginia, cannot be founded in fact.

By a document presented to the House of Representatives on Monday last from the Treasury Department, it appears, that the total amount of public expenditures from the first establishment of that department to the end of the year 1791, amounts to 3,797,436 dollars 78 cents. The total amount of money received during the same period, 4,771,342 dollars 43 cents, leaving a balance of 973,905 dollars 65 cents in the treasury at the expiration of the year 1791.

Accounts from Lisbon, which appear to be well authenticated, say that there will be a great demand for grain in that quarter.

The general assembly of Delaware have appointed Gunning Bedford, James Sykes, and William Hill Wells, electors, to elect the President and Vice-President of the United States.

The Hon. WILLIAM BRADFORD, Esq. is chosen by the State of Rhode-Island a Senator of the United States, in the place of the Hon. JOSEPH STANTON, whose time expires in March next.

HENRY SHERRBURNE, Esq. is chosen Treasurer General of the above State, in the room of JOSEPH CLARKE, Esq. deceased.

The following gentlemen came passengers in the ship Delaware, arrived here on Monday last;—Dr. Turner, Messrs. Barnwell, Huger, Carroll, Grand, Reese, Witherspoon, Harden, Guy, Dwight;—and ten steerage passengers.

The following gentlemen are chosen electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, by the State of Rhode-Island, viz.

- His Excellency ARTHUR FENNER, His Honor LICUT. GOV. POTTER, Hon. WILLIAM GREENE, and GEORGE CHAMPLIN, Esq.

The article in our last, referring to the Convention of South-Carolina in 1788, mentions a letter from the Governor of Virginia, "proposing a kind of league against the new Government." In explanation of the article, we are authorized to say, that the letter alluded to, was not a private, but an official communication.

On Friday the 2d inst. was executed in Hillsborough, Orange county, North-Carolina, SAMUEL FULLER, of Granville county, for the horrid murder of his own son.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in New-York, to his friend in Baltimore, dated Nov. 5.

"A vessel is arrived here this day, in thirty days from Cadix, and brings advices of the King of Spain's having declared War against France, and marched a great army to join the confederated powers."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Londonderry, dated September 4.

"The Jacobins, or Republicans of France, having overturned the former order of things, a bloody contest is begun, in which it is hard at this distance to say which is right. It is certain the friends of liberty have had many obstacles to encounter; among their greatest and most dangerous enemies are the priests, but they are now to be all sent to South-America to till the earth. Fayette has fled from France, and it is said is going to America. At home Paine has fairly overcome Pitt and his colleagues: in Ireland, Napper Tandy has conquered the whole force of government."

From the New-York Gazette, November 14.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Yesterday about twelve o'clock, the deputies appointed in the several counties throughout this State, to solicit legislative remedy for the late outrage, said to have been committed on the rights of suffrage, by a majority of the late canvassing committee, assembled at the city tavern, and from thence formed a procession of upwards of eighty persons to the assembly chamber. At the bar of the house they were met by Mr. Hoffman, a member from the city and county of New-York, who received from the chairman of each deputation their respective memorials, beginning with the county of Otsego. Mr. Hoffman, after a short and pathetic address, suitable to the solemnity of the occasion, presented the petition to the Speaker, which after being read by members from different counties, were committed to a committee of the whole house, and made the order of the day for Thursday the 22d inst.

We cannot but observe, the respectable appearance of a number of our fellow citizens, from various parts of the State. The subject-matter of the petitions, and the great order and decorum in conducting the business, seemed to impress every mind with the magnitude of the subject, and we have great reason to hope the decision of the legislature will be such, as to comport with its own dignity and honor, and in its event tending to restore the public peace and harmony, and to ensure in future the right of suffrage.

COMMUNICATION.

The writers against the measures of government have accused Congress of favoring speculators, and of neglecting the interests of the farmers.—The same party foment opposition

to the excise, and in the newspapers they do not blush to justify the audacious conduct of the conspirators against the law. Mark the inconsistency of these mischief-makers. They spare no pains to hinder the collection of the excise. What must be done when that fund fails? To find out another, the land must supply what the failure of the excise will oblige Congress to call for—and is this the way to favor the interest of the farmers? Would they dare to say that dry taxes will advance the landed interest? These men are not deceivers, tho' they have rid and run over the whole country to deceive. They are opposed to every form of taxing that shall touch them, and to any government that shall require it. This, however, is neither the desire nor the interest of the sensible yeomanry of America. The bawlers of liberty and no excise, ought to add, land-tax forever.

§7 "Lucius," from the American Daily Advertiser, shall appear in our next. The piece signed "O CÆSAR—M. P. TREIUS," being personal, should have been accompanied with a disclosure of the author's name. This, with the Communication dated "St. Mary's," relate to a subject which is perhaps sufficiently exhausted.

SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVED at the PORT of PHILADELPHIA. Brig Maria, Parsons, Boston; Jafon, Lillibridge, returned in districts; Betty, Paden, Cape-Francois; Mary, Kennedy, Hamburg; Schooner Good Intent, Schary, Port au Prince; Delaware, Davis, St. Eustatia; Hawk, Dunn, Charleston; Eagle, Jones, do; Swallow, Odlin, returned in districts; Sloop Sally, Ingraham, St. Kitts.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

6 per Cents, 21/3; 3 per Cents, 12/7; Deferred, 13/3; Full shares Bank U. S. 45 per cent. prem; 1/4 shares, 57; Unfunded debt of the U.S. 21/6 on the principal. And on the Interest up to 1st Jan. 1788, 12/1.

PARIS, September 12.

THE number of men that marched from Paris to reinforce the army from the 3d to the 9th instant, according to the account kept by the Commandant General of the National Guard, is 9,897. To these are to be added 2,200 that marched on the 10th, and 5000 who have gone from the neighbouring districts, making in all about 17,000 able-bodied men, well armed and equipped. The Commissioners to the district of Soissons, &c. write that they shall send 10,000 men to Chalons, well armed and equipped, and 58 pieces of cannon of the arsenal of la Fere.

The Commissioners sent to Rochefort write that they have sent 37 waggon loads of ammunition by land, and that several vessels with cannon are already failed for Rouen.

The National Guards and Gendarmeries at Chalons proposed visiting the prisons, and executing summary justice on the prisoners; in other words, imitating the murders at Paris. From this detestable purpose they were dissuaded by the Commissioners of the National Assembly there.

The Commissioners to the department of the South write, that the most perfect tranquility reigns at Avignon, the garrison of which consists of 4000 men well armed, disciplined, and obedient. Two battalions of the department of La Drome, consisting of 800 men each, desire to be employed, and the Commissioners recommend them as fit for immediate service.

The Administrators of the department of the Lower Seine write, that having before sent one battalion to the colonies, they have now sent two to the frontiers, and twelve pieces of cannon for the defence of Paris; that eight companies beside are ready to march to Meaux on the shortest notice, and that the number of failors at their disposal amounts to 15,000.

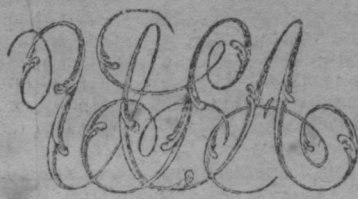
Commissioners sent to Chalons by the Commons of Paris, state a number of volunteers, part of the garrison of Verdun, with a detachment of the regiment, formerly Walsh's, marching armed towards Meaux, had been stopped at Dormans by the Gendarmerie, and conducted to Chalons. These men on their march gave out that Verdun was given up by the Administrative bodies, and the inhabitants, who obliged the garrison to surrender; that they had been loaded with favors by the King of Prussia and the Duke of Brunswick, who said to them and to the people, "You have nothing to fear from our armies; we come not to make war upon you, but merely to re-establish Louis XVI. on the throne. Far, therefore, from opposing our efforts, it is your interest to follow our standard, or at least to remain quiet, and so much the more, as you are every where betrayed, and your defeat certain." The Commissioners of the National Assembly, by a letter dated the 10th inst. confirm this account. The Camp at Chalons is begun, and two battalions are under tents.

The Minister at War has announced the raising of the Camp of Mauville, and the return of the troops to Valenciennes.

Orders had been given to the third battalion of the Cote d'or, which was posted at Montagne, and to the fourth battalion of the Pas-de-Calais, stationed at Chateau d'Abbaye to fall back also, in case they should be attacked by a superior force. The brave battalion of the Cote d'or in retiring maintained a long combat, in which they displayed the greatest firmness, and a courage worthy of French soldiers; of that battalion nine men were killed.

The battalion of Pas-de-Calais made also a vigorous resistance, and exhibited astonishing courage. The loss was fifteen men of this brave battalion, who were able to save their regimental chest and their colours, which were torn in three pieces.

Those volunteers, who arrive in the several camps without arms, are ordered to fall back and wait till they can be supplied.



CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

BRIEF SKETCH of TUESDAY'S DEBATE, ON MR. DAYTON'S MOTION, viz.

That the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War, be notified, that on Wednesday next this House intend to take into consideration, the Report of the committee relative to the causes of the failure of the late expedition, under the command of Gen. St. Clair, to the end that they may attend the house to give such information as to the state of facts, as may be in their power.

MR. WILLIAMSON moved to strike out the latter part of the resolution, which respected the attendance of the secretaries on the house—this motion, if carried, leaves the resolution a simple proposition to inform those officers, that the house were, on Wednesday, to take the report on the failure of Gen. St. Clair's expedition, into consideration.

Mr. Venable objected generally to the resolution, as inconsistent with the dignity of the house. He doubted the propriety of the measure altogether. The gentlemen are not impeached, and therefore the house has no right to cite them to make their appearance:—and with respect to information, the house can command such from the heads of departments as they may see proper to require. He was at a loss in attempting to investigate the object of the resolution. He could see no purpose that it would answer, which could not as well be obtained without it.

Mr. White offered several objections to the resolution, of a similar import with the above.

Mr. Dayton supported the motion by a few remarks, stating the importance of that information which those gentlemen alone could give—He adverted to the report of the committee, which he observed had exculpated the commanding general on that expedition, whereas he was of opinion, that the failure was owing to the misconduct of that gentleman.

Mr. Tucker objected to the resolution—he preferred the mode of requiring that information which the house might think necessary, in writing.

Mr. Madison objected to the motion on constitutional grounds, and as being contrary to the practice of the house. He had not, he said, thoroughly revolved the business in his own mind, and therefore was not prepared to state fully the effects which would result from the adoption of the resolution; but he would hazard thus much, that it would form an innovation in the mode of conducting the business of this house, and introduce a precedent which would lead to perplexing and embarrassing consequences; as it involved a conclusion in respect to the principles of the government, which, at an earlier day, would have been revolted from. He was decidedly in favour of written information.

Mr. Clark was opposed to the resolution—as a member of the committee who made the report, he had no apprehension; with respect to information, the report and the vouchers are before the house; and such further enquiry may be made of the proper officers as the house may think necessary.

Mr. Ames supported the resolution. He noticed the impressions which the failure of the late expedition had made on the public mind. Characters had suffered in the general estimation—it was of the utmost importance that a thorough investigation should take place, that if the failure of the expedition was a mere casualty, and the fortune of war, it might be made to appear—or if it was owing to misconduct, the blame might fall on the proper subjects. The mode suggested to obtain information, appeared to him the best that could be adopted; the most adequate to the object—it was due to justice, to truth, and to the national honor, to take effectual measures to investigate the business thoroughly. This enquiry appears to be the beginning of an arrangement preparatory to an impeachment; on whom this will fall, he should not presume to say; but still it places the business in an important point of view, and shews, in the strongest manner, the necessity of adopting the best possible mode of ascertaining the real state of facts. This, he conceived, could not be done so effectually as by the mode proposed in the resolution.

Mr. Giles objected to the resolution. He preferred a thorough discussion of the report, in the first place; and a comparison of the vouchers with the report: and in the issue, it should appear necessary to call for information from these officers, it could then be done;—but in the present state of the business, to adopt the resolution, would place the committee in a very disagreeable situation.

Mr. Lawrence observed, that the committee, in their report, say, that, for want of time, they had not been able to complete it: it is then apparent, from the report itself, that it is immature. He stated several particulars in the report which were incomplete, and from hence inferred, that there was material information to be received previous to being able to form a competent judgment on the business. He observed, that as the information must be had, he saw no necessity of postponing the attendance of those officers in the first instance.

Mr. Madison, in reply to Mr. Ames's remark that the best possible mode ought to be adopted, observed, that there seemed to be different ideas

entertained, by the different advocates of the resolution; one seemed to implicate the officers alluded to, as parties concerned; another appeared to consider them merely as witnesses. For his part, he thought there was no other way of proceeding, but that of adopting one or the other of these alternatives; either to take up the report and discuss its merits, or for the house to begin the enquiry themselves, de novo.

Mr. Livermore objected to the resolution. He could not see any advantage which would result from adopting it. He thought the causes of the failure of the expedition were sufficiently obvious, without criminating any body. He adverted to these causes—they were, the rawness of the troops, and the superiority of the Indians as marksmen. On these points, he could not see what information could be derived from the Secretary of Treasury. He thought that the legislature had gone too far already, and that no satisfaction would result from further proceedings, but that the business would appear more and more involved.

Mr. Boudinot, after stating sundry particulars relative to the state of the public mind, at the time of the report—adverted to several parts of it which appear to criminate particular persons, some of whom were absent at the time of the investigation on which the report is founded.—He therefore urged the necessity of receiving from the heads of the departments, that information which was requisite to throw light on several parts of the report—and that this ought to be done previous to taking the report into consideration.

Mr. Fitzsimons said, he should vote against the resolution. He did not think this the proper time to call for the information alluded to; nor the mode proposed, a proper one. Some remarks have been made on the report tho' it is not before the house; to these he should not particularly reply, but would only observe, that no person had applied to the house for redress of any supposed injury received by the report. It has been said that the enquiry ought to have been a military one; but it was well known that it was impossible to institute such an enquiry by reason of the want of officers. He then gave a sketch of the mode of proceeding adopted by the committee in conducting the enquiry, to shew that they had availed themselves of every means of information within their power.

Mr. Williamson said, he had moved to strike out the latter part of the resolution, but he was equally opposed to the whole of it; and since he had heard the remarks of several gentlemen, on both sides of the house, he was clearly of opinion, that the best way was to dispose of it together; and to let the business proceed in the course which it has already taken.

Mr. Giles observed, that he thought there was less delicacy observed on this occasion, in respect to the committee, than was usual in this house. With respect to the report, the vouchers on which every assertion is founded, are before the house. As to the incompleteness of the report, it is an immaterial object; the few blanks it contains are occasioned by the want of time to examine the voluminous papers necessary to be examined, in order to ascertain some of the facts—facts not in themselves of the first importance. He observed, that he had not the slightest objection to the fullest investigation of the business: he was in favor of all the information that could be possibly obtained; he objected not only to the mode now contended for, which he thought not only liable to all the objections which had been made, but to many others which might be offered.

Mr. Dayton observed, that he was one of those who were not satisfied with the report; he did not think the conclusion which exculpated the commanding officer, could be supported by the report itself. He adverted to several facts stated in it, which shewed that the commander must have been highly culpable; he instanced the slowness of his movements, the dilatoriness in constructing forts, and his being surprised by the enemy. He thought that the remarks which had fallen from gentlemen on what he had said, were illiberal, as they had virtually impeached his candor, when he was not conscious of deviating from its dictates. It was not his intention to have touched on the merits of the report, but had been impelled to do it, from the turn the debate had taken.

Mr. Gerry was in favor of the resolution. He enlarged on the magnitude of the object of investigation, and insisted that it was the indispensable duty of the house, thoroughly to probe the business to the bottom, that if any persons have been to blame, they may suffer, or if the event which has taken place, by which the national character has suffered, and so severe and unproductive an expence has been incurred, amounting probably to one million dollars, has been owing to circumstances which could not be avoided or controuled, the public may receive satisfaction as to the whole business.

Mr. Page objected to the resolution, particularly to the precedent it would establish; but at the same time he was in favor of the fullest enquiry the business was susceptible of. He said, the mode proposed would operate to clog the freedom of enquiry, and the freedom of debate.

Mr. Ames, adverting to the spirit of the report, pointed out the peculiar situation of the two secretaries, and that they did not stand on the same ground with other persons who are not so intimately implicated in the business. He alluded to the various objections which had been urged from precedent, from the fullness of the investigation which the subject had undergone in the hands of the committee, and from the remark by Mr. Livermore, that sufficient had already been done. To this last objection he particularly replied, by saying that the public wanted further satisfaction, and that the house could not justify themselves to their constituents without a stricter and fuller investigation, that the whole of the facts might be laid before them.

Mr. Madison said, the mode now proposed involved a dereliction of the only practicable mode of transacting public business; and that