

but the impracticability of this clause obliges them to seek relief through their representatives. The law, in the district he came from, he much feared could not be executed. Each militia-man is to come into the field with a musket, or firelock, a bayonet, cartouch-box, and other equipments. These, he verily believed, could not be had. If the citizens, even those who would think lightly of the burthen, could not procure those accoutrements, the law must be violated. Congress, he hoped, would not force his well inclined fellow citizens to violate the law—but if the law could not possibly be executed because impracticable, the legislature would be answerable for the indignities it brought upon itself, by thus prescribing unnecessary hardships. It was then to shield Congress and the dignity of legislation from the shame of imposing impossible obligations, as well as to redress the citizen, that he wished the clause altered.—Several modes presented themselves.—The most obvious is, the furnishing of the arms at the public expence—and another is, the furnishing of the arms to such as might in the opinion of certain officers be too poor conveniently to find them. Congress might leave it with either the officers of the militia, or with the deputy marshals. The disposition once felt to relieve, would presently designate its mode of accomplishing redress. Fines too would prove a perpetually accumulating fund, which could in a few years either be applied to the further purchase of arms, and further exoneration of the poorer class, who might not fall within the idea of the most rigid poverty—or, to a reimbursement of the public for the arms first purchased. At all events, it could do no harm to hear what a committee could report on this subject—and when the house reflected that this was the wish of a populous district, and he verily believed of the whole state of Maryland, he did not doubt of at least a sober regard to such claims. A matter of great importance it certainly was, that as far as is consistent with the good of the whole, the interests and wishes of a part should be attended to—in this case, his constituents argued from no partial views or local motives, but from the fundamental principles of property & taxation, equally applicable to all who thought themselves aggrieved. He was convinced the clause in question was as impracticable as it was oppressive, and he hoped to have a committee appointed. He felt, that whatever might be the event, he had discharged the duty he owed his fellow citizens, and obeyed his own opinions.

Mr. Williamson strongly reprobated the idea of making the arming of the militia a public expence, as involving a most unequal and oppressive species of taxation, especially as it is conceded that more than one half of the militia are already armed.

Mr. Kittera said he was opposed to the motion; by a calculation which he offered, he said the expence of arming the militia at the public charge would amount to 42 millions of dollars, rating the expence at £.20 per man, according to the estimate of a gentleman from Maryland.—He reprobated the idea of making any alteration in the law before any experience of its effects had taken place.

Mr. Mercer supported the estimate he had made of the individual expence; and if it amounted said he, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania has said, to 42 millions of dollars, was the expence lessened by its being imposed in the most unequal and oppressive manner? He said he never had any idea of the governments incurring such an expence—he had no conception of the policy of a militia amounting to 750,000 men—he never wished to see a militia which should exceed thirty thousand; the plan of arming such an immense mass of militia was, in his opinion, the most absurd idea that could be imagined, and amounted to a relinquishment of all hope of an efficient militia.

Mr. Page was opposed to the motion, he objected particularly to Mr. Mercer's idea of arming so small a part of the militia, and pointed out the difficulties which would naturally take place in consequence of different principles being adopted in respect to the arming the militia. He remarked that the difficulties which had presented themselves in the former discussion of this business now occurred in full force, and would involve the house in all the perplexities which had heretofore attended the business.

Mr. Dayton made a few remarks on the motion—he was opposed to it—and reprobated in strong terms any plan of arming the militia, which should give either the state or general government a right to dispossess them of their arms on any occasion.

Mr. Murray added some further remarks, and then the question was determined in the negative—ayes 6; noes 50.

The ayes and noes being as follow,
AYES.
Messrs. B. Bourn, Key, Mercer, Murray, Sumpter, Willis—6.

NOES.
Messrs. Ames, Baldwin, Barnwell, Benson, S. Bourn, Clark, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Giles, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Greenup, Griffin, Groves, Hartley, Heister, Hillhouse, Huger, Kitchell, Kittera, Lawrence, Learned, Lee, Leonard, Livermore, Macon, Madison, Moore, Mulckatig, Niles, Orr, Page, Parker,

Schoonmaker, Sedgwick, J. Smith, W. Smith, J. Steele, Sturges, Sylvester, Thatcher, Treadwell, Tucker, Venable, Ward, White, Williamson—50.

Mr. Sedgwick presented the petition of John Smith, read and referred.

The petition of Thomas and Edward Faulkner, was read and referred to the secretary of war.

Mr. Muhlenberg presented a petition from the dealers in painters oil and colours praying that the duties on dry paints may be reduced so as to afford due encouragement to the rinding and preparing colours in the united states.

The motion for a committee to report a bankrupt law was called up by Mr. Boudinot, and a committee appointed consisting of Messrs. W. Smith, Boudinot Lawrence, White and Gerry.

The house then took into consideration the resolutions of the committee of the whole on the President's speech.—The first and second resolutions were agreed to.

Mr. Parker moved to strike out the latter clause of the third resolution, respecting the reference to the Secretary of the Treasury. On this motion the debate was renewed; Mr. Page, Mr. Tucker, Mr. Findley, Mr. Giles, and Mr. Madison supported it.

Mr. Gerry, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Livermore, and Mr. Ames were in opposition: the observations, though similar to those made in the committee, were more extensive. The question was at length taken, and passed in the negative, the ayes and noes being as follow:

AYES.
Messrs. Ashe, Baldwin, Clark, Findley, Giles, Greenup, Griffin, Grove, Heister, Lee, Macon, Madison, Mercer, Moore, Niles, Orr, Page, Parker, Schoonmaker, Sumpter, Treadwell, Tucker, Venable, White, Willis—25.
Adjourned.

NOES.
Messrs. Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, S. Bourn, B. Bourn, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Hartley, Hillhouse, Huger, Jacobs, Kitchell, Kittera, Lawrence, Learned, Leonard, Livermore, Muhlenberg, Murray, Sedgwick, J. Smith, W. Smith, Steele, Sturges, Sylvester, Thatcher, Ward—32.

THURSDAY, November 22.

John Milledge, Esq. a new member from the state of Georgia appeared, produced his credentials, was qualified and took his seat.

The house proceeded in the consideration of the resolutions of the committee of the whole on the President's speech.—The last resolution was for a reference to the Secretary of the Treasury, directing him to report a plan for reimbursing a loan made of the bank of the U. S.—this resolution was agreed to by the house.

Mr. Parker, Mr. Heister, and Mr. Macon were appointed a committee to report a bill pursuant to the resolution that provision ought to be made by law, for the widows and orphans of the persons who were killed while acting under the protection of flags of truce to the Indian tribes.

Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Dayton, and Mr. Learned were appointed a committee on the resolution—that provision ought to be made to support the intercourse of the united states with foreign nations.

In committee of the whole on the bill providing for the registering and recording of ships or vessels. Mr. Lawrence in the chair. The bill was considered by paragraphs.

The committee went through the discussion, and reported the bill to the house without any amendment.

A message was received from the President of the united states by Mr. Secretary Lear, communicating the abstract of a supplementary arrangement made by him for carrying into execution the law for collecting duties imposed on spirits distilled from foreign and domestic materials within the united states.

An account of the subdivisions of the surveys, together with an estimate of the amount of the compensations and charges attending the collection of the aforesaid revenue; the amount of these was about 45,000 dollars.

This message being read, it was ordered, that 100 copies be printed for the use of the house.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the requisite appropriations was referred to a committee of the whole house on Monday next.

In committee of the whole on the report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the petition of Joseph Headarson.

Mr. Lawrence in the chair.

The report was read, and a resolution moved pursuant thereto. Mr. Ames stated the reasons on which the prayer of the petition was founded.

Mr. B. Bourn observed, that the report was not so explicit as to enable the committee of the whole to form a competent judgment of the merits of the case—he moved that the committee of the whole should be discharged, and that the report be referred to a select committee—this motion obtained, and the report was accordingly referred to a select committee consisting of Messrs. Ames, B. Bourn and Clark.

Mr. Ames moved that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, granting to the commissioners for treating with the southern Indians dollars for their extra expences in going to, and returning from the place of treaty.—This motion was agreed to, and a committee appointed consisting of Messrs. Ames, Tucker, and Smith of N. H.

A letter was read from the secretary of the treasury enclosing reports on a large number of petitions referred to him the last session. These petitions were read and occupied the remainder of the time till the adjournment.

FRIDAY, Nov. 23.

A bill to reimburse certain extra expences of the Commissioners for treating of peace with the Creek Indians—was read the first time.

Mr. Williamson presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of Tarborough, Washington, &c. in North Carolina, praying an alteration in the route of the post through part of that state—read, and referred to the committee on the post-office law.

In committee of the whole on the bill received from the Senate, regulating foreign coins, and for other purposes.—Mr. Sedgwick in the chair.

The bill was read by the clerk, and then considered in paragraphs.

The committee agreed to sundry amendments, rose and reported progress.

A petition, presented by Col. Ashe, praying the renewal of certain lost certificates—was read & referred to the committee on lost certificates.
Adjourned till Monday.

NEW-YORK, Nov. 21.

Electors of President and Vice-President.

William Floyd, Esq. of Suffolk county; Samuel Osgood, Esq. of the city and county of New-York; Edward Savage, Esq. of Washington county; Stephen Ward, Esq. of Westchester county; John Bay, Esq. of Columbia county; Jesse Woodhull, Esq. of Orange county; David Van Ness, Esq. of Dutchess county; Johannes Bruyn, Esq. of Ulster county; Volkert Veeder, Esq. of Montgomery county; Abraham Yates, jun. Esq. of the city and county of Albany; Samuel Clarke, Esq. of Saratoga county; and Abraham Ten Eyck, Esq. of Rensselaer county.

Philadelphia, Nov. 24.

The Governor of this commonwealth has issued a proclamation, declaring that William Henry, Joseph Heister, Thomas McKean, Henry Miller, John Wilkins, jun. Robert Coleman, Thomas Bull, Cornelius Coxe, Robert Johnson, John Boyd, David Stewart, George Latimer, Hugh Lloyd, James Morris, and Robert Hare, are duly elected and chosen electors of a President and Vice-President of the United States, to serve at the election in that behalf to be held, at Harrisburgh, in the county of Dauphin, on the first Wednesday of December next, agreeably to the act of Congress, and the act of the General Assembly of this commonwealth, in such case made and provided.

By the latest accounts from Georgia, received from Mr. Seagrove, Agent for Indian affairs in the southern department, it appears that the Chiefs of the Creek nation are not unfriendly to any part of the United States.—On the contrary, Mr. Seagrove says he has reason to think it is the wish of nine tenths of that nation to be in strict friendship with us. And all danger of an interruption of the harmony, arises from the restless and vicious disposition of some of the white people among us.

His Excellency THOMAS SIM LEE, is unanimously re-elected Governor of Maryland.

Lord Macartney sailed from Spithead the 26th September last, in the ship Lion, of 64 guns, Sir Erasmus Gore, commander, on the long intended embassy to the Emperor of China.

On the 10th inst. John Trotter, serjeant in Capt. Faulkner's company of rifle-men, was shot at Pittsburgh for desertion.

The New-Brunswick Church Lottery finished drawing last Saturday; a list of the blanks and prizes has not been received.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The accusation against the Vice-President shews a disposition to make him appear unworthy of the office he now holds, as well as of the confidence and respect of his fellow-citizens which he has long held;—It is no small compliment paid him by his enemies, that they can find nothing against him but his opinions. His life is unblemished; his conduct manly and sincere—he has not, like most popularity seekers, hid himself from his countrymen.—A cunning ambitious man instead of breaching unpopular sentiments would have locked them up in his own bosom, and have kept them there till policy would give them vent, and that would not be till the people were disposed to receive them. Mr. Adams may not have acted with policy by turning author.—But believing his sentiments well founded and very important to his country, he has not hesitated to avow them. Admit they are wrong—and his adversaries trouble themselves less to prove that they are wrong than that they are unpopular. Still it is plain that he believes them right—for it is not to be supposed he would raise a clamour against himself if he did not believe them.—His conduct is therefore that of a patriot; let them say in welcome, a mistaken patriot. The men who condemn his errors ought to do justice to his virtue and sincerity.—Examples of such manly firmness and zealous preference of what he deems truth to popularity will not be very frequent.—Even the best men will chafe to enjoy their own opinions in peace and quietness, and they will rarely expose themselves to persecution by exposing them.—It ought to be remembered, that his book has been published these eight years; his sentiments did

not prevent his being appointed Vice-President on the first election. It was then and is still perfectly well known that he is a thorough federalist, and zealously attached to our present happy constitution. In his writings quoted by his adversaries, he calls it our only hope and the ark of our safety. It is not saying too much that a man who has devoted his talents and a great part of his life with uncommon zeal and success to the service of his country, and who, his very enemies say, has scorned to deceive it; at least deserves its confidence.

While certain clamourers accuse Congress of having created a monied influence, and in order to make that influence the more extensive and mischievous have incorporated a national Bank, the Governor of Massachusetts goes so far as to recommend to the Legislature of that State to become interested in a Bank instituted by Law at Boston; He thinks it would be for the advantage of the citizens. The United States actually enjoy one fifth of the profit of the National Bank. Our fault-finders are requested to compare the opinion of the Governor of Massachusetts with their charges against Congress.

Wanted, a set of second hand grievances and complaints against men and measures.—It is supposed that they have become worn and thumb'd over during the late elections, but they will do for every day use; half price will be given for them at the Office in Street. Query, whether it is not as proper to save grievances as rags? They will do a second time in another shape. N. B. Their being a little foul will be no objection.

Some persons make a fuss about republican principles; It is admitted that none are more excellent or more true; yet are the men who give as a toast the republican interest in the United States, meaning the antifeederal interest, really republican? Turn this cant into plain English, and what does it amount to? Draw a small party closely together, and by art, industry, and lies, obstruct the laws of the people. Is he a republican who would have drawn the sword to put the state of New-York out of the union? Yet, the man who was so violent that his party shrunk from his standard, when he was willing and ready to erect it against the people of the United States, and their free constitution, is now held up as the pure republican, the man of the people—Actions speak louder than words.

LONDON, September 25.

The old constitution of France, in one thing, and we believe in that single point, is superior even to this happy country. By the law, every person who has ever had ten children in lawful wedlock, whether they are alive or not, is exempted from taxes,—a law worthy to be inserted in our statutes.

The decree which enjoins, that the refractory priests shall receive no passports for any country actually at war with France, will now force them to pass into England; for in ten days from this date, France is likely to be engaged in hostilities with every power that is near them.

Several hundreds of French priests and nobles have arrived at Jersey within this fortnight; some of them are reduced to that degree of poverty, that they are obliged to teach French and Belles letters at six sous a lesson, and others are forced to hire themselves as gardeners.

Doctor Priestley has declined the office of sitting in the National Convention of France, though he has been chosen for three places.

The hall, now occupied by the National Convention of France, is on the first floor of the Thuilleries, and was once intended for a Theatre, at the spectacles of which the court only were to be present. The old decorations of the palace have been removed, and ordered to be fold.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Want of time and room prevents the republication of "LUCIUS," containing extracts from Mr. ADAMS'S Defence—also the extracts from the same work by MARCUS.
"ANTONIUS and MUTIUS," in our next.

SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVED at the PORT of PHILADELPHIA. Schooner Hercules, Chadwick, N. Carolina

Price of Stocks as in our last.

BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

PHILADELPHIA, November 20, 1792.

THE Stockholders of the Bank of the United States are hereby informed, that according to the Statute in incorporation, a general election for twenty-five Directors will be held at the Bank of the United States, in the city of Philadelphia, on Monday the seventh day of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

And pursuant to the eleventh section of the Bye-Laws, the Stockholders of the said Bank are hereby notified to assemble in general meeting at the same place, on Tuesday the eighth day of January next, at five o'clock in the evening.

By order of the President and Directors,
JOHN KEAN, Cashier.