



CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WEDNESDAY, December 5.

The bill to reimburse certain extra expenses of the late Commissioners for treating of peace with the Creek Indians, was read the third time; and on the question, shall the bill pass? it passed in the negative, 21 to 20; the ayes and noes being as follow:—

A Y E S.

Messrs. Ames, Baldwin, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, S. Bourn, Lawrence, Livermore, Muhlenberg, Milledge, Fitzsimons, Page, Sedgwick, W. Smith, Sturges, Thatcher, Tucker, Wadsworth, Wald, Willis—20.

N O E S.

Messrs. Aitch, B. Bourn, Clark, Dayton, Gordon, Jacobs, Key, Kitchell, Leonard, Mercer, Moore, Niles, Parker, J. Smith, Steele, Sylvester, Treadwell, Veable, White, Williamson, Orr—21.

A report on the petition of William Dunbar, executor to George Galpin, late a Superintendent of Indian affairs, was read: this report was in favor of the prayer of the petition, and proposes that a bill should pass, allowing to the heirs of George Galpin, at the rate of 500 dollars per annum from November 1, 1775, to May 1, 1780; as a compensation for the services of said Galpin as Superintendent of Indian affairs during that period, for which services he had never received any pay or reward.—It was moved that this report should be agreed to; some debate ensued, and on the question being taken the motion was negatived, 24 to 21.

The petition of James Weeks was read, praying compensation for the loss of a vessel and cargo during the late war. A motion to refer this petition to a committee of the whole was negatived.

A memorial of Noah Phelps was read, praying compensation for services performed during the war. A motion to refer, was negatived.

The petition of Esther Johnson was read and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Murray presented the petition of Walter Smith, late a junior surgeon in the American army, praying a settlement and payment of his account.

Mr. Murray stated the circumstances on which this application was founded; but a motion to refer the petition to a select committee, was negatived.

The house took into consideration the report of a select committee on the petition of Moses Young. The petition and report were read: the report was in favor of the petition. Mr. Young was appointed Secretary to Mr. Laurens on his embassy to Holland. Mr. Laurens, it appears, had recommended to Mr. Young to take but one half of his salary, in consideration of the embassy's having proved inefficient; and, as an inducement, informed Mr. Young that he (Mr. Laurens) intended to relinquish the whole of his salary. Mr. Young, from patriotic motives, and influenced by the example of Mr. Laurens, accordingly relinquished one half of his salary as Secretary aforesaid;—but finding afterwards that Mr. Laurens had, on his return to America, received his full salary and emoluments from the government, as ambassador, Mr. Young, in the petition, prays that he may be paid the full amount of the salary he had, on the aforesaid considerations, relinquished.—All the vouchers and documents relating to this business were read: among others, an account settled between the United States and Mr. Young. The question, therefore, according to the opinion given by the gentlemen who supported the petition, was, whether the present government should avail itself of this settlement made under the circumstances already stated, and thereby preclude the petitioner from the full allowance to which he was, by a resolution of the former Congress, entitled, especially as by the account settled it appears that Mr. Young made a reservation of a further claim.—It was observed that the allegations in the petition were supported by the most explicit declarations on the part of Mr. Laurens; and that the petitioner was clearly and justly entitled to the sum he had relinquished on a contingency which had not taken place, but directly the reverse;—it was said that it would be little short of taking a pettifogging advantage of the petitioner.

In opposition to the report in favour of the petitioner, it was said, that the settlement made at the public office appears to have been done deliberately,—and the allowance of the salary of £250 sterling, was made pursuant to certificates received from Mr. Laurens, as a full salary. It was urged, that if the legislature should rip up transactions so long settled, and do away accounts finally closed with the proper officers, it would be a most dangerous precedent indeed. It was constantly echoed in the house, that these settlements were not to be disturbed; the consequence it was easy to perceive, would be of the most perplexing nature; there would be no end to the applications which would take place; applications, accompanied with circumstances whose pretensions, it was said, were much more weighty and important than that now under consideration. It was further observed, that it does not appear that Mr. Laurens had deviated from his agreement with Mr. Young, in settling his account; for though he had received his full salary as ambassador, it plainly appears that he did not receive it merely as a compensation for his services as such, but in part as an indemnifi-

cation for other services, and for losses he had sustained, in consequence of being in public employment; and therefore Mr. Young's claim on account of a supposed violation of contract, on the part of Mr. Laurens, is not well founded;—and besides, it was remarked, that Mr. Young, in the account he has settled, has no reference in his note of reservation, to any subsequent claim on account of any contract between him and Mr. Laurens. After a long debate, the question on agreeing to the report of the committee, in favour of the petitioner, as above stated, was put and negatived, 27 to 25.

Mr. W. Smith then moved, that the petition of Moses Young, with the additional evidence and documents accompanying the same, be re-committed to a select committee. This motion was lost.

Mr. Goodhue gave notice, that to-morrow he should call up the coasting bill.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, December 6.

A bill to authorize the settlement of the account of Lewis Geranger, for public services performed during the late war,—was read the first and second time, and referred for Tuesday next.

A message was received from the President of the United States by Mr. Secretary Lear, conveying the copy of certain communications recently received, relative to the war with the Indian Tribes North West of the Ohio.—The galleries were cleared while the communication, which was confidential, was read.—The doors being again opened.

The petition of Amos Miner was presented by Mr. Sylvester; read and referred to the committee on similar applications.

A communication was received and read from the commissioners for settling the accounts of the individual States with the United States; the purport of which is, that they do not at present see any impediment to completing the settlement of the business of their appointment within the time limited, viz. the 1st of July, 1793.

In committee of the whole, on the Coasting bill. Mr. Sedgwick in the chair.—The bill was read in paragraphs, by the Chairman.

The committee went thro' the discussion of the several sections; they made various amendments, which were reported and laid on the table.

Mr. Key, of the committee on the petition of Woodrop and Joseph Sims, brought in a report, which was, that the relief prayed for ought to be granted.

The reading of the petition was called for, the prayer of which is, that they may be released from the payment of the duties on sundry goods lost on a voyage from New-York to Philadelphia.

A motion was made to accept the report of the committee.

Mr. Goodhue observed, that though he was disposed to grant relief in the case, yet he saw no principle on which it could be done;—had the owners insured a sum sufficient to have covered the duties, they would have received the additional loss occasioned by having given bond for them. He thought that the house ought to proceed with great caution, as granting relief in the present case would be establishing a precedent which might be attended with great inconvenience and eventual loss of revenue.

Mr. W. Smith said, that relief had been granted in a former case, which perhaps was similar; though he did not perfectly recollect the circumstances,—and said he wished the law he alluded to might be read. He suggested the propriety of receiving the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury, as it was of the greatest importance that a full investigation of the subject should take place previous to any decision.

Mr. Fitzsimons observed that this was an individual case; it stood on its own merits; every member of the House was fully competent to forming an opinion on it; and he hoped the House would determine respecting it for themselves.

Mr. Fitzsimons then stated the particulars to shew that this was a case of peculiar hardship and misfortune; and that the loss of the duties to which the petitioners were exposed, arose in part from an excess of official attention on the part of the Collector of New-York.—After some further remarks by different gentlemen,

The petition and report were referred to a committee of the whole, for Monday next.

A letter was communicated by the Speaker, from Mr. Seney, informing the House that by reason of an appointment in the judiciary in the state of Maryland, incompatible with holding his seat in the National Legislature, he resigned his seat as a Representative from that State in the Congress of the United States.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, Dec. 8.

The memorial of Timothy Demombrun was read, praying compensation for services and supplies as an Indian agent at Kaskaskias; referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

A message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Lear, conveying certain communications received by the supreme executive from the Governor of the Territory of the United States, South West of the River Ohio.

The letter from Mr. Seney, containing his resignation was again read, and a motion made to refer the same to a committee; some debate ensued on this motion—in which the question was stated how far it was in the power of a member of the House to vacate his seat; the solution of this, it was said would involve a lengthy discussion of some constitutional question.—if it was the opinion of the House that the present case naturally included this discussion, the reference ought to be to a committee of the whole. Some gentlemen thought that the most simple process was to accept the resignation, and make entry accordingly in the Journal—a noti-

fication to be sent to the executive of the State of Maryland. The motion for a commitment of the letter was negatived—a motion was then made that the Speaker of the House notify the executive of the State of Maryland of a vacancy in the representation of that State, by the resignation of Mr. Seney. This motion was negatived and the letter laid on the table.

The message from the President of the United States being confidential—the doors of the gallery were shut while the communications were read.

Philadelphia, Dec. 8.

We learn that the measures taken by the supreme executive of the United States, to bring the hostile Indians to a conference, in which all subsisting differences should be adjusted, have issued in a proposal of the said Indians to meet Commissioners of the United States at the Au Glaize, on the Miami River, which runs into Lake Erie, the next Spring, at the time the leaves shall be fully out—And that in the mean time they will lay aside the bloody tomahawk.

The Six Nations have invited Governor Simcoe to be present at the proposed conference.

We hear from New-Jersey, that the Electors of that State have given a unanimous vote for GEORGE WASHINGTON and JOHN ADAMS, as President and Vice-President of the United States.

The army lately at Pittsburgh, is gone into winter quarters.

Tuesday evening last, the Vice-President of the United States arrived in town, and next day he took his seat as President of the Senate.

Tuesday the 4th inst. being the day for the meeting of the General Assembly of this State, a number of the Members of the House of Representatives and of the Senate, sufficient to constitute a quorum of each, convened at the State-house in this city.

Forty-five members of the House of Representatives attended this day, and after the clerk had finished the reading of the returns, a motion for adjournment was made, and agreed to.

Wednesday the house proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the honorable Gerardus Wynkoop, Esq. was chosen.

Yesterday at 12 o'clock his Excellency the Governor of this Commonwealth met both branches of the Legislature in the Senate Chamber, when he addressed them in a lengthy Speech exhibiting a circumstantial and comprehensive view of the situation of public affairs.

Wednesday last was the day assigned by a Law of the Union for the electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, to assemble in the several States to execute the business for which they were chosen. The electors of this State convened at Harrisburgh, those of New-York at Poughkeepsie, those of Massachusetts at Boston.

On the 16th ult. a letter from Messieurs Hebert, and Co. of Paris, addressed to Congress, was read in the House of Representatives—in which they propose that Congress should make them a grant of land, as near as possible to Philadelphia.

They say if Congress are inclined to attend to their request, they would inform them, that they have fifty shares of one hundred pounds sterling each, to be employed in their first purchase—resulting from an instrument signed by the three eldest sons of the King of England—an authenticated copy of which is transmitted with their letter. This instrument is a bond for one hundred thousand pounds sterling, signed by George, Prince of Wales—Frederick, Duke of York—and William, Duke of Clarence.

This sum was borrowed for twenty-five years, at 5 per cent. per ann. payable in instalments—and is divided into 1000 negotiable shares by consent of the borrowers.

We hear that about half a mile of the Schuylkill and Delaware canal is already dug. This is respectable progress for the time in so arduous an undertaking. It is hoped it will not be found too great for the funds of the company, and may not prove a disappointment to the hopes of those who conceive that our improvement in canaling depends much upon the success of the first experiment.

A convention is called by the Council of Censors of the State of Vermont, for the purpose of revising the Constitution of that State. The Convention are to meet at Windsor, in June next.

Extract of a letter from Knoxville, dated November 2d, 1792.

"We are all under arms in this country, in opposition to a part of the Cherokee and Creek Indians, who have proclaimed war against the United States, and have committed many hostilities and depredations on our frontier inhabitants: but meeting with a pretty warm repulse in an attack they made on one of our frontier stations, losing several of their head men, and doing no damage to the whites in the station, has caused them chiefly to return home; whether to embody in larger numbers, or not, is uncertain. We keep ourselves in readiness for them if they should come.

"There are, at this time, above 1500 militia of our territory, in service under Continental pay."

A correspondent says, that as the subject of a bankrupt law is now before Congress, a committee having been appointed to prepare and report a bill, he hopes the present session, though short, will not be suffered to slip away without serious attempts to bring the business to some issue.

The people of the United States do not expect impossibilities—but they will not be satisfied with simple declarations that all efforts will be in vain, and that the enacting of such

a law is a thing impracticable.—The first law that may be enacted will perhaps be little more than an essay—experience alone can mature it—but till a beginning is made, the numerous unfortunates who are anxiously looking to the general government for relief, are not consoled with the faintest glimpse of hope to cheer their desponding minds.

One would suppose, that on seeing the address from Marseilles, the city of Philadelphia, which abounds with benevolent peace-loving citizens, would have held up to the other cities of the United States, a laudable example of feeding the hungry, and of discountenancing the unchristian, savage practices of war. I should have expected, that every American would have been as ready to send flour and grain to Marseilles, and other ports in France, as they were once to send supplies to Boston: for France is now as much a sufferer in their cause, as Boston was then.—However, as the French ask not for gifts of provisions, but only request a supply, at a free and liberal market, the most avaricious need not be alarmed: All that is necessary is, that the business of sending such supply, should not be left to the precarious and ungenerous mode, which may be adopted by greedy, monopolizing speculators in flour and grain.

[Mail.]

COMMUNICATIONS.

The industry of the enemies of the government to sow the seeds of jealousy and discord, has been manifest in almost every newspaper and in every district of our country. A writer in one of the daily papers of this week, has given an uncommon turn to his antifederalism. He says—Mr. Adams is a Monarchy man, Mr. Clinton an Anti- . . . The case is lamentable—but one or the other must be Vice-President. It seems as if the drift of the piece was more to give the people a dreadful opinion of a government which could be kept out of very improper hands, than to recommend a favorite candidate. But he winds up, inconsistently enough, with assuring us that the amendments have made Gov. Clinton a very good federalist.—Such a friend to the constitution as the writer appears to be, may be satisfied with such a late-made federalist as Gov. Clinton—the federalists will prefer Mr. Adams.

Shortly to be put to the press, a Treatise clearly demonstrating that the advocates for a government of King, Lords and Commons, are not only the friends, but the only friends to the Constitution of the United States; and that every man who calls himself a federalist, and yet denies this position, is either an idiot or a hypocrite.—In an appendix, will be a proper comparison of the political creeds of Mr. A. and Gov. C. wherefrom it will appear, that the simple alteration defined by Mr. A. from a republican to a monarchical government, is much less considerable than the various amendments insisted on by Gov. C. in relation to trials by jury, the freedom of the press, standing armies, &c. &c. which could not but derange and disfigure the whole structure and aspect of the system.

While some egregious politicians have been clamouring for a change of measures, and prophesying a change of men—it appears rather more than probable, that they have calculated among themselves, without consulting the temper of the people, and therefore may expect a double disappointment—for in cases where re-elections have not taken place, the choice has been of truly federal characters in respect to new candidates. It may appear to be absurd to say that party will clamour without a subject—but it is a truth—Thus "empty vessels make the greatest sound."

A republic is said to be founded on virtue; but if we may believe our fault finders, whatever may be the foundation, the superstructure of the American republic consists of the vilest materials—According to these immaculate reformers, nothing can exceed the venality, avarice and ambition of those men who constitute the majority in the government, and its administration, through the suffrages of the people; and for aught that appears to the contrary, will enjoy their approbation for years to come. But if it is not patriotic to doubt the integrity, stigmatize the motives, and depreciate the abilities of those who possess in an eminent degree, the confidence of the people, pray what is patriotism?

The enemies of government have pretended that they regard measures and not men.—It appears however that one great end of their labors was to displace the Vice-President.—They have said also, and it was easier to say than for others to believe, that they are federal—tho' they have scribbled against every thing, they are for the constitution. They would not mar it—they would not break a twig of the federal tree. Yet, says stubborn fact, they would chase a man who would have laid the axe to its root.

SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVED at the PORT of PHILADELPHIA.
Brig Pomona, Baird, St. Croix
Trion, Cheeseman, Boston
Minerva, Morgan, Jamaica
Betsey, Mann, N. York
Schr. Molly, Seldon, Salem
Eliza, Wallace, Port-au-Prince
Neptune, Hodge, St. Eustatia

PRICE OF STOCKS.

6 per Cents, 20/9
3 per Cents, 12/
Deferred, 13/
Full shares Bank U. S. 40 per cent. prem.
3 shares, 52