

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, December 17.

The bill received from the Senate on Friday last, in addition to, and for altering the act for settling the accounts between the United States and individual states, was read the second time, and referred to a committee of the whole House; to be the order of the day on the second Monday in January.

A report on the petition of Simson Thayer was read; this report was in favor of the petitioner, and was referred to a committee of the whole for to-morrow.

In committee of the whole, Mr. Sedgwick in the chair—The report of a select committee, to whom the petition of the Executors of Edward Carnes, and the report of the Secretary of the Treasury thereon, had been referred, was taken into consideration—After some discussion of the subject, the report of the select committee was agreed to by the committee of the whole—this being reported to and adopted by the House, a committee was appointed to prepare and report a bill in conformity thereto.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Secretary Otis, informing the House that the Senate recede from their amendment to the bill for registering and recording of ships or vessels, which had been disagreed to by the House—[See the last Gazette]—We hear that the votes of the Senate on this occasion were equally divided, and that the Vice-President gave the casting vote to recede.

The consideration of the confidential message recurring, the doors of the gallery were again closed.

TUESDAY, Dec. 18.

Mr. Lawrence presented a memorial from the commissioned officers of the New-York line of the late army, in behalf of themselves and of the privates of said army, stating their services, the partial compensation they have received, and the balances they conceive to be still due to them.—This memorial was read.

Mr. Muhlenberg presented a memorial on the same subject from the officers of the Pennsylvania line—which was also read.—These memorials were laid on the table.

The petition of John Saidler was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Sedgwick, after some preliminary remarks, stating the situation of the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, containing a plan for the reduction of the public debt, and for reimbursing the loan made of the Bank of the United States, suggested the propriety of separating these two objects; and in order to this, he moved the following Resolution in substance—

“That the Committee of the whole, to whom was referred the subject of the reimbursement of the loan made of the Bank of the United States, be discharged from further considering the same—and that a select Committee be appointed to prepare and report a bill, authorizing a loan for the purpose,—laid on the table.

The House took into consideration the Coasting bill, in order to its being engrossed, but after a few remarks,—on motion, it was voted that the bill be re-committed to the Committee which reported the same.

Mr. W. Smith moved that the House should resume the consideration of the bill to ascertain the fees demandable in cases of Admiralty proceedings in the Courts of the United States, and for other purposes,—this motion was disagreed to.

On motion, the consideration of the confidential business was resumed, and the galleries closed.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

THOSE who reason against federal measures and principles may be met on fair ground—The federal cause cannot suffer by fair discussion. Being used to defeat on this field, and the people being well settled in their resolution to maintain their own, which is the federal cause, the enemies of government have resorted to art and cunning to obtain what the solemn decision of America has denied them.—They could not prevent the adoption of the constitution; they have therefore put in practice every artifice to mar it in the administration.—He is a novice in the history of parties who does not know that by doing so, they act according to the laws of their nature.

It is probable that a few well-wishers to order and the constitution have co-operated with men of a different stamp in some of their late manoeuvres.—To such men, it is proper to address some reflections, to induce them well to consider the pernicious nature of the schemes which they have been drawn in to favor, and it may be hoped they will not fail to renounce them.

The papers for more than a year past have been stuffed with insinuations against the government and its measures; every thing has been done to alarm the fears and jealousies of the people. Direct charges would not do—they might be disproved—but dark hints are given, men in office are blown upon by a side wind—prejudices are hunted up and heated against all the great systems of Congress. The excise, the funding system, the bank, the excessive rage for speculation are made to furnish subjects of complaint or alarm.

This mass of invective against the government cannot have escaped the notice of every reader—and the influence of the newspapers on public opinion is too considerable and direct to suffer us to believe that these incendiary writings have been wholly without effect.

By reviewing the conduct of parties those who have been deceived may be undeceived.

The writers against government have been accused of the most seditious antifederalism. They complain heavily of this charge, and in turn accuse their accusers of aiming at monarchy and aristocracy; they dare not find fault with the constitution—the people would not listen to mischief makers who should be so impudent. It is necessary to alarm the people for the safety of the constitution, and to persuade them that ill designs are harbored by its best friends—those who introduced it, and who now administer it. Accordingly they have played upon the multitude, cautioning them against the arts of the aristocrats and the monarchy men. But who are they? They tell us, they are the high flying federalists—the supporters of the corrupt monied systems of Congress. Now who are those supporters of the measures of Congress. The President, the Governor of Pennsylvania and the great body of the people.—The public has seen the President's speech; his language agrees with that used by the supporters of the measures of Congress; he expressly tells them that he will do every thing in his power to support those measures—in particular the excise which the incendiaries have pretended no free people could or ought to endure. The governor expressly ascribes the happy situation of Pennsylvania to the operation of the national government, and speaks of the confidence placed in that government as well merited. Indeed, the Legislature instead of being employed to raise taxes on the citizens of the State, are chiefly concerned to apply discreetly the surplus revenue which they draw from the Treasury of the National government. The people of this State may well be supporters of the federal cause as well as of the government. The body of the people are in peace and (we have it on the highest authority in our country) appear to be disposed to support the laws of Congress.—It is a poor trick to mention the ill designs of the supporters of these laws when it thus appears that the President and the body of the people are included in this description. It follows clearly from a slight view of the conduct and writings of the last year that there is a party—it is to be hoped, not a large one, opposed to the laws of the union and to the sense of the people—who have tried by blackening the government to make it change hands—Happily for our country they have tried in vain.

FROM THE NATIONAL GAZETTE.

MR. FRENEAU,

THE State of Kentucky having increased the number of the emblematic stars, and afforded an opportunity of arranging them in a new form—I send you the following trifles on the subject. The National Motto, which I wish to include, will be a sufficient apology for writing in Latin.

Your's, &c. A. B.

Philad. Dec. 10.

* * * * *

“Barbara Pyramidum fiesat miracula Memphis.”
Heu male servili marmora fructa manu!
Libera jam, ruptis, Atlantis ora catenis,
Jactat opus Phario marmore nobiliss.
Namque Columbiae, fidei monumenta parantes
Vulgare spernant fumere materiam:
Magnanimi caelum scandunt; perituraeque faxa
Quod vincat, celsa de Jovis arce petunt.
Auda inde cohors stellis E Pluribus Unum
Ardua Pyramidos tollit ad astra caput.
Ergo, Tempus edax, quamvis durissima sevo
Saxa domas moru nisi ibi juris habes.
Dumque polo solitris cognata nitentibus ardent,
Sidera, fulgeb t Pyramis illa fuis.

TRANSLATION OF THE ABOVE.

NO more let barbarous Memphis boast
Base structures, rear'd by slavish hands—
A nation on the Atlantic coast
(Fetter'd no more in foreign bands)
A nobler PYRAMID displays
Than Egypt's marble e'er could raise.
Columbia's sons, to extend a proof
Of their bold deeds to future years,
Disdain to use such vulgar stuff;
But, soaring to the starry spheres,
Materials seek in Jove's blue sky
To endure when brass and marble die.
Arriv'd among the shining host,
Fearless, the proud invaders spoil
From countless gems, in æther lost,
Some stars, to crown their mighty toil:
To heaven a pyramid they rear,
And point the fabric with a star.
Old waulful TIME! though still you gain
Dominion o'er the brazen tower,
On THIS your teeth shall gnaw in vain,
Finding its strength beyond their power—
While kindred stars in heaven shall glow,
THIS PYRAMID WILL SHINE BELOW!

EXTRACT from a QUAKER MEMORIAL, lately presented to the Legislature of Virginia.

“YOUR memorialists being informed, that a chaplain is hired by the assembly to attend the house during the session, and paid out of the public treasury, they believe it right for them to express their uneasiness at the continuance of such a practice; as well from conscientious scruples, as a belief that it is inconsistent with the spirit and intention of the present constitution; they are however far from wishing to discourage any from the exercise of religious duties; but being fully persuaded that such acts of devotion would be as acceptable in the sight of the great object of adoration and worship, were they performed at the proper expense of those who may believe it necessary to have the assistance of a chaplain; so they conceive no inconvenience whatever can result from its becoming a private instead of a public expense.”

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.

The electors of President and Vice President for the State of New-Hampshire having given an unanimous vote for George Washington and John Adams; it appears that those gentlemen are re-elected President and Vice-President of the United States.

Benjamin Talliaferro, John King, William Gibbons and Seaborn Jones, esquires, are the Electors of President and Vice President of the United States for the state of Georgia.

The House and Senate of the state of Georgia, do not agree in the mode of electing Senators of the United States,—the House insist on a joint and the Senate on a concurrent vote.

The latest accounts from Cape-Francois, to the 15th Nov. say that M. Rochambeau, the newly appointed commander in chief, has lately taken from the revolted negroes their strongest and most important posts, and there is now a prospect of a complete reduction of the Island.

INSURANCE COMPANY

The subscription for constituting the capital stock of the Insurance Company of North America, amounting to Six Hundred Thousand Dollars, was completed on the 13th inst. and the first installment paid into the hands of the Secretary.—The Company being organized agreeably to the constitution, have commenced the business of Insurance; and the Directors intend to petition the Legislature of the state, for an act of Incorporation.

M. Blanchard, the celebrated Aeronaut who lately arrived in this city from Hamburg, we hear intends to entertain the public shortly with an aerial excursion, should sufficient encouragement be given to defray the expence.

On the 13th Nov. last the corner stone of an Orphan House and asylum for orphans, and the children of poor and distressed parents, was laid, in Charleston, South-Carolina, by his honor John Huger, Esq. Intendant of the city.

Extract of a letter from Boston, November 16.

“We have now one of the newly invented patent Wind Mills erected in this town—it is 30 feet high and 18 feet diameter—it carries two large grind-stones, and a lahe for turning all sorts of iron work.—One hand can grind eight dozen of axes in one day by means of this invention.—Our Glass Works are going on rapidly—the specimens of window glass already produced are, if possible, superior to London Crown.”

A writer in a late New-York paper, says—“I find that a certain author, under the signature of Lucius, would persuade the Electors for President and Vice-President, that Gov. Clinton, in consequence of the amendments of the new constitution, though an antifederalist heretofore, is now the contrary, and that the spirit of antifederalism is extinct.

“If that good man had asserted, he saw a whale on horse-back, in New-York or Philadelphia market, he would be entitled to much about the same degree of credence. Sophistry may gratify the appetites of some political gudgeons; but facts are stubborn things, and speak louder than words.

“Exempli gratia.—The legislature of this state have lately appointed twelve antifederalists, electors of President and Vice-President of the United States—This is our whole number of electors, and all Clintonians.”

Saturday last the House of Representatives of this commonwealth, determined that the choice of Senators to the Congress of the United States, shall be by a joint vote.

A correspondent observes, that should the Senate concur with the House of Representatives, in their resolution for a joint vote in the choice of Senators, they would so far annihilate their integrity as a branch in the government—Should they non-concur, it is probable the state will continue unrepresented in the Senate of the National Legislature—this appears to be the dilemma—a precedent, consolidating the two branches of the state legislature into one—or a partial representation in the Senate of the United States.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Writers who pretend to be believers in the public infallibility, have repeatedly complimented the people, by saying that while they were asleep their enemies stole away their privileges.—Again their confident writers say, that the people being lulled into insensibility, suffered every species of fraud, injustice and predatory speculations, yea monarchical taxes to be sown among their pure republican wheat—and from these have sprung up the fashionable doctrine, that the people are not the proper keepers of their own liberties! Time with his scythe must surely make sad havoc with such confident principles.

A distant correspondent has noticed with no small degree of satisfaction, that the Legislature of the Union has at length entered upon the arduous business of framing a bankrupt law; and he feels strongly persuaded that a spirit of genuine patriotism, and a god-like sympathy for the unfortunate and distressed debtors of the several States, will stimulate to extraordinary exertions in maturing the system, so that the present session of Congress, though short, may not expire, and leave those who have little or no hope from any other quarter in a state of absolute despondency.

Those who have turned their attention to this subject, would aid the cause of humanity by submitting the result of their reflections and enquiries to the public.—Some of the difficulties and perplexities (and which are conceived to be very numerous) that will present themselves in discussing the business may the citizens happily obviate.

Every well wisher to the liberty and happiness of mankind will rejoice to see the provision for free public schools made one of the special objects of attention for the Legislature of Pennsylvania, during their present session. It is earnestly to be wished, that disputes about the best mode of advancing this great improvement in legislation, may not prevent any thing being collected. Certainly there are many ways, and probably many right ways of compassing the same design. It is better to begin this work even on an imperfect and exceptional plan than to delay it. For every year's delay is a wrong done mankind, a robbery committed on posterity. The law establishing schools will have no stubborn principles which it will be hard to reform, as time and experience may show the defects. On the contrary, it is to be expected that the most mature system will need frequent amendments.

The great purpose must be to put the means of instruction as generally as possible into the hands of the people. Knowledge like the light of heaven should be common to all.

This business is in New-England chiefly left to the management of the town corporations—which corporations include the inhabitants living in a certain district, commonly about six miles square, and amounting to one two or three thousand persons. The towns are obliged by law to provide school-masters and school-mistresses, of approved character, and who are examined and certified to be well qualified. The time which a town is to provide schooling is longer or shorter in proportion to the number of inhabitants. In case of neglect, the towns are liable to be presented and fined, and it is the duty of all grand-jurors and magistrates to see this breach of the law duly prosecuted.

In Massachusetts, any number of persons, according to their convenience, are formed into a school district and they draw their part of the school money.—But the districts in some instances have been so subdivided as to produce all evils.—Instead of one two or three schools in a town for a long term, six or eight have been annually open at once, and in consequence the school money is soon expended and the children are left destitute of teaching. This defect will perhaps be amended in that State, and the division and the school money for refrained that it may not deprive children of one half their schooling as the case is at present. In framing the law in this State no doubt an eye will be had to this defect. It will be necessary to study the systems of the States where schools are established, and, what is more, to learn the actual operation of those systems. By a due attention to this subject, future enlightened generations will call us blessed.

In No. 55, we inserted a paragraph respecting a treatise on “King, Lords and Commons,” &c.—In No. 56, a paragraph beginning “The men influenced by political and avaricious views,” &c.—the above, and the following appear to be the productions of the same hand:

“NO man (says the Hartford correspondent) who knows the attachment which the great mass of substantial Americans have for that system (the present system of finance) and their determination as well as power to support it, would venture upon the hazardous experiment (of changing it)”—BRavo.—This probable speculator talks as if the soldiers had been cheated out of their courage as well as their pay. Others will think it more the language of impudence than heroism.—That the dealers in certificates and scrip should be attached to systems that have made them in their own conceit the only substantial Americans, no man will doubt. That if their power were under no check but their own will, they would use it not singly in the cause of avarice, but in another that lies near their hearts is equally believed.—Money is their idol. Their extravagant zeal and incoherence to monarchical characters show what is the second object of their prayers and adoration. But it is well for those speculating monarchs, who thus distinguish themselves by all the insolence of upstart ill-got wealth, that their favorite system rests not either on their determination or their power.—It is supported by the disposition of the real mass of substantial Americans to hear the system, bad as it is, as a less evil than to shake the public faith or stability with which it is now implicated. This, ye slaves of society, is the true security ye enjoy for your supercilious splendor and lazy affluence. If you desire not to weaken it be advised by your prudence instead of your arrogance and vanity. Forbear to add the insult of menaces to the injuries which still afflict the ruined patriots whose earnings have enriched you, injuries which still implore the sympathetic indignation of a virtuous and grateful people.

It is often said the government and not the speculators are to be blamed for the injustice, if any has been done, to those who lent their blood and property towards establishing the liberties of their country. But what must be said if the government has been too much in the hands of speculators, or too much under their influence.

SHIP NEWS.

ARRIVED at the PORT of PHILADELPHIA.
Brig Kitty, M'Allister, St. Eustatia
Isabella and Ann, Hampton, ditto
Nancy, Hathaway, Hispaniola
Sch'r Juno, Norton, Boston
William, Knox, Halifax
President, Carhart, Virginia
Sloop Merrimack, Lowel, Newburyport
The brig Ann & Mary, Sweetman, is arrived in the river from Cork, 70 days.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

6 per Cents, 20/2
3 per Cents, 12/1
Deferred, 12/4
Full shares Bank U. S. 37 per cent prem.
1/2 shares, 46

To make room for the important French intelligence published this day, Caullus is further postponed, till Saturday.

Insurance Company.

THE OFFICE of the Insurance Company of North-America commenced business on Saturday last, and will continue open every day Sundays excepted, at No. 119, fourth Front-Street where orders, foreign and domestic, will be duly attended to.