

fentative in Congress from that state, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Joshua Seney, esq.

A petition of William Crow, relative to an improvement in fire arms, was read, and referred to a select committee.

Mr. Parker moved, that the report of the Secretary of War, on the petition of Thomas Withart, should be referred to a select committee. This motion was agreed to, and Mr. Parker, Mr. Gordon and Mr. Ashe appointed.

On motion of Mr. Hillhouse, the report of the select committee on the petition of Ezekiel Scott, was again read, and referred to a committee of the whole on Saturday next.

Mr. Giles moved the following resolutions, viz. Resolved, that the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this House, copies of the authorities under which loans have been negotiated, pursuant to the acts of the 4th and 12th of August 1790, together with copies of the authorities directing the application of the monies borrowed.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause this House to be furnished with the names of the persons by whom, and to whom, the respective payments of the French debt have been made in France, pursuant to the act for that purpose, specifying the dates of the respective draughts upon the commissioners in Holland, and the dates of the respective payments of the debts: A similar statement is requested, respecting the debts to Spain and Holland.

Resolved, that the Secretary of the treasury be directed to lay before this House, an account, exhibiting half-monthly, the balances between the United States and the bank of the United States, including the several branch banks, from the commencement of those institutions to the end of the year 1792.

Resolved, that the Secretary of the treasury be directed to lay before this House an account of all monies, which may have come into the sinking fund, from the commencement of that institution, to the present time, specifying the particular fund from which they have accrued, and exhibiting, half yearly, the sums uninvested, and where deposited.

Resolved, that the Secretary of the treasury be directed to report to this House the balance of the unapplied revenues, at the end of the year 1792, specifying whether in money or bonds, and noting where the money is deposited; that he also make report of all unapplied revenues, which may have been obtained by the several loans authorized by law, and where such monies are now deposited.

Mr. Giles stated in brief the reasons which influenced him in bringing forward these resolutions. The leading motive, he observed, was to obtain information. The resolutions being handed to the Speaker and read. Mr. Giles asked leave to lay on the clerk's table a copy of the reasons which he had offered in their support. No objection being then made, the paper containing those reasons was handed to the clerk; afterwards some members objecting to the proceeding as unprecedented and informal, the paper was withdrawn.

The House then took the resolutions into consideration, and agreed to all of them without a division.

Mr. Greenup laid before the House a representation & resolution from the legislature of the state of Kentucky, respecting the act of Congress making provision for the debts of the United States, so far as respects the assumption of the state debts, and a copy of the instructions to their Senators and Representatives, relative thereto.

In committee of the whole, on the bill to authorize a loan in the notes or certificates of the several states, &c. Mr. Steele in the chair.

Mr. Williamson's proviso was taken into consideration.

Mr. Macon offered another in lieu of Mr. Williamson's; the purport specifying particularly certain notes of the state of North-Carolina, which that state had proffered, and which he proposed should be excluded from the loan now under consideration. The certificates are those issued at Warrenton in 1786; certificates to pay for a militia expedition against the Indians in 1788; and certificates signed Patrick Travers.

Mr. Williamson withdrew his motion, and that moved by Mr. Macon was agreed to.

Several other amendments were moved, but not agreed to.

The committee having gone thro' with the discussion of the bill, rose and reported it with sundry amendments. The House took the same into consideration—and agreed thereto.

Mr. Mercer then renewed his motion for a proviso, respecting assignments or transfer of state certificates; the object is to exclude from the loan all certificates so transferred or assigned, from the first day of January 1793, to the first day of June following.

Some further debate took place—it was urged in support of the motion, that the provision now to be made for a certain description of public creditors, is merely a benefit; in conferring which, the government had a right to annex what conditions they thought proper; that it was the duty of the legislature to take measures to prevent those at a distance from the seat of government from being speculated upon, to their great injury and loss; that imputations have been thrown upon the members of the legislature, in respect to the advantages taken of the uninformed on the first assumption; and therefore, as an opportunity is now offered to the House to purge themselves of all suspicions of improper motives, the amendment ought to take place. In answer to the objection on the proviso's being retrospective, it was said, that it had relation to such assignments or transfers only, as have taken place since this act originated.

principle only it is to be justified. It was further urged, that the proviso was unconstitutional, having a most manifest retrospective operation, interfering with contracts which the parties at the time had a most undoubted right to make, and thus altering the value of their property; it was reviving the principle of desecration between the original holders and the assignees, a principle that had been so pointedly reprobated by a large majority of the legislature on a former occasion.

The Ayes and Noes were moved on Mr. Mercer's proposition; but the debate continuing till after three o'clock, the House adjourned without calling the names.

THURSDAY, January 24.

After reading and referring several petitions, the House resumed the consideration of the bill authorizing a loan in the notes or certificates of the several states, &c. The amendment moved by Mr. Mercer, respecting transfers and assignments, was further discussed—A long debate ensued—The question being at length taken, it was negative. Ayes 30—Noes 33. The Ayes and Noes being as follow:

- A T E S. Mess. Ashe, Baldwin, Clark, Dayton, Findley, Grove, Griffin, Gregg, Giles, Greenup, Heister, Jacobs, Kitchell, Niles, Lee. Mess. Macon, Madison, Mercer, Millidge, Moore, Orr, Page, Parker, Steele, Schoonmaker, Treadwell, Venable, White, Williamson, Willis. 30.

- N O E S. Mess. Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, B. Bourne, S Bourne, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Huger, Hartley, Hillhouse, Kittera, Key, Lawrance. Mess. Livermore, Learned, Leonard, Murray, Muhlenberg, Sterrett, W. Smith, Sturges, J. Smith, Sumpter, Sylvester, Sedgwick, Tucker, Thatcher, Ward, Wadsworth, 33.

Mr. Gerry moved an amendment, by the addition of a clause, to recognize and provide for receiving on the loan the new emission bills, so called—This motion was not seconded, and fell of course.

Mr. Williamson moved, as an amendment, to add the following words to the second section, for supplies furnished, or services rendered, during the late war. After some debate, this motion was negative. Ayes 29—Noes 30. The Ayes and Noes being as follow:

- A T E S. Mess. Ashe, Baldwin, Boudinot, Clark, Dayton, Findley, Grove, Giles, Greenup, Heister, Kitchell, Macon, Moore, Madison, Mercer. Mess. Murray, Muhlenberg, Niles, Page, Parker, Schoonmaker, J. Smith, Steele, Treadwell, Venable, White, Williamson, Millidge, Orr, 29.

- N O E S. Mess. Ames, Barnwell, Benson, S. Bourne, Bourn, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Hartley, Hillhouse, Huger, Jacobs, Kittera. Mess. Lawrance, Learned, Livermore, Sedgwick, W. Smith, Sterrett, Sturges, Sumpter, Sylvester, Thatcher, Tucker, Wadsworth, Ward, Willis, Leonard, 30.

Mr. Dayton moved to amend the first section, by altering the same so as to postpone the commencement of the subscriptions to the loan to the 15th of January 1794.

Mr. Gerry made some observations in opposition to this motion.

The House, without taking a question on it, Adjourned.

FRIDAY, January 25.

Mr. Muhlenberg presented the petition of Julius Kirper, praying compensation for losses and services during the late war—read and laid on the table.

Mr. Parker brought in a report on the petition of Thomas Withart, the purport of which is, that the petitioner be allowed the pay of a Lieutenant, from the 15th Nov. 1776, to 15th Oct. 1781.

A bill to provide for the adjustment of the claim of Joseph Henderson against the United States, was twice read, and committed for to-morrow.

A bill granting further compensation to certain receivers of continental taxes, on motion, of Mr. Giles, was taken up in committee of the whole—Mr. Key in the chair—The object of this bill is to grant an additional allowance to such receivers as continued in service after

Dec. 31st, 1782. After some observations from several members—the committee rose and reported the bill without amendment—The House took the same into consideration, no motion of amendment being made, the question was, on engrossing the bill—This was opposed—and after some remarks, was determined in the negative—ayes 22, noes 24—by which decision the bill is lost.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to authorize a loan in the notes or certificates of the individual States, &c.

Mr. Dayton's amendment to postpone the subscriptions to the loan to January, 1794, was further discussed—the object of which is, that the balances on the settlement of the accounts shall be known and reviewed, if it shall be thought necessary, previous to the commencement of the loan. This amendment was carried in the affirmative—Ayes 39—Noes 20.

An amendment, by way of proviso, was moved by Mr. Boudinot, the object of which is to give a preference in the loan to certificates issued expressly for services and supplies during the war—this was adopted.

Mr. Tucker moved another proviso; the purport of which is, that certificates, issued in lieu of certificates given for services and supplies, should be considered as original certificates—This was not agreed to.

The question on engrossing the bill was determined by ayes and noes—these being equally divided, viz. ayes 32, noes 32—

The Speaker gave the calling vote in the affirmative. [The Ayes and Noes shall appear in our next.] Adjourned till to-morrow.

Philadelphia, Jan. 26.

Extract of a letter, dated Liverpool, Nov. 7, 1792. Enclosed are the returns of the prices of corn, copied from the London Gazette. This port, we expect, is not to open this month to foreign wheat.

We are informed, that the Electors of the State of Kentucky, voted for GEORGE WASHINGTON and THOMAS JEFFERSON, as President and Vice-President of the United States.

Capt. Henly, who was supposed to be killed, at the time his party was attacked and defeated on the Cumberland path, is now a prisoner at Will's town, in the Cherokee nation.

Milton, in his Areopagitica, or Treatise on the Liberty of unlicensed Printing, has this fine energetic Sentence, which may be applied to the French Revolution:—"Methinks I see in my mind a noble and puissant Nation, rousing herself like the strong Man after Sleep, and shaking her invincible Locks; methinks I see her an Eagle renewing her mighty Youth, and kindling her undazzled Eyes at the full and Mid-Day Beam; purging and unsealing her long-abused Sight at the Fountain itself of heavenly Radiance, while the whole Flock of timorous and Noisy Birds, with those that love the Twilight, flutter about, amazed at what she means, and in their envious Gabble would prognosticate a Year of Seets and Schisms."

The word Republican, according to a late definition of the term, in a letter, said to be written in London, ought to be scouted as well as the word Aristocrat.—In that letter, Republicans, Tories and Aristocrats, are represented as animals of one and the same species—the word Democrat only, conveying the true idea of a real friend to liberty and equality.—What Tyrants our most enlightened and patriotic citizens are in the school of politics!—Surely mankind have been mistaken in supposing that the belittled and belittling inhabitants of the United States could exhibit any originality of character, or any example from which the European world could take a hint with advantage—No, this never can be.

The import of certain strictures on the conduct of the Chief Magistrate of the Union amounts to this—Superior merit may repeatedly concentrate the suffrages of all the people of the United States in his favor in a most unexampled manner—but from that moment, it is a degradation of the republican character, for an individual to pay him common respect.

The tables are fairly turned—The example of the United States has been proposed for the imitation of all the rest of the world—but it seems we are now left in the rear by our Gallic allies, in the glorious race of Liberty; and their example is in turn, constantly cited by some superior friends to the rights of man for a model to this country.—We may very shortly expect to hear that experience is the most treacherous guide in politics—honestly hardly dares shew her head at the present time.—

Every point gained by the present Congress, conducive to the protection and preservation of the public credit, may be justly considered as tending to contracting the sphere of speculation—for though there can be little doubt but that a majority of the next Congress will be influenced in their decisions by those principles of honesty and public faith, which have governed their predecessors, yet from present appearances it is but natural to anticipate a variety of manoeuvres to subvert the funding system, in such manner as again to open the flood-gates of that reprobated business.

No government can trifle with the public credit with impunity. The ideas of honest men on this point, are as transparent as the rays of truth—they are always just, delicate and exquisite—An adherence to the plain maxims resulting from these principles, will prove the salvation of a country, when every other internal resource is exhausted. It is to be hoped there will never be found a class of men in this country who will be so hardy as openly to propose applying the sponge to the public debt—but it is but one remove from this to excite suspicions of the public honor.

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HAVING been desired to establish a post-road from Reading, in the state of Pennsylvania, to Williamsburg, at the Great Forks of the Genesee river, Notice is hereby given, that proposals will be received at the General Post-Office, for carrying a weekly mail between Reading and Williamsburg aforesaid, by the following route, to wit: the Great Road now improving between Reading and the town of Northumberland; from the latter place to Loyal Sock creek; thence to Lycoming creek; thence in the new road to the Painted Post, on Tioga river; and thence to Williamsburg.

The proposals will be received until the 15th of March next, inclusively; the carriage of the mail to commence within one month afterwards.

Necessary Post-Offices are to be established on the route, and such persons appointed Postmasters as the Contractor shall name, and the Postmaster-General approve.

Within three months after the carriage of this mail is commenced, the Contractor is to state to the Postmaster-General the days and hours of its arrival and departure at and from the principal Post-offices, which experience shall prove to be most convenient; and thereafter the mail is to be delivered at the respective Post-offices at the hours so fixed, unavoidable accidents excepted, on penalty of one dollar for each hour's delay; and for the non-performance of a trip, the Contractor to forfeit twenty dollars.

The term of the contract cannot exceed eight years. During its continuance the Contractor is to receive the rates of postage by law established, and to have the exclusive privilege of carrying letters and packets for hire, such excepted, as shall be sent by a special messenger, or which are or shall be by law declared free. TIMOTHY PICKERING, P. M. G. General Post-Office, Jan. 22, 1793.