

light appeared, they were attacked, ran in confusion, made not the least resistance, and their commander, the brave Oldham, was slain in attempting to rally them.

A few moments before the flight of the militia, the troops were dismissed from their posts (where they had been standing under arms at least two hours) for the purpose of cooking their victuals; when the first thing that announced the approach of the enemy, was the militia plunging through the river, almost a quarter of an inch thick of ice, and the Indians, with horrid yells, at their heels. The army was surrounded in a few minutes, and a dreadful and deadly fire commenced; the soldiers stood to their tackle, charged, drove the enemy, returned to their line and charged again when ordered; and, as the gentleman from North-Carolina says, "they fought like regulars, stood like regulars, and, poor fellows, they died like regulars." But had the militia acted as regulars, by obeying orders, and firing on the enemy as they advanced, and given time for the army to display into an offensive position, instead of a defensive one, they would have advanced on their enemy like regulars, fought like regulars, and conquered like regulars.

I hope, from these statements of facts, that every unprejudiced person will allow, that the militia was the principal cause of Harmer's rubb, and St. Clair's defeat.—Dwelt as I have so long upon the defeat of regular armies, it is almost time to say something of militia victories.

A late one of which has been brought forward to support the argument, that militia is the only species of troops proper to fight Indians. An officer with upwards of 100 militia had been to Fort Jefferson, with a quantity of provisions, &c. for the use of that garrison; on his return he encamped at Fort St. Clair, having under his escort 200 horses; about the dawn of day, on the 6th of last November, he was attacked by a party of Indians, his men flew to a large stockade (which was built for the purpose of securing horses) in the mean time, the enemy caught and carried off all their horses and plundered their camp; however the officer collected 40 or 50 of his men, and engaged part of the enemy, but it was too late, the Indians had gained their point by carrying off their booty, with the loss of only two men. Thus fifty militia out of 100 fought, killed two Indians, lost 200 horses, and all their camp. A brilliant affair indeed!—But a most enormous price to pay for the carcasses of two savages.—Such victories as these, continued for a short time, would exhaust the mines of Mexico or Peru.

I shall make a few more observations before I conclude, concerning this strange idea which prevails in the minds of some respecting regulars and militia. The member of Congress from North-Carolina, reverts to what the militia of his country had done during the late war. He says, they fought from a love of their country, that they were men of bravery, men of principle, &c. &c. And asks, will such men enlist in a regular army? I will answer, that if such men did not enlist in the regular army, when the liberties of their country were at stake, it is not to be expected that they will now enlist and march 6 or 700 miles to fight Indians. If there is an art, or a peculiar method to be practised in fighting in a woody country, cannot a person under subordination, and acquainted with all the duties of a soldier, be taught it as well as a militia man who is under none, and not acquainted with any sort of military duty, who knows nothing more than shooting a rifle, and who will only make use of it against an enemy when he thinks proper? Indeed, I think a musket ball, fired at an Indian behind a tree, would do as much execution as that of a rifle.

A regular, well organized and disciplined army, is the only one we can expect success from. Such that, by order, can in an instant be thrown into any position, that can be divided into a number of parties, march in different directions, though in presence of an enemy, and return to their line only by the beat of a drum or sound of a trumpet. Will militia do this? Did they ever do it? No, not all the drums and trumpets in the victorious French army, would ever rally or stop a routed militia. When I hear of the ashes of those heroes, who gallantly fell at their post the fatal 4th of November, raked up to be put in competition with a corrupt, infective militia, it makes me shudder. I will allow militia to have supported one post well, that is, the old adage,

"Those who fight and run away,
Will live to fight another day."

And farther I will allow them,

"That when a fight becomes a chase,
They win the fight who win the race."

Jan. 17, 1793. C. LYTUS.

FROM THE UNITED STATES CHRONICLE.

Mr. Wheeler. THERE was a time when the name of Louis the XVIIth. re-echoed from one extreme of these States to the other—when loud Hosannahs and Te Deums were sung on the joyful birth of the Dauphin:—"When ten thousand swords would have vaulted from their scabbards to revenge an insult" against the character of so good, so just a Prince. America was then indebted, and she was grateful: but peace soon lulled all remembrance to sleep; and Gratitude, that heaven-born virtue, like all the qualities of the human mind which lay dormant a length of time, seems almost entirely to have forsaken our shores.

The very man who has even sacrificed his Crown, by his efforts to emancipate this Western World; now lies like a common malefactor alone and confined in a close, disagreeable prison, or Ballide; deprived of the sweet cheering society of his wife and children—denied the social converse of a feeling friend. In con-

stant fear of the horrid assassination of his family, by the enlightened mob of Paris, or in dread of a mock trial and an ignominious death: And yet there are even among us, Americans, who now publicly insult his misery, by rejoicing at his fate.

In what language call ye this Gratitude?
Z.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

BANKS.

CONGRESS is blamed for giving a charter to a Bank. It is really curious to track the objections of the party to this measure.—Sometimes the Bank is blamed for giving, by its discounts, assistance to speculators—and then by checking them when the prudence of the Directors suggests that it is necessary—trade, say they, is disappointed and injured. It is a mint, say they, for paper-money, and the increase of bills reduces the value of property by the over quantity of the medium. Yet the same men favor the establishment of State Banks.—These we see are multiplying daily—and if too much paper shall be issued, and the discounts shall be, as they certainly will, more irregular and more risky to the several Banks, in proportion as their number is increased, they stand ready to show how much evil has ensued from the Bank of the United States. Yet one such Bank cannot be denied to be useful—to be necessary, probably fully adequate to the wants of this country for its circulation. All that is done by the several States over and above what is enough, it is evident will be an evil, and the blame ought not to rest on Congress, be the consequences ever so distressing to the citizens.

Men of sense and experience will render a benefit to the public, by turning their attention to the consequences of the insupportable rage for Banks. Excess in every thing is an evil. There is no dispute that one Bank equal to the circulation of the United States, is capable of affording the most substantial benefits to trade. Having such a Bank, you have all. The subject is not made better by being mixed up, and the business of banking broken into a number of institutions independent of each other—and what is worse, rivals. It is evident, and capable of strict demonstration, that two Banks cannot circulate paper, and make discounts, as safely, as liberally, and as regularly as one Bank. It is true, and experience is beginning to convince us, that in regard to the commercial advantages of banking, by making more Banks, you have less accommodation. There is a common prejudice which seems to be respectable—that competition is as necessary to banking as to other branches of business. This is not true. Rivalship cannot give either of the Banks greater ability to circulate and make discounts: by increasing the hazard, each is less able. Competition therefore takes away the means of lending, nor is it more necessary to make them willing to lend. Profit is a sufficient incentive to loan all they can with safety. In both views, competition in banking is injurious to the lenders and borrowers.

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

MR. PENNO.

WHILE Liberty and Equality, Peace and the Rights of Man, are all the rage at the Eastward, we hear with pleasure that our Southern brethren are not far behind them:—not even a Mr. is admitted to precede his name at the present day—while their fable fellow creatures are frequently addressed, "Citizen Caesar," or "Citizen Pompey, clean my boots, &c. &c."—This may be well—but to hear the Auctioneer cry, "twenty pounds for Citizen Alexander—who bids more?" seems to be carrying the joke too far in a free country.

A CIT.

Foreign Affairs.

PARIS, November 1.

A GREAT many Prussians and Austrians present themselves daily before the Council General of the Commons, claiming the promised bounties; but in future, a strict inquiry is to be made into their characters, as the greater part of them are suspected to be enemies in disguise.

In the sitting of the Jacobin club of the 31st ult. poor Louis and his family were again made the topic. "Let us clamour," was the cry, "till the whole race be exterminated, and let the mode that shall be adopted for the trial of the Capets, be the precedent for trying all tyrants!"

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

NOVEMBER 12.

In the session of the 6th a letter was read from the commissioners sent to the frontiers of the Peyrennes. They announce that the organization of the army of the Peyrennes goes on rapidly and successfully. Ten thousand men, they say, are sufficient to render the frontiers of the Upper and Lower Peyrennes impenetrable. He adds, that they have re-established unanimity among the Basques, and denounce a number of abuses which prevail in different administrations and in the civil and military tribunals. They have given the Basques liberty to assist at the Primary Assemblies.

A letter was read from several patriotic societies in England, signed by Maurice Margatrot, President; and Thomas Hardy, Secretary.

LONDON, November 18.

Thursday a report was current in the city, which occasioned a considerable depression of the stocks, that Mr. Pitt had resigned, in consequence of being pressed to promote a liquidation by parliament of the Prince's debts. Stocks fell 3 per cent. in consequence of this report. We are happy in being enabled positively to state, however, that it is wholly without foundation. The payment of these debts is a point which a certain late great law lord has strenuously urged, but which has

been as strenuously resisted; and his royal highness has resolved to adopt a mode of liquidation more honourable to himself.

The success of the French in Flanders may likewise have operated to depress the funds; for their success seems to threaten the safety and tranquility of every country, whether friend or foe.

The productive state of the revenue of the year 1792, so greatly exceeding that of last year, causes the many conjectures as to what Mr. Pitt will do with the money. Another halfpenny a pound on the candles, it is generally thought will certainly take place; and the next burthen which the minister is said to have in view to ease the public from, is the duty either in part or in toto, that caused the rise of the halfpenny on the porter. But more than the halfpenny on the candles, it is certain, may and will be taken off.

A wag, some time ago, advertised a carriage to perform without horses, with only one wheel, and invited the curious in mechanics to see it. Many of the members of the society of arts attended, and in the ardour of expectation were shown—a wheelbarrow.

Tuesday night died, at Long-Ashton, in Somersetshire, aged 93, the Rev. Dr. Henry Caner, a very respectable character, many years minister of the Episcopal Church of Boston, in New-England. When the American Revolution took place, he was obliged to relinquish his ministry, his country, and his possessions, and took refuge in England, where he has since lived, distinguished by a placid serenity of mind, and a cheerful submission to the various vicissitudes of his existence.

DUBLIN, November 6.

Letters received in London from Turin, mention that General Paoli died at Corfica, of an apoplectic fit.

In many parts of the west of England, a severe epidemic, under the form of Scarlatina Agnosa, has for some time past prevailed in so great a degree, that of many villages, particularly Holdworthy, nine-tenths of the inhabitants have been confined at the same time.

The complaint originated in the very frequent and heavy rains that have almost deluged the country.

We hear that our government and ministry are instructed from the cabinet of St. James's, to grant every reasonable privilege that may be requested by any of his majesty's faithful subjects at the opening of the session; a circumstance that must rejoice all true friends to this country, which then and only then, can enjoy its natural and local advantages, at present cramped and smothered by political prohibitions and partial laws.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, January 21.

Sketch of the Debate on the bill authorizing a loan of the balances due on a final settlement of accounts from the United States to individual States.

Mr. GILES moved, that the proviso in the second section of the bill should be struck out, respecting the assent of the individual States to the new loan, as it does not agree with the idea precisely, contained in the resolutions on which the bill was founded; and adverting to the proviso contained in the funding law respecting these balances, he observed, that the bill now reported interfered with the disposition of the balances, whereas that law has vested the disposal of them exclusively in the several States.

Mr. Fitzsimons said, that there was a variation in the proviso in the bill, from that in the original resolutions, which had accidentally taken place; he said, that the variation was certainly not in order, and he therefore moved, that the proviso in the bill should be amended so as to conform to the resolutions.

Mr. Sedgwick remarked, that the gentleman last speaking was undoubtedly right in respect to the point of order, but he did not draw the same conclusion: The proviso in the bill may vary from that in the resolutions; but if it more completely comports with the ideas of a majority of the committee, he saw no good reason for not adopting it. He added some observations on the remarks of Mr. Giles, which he considered as making it a question, whether the government should literally comply with its engagements or not—this, he hoped, would never be made a subject of debate in the legislature of the United States.

Mr. Fitzsimons said, he hoped the amendment which he suggested, would take place.

Mr. Clark observed, that he thought the bill was altogether wrong; he moved therefore, that it should be re-committed. Mr. Clark entered into a general consideration of the subject, but spoke unusually low.

Mr. Lawrence was in favour of the committee's rising; he cited an instance in point, which occurred the last session.—A select committee on the census had exceeded the limits of the principles agreed to in the committee of the whole, the bill they reported was accordingly re-committed; the house would not then consent to altering the bill in the House, as it would sanction a deviation from established principles.

Mr. Murray was opposed to the committee's rising; he saw no occasion for it; the variation is merely verbal, and can be easily corrected.

The question for the committee's rising was put, and agreed to. They accordingly rose and reported progress. On motion, the committee of the whole was discharged. The bill was then re-committed to the select committee, which reported it. The requisite alteration being made, the bill, as amended, was reported to the House, twice read, and referred to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Steele again in the chair.—The committee proceeded in the discussion of the bill.

Mr. Mercer, after stating that various unfriendly remarks were made on the government, and on particular members, in consequence of the former assumption; and informing the committee that there was a large sum of the paper money of a particular State in this town, which was selling at 10s. in the pound, observed that this bill would probably appreciate the value of that paper perhaps to 20s. in the pound. In order, therefore, to give the fullest information to the people of the United States, and to prevent those at 7 or 800 miles distance from being defrauded, he moved an amendment, the object of which was to prevent certificates which have been transferred within a certain period from being subscribed to the loan.

Mr. Fitzsimons said, as he had brought forward the resolutions on which the bill was founded; he thought it incumbent on him to notice the observations advanced by the gentleman in support of his motion. He remarked, that with respect to the general sentiment of the people, perhaps he knew as little about it as others; but this he knew, that if unfavourable impressions had not been made, it was not because attempts had been wanting for that purpose, on the part of individuals within these walls.—With respect to himself he felt no solicitude; but if any member of this House knew of any facts of the kind alluded to by the gentleman, let the person who knows of such things boldly come forward and charge openly the guilty, with respect to the present motion, he would have no objection to it, provided it did not interfere with the general provisions of the bill.

Mr. Bourn said, he should be in favour of the motion, provided it was practicable; but he did not see how it could be carried into execution.

Mr. Williamson supported the motion. He said it met his approbation so far as it would conduce to protecting the original holders of the State debts from such speculations as they suffered by, at the time of the former assumption.

Mr. Sedgwick remarked on the rapid rise of the value of the paper, in consequence of the former assumption, and said, that considering what human nature was constituted of, the speculations alluded to, and which he had lamented as much as any man whatever, were to have been expected. He then adverted particularly to the remarks of Mr. Mercer, in which he had said he had his suspicions even of the members of the House. Mr. Sedgwick said, the ears of members had been often assailed by insinuations and suspicions of the base conduct of individuals in this House, as speculating in their own measures, if, said Mr. Sedgwick, there is so base and infamous a character within these walls; if there is one member of this House who has been guilty of this abominable conduct, of plundering his constituents of their property, in the manner represented, let his name be mentioned, let the man be pointed out. From the part he had taken in this business from the beginning, and from the suggestions which had been circulated, he had some reason to suppose it might be intended to implicate him in the charge. He could not help feeling himself called upon to notice such indiscriminate insinuations, such attempts to affix a stigma on particular characters—men whose reputation is their dearest possession. Mr. Sedgwick then offered several objections to the motion; he remarked that its tendency would be to keep open the door of speculation.

Mr. Mercer replied to Mr. Sedgwick; he observed, that his remarks were directed to human nature at large; he considered it as a point not to be controverted that temptation, in proportion to its extensive and flattering prospects, would always have an influence; for himself, he could never wish to have his own honour and integrity put to the test. He subscribed to the sentiments of Mr. Sedgwick respecting the sacred nature of reputation, and repeated the lines from Shakespeare—"He that robs me of my good name, &c.

Mr. White said he disapproved of the principle on which the amendment was brought forward. He believed the aspersions on the members of Congress, were totally unfounded.—He did not doubt but speculations had been carried on to a very great extent, during the dependence of the funding system; but this could not be avoided; men would venture according to their opinion of the final event of the measure—and prices would consequently fluctuate. When the proposition for discrimination was brought forward, the price of paper fell; when it was rejected, the price rose again. It was probably the same with regard to the State debts, in the various stages of the business; but surely no suspicion of improper conduct could fall on those who voted uniformly either for or against the measure. Indeed the above has generally fallen on those who opposed the assumption in the extent first proposed, and voted for it as finally modified. These were but five in number; they were easily known; three yet retain their seats, two are of the same State with the gentleman who offered the amendment, and are not now members of the House; that he was of the number, and he was confident that no man applying the charge of speculation to himself or to any one of those who voted with him, would believe there was the shadow of truth in it; but he would attend to the discussion; and however he might dislike the reason assigned for offering the amendment, if he found any good likely to arise from it, would give it his vote.

Mr. Mercer's remarks brought up several other members, who severally, adverted to the circumstances attending the passing the funding act, shewed that tho' they had voted for the system, that they were not influenced by personal considerations.

The motion of Mr. Mercer was repeatedly modified and altered, and then further debated.

Mr. Barnwell said, he disapproved of the motion; it appeared to be a very extraordinary