

principle he considered the bill as establishing a dangerous precedent, and as affording a pretext for future infractions and mutilations of that system.

Mr. Murray adverted to certain observations which had been thrown out respecting the uneasiness which was said to exist in some of the States, informed the house, that with respect to the State he had the honor to represent, the greatest apparent satisfaction with the measures of the general government prevailed.—It is true, said he, my constituents feel the pressure of taxes in common with the rest of their fellow citizens, but they discover no disposition to complain—they consider the public burthens as the price of their liberties and independence; and under this idea, submit to them with the utmost cheerfulness, at the same time confiding in the wisdom and justice of the government, that their impositions will be regulated according to the exigencies of the nation, and that no unnecessary taxes will ever be laid.

He tho't it necessary to say thus much, as he conceived too high colouring had been given to some representations which the fancy of members had brought forward in their zealous opposition to the bill.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Otis their Secretary, informed the House that they have concurred in the resolution for a joint committee to count the ballots returned by the executives of the several States for President and Vice President of the United States, and have appointed Messrs. King, Izard, and Strong. A memorial of Gideon Brownson and a petition of Fielder Victor, were read, praying compensation for military services. Referred to the Secretary of War.

Mr. Clark laid the following resolution on the table, viz.—That a committee be appointed to prepare and establish a bill to regulate fees in the Office of the Treasury for the transfer of public securities.

Mr. B. Bourn brought in a report on the memorials of sundry persons concerned in the manufacture of cordage, lines, twines and packthread. This report was in favor of the memorialists, and was referred to a committee of the whole for to-morrow.

In committee of the whole, on the bill providing compensation for the President and Vice President of the United States.—Mr. Dayton in the chair. The bill being read, was discussed in paragraphs; some verbal amendments were agreed to. The first blank, referring to the President's compensation, was filled with 25,000 dollars.

Mr. Kitchell moved to strike out "dollars per annum," referring to the compensation of the Vice-President, in order to insert dollars per day during his attendance in the Senate.—Some remarks being offered in opposition to the motion, it was withdrawn.

The blank for the compensation of the Vice-President was filled with 5000 dollars.

A motion to limit the act to the term of four years was negatived. This motion was made by Mr. Kitchell.

The committee rose and reported the bill with amendments, which were taken into consideration by the House and agreed to.

Mr. Mercer renewed the motion for limiting the bill to four years from the 3d day of March, and moved the ayes and noes.

Mr. Mercer supported the motion by some remarks on the impropriety of the present Congress anticipating the proper business of their successors; on the dangerous precedent which would be established by empowering the supreme executive to continue his salary in opposition to the opinion of the legislature. He considered the bill without this clause as unconstitutional.

Considerable debate took place on this motion, and the ayes and noes being at length called, it was determined in the negative, ayes 27 noes 33, the ayes and noes being as follow—

A Y E S.	
Mess. Alhe,	Mess. Macon,
Baldwin,	Madison,
Clark,	Mercer
Findley,	Moore,
Giles,	Muhlenberg,
Gordon,	Parker,
Gregg,	Schoonmaker,
Griffin,	Steele,
Grove,	Sumpter,
Hartley,	Sylvester,
Heister,	Treadwell,
Jacobs,	Venable,
Kitchell,	White,
Lee,	

N O E S.	
Mess. Ames,	Mess. Murray,
Barnwell,	Niles,
Benson,	Page,
Boudnot,	Sedgwick,
S. Bourne,	J. Smith,
Bourn,	I. Smith,
Dayton,	W. Smith,
Fitzsimons,	Sturges,
Gerry,	Thatcher,
Gilman,	Tucker,
Goodhue,	Wadsworth,
Hillhouse,	Ward,
Huger,	Williamson,
Key,	Greenup,
Lawrance,	Leonard,
Learned,	Hindman,
Livermore,	

The following bills were read twice and committed for to-morrow:

A bill to refund to Jacob Bell, certain duties on pickled fish.

A bill for the remission of the duty on a quantity of wine, the property of W. and J. Simms.

A bill for the relief of Simeon Thayer.

Mr. Moore, of the committee upon enrolled bills, reported that the two bills signed yesterday by the Speaker were this day laid before the

President of the United States for his approbation, and signature.

A report on the petition of Robert Eden, was taken into consideration, agreed to, and a committee appointed to report a bill.

The report on a petition of the inhabitants of Newark was taken up in committee of the whole—Mr. Murray in the chair. The report was read, and is in favor of the petitioners, who pray for compensation for an academy destroyed during the late war.

A motion was made that the committee should agree to the report. After some debate the question being put, the motion was negatived. The committee rose and reported accordingly, and the house adjourned.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

A bill for the relief of Elijah Bostwick, was read twice, and committed for Monday next.

A bill providing compensation to the President and Vice-President of the United States, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Boudnot presented the petition of John Green, which was read.

A memorial was presented by Mr. Sumpter, from the officers of the South-Carolina line of the late army—similar to those from the officers of other States—read, and laid on the table.

A number of reports on petitions from the Secretary of War, were read, and ordered to be printed.

On motion, the committee on the petition of John Rogers was discharged, and the petition referred to the Secretary of State.

In committee of the whole, on the bill for granting half pay for years, to the widows and orphans of those officers of the army which have been killed since the day of or who shall hereafter be killed in the service of the United States. Mr. Dayton in the chair.

The bill being read, Mr. Hartley moved to fill the blank with the 4th day of March, 1789.

Mr. Williamson moved to strike out the words "of the army," and insert, in the service. This motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hartley's motion was then put and carried. The blank referring to the term of half-pay, was filled with five years.—It was moved to add after "officers," non-commissioned officers and privates.—After some debate, this motion was agreed to.

Another motion was made and carried, to extend the provision to the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the militia. Several other amendments were agreed to, and then the committee rose and reported the bill as amended.—Laid on the table.

Mr. Clark's motion for a committee to prepare and bring in a bill to establish fees in the Treasury Department, for the transfer of public securities, was taken up, agreed to, and a committee appointed to report a bill.

Mr. Parker presented a memorial from the merchants and inhabitants of the town of Norfolk, respecting the increase of infirm and disabled seamen, and praying that some provision may be made in the case. Read, and referred to the committee of the whole on the bill making provision for sick and infirm seamen.

Mr. W. Smith gave notice that he should call the attention of the house to the subject of making provision for the reduction of the public debt, on Monday next.

In committee of the whole, on the bill to remit the duties on a quantity of wine, the property of W. and J. Simms. Mr. White in the chair. The bill was reported without amendment. The House took the same into consideration. After some debate, the question for enrolling the bill was put, and lost.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Otis, their Secretary, informed the House that they have considered the bill relative to certain claims not barred by any act of limitation, and concur therein with an amendment. This amendment being taken into consideration, was agreed to.

Another message from the Senate informed the House, that they have passed the coasting bill, with sundry amendments. Also, that they have considered the bill for determining the Northern Boundary of the State of North-Carolina, and resolved that they do not concur therein.

Mr. Moore reported as truly enrolled, the bill entitled, An act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of masters. The Speaker signed the same.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

SATURDAY, Feb. 9.

Mr. Jacobs presented the petition of James Becker, which was read and laid on the table.

The petition of Sarah Groaton, presented by Mr. Ames, and the petition of Peter Rockyfellow, presented by Mr. Lawrance, were read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Wadsworth presented a petition of the French inhabitants of Gallipolis, praying to be established in their right to the lands on which they have settled, and for which they have paid, relying on the faith of the government of the United States. This petition was referred to a select committee of five, viz. Messrs. Wadsworth, Sedgwick, Findley, White and Barnwell.

Mr. Heister, from the committee on enrolled bills, reported as truly enrolled, the bill relative to claims against the United States, not barred by acts of limitation. The Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Willis presented a memorial from the Georgia line of the late army—read, and laid on the table.

A message from the President of the United States, by Mr. Secretary Lear, informed the House that the foreign intercourse bill had received his approbation and signature.

The House took into consideration the amendments of the Senate to the coasting bill—these being read, on motion they were referred to a select committee to examine and report.

In committee of the whole, Mr. Dayton in the chair, the report of a select committee on the petitions of the manufacturers of cordage in Philadelphia and Providence, was taken into consideration. This report contains two resolutions, which propose a drawback on exported cordage, lines, twines and packthread, made of imported hemp. After considerable debate, the question on the two resolutions was put, and they were separately disagreed to. The com-

mittee then rose and reported accordingly, and the House adopted the report.

A message from the Senate informed the House, that the act for regulating foreign coins, and for other purposes, had received the approbation and signature of the President of the United States.

A bill to establish fees to be paid on the transfer of public securities, was twice read, and committed for Tuesday next.

In committee of the whole, on the bill for the relief of Simeon Thayer. Mr. Steele in the chair.—The bill was read by the chairman—one amendment was made, which, with the bill, was reported to the House.—The House agreed to the amendment—the bill was then ordered to be enrolled.

The committee to whom the amendments of the Senate to the coasting bill were referred, recommended verbally an agreement with the Senate—on which the House took the amendments into consideration, and concurred therein.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Otis, informed the House, that they have considered the bill to authorize the settlement of the accounts of Lewis Garanger, and do not concur in passing said bill. Adjourned.

MONDAY, February 11.

The bill for the relief of Simeon Thayer, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. White presented two petitions from French inhabitants in the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio. Referred to the committee on the petition of the inhabitants of Gallipolis.

A petition of the administrators of William Camp, late of New-Jersey, was read, praying compensation for sundry buildings burnt in the town of Newark by the British during the late war.

Mr. Thatcher presented the petition of Wm. Morton, of the District of Maine, praying an exemption from the payment of 112 dollars and 36 cents, due from him to the United States, for reasons offered. Referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

A representation was read from the Post-Master-General, stating certain inconveniences attending the transmission of the mail thro' the State of New-Jersey, in consequence of a law of that State, which subjects stage coaches to a tax. Referred to the committee on the post-office law.

Mr. Heister, of the committee on enrolled bills, reported as truly enrolled, An act for licensing and enrolling of ships or vessels employed in the coasting trade, and for regulating the same.—And an act providing compensation for the President and Vice-President of the United States. The Speaker signed the same.

Mr. W. Smith, of the joint committee appointed to determine on the mode of counting the votes for President and Vice-President made report—which is, that the House should repair to the Senate chamber on Wednesday next, at 12 o'clock, and there the tellers to be appointed should count the votes—and that the President of the Senate should declare the persons elected. This report was accepted, and Mr. W. Smith and Mr. Lawrance appointed tellers by the House.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Otis, their Secretary, informed the House, that they have passed the bill providing compensation for the President and Vice-President of the United States.

In committee of the whole, on the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, containing a plan for the reduction of the public debt.—Mr. Dayton in the chair.

A debate ensued on reading the report, occasioned by a motion that the committee should rise. At 3 o'clock the committee rose, reported progress, and had leave to sit again. Adjourned.

Foreign Affairs.

FRANCE. NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Letter from Gen. Kellerman. Paris, November 29.

Citizens Representatives,

I AM going to carry to the Romans the blessings of Liberty, which has been too long exiled from their country. I shall cause our motto to be strictly observed:—War to castles, peace to cottages, and respect to the masterpieces of the arts. I ask only one favor of the National Convention, that is, if calumny should pursue me, that I may be allowed to confound my calumniators. KELLERMAN.

DUBLIN, December 4.

Yesterday morning, the Catholic Delegates met at the Taylors'-Hall, Back-lane, to consult on the best mode of carrying into effect the measure for which they were chosen; which, after all the clamorous misrepresentation and invective, to which they have given rise, is nothing more than simply this: To prepare a petition to the Legislature, laying before them the humble request of all the Catholics of Ireland, that in consequence of their tried loyalty, and long continued uninterrupted good conduct, they may be admitted to the rank of citizens, and share, in common with their countrymen, the advantages of the Constitution.

BRUSSELS, Nov. 30.

Extrait of a letter.

Gen. Dumourier entered Liege on the 28th, after a very long and obstinate engagement, fighting even to the very streets of the town. The action, however, has been attended with little loss on either side.

PARIS, December 12.

The following is an extract of the report of the Commune, concerning the transferring LOUIS CAPET, to the Bar of the National Convention.

"At one o'clock the Mayor and Secretary went up into the apartment of the late King, and said to him, "I am charged to declare to you, that the Convention wait for you at their Bar, and I am appointed to conduct you." The Secretary then read these words, "Decree of the National Convention, of the 6th of December: ART. 5. LOUIS CAPET shall be brought to the bar of the National Convention on Tuesday the 11th, to answer the questions which shall be put to him by the President." This being done, the Mayor asked Louis if he would go down, he appeared to hesitate a little, and said, "My name is not Louis Capet; my ancestors bore that name, but I never was called so; it is however, like all the treatment I have experienced these four months past by force. This morning my son has been separated from me, it was an enjoyment of which they have deprived me. I have been expecting you these two hours."

The Mayor, without returning any answer, invited him again to go down, which he determined at length to do. Being in the carriage, which was lined with thick cushions in order to be musket proof, he kept silence all the way, till the carriage was stopped by some misunderstanding among the guards, who escorted him on the Boulevard.

When he was near the gates of St. Martin and St. Dennis, he asked if these two triumphal arches would not be demolished? He was answered that the gate of St. Dennis, being a master-piece, would be preserved.

He arrived at the Convention at 2 o'clock.—He appeared dressed in a brown great coat, and did not seem at all troubled. The Mayor and Procureur de la Commune were on each side of him; behind him were Santerre, Berryer, and other officers. After his interrogation, he was conducted into the Conference Hall, and accepted a bit of bread, observing that he had not broken his fast. He afterwards got up into the Mayor's carriage, and spoke little on his return. There was a very numerous armed force, but the concourse of people was not so great as might have been expected.—The greatest order and silence reigned among the guards and spectators.

He arrived at his apartment at half past six. He repeatedly asked the Mayor, that the Decree granting him a Counsel, which was refused to nobody, might be speedily communicated to him. It has since been resolved in the commune, that Louis should have no further communication with his family, and that his Counsel should hold their conference with him alone, and always in the presence of the Municipal officers.

Louis has chosen for his Counsel, Target, and in his default Tronchet.

TRIAL OF THE KING. NATIONAL CONVENTION.

DECEMBER 11.

The sitting commenced by reading the Act of accusation against Louis XVI which was presented by Barbaroux, in the name of the Commission of twenty-one. It contained an enumeration of the principal charges made against the unfortunate Monarch; and each charge was followed by a list of the pieces on which the proofs are to be founded. When it was read, several new charges were proposed by several of the members, and some which appeared to have little weight, or to be ill founded, were expunged.

The Convention were much surprised to hear Marat become its some measure the voluntary defender of Louis XVI. by requesting that all those charges alluding to crimes committed before his acceptance of the Constitution, should be omitted in the act of accusation. He spoke also of the amnesty which followed that acceptance, but the Convention paid no attention to his observations.

The Convention decreed that the act of accusation should serve as the ground of those questions which were to be put to Louis XVI. and that after each question the President should say to him WHAT HAVE YOU TO ANSWER? The President was authorized also to propose such questions as might arise from the King's answers, and to make him sit down at the bar.

Barrere the President announced to the Convention that Louis XVI. was at the door, and requested the Representatives of the People to assume a dignity worthy of the grandeur of their functions. He reminded them, that they formed a tribunal on which the eyes of Europe were fixed, and whose sentence would be judged by posterity. He forbade them to shew any signs either of approbation or disapprobation, and desired them to remember that coolness and silent dignity with which they received the King after his return from Varennes.

At half past two Santerre informed the Convention that Louis was arrived, and was waiting the orders of the Assembly.

The President gave the order to introduce him. The most profound silence reigned in the Hall. Louis appeared at the bar, attended by two Municipal Officers.

When Louis appeared at the bar, the President mentioned to him the decree by which the Convention established a tribunal to try him. Malhe, one of the Secretaries, read the act of accusation, charge by charge, and at each the President asked Louis what he had to say in his own defence? The unfortunate Monarch did not, like Charles I. of England refuse to acknowledge the authority of the Convention; he delivered no speech, and contented himself with giving answers to each question in a few words. He asked for copies of the act of accusation, of the pieces which are to serve as proofs, and of his own examination; and requested also that he might be allowed Counsel.

His answers were in general pertinent and short, nor did he appear in the least embarrassed. He replied with great readiness, and at some questions appeared a little chagrined.