

as countenance the enquiry into the state of the public resources, have been often branded with the epithet of antifederal. And this appellation hath been liberally bestowed upon them by the fiscal faction.

It is of importance to the community to know, to whom this epithet in truth belongs. The cry is no criterion by which to judge. The perpetrator of a felony, is usually more vociferous in his exclamations than his pursuers themselves.

The constitution enacts, "that a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time." An account of public monies and funds is here explicitly directed by a constitutional mandate. Can it be imagined, that the only individual capable of complying with it, and actually provided by law as the instrument for it, is the only individual entitled to an absolution from the injunction?

The Secretary admits that this account hath never been produced, but asserts, "that until the last resolutions, no call has been made upon him, which rendered it proper to exhibit a general view of the public monies and funds." He is deaf to the voice of the constitution, although in this instance its lungs are exerted in the loudest and most articulate tone.

Such accounts were designed as a check, and do certainly militate powerfully against monarchy and aristocracy;

First. By counteracting corruption, and money-influence of every kind in the legislature.

Secondly. By producing economy, lessening taxes, and diminishing the number of tax-gatherers, whose interest generally unites them with administration.

Thirdly. By obviating the acquirement of exorbitant wealth, from the temporary use of public money.

Is the genius of the constitution monarchical or republican? Who are most federal—those who join their voice to the call of the constitution, or those who are deaf to this fundamental remonstrance?—Let the impartial judge. The apology of the Secretary in its best view, is an acknowledgement that he has been guilty of a suppression, in violation of the constitution.

But it is proper to enquire, whether this suppression has been accidental or systematic?—If the former, a plain, placid, intelligible statement of the public funds may be expected. But if a system hath been confided by the enquiry, passion, artifice, perplexity, will be resorted to in its defence.

Let a scoldist in politics and human nature, reflect on the following indications of this letter, and doubt if he can, whose image and superscription it bears.

It selects the individual member, who moved for the enquiry into the state of the Treasury, as the object of newspaper animadversion; although the tacit breach of the constitution by the Secretary, and the rejection of a proposition of like import at the preceding session, conspired in stimulating him to do his duty.

It is in the file of a remonstrance from a constituent, who "acquiesces in the sufficiency of motives," but yet censures the act itself.

It censures the reasons leading to the resolutions; it admits of the sufficiency of the motives inducing the resolutions; it censures the resolutions as requiring an impracticable compliance; it still promises to perform this impracticability; and having easily effected it, boasts of a success, which "must obviate every idea of a balance unaccounted for." What is this but one tissue of contradiction?

It amuses people, by a labored explanation of an ingenious contrivance, by which two millions may be turned and turned, until the result is—0.

It endeavors to change the object of enquiry, by soliciting the public attention to an examination of the accuracy of a conjectural statement:

And it concludes with an injunction upon the members of Congress to wait upon his officers for information, lest their enquiries should turn out to be insignificant, especially if founded upon a "voluntary disclosure" of the Secretary himself.

The motives and effects of these indications, deserve some portion of the public attention.

What member of Congress will in future move for a "statement of the receipts and expenditures of public money," if he is to be dragged into a newspaper controversy, and exposed to the odium and abuse of the paper faction, set on by the master of the pack?

When Congress itself is accused in a majestic file of condescension (if the expression is allowable) does it not evince a reliance upon some hidden influence? Especially should Congress shrink from its own act, and surrender at discretion one of its own members, as a hostage for their future good behaviour.

Are not contradictions, and uninteresting transmutations of fiscal entries, indicative of a design to deceive and mislead?

Is not the attempt to detach the public eye from its true object, suspicious? The lure often decoys a whole flock of pigeons from their safe line of progress, into the net of the merciless sportsman. And is not an attempt to avoid public enquiries, by a reference of individual members to fiscal officers, designed to continue the present darkness of the public mind, as to the knowledge of public funds?

Fellow citizens, piece these circumstances together, and extract the result for yourselves.

Democracy delights in public knowledge—Simplicity ought to be the garb of her fiscal arrangements—with inviolability she reveres and fulfills the constitution, because it is the will of the people—She is jealous of the independence of the legislature, collectively and individually—She abhors artifice, perplexity, and intrigue—with alacrity and perspicuity

she gives an account of her conduct—and she exhibits public funds in dollars and cents for every passer to view.

A contrary conduct cannot be the effect of accident; it is the result of political system, and ignorance itself, unblinded by interest, cannot find a difficulty in discovering what that system is.

FRANKLIN.

February 15.

MR. FENNO,

THERE is a curious statement re-published in your last Gazette, from the American Daily Advertiser, respecting the states who voted against Mr. Adams, and against the doors of the Senate being shut. Admitting the statement to be correct, which is not the fact, what does it prove?—It proves this—that Mr. Adams is re-elected Vice-President, by a large majority of the states—and that a large majority of the states have not expressed an opinion respecting the opening of the Senate Chamber Doors.—But it would puzzle any one to find out the least connection between these circumstances. Are the sentiments of the Vice-President on the question of opening the doors, ascertained hereby? or rather, does it not clearly appear, that a majority of the states agree in opinion with the very large majority of the Senate. It is granted that the majority is nothing, when put in competition with the views of party.

\* North-Carolina, it appears, divided on the question—as well as South-Carolina and Maryland—and one of the Georgia Senators was absent.

MR. FENNO,

The following extract from the New-Brunswick Advertiser, is recommended to the perusal of the candid investigators of the Day. Yours, Z.

IN free governments, where men enjoy the right of judging for themselves, diversity of sentiment respecting public men and measures must be expected, and is, indeed, unavoidable. This diversity however, is attended with good or bad effects, according to the principle from which it flows. If the agent be an honest and candid enquirer, his object be truth and information, he will be ever open to conviction—and, when convinced, will think it no dishonor to retract and acknowledge his error. But on the contrary, if his mind be darkened by prejudice, he guided by selfish views, or actuated by party spirit, his opinion, however erroneously formed, no course of reasoning nor of facts can induce him to forego. He may be refuted, but will never be convinced; truth may dazzle him by its brightness, but will never radiate or cheer. To attempt conviction under such circumstances, would be labor unprofitably bestowed.

AN ADDRESS

Of the GRAND LODGE of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS for the Commonwealth of MASSACHUSETTS,

TO THEIR HONOURED AND ILLUSTRIOUS BROTHER GEORGE WASHINGTON.

WHILST the historian is describing the career of your glory, and the inhabitants of an extensive empire are made happy in your unexampled exertions—whilst some celebrate the Hero, so distinguished in liberating UNITED AMERICA, and others the Patriot who presides over her Councils, a band of brothers having always joined the acclamations of their countrymen, now testify their respect for those milder virtues which have ever graced the Man.

Taught by the precepts of our Society that all its Members stand upon a level, we venture to assume this station, and to approach you with that freedom, which diminishes our diffidence, without lessening our respect: Desirous to enlarge the boundaries of social happiness, and to vindicate the ceremonies of their Institution, this Grand Lodge have published a "Book of Constitutions," (and a copy for your acceptance accompanies this) which, by discovering the principles that actuate, will speak the eulogy of the Society—though they fervently wish the conduct of its Members may prove its highest commendation.

Convinced of his attachment to its cause, and benevolent designs, they have taken the liberty to dedicate this work to One, the qualities of whose heart, and the actions of whose life, have contributed to improve personal virtue, and extend throughout the world, the most endearing cordialities; and they humbly hope, he will pardon this freedom, and accept this tribute of their esteem and homage. May the Supreme Architect of the Universe protect and bless you, give you length of days, and increase of felicity in this world, and then receive you to the harmonious and exalted Society in Heaven.

JOHN CUTLER, Grand Master.

JOSIAH BARTLETT, Grand Wardens.

MUNGO MACKAY, Grand Wardens.

Boston December 27, A. D. 1792.

ANSWER.

To the GRAND LODGE of FREE and ACCEPTED MASONS for the Commonwealth of MASSACHUSETTS.

FLATTERING as it may be to the human mind, and truly honorable as it is, to receive from our fellow-citizens testimonies of approbation for exertions to promote the public welfare—it is not less pleasing to know, that the milder virtues of the heart are highly respected by a society whose liberal principles are founded in the immutable laws of truth and justice.

To enlarge the sphere of social happiness is worthy the benevolent design of a Masonic Institution. And it is most fervently to be wished, that the conduct of every member of the fraternity, as well as those publications that discover the principles which actuate them, may tend to convince mankind that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race.

While I beg your acceptance of my thanks for the "Book of Constitutions" which you have sent me, and for the honor you have done me in the dedication, permit me to assure

you, that I feel all those emotions of gratitude which your affectionate Address and cordial wishes, are calculated to inspire.—And I sincerely pray that the GREAT ARCHITECT of the Universe may bless you here, and receive you hereafter in his Immortal Temple.

G. WASHINGTON.

LAW OF THE UNION.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, AT THE SECOND SESSION, Begun and held at the City of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, on Monday the fifth of November, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

An ACT to continue in force for a limited time, and to amend the Act, intitled, "An Act providing the Means of Intercourse between the United States and Foreign Nations."

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the act, intitled, "An act providing the means of intercourse between the United States and foreign nations," which would expire at the end of the present session of Congress, be, and the same hereby is, together with this act, continued in force for the space of one year, from the passing of this act, and from thence, until the end of the session of Congress then, or next thereafter holden, and no longer.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That in all cases, where any sum or sums of money have issued, or shall hereafter issue, from the treasury, for the purposes of intercourse or treaty, with foreign nations, in pursuance of any law, the President shall be, and he hereby is authorized, to cause the same to be duly settled annually with the accounting officers of the treasury, in manner following, that is to say: by causing the same to be accounted for, specifically, in all instances, wherein the expenditure thereof may, in his judgment, be made public; and by making a certificate or certificates, or causing the Secretary of State to make a certificate or certificates of the amount of such expenditures, as he may think it advisable not to specify; and every such certificate shall be deemed a sufficient voucher for the sum or sums therein expressed to have been expended.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

APPROVED, FEBRUARY 9, 1793.

GEO. WASHINGTON,

President of the United States.

Foreign Affairs.

MILAN, Nov. 15.

THE government of Austria Lombardy having offered the pay of thirty-two sous and a half per day (about thirteen pence sterling) to every volunteer that chose to go to fight the French, who threatened to invade that country, such was the enthusiasm among the people, and particularly among the inhabitants of the mountains, to defend their country against the invaders, and so many crowded to the places of rendezvous, that it was expected an army of more than one hundred thousand of the ablest fighting men would be formed in a very short time.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

DECEMBER 1.

LETTER FROM GEN. DUMOURIER.

Liege, Nov. 28.

"AT the head of the bravest troops in the universe, I attacked yesterday morning at seven o'clock the rear guard of the Imperialists, commanded by Gen. Staray, and consisting of 12,000 men at least. I had not so many for a great part of the day, but when the whole of the National Army displayed itself, the enemy thought of retreating, after having been forced in six villages with the loss of their General.

"Prudence, and the shortness of the day, prevented me from entering the city. I entered it at nine this morning, and it is impossible for me to describe the joy and the delightful sensations which the inhabitants experienced at our arrival—Republican ideas have here the same characters of reason and energy in France. I dare affirm, that in four days a National Guard will be perfectly organized, and that in fifteen Liege will have a National Convention. The French army shews itself every day more and more worthy of the cause which it supports, and deserves that you should attend to its wants. Our loss does not exceed 15 or 20 men killed or wounded—that of the enemy to 5 or 600 at least, among whom they

have to regret, above all, Gen. Staray. Defectors are arriving continually.

"I have taken up my lodgings in the Palace of the Bishop of Liege, who went off precipitately at three o'clock yesterday morning. I shall cause Citizen Jolevet to take an exact inventory of the papers he has left.

(Signed) DUMOURIER.

"P.S. Lieut. Col. Philip Devaux is the bearer of these dispatches."

Kersant moved, that a letter of thanks might be sent to Gen. Dumourier; but this was opposed by several members, who said it would be time enough when he had finished his career.

The committee of public instruction was ordered to draw up a general address to all the armies, and their commanders.

Gen. Dumourier's Aid-du-Camp being admitted to the Bar, said, I cannot yet officially announce to you, that the citadel of Antwerp is taken, but I can assure you that it has surrendered.

December 14. Further particulars were read from the commissioners sent to the Belgic army. On the evening of the 8th of December, there was in the army chest 445,000 livres in specie, and 243,000 in assignats. The inhabitants of the country will not receive assignats, which proceeds from a number of forged ones having been circulated by the emigrants. On Saturday night Dumourier waited on the commissioners, and laid before them a letter from the war minister, relative to the march of the army. He told them his views differed from those of the executive council, and that he wished some old experienced officers to decide which were the best. The army has plenty of provisions, and is only in want of clothing and forage. Their shoes are of a very bad quality, the leather tearing like paper. The men, however, are all anxious to march, notwithstanding they are almost naked.

LONDON, December 4.

The news from the northern parts of the kingdom appear to be the most alarming. In Scotland there have been several insurrections, but of no other importance than that they shew the turbulent disposition of some of the people there. In Yorkshire, particularly at Sheffield, in Northumberland, and in Durham, a spirit of riot has shewn itself. In imitation of the French, the general cry among these rioters is, let us have a more equal division of property, for why should one man be richer than another?

The number of seditious clubs in and about the metropolis, has likewise become a serious evil. But such is the vigilance of government, and so strong is the spirit of loyalty in the people to support the constitution, that we have no reason to be under very great alarm.

One hundred and twenty persons mostly Irish, are forming a plan of an intended republican system for Great-Britain, at White's hotel in Paris. Paine and Gen. Santerre are alternately chairmen.

Domestic Articles.

BOSTON, Feb. 6.

The Regent of Sweden, in recognizing the French Republic, acted rather prematurely. The proper time for such a measure will be when the new constitution of France is adopted, and in operation. When this takes place, the government of the United States will, if possible, be the first to acknowledge and cordially to congratulate her sister.

Capt. Snow, who arrived here yesterday, in 27 days from Martinico, informs, that on the day he sailed, a capitulation had been agreed upon, that the National Flag of France should be substituted in the room of the Aristocratic Flag, the next day; and that on the same day the Flag was hoisted at Guadaloupe. That the downfall of the late spirit of rebellion was complete, and that the market for American produce was good.