

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

Continuation of the proceedings of the learned PANEGYRISTS.

ON the third day of February, 1793, agreeable to appointment met, the Hon. J. S. Esq. the Hon. J. N. Esq. J. H. M.D. P.C. &c. and the Hon. A. J. D. Esq.—The first business being to appoint a chairman to maintain order, it was proposed by the Hon. A. J. D. Esq. "that as Doctor H. possessed a voice of uncommon tones, and such as could be known amongst ten thousand, he should be chairman during the readings; for, (said the Hon. A. J. D.) as much talking will be necessary during the critiques, if all the remaining three should speak at once, which is very probable, the Doctor's call 'to order,' might be easily distinguished." This speech had its due effect, and the Doctor was appointed chairman during the readings.—The Doctor being provided with a bung-driver, by the Hon. J. S. for the purpose of assisting him in preserving order, took his seat at the head of the table, and commanded the Hon. J. S. the owner of the study, to open the business of the evening by reading his poem. The Hon. J. S. Esq. taking off his hat, arose agreeably to command, and opening a large parchment somewhat like a knap-sack, selected from twenty-one others, the fairest copy of his poem, (that being the last copy, it had consequently the fewest blots and visible alterations and amendments) and read as follows:—

To the Hon. T. M.—, Esq. Governor of the State of Pennsylvania; a great and virtuous Patriot, and my loving friend.

O D E.

MY mighty Genius! what'er thou be'st, Whether divine, or human, bird or beast! For best and bird, Oft have I heard, Great power possesse, and great sagacity, And in a millstone far as man can see; Witness that bird, by vulgar call'd, a Goose, That, squatting near the wall, Of Rome's great Capitol, Which her enemies in ire Coming to set on fire, Quickly smelt the Rat, And wisely from her squat His long neck stretch'd, and round the City spread the news. And stories like to this I think I've read, Of beasts too, but my head Being full of greater things, I can't just now The tales repeat, tho' there are such I know. My mighty Genius! now I say again— But for my wandering strain I ask your pardon, which I hope you'll grant— As well you know we men by Fancy's fire Spur'd on, of words ne'er feel the want, Nor like dull, snail-pac'd Pedants, stick in the mire, But as our Fancy pricks our Nobs, we chant. Oh! thou who hast prefid'd o'er my fate! And got me wondrous honor from the state— Yes! wondrous honor! for Ah! who but thee, Could ever have procur'd the feat for me! That feat which when my friend Oe-l-rs came, 30 He told me gave Equire to my name— For thus he said, "Shquoire Shw—n—k you'se got in, "Pye turdy fotes we did de lection win," Who? who but you with skill and power so fraught, Could'er the Woodfawyers and Porters taught 35 To act their part so wisely and so well, And for my work their votes so nobly sell? None! none but you! I freely do confesse, And you, my guardian Goddess, you alone I blefs! Thanks to your magic arts, 40 Which, with my dinner and my wine, Burst ope the gateway of the people's hearts, And made them wholly mine! Yet ah! dear Goddess! leave me not I pray! For should my face, 45 Beseft of thy sweet grace, By sad mischance betray my inward heart; Much, much disgrace, I fear, at next election will take place, In spite of all my cunning art, 50 And my dear honors shall be hild away. Ah! as the Bible says, I feel That prayer at certain times is good; For now my blood Creeps thro' my veins meandering like the eel; 55 And now like bottled beer it works, And soon shall drive the corks, That all the passus stop. Where rush like porter, fountains, inspirations, up. Now, Thomas, listen now, for now my Ode, 60 Shall rush abroad, In sounds as loud and sweetly fine, As when the nine, Beside Penassus's hill, Their voices join, 65 And sing in concert with the Heliconian rill. Or shall I say, To give Imagination play, Loud as o'er the wall, The mill-pond waters roaring, floundering fall? Hark! hark! Tom! Thou art great and glorious! Hark! hark! Tom! For thou art victorious! Thy enemies now may muster, 75 And threaten, and bluster, But still our G-v-n-r thou shalt remain, As long as I thy smile and nod can gain. For thee, I've toil'd both day and night, dear Man, For thee, of a New Bank I've drawn the plan; 80 And more, dear Tom! that great man—G-l-t-n, So famous for his knack of taking in The wife, long-headed woodmen I have bro't To vow fidelity, and with me vote: Nay—so far have I tutor'd him, that he 85 Swears what'er my plan, that, his shall be. And such great Tom! my art is, tho' a Poet, I'll cram It down the Countymen's deep gullets, I say and I'll show it, 90 And make it taste as sweet as fat young pullets, Or sweet as of whiskey, a cold-morning's dram.

This done, Oh! master Tom! what halt to fear? This done, thou shalt retain thy stately chair, Regardless of the hues and cries, 95 That friends to honesty may raise; Regardless of the squinting eyes, That hate to see thy glory blaze. Oh! Thomas! Thomas! long mayst thou preside O'er Pan-syl—a and thy loving tribe; 100 Long shall they love thee, and I'll make the tide Of Popularity forever run, Strong in thy favor as the heat o' th' sun, For thy e'erlasting love—a trifling bribe.

When the reading of the above Ode was finished, its various beauties were illustrated by a refinement of taste and acuteness of judgment, peculiar to the learned Club of Panegyrist.

N. B. Those illustrative Critiques shall appear in a future number.

Q U E R E C, Dec. 31.

Monfr. Panet, Speaker of the House of Assembly's address to His Excellency Major General Clarke, our present Governor, &c. &c. &c.

Dec. 29, 1792.

I HUMBLY pray YOUR EXCELLENCY to consider that I cannot express myself but in the primitive language of my native country, and to accept the translation in English of which I have the honor to say— My incapacity being as evident as my zeal is ardent to see that so important a duty, as that of the Speaker of the first Assembly of the Representatives of Lower-Canada, be fulfilled; I most respectfully implore the excuse and command of YOUR EXCELLENCY in the name of our Sovereign Lord the KING.

I most humbly claim, in the name of the same Assembly, the freedom of speech, and generally all the like privileges and liberties, as are enjoyed by the Commons of Great-Britain, our mother country.

That the proceedings of the Representatives may receive the most favorable construction, and that whatever the speaker shall say, which might be taken in evil part, may be imputed to his ignorance and not unto the Assembly: that he may resort again to their House for declaration of their true intent, and that his error may be pardoned.

Lastly, that as often as necessary for his Majesty's service and the good of the Commonwealth shall require, he may, by direction of the House of Assembly have access to the person of his Excellency the Governor of this Province.

Signed in form

J. A. PANET.

Mr. Abel Learned and Mr. Ward Bailey, on the new road from the Province Line, on the Connecticut river, to this Province, on Monday last arrived in this City; they took their route on horses, by which they came to the River Chaudiere; they estimate that, two hundred miles shorter than the former route.

A correspondent observes the House for the reception of the Members, who represent the Counties, &c. of Lower-Canada, appears like the British House of Commons in miniature;—The Speaker's seat is decorated with an elegant King's arms at the back;—the seats for the members, are formed with elegance and propriety;—the Gallery is well supported with fluted columns of the Ionic order, and will contain at least 100 people;—the anti entrance and room for strangers who may have business, made neat, warm, and comfortable, and the road spacious and level.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, February 11, 1793.

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

The report being read— Mr. Giles adverted to the imperfect state of the information before the House, relative to the state of the funds, particularly as the resolutions calling for this information had not yet been complied with, and he was apprehensive the requisite statements would not be furnished during the present session—This being the state of things, he thought the committee were not in a situation to go into a discussion on the subjects of the new loans, and new taxes, without further light: he moved therefore that the committee should rise. This motion was seconded.

Mr. Fitzsimons was opposed to the motion; After briefly stating the importance of the subject, the general expectation of the people that something would be done the present session relative to a provision for reducing the public debt; the duty of the government to avail itself of the right reserved to it of paying off a part of the debt; the state of the treasury; the material information already received from the Secretary; the actual surplus in the treasury, &c. concluded by saying, that he hoped the committee would not rise, but go into a discussion of the subject, take up the propositions offered by the Secretary, and adopt or reject them, as their merits shall dictate, or agree to others which may be brought forward by any member of the committee.

Mr. Smith (S. C.) alluding to the speech of the President of the United States, respecting this particular object, and the answer of the House thereto, gave a short account of the progress of the business in the House; it had been neglected ever since the 30th November, though the Secretary's report has been in its possession ever since that period.

For the committee then to rise, would be tantamount to a relinquishment of the object of the present session. He stated several particulars to shew that it was probable the existing funds would be adequate to the object in some degree, without being obliged to have recourse to new

taxes. He said, that he had been informed a gentleman of the committee had prepared some resolutions relative to the business; he hoped therefore, that the committee would not rise, but that the gentleman would produce his resolutions; that the committee would take them into consideration, and at least take such steps in the business, as would manifest some disposition to meet the wishes of the people, and justify the professions made by so great a number of the members of the legislature.

Mr. Giles repeated his objections arising from the imperfect state of the information before the House—Adverting to the President's speech, he said, the propositions before the committee were in direct opposition to the speech. The speech does not contemplate any new taxes, but the reverse. The propositions directly propose them. He was as much disposed as any member to go into measures for a reduction of the debt, it was an object he much desired; but he called on gentlemen to shew how this could be done with any propriety, when the most important and most necessary information respecting the funds is not in their possession.

Mr. Lawrance adverted to the resolutions brought forward a few days since by Mr. Giles; and going over them one by one, he asked what connection the present subject had with a solution of the principal part of the enquiries contained in those resolutions? The most important information expected from the requisitions contained in the resolutions, he observed, was in the possession of the House, particularly that, which had any aspect on the present business. He was opposed to the motion for the committee's rising.

Mr. Mercer said, he saw no good end that would result from the committee's rising. Had he the least suspicion that the project of the Secretary of the treasury would be adopted, he would be one of the last that would rise in support of a motion to go into the discussion at the present time; but he had no such expectation. He then entered into a consideration of the documents before the House, received from the Secretary of the treasury; he observed they were inaccurate, defective and imperfect; they do not furnish the requisite information as to the expenditures of the public monies which have been already paid by the people. He shewed the impropriety of laying any new taxes until satisfaction was had relative to the sums already paid; the people would not consider their interest consulted until this was done. He then urged several reasons in favour of a postponement of a permanent provision for the reduction of the public debt, till a more competent representation was on the floor; that it was extremely improper for the relics of an imperfect representation at the close of the session, to go into the consideration of so important business. He professed his wishes that provision should be made for the reduction of the public debt, and concluded by suggesting, that a temporary provision only, be made the present session; further than this he thought it would be improper to go in the present state of affairs.

Mr. Fitzsimons observed, that the gentleman last speaking furnished him with an opportunity to suggest to the consideration of the committee some ideas he had revolved in his own mind, respecting a temporary provision. He then pointed out resources within the controul of the legislature, that might be applied to this object, without recurring to new taxes, specifying the sum that would be wanted to begin the operation, he mentioned a particular surplus, and the bank dividend as being adequate to the object.

Mr. Clark said, he wanted information as well as the gentleman from Virginia; but he saw no use in the committee's rising; they would get up where they sat down, if they should now rise. He wished the propositions which had been mentioned were brought forward, that they might be considered; but there was another business which he thought had a prior claim to attention, and that was the debt due to the bank: in December that business was pushed with great zeal; since that time nothing had been said about it—this appeared mysterious.

Mr. Lawrance rose to explain the state of the business respecting the debt due to the bank. The subject had been suspended, in order that the House might receive complete information as to the state of the public funds.

Mr. Page offered some general remarks on the report of the Secretary of the treasury, which he said, was considered by many persons as exceptionable in all its parts. He had his objections to it. He wished the whole subject to revert to the consideration of the legislature, and had therefore seconded the motion for the committee to rise, as the most delicate mode of giving the business the go by.

Mr. Madison defended an observation brought forward by Mr. Giles, which was that there was a manifest impropriety in bringing forward abstract propositions for discussion, when it was not known what consequences were involved in the adoption of those propositions. Mr. Madison stated a variety of particulars to shew that such abstract propositions are improper. He professed his wishes that some provision should be made for reducing the debt; he believed his colleague was sincere in his professions to the same purpose. He recapitulated some of the objections arising from the imperfect state of the information before the House.

Mr. Giles withdrew his motion; his object in doing so was to give an opportunity for bringing forward the propositions which had been alluded to.

Mr. Fitzsimons, after offering some remarks in answer to observations which had been made, tending to impeach his consistency and sincerity in the present business, read two propositions; the purport of which is, That an annual fund be constituted, to consist of 103,199 dollars and 6 cents, to begin to accrue the first Jan. 1793; and that a loan to the amount of 550,000 dolls. be made.

These being read by the chairman, Mr. Giles renewed his motion for the committee to rise.

Mr. Madison objected to these resolutions as being abstract propositions. Mr. Venable objected to them; he informed the committee that in the course of the discussion he should move to apply the sinking fund to the object now under consideration.

Mr. Mercer objected to diverting the sinking fund from its appropriate object. The Committee rose and reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

WEDNESDAY, February 20, 1793.

Another communication from the Secretary of the treasury was received, made pursuant to the resolutions of the 23d ult. this being read, it was ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Secretary Otis, with the bill making appropriations for the support of government, for the year 1793, passed the Senate with amendments.

Mr. Heister reported two enrolled bills, viz. An act to authorize the Comptroller of the treasury to settle the accounts of Thomas Wigham; and an act to authorize the adjustment of the claim of Joseph Henderion against the United States—the Speaker signed the same.

The amendments of the Senate to the appropriation bill were read, and laid on the table till to-morrow.

The House took up the bill received from the Senate, in addition to the act to establish the Judicial Courts of the United States.

Mr. Murray withdrew his motion to insert an additional section respecting special bail, in order to its being made the subject of a separate provision.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Murray then moved, that a committee should be appointed to prepare and report a bill to regulate the mode of taking bail in certain cases; to regulate the recovery of costs against informers or relators in certain cases; to point out the mode in which suits for penalties under the revenue laws of the United States, shall commence—to extend transcripts of judgments from one district to another, and to regulate the costs of fees in the commitment of witnesses.—Laid on the table.

Mr. Muhlenberg called up his motion for a committee to bring in a bill for fixing the time of the next annual meeting of Congress—This motion being agreed to, Mr. Muhlenberg, Mr. W. Smith and Mr. Sedgwick were appointed the committee.

The report of a committee on the petition of the French inhabitants of Gallipolis, was taken into consideration. This report, being favourable to the petitioners, was adopted, and the committee which made it, were directed to bring in a bill.

The report of a select committee on the petition of James Warrington, was taken into consideration. This report concludes with two resolutions.

The report was agreed to, and a bill directed to be brought in.

The amendments to the bill, to regulate invalid pensions, were taken into consideration.

The House voted not to recede from their disagreement to one of the amendments proposed by the Senate; they receded from the other.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, February 21.

Reports from the Secretary of the Treasury on the petition of Rawleigh Downham, and Oliver Towers, were read, the former was referred to a select committee, the latter laid on the table.

A bill was read twice, and committed, making an appropriation to defray the expense of holding a treaty with the hostile Indian tribes.

Sundry reports were read from the Secretary of War, on petitions from the widows and orphans of officers killed in the service prior to the 18th May, 1778, and from officers and soldiers wounded and disabled since that period, these reports are favourable to the petitioners.

Mr. Murray's motion for a committee to bring in a bill to provide for certain judicial objects was agreed to, and Messrs. Murray, Boudinot, and Smith of Vermont, were appointed.

A letter was laid before the House from the Secretary of State, relative to a message from the President of the United States to Congress of the 14th of February 1791, on the subject of the commercial intercourse of the United States, with foreign nations—-which message had been referred to him by the House.

The letter states that a report on the subject is prepared, but suggests the idea of postponing the consideration of it till the next session, on a supposition that in the interim, he may obtain some information which would conduce to rendering a report on the subject, more complete. This letter was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. W. Smith, Giles, Lawrance S. Bourne, and Baldwin.

The following motion was made by Mr. Clark, viz. Resolved, that the mace of this House is an unmeaning symbol, unworthy the dignity of a republican government; that it therefore be sent to the mint, broken up and the silver coined and placed in the treasury of the United States. This resolution was negatived without a division and without debate. Thirteen members only rising in the affirmative.

A message received from the President of the United States, by his secretary Mr. Lear, informed the House that two acts which originated in the House, had received the President's approbation and signature, viz. An act to promote the progress of useful arts, and to repeal the act heretofore made for that purpose; and an act to repeal part of a resolution of the late Congress, respecting the inhabitants of Post Vincennes.

In committee of the whole on the bill received from the Senate, entitled, An act in addition to and for amending the act, for extending the