

LONDON, December 31.

GENERAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Motions have been made in the National Convention, for placing the troops in winter quarters, and even for recalling the greater part of them into the interior of France; but no measures were taken in pursuance of them. There was also a proposal to place all the Newspapers more immediately under the influence of the Convention, and to appoint Commissioners for making enquiries concerning the authors of them; but upon this the Assembly passed to the Order of the Day.

Marat has been denounced to the Convention by Chabot, for having declared in his paper, though somewhat indirectly, that the French people might find it necessary to elect for themselves a Chief. He immediately mounted the Tribune, and defended himself, in his usual way, with great violence, but, at least, with equal art. A great deal of tumult ensued upon this; after which the Assembly passed to the Order of the Day.

The following character of the King of France, given by Malherbes, one of his Counsel, does both the parties great honor:—

"The King is a man of a lofty character; he has a strong and courageous mind, and he is superior to all attacks. If the King were a Philosopher, or of the religion of the ancient Romans, where a fort of honor was attached to suicide, he might perhaps destroy himself; but he is of the Catholic religion, which forbids self-destruction. He is pious, and as sincere a believer as man can be: the fear of displeasing God will always arrest his arm."

The French, after taking the free and imperial towns of Aix la Chapelle, threw down the statue of the Emperor Charles V. which stood before the town-house, and erected the Tree of Liberty in its place. The French garrison were under arms the whole time; all the inhabitants, however, kept in their houses. This event, together with the addresses from Mayence and Frankfurt, and the commotions manifested in most of the towns of Brabant against the new Republicans, prove that the people are quite recovered from the enthusiasm with which their troublesome guests at first inspired them.

General Miranda, after taking possession of the town of Gueldre, the capital of Prussian Guelderland, levied on the merchants of that town 300,000 Dutch florins; 133,000 florins were levied on the town of Meurs, and also 6000 pair of shoes, 4000 pair of boots, and all the stuffs and cloths that could be found in the shops and ware-houses, for the cloathing of his troops. He took hostages from both towns for what could not be paid him instantly. A contribution of 100,000 florins has been laid on the Abbey of Clostercamp, and two Friars have been taken as hostages for the payment.

The situation of Paris becomes every day more critical. The fits of proseription are renewed and multiplied. Again they have recourse to arbitrary imprisonment, as was practised previous to the scenes of the 2d September. Several Sections are in a state of insurrection; the constituted authorities without power, commerce quite at a stand, and every good citizen is heartily sick of the revolution. But the dread of the scourges of their country obliges them to smother their griefs.

The late Address of the Deputies of the province of Hainault to the National Convention, contains such a remarkable passage, that we are induced to copy it literally from the French Journals. It is as follows:

"Generous Frenchmen, said they, rescind your Decree of the 15th of December, or you speak to us as Conquerors, Masters, Sovereigns, when you yourselves decree the cessation of our Taxes and Public Revenues, which you take into your own hands; and when you order the management of our National Effects, when you pronounce, otherwise than through us, the extinction of our Political Societies or Corporations, when you preferre even the confiscation of private Property, which our former Despots dared not do, when they declared us Rebels, and treated us as such."— So much for French Liberty!!

I can assure you that the public opinion is very much changed in favor of the King since his appearance at the Bar of the Convention. Pamphlets in defence of his conduct are hawked through all the streets, whereas, twelve days ago to have uttered a word in his favor, might have been attended with deadly consequences.

Count Lucchesini is gone to Vienna, in quality of Minister from the King of Prussia.

By an express from Amsterdam, received by Saturday's Dutch mail, we learn that the troops of his Sardinian Majesty have gained a signal advantage over the French in Savoy—that they had taken all their magazines at Sospel; three standards; 50 prisoners, and killed and wounded a considerable number.—The loss of the Sardinians was very inconsiderable.

The Flanders mail of Friday brought an account of a riot at Ostend, occasioned by the inhabitants attempting to cut down the Tree of Liberty, which the French soldiers endeavored to defend. One citizen was killed in the affray.

Letters from Mentz of the 22d ult. say, that the French there are in perfect security; that the Prussians occupy the heights of Nassau, but are in great want of provisions and forage; that there are daily skirmishes, and sometimes a cannonade between the advanced posts of the two armies; and that the King of Prussia has sent to demand a truce for three months, that he may put his troops into winter quarters.

The former government of Geneva is at length completely annihilated. All the aristocratic party have been turned out of their offices, and equality men have been substituted in their stead.

Domestic Articles.

HALIFAX, (N. C.) Feb. 27.

Extra of a letter from Philadelphia, dated Jan. 23. "The motions of Mr. Steele and Mr. Giles have roused the House from their confidential slumbers, and Mr. H. will be puzzled to obtain his new tax, notwithstanding his established influence, and the active assistance of his eastern j-k-ks. This politician is for keeping up Old Mars' Indian farce, because it furnishes a pretence for new loans and additional taxes—when these objects are obtained, he will write an elaborate report on the evils of war, and the ruinous policy of military establishments—and join the cry against the hunted Secretary, until that unfortunate instrument of his projects is fairly lodged in the toils—a trifling peace-offering to the public odium!

BOSTON, February 23.

SHIP NEWS—EXTRA.

Arrived, ship Diligence from a cruise. The Captain informs, that in lat. 39. 55. long. 00 the Antifederal Fleet, commanded by Commodore Pendulum, met with a severe check, from the Federal Fleet, commanded by Admiral Fabius who had hoisted his flag, on board the ship Integrity. The following are some of the particulars:—The Tinsel, a small ship from North-Carolina, attacked the Mars, an old, tried ship, in the federal service: But the latter, feeling no injury from the pop-guns of the Tinsel did not deign to return a shot—However, the Detector, a fifty gun ship from Connecticut, checked the arrogance of the Tinsel, by pouring a broadside into her, which her commander spitefully returned, and hauled down her colours. The Bluster, a GILLES-gingerbread sloop of war, of Virginia, had the impudence to engage with the Alexander, a first rate, who sunk her immediately by one well-directed Report.

The Ancient Dominion, on board which Commodore Pendulum hoisted his "standard" received a severe fire from the Catulus; which much disordered her upper-works. Some of the antifederal fleet had the temerity to fire at the Integrity, but she being a remarkably hard sided ship, built of true "hearts-of-oak," the shot did not enter, but recoiling, injured the ships who fired them; on which they wheeled off. The Hopeful, a first rate from Virginia, in the anti-service, which was remarkably active at the first of the war, has lately kept much aloof, the Capt. being discouraged. It was said Commodore Pendulum intended to resign, as soon as he arrived in port, being dissatisfied with the service.

The antifederal fleet expected to be reinforced by the Demagogue and some other ships, from Massachusetts: but so far from that, this truly republican and federal state is determined further to add to the strength of the other quadron, and instead of the Demagogue, will send the Patriot of Danvers, a ship well known in the storms of '75, which has weathered many a Gale, and which may be relied on in the hour of difficulty.

* Said to be parallel with the latitude of Philadelphia.

THE PRESIDENT'S BIRTH-DAY.

Was yesterday celebrated, in this town, with all those emotions of festive gratitude, which arise in the breasts of Freeman, who feel grateful, that Heaven has thus far, prolonged the life of a citizen, whose existence is deemed essential to the welfare of his country.

The rising sun of this anniversary of his natal day, was saluted by a discharge of 9 guns, from Liberty Square:

A very numerous company of citizens dined at Concert Hall; and after dinner, among others, gave the following

TOASTS:

- 1. The Day.—May it ever be marked as a Festival in the annals of Freedom.
2. The Hero of the Day—A WASHINGTON to every grateful Country, and a grateful Country to every WASHINGTON.
3. The American Union.—May its duration be limited only by the boundaries of time.
4. The Vice-President and Congress of the United States.—May their panegyric continue to be read in the prosperity of their country.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON. HENRY KNOX.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

In the Minutes of THURSDAY'S Proceedings, it was noticed that Mr. Murray moved to take the Bill concerning Bail, Process and Costs, &c. into consideration, and that the Motion was seconded by Mr. Key. Upon this occasion

Mr. MURRAY suggested the necessity of giving a preference to this bill reported by him some days since. He declared that business prior in point of time; and superior in point of dignity and consequence. The Judicial system was inadequate to the objects of justice or of coercion. Its defects resulted from the difficulty and novelty of the case—and as no nation on earth, had in his knowledge, ever produced by one exertion of wisdom a system complete and efficient, it was not wonderful that the law in question had it imperfections. It was in vain to expect a complete theory of this sort—Wisdom must correct errors where they shall appear; and it will be but by gradual amelioration, that we can expect our system to reach any thing near to practical perfection.—He then offered a bill, which, if the professional men would look steadily at, might be, if not a complete remedy on its several points, at least a bottom on which something good might rise. Bail, whether regarded as to the citizen or the revenue, was a point of high importance, and the appointment of commissioners of bail loudly called for, as a measure to relieve the United States system from an invidious comparison with the systems of the state. The other objects were before the house

in the bill; and if the subject were once steadily attended to he believed there would be no difficulty on the subject. He hoped the resolutions would not now be taken up. They required no concurrence of the Senate—a bill did, and they ought to have time to examine the bill which they would have if the house would attend to the subject.

FRIDAY EVENING, March 1.

The House went into committee of the whole on the resolutions respecting the official conduct of the Secretary of the Treasury, introduced by Mr. Giles. After a lengthy debate, the question Will the committee agree to the first resolution under consideration, was put, and negatived—14 members rising in the affirmative, and 38 in the negative. The next was negatived 35 to 16; the rest were rejected without a division.

The committee then rose, and the Chairman reported that the committee of the whole House had had under consideration sundry resolutions respecting the official conduct of the Secretary of the Treasury, and had disagreed to the same.

The House took up this report, and the question was put—Will the House agree to the report of the committee of the whole, which is to disagree to the resolution in the following words:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the treasury has violated the law passed the 4th of August, 1790, making appropriations of certain monies authorized to be borrowed by the said law, in the following particulars, viz: 1st. By applying a certain portion of the principal borrowed, to the payment of interest falling due upon that principal which was not authorized by that or any other law. 2dly. By drawing a part of the said monies into the United States, without the instructions of the President of the United States.

The ayes and noes being demanded are, ayes 40, noes 12—as follow:

AYES.—Messieurs Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, S. Bourne, B. Bourn, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Greenup, Griffin, Grove, Hartley, Hillhouse, Hindman, Key, Kitchell, Lawrance, Learned, Lee, Leonard, Livermore, Muhlenberg, Murray, Niles, Sedgwick, J. Smith, I. Smith, W. Smith, Steele, Sterrett, Sturges, Thatcher, Tucker, Ward, Williamson, Willis.

NOES.—Messieurs Ashe, Baldwin, Findley, Giles, Gregg, Macon, Madison, Mercer, Moore, Orr, Page, Parker.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury has deviated from the instructions given by the President of the United States in executing the authorities for making loans under the acts of the 4th and 12th of August, 1790.

The question on agreeing to the report for rejecting this resolution—ayes 39, noes 12—as follow:

AYES.—Messieurs Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, S. Bourne, B. Bourn, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Greenup, Griffin, Grove, Hartley, Hillhouse, Hindman, Key, Kitchell, Lawrance, Learned, Lee, Leonard, Livermore, Muhlenberg, Murray, Niles, Sedgwick, J. Smith, I. Smith, W. Smith, Steele, Sterrett, Sturges, Thatcher, Tucker, Ward, Williamson.

NOES.—Messieurs Ashe, Baldwin, Findley, Giles, Gregg, Macon, Madison, Mercer, Moore, Orr, Page, Parker.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the treasury omitted to discharge an essential duty of his office, in failing to give Congress official information in due time of the monies drawn by him from Europe into the United States, which drawing commenced in December 1790, and continued 'till January 1793; and of the causes of making such drafts.

On agreeing to the report for rejecting this resolution—ayes 33, noes 15—as follow:

AYES.—Messieurs Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, S. Bourne, B. Bourn, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Hartley, Hillhouse, Hindman, Key, Kitchell, Lawrance, Learned, Leonard, Livermore, Muhlenberg, Murray, Sedgwick, J. Smith, W. Smith, Steele, Sterrett, Sturges, Thatcher, Tucker, Ward, Williamson.

NOES.—Messieurs Ashe, Baldwin, Findley, Giles, Griffin, Grove, Lee, Macon, Madison, Mercer, Moore, Niles, Page, Parker, I. Smith.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury, without the instructions of the President of the United States, has drawn more monies borrowed in Holland into the United States, than the President of the United States authorized to draw under the act of 12th August 1790, which act appropriated two millions of dollars only, when borrowed to the purchase of the public debt, and that he has omitted to discharge an essential duty of his office, in failing to give official information to the commissioners for purchasing the public debt, of the various sums drawn from time to time suggested by him to have been intended for the purchase of the public debt.

The ayes and noes on agreeing to the report for rejecting this resolution are, ayes 33, noes 8—as follow:

AYES.—Messieurs Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, S. Bourne, B. Bourn, Dayton, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Grove, Hartley, Hillhouse, Hindman, Kitchell, Lawrance, Learned, Leonard, Livermore, Muhlenberg, Niles, Sedgwick, J. Smith, W. Smith,

Steele, Sterrett, Sturges, Thatcher, Tucker, Ward, Williamson.

NOES.—Messieurs Ashe, Baldwin, Findley, Giles, Macon, Madison, Mercer, Parker.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury did not consult the public interest in negotiating a loan with the bank of the United States, and drawing therefrom 400,000 dollars, at 5 per cent. per annum, when a greater sum of public money was deposited in various banks at the respective periods of making the respective drafts.

On the question for agreeing to the report for rejecting this resolution—ayes 33, noes 8. [Names as on the preceding resolution]

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury has been guilty of an indecorum to this House, in undertaking to judge of its motives in calling for information, which was demandable of him from the constitution of his office, and in failing to give all the necessary information within his knowledge relatively to the subjects of reference made to him of the 19th January, 1792, and of 22d November 1792, during the present session.

On the question for agreeing to the report for rejecting this resolution—ayes 34, noes 7—as follow:

AYES.—Messieurs Ames, Barnwell, Benson, Boudinot, B. Bourne, S. Bourn, Dayton, Findley, Fitzsimons, Gerry, Gilman, Goodhue, Gordon, Hartley, Hillhouse, Hindman, Kitchell, Lawrance, Learned, Leonard, Livermore, Muhlenberg, Niles, Parker, Sedgwick, J. Smith, W. Smith, Steele, Sterrett, Sturges, Thatcher, Tucker, Ward, Williamson.

NOES.—Messieurs Ashe, Baldwin, Giles, Grove, Lee, Macon, Madison.

The House adjourned about a quarter of an hour before 12 o'clock, P. M.

SATURDAY, March 2.

A report of the Secretary of the Treasury, on the petition of Lewis Garanger, was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A report was read from the committee to whom was referred the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, complaining of inaccuracies in printing his communications made to the house. This report contains the following resolution, viz. That there be printed under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, 300 copies of his reports made to the House. This resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Boudinot moved the following: Resolved, that the Clerk of the House of Representatives be deemed to continue in office until a successor is appointed—agreed to.

Resolved, that the Doorkeeper and Assistant Doorkeeper of this House be continued in office till successors are appointed—agreed to.

In committee of the whole, on the bill for increasing the salaries of the Auditor of accounts and the commissioner of the revenue—the Register and Comptroller of the treasury were added to the bill—the addition to the salaries of the two first is 500 dollars each—to the two last two hundred and fifty dollars each.

The amendments were reported to the House, taken into consideration and agreed to. On the question for engrossing the bill, for its third reading. The Ayes and Noes were as follow:

A Y E S.

- Mess. Ames, Key, Baldwin, Lawrance, Barnwell, Lee, Benson, Muhlenberg, S. Bourne, Murray, B. Bourn, Parkers, Dayton, Sedgwick, Findley, W. Smith, Fitzsimons, Steele, Gilman, Thatcher, Goodhue, Tucker, Hartley, Willis, 24.

N O E S.

- Mess. Clark, I. Smith, Giles, Sturges, Gordon, Sumpter, Grove, Sylvester, Hillhouse, Treadwell, Kitchell, Ward, Livermore, Greenup, Macon, Orr, 17. Niles,

A message from the President of the U. States by Mr. Lear, informed the house that he has approved and signed an act making an appropriation for defraying the expense of holding a treaty with the hostile Indian tribes, north-west of the river Ohio.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Otis informed the House, that the President of the United States has notified the Senate, that he has approved and signed two acts which originated in the Senate, viz. an act for altering the time and places for holding the Circuit Courts in the Eastern District and in North-Carolina, and for other purposes; and an act, in addition to the act, for establishing the Judicial Courts of the United States.

The committee on enrolled bills reported four bills as truly enrolled, viz.

An act for extending the time for receiving subscriptions to the loan of the United States, &c.

An act, supplementary to the act, for the establishment and support of light-houses, beacons, buoys, and public piers.

An act for the relief of Elijah Boftwick.

An act providing for the payment of the first instalment due to the bank of the United States.

An act providing an annual allowance for the education of Hugh Mercer, and,

An act, supplementary to the act, making more effectual provision for the collection of the duties imposed by law on goods, wares and merchandize, and on the tonnage of ships, or vessels. The Speaker signed the same.