

Late Additions to PEALE'S MUSEUM.

A SPECIMEN of Spar, and of large chrysal shoots intermixed with lead ore. This beautiful piece was found 300 yards below the level of the ground, at the Peak of Derbyshire, Great-Britain.—Presented by Captain Truxton.

A young Shrew Mouse of Pennsylvania, which "seems to form the shade" in the order of small animals, and to "fill up the vacuum between the rat and the mole." Also, an American species of the Yerboia, commonly called the Jumping Mouse.—Presented by Doctor Barton.

Indian leggings, garters, arrows, and mockskins.—Presented by General Irvine.

A piece of the Shield of Edward the III. which is preserved in Westminster Abbey.—Presented by Mr. Condy, of Bucks county, Pennsylvania.

A pair of Chinese Boots, made of fawn.—Presented by Mr. J. E. Howell.

A well formed Stone Ax, used by the Indians previous to the Europeans coming to America; ploughed up in the vicinity of Philadelphia.—Presented by Captain George Slater.

A Calculus found on the Commons of Philadelphia, supposed to be formed in the body of a horse; the nail in the center served as a nucleus to collect the extraneous substances taken in with the food.—Presented by Doctor White.

A beautiful specimen of Asbestos, from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania; And some Tin Ore, from Cornwall, (G. B.) called grained tin ore.—Presented by —

Steel-grained Lead Ore, taken from the lead mines of Mr. Stephen Austin and Co. in Wythe county, Virginia.—Presented by Mr. Austin.

Perfished Clams, collected on a hill in the vicinity of Nashville, Cumberland river, Western Country.—Presented by Mr. James Vanusem.

A piece of the root of a walnut tree, impregnated with iron ore; found on the land of Gen. James Chambers, in Franklin county, Pennsylvania. The walnut tree falling down, presented a bed of ore.—Presented by General Chambers.

A fossil shell, found in a quarry of limestone, near Beard's town, Kentucky.—Presented by Mr. Wm. Chambers.

Perfished shells, found near Milford town, North Hampton county, near the Delaware.—Presented by John Biddle, Esquire.

A stone Calumet, found in ploughing a field in York county.—Presented by Mr. Matthew M'Glubery.

The Grinder of an Elephant. This tooth, compared with those grinders found at the Salt Licks, on the Ohio, clearly proves, that those animals which formerly inhabited America, were not Elephants.—Presented by Mr. Baká, New-York.

Fruit of the wild Tamarind, from the West-Indies; a bone, from the Bay of Honduras; some Derbyshire spar; and a specimen of fossil salt, from which the Liverpool salt is produced.—Presented by Mr. Bembridge.

A beak of the Saw Fish (very large) caught at the bite of Benin, on the coast of Africa.—Presented by Capt. W. Montgomery.

Ore, from General Schuyler's mine, Second River, Barbadoes neck, in the State of New-Jersey.—Presented by Mr. S. Coates.

The cuticle of the feet and hands of a negro boy, 16 years old; exfoliated by the Febris Scarlatina Anginosa.—Presented by Doctor Elnor.

The skin of a Calf, having the appearance of a turtle's back; from East-town, Maryland.—Presented by Doctor Cooper.

A species of Coral, which grows on a rock at Cape Francois.—Presented by Mr. P. Ozeas.

A piece of a Horn, weighing four ounces, sawed off the breast of Mr. Galaway, who is now on a visit to this city. Mr. G. relates, of this extraordinary production, that he was born at Dublin, in Ireland, and when he was 16 years old, he entered on board of a ship of war, and was at the siege of Carthagen; where, by an accident, four cartridges took fire, which burned him; especially about his breast, in a terrible manner. This burn was, for many years, a bad sore; however, at last it had nearly healed up, when his breast was again unfortunately hurt, by being jammed between a boat and a ship, which bruised his breast sorely. When the bruise began to heal up, a small horn appeared on his breast, the size of a thumb-nail; which has since continued to increase, and has been twice sawed off before: Its curving form, the end of it pressing against hi

breast, has made these amputations necessary. The portrait of Mr. Galaway, with the breast bare, to show the manner of the growth of this curious Horn, is beneath a curtain, in the apartment of paintings.

The head of the Jabireu, or negro bird; one of the largest birds of Guiana, being about six feet high. They are great destroyers of the enormous snakes of that country.—Presented by Mr. Wm. Duée.

A grape shot, cut out of a tree on the field where General Braddock was defeated. N. B. There were 39 years growth over the spot where the ball first struck.—Presented by Mr. Hunter.

And a thigh bone from the same field, presented by Lieutenant Lees.

Beautiful pearly Clamshells, from the river Ohio, where they are found in great abundance.

Native Allum, found in great plenty four miles from Port Pitt, in the crevices of the rocks, in small chrysalis, which when taken off, again issue out by the heat of the sun. The people there use this allum in their dyes.—Also another beautiful specimen of allum from the same place, incircled a piece of verdigrise.—Presented by Mr. Elliott.

A model of a Telegraphe*. Mr. St. George Tucker, of Williamsburgh, Virginia, invented this from the newspapers general reports, of military events being of late communicated with great speed, between the French armies on the Rhine, and the government of Paris, by signs. A particular description of this machine is recorded in a book in the Museum, appropriated to receive proposed improvements & hints, with intention to preserve them from oblivion. Other valuable discoveries are to be perpetuated in this book, with the names of the authors, unless when it shall be preferred to enter the names in a private book—kept for that purpose by the Proprietor of the Museum.

The Toucan, or Bill-Bird, alive.—This extraordinary Bird is from Cayenne, South-America. Its bill, which is almost as large as the body, is not more extraordinary than its tongue, which resembles a feather; therefore, by some of the Brazilians, it is called the Feather-Tongued Bird.—Presented by Captain Nevill.

The Soft Shell Tortoise, from the Western Country. It is described in Bartram's Travels in Georgia.—Presented by Mr. Adlum.

A Female Elk, preserved, and placed in the Museum. The idea which the hunters have of its breathing through the holes near the eyes, when run hard, is a mistake, as this preservation plainly shews. Altho' these holes are large at the entrance, they reach only about one inch in depth, and end in a round bottom, with no visible opening further. When this idea of its breathing through the holes, was suggested to the proprietor, he applied a small mirror over and near the holes, holding the nose and mouth closed, to stop its breathing; on which no dampness ever appeared on the glass, in several trials. The proprietor had learnt that the Elk has no Gall Bladder; which induced him to attend closely to inspect this Elk, when it was killed and dressed; but no Gall Bladder, or any thing as a substitute, appeared.

The Cow with 5 Legs, 6 feet, and two tails, which was kept at the Museum for some years alive, is also preserved; but as such objects are not agreeable to the sight of every one, that limb is covered with a curtain.

Some curious Shells; a specimen of Amber, with a Straw and a Fly inclosed in it.—Presented by Col. Tonsard.

* Telegraphe, from telos, the end, and grapho, to write; so Telescope, from telos, and scopio to see; as if to describe such an Instrument, I should say it would enable one to see to the end; or utmost extent of the distance between me and the object: So Telegraphe means to write to the end, or extent of a great distance.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, 6th February.

Debate concluded.

Mr. Giles hoped that some of the taxes would be continued. His opinion had uniformly been, that the taxes all together were insufficient for any formidable operation on the national debt. The surplus of revenue, by the most favorable statement, was not supposed to be more than three hundred thousand dollars per annum. He did not think the excise system the best for making an impression on

the debt. He wished for an apportionment among the states. As to the resolution before the House, he approved some of the taxes, and others he disapproved.—He therefore wished that the resolution could be divided, that he might not be obliged to vote for or against five taxes all at once. He hoped that a plan for apportioning taxes to discharge the debt would, before the rise of the session, be laid on the table. If it was not done by some body else, he would do it himself. He had strong objections to several of these taxes, to which he would give his consent, rather than that nothing should be done. He wished that some better proposition could be brought forward than a few petty excises. Such a thing might be laid on the table, and betwixt his and the next session, the House could sound their constituents upon it. He wished for some modification in the motion of Mr. S. Smith.

Mr. Kittera was for a "yes" on immediately. Mr. Dayton, Mr. Page, Mr. Fitzsimons, Mr. Madison, and Mr. Hartley also spoke. The last gentleman feared that he would never see an end of such a discussion.

The question for striking out the resolution was put.

Ayes, only 27.

The motion being thus lost, Mr. Giles said that, at the risk of popular odium, he would move to strike out the tax upon carriages. He knew this to be the most popular of the taxes, but he believed it to be against the Constitution. It was not a voluntary but a compulsory tax. To lay a tax on a thing already in a man's possession, was a direct tax; and though a popular one, the fear of giving offence would not deter him from doing what he believed to be his duty. A gentleman from South-Carolina (Mr. W. Smith) had treated objections of this kind lightly;—and had said that the Constitution could be corrected. He thought this a very unguarded mode of expression. We have all sworn to support the Constitution; and if it must be altered, we know very well that this House has no authority to that effect. There must be an authority of a different kind. As to the tax now before the House, so firmly were several gentlemen persuaded of its illegality, that they had determined to make an opposition to it, not as in Pennsylvania by an insurrection, but by a trial before a court of law.

Mr. Boudinot considered the objections of Mr. Giles as totally groundless. You might as well say that the tonnage of a ship is a direct tax, for the ship and the carriage have both perhaps been in possession of their respective owners, before the existence of the tax. If he had imagined the tax to be unconstitutional, he would certainly have opposed it with all his might. He considered it as a popular tax.

Mr. Hillhouse recommended brevity and dispatch.

Mr. Beatty wondered at hearing his colleague say that the carriage tax was popular, since it was quite otherwise among their constituents in New-Jersey.

Mr. Boudinot explained. That part of the tax which regarded carriages of pleasure was popular, but the collector of the tax in New-Jersey, by a construction which never came into the head of any body except himself, applied the law to the waggons of farmers going to market.

This part of the tax was very unpopular, and justly, but the other part was agreeable.

On dividing, the motion of Mr. Giles was negatived. Ayes 29—Noces 55.

A motion was made by Mr. Sedgwick for striking out another part of the resolution. The meaning was not to limit the appropriation of the produce of these taxes to the discharge of the debt exclusively. He had been appointed on a committee, when the galleries were shut, and it was the business of the House to provide money for the humane and national purposes referred to. That money must be had. He did not think himself at liberty to speak more plainly, but the House knew that it was an indispensable object.

Mr. Fitzsimons said that if the gentleman meant any other purpose than what had been all along professed, for the application of the money, he wished him to speak out.

The committee agreed to all the resolutions as reported.

The committee rose and leave was granted to sit again.

The House also agreed to the Resolutions.

A committee were then appointed to bring in a bill.

It was then moved by Mr. Tracy, that when this House do adjourn, it shall be till Monday. Mr. Sedgwick objected on account of the approaching close of the session and weight of business before the House. To this it was answered, that the select committees had so much business upon their hands as could not be gone through without an adjournment till Monday. The motion for adjourning till that time was then agreed to.

Adjourned at half past three o'clock.

Monday, 9th February.

Mr. Harper, a member from South-Carolina, was qualified and took his seat.

Mr. Sedgwick brought in a motion for appointing a committee to bring in a bill to amend an act authorizing the

President to fill up for a short limited time certain occasional vacancies in public offices.

A committee were named accordingly to bring in a report.

The galleries were cleared at half past eleven o'clock.

Tuesday, February 10.

On motion of Mr. Sherbourne the House went into a committee of the whole, on the amendments reported to the bill for extending post roads. After some time spent thereon the committee rose and reported the amendments.

The amendments of the Senate to the bill for licensing and enrolling ships or vessels were read; and, on the motion of Mr. Giles, referred to a select committee.

Mr. W. Smith brought in a bill for repealing the act imposing a duty on snuff, and some new regulations. This was made the order of the day for Thursday.

The House then went into a committee on the reduction of the national debt.

This produced a very long discussion on the best means of commencing the payment of the national debt. A quarter past three o'clock the committee rose; the chairman asked leave to sit again.

Adjourned.

Wednesday, 11th February.

A bill for the recovery of debts due from individuals to the United States, was read a first and second time, and made the order of the day on Friday.

Mr. Goodhue, from the committee to whom had been referred the amendments of the Senate, on the bill supplementary to an act for regulating and licensing ships and vessels, reported, that the committee disagreed to the amendments. There was ordered to be appointed a committee of conference.

It was then moved that the House should proceed to the order of the day, and resolve itself into a committee, on the report of the committee of the plan for the reduction of the national debt. This was done accordingly, Mr. Cobb in the chair.

The House went through the resolutions, which were agreed to, and reported with amendments. The House went upon the report, and a committee are appointed to bring in a bill.

It was next moved by Dr. Beatty, that a committee should be appointed to report whether any and what alterations are necessary in the act for laying a tax on carriages for pleasure, and to report a bill with such alterations as may be necessary in the same. Agreed. A committee were named to report.

On this occasion Dr. Beatty observed, that he had, some few days past, when the resolution for extending the time of limitation to certain excise acts passed last session, was under consideration, contradicted what fell from his colleague (Mr. Boudinot) that the law "laying duties upon carriages" was popular in the State of New-Jersey; it was he said the very reverse of that, and of consequence he could by no means assent to the prolongation of that act to the year 1801; the House having however agreed to the extension of this act to a distant period, he now thought it was a duty he owed to his constituents, to bring forward a proposition for the revision of that law. This he was now desirous of submitting, and he repeated, that the act in question was generally disliked by the citizens of the State from whence he came, and in some parts, it was so obnoxious, that were it not for the patriotism and love of order, which his constituents had at all times manifested in their conduct, he would not have been answerable, that the duties arising under that law, could have been collected; he was ready however to admit, that great part of the dissatisfaction had arisen from the injudicious mode of execution adopted by the supervisor; who had perhaps discovered more zeal, than understanding in the construction of this law. Dr. Beatty, had no great objection to the principle of the law, but he thought it was defective in two points, and was susceptible of amendment, so as to render it more agreeable to his constituents; the enacting clause is not sufficiently minute in the description of the carriages subject to a taxation, and in some instances the terms used, were of an equivocal nature; to prove the first he need only mention, that notwithstanding the protection afforded by the proviso, in the first section, to carriages for "domestic purposes;" yet the market waggons of New-Jersey, had pretty generally been subjected to the duty; and as an instance of the second, he said, that the term "coach" used in the law, appears to have no appropriate meaning. Before the passing of this law, he had

reason to believe, that three fourths of the carriages in use in this city, were of this description, and now it seems by some new definition of the term, that not one in four are of that species of carriage; but are returned to the collector and pay a tax, only of two dollars, on the same scale with the Market waggons of New-Jersey.—But the law Dr. B. observed was materially defective in another point.—In cases of doubt, what carriages are within the exempting description, there is no summary mode of determining, what carriages are "usually" and "chiefly" employed in husbandry;" but every disputed case must be the subject of a suit in all the legal forms. This was highly objectionable, both on the grounds of delay and expence; and had no doubt occasioned the payment of the tax in a variety of instances, where the parties were conscious they were within the exempting clause but had preferred, to pay the two dollars rather than to contend with the collector in a suit at law. He hoped therefore the house would readily agree to remedy these defects and would appoint a committee for that purpose.

A few minutes before three o'clock, on the motion of Mr. Sedgwick, the galleries were cleared.

UNITED STATES.

NEW-YORK, February 13.

Further Translations from Paris papers received per Capt. Gardner from Cherbourg.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

November 29.

Dufoy informed the convention of a writing or paper published by Gouly, containing general remarks on the colonies. He complained that his ideas were impolitic, anti-social and anti-republican. Gouly maintains that the colonies belong to the colonists. What then becomes of the national sovereignty? It would be more natural to lay, the property of the colonies belongs to the entire mass of the people of St. Domingo; and then the sovereignty of the nation would be annihilated. He moved that the Convention should declare that paper not to contain their opinions, but only the opinions of an individual.

Charpentier. The title of the work alone is contrary to the French government. It is called "Reflections on the means of giving to the colonies a constitution proper for them;" which supposes that the colonies ought not to be subject to the constitution of the republic. It contains also this phrase, "St. Domingo has the sovereignty over itself. The legislative power belongs to it—it may well receive the councils of France, but not her laws." This is an attack on the unity and indivisibility of the republic.

After some further debate, Dufoy's motion in substance was adopted. Pellet informed the Convention that the report of the committee of Public Safety on the colonies, would be completed in ten days at farthest.

In debate, on the propriety of continuing to send deputies into the departments, a member observed, that "we cannot now dissemble that every part of the republic has been disturbed; industry and commerce are palsied; proprietors and merchants have been oppressed, imprisoned, and even sacrificed. We must seek the means of repairing these evils, of restraining evil dispositions, and lend a helping hand to the oppressed." The proposition of Bernard, for suspending these missions, was rejected.

The president of the criminal tribunal of Paris informed the Convention, that sentence had passed against the twelve members of the revolutionary committee of the section of Bonnet Rouge. Ten of them convicted of robbery, tumults, exactions, and speculations, are condemned to be exposed six hours, and to be imprisoned in chains twenty years. The other two are acquitted.

In the commune of Bedouin, in France, during the reign of the Jacobins, the liberty pole was taken down, in some dark night. An order was issued by the representative Maignet for the people to deliver up the offender—this they could not do, as no one could tell who had done it. The despotic commissary, in a rage, ordered the whole commune, consisting of 500 houses, to be laid in ashes, and the order was literally executed.

The wretched inhabitants were compelled to seek shelter in the mountains and caves, from whence they sent a pe-