

Merced as representative in Congress in the room of William Pinkney, who has resigned that appointment.—Referred to the standing committee of elections.

The petitions of Joseph Stout, and Charles Croxall, were read, praying compensation for services rendered in the army of the United States, during the late war.—Referred to the Secretary at War.

Mr. Sedgwick made a motion, that the committee who were appointed to bring in a bill directing the mode in which the evidences of the debt of the United States which have been lost or destroyed may be received, be discharged from considering so much thereof as relates to lost certificates.—The question being taken thereon, was negatived.

Mr. White moved, that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to provide for the settlement of unliquidated claims against the United States.—Motion laid on the table.

Mr. Sedgwick from the committee appointed for the purpose, reported a bill directing the mode in which the evidences of the debt of the United States, which have been lost or destroyed, may be renewed; which was read the first time.

Ordered, That the committee of the whole house be discharged from the further consideration of the amendments to the constitution proposed the third of March last, and that the same be referred to Mr. Sedgwick, Mr. Hillhouse, Mr. Benson, Mr. Boudinot, Mr. Smith (S. C.) and Mr. Steele.

Mr. Vining, Mr. Boudinot, Mr. Giles, Mr. Lawrence, and Mr. Gerry were appointed a committee to prepare a bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States.

Mr. Fitzsimons, Mr. Lee, and Mr. Sheredine, were appointed a committee to bring in a bill to regulate pilots and provide for the superintendence of the light-houses, and the beacons, buoys, and public piers, in the bay and river of Delaware, and the bay of Chesapeake, with the rivers emptying into the same.

The House proceeded to the farther consideration of the report of the Secretary at War on the petition of John Younglove, whereupon, resolved, that the prayer of the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Albany and Washington, in the state of New-York, for a repeal of so much of the act of Congress, entitled, "An act for the relief of disabled soldiers and seamen, lately in the service of the United States, and of certain other persons," as relates to the pension of John Younglove, cannot be granted.

The orders of the day were further postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned.

[The following ideas on Republican Governments are translated from a late French paper.]

It is only by slow degrees that empires advance to maturity; whereas, their fall is sudden and precipitate. For fear of something like this being the lot of France, let us turn a deaf ear to those innovators, who in opposition to the decrees of the National Assembly, are continually preaching up to us the superior excellence of republican government.

If France lay inclosed in a valley, surrounded by lofty and impassable mountains, and accessible only by one entrance, so as to have but one spot of territory to defend; in that case, perhaps, a republican form might be the most suitable to her circumstances; but other means are necessary to govern twenty-five millions of men, in a country every where open to the incursions of strangers, and comprising within itself every species of corruption. A country habituated to luxury, where wealth is unequally divided, is very different from one where the equality of the citizens is founded upon the equality of fortunes.

England and Ireland might become republics witho it experiencing the same dangers as we should, because, notwithstanding the unequal participation of property among the inhabitants of these countries, they do not lie exposed, like France, to foreign invasion and sudden eruptions. The people, too, having preserved and enjoyed their liberties for a long time, have acquired such a habit of good order, that the constitu-

tions of both these islands might assume a republican form, without any considerable shock, from such a revolution. In fact, the English and Irish house of commons have to this day preserved the republican spirit, notwithstanding their supposed tendency to aristocracy.

It is not the same with France, she having made a sudden transition from the most rigorous oppression to the most absolute freedom, without any intermediate marked gradations to prepare the French for imbibing a true republican spirit.

PARIS, August 30.

The meeting of the English Parliament is prorogued to the third of November. The King, in the Court Gazette of the 20th has revoked the order offering a bounty for volunteer seamen in the fleet; which was to have been in force till August 31st. but was rendered void on the 20th; the day the revocation was published.

It is much doubted whether the pacific intentions of the British Court are sincere; not in regard to the Russians (for there is an end to that business) but towards some neighbours that the British Ministry view with rather an unfriendly eye. Every thing, in short, announces hostile attempts upon their old natural enemy on this side of the channel; of whose present apparent weakness the Minister wishes to take advantage. There are suspicions that the fleet will not be entirely laid up, but kept in some sort of readiness, in case of some favourable event, to reap the fruits of court intrigue that have been carrying on some time with a deal of art as well as patience. Ever since the nation has been acquainted with the result of the negotiations with Russia, all the ministerial papers are constantly trumpeting into the ears of the public, the distressed situation of France. The ORACLE, in particular, after having laid a quantum sufficit of incense under the nose of Mr. Pitt, by formally returning him thanks for restoring the peace of Europe, and stopping short, with a dash of his pen, the Russian army that were marching to lay Constantinople in ashes, gravely remarks, that "the period is now arrived, for the powers of Europe to form a union against France." The London Gazette is a little more modest. That paper hints to us, that the fleet, instead of laying still, might as well be employed "in redressing the affairs of France." In fact, the generality of their pamphlets and public papers make the same apologies for the convention of Petersburg, and contain nearly the same insinuations against this country. The few opposition papers that are still in existence, reprobate severely the measures of Mr. Pitt, but at the same time very feebly plead the cause of the French nation. We observe, with pain, that the English in general, cannot forget the American revolution; the remembrance of which keeps alive a ferret hatred against the French; as if that revolution, which has proved of such immense benefit to mankind, and so glorious to the Americans themselves, did not originate in the Court of St. James's and from a corrupted majority in the British House of Commons, rather than from any intrigues of the Court of Versailles. The French Ministers, under the old government, it is well known, acted independent of and even in despite of the will of the people; and if they assisted the Americans, it was, perhaps, because they could not forget the speeches of the implacable Earl of Chatham, with whom the *Delen-da Carthago* was always a favorite sentiment when applicable to the annihilation of France.

LONDON, September 4.

Every true Englishman ought to despise the conduct of the Oxford graduates, in their fulsome piece of adulation sent to Mr. Burke, for his endeavoring to support church government at a time when the ill effects of it are absolutely become proverbial. Gentlemen of education, and who pretend to be the lights of the world, ought not to appear in vindication of the plurality of livings and thereby starving the poor curates, who are the chief laborers. If this is the part they mean to act, they can hardly be considered farthing candles. If our church policy is such, that the state would tumble to pieces by the least al-

teration of it, let us hear the thesis defended by argument manfully, and not skulk behind the stale and degraded term, innovation. The glorious reformation which has been effected in this kingdom, would have never existed in Britain had our reformers been all Burkites, or had they boggled at the word *innovation*. The time, however, at least in other countries, seems to be approaching, when justice and equity must take place of intrigue and election influence.

In relation to the above, the following letter from Temelwaer (a town of Hungary on the Turkish frontier) may be worth notice, especially as it seems to include the idea that, enlightened as we suppose ourselves in England, a rude and barbarous people must still throw further light to enable us to comply with the dictates of common honesty and common justice. "The Congress assembled here (says the letter) among many other useful institutions worthy the adoption of all civilized nations, have decreed, that an equalization of the revenues of the church shall take place, and that the bishops shall be obliged to pay a certain proportion of their wealth, towards the decent maintenance of the inferior clergy, who have hitherto performed the duties of their profession in penury and rags, while the lazy, the indolent, and rapacious prelates, their superiors, have been wallowing in luxury."

Until lately, it was the glory of the English nation to defend itself, and only act offensively, when injured or insulted: our recent conduct of a contrary nature, in respect to Russia, it is to be feared, has alienated the hearts of that nation from us. During two centuries our trade with Russia has been an object of peculiar national solicitude, but by the proceedings of the season just past, it would seem that the minister no longer thinks the Russian trade an object worth preserving. By his strange perversion of ideas we are transferring the trade of Russia into the hands of the French, and that of Thorne and Dantzic into the hands of the Prussian despot. As to hostilities with Russia, the prospect of any thing of that kind is now over; but, as every rational or considerate man expected, we have to encounter a most alarming bill of charges.—No matter! John Bull will cheerfully pawn his last shirt, to receive from the newspapers the gratifying intelligence of a formidable fleet putting to sea to display his power—he little cares to whom, or for what.

For the NATIONAL GAZETTE.

THE ORATOR OF THE WOODS.

EACH Stranger asks, with fond surprise,
Why Damon wastes the fleeting year
Where Indian forests round him rise
And only rustics come to hear—
"His case is hard (they seem to say)
Such talents in so poor a way!"

To those that courts and titles please,
How dismal is his lot,
Beyond the hills, beneath some trees,—
To live and be forgot
In dall retreats where Nature binds
Her maids of clay to vulgar minds.—

While you lament his barren trade,
Tell me—in yonder vale
Why grows that flower beneath the shade
So feeble and so pale?—
Why was she not in gardens plac'd
To blush, and please the man of taste?

In lonely wilds, those flowers so fair
No curious step allure,
And chance, not choice, has plac'd them there,
Still charming, though obscure,
Where heedless of such sweets, so nigh,
The lazy hind goes loitering by.

Philadelphia, Nov. 8

POUGHKEEPSIE, Nov. 9.

A few weeks ago, as some persons were digging for marle, in a swamp on the Wall-Kill, in Ulster county, they came across a bed of large rib bones. They were found six feet under ground, and at the bottom of the strata of marle. Some of the largest of the ribs were accidentally broken with the spade, on the first discovery of them. One of the entire rib bones is now in the possession of a gentleman in this town, and is four feet four inches in length, by measuring on the outside of the curve. It must have been one of the first rib bones of the animal, because the same gentleman who has been on the spot, says, that one of the other ribs which was broken by the spade, was one foot longer than this

This information we communicate as of unquestionable authenticity. Bones of the same marvellous size have been frequently found in various parts of North-America, and of Siberia in Asia, and are usually ascribed to the Mammoth, a stupendous animal whose race must have perished in some remote period of the world, and who has left only those relics of his existence, buried deep in the earth, to excite our surprise and admiration.

UPON MODERN NOVELS.

[From a late London Review.]

WHEN a manufacture has been carried on long enough for the workmen to obtain a general proficiency, the uniformity of the stuffs will render it difficult to decide on the preference of one piece beyond another. From a reason analogous to this, it is, that altho' the greater part of modern novels may exhibit nothing to shock our feelings, neither do they attract any particular attention, either as to materials or execution.

Two of the earliest fabricators of this species of goods, the modern novel, were Daniel de Foe, and Elizabeth Haywood; the success of Pamela may be said to have brought it into fashion; and the progress has not been less rapid than the extension of the use of tea, to which a novel is almost as general an attendant, as the bread and butter.

While we are on this subject, it is also to be noted, that nothing is more common than to find hair powder lodged between the leaves of a novel, which evinces the corresponding attention paid to the inside as well as to the outside of a modern head. When an art becomes general, then is the time for the invention of engines to facilitate the operations, as in the cotton manufacture. Swift's machine for the composition of books, like most other first attempts, has not been found to answer. It was reserved for us to publish a scheme for the easy multiplication of novels, cheap in its execution, and certain in its operation, so long as not only our presses but those of Germany and France, will furnish raw materials to work up; and before they can fail, we may hope to import ample supplies from America. Here, then, we disinterestedly offer it *pro bono publico*; and expect the thanks of the whole body of friseurs for our assistance towards relieving them from a multitude of impatient exclamations, and profane oaths.

Receipt for Vamping up Novels.

Go to Middle Row, Holborn, where, since mankind have discovered that their own hair is sufficiently capable of distortion, the sellers of old cast-off wigs have given place to the dealers in cast off books; there, on the bulks, from among the classes of a groat or six pence per volume, buy an old forgotten novel, the older the better: give new names to the personages and places, reform the dates, modernize such circumstances as may happen to be antiquated, and, if necessary, touch up the style a little with a few of those cant words and phrases that may be in fashion at the time. All this may be done with a pen, in the margin of the printed book, without the trouble of transcribing the whole, unless it is to be carried to a bookseller for sale, for then you must show a manuscript. In either case it may be sent to the printer; for printers, like surgeons and lawyers, are bound to keep the secrets of their employers.

To a publisher there are many advantages attending this mode of proceeding; and the saving of copy money is to be reckoned as the chief. A novel of two or three volumes, that could not be purchased under four or five guineas, may be thus new vamped from an old one by a compositor who dabbles a little with his pen, for perhaps half a guinea; and if the alterations be skillfully performed, they will confound the judgment, so that neither author nor bookseller knowing his own book again, a prosecution for copy-right need not be apprehended. The most that even a reader with a good memory could say, would be, that there is nothing new in it; and though we have expressed ourselves so a hundred times, novels are pouring forth as fast as ever! We are therefore not without suspicions that this our scheme has been anticipated, and is already in practice; for as far as recollection can reach, the characters, situations, plots and catastrophes, are, with very few exceptions, still the same.