



CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 8.

MR. Grout, Mr. Tucker, Mr. White, Mr. Gerry, and Mr. Moore, took their seats this day.

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Otis, their Secretary, informing the House, that the Senate is now ready to meet them in the Senate Chamber, to receive THE PRESIDENT of the United States, and such communications as he may be pleased to make—and that seats are provided for the Members accordingly.

The Speaker (preceded by the Serjeant at Arms with his Mace) attended by the Members, proceeded to the Senate-Chamber. About 12 o'clock THE PRESIDENT of the United States arrived, accompanied by the Secretary of State, the Secretary at War, the Attorney-General, Mr. Secretary Lear, and his Aids—when he was pleased to make the following Speech.—[See first page.]

The President then retired—and the Members of the House returned to their Hall, where the Speaker laid before them a copy of the Speech, which was read by the Clerk.

On motion of Mr. Williamson, it was voted, that the Speech of THE PRESIDENT of the United States to both Houses of Congress, be referred to a committee of the whole House—and be made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. Williamson, then moved that two Chaplains of different denominations, be appointed—one for each House—to interchange weekly—which motion was carried in the affirmative—and the Clerk directed to inform the Senate.

Mr. Seney presented the petition of John Carle, an officer of the late continental army—which was read, and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

The petitions of Jacob Bell, and John Lewis were, on motion of Mr. Lawrence, referred to the Secretary of the Treasury—and the petition of Francis Ackley, to the Secretary at War.

A committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Sherman, Mr. Williamson, and Mr. Clymer, to bring in a bill to establish the Post-Office and Post-Roads in the United States.

Mr. Williamson, after some introductory observations on the importance of diffusing information among the people, and the utility of newspapers for that purpose, moved, That the Clerk of the House be directed to furnish each of the Members with three of the public newspapers printed in this city, at their own election—the papers to be left at their respective lodgings.—Laid on the table. Adjourned.

THURSDAY, Dec. 9.

Mr. Matthews, and Mr. Jackson, took their seats this day.

The Order of the Day being called for, The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the Speech of the President of the United States to both Houses, when

Mr. Livermore took the Chair.

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, the committee adopted the following resolution,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that an Address ought to be presented by the House to the President of the United States, in answer to his Speech to both Houses, with assurances that this House will, without delay, proceed to take into consideration the various and important matters, recommended to their attention.

The above resolution being agreed to by the House, the following Members were appointed to prepare the Address—Mr. Madison, Mr. Ames, and Mr. Tucker.

Mr. Williamson's motion, respecting newspapers, which was laid on the table yesterday, was read, and taken into consideration.

Mr. Fitzsimons said, he hoped the resolution would not be agreed to: The subject, said he, has frequently been discussed—and much expence of time has been incurred. For his own part he knew of no reasons which existed that should induce the House, at this session, to deviate from former practice, and the custom which had always been observed by the old Congress—debating the subject would probably be attended with as much expence, as taking the papers in the usual way.

Mr. Madison offered some objections to the motion: He was in favor of taking the whole of the publications, or none—as taking a part would be giving a preference to particular presses, and would favor of partiality.

Mr. Williamson supported the motion: He begged gentlemen to consider, that if no limitation was to be set to the number of newspapers, what the expence might amount to. He said he did not know the exact number printed in the city, whether ten or fifteen; but if Congress made it a rule to take all that was, or might be printed, they may be increased to a hundred—and after the increase of the house, by the addition to the representation, it will be worth while for a printer to set up a paper merely to supply Congress. He said he was disposed to give encouragement to the press, in printing Books—which would be really advantageous to the country, by rendering importations unnecessary; but as to newspapers, they are a species of printing, which dies with the day.—He mentioned the number of papers formerly taken by the House, among which were some (said he) that were never read by any body.—He was for limiting the number, and therefore had mentioned three—still he was not tenacious of that number; but whatever else was determined in the business, he thought there ought to be a limitation.

Mr. Livermore said he should vote for the resolution—which being put, was carried in the affirmative—22 to 15.

A message was received from the Senate, informing that they have concurred in the resolution of the House for the appointment of Chaplains—and have on their part appointed the Right Reverend Bishop White.

On motion of Mr. Smith, tomorrow was assigned by the House, for the election of a Chaplain—The Rev. Dr. Blair, and the Rev. Mr. Green were nominated.

A message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Secretary Lear, with the papers mentioned in his Speech, respecting the admission of Kentucky as a Member of the Union.

The message and papers were read by the Clerk of the House.—The papers contain a copy of the proceedings of a Convention in Kentucky—and a Memorial from the same, to the President and Congress of the United States.

Mr. Benson gave notice that he should move for a committee to be appointed to bring in a bill or bills, for determining the time of choosing electors in the several States, of President, and Vice-President—also determining, in case of vacancy of the office of President and Vice-President, by death, or absence from the seat of government, who shall exercise the office of President.

On motion a committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Fitzsimons, Mr. Goodhue, and Mr. Lee, to bring in a bill to amend the act for registering ships and vessels, and regulating the coasting trade, and for other purposes.

A letter was received from the Secretary at War, addressed to the Speaker, accompanying sundry papers respecting the Western Expedition, and the expences attending the same.

On motion of Mr. Williamson, a committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. White, Mr. Seney, and Mr. Baldwin, to bring in a bill to amend the act to promote the progress of the useful arts. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, Dec. 10.

Mr. Sinnickson, Mr. Partridge, Mr. Smith, (M.) Mr. Trumbull, and Mr. Wadsworth, took their seats this day.

The order of the day being called for, the house proceeded to ballot for a Chaplain. The ballots being collected, there appeared for Mr. Blair, 25; for Mr. Green, 16. The Speaker accordingly declared the former chosen.

Mr. Benson, agreeable to notice, introduced a motion to the following purport, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill or bills for determining, agreeable to the Constitution, the time of choosing electors of President and Vice-President after the expiration of the 3d March, 1793. Likewise to determine who or what officer shall exercise the office of President in case of vacancy; also to provide for the opening an office at the seat of government, to receive the votes of the electors of President and Vice-President.

Mr. Lee moved that this motion should lie on the table for further consideration, previous to its being committed. This motion being put, was lost; and Messrs. Benson, Heister, Huntington, Moore and Partridge were appointed the committee.

The reading of the papers communicated by the Secretary at War, relative to the expedition against the Indians, being called for, the clerk attended that business.

These papers contained particulars of the depredations committed by the Indians, on the frontiers, for almost a year past, communicated in a series of accounts from private persons, public characters, and bodies, in letters, memorials and representations, to the President of the United States, the Secretary at War, &c.

The Clerk then read an estimate of the expences attending the expedition against the Wabash nation, and the banditti of Indians; 1500 militia and about 400 Federal Troops, are employed on this occasion. The amount of the expence is estimated at one hundred thousand dollars.

The instructions of the President of the United States to Gov. St. Clair, and the letters from the Secretary at War to Gen. Harmer, were then read.

On motion of Mr. Sherman, a committee was appointed to bring in a bill, more effectually to provide for the national defence, by establishing a uniform militia throughout the United States. And Messrs Gilman, Grout, Wadsworth, Floyd, P. Muhlenberg, Boudinot, Smith, (M.) Bloodworth, Smith, (S. C.) and Jackson, were appointed the committee.

A message was received from the Senate informing the House that the President of the United States having received a communication from the President and commonalty of the city of Paris, had thought proper to lay the same before the Senate, who had directed their Secretary to bring them to the House. The letter from the President and commonalty of Paris was accompanied with 26 printed copies of an eulogium on Dr. Franklin.

Mr. Madison of the committee appointed to prepare an address,

in answer to the speech of the President of the United States, brought in a report which was read.

Mr. Williamson moved, that this Address be referred to a committee of the whole house, and made the order of the day for tomorrow, which motion was adopted.

Mr. Lawrence moved that a number of copies be printed, for the use of the house; this motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson; Mr. Williamson objected, he said that inconveniences had resulted from printing reports of committees in times past; in their immature state they had found the way into the newspapers, and been mistaken for the decisions of the house.

Mr. Jackson observed that the address contained matters of very great importance, which rendered it necessary that every member should have a copy before him; he could see no inconvenience that would arise, even if it should be published in the papers; it might give rise to observations without doors, which might not be unworthy the attention of the house.

He saw no danger of any mistake's arising from publishing reports of their committees—they were easily distinguished from the acts of the Legislature. But in the present instance, he saw no necessity for its being inserted in the newspapers, because it happened to be printed for the use of the House; nor did he second the motion with such a design.

It being observed by Mr. Boudinot, that it had not been customary to print the report of the committee on similar occasions, the motion was withdrawn. Adjourned till to-morrow.

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.

A CORRESPONDENT observes, That the increase of the impost duty exceeds even the most sanguine expectation of the friends to government: Those gloomy souls who predicted that the last year's importation of goods was more than the country would want in seven years, may be told, that their predictions are unfounded; that the great increase of people in the back country will naturally increase the importations for many years to come; nor is there a doubt that Agriculture alone will amply repay the cost of all these imports.

The amount of duties for the three months ending Sept. 30 last, in the port of Philadelphia, is 199,000  
The amount of duties for the same period, in the port of New-York, is 218,346

Our country may justly be felicitated on the favorable aspect of its public affairs. Agreeable to the speech of the President of the United States to both Houses of Congress, the people more than realize all the anticipations of the friends to the government, now happily established; and what adds to the pleasure of the contemplation is, that our civil rulers appear to derive the highest satisfaction from the success of public measures, and the peace and freedom of their constituents.

Extract of a letter from Boston, to the Editor, dated Nov. 29.  
“Our great and good Citizen Mr. BOWDWIN has paid the debt of nature.—As in his life, so in his death, he exhibited a native firmness of mind, which shews his character better than the plaudits of a world.—Seeing the King, that comes to many arrayed in terrors, fast approaching, he preserved his faith and philosophy—regulated the concerns of his family—bid them each a paternal adieu—and then wished for nothing but that the stroke of the “conqueror” might be speedy. His superior he has not left behind him in Massachusetts, to say no more. His fame was of that species which not being demanded, or eagerly sought after, was more freely, and genuinely celebrated:—it was not sullied by ostentation, chicanery, or those popular arts, which, in some nations, have made weak and unworthy men popular—it was deserved, without an undue solicitude to secure it—and it will last, when thousands, who built their's on deception, will be forgotten.”

Extract of a letter from Dr. JAMES ANDERSON, Editor of the BEE\* to a Bookseller in New-York, dated in Edinburgh, Oct. 1.

“I was highly flattered lately by a letter from Mr. WASHINGTON, President of the United States, much approving the plan, and proffering his countenance to the forwarding of my intended work, the BEE. I have had also letters from many eminent men on the same subject, and no exertion on my part shall be spared to render it deserving the notice of those who shall be so kind as to countenance it.

“I hear with pleasure of the prosperity of your rising states, and shall ever be happy to contribute my mite to augment their prosperity. Narrow-minded persons there are here who too often think the prosperity of others, diminishes their own; I am not one of those. Could the happy time ever arrive, when mankind in general should become truly wise, we should then see them emulously contending, who should be foremost in promoting the welfare of each other; but that era we must not hope to see: we may, however, wish for it, and make approximations towards it. Among other particulars, it gives me pleasure to learn that your universities are flourishing, and the number of students annually advancing; should any liberal person on your side the Atlantic, take the trouble to give me accurate information in these respects, I shall be proud to communicate it here, which many others are averse to do.”

\* (The plan of this periodical work is upon such liberal principles as must procure it a more general circulation than any work of the same nature hitherto attempted; and the character of the editor as a man of learning and abilities must render the publication highly interesting wherever knowledge is sought after and science revered.) (G. Adv.)

In a former number of the Gazette of the United States we published a sketch of the plan of the above work, which we now have the pleasure to inform the public will be published next month. Subscriptions for which are received by Mr. SAMUEL CAMPBELL, Bookseller, New-York. Terms of subscription are 25. 6d. 3s. 3d. and 4s. Sterl. (according to the quality of the paper) per volume, nine volumes to be published annually; subscription taken in by the vol. only—and no separate numbers sold.

IMPROMPTU.

KENTUCKY to the Union given—  
VERMONT will make the balance even;  
Still PENNSYLVANIA holds the scales,  
And neither South or North prevails.

BOARDING.

Mrs. Johannah Van Brugh Ursin has taken a House for the accommodation of Gentlemen and Ladies, and will make it agreeable to those that will honor her with their company.—Second-Street, opposite the New-Market, No. 209.