

pressive taxation, calculate on no better principles than dishonest men, who are bankrupts, and never expect to pay, but will buy goods to sell at auction, or who sell for cash bills of exchange which they know will not be accepted, or who give credit for goods, open shop, set up a carriage, and live like a prince, on the property of others, (a short time however) and then sink without pity in contempt, distress and ruin. Two hundred thousand dollars, is the sum proposed to be expended. The probability however is, that if the mausoleum is begun, on the dimension proposed, by the House of Representatives, that it will eventually cost more than a million of dollars. The willingness of the people to pay the expense, be it more or less, will depend on their opinion of the propriety and usefulness of the expenditure. A very great proportion of them think of it, as historians have universally thought of the pyramids of Egypt, who have called them "contemptible and ridiculous." "Regum pecunie otiosa ac stulta ostentatio." "A foolish and useless ostentation of wealth." And Pliny has remarked that by a just punishment the memory of those who erected them is buried in oblivion. He says historians do not agree among themselves about the names of those who raised those VAIN MONUMENTS—"Inter eos non constat a quibus facta sint justissimo casu oblitteratis, TANTA VANITATIS Auctoribus." But all the historians agree in this remarkable fact, which ought to be a warning against all similar folly;—"That the public hatred, which the kings of Egypt incurred, by laying the task of building those pyramids upon their subjects, occasioned their being buried, in some obscure place, to prevent their bodies from being exposed to the fury and vengeance of the populace." Vid. Diad. lib. 1. p. 40. "This," says an excellent historian, "teaches us what judgment we ought to pass on these kind of edifices, and on those princes who considered as something grand, the raising by a multitude of hands, and by the help of money, immense structures, with the sole view of rendering their names immortal, and who did not scruple to destroy thousands of their subjects, to satiate their vain glory. They differed very much from the Romans, who sought to immortalize themselves, by works of a magnificent kind, but at the same time of public utility."

These quotations from history are in point against the proposed mausoleum, and the feelings of our country are also against it. How otherwise can we account for the opposition of almost one half of the House of Representatives, and the general and universal reprobation it has met with, so far as the sentiments of the people are known. Supposing that this grand pile of rocks, wanted (by the way) for the canal, the cellars, the wharves, and the public buildings of the city, and which cannot be purchased in the silent beds where nature has placed them, unless at an high price, should with vast labour and expense, be dragged from the banks of the Potomack, and be placed pyramid like in some conspicuous square of the city, will not the first reflection of every visitant here, however he may love and revere the memory of its most illustrious founder, be like those of all persons who have viewed and spoken of the pyramids of Egypt! Will he not say, in spite of himself, how much better would it have been for our country, if the money expended in erecting this uncouth and useless pile of rocks, had been appropriated in the establishment and endowment of a NATIONAL HOSPITAL for our sick, wounded, or crippled seamen, or for the establishment and endowment of a NATIONAL UNIVERSITY in this city, so ardently wished for, and so repeatedly and strongly recommended by our beloved Washington in his address to congress—Will he not feel disagreeably and reprobate the mausoleum, as an ill-judged effort to shew respect to a character exalted beyond the reach of obloquy or praise; not to be honoured by a pile of rocks, however huge and massy, or however polished and ornamented. Will he not think that every attempt of this kind would be as useless and ridiculous, as lighting a candle in the full noon-day blaze of the sun, with a view of adding to its effulgence. No, so far from honouring the great name of Washington, it is dishonouring it. As if his virtues, his glory, and his fame, which have spread through the world a lustre, never to be tarnished or forgotten, and which will go down the long stream of time, with increasing honor and veneration to the latest ages of posterity, stood in need of an odious tax, to be gratefully remembered by his country.

Was he my father, was he my friend, to whose memory I wished to have all possible honor shown by his country, I would request no more than was proposed by the resolution of the two houses of Congress at the last session, "That a Marble Monument be erected by the United States, in the City of Washington, and his remains deposited under it, and so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and public life." This should be neat, plain and simple, of no great expense, emblematical of the character of this great and illustrious man, who was wise and prudent, and on all occasions careful of the public money, in the expenditure of which, he often recommends the strictest frugality and economy. On this monument should be an inscription, similar to that on the tomb of the Great Frederic of Prussia, containing a sentiment ten thousand times more sublime than any which would be excited by the most superb and expensive Mausoleum.

GEORGIUS WASHINGTON,
HIC GNIS,
FAMA UBIQUE.
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

His remains are here—His Tomb pervades the Universe—

There is something inimitably sublime in an inscription like this, for so great a character. It makes the globe a place which he has honored, and the universe a monument of his glory.

In a testimonial of respect like this, the whole nation will unite—they have united in it. Why then violate the public feelings, by attempting what the nation and the world will reprobate?

It is said, and it is generally believed, that the much loved and much respected family connexions of general Washington, aware of the uneasiness which might arise from an attempt to erect a mausoleum, are averse to the measure, and wish simply to have carried into effect the joint resolution of both houses of congress at the last session. To place his remains in the centre of the capital—in the heart and bosom of the nation, in the place whence the longitude of our country is reckoned, and where its laws are discussed and agreed to, would be expressive of our most affectionate regard, and by a natural association, would lead every legislator and every citizen often to contemplate those virtues which adorn the life of WASHINGTON THE GREAT, and to make them the models of their conduct.

These are my reflections on the subject of the mausoleum. Though written in great haste, I believe they are substantially correct.

I am, &c.

Extract of a letter from Colonel Burr, to General Smith, dated
NEW YORK, Dec. 16, 1800.

"It is highly improbable that I shall have an equal number of votes with Mr. Jefferson; but if such should be the result, every man who knows me ought to know that I should utterly disclaim all competition. Be assured that the federal party can entertain no wish for such an exchange. As to my friends, they would dishonor my views, and insult my feelings by a suspicion that I could submit to be instrumental in counteracting the wishes and expectations of the United States—and I now constitute you my proxy, to declare these sentiments if the occasion shall require."

CABINET AND CHAIR MANUFACTORY.

WILSON AND HANDY,
H AVE commenced the above business at their shop on New Jersey Avenue between the Episcopal church and Sugar House. As they are confident from the experience they have had in the principal shops in Europe and America, that they shall be able to give general satisfaction to those who will please to favour them with their custom. They have on hand, viz.

Secretary Desks,
Portable Writing Desks,
Dressing Chests,
Card tables, &c.
N. B. Orders from country or city thankful received and faithfully executed.
December 30. 311W

BOARDING AND LODGING.

M Y be had for three or four gentlemen during the session of Congress by applying to Mr. Claxton, or at the Three Buildings 4 doors East of the Navy office, to
WM. O'NEAL.
City of Washington Dec. 8, 1800. 3*

WASHINGTON CITY.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1801.

The Editor of the National Intelligencer, finding that it is usual to appropriate, at this season, a day to purposes of relaxation, informs his subscribers that no paper will be issued from his Press on Friday.

The performances, under the signature of Epaminondas, entitled, "Considerations on the Government of the Territory of Columbia," are this day concluded.

To meet the demand of the public for these pieces, they will be presented entire, in the form of a PAMPHLET which will appear on SATURDAY next.

The President has nominated SAMUEL DEXTER Secretary of the Treasury in the room of Oliver Wolcott resigned.

By the latest accounts from Constantinople it appears that the French in Egypt are preparing to attack the Turks in Syria. It is added in private letters that Sir Sidney Smith has employed his influence with Ghezzaw Pacha, and has succeeded in reconciling him to the Porte.

By an arrival at Boston, London papers to the 27th October, have been received. The following is a summary of their contents, as given by one of the Boston editors:

Accompanying the British King's speech was the correspondence between France and England, respecting peace; comprising 47 papers. By these it appears, that Citizen O had proposed to Lord Grenville, an armistice by sea and land; a free navigation to the vessels of both nations, &c. These were considered by Lord Grenville, as calculated solely to benefit France—but to evince the desire of England to commence the work of peace, he proposed an armistice which he considered reciprocal. This has been rejected by the French government; and an overture has been made to the court of London for a separate treaty; which Great Britain true to her engagements with Austria has rejected.

In consequence of the information in the King's speech respecting the scarcity of provisions, the British House of Commons have passed resolutions for preventing the manufacture of spirits, starch, &c. from corn; and for allowing bounties on the importation of wheat, barley, rye, oats, flour and corn.

Citizens Pichon, (the late Secretary of Legation at the Hague) is appointed French Commissary General, to reside at Philadelphia.

We are much indebted to our correspondent for the following valuable communication.

RETURN OF TAXABLES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

	1793.	1800.
1 Philadelphia City,	7088	6625
2 Philad. county,	6885	7919
3 Delaware,	2216	2285
4 Bucks,	4644	5030
5 Montgomery,	4350	4742
6 Chester,	5270	6125
7 Berks,	5511	6325
8 Dauphin,	3481	3982
9 Lancaster,	6409	7834
10 York,	6947	5133
11 Cumberland,	3869	4313
12 Franklin,	3570	3775
13 Northumberland,	3878	4144
14 Mifflin,	2468	1982
15 Luzerne,	1409	2395
16 Northampton,	4597	5316
17 Huntingdon,	1717	2559
18 Bedford,	2881	2317
19 Westmoreland,	3451	4404
20 Fayette,	2844	3779
21 Allegheny,	2510	2501
22 Washington,	5045	5094
Total,	91,150	

NEW COUNTIES.

23 Adams,	2568
24 Lycoming,	1332
25 Wayne,	573
26 Somerset,	1661
27 Green,	1576
28 Crawford,	587
29 Centre,	1341
30 Beaver,	1009
31 Butler,	871
32 Mercer,	535
33 Venango,	293
34 Erie,	461
35 Warren,	52
36 Armstrong,	144
Total taxables in 1800,	111,612
Increase in seven years,	20,462

REMARKS—Fourteen new counties have been erected since 1793 which accounts for the apparent decrease of some counties.

And from the recent organization of those western counties we may reasonably conclude (if no Indian wars intervene) that the increase will be much greater in the next seven years.

The returns there is reason to fear have not been accurately taken. It being impossible in some of the counties to persuade the inhabitants that this was not some guide for future taxation, which induced them to suppress every name they possibly could.

The slaves which in 1791, amounted to 3737, are now reduced to 1521.

Taking our return of taxables as a basis on the proportions of the former Census, Pennsylvania would now contain 532,884 souls. Which would be an increase of 98,511, since the Federal Census.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, December 30.

A report was received from the secretary of war on the petition of several Canadian refugees. Read and referred to the committee appointed on the same subject.

THE SPEAKER read a letter from the sergeant at arms, stating that in consequence of his execution of the orders of the Speaker in removing JAMES FANE, from the gallery for disorderly behaviour and confining him in the clerk's office till the house rose, he had been arrested by a warrant from a magistrate exercising his authority under the state of Maryland, and had been kept in custody from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. and had been then liberated in consequence of the failure of the prosecutor to appear.

On the question to appoint a committee of privileges the house divided, Ayes 33, Noes 29.

A committee of five was then appointed, to whom the foregoing letter was referred.

Mr. Claiborne presented to the House, a petition signed by a number of the merchants, and other citizens of the town of Nashville in Tennessee, praying the removal of the Port of Entry from Palmira in that State, to Fort Mifflin, on the Ohio river.

On motion—The said petition was referred to the committee of commerce.

The committee to whom was referred a resolution on the expediency of repealing an act for the valuation of dwelling houses, &c. made report that it would not be expedient at this time to repeal the said law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A bill for continuing the duty on licenses for selling wine and foreign distilled spirits, and on goods sold at auction and on carriages was read twice, and referred to a committee of the whole house to-morrow.

The committee of revision and unfinished business, reported the titles of a number of acts soon to expire by their own limitations.

Mr. TALLAFERRO presented an address and remonstrance from the Legislature of Georgia in relation to the western lands of that state, which was ordered to lie on the table, and to be printed for the use of the members.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31, 1800.

The house went into a committee of the whole, Mr. Morris in the chair, on the bill for continuing an act for imposing duties on licenses for selling wines and on foreign distilled spirits, on goods sold at auction and on carriages.

Mr. Randolph moved an amendment limiting the duration of the act to two years. Lost by the chairman's vote, Ayes 39, Noes, 39.

Mr. Bird moved an amendment, taking from the state courts all cognizance of suits for recovery of dues, under the idea that all such delegation of judicial power was unconstitutional.

After making a number of remarks to this effect, which shall appear in our next, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The house then went into a committee of the whole on the bill in relation to the Territory of Columbia.

Mr. Randolph moved to strike out the first section.

On which motion a debate of considerable interest ensued, in which the obligation to assume, as well as the expediency of assuming, the jurisdiction over the territory by the Federal Government, were discussed with much energy. The speakers in favor of the assumption were Messrs. H. Lee, Bird, Craik, Dennis, Harper and C. Goodrich;—those against it were Mr. Randolph and Mr. Nicholas.

On the motion of Mr. Harper, the committee rose and reported progress.

A motion was then made to re-commit the bill to the select committee who introduced it, with the addition of two members, and carried.