

Sect. 20. And be it further enacted, That the money of account of the United States, shall be expressed in dollars or units, dollars or tenths, cents or hundredths and milles or thousandths, being the tenth part of a dollar, a cent the hundredth part of a dollar, and that all accounts in the public offices and all proceedings of the courts of the United States shall be kept and had in conformity to this regulation.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

Approved, April the 2d, 1792.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

Deposited among the rolls in the office of the Secretary of State.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, Secretary of State

## Proceedings of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22.

In committee of the whole on the report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the Public Debt.—(Mr. Seney in the chair)

The report being read, Mr. Fitzsimons read in his place nine resolutions, which provided for the several objects specified in the report:—Three resolutions being read by the Clerk.

The committee rose, reported progress, and laid leave to sit again.

A letter from the Secretary of State was communicated by the Speaker, referring to a report pursuant to order of the House, on the subject of the committee of the United States with foreign nations; and suggesting to the House the propriety of his suspending that report till the next session—ordered to lie on the table.

In committee of the whole, on the report of the select committee, on the memorial of the Directors of the Ohio company of Associates.

The report was read—which concludes with a resolution to this effect:

That a committee be appointed to report a bill for confirming to the directors of said company, the lands purchased by them of the late board of Treasury, and to relinquish on the part of the United States their demand against the said company, the balance due from them of \$500,000 dollars.

This resolution, after a long debate, was disagreed to.

Mr. Fitzsimons then proposed sundry resolutions—the first of which was agreed to.

That a title be granted to the Ohio company for the lands already paid for.

The second was to grant the Company a right of pre-emption for — years, to the residue of their purchase at the price at which Congress may dispose of their vacant lands.

This being opposed, the committee rose without deciding, and reported progress.

Mr. Smith, of the committee of enrolled bills, reported two bills as duly enrolled:—“An act for the relief of certain widows, orphans, and other persons”—the other, “An act for the relief of sundry persons under particular circumstances barred by the limitations heretofore established.” The Speaker signed the above bills.

Mr. Madison, of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the House and Senate, respecting the Representation Bill, reported, that the committee of the two houses had met and conferred, but did not agree.

A message was received from the Senate by Mr. Secretary Otis, informing the House that the Senate, in their amendments to the Representation Bill,

FRIDAY, MARCH 23.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Secretary Otis, informing the House that they have passed a bill for ascertaining the times of holding certain circuit courts, and for other purposes; in which they request the concurrence of the House. The bill was read the first time.

Another message from the Senate, informing the House, that they have passed a bill entitled an act supplemental to the act making further and more effectual provision for the defence of the frontiers of the United States.

A message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Secretary Lee, informing the House, that the President has this Day approved and signed a bill providing for the claims of widows and orphans barred by limitations heretofore established—and to regulate the claims to invalid pensions.

The message from the Senate received yesterday, in which they informed the House that they insist on their amendment to the representation Bill, was taken into consideration.

Mr. Fiske, moved, that the house should recede from their disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, considerable debate ensued on a point of order, whether a subsequent question should be taken, in case the motion to recede should be carried in the affirmative. The speaker gave it as his opinion that such subsequent motion might be made. An appeal was made from this decision of the chair to the House.

The House determined that a subsequent question would not be in order.

After further debate the question on receding was determined in the affirmative—Yea 31—Nays 29.

Here a question was started, whether the vote just passed was for a general recission from the disagreement of the house to all the amendments of the Senate.

The Speaker said he considered the vote as referring to all the amendments. An appeal being

made to the House, it was determined that all the amendments were involved in the vote to recede.

A bill received from the Senate was read the first and second times and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

The bill authorizes the President to appoint such number of Brigadier Generals as the public service may require.

The report of a select committee on the petition of sundry merchants trading to India—which report proposes an execution of the time allowed by law for the payment of the duties on teas imported from India, was taken into consideration—agreed to: and a bill ordered to be brought in pursuant thereto.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24.

An engrossed “bill for finishing a light house on Bald Head, at the mouth of Cape Fear river, in the state of North Carolina” was read a third time, passed, and sent to the Senate for their concurrence—the blank for the sum appropriated, being filled with four thousand dollars.

A bill (from the Senate) to alter the times of holding the circuit courts, in certain districts of the United States, and for other purposes,” was read a second time, and ordered for commitment on Monday next.

In committee of the whole house, (Mr. Shirry in the chair) the bill supplemental to the act for making further and more effectual provision for the protection of the United States, was considered and amended.

The house adopted the amendments and passed the bill as follows:

“Be it enacted &c. That it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate to appoint such a number of Brigadier Generals, as may be conducive to the good of the public service: Provided the number appointed, or to be appointed shall exceed four.”

A memorial from sundry merchants of the city of Philadelphia, importers of dry goods, petitioning against an encroachment of their import duties, and praying that a longer term may be allowed for the payment of the duties—was referred to the committee of the Senate’s report of ways and means.

A bill to extend the time herefore granted for the payment of the duties on certain teas imported after the third day of March, 1791—was twice read, and ordered for commitment on Wednesday next.

The House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole—(Mr. Seney in the chair)—on the bill, sent from the Senate, to establish a mint and regulate the coins of the United States;—and having made one amendment, rose and reported the bill, as amended.

The House immediately proceeded to consider the report of the committee, and having amended the amendment, on the question for adopting it as an amendment, a division was called for; and—

The question being thus taken on striking out a clause directing the gold and silver coins to be impressed on one side with a “Representation of the head of the President of the United States, for the time being with an inscription expressing the initial or full letter of his Christian or first name, and his sur-name at length, the succession of the Presidency numerically, and the year of the coinage”—it passed in the affirmative—Yea 26—Nays 2.

The question was then taken on substituting an emblematic figure of liberty, with an inscription of the word “LIBERTY”—and passed also in the affirmative; Yeas 42—Nays 6.

The bill was then ordered for a third reading on Monday next.

The chief objection to having the coins marked with the head of the President for the time being, was, that it favors too much of monarchy, and would ill become the majority of an independent people enjoying a free republican government, that to idolize the features of an individual; and would besides be holding out an additional temptation to ambitious men; while pride might be battered by the prospect of having their faces confounded to immortality, in gold and silver.

Those gentlemen, on the other hand who coincided in opinion with the Senate thought it by no means derogatory to a republic, to have their money stamped with the likeness of their chief magistrate—that by agreeing with the Senate, they would give our President as well as our coin a greater degree of respectability in foreign countries, and would pay him a compliment which could not give umbrage to any citizen of the United States.

Our present chief magistrate (it was answered) has indeed a just title to every mark of respect; nor would any objection be made to stamping his image, as the mark of respectability, on our coins, provided his features were forever to be retained. But the framers of the bill intended no further compliment; on the contrary, they had expressly provided, that his head should, in the common course of events, make room in a short time, for nobody knows whom, —Nero perhaps, a Caligula, or Heligobulus.

Mr. Seane, from the committee of enrollment, presented the Representation Bill duly enrolled; and Mr. Speaker signed the same.

Adjourned.

MONDAY, MARCH 26.

Mr. Giles laid on the table the following resolution, declaring at the same time, that it was far from his intention to censure or reflect upon the character of any committee.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to constitute an enquiry into the causes of the late defeat of the army under the command of Major General St. Clair: and also into the causes of the late general or daily wars which attended the money, cloathing, provisons, and military stores for the use of the said army; and into other causes, as my in any manner have been productive of the said defeat.

The “Bill from the Senate) establishing a Mint, and regulating the coins of the United States, was

read a third time, and passed, with the amendments substituting an emblematic figure, LIBERTY, device on one side of the gold and silver coins.

On passing of the bill, the Yeas were 23—Nays 6.

The bill and the amendments were then sent to the Senate, and in some time after.

A message from the Senate was delivered by Mr. Secretary Otis, notifying that they had considered and amended, and disagreed to.

A motion was made to recede from the same.

Hereupon ensued a debate of considerable length, which the advocates of the President’s head tried a variety of arguments, some in a serious nature, others together ludicrous; and took much pains to convince gentlemen of opposite sentiments, that the point in dispute was a mere bogatue, and hardly worth considering about:—Whilst, on the other hand, it was fully maintained that trifling as the matter might in appearance, it was nevertheless worthy of full attention, being an injurious attack on Republicanism calculated to sap the principles of the people, and possibly to reconcile them to monarchy.

On the question for receding, the Yeas were 27.

A motion being then made that the House should adhere to their amendment, the question was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. Secretary Otis informed the house that the Senate had agreed to the proposed amendment to the bill reflecting the Brigadier Generals.

The committee of enrollment reported, that they had this day presented the Representation Bill to the President of the United States, for his approbation.

PHILADELPHIA, April 1.

Gen. St. CLAIR has resigned the command of the army, and we have been favoured with the following copies of letters that passed between the President of the United States and the General upon the occasion.

Philadelphia, March 26, 1792.

SIR,

I BEG leave to offer you, unfeigned thanks, for the honor conferred upon me, by the appointment to the command of the Army of the United States the last campaign.

Though that campaign was unfortunate, I am not conscious that anything within my power has produced a more happy issue than was neglected. As was prompted to accept that command by my sense of ambition or interest, but by a fervent wish to be of service to my country, and a belief, perhaps too fondly entertained, that I could be so; that I am led to decline it in future, proceede neither from disaffection nor disappointment.

Having been much afflicted with sickness during the whole of the campaign, though I flattered myself the publick interest did not suffer by it, and my health is now tolerably restored, my constitution received a very severe shock, and I might not again be able to go through the weight of business which necessarily follows the command of an army.

Although, Sir, I am myself perswaded that every thing was done, in the course of the last campaign that could be done on my part, fully to answer the publick expectation, yet it is denied by some, doubted by many, and known to but few out of the army. A wish to rectify the publick opinion, and a duty that I conceive I owe to myself, induces me to request that inquiry into my conduct may be instituted: when that is over, I may be permitted to resign the command of Major-General, which I now hold. Should the result of the inquiries be that in any instance, the duties of my station were neglected, or that I did not improve every hour and every opportunity to the best advantage, or that the operations of the army, after it was in a condition to operate, were delayed one moment in consequence of my illness, I shall patiently submit to the merited censure.

To whoever may be appointed my successor, I shall be happy, Sir, to give every light and information sufficient, at General of the army, or Governor of the Western Territory, put in my power to obtain, and to enjoin you, Sir, and to the world, that the confidence you were pleased to repose in me, was not misplaced.

I am, Sir, with esteem and regard,

Your most obedient servant,

ARTHUR St. CLAIR,

President of the United States.

UNITED STATES, April 4th, 1792.

SIR,

I have read and duly considered your letter of the 26th.

The reasons you offer for retaining your command until an opportunity should be presented, if necessary, of investigating your conduct in every mode prescribed by law, would be conclusive with me, under the circumstances than those.

Be the establishment of the troops allows only one

Major-General. You have manifested your intention, and the essential interests of the publick require that your successor should be immediately appointed in order to repair to the frontier.

As the House of representatives have been pleased to institute an enquiry into the cause of the failure of the expedition, I should hope an opportunity would be afforded you of explaining your conduct, in some measure, that lost.—This goes by Mr. Wolf, who came about yearego to this country to settle. Unhappy, to see some friends and near relations perished in Hazzard, with whom he had a falling out; and in consequence thereof, returns rather to Europe.

It is a truth beyond contradiction, that the manufacture of paper will soon decline in this state, unless the generality of people can be induced by some means or other, to preserve their rags. The great complaint at all the paper mills is want of rags; the failure of the necessary supply of which must soon raise the price of paper-manufactured printing paper so much as to cause a renewal of the importation of this very necessary article from France, Holland, and Great Britain.

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Gen. William Hull, an officer of the Massachusetts line of the late army, now in this city, has been commissioned by the officers of that line, to present their memorial to Congress on the subject of a further compensation for themselves and the soldiers who served during the late war. Finding this memorial cannot be attended to by Congress during the present session, he has addressed a circular letter to the citizens of the other states, urging the necessity of their coming forward at the beginning of the next session and presenting for the payment of that debt from the public to them, which actually existed at the time when the funding system was adopted.—This demand, however, is confined, in the memorial mentioned, to those who enlisted in the year 1777 for three years, or during the war; other classes of the army being considered as already compensated.—This class, officers and soldiers, received certificates in payment, and returned home in an embarrassed situation, being soon after obliged, thro’ necessity, to part with their certificates for the price that was going.—From the provision made by the present government, the purchasers received an immense advantage—part of the debt, however, originally due, was fayed by the publick, the two per cent for ten years on the principal of the whole debt, and half the interest which had accumulated: which remnant is still in the hands of the publick, and will no more than discharge the original debt.

We hear from Ireland, that the bill for the relief of the Roman Catholics in that island, lately presented to the Irish House of Commons, has been thrown out by a majority.

Accounts from New-York say, that the failure in that city may be fairly stated at three millions of dollars.

The city is in a languishing condition—wholes laying at the wharves without any one to receive their cargoes—the speculators either in jail, tumbling over

each other, or loose papers, locked up in garrets, or fled to remote and sequestered parts of Ireland—others, however, are engaged in the business of the country, and others are preparing to follow: the beginning of March, 14, persons were killed by the Indians on that part of the frontier. Major Butler had arrived at Wissahickon, from Fort Washington, in a weak and decaying state, owing to the wounds received on the 4th of November.—This gallant officer was once a master of his farm, near Carlisle.

Thomas Sen Lee, Esq. is appointed Governor of the state of Maryland, in the room of Governor Plater, deceased.

All the late accounts from India agree that the armed forces of the British forces in India was to be exerted the next campaign against Sikkim. It is reduced to a certainty that the forces of the English will extirpate this prince, and rid themselves of an enemy who is the main

obstacle to their complete conquest of that part of India.

Persons of cool judgment, however, in India, know

it is not an easy conquest. He is at the head

of an immense army, it is a great general and soldier,

well known from the trials, and perfectly acquainted

with European military discipline; and is besides at home,

fighting for life and empire.

On Wednesday following, a woman was killed and scalped near Mr. Brice’s meeting house, within two hundred yards of the great road leading from Washington to Wheeler, fifteen miles within the settlement.

In consequence of the above information, Alanson Baird, Esq. Lieutenant of Washington, company has ordered out a party of militia.

A man whose name I do not recollect, being on

Thurs. the 4th instant, at the house of a family of the name of Edgar, they were talking of removing to another house of the name of Humphreys, a young boy to Edgar’s son on Friday about noon, he found the family gone, and supposing they had gone to Humphreys’, went over there, and there within five miles distance of the house, he found a number of mangled carcasses, instantly made his retreat, and brought in the intelligence.—These families consisted of upwards of 20 persons, young and old.

This settlement is under a general alarm, and Wolf’s old fort is talked of as the place of stand. This is within five miles of the town of Washington.

PHILADELPHIA, April 10.

We hear that David Rittenhouse Esq. is appointed

Director of the MINT of the United States.

Extract of a letter from Meungabala, 15 miles from Pitsburgh, dated April 9.

“We are all in miserable peace and quiet here, altho’ there are some rumours of disturbance in the wilderness, a woman and several children killed, down the Ohio, some scattered bodies burned by Indians, &c. On the 3d of this month some Indians made their appearance near Wheeling, and took a woman and two boys prisoners. They were pursued, but to no purpose; it is feared they killed the woman and one of the boys. The other has since returned to the settlement, with the loss of his scalp, and a bad cut on the throat, which however missed the windpipe.—The Indian war has much injured the boat building business present, but am in hopes the army will make up, in some measure, that loss.—This goes by Mr. Wolf, who came about yearego to this country to settle. Unhappy, to see some friends and near relations perished in Hazzard, with whom he had a falling out; and in consequence thereof, returns rather to Europe.

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Letters from Mayence, inform that the elector has ratified the Prince of Condé as the next regency to succeed his dominions, with the emperors.

The rigorous proceedings of the National Assembly and the declaration of the King of France have reduced the French Prince to a very critical situation, that they have seen to affect the interests of the different courts in which they may be involved.

(Lyd. Gen.)

Petitions have been handed in to the house of commons, from almost every county in England, for the abolition of the African slave trade.

NORTHAMPTON, May 9.

On Tuesday the 8th inst. the Supreme Judicial Court

opened in this town, and proceeded to business, and on Saturday following finished their session.—During their sitting, several persons were convicted of theft, forgery, & received sentence accordingly—One, by the name of Tugby, after sitting on the Gallows one hour, and receiving the discipline of the whip, goes to the Cattle for ten years.

WILL COVER, At the stable of ASAHEL POMEROY.

ASAHEL POMEROY.

Northampton, May 9, 1792.

WILL COVER, This season,

Week about at Dr. Robert Starkweather’s stable,

in Chesterfield, and at Mr. Tinney’s in Goshen, at the moderate price of 4/- the leap, of the Senor, and 1/- to ensure a foal;

to the Stable of the Sabre, called the

R O V E R,

Formerly owned by Col. BENJ. BOWEN, of Chesterfield, seven years old, bright chestnut colt. As for his Pedigree it is needless to defend it to its master, immediate descendant from the Old Royal Bay, of Connecticut; his beauty, activity and elegance, together with his nobleness for good Colts, the owner-father himself will be a sufficient inducement for gentlemen to put their breeding mares to him—All favours gratefully acknowledged.

WILL COVER, At the Stable of the Sabre, called

B R I G H T B A Y,

Four years old, rising of six feet high, was bred in an embarrased situation, being soon after oblige, thro’ necessity, to part with their certificates for the price that was going.—From the provision made by the present government, the purchasers received an immense advantage—part of the debt, however, originally due, was fayed by the publick, the two per cent for ten years on the principal of the whole debt, and half the interest which had accumulated: which remnant is still in the hands of the publick, and will no more than discharge the original debt.

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Late letters from the eastward inform that the Kentucky side of the Ohio river in those parts, is infested with Indians—this greatly alarmed the inhabitants, many of whom had moved off, and others were preparing to follow: the beginning of March, 14, persons were killed by the Indians on that part of the frontier. Major Butler had arrived at Wissahickon, from Fort Washington, in a weak and decaying state, owing to the wounds received on the 4th of November.—This gallant officer was once a master of his farm, near Carlisle.

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