The several petitions were referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, when the resolution being under consideration for carrying the British treaty into effect, Mr. Dwight Foster and Mr. Griswold spoke in favour of it, and Mr. Gallatin against it; and Mr. Kitchell delivered his sentiments upon the occasion. He did not approve of the treaty; but thought fewer evils would arise from carrying it into effect than from a contrary resolution, and therefore expressed his intention to vote for the question before the committee. At the conclusion of Mr. Gallatin's speech, some calls being heard for the question, a division took place for the committee's rising, when there were fifty-six Members in favour of it—It of course rose and had leave to sit again.

Mr. Livingston, chairman of the committee for carrying into effect a resolution respecting the son of the Marquis la Fayette, reported that he was arrived in this country and that he had received the patronage of the President of the United States; that he was in New-Jersey for education; and to shew that he had no occasion for pecuniary assistance, the committee subjoined a very well written affecting letter to the chairman of the committee in answer to one from him, expressive of his gratitude for the kind attention shewn to him by the legislature of the United States, by the President, and by every person to whom he was made known——that he had no wants: that he was as happy as he could be, considering his separation from his father and that if he should in future have occasion for assistance, he would apply to Congress, who had been so kind and attentive to his welfare.—Adjourned.

April 27.

Mr. Swanwick presented a petition from 55 citizens of Philadelphia; Mr. Goodhue several petitions from the state of Delaware; Mr. Richards one from Pennsylvania; Mr. Isaac Smith ten petitions signed by 862 persons from the state of New Jersey; Mr. Kittera one from the state of Pennsylvania; Mr. Sitgreaves one from Montgomery, signed by 161 persons (he yesterday presented one from Delaware county signed by 300 which we omitted, in favour of the British treaty.

Mr. Swanwick presented a petition also from citizens of Philadelphia and another from the state of Delaware, against the British treaty.

Mr. Sedgwick informed the house that he held in his hand a letter from six respectable gentlemen in Boston, sent by express, addressed to the representatives of the state of Massachusetts in Congress. It was accompanied, he said, by an attested copy of a petition praying that provision may be made for carrying into effect the British treaty. He was informed it was already signed by betwixt 11 and 12,000 merchants, manufacturers and other citizens of Boston. The reason that the petition itself was not sent was that it remained to receive further signatures. He expected the original would come to hand by the post on Friday; but as the important question to which it related, might in the mean time be taken, he hoped the attested copy would be received.

The above was received, and, together with all the petitions above mentioned, was referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union; when the resolution for carrying into effect the British treaty being under consideration, Messrs. Gilbert and Tracey spoke in favour of the motion. A call for the question was again made; but upon the motion being put for the committees rising there appeared 51 for it, which was more than a majority of members present. The committee accordingly rose without coming to a decision—Adjourned.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

AN ACT

For establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes.

Sec. 1. BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, to establish trading houses at such posts and places on the western and southern frontiers, or in the Indian country, as he shall judge most convenient for the purpose of carrying on a liberal trade with the several Indian nations, within the limits of the United States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the President be authorized to appoint an agent for each trading house established, whose duty it shall be, to receive, and dispose of in trade, with the Indian nations aforementioned, such goods as he shall be directed by the President of the United States to receive and dispose of, as aforesaid, according to the rules and orders which the President shall prescribe; and every such agent shall take an oath or affirmation, faithfully to execute the trust committed to him; and that he will not directly or indirectly, be concerned or interested in any trade, commerce or barter, with any Indian or Indians whatever, but on the public account; and shall also give bond with sufficient security in such sum as the President of the United States shall direct, truly and honestly to account for all the money, goods and other property whatever, which shall come into his hands, or for which, in good faith, he ought so to account, and to perform all the duties required of him by this act: and his accounts shall be made up half-yearly, and transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the agents, their clerks, or other persons employed by them, shall not be, directly or indirectly, concerned or interested in carrying on the business of trade or commerce on their own, or any other than the public account, or take, or apply to his or their own use, any emolument or gain for negotiating or transacting any business or trade, during their agency or employment, other than is provided by this act. And if any such persons shall offend against any of the prohibitions aforesaid, he or they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit to the United States, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, and shall be removed from such agency or employment, and forever thereafter be incapable of holding any office under the United States: Provided That if any other person, than a public prosecutor shall give information of any such offence, upon which a prosecution and conviction shall be had, one half the aforesaid penalty, when received, shall be for the use of the person giving such information.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That the prices of the goods supplied to, and to be paid for by the Indians, shall be regulated in such manner, that the capital stock furnished by the United States, may not be diminished.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That during the continuance of this act, the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised to draw annually from the Treasury of the United States, a sum not exceeding eight thousand dollars, to be applied, under his direction, for the purpose of paying the agents and clerks; which agents shall be allowed to draw out of the public supplies, two rations each, and each clerk one ration, per day.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, exclusive of the allowances to agents and clerks, be, and they are hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying on trade and intercourse with the Indian nations, in the manner aforementioned, to be paid out of any monies unappropriated in the Treasury of the United States.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That if any agent or agents, their clerks, or other persons employed by them, shall purchase, or receive of any Indian, in the way of trade or barter, a gun or other article commonly used in hunting; any instrument of husbandry, or cooking utensil of the kind usually obtained by Indians, in their intercourse with white people; any article of clothing, (except skins or furs) he or they shall, respectively, forfeit the sum of one hundred dollars for each offence, to be recovered by action of debt, in the name, and to the use of the United States, in any court of law of the United States, or of any particular state having jurisdiction in like cases, or in the supreme or superior courts of the territories of the U. States; Provided, That no suit shall be commenced except in the state or territory within which the cause of action shall have arisen, or the defendant may reside: And it shall be the duty of the superintendants of Indian affairs, and their deputies, respectively, to whom information of every such offence shall be given, to collect the requisite evidence, if attainable, and to prosecute the offender, without delay.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That this act shall be in force for the term of two years, and to the end of the next session of Congress thereafter, and no longer.

APPROVED, April the eighteenth, 1796.

GEO: WASHINGTON, *President of the United States.*

RESOLVED, *by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary for the Department of War return to the respective district Judges the names of all such persons, as have been transmitted to him by the several district Judges, pursuant to the act for the regulation of claims to invalid pensions; and in whose cases, the examining physicians have neglected to specify the ratio of disability;—together with such defective returns of physicians. And the said district Judges, respectively, shall forthwith cause the examining physicians to specify the several rates of disability, which have been so neglected; or, in case of sickness, death or removal of one or both such physicians, to make new appointments, and cause the several rates of disability to be specified, and by the said physicians returned to them, as soon as may be; of which, they shall make return, to the Secretary at War, who shall, at the session of Congress holden next after, or at the time of such receipt, make return thereof, with such observations, as he may think proper to subjoin, that the proper order may be taken thereon by Congress.

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

APPROVED—April the eighteenth, 1796.

GO: WASHINGTON,
President of the United States.

Deposited among the Rolls in the office of the department of State.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, *Secretary of State.*

PHILADELPHIA, April 14.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Baltimore-town, who was an able member of the general convention that formed the constitution, to his friend, now in this city.

Baltimore-town, April 3.

Dear sir,

YOUR favor of the 28th past was only received by me last night.

A few copies of the publication respecting the proceedings of the general convention, and my sentiments of the constitution by that convention proposed are in my possession. With some of them the rats and mice have used nearly the same freedom as the democratic faction appears disposed to use with certain departments of the government established under the constitution. I send you a copy as little injured as any I possess.

Since it has become the order of the day for a certain [illegible], some of whom, by the bye, were violent advocates for the constitution, to rail at our government, and to condemn all its measures, I have been repeatedly solicited, personally and by letter, to furnish similar copies; but knowing for what purpose they were wanted, I have uniformly refused.—For, though I had strong objections to the government as formed, many of which still subsist, I have approved, in general, its measures, and the mode in which it has been executed: And, however extraordinary it may appear, the much greater part of those measures, which has been the subject of the loudest clamor, have met my warmest approbation.

To you my dear sir, I readily consign my publication, with all its sins on its head, enough, God knows, to damn the author with any government. But to you I readily consign it because I know by you it is not wanted for any use I should deem improper—and because I know, let our sentiments as to the form of the government, be what they will, as to *those measures* of government against which a faction is so clamorous, our sentiments correspond.

As to the information you requested on a particular proposition made in the convention, and its fate, I should not have been willing at this distance of time to have hazarded my memory; and it is probable the memorandums and notes, which I brought with me from the convention, do not now exist; at least, in the multiplicity of my waste papers, I know not where to find them: but it affords me real pleasure to learn from the President's message of the 13th past, that the fact you wished to ascertain, is now established by testimony the most unequivocal.

I rejoice that the journals of the general convention are in existence, and that they are lodged in a place of safety.

From those journals, should you have the curiosity to make the comparison, you will find the authenticity of the *facts*, which I have stated in my publication, as far as relates to the actual proceedings in that convention.

With regard to the matter in contest, I never have doubted but the power of making *all* treaties, *commercial*, as well as others, was vested by the constitution in the President, with the assent of two thirds of the Senators who should be present—That *all* treaties so made, are treaties *made under the constitution*, and thereby immediately become the *law of the land*—That the interposition of the House of Representatives, is in no respect essential or requisite for their ratification——But that *all* treaties when so made by the President with the assent of the requisite proportion of the Senate, being published, had full and complete efficacy and obligation, without any assent, approbation or interference of the House of Representatives.

I never doubted but the framers of the constitution so intended it should be understood; and whenever it has been a subject of discussion, I have ever given it that construction.

Many members of that convention of which number I was one, were anxiously solicitous to have preserved to the state sovereignties, a *full* and *perfect* equality of suffrage (which they enjoyed under the former confederation, and which I still think they ought to enjoy) and to have prevented *Le Peuple Souverain* from being in any degree a constituent part of the general government, or that the representation should in any degree be drawn directly from *that source*, (and in this respect also my sentiments remain unaltered, however heretical they may be.) These facts you will see at large in the pamphlet I send you.

This controversy had nearly terminated the excellence of the convention.—A compromise, however, took place, we preserved an equality of representation for the state governments *in the Senate*, (the only federal feature in the constitution) and consequently there we meant to deposit as many as possible of the great portions of sovereignty the states were obliged to delegate, and among others, the treaty-making power. My only objection to its being deposited where it is, arose from the consideration, that the President, instead of being chosen through the medium of the state governments, derived his existence from the people, which was then, and is now *more strongly* opposed to my sentiments of propriety and safety to our government. But as it was necessary this power should be trusted to some departments, these, where it was trusted, were infinitely, in our opinion, the least exceptionable. And although some few individuals might have been mad enough to have wished introducing the popular branch into the treaty making part of the system, a thousand reasons have then occurred, and must yet occur to every candid and thinking mind, to shew the impropriety and danger of admitting the people at large, or their immediate representatives, to any share in making or ratifying our engagements with foreign nations. Nor can I believe *any* members of that convention, who attended the session, have a doubt the constitution was designed to have the construction I contend for.

These sentiments I have mentioned without reserve, when ever I have spoken upon the subject. You are at liberty to make of them what use you think proper.

It gives me great pain, that the House of Representatives have taken the part they have done, and placed the President in so painful a situation; but, as they have so done, I rejoice he has had the firmness, in so trying a situation, to do his duty, and refuse a compliance with their unconstitutional demand; and since this contest, in which I consider the happiness of the United States, and the prosperity of the separate States deeply involved, might, and, perhaps, would, have at some period come forward, I particularly rejoice the event has taken place while we have an Executive so fully and so justly possessing the confidence of the public.

LONDON, March 1.

By a letter from Vienna we learn, that a marriage was expected to be solemnised between the daughter of Louis the XVI. and the Archduke Charles. It was prevented however, by a circumstance quite unforeseen. When the proposal was made to the Princess, she replied that, however grateful she might feel at the offer made to her, she could not accept of it, because her Father had prior to his death, disposed of her hand: she had promised to comply with his will, and would keep her engagement.

Our letter adds, that it is not known to whom she thus stands engaged unless it be to one of the Sons of Count d'Artois; and that several persons who have access to the court say, that there has been a sensible coldness on the part of the Imperial family towards the Princess.

A squadron of six ships of the line, two frigates, and some transports, has lately sailed under the command of General Alva. This small armament is destined for the South Sea. The general report is, that it will drive the English from whatever settlements they may have made in the neighbourhood of California; and this report is countenanced by the circumstance of that squadron having taken a considerable quantity of ammunition, of troops and artillery.

March 9.

Several articles which the Hamburgh mail, arrived this morning, brings, revive the hopes of effective Negociation; but upon the information and authority of such articles, which so often prove fallacious and contradictory, we forbear to speculate. We have the highest and most unquestionable authority in this country, for saying that things are in train for Negociation, if the French are sincere in their wishes for Peace, and we hope to state the effect of such Negociations upon better authority than the vague rumours, as they generally prove to be, of Foreign Journals.

The English Mediterranean Fleet arrived at Leghorn before the 11th ult. from St. Fiorenzo. It was composed of nine ships of the line and two frigates, under the command of Sir John Jervis.

Such is the wonderful rapidity with which intelligence is conveyed by the Telegraph, that between the last word of a message lately sent to Deal, and the first word of the answer received at the Admiralty, an interval of only three minutes and an half elapsed.

Many of the signs of the Telegraph are made to signify whole words, such as Admiral, Captain, Squadron, Fleet, Convoy, Ships of different descriptions, Russian, Dutch, the points of the Compass, &c. by which means the trouble of orthography is saved, and messages are more expeditiously conveyed. There are some simple signs also, which signify the names of different Ports, and the terms Fog, Word ended, and Message ended.

March 10.

Yesterday arrived a Mail from Hamburgh, which brings no material news. It is generally believed on the Continent, that hostilities between the Austrians and French will recommence in the course of the present month.

March 12.

Mr. Grey established the very strong facts which he undertook to present to the house of Commons beyond the power of refutation.—He proved these points.

That above seventy seven millions eight hundred thousand pounds of debt, incurred by the present war, had been already funded.

That twenty two millions remained floating and unfunded; and that this sum of an hundred millions had been squandered in the three first years of this war.

That this was more than double the expence of any three years of any war in which this country was ever engaged.

That of this sum, almost as much had been spent without estimate, and consequently without the authority of parliament, as with it.

That barracks were built for an army of forty thousand men, to be kept up in time of peace.

That by the new system, the peace establishment could not be less than twenty two millions per annum.

That the permanent revenue was not likely to be more than 19,500,000l.

That consequently if peace were made to-morrow, independent of winding up of the war expences, there must be additional taxes to the amount of 2,500,000l. to carry on the peace.

That, in direct violation of the provisions of the act, of Queen Anne, which declares, that the bank should advance money to government, without grants from parliament, they should forfeit treble the sums advanced, ministers had procured large sums of money in advance from the bank.

That they had artfully smuggled into an act a clause repealing the wholesome provision in the act of Queen Anne, and that now the bank was in advance the enormous sum of 11 millions, 800,000l.

These are but a few of the facts established by Mr. Grey, from documents laid upon the table, and of which printed copies were in the hands of the members. To these charges Mr. Pitt did not say one word. He left every thing to an entire vote on the order of the day, and his majority was 207 against 45!!!

In the paper laid on the table of the house of commons, there is a charge of 49,000l. to M. Paifeye, for buying provisions for the French at the time the English poor were starving.

Mr. Hastings' pension is 4000l. a year, for 28 years, from Aug. 1785, to which the India company have added the loan of 50,000l. for 17 years, without interest, which is therefore an annuity of that term of all that it will bring of interest as a substantial security.

Mr. Burke is in a rage that his pension of 4000l. a year did not commence at the same time. He therefore threatens ministers with a regicide peace.

March 14.

Liverpool.—The magistrates, in consequence of the great scarcity of bread, have prohibited the bakers from making bread of superior quality to what is called the standard wheaten bread—the prohibition to remain in force one month.

The press on the river is now carried on with great vigour, without respect to protections. The merchants have lately engaged a great number of Danes, Swedes, and Portuguese sailors, at very large bounties.

The troops who inlisted under the banners of General Fast, on Wednesday last, were very numerous, and well disciplined; having served three campaigns under the hardy and all-subduing officer adjutant-general Want, secretary to Field-Marshal starvation.

NORFOLK, (*Virginia.*) April 16.

We scarcely instanced such a sudden transition in the weather, as on Thursday last. The heat during the fore and part of the afternoon was so intense, that at 2 o'clock the thermometer was at 80—at 3 there came on a sudden gust attended with tremendous claps of thunder and lightning, and about 4 there fell a torrent of hail, of such size as we never before have seen; some of the stones were upwards of four inches in circumference; there were a number of panes of glass broken; during the hurricane a schooner at Pattersons wharf, was struck by the lightning, which shivered one of her masts to pieces.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Armagh, (Ireland) to his friend, dated Feb. 2. 1796.

"Since your departure from this country, the interior commotions have encreased, to a great degree; their progress is most alarming. We are constantly under apprehensions of a general war throughout the kingdom; the country people are divided so much in principle, that they are constantly watching one another, in particular at night, lest their houses should be demolished; there is scarcely one day passes, without the properties of many inhabitants being totally forced and destroyed; the poor cottager who is not willing to join the republicans, is inhumanly treated, or his goods consumed.——I have, for many nights, sat, seeing my neighbours' houses, barns, and offices burned to the ground. They assembled, in large bodies, on the 4th January, an action took place between this city and Richill, on a plain, called the Ring, which you know, there were several thousands concerned, the engagement was desperate with all sorts of weapons; it lasted for near 6 hours; there were upwards of 1000 killed and wounded. The terror that this day gave to our country, has caused numbers to evacuate this city and remove to other provinces—the carnage was dreadful.—You may rely on this as an absolute fact, being an eye witness to the same.

——Cormick Dogan, captain of the republican party, who did live near Richill, was killed a few days after, and 18 of his men wounded. They are all in the capital of Armagh, which is nearly full of wounded men; they attacked Dean Allot's house, and ordered him to proceed to the Catholic chapel, and take on him the priest's vestments, as there was a vacancy since the priest Crauly's death, he made his escape. All the gentlemen in the country are ordered up to Dublin to acquaint government of their situation.

"This is the way we are at present situated, the horror of an approaching war, which for some years past we expected, is now at hand.——God only knows the result of these affairs.

"Happy are you, my good friend, to be in a land where unanimity and peace, subsist; we are unknown to the blessings you possess in the land of freedom.——But the mode of conduct at present adopted, seems to reverse the true means to obtain the desired object. I am convinced, that we will be as rotten as ever the counter revolutionists of France were in La Vendee. I should wish that you would inform your countrymen with the particulars here related."

WINCHESTER, (Virginia) April 22.

On Saturday the 16th inst. a dreadful fire happened in the town of Lexington, Rockbridge county, which consumed sixty houses including an elegant brick Court House and Goal, eight stores, and two of the principal taverns. We are informed it was occasioned by the burning of corn stalks in Mr. Windle's garden. The wind blowing hard, carried flakes of fire to the stable, which was instantly in flames; from the stable flakes were carried, in like manner to various parts of the town; and so rapid was the progress of the devouring element, that in the space of three hours, the number of houses abovementioned were reduced to ashes. The property saved was very inconsiderable, and many of the unfortunate sufferers are reduced to a state really pitiable.

BALTIMORE, April 19.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of this town, now in Port-de-Paix, to his friend here, dated March 23, 1796.

"Perroud has at last agreed to pay all government debts in rotation, that is, beginning with the oldest.

"No vessel is permitted to depart before government gets whatever part of the cargo they want; every article of provision they will take at all events, and pay when they please, also what other part suits them; and although this has been the practice a long time, yet Americans will come; which is astonishing!—I have to lament that you sent so large a proportion of cargo of the kind of goods they wanted, had that not been the case, you would have been reimbursed much better.

"This day we have the news, that general Laveaux and Perroud, are put into prison by the people of the Cape, who do not declare for what purpose—They are kept under strong guard."

Another extract from the same to the same, dated March 24.

"Since writing the foregoing, I hear from the Cape, that as soon as major general Tussain, a black man, who received his commission from the national convention of France, and who commands at Gonaives, heard of the imprisonment of Laveaux, he immediately marched his army before the Cape, and sent in a summons, saying, "I have heard that you have imprisoned my chief; I am here with 10,000 men, two guns will be the signal to render him to my camp in half an hour; I do not enquire of you wherefore it is done, it is enough for me, to know that my chief is in prison, he is appointed by the constituted authorities of France, and shall be protected in his command; but should you be hardy enough not to listen to me, I will commence to destroy you by fire and sword." In consequence, they immediately liberated him and Perroud, and order is restored.

"We have been embargoed upwards of a month, which prevented your hearing from me so long a time."

PHILADELPHIA, April 27.

The following was the letter which we yesterday mentioned to have been received by the committee appointed to enquire into the situation of the Son of General La Fayette:

"*Ramapogh N. Jersey March 28, 1796.*
(TRANSLATION.)

"SIR,

"I have just received the honorable resolution, which the merits of my father has procured for me. Deign to express to the Representatives of the people of America his gratitude: my youth forbids me yet to speak of mine. Every day recalls to me what he taught me, at every period of his life, so full of vicissitude, and what he had repeated in a letter, written from the depth of his prison. "I am convinced (he says) that the goodness of the United States, and the tenderness of my paternal friend, will need nothing to excite them."

"Arrived in America, some months since, I live in the country, in New-Jersey, occupied in the pursuits of my education. I have no wants; I had felt any, I should have answered to the paternal solicitude of the President of the United States, either by confiding them to him, or by accepting his offers. I shall hereafter consider it my duty, to impart them to the house of Representatives, which deign to inquire into my situation.

"I am as happy as a continual inquietude relative to the object of my first affections will permit. I have found benevolence wherever I have been thrown, and I have often had the satisfaction of sharing those, who were ignorant of my connections, speak of their interest in the fate of my father, express their admiration of, and partake the gratitude I feel for, the generous Dr. Bollman, who has done so much to break his chains.

"It is amid all these motives of emulation that I shall continue my studies: Every day more convinced of the duties which are imposed by the goodness of congress, and the names I bear, the honour to bear.

"Geo. Washington Motier La Fayette."

"The Hon. Edward Livingston, Chairman, &c."

April 30.

The Resolution for carrying into effect the Treaty with Great-Britain, was passed this day in the House of Representatives of the United States, 51 to 48—without any qualification or modification—and a committee ordered to bring in a bill or bills accordingly.

Y E A S.

Messrs. Ames, Bailey, Bourne, Bradbury, Buck, Christie, Coit, Cooper, Crabb, Dent, A. Foster, D. Foster, Gilbert, Gilman, Glenn, Goodhue, Goodrich, Gregg, Griswold, Grove, Hancock, Harper, Hartley, Henderson, Hillhouse, Hindman, Kitchell, Kittera, Leonard, S. Lyman, Malbone, Muhlenberg, Murray, Read, Richards, Sedgwick, Sitgreaves, J. Smith, N. Smith, Isaac Smith, S. Smith, W. Smith, Swift, Thatcher, Thomas, Thompson, Tracy, Van Allen, Van Coortlandt, Wadsworth, Williams—51.

N A Y S.

Messrs. Baird, Baldwin, Benton, Blount, Brent, Bryan, Burgess, Cabel, Claiborne, Clopton, Coles, Dearborn, Earle, Franklin, Gallatin, Gillespie, Giles, Greenup, Hampton, Harrison, Hathorn, Havens, Heath, Heister, Holland, Jackson, Livingston, Locke, W. Lyman, Maclay, Macon, Madison, Milledge, Moore, New, Nicholas, Orr, Page, Parker, Preston, Rutherford, Israel Smith, Sprigg, Swanwick, Tatom, Varnum, Venable, Winn—48.

Absent upon this question,

Messrs. Sherburne and Freeman on leave. Mr. Duvall resigned. Mr. Patton by illness. Mr. Findley.

Monday, May 2.

Mr. Gregg said as he believed gentlemen would wish their session to come to an end as soon as the public business would permit, he should submit a resolution which would bring the subject under consideration. He proposed one to the following effect, which was agreed to, and referred to a select committee:

"Resolved, that a committee be appointed on the part of this house, to be joined by a committee to be appointed by the Senate, to consider and report, what business remains necessary to be done during the present session, and at what time it will be proper to adjourn the same."

The bill to ascertain and fix the military establishment of the United States, was read a third time, the blanks filled up and passed. A division took place on the question whether there should be one or two troops of light dragoons: two troops were determined upon 40 to 24.

Mr. Hillhouse chairman of the committee appointed to bring in a bill for making appropriations for defraying the expences which may arise in carrying into effect the treaty lately concluded betwixt the United States and Great-Britain, reported a bill, which was twice read, committed to a committee of the whole, gone through, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to morrow.

Tuesday, May 3.

The bill making appropriations towards defraying the expences of carrying into effect the treaty lately concluded between the United States and Great Britain, was read a third time, the blanks filled up and passed.

The blank for the sum of money to be appropriated for carrying the act into effect, was filled up with 80,808 dollars, that for payment of each of the commissioners in London, with 6 667 dollars and 50 cents, and for those residing in the United States with 4,445 dollars each.

NEW-YORK, May 5.

Yesterday afternoon arrived here his Britannic majesty's ship Assistance of 50 guns, John Mowat, Esq. commander, and John Liston Esq. Ambassador from the British court to the United States, and his lady, in 6 weeks voyage from England. Also arrived frigate Prevoyante Capt. Berrisford, and the Hussar, Capt. Wezens.

A London paper of the 6th March, received by the ship Assistance, brings account of the probability of a War between SPAIN and ENGLAND. It is believed at Paris that it is an agreed point between France and Spain, that Spain shall break with Great Britain; but before this event takes place, some beneficial arrangements are to be completed. French troops are embarking on board Spanish ships for the W. Indies, as the most eligible mode for conveying reinforcements to the Islands. It is suggested also at Paris, that the actual destination of the Dutch fleet, which has sailed from the Texel, is to join the French fleet in the Mediterranean.

The French government is occupied in restraining the licentiousness of the press. All see the evil and none can devise a remedy.

In the council of Five Hundred, a decree passed on the 8th March, ordaining that no man should hold a public office unless he would take the oath of "hatred to royalty." Public officers who should not take that oath in three days were to be transported.

A letter from Copenhagen of the 8th March states, as report, that the British and Russian ministers are about quitting that city, on account of M. Grouvelle's being received as minister of the French Republic.

The great question is at last decided—The vote of appropriation for the British Treaty is past; and all kinds of business will revive in confidence that our peace will not be interrupted, and that commerce will suffer no new defalcations.

The majority of the house of Representatives resisted, till the *sense of the people* compelled them to abandon their opposition. The members who have changed sides on the question, have at last adopted the same argument for executing the treaty as the friends of administration used to defend the conduct of the President and Senate, the last summer. It certainly is to be lamented, that party spirit should make men blind and obstinate; for nothing but *obstinate* blindness could have prevented any man from admitting the propriety of executing the treaty—and common observation alone was necessary last summer to convince any candid man, that the *sense of the great body of American Citizens* would ultimately determine for the expediency of ratifying the treaty.

The progress of this affair has been uniform. Mr. Jay hesitated whether to sign the treaty or not—the senate hesitated—the President hesitated—and finally after deliberating almost a year, the PEOPLE have decided that on the *whole view of circumstances*, it is best to accept the treaty and carry it into effect. The friends of our government have uniformly viewed this business in the same light—and its enemies have been *compelled* to conform to this reasoning.

But the progress of the business has been marked with improper conduct. The appeal to the people by the disorganizers the last summer, was a gross violation offered to *Freedom of Deliberation*, in the constituted authorities. The recent appeal to the people by the friends of the Constitution, tho' less improper, because in favour of an acknowledged *Law of the Land*, yet has been irregular—it is all improper—it is an extraneous influence, unknown to the regular governmental proceedings—one that is liable to be misused & perverted to dangerous purposes.

Besides, such a resort to the people, weakens the operations of law and constitution—diminishes the confidence that foreign nations and our own citizens ought to place in government, and in short exhibits our system of government in a ludicrous light.

By the ship Liberty, Captain Bill, arrived at Wilmington, (*Del.*) in 23 days from Martinique, accounts are received of a British 50 gun ship having been taken by a French frigate of 36 guns near Guadaloupe, they fought near 22 hours and parted to repair their rigging: commencing the action again, the British vessel was dismasted and carried into Basseterre. The above information Captain Bill received from a revenue sloop belonging to St. Croix, who told him that he saw the captured ship carrying into Basseterre. If this information had been fairly stated to Captain Bill, it is presumed that the French frigate must have been a 74 cut down.

NEW-BEDFORD, April 29.

Extract of a letter from a correspondent at Nantucket, to the Printer hereof, dated April 23d.

"Yesterday a court of enquiry was held on the much-noted *Zeb Withers*, alias *Abel Withers*, alias *James Witherly*, alias *James Smith*, alias *William Sanford*, alias *James Coats*, who was taken up in Feb. in *New-Haven*, charged with robbing the *Nantucket* Bank, was brought to *Nantucket* ironed, and put under guard; notwithstanding which, by means of a file (intentionally or inadvertantly) left with him by a man who had been a guard over him for some little time before, the night before last made his escape from his guard, who says he dare not stop him for fear he would kill him, but fortunately missed his way in going for a boat on the South side of the Island—returned into town and took shelter in a barn, where he was discovered by a woman, pursued from thence, and seeing no chance of getting off, was taken in returning to the guard house about 7 o'clock in the morning. On enquiry it appears he is the same man that was severely flagilated through the streets of *Newport* some years since, for opening a number of stores in that place—has committed a number of high handed crimes in *Connecticut* and *New York*—was taken up last summer in *Philadelphia*, and committed to goal—it was there he first became suspected of being concerned in this robbery, by the Mayor of that city, in consequence of the quantity of money he had on him. He was yesterday committed to goal in this town, to take his trial for the robbery of the *Nantucket* Bank.—Hardly a doubt remains, but this dark, mysterious piece of villany will be fully developed, and peace and order restored to the once happy town of *Nantucket*."

BOSTON, May 4.

Since our last, we have received papers from *London*, to the 19th *March*. They contain but little intelligence. The preparations for war were still making on the largest scale. Gen. CLAIRFAIT has resigned the command of the Imperial armies; and the Emperor's brother, the Archduke CHARLES is appointed to succeed him. The armies on both sides are daily augmented with great numbers of recruits.

Our latest advices from the *West Indies*, state, that Admiral PARKER, with the British fleet, and from 8 to 12,000 troops, arrived at *Barbadoes* about 6th April. The British had sent reinforcements to attack *St. Lucia*, and several other places; the French, however, appear ready and anxious to receive them. The French had captured a valuable transport and sent her into *St. Barthelomew*—Several others were said to be captured; and hourly expected to arrive. An embargo is put upon all the windward islands. The British take all American vessels from French ports, and send them into *Tortola* and *Bermuda*—and all American seamen who have not authenticated certificates.—A bounty of 14 guineas was offered at *Antigua* April 5, for sailors to enlist—in consequence of which many Americans had entered in the British service.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Guadaloupe, to his friend in Boston.

"You will doubtless have seen in my former letter, how much the army of the Republic continues to distinguish itself in this quarter; it has recently signalized itself in the defence of *Leogane*, the details of which I shall furnish you as soon as leisure permits; being unable to do it at present as the vessel which carries this is on the point of sailing, and affords me only time to inform you that the English were totally defeated the day before yesterday—We have only to regret 22 Americans who have fallen victims to those monsters, but in the heat of the action, our brave soldiers could distinguish no one. Orders have just been issued concerning those Americans who may attempt to furnish the British ports. This measure will furnish us with provisions at a low rate."

NORTHAMPTON, MAY 11.

SPIRIT of the TIMES.

From Conway, May 4, 1796.

ON Tuesday the 3d inst. at Conway, were paraded on the *High-Parade*, in *Federal Square*, in the *Upper Town*—the militia company of foot, commanded by Capt. TERTIUS FRENCH—the company was reviewed agreeable to the laws of the Commonwealth,—the various military manoeuvres and evolutions, were performed in such a manner, as did honour to the company, and evinced to a numerous body of spectators, the great skill of the Captain, and the other officers, in the military art.

After the proper exercises of the day were finished, a decent Treat was provided for the company, and brought into the square, and the following Toasts were drank:—

1st. The President of the United States.—May he still remain, as he ever has been, a firm, unshaken friend, to the constitution of the United States; and may the *manly symmetry* of the country, ever be found ready to support him in the due execution of the Laws.—3 Cheers.

2d. The Vice President, and the Senate.—May they still remain the firm supporters, and faithful guardians of the rights of their constituents.—3 Cheers.

3d. The House of Representatives of the United States.—May the opposers of constitutional measures in that House, speedily see their error, and retract—and may the *minority* in the same remain *firm*, and all *Jacobinical* principles, be expelled therefrom, and *never—never* more be permitted to *recross the threshold of the door*.—3 Cheers.

4th. Governor Jay—and the Treaty negociated by him, and ratified by the President and Senate.—3 Cheers.

5th. Messrs. STRONG, SEDGWICK, and SAMUEL LYMAN, Esquires.—May their *magnanimity* in Congress, meet with its just reward, from their constituents.—3 Cheers.

A Volunteer.

6th. WASHINGTON the GREAT, *forever*.—3 Cheers.

After which they all dispersed, rejoicing at the pleasing prospect, that the united efforts of the people in the cause of liberty, would soon produce a change in Congressional Measures; and that the time, was not far distant, when *Patriotism* would triumph over Jacobinism!

From Greenwich, May 3d. 1796.

THE company belonging to the South Parish, in this town, under the command of Capt. CALEB KEITH, appeared on the parade this day, for military exercise, and a review of arms.—This company, with a number of spectators belonging to the Parish, to the amount of one hundred in the whole, viewing the present, a period in which men freely express their thoughts, respecting the Treaty, and our first Magistrate, felt the propriety of manifesting their approbation, by the following Toasts, with united and animating Cheers, without one dissenting voice.

1st. Let the life of the PRESIDENT of the United States, be precious in the sight of heaven, and desirable to all the sons and daughters of America; and the tongue of slander cease to asperse a character so well deserving of his country.—3 Cheers.

2d. May the Senators of Congress be inspired with true wisdom, a just sense of heaven, and the general good.—3 Cheers.

3d. Let peace and unanimity be restored to the House of Representatives, that they may unitedly operate for the prosperity of this rising Empire.—3 Cheers.

4th. May the Treaty of Amity, between America and his Britannic Majesty, be peaceably carried into effect, and prove a lasting barrier against the machinations of the ill-designing.—3 Cheers.

5th. Let the power of making Treaties, never be vested in the hands of men, who wish to involve their country in the horrors of war.—3 Cheers.

6th. Let Mr. JAY have a grateful place in our memory.—3 Cheers.

7th. May this Company abide as a band of brothers, ever ready to advocate the cause of Liberty.—3 Cheers.

8th. May he who presides over America, under God, rise superiour to all the conniving artifices of the ungrateful, and shine with encreasing lustre—that he may live beloved, die lamented, and be richly crowned for his wisdom and virtues.—4 Cheers.

FROM PARTRIDGEFIELD.

At a very full meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Partridgefield, qualified to vote in town meeting, at the meeting-house in the first Parish in said town, on Monday the 2d day of May 1796.

Voted, and chose Lt. Nath. Tracy, Moderator.

Voted, unanimously, that this town will prefer a memorial to the honourable the House of Representatives of the United States, praying them to make provision to carry into effect the Treaty lately made with Great Britain. The memorial being read was accepted by a unanimous vote of the meeting, after which the said memorial was signed by a hundred and twenty-six of the freeholders in said town in open town meeting, and ordered to be forwarded to the Hon. Theodore Sedgwick, Esq. to be communicated to Congress.

A true copy of Record,

ZACARIAH WATKINS, jun. *Town Clerk.*

Most of the towns in this county have had meetings, and voted to petition Congress to carry the British treaty into effect.—The meetings have been uncommonly full and unanimous on the subject.—Petitions from fifteen towns in this neighbourhood were forwarded to Congress by last Thursday's mail.

SAMUEL HENSHAW, Esq. and Dr. LEVI SHEPHARD, are chosen to represent this town in the General Court, the ensuing year.

Dr. George Rogers,

ADDRESSES himself to the public, informing them that he resides a few rods east of the meeting house in Northampton; & wishes to be beneficial to them in the practice of physic & surgery.—(or surgery & bone-setting if the distinction is necessary,—and indeed any chirurgical operation.—) But is totally averse to boasted pretensions and self-commendation; he therefore only wishes for their commands, and should they find their expectations answered, it might not be unfavourable to them, and much oblige their most obedient,

G. R.

Northampton, May 11th, 1796.

TO BE SOLD, BY
Seth Wright,
A good second hand CHAISE.
Northampton, May 11th, 1796.