

**GREAT EXTENSIVE SUPERINTENDING POWER OVER**  
revenue officers, and the expenditure of public monies,  
is solely and exclusively lodged in the HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

If the agent, then, when called upon to account for the money supposed to be advanced agreeably to the senate's proposition, should exhibit a claim in bar for fees and costs, I ask what authority is to decide upon this claim? I have suggested the authority: it must be decided by the AUDITOR AND INTENDANT, subject to the SUPERINTENDING POWER of the HOUSE OF DELEGATES: and the senate have no negative at all upon it.

But have not the senate a negative upon the application of all public monies? I admit it—and may they for ever possess it! But when they have passed, and consented to, laws giving power to certain officers to adjust and settle all accounts which they shall adjudge to be just and equitable, and to draw on the treasury for payment or otherwise, they have so far parted with their negative upon such accounts, and transferred it to such officers, subject only to the CONTROLLING POWER of the HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

But it may be said, that although the senate may have parted with their negative upon claims, they have never passed or consented to any law authorising the AUDITOR OR INTENDANT to alter or change any legislative appropriation of public monies; I grant it; but answer and say, that the advance in the present case was made out of monies NOT APPROPRIATED by any law, but lying dead in the treasury.

I hope, by this time, it is very clear, that the governor and intendant cannot be considered as having assumed an authority to do, what the senate reprobated by their message: and I hope it is equally clear, that it is totally immaterial as to the question about the fees and costs of the chancery bills, whether the advance was made in the manner it was, or had been made on the terms of the senate's proposition: in either case the public would be charged with the fees and costs.

I will now maintain, that the intendant was justified by law in making this advance, and that he had not done it he would have been culpable and justly chargeable with having brought a considerable injury upon the state.

Nothing can be more obvious to common sense, and I am sure there is not a better established principle in the law books than this, that when a legislature directs a public business to be done, which requires a supply of money, it implicitly authorises such an advance to be made: for it would be an absurdity and contradiction to direct a thing to be done, and yet not authorise the means.

Thus, during the late administration, the governor was often requested by the assembly to forward public dispatches by express: now as this could not be done without an advance of money, the request was considered as an authority to advance.

A resolve passed the last session, authorising the intendant to repair the governor's house: and although the resolve does not go on and authorise the intendant to apply the public money, yet as the repairs cannot be made without supplies of money, the resolve is considered as authorising the advance.

Upon the like grounds and principles, I contend that the supplementary act gives an authority to advance money for the fees and costs of the bill in chancery.

We see, in this case, that the agent was a public officer: that the bill was a public suit: that the thing in demand was a public debt: and we see the general assembly directing by law, that this bill should be prosecuted with all vigour and expedition: now this cannot be done without an advance of money to pay fees and costs. I submit it, whether any court of judicature upon earth would not say, that here was a legal authority to make the advance.

But I have said, the intendant would have been culpable had he not made the advance: I repeat it: for what would have been the consequence? The governor must have called the assembly: a heavy expence would have been incurred, and the state thus very considerably injured.

And now let me ask, who are the men who have taken such serious exceptions to this advance of public money? They are the men who opposed the bill respecting the bank stock: who opposed the commission to the agent: who opposed his appointment: who opposed the vote of approbation and thanks: who opposed the supplementary act confirming the agent in his appointment, and establishing his proceedings: who opposed the resolves from the house of delegates respecting the advance of money: and they are the men who even opposed the message of the senate, respecting such an advance—nay, who protested against it. Can it then be wondered at, that these men are now opposed to what was done by the late governor and the intendant?

But if the late governor and the intendant assumed an authority that was illegal and unconstitutional, let me ask, Whether the senate have not assumed the like illegal and unconstitutional power?

A few days ago, their honours, I am informed, judged it highly expedient to have a call of all the members of the senate: they determined that expresses should be sent for the absent members: they directed their PRESIDENT to hire the expresses, which he did and called upon the intendant to advance money to pay the expresses, which was accordingly done.

I ask, upon what legal ground, upon what constitutional authority was this power exercised by the senate? Have they any power or authority to judge of the necessities of government, and to apply the public money independently and exclusively of the HOUSE OF DELEGATES? So far from it, that the constitution forbids them even to originate a money transaction. If they have a right to this power in one case, they have it in every case: for the right once established, I know of nothing to limit the exercise of it. There can be no other ground to justify this proceeding but the public necessity and utility of it: but the late governor and the intendant have not only this ground to stand upon, but a great variety of other matter for justification—particularly the recess of the general assembly, which could not be called without great expence: but their honours have no such excuse.

Will it not then be advisable for the HONOURABLE ACCUSERS of the late governor and of the intendant,

who are now so busily employed in drawing up ARTICLES of IMPROBATION against the meeting of a full senate—will it not be advisable, I say, to extend their IMPROBATION so as to include all the members of the senate, who concurred in that transaction? I think every principle of candour and justice obliges them to do it.

My God! what a wretch is man! To-day, see with what a flame of PUBLIC DUTY he brings forward a PUBLIC FAULT, and damns the characters of fellow-citizens: to-morrow, see with what a COMPOSED UNDISTURBED conscience he commits the VERY FAULT himself.

F R E E M A N .

H A G U E , September 30.

WE have received the agreeable news that the preliminary articles of peace between the emperor and this republic were concluded upon at Paris on the 20th of this month, of which the following are the principal:

That their high mightinesses are to pay 9,500,000 florins, Dutch money, as a compensation for the fortresses of Maestricht and its dependencies, and 500,000 florins for the damage done by the inundations. The above is to be paid by instalments of 1,250,000 florins each, and the first payment is to be made 3 months after the ratification of the treaty, into the treasury at Brussels. The second payment is to be made 6 months after the first, and so on until the full payment of the whole 10,000,000 florins.

Their high mightinesses cede the town and castle of Dahlem, with all its appurtenances, except Oost and Cadier, to the emperor, on condition of having a compensation made them in the exchanges that may be thought necessary in the country called Over Maese.

The boundaries of Flanders shall remain as they were settled in 1664: and if there are any points that time may have rendered obscure, commissioners shall be appointed to settle them.

Their high mightinesses acknowledge the sovereignty of the emperor on the Scheid from Antwerp to the end of the land of Saftingen, conformably to the line drawn in 1664, which is agreed to be cut through as is fully explained in the map signed by the respective ambassadors, and the States general entirely give up the right of demanding any toll or duty whatever in that district, nor shall the trade of his imperial majesty's subjects be in the least molested, provided no greater extension is granted to it than is agreed by the treaty of Munster of the 30th of January, 1648, which shall in this respect remain in full force.

Their high mightinesses to evacuate and demolish the forts Knutshaus and Frederick Henrik, and cede the ground to his imperial majesty.

Their high mightinesses, to give a fresh proof how willing they are to facilitate a permanent good understanding between the republic and the emperor, agree to cede to his imperial majesty, with all that belongs to them, in their present state, to his imperial majesty, except the artillery and ammunition.

His imperial majesty gives up all pretensions to the villages of Biadel and Keuffel.

All money pretensions between sovereign and sovereign to be entirely annulled, and commissioners to be appointed to settle those of individuals.

The above articles were drawn up in the presence of the comte de Vergennes, appointed to act as mediator by his most christian majesty, and underwrote by the signing ambassadors, "with the approbation of the emperor and the States general."

RUSSIA, 5 pt. 20. The company which her imperial majesty has sent by land into the eastern part of her empire, set out on the 2d of last month. The empress having charged them to traverse the Crimea, they found at the foot of Caucasus, at the place where the river of Cuban takes its source, a colony of strangers called Tchetches, probably descendants of some families of the Moravian brethren, who being persecuted on account of their religious opinions, had quitted their country towards the end of the 15th century. This colony, which is not very numerous, is remarkable for the perfect union which prevails among them. Their language is different from that of the other inhabitants of the environs, and contains many Bohemian words. Their way of life is inoffensive and peaceable, and the form of their religious worship has many of the ceremonies used in several sects of the christian religion.

L O N D O N , September 4.

Whilst the Dutch are endeavouring to reduce the prince of Orange nearly to the situation of a private man, another hand has attempted to deprive his highness of the estates he possesses in Germany. All our letters by the last post from Vienna are unanimous in asserting that prince Nassau Siegen, born in France, and actually in the service of that crown, has solicited and obtained leave from the emperor to bring an action against the prince of Orange, for the recovery of the sovereignty, domains and estates enjoyed by his highness in Germany; prince Nassau claiming the whole, as sole heir and representative of his grandfather, to whom these valuable possessions belonged, before they were usurped by the Orange family. The stadtholder has already been served with the writ notice; and when the usual delays are expired, this interesting cause will come to an hearing.

A city under water.—Near Mullingar, in the county of Westmeath in Ireland, on the east of Belvidere's estate, there is a great lake called Lough Inn-hole, about four miles long, and two broad; under which, or at the bottom of it, there is a large town or city, which a person that sails over it in a calm day may easily perceive, the streets, the chimnies, and the walls of the houses, appearing very plainly.

The account they give of its being deluged, is very odd and whimsical; they say an old woman, having come to get some water at a well near the town having forgot to lock down upon it an iron lid (with which it had been usually covered) the water gushed out so furiously, that before the woman got home, the whole town was deluged. This they say happened in consequence of an ancient prophecy, which was, that the town should be swallowed up by a well, through the neglect of a woman's not shutting its mouth.

OB. 1. The following are some of the momentous objects which Mr. Pitt is expected to adjust before the next meeting of parliament, viz.

1. A commercial and constitutional arrangement between Great-Britain and Ireland.

2. A federal treaty with the Germanic powers.

3. To enforce an immediate surrender of the English settlements on the coast of Africa, which the French have wrested from us, and fortified, and to demand satisfaction for so daring a violation of a positive article of the late peace.

4. To require an apology from the court of Versailles for the late insult offered to the British flag, even in the British channel.

By authentic letters from Berlin we learn, that upon an estimate being made of the subjects of the king of Prussia, they amounted to upwards of six millions, though at the accession of that monarch they were not much more than two millions; but the population has been doubled in many of the old provinces, and near two millions have been added by the conquered provinces.

Letters from Ausburgh, dated September 30, mention, that the troops in the service of the archbishop elector of Treves were all in motion, and that a new impost levied by the assembly of the States had given great umbrage to the ecclesiastics in that electorate.

Accounts from Lunec, dated September 23, declare, that the Prussian resident had applied to the magistrates of that city for the accommodation of a large body of troops, and that, upon the bishop's consulting the senate, they had not given a decisive answer to the requisition: upon which the Prussian minister immediately discharged his debts, and left the city abruptly. This circumstance has occasioned great debates in the public council, and much dissatisfaction among the people.

The analogy and comparison could provoke our countrymen to proper jealousy in that material point of their national prosperity, the fisheries, the situation of the Dutch offer such proof in the amplest manner imaginable; for from the date of their deliverance from the Spanish yoke to this time, the wealth and force of that country are imputed chiefly to their fisheries; to them, more than to their coating and carrying trade; more than to their commerce with Japan and the Spice islands. The strong representation of Sir Walter Raleigh on this topic is as follows: it is the fisheries which enables the Dutch to build a thousand ships in a year, without a single tree in the country; and without articles to load a hundred. The computation of the annual value in produce from this trade, is from two to three millions sterling.

A letter from Paris, dated September 23, says, "Two English frigates and a sloop appear every day at five o'clock in the evening, hovering before the road of Cherbourg to observe what is going forward there, and they are not hindered from approaching as near as they can. During the last campaign three millions were expended in paying 5000 workmen. All the timber with which the Conick Casoons are constructed is brought in Hamburg, Danish and Swedish vessels. The duke de Harcourt presides over this undertaking, which he very often visits, and encourages the workmen, with whom he passed the spring and summer."

The force of the maritime powers in the Mediterranean, at this time amounts to no fewer than sixty six men of war, of which twenty two are line of battle ships. The Dutch and Venetian squadrons, with the Spanish fleet that went against Algiers, make up the principal part.

According to a list obtained from the admiralty office, it appears, that there have been built in this kingdom since the peace of 1763, exactly 367 men of war, of which number, 84 were of the line, exclusive of those now on the stocks.

Extra of a letter from Leghorn, September 11.

"Commerce with the United States of America to the ports in the Mediterranean is almost annihilated at present, owing to the number of Algerine cruizers, which intercept those seas, and are very active after the thirteen stripes; yet several American vessels have lately escaped the vigilance of those free booters, under English colours, and got safe to their destined ports. These dreadful pillagers, have within these few days, taken three vessels belonging to the Pope's dominions, bound here, and sent them to Algiers, where the crews are put into captivity, which causes great uneasiness. These pirates do not confine themselves to the Mediterranean, but now cruise between two and three hundred leagues farther to the westward than at any former period, in which latitude they have lately taken several valuable prizes from different nations."

An experiment is shortly to be tried in the king's yard at Portsmouth, as to the celerity with which a certain number of men can build a ship of 90 guns. All the timbers, beams, knees, planks, &c. for this purpose are now prepared, and the keel will be laid on the same slip from which the St. George is shortly to be launched. The French built their celebrated ship la Couronne, of 90 guns, at Brest, in seven months, with only 140 workmen, shipwrights and labourers included, and she has proved as good a vessel as any in the French navy. The timbers having been all prepared.

Extra of a letter from Portsmouth, October 5.

"Yesterday the St. George, of 98 guns was launched from the south slip of the new ground in this dockyard; prince William Henry, and a numerous concourse of people were present.

"A new first rate of 100 guns, called the Victorious, is to be laid down directly in the king's yard, on the slip from whence the St. George of 98 guns was lately launched."

OB. 11. The following is the substance of the resolution of the States of Zealand, a proof that the province are far from unanimously approving the preliminaries signed with the emperor. The States of that province complain loudly of his imperial majesty's demand of an exchange of the district of Dalem included in the duchy of Lembourg for somewhat equivalent. They consider the steps taken by the republic for an accommodation with the court of Vienna not only as useless; but in consequence of the many obstacles thrown in the way of the negotiations, becoming humiliating and derogatory to the dignity of the republic. They farther declare, that the offer of five millions of florins was