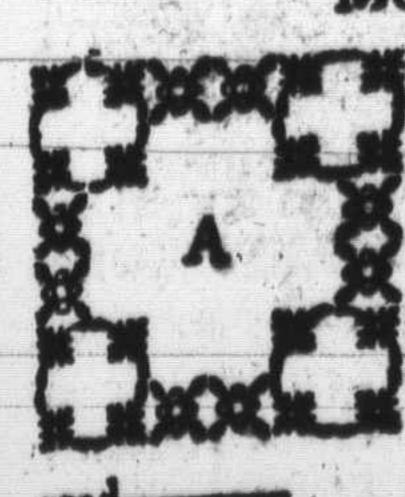
# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

## Proceedings of Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

UNITED STATES.

MONDAY, MAY 11, 1789.



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MESSAGE from the senate purporting, that they had appointed a committee to join with fuch com-

should be adopted to this effect—That the house could not concur with the senate, having already decided upon the subject unanimously.

Mr. Page supported the motion; he was fully of opinion, that by the constitution the house had neither fully and explicitly declared its sentiments, in the report of a former committee, and was forry to have the subject again introduced.

Mr. Tucker was in sentiment with Mr. Page, but observed further, that he had always been opposed to the appointment of any committee in the first of the business; and was equally averse from taking it up now: the constitution was expressly against any titles whatever: the introduction of them would bring us back to monarchy, and would justify what had been said upon the constitution by its enemies. What could be the detign of the senate? Did general Washington wish for a title? Did he fight for this? By no means. Real dignity consists not in these distinctions: titles bring equipage, etiquette, parade, &c. to support these liberty must be sacrificed; and from sustaining the character of independent freemen, we shall degenerate into fervility; we shall no longer be men; we shall depreciate into apes; a baseness of imitation. Mr. Tucker concluded by withing the subject might be dis-

Mr. Turnbull moved for a committee to inquire into the difference which appeared in the votes of the two houses, upon the report of the joint committee upon this subject, as now held out in the message from

the fenate. Mr. Burk was opposed to any further proceeding in the business, except it was to express their entire disapprobation; and to that purpose he proposed a resolution against the introduction of any title, more especielly all imitation of European styles or titles, whether given to emperors, kings, princes, or any other dignitaries whatever.

Mr. Madison was in opinion with the gentlemen opposed to a title; he was not, however, for summary proceedings with the message of the senate; he urged the propriety of a decent and respectful attention to it upon a variety of principles, and then observed, that he could not see the use or advantage of adopting titles, that it was evident that they did not confer power or influence; many of the poorest and most infignificant flates had assumed the most pompous and high soundmg titles; what greater or more lofty title could be affumed than that of " High Mightinesses?" A style almost bordering upon impiety; what real advantages had been derived from it? Had event fanctioned the idea? Titles he considered as unconstitutional and contrary to the general fentiments of the people. Should it be determined to adopt them, we must either borrow or create; old ones we should find inapplicable, and they would be confidered as servile imitations, and new ones, he feared, would be abfurd and ridiculous. The true dignity of a republican government, he conadered as independent of titles; he hoped that gentlemen would not discover any warmth upon the occasion; had no doubt but the fame unanimity would now be thewn as before upon this question, and he was therefore in favour of a committee of conference.

Mr. White was opposed to the appointment of a committee of conference, and supposed it best to put a period to any further discussion, by informing the senate, that the house had already determined on the queltion, by unanimously adopting the report of the

joint committee upon this subject. Mr. Sherman supposed their would be an impropriety in appointing a committee, unless the house should first rescind their sormer vote; he thought that to make the journals appear consistent, this was a previous ques-

Mr. Jackson observed, that although he was as much opposed to titles and distinctions as any gentlemen whatever, he thought however that there was a propriety in appointing a committee of conference, that the refult being known, might prevent the publication of ridiculous and absurd contradictions and titles in the news-papers, which had a tendency to bring the government into contempt.

Mr. Madison thought that Mr. Sherman's ideas were not just; he supposed that a committee might be appointed with as much propriety in the present case as in any other, and affigned a variety of reasons to prove, A mittee as the house may appoint, to that the subject was open to discussion, and that every confer upon the subject of a title distate of policy and sound judgment pointed out the

Mr. Seney expressed his mind fully in opposition to Upon which Mr. Parker moved, that a resolution a committee, as he considered the measure fruitless, and occasioned a loss of time-wished that Mr. Parker's motion might be adopted, and an end put to the bufi-

Mr. Clymer was opposed to the conferring of titles; observed, that the most impotent nations assumed the a right to suggest or propose any thing upon the sub- most pompous addresses—that they were not indicative ject:-He considered it as anti-republican, and appre- of power and influence was evident from facts, for hended great evils would refult from the measure, when the kings of England had only the title of bighshould congress take any steps in it: He conceived that ness, their prerogative was much greater than it had the real honour and dignity of the government did not been fince under that of most facred majerty. Fie difconfift in or depend upon titles, and that he had had fered, however, from gentlemen, who supposed that his feelings hurt, when he heard gentlemen address the the people were averse to distinctions. It was evident, members of that house by the style of " The honoura- he said, from a variety of facts, that they had a pow-He member:" He thought that the house had already erful predilection for them, and this propensity he thought should be counteracted and checked.

Mr. Page observed, that titles naturally led to henours and distinctions not founded always on merit, until in time the supreme executive comes to be considered as the fountain of honour. Inducing a train of consequences derogatory to the dignity of a free-

Mr. Lee moved that the previous question should be taken in words to the following effect-Whether the house would now proceed to consider the subject of the message from the senate? This passed in the affirma-

A variety of motions were then introduced, and the one from Mr. Turnbull was adopted to the following effect—That a committee be appointed to confer with a committee of the senate, upon the difference which appears in the votes of the two houses, upon the evidence in report of the joint committee, upon the queftion respecting titles, the vote of the senate, appointing a committee to take up the same subject upon quite opposite principles.

This motion being adopted, Mr. Madison, Mr. Trumbull, Mr. Page, Mr. Sherman and Mr. Benson, cent. were appointed.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, when the impost bill was taken up, Mr. Gerry proposed that fix cents on molasses should be struck out, and two inserted-This produced a debate, in which Mr. Ames and Mr. Madison were the principal speakers, but the house adjourned without coming to a vote upon the proposition.

### TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1789.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The impost bill was taken up, and the debate upon the duty of fix cents on molasses was resumed.

Speeches upon this occasion were fimilar to those which had been made upon the previous discussion of the subject; many of the former ideas in favour of a reduction of the duty were amplified, and substitution of an excise on rum and other spirits distilled in the country was contended for on this side of the question the speakers were, Messrs. Ames, Gerry and Goodhue, their observations were closed by a proposition to strike out fix cents, and leave a blank for the fum to be annexed—The speakers on the other side were, Mellrs, Madison, Fitzsimons and Sherman-This part of the question had equal justice done to it, and the vote on the above proposition being taken, it passed in the affirmative.

It was then moved, that the blank should be filled with five cents; this, after some further debate, passed in the affirmative, by a vote of twenty-five to twenty-

A message from the senate was at this stage of the business announced, when the committee rose. The purport of this message was, that the senate concurred with the house in the appointment of a committee, to confer with a committee of the senate upon the disa- near 6000 men have died .- The commanders of the greeing votes of the two houses on the report of a joint troops in the Bannat, Transylvania and Moldavia, are committee, upon the subject of titles proper to be an ordered to prepare for marching when the weather nexed to the prefident and vice-prefident. The speaker will permit them." having left the chair, the house, in committee of the whole, continued the confideration of the impost bill, when the several articles, from molasses to tess inclufive, were read and accepted in committee. In the bill hyson tea was substituted in lieu of superior green

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 1789.

Mr. Thatcher presented a petition from the inhabitants of Portland, in the state of Massachusetts, complaining of the high duty on molasses.

The house then went into a committee on the reve-

China, earthen and stone ware, looking glasses and brushes, were added to the list of enumerated articles under a duty of seven and an half per cent. and saltpetre was exempted from duty.

Mr. Parker moved to insert in the bill a clause, haying a tax of ten dollars on every save imported into the United States.

On this motion some debate ensued. The gentlewhich may be proper to give to the expediency of paying all possible respect and attention men from South-Carolina and Georgia opposed it, on president of the United States, was to the communications of the senate. it would fall heavily and oppressively on those states, particularly on Georgia, and would be too odious to be endured-It would operate as a direct tax, which was impolitic at this time—Others who were in favour of the tax contended, that there was an impropriety in introducing such a clause in this bill, because it is foreign to the true nature of the bill. It was mixing humane beings with goods, wares and merchandifes, in an improper manner-- They thought it would be a proper subject for a distinct bill.

The motion was supported upon general principles .-It was faid, that it was the pievailing expectation that some measure should be entered into by the general government against the slave trade-That the constitution itself was calculated upon this idea-and that unless such a measure was taken, it would be supposed, that instead of discouraging it was meant tacitly to countenance this disgraceful traffic-On the ground of policy, as well as humanity, it was contended, that the duty ought to be imposed, and that it would tend to the real advantage of those very states who most strongly opposed it.—Their national policy was deeply concerned in the abolition of flavery-The practice was pernicious in a political and moral view, and tended exceedingly to diminish their relative strength and

Mr. Parker at length, however, withdrew his motion, in order to introduce a separate bill for the purpose of laying this tax.

### THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1789.

The house went into a committee on the revenue

Mr. Smith (Maryland) made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Parker, to allow a discount from the duties imposed upon goods imported in American ships. This occasioned considerable debate.] The motion was carried by 30 against 16, and the question on the rate of the discount was carried in favour of ten per

The committee having gone through the bill, rose and reported, and the house ordered the same to be engroffed for a third reading to-morrow.

Mr. Madison from the committee appointed to confer with a committee from the senate on the disagreeing votes of the two houses, on the subject of titles. reported, that the committee of the senate would, for the present, address the president under the same style and title as the house of representatives had given

### LONDON, March 4.

HB following advice was received officially on Monday night, from Bruxelles. The public may rely on its authenticity.

Orders have been issued by the government of Bruxelles to the chevalier de Celles, high sheriff of that place, and one of the principal magistrates, to prepare instantly barracks for French troops, which may be expected daily. He is at the same time nominated commissary of the barracks.

The dispatch likewise adds, that another body of French forces is expected to march into Flanders, and that they will possess themselves of the garrisons of Oftend and Nieuport.

This will be done with the consent of the empe-

Extract of a letter from Temefwar, January 13. We hear that the grand vizier departed from Constantinople for Nessa, the 12th of December, but is detained by the cold at Adrianople. Above half the Turks quartered in the villages of Wallachia and Scr-

via, have perished during this severe winter. of In the barracks of the fortress of Belgrade, where they ought to be sheltered from the rigour of the season,

March 5. Some things philosophy is altogether unable to explain. In this number we may class the following: A gentleman of Austin-frienz, with his wife, children and fervants, have been attacked with a most violent diarrhæa, which they attributed to something they had eaten or drank; but this could not