

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1801.

WASHINGTON CITY.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, December 9.

THE speaker laid before the house a letter received by him from the secretary of the treasury, communicating an account of the receipts and expenditures of the United States for the year 1800, which, he informed the house, had been printed, as usual, for the use of the members.

On motion referred to the committee of ways and means.

Resolved, That the house will to-morrow proceed to the election of a chaplain.

The following nominations were made:—Rev. Messrs. Gantt, Balch, Parkinson, Muir, Lytle.

Thursday, December 10.

The committee, on the memorial of Thomas Claxton, reported a resolution authorizing Thomas Claxton to employ during the session one additional assistant, 2 servants and 2 horses; and allowing him therefor 5 dollars 75 cents per day.

The report was taken up, and agreed to.

A message was received from the senate, stating that they had chosen, on their part, rev. Dr. Gantt as chaplain.

Mr. Dennis moved that such part of the resolution of the house as directs the leaving the news-papers taken by the members at their lodgings be rescinded.

Disagreed to.

Mr. Samuel Smith moved that the secretary of the treasury be directed to report to this house a schedule of all the duties imposed by law on goods, wares and merchandise, imported into the United States.

Dr. Mitchell presented a petition from certain aliens residing in New-York and its vicinity, stating the injuries they suffer from the naturalization law, and praying the house to afford such relief as they shall deem fit.

After some conversation as to disposition of the petition, it was agreed that it lie on the table until the part of the president's message on the same subject be taken up by the house.

A petition to the same effect was presented by Dr. Mitchell from certain alien residents in the county of Montgomery, state of New-York.

Mr. Giles moved the reference of this petition to the committee of the whole, to whom had been referred the president's message.

Mr. Giles and Dr. Mitchell considered this mode of disposition proper to be pursued in all cases where abstract principles were to be settled. Such was the present case. The facts were notorious and indisputable.

Mr. Griswold advocated the reference of all petitions to a select committee. In considering them facts might arise, which could only be elucidated by a select committee.

Mr. Giles's motion was carried.

On motion, resolved, that a committee be appointed to inquire what amendments are necessary to be made in the act establishing post-offices and post-roads; to report by bill or otherwise. A committee of 7 members appointed.

Mr. Samuel Smith moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of commerce and manufactures be directed to report what alterations, if any, are necessary in the laws imposing duties on tonnage of ships, and on goods, wares and merchandise, imported into the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The house then proceeded, according to the order of the day, to the election of a chaplain. Mr. Stratton and Mr. Stanford were appointed tellers. The ballots being taken and counted were declared as follows: For Mr. Parkinson 44; for Mr. Balch 31; for Mr. Lytle 13.

There not being a majority of the ballots in favour of either of the gentlemen, a new election was had, in which the ballots were as follow: For Mr. Parkinson 50; for Mr. Balch 36; for Mr. Lytle 1.

Mr. Parkinson was accordingly declared to be chaplain.

Friday, December 11.

The following members after being qualified according to law, took their seats in the house, viz.

Peter Wadsworth, from N. Hampshire; Pearce, from Massachusetts; William H. Hill, from North Carolina; Thomas Claiborne and John Clifton, from Virginia.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the treasurer of the United States, accompanied with sundry documents, relating to the last year's accounts.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of West-Jersey, relating to a post-road, was presented and referred to the post-road committee.

Mr. Milledge, chairman of the committee of elections, reported in part, on the due return of the members who appeared in the house.

Mr. Eustice presented a petition of Joseph Chase, merchant of Nantucket—he stated his having purchased the ship Neptune, which was built in the East-Indies; and originally owned in the Isle of France; but being wrecked at sea was brought into Nantucket, where she was sold; that after having thoroughly repaired her, she was sent to sea by the petitioner, where she was again wrecked. Again reaching port she was completely repaired. The collector not thinking himself authorized to grant a register, the petitioner prays congress for one.

Referred to the committee of commerce and manufactures.

Mr. Nicholson moved that a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of amending an act, entitled, An act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters, with instructions to report by bill or otherwise. Mr. N. stated, that a bill had been reported last session for this purpose, but the session being near its close, it was not acted upon. The resolution was agreed to, and five members appointed.

Gen. S. Smith, after a few introductory observations, moved that the committee of commerce and manufactures be directed to inquire whether any and what alterations may be necessary in the acts laying duties on goods, wares and merchandise, imported into the U. States.

Mr. Griswold thought that the subject belonged to the revenue, properly attached itself to the committee of ways and means. He contended that any alteration whatever, would either increase or diminish the revenue, and therefore belonged to the financial system, which the committee of ways and means, especially had in charge, on that account moved its reference to that committee.

Mr. Smith contended that it was usual and necessary for the subject to be discussed by commercial men, of whom alone the committee of commerce and manufactures was composed. It was desirable to consolidate all the revenue system, as much as possible into one law; it was also desirable to know the precise state of our imports, and of our progress in manufacture; by a reference to commercial men, the house besides those might be acquainted with a very desirable object; to wit: How far certain articles would bear additional duties, or how far others admitted a diminution, proportioned to the wants of the country.

Commercial men were practical men, and therefore without disparaging the merits or talents of gentlemen composing the other committee, whose express appointment did not so pointedly relate to commerce, but to revenue; he thought the original motion ought to be carried.

Mr. Griswold had no doubt but that either committee would do justice to the subject; but it was an unusual reference for all subjects relating to revenue, and he again contended that all matters relating to revenue, ought to go to the committee of ways and means, for which purpose alone that committee was formed. He should not have risen he said, but that he did not see the chairman of that committee in his seat.

The speaker said that either reference was perfectly in order, and therefore either motion would have been proper; the reference to the committee of commerce and manufactures at present had the preference, being first moved.

Forty-six rising in the affirmative, and being a majority, the reference moved by Mr. Smith was carried. Adjourned till Monday.

Monday, December 14, 1801.

Lewis R. Morris, a member from Vermont, appeared and took his seat.

The committee of revision and unfinished business reported in part, that they examined the journals of the late house, and found in an unfinished state sundry bills, reports and petitions, which they specify. The committee concluded, with a resolution, that all petitions, &c. depending in the last house, be taken up at the instance of a member, or on the application of the petitioner.

Mr. Griswold moved that the committee of claims be directed to inquire into the expediency of allowing the refugees from Canada and Nova-Scotia further time for exhibiting their claims for lands under the act for their relief—agreed to, 40 to 33.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the secretary of the treasury, accompanying a statement of receipts and expenditures for one year preceding October 1, 1801. Referred to the committee of ways and means.

BOSTON, December 5.

Captain Freeman has arrived at Newburyport, in a short passage from England; but he does not bring any late papers. He informs, we learn; that previous to his leaving England (October 23) the French prisoners had been liberated in England. If so, the definitive treaty of peace, it is probable, had been signed.

December 9.

The brig Ceres, capt. Peters, arrived at this port last evening, in 40 days from Bourdeaux. She sailed on the 22d October. A French gentleman, who came passenger in her, informs that a French fleet, with 10,000 men on board, was on the eve of departure from Breff for St. Domingo.

PHILADELPHIA, December 15.

Captain Smith in the ship Superior, arrived at Charleston in 31 days from Gibraltar, informs, that before he left Gibraltar, dispatches had been received there by one of the captains of the Tripolitan cruisers, which were blockaded there by the American Squadron, from the bey of Tripoli, directing his admiral to offer terms of peace to commodore Dale. As the admiral was not there, captain Smith did not learn whether commodore Dale had been applied to by the captain; but it was generally supposed the bey was sick of his warfare, and was willing to accommodate things on almost any terms.

Captain S. further informs, a little time before he sailed, capt. Dale, being with the frigate President in Algebras Road, sent a boat with a lieutenant and eleven men to Gibraltar, to offer such American vessels as were there a convoy up the Straits; on her return the boat was upset, and every soul perished. Commodore Dale requested capt. Smith to make this unfortunate event known.

December 16.

By the President of the United States.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS information has been received that an atrocious murder was in the month of August last committed on an Indian woman, of the Cherokee tribe, in the peace and friendship of the United States, in the county of Knox, in the state of Tennessee, aggravated also by the consideration, that it was committed at a moment, when a friendly meeting was about to be held by the commissioners of the United States, with the chiefs of the said tribe of Indians, for the purpose of making certain arrangements, favourable to the tranquillity and advantage of the frontier settlers, as well as just and eligible to the Indians themselves: And whereas the apprehension and punishment of the murderers and their accessories will be an example due to justice and humanity, and every way salutary in its operation: I have therefore thought fit to issue this my proclamation, hereby exhorting the citizens of the United States, and requiring all the officers thereof, according to their respective stations, to use the utmost of their endeavours to apprehend and bring the principals and accessories to the said murder to justice: And I do moreover offer a reward of one thousand dollars for each principal, and five hundred dollars for each accessory to the same before the fact, who shall be apprehended and brought to justice.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States of America to be (L. S.) affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand.

Done at the city of Washington, the thirtieth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one, and of the independence of the United States of America the twenty-sixth.

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

By the President;

JAMES MADISON, Secretary of State.

ALEXANDRIA, December 3.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Tennessee to his friend in this town, dated South-West Point, November 16th, 1801.

"When I wrote you last, I did not intend to have troubled you in this way, so soon; but having got possession of a little Indian treaty news, I cannot suffer a post to pass.

"We received dispatches at 8 o'clock last night from our commissioners: Their letters state, that on the 21st ultimo they met the Chickasaws at the Bluffs, and without difficulty on the 24th, concluded their negotiations for the opening of roads through their country.—The consideration is 700 dollars.

"It appears that the Cherokees have only refused what they had not the power of granting. The general writes that they have found the limits of the Chickasaws precisely defined, and guaranteed by our government—that it comprehends every part of the tract for the proposed roads, which he will proceed