

which are founded the reciprocal happiness of the Prince and of his people.

"You, heads of those numerous classes, which by their labours, industry and activity, are the main props of empires; His Majesty expects that your meditations and reflections on this important subject will be constantly directed towards the publick good.

"Yes, gentlemen, in whatever rank of society you may be placed, the most intimate connections bind you to every constituent part of the State.—Publick felicity calls you here, and here closely unites you; this noble, this great and pervading sentiment, which is that of the nation, will preside over all your disquisitions and debates.

"You will follow this salutary object throughout all its meanders, with the utmost preciseness and accuracy; you will spare no pains to remove those obstacles from the mode in which the States General are to be convened, and to prevent those frivolous debates which formerly, and particularly in 1614, took up and wasted so many moments which might have been more usefully employed.

"Gentlemen, you never will lose sight of the simple and affecting idea, that the inhabitants of this kingdom constitute but one great family, that therefore we can have but one and the same interest to meliorate and pursue, but one and the same honour to preserve and to keep: that if the august chief who now presides here, owes himself essentially and entirely to the happiness of all, if he is the natural conciliator of all parties, and protector of those privileges and immunities which have been placed under his care, he has therefore the most undoubted right to your love and respect.

"Thus called together, thus admitted into his most intimate councils, by the confidence he reposes in you, he has every reason to expect that your enlightened zeal, your best information, like the just tribute of filial piety, will be offered up as a generous and grateful return for the tenderness and affection of a father."

NEW YORK.

PROCEEDINGS of CONGRESS.

In the HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1789.

MR. TUCKER presented a petition from Doctor RAMSAY, of Charleston, S. C. requesting Congress to secure to him his property in the *History of the Revolution of South-Carolina*. A committee was appointed to take up the subject at large, and report a bill upon general principles.

A memorial of JOHN CHURCHMAN was introduced by Mr. SHERMAN—it respected Mr. Churchman's new discoveries in the magnetick variation which have been announced to the publick—this was referred to the Committee, appointed on Dr. Ramsay's petition.

Mr. TUCKER presented a memorial also from Doctor RAMSAY—Subject, the ineligibility of the Hon. WILLIAM SMITH to a seat in that House, as he was not qualified in point of residence, not having been seven years a citizen of the United States previous to his election—a requisite of the Constitution.

Mr. TUCKER introduced the memorial with a great degree of delicacy. He observed, that he wished to be considered as acting entirely *officially* in the business, and that it might be treated with the utmost attention, as the gentlemen were both highly respectable in their characters—Dr. Ramsay was a gentleman of extensive reputation, and ranked high in the State to which he belonged.—Mr. SMITH also was a gentleman who sustained the fairest character, and had often received respectable marks of distinction from his fellow citizens. His election was contested merely upon constitutional principles.—His appearance in that house sufficiently indicated that he had never forfeited the esteem of his fellow citizens.

This memorial was referred to the COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS.

Mr. BOUDINOT, of the committee to prepare rules for conducting Conferences, reported—the consideration of which was postponed.

Mr. BENSON of the committee appointed to confer with a committee of the Senate, upon the subject of arrangements for the reception of the PRESIDENT, and VICE-PRESIDENT, made the following report, to wit.

That Mr. OSGOOD, the proprietor of the house lately occupied by the President of Congress, be requested to put the same, and the furniture therein, in proper condition for the residence and use of the President of the United States, and otherwise, at the expence of the United States, to provide for his temporary accommodation.

That it will be most eligible in the first instance, that a committee of three Members from the Senate, and five from the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Houses respectively, attend to receive the President, at such place as he shall embark at from New-Jersey for this city, and conduct him without form, to the house lately occupied by the President of Congress, and that at such time thereafter, as the President shall signify, it shall be most convenient for him, he be formerly received by both houses.

That a Committee of two members from the Senate, and three members from the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Houses respectively, wait on the Vice-President of the United States, as soon as he shall come to this city, and in the name of the Congress of the United States, congratulate him on his arrival.

The said report being considered, was accepted. A letter from the Chief Justice of the state of New-York, addressed to the Speaker, was read, informing that JOHN BECKLEY, Esq. Clerk of the House of Representatives, had appeared before him, and taken the oath required by the Constitution.

In committee of the whole house, the *Order of the day* was resumed, by proceeding to fill the blanks in the Resolve, as follow,

- On Cocoa, 1 cent pr. lb.
- On Beer, Ale and Porter, imported in casks, 8 cents pr. gal.
- On do. in bottles, 24 cents pr. doz.
- On Tallow Candles, 2 cents pr. lb.
- On Wax do. 6 do. do.
- On Cheese, 4 do. do.
- On Soap, 2 do. do.
- On Boots, 50 cents pr. pair.
- On Shoes, Slippers, and Galloshoes, 10 do. do.
- On unwrought Steel, 56 cents pr. 112lb.

On the subject of Steel, a debate ensued. Mr. LEE moved, that the article be struck out of the enumeration.

Mr. TUCKER was in opinion with Mr. LEE. Mr. CLYMER, and Mr. FITZSIMONS, were for the duty.

On the one hand it was contended, that this duty would create a monopoly in favour of a few manufacturers, no ways conducive to the general advantage—that it would bear hard upon the agricultural interest, as it was an indispensable article in the fabrication of implements of husbandry, &c.

On the other it was alledged, that three hundred tons had been manufactured the year past in Pennsylvania alone—That further encouragement would produce sufficient quantities for the consumption of the Union—and although it might operate a little unequally at first, the same objection lay against encreasing every branch—but that this was an evil that carried its own remedy with it—for every productive business was soon overdone, and the article then diminished in value—That it was the duty of the House to go upon general principles, and not to be biased by partial interests, when a measure appeared to be evidently calculated to promote national objects—that when the whole system should be brought into operation, there would probably be a balance of mutual advantages derived to individual States.

The question being taken on Mr. LEE's motion, it was lost.

On Cables and tarred Cordage, a duty of 50 cents pr. hund. wt. was voted.

On untarred do. 60 cents pr. hund. wt.

On Twine and pack Thread, one dollar pr. hund. wt.

An Impost on Hemp was mentioned, and urged by some observations from Mr. SCOT—but gentlemen were not sufficiently prepared to ascertain the amount that might be expedient—it was accordingly deferred.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16.

House met agreeably to adjournment.

The Bill, providing the mode of taking the oath, or affirmation, required by the Constitution, was read the second time, and on motion of Mr. WHITE, was referred to the committee of the whole house, and made the order of the day for Monday next.

A committee of five was then balloted for, who are to join a committee of the Senate, to receive the President on the Jersey shore, and attend him to this city, Mr. BOUDINOT, Mr. BLAND, Mr. BENSON, Mr. LAWRENCE, and Mr. TUCKER, were elected. Mr. GILMAN, Mr. AMES, and Mr. GERRY, were appointed a committee to wait on the Vice President, on his arrival, and congratulate him in the name of the two Houses.

In committee of the whole, on the state of the union, the committee proceeded to fill up the blanks in the resolve.

HEMP—Mr. GILMAN proposed, that this article be struck out of the enumeration.

Mr. HARTLEY—I am opposed Sir, to an excessive duty upon this article: Hemp is a raw material, which we should find ourselves very much distressed for, should we lay a heavy, or prohibitory tax upon it; the production of this article in the country, bears no proportion to its consumption; nor can gentlemen determine with any degree of precision, when that will be the case. We have, Sir, already laid a duty upon Cordage, which will operate as a protection to our manufacture of that article, and if we now tax Hemp exorbitantly, we shall in a measure defeat our own purposes. Besides Sir, this will be a most improvident measure, as it respects ship building—and surely we do not mean to lessen the navigation of our country. Upon the general principle, Mr. Hartley concluded in favour of a small duty, not more than 5 pr. cent. as on the general mass of articles.

Mr. MOORE was in favour of a high duty—his observations were considerably lengthy, but were not distinctly heard by the editor.

Mr. HEISTER observed, that from the Western country, large quantities of this article were to be expected: He proposed therefore a small duty should be laid for the interim between the present time, and the next harvest, after which the Impost should be enhanced, so as to afford encouragement to the raising this important article.

Mr. WHITE opposed striking out the article—Hemp, he observed, was a plant that might be raised in any quantities, especially in the Western country, the soil of which was peculiarly adapted to its growth. Agriculture was an object of immense importance; Government would undoubtedly patronize it—He therefore proposed 75 cents pr. hund. as a moderate duty on this article.

Mr. PARTRIDGE spoke in favour of a moderate duty, for considering the article as a material, necessary to the existence of an important manufacture—the high price it bore in foreign markets, should induce a reason for a very low Impost—he therefore proposed 40 cents pr. hund.

Mr. LAWRENCE—I am, Sir, opposed to a great Impost upon Hemp: It is certain that the production of that article in the States, bears no proportion to the demand. This State, Sir, manufactured three hundred tons the year past—and not more than forty tons were raised among ourselves. We cannot be supplied from our own produce with sufficient quantities at present. The duty on Cordage is sufficient, and will operate to the encouragement wished for in the raising of Hemp. If his information was just, the gentleman observed, that Cordage could be imported as cheap as Hemp, or nearly so; a duty therefore on the latter, would induce the importation of the former, to the total discouragement of the manufacture. He concluded therefore by moving, that the duty should be 40 cents pr. hund.

Mr. GOODHUE was in favour of 40 cents; there was a material difference between Hemp and Cordage, as gentlemen had observed, and the difference between the duties ought to bear some proportion.

Mr. BOUDINOT said, that as every article of importation would doubtless bear an Impost of at least 5 pr. cent. and the proposed duty amounted, according to the present price of Hemp, exactly to that sum, he should be in favour of 40 cents, for that reason; but as it was already a specified article, to give it distinction as such, without materially enhancing the duty from 5 pr. cent. and that Commerce and Manufacture might mutually assist each other, he would propose 50 cents.

Mr. HARTLEY suggested, that in lieu of a duty on foreign Hemp, to encourage the growth of it at home, it might be eligible to offer a bounty on the latter: He was decidedly of opinion, that the last expedient would be preferable to the imposing a tax on Hemp imported.

Mr. MOORE again advocated an enhanced duty.

Mr. WHITE also, to the same point, adverted to the Western territory—suggested the policy of conciliating the affection of our brethren in that country, and of making favourable impressions respecting the administration of the New Constitution.

Mr. SCOT—Sir, Commerce and Agriculture are so closely allied, that whatever is injurious to one, equally affects the other; they must be united.—In vain does the Farmer till the soil, and bring his produce to market, unless the Merchant is ready to take his articles, at a reasonable rate.—In vain does the Merchant plan his voyages to distant climes, unless the labour of the Husbandman furnishes him with the necessary remittances.

Agriculture is the natural resort of the great body of our countrymen. The establishment of Manufactures may be necessary to America, in a time of war, but their prosecution, upon a generally extensive scale, is not to be expected, while the boundless tracts of uncultivated lands that extend thousands of miles westward, offer an easy support to the poorer classes of people—and for a long time to come, we cannot expect to vie with the European manufacturers—Agriculture, therefore, is the great object that should arrest our attention. Hemp is an article, the growth of which, if encouraged by the general government of the United States, quantities may be raised in the Western country to an unlimited amount—Its transportation is easy, and the price it bears, will warrant its being brought from a great distance. Should but a hope be held out, that the inhabitants of those regions may hope, that Congress will take this article under their patronage, it will not be long, before the mouth of the Mississippi will be delivering immense quantities, which from the interior country, shall come floating upon its waters—Mr. SCOT was therefore in favour of 75 cents pr. hund.

Mr. MADDISON here made some observations, which we could not distinctly hear: He was opposed, however, to a high duty, and proposed 45 cents.

Mr. SMITH, Maryland, was in favour of 40 cents, as a temporary duty, and proposed, that after two years, the Impost should be one dollar, or 100 cents pr. hund. wt.

Upon taking the vote it passed in favour of 50 cents pr. hund.

The article Malt was dutied at 10 cents pr. bushel.

Mr. AMES proposed the articles of Barley and Lime should be added to the general enumeration—which being voted in the affirmative, Barley pr.