

# NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE.

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[No. 575.]

## Congress of the United States. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

(Continued from our last.)

It had been said, if this bill were to pass, it would derange all the present military establishment. It would do no such thing, but would be engrafted upon it. They were also told that volunteer corps had equipped themselves at a great expence. This he did not approve, because the public defence, which should be general, fell upon volunteer corps who might be more rich or more patriotic than others. He hoped, therefore, the motion to strike out would not pass.

Mr. W. Lyman observed that the gentlemen who condemned the present system in 1793, allowed that it was practicable in some parts of the union, so that it could not be quite so bad as he represented it.—He believed it was capable of improvement. The greatest objection to the system now in force was, that it did not fall equally upon all classes; if an improvement was made in it in this respect, one of the greatest objections to it would be removed. In every free nation, the citizens must be ready to defend their country when in danger from attacks without, or disturbances from within: but if the principle of a select corps was introduced, you introduce a distinct principle, which will war against the other parts of the system. In a military point of view, it was impossible, he said, to carry this principle into operation, for the moment you introduce it, you will have no other corps. He differed from the gentleman from S. Carolina (Mr. Harper) in speaking of the opinion of the people on the bill proposed; he believed they were wholly dissatisfied with it. Before this bill was recommitted, he should propose amendments to other parts of it.

Mr. Hartley said there were several new members in the house who had not been present at the former discussions of this subject: and he thought it best not to hurry the business, to give a little time for these gentlemen to make themselves acquainted with the subject. If they now agreed to strike out the first section, it would put an end to the plan proposed. He believed the select corps proposed was not a new thing; there was such an establishment in Switzerland, and such a corps had frequently been under consideration in the state of Pennsylvania; but the greatest objection to it was, the great number of conscientious people in that state who refuse to bear arms. The people of the Eastern states, he said, were armed before this government was erected; but this was not the case in Pennsylvania and in the South. This select corps, he said, were to be armed at the public expence; if that difficulty was got over, he thought there would be few left. He suggested the propriety of the committee's rising, in order to give time for consideration of the subject. For his own part, he should vote for it.

Mr. Gilbert hoped the committee would rise; for he believed this subject had not been discussed during this Congress, and many members were, of course, unacquainted with the business.

The motion for the committee's rising was put and carried 37 to 21.

Mr. Livingston said that there had been a committee appointed last session on the subject of improving the penal code; but for want of some necessary information, no report had been made. That information being now arrived, and doubting not the house was desirous of ameliorating the penal code, he should beg to lay the following resolution on the table.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire whether any and what alterations are necessary in the penal laws of the United States, and that they report by bill or otherwise. Agreed.

Mr. Gallatin presented a petition from

Stephen Moylan, of this city, commissioner of loans, praying for an increase of salary.

Mr. Gallatin obtained leave of absence for ten days.

Mr. A. Foster, from the committee of enrolled bills, reported that the bill for the more effectual promulgation of the laws of the United States, was truly enrolled, and it received the signature of the speaker accordingly.

Mr. Harper enquired if it would be in order to move that the committee of the whole be discharged from a further consideration of the militia bill; and, on being informed it was in order, he moved that it be discharged for the purpose of recommitting it to a select committee. His object was, that the bill might be so modified as to stand a better chance of passing; because if this was not done, and the first section was determined to be struck out, the plan would be lost, which he thought of great importance.

After some objections urged against the motion by Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Heartley, Mr. W. Lyman, Mr. Kitchell and Mr. Heath, and in favor of it by Mr. Harper and Mr. Craik, it was put and lost.

Mr. Heath said, owing to a want of sufficient energy in the revenue, of the United States considerable sums of money had been lost by revenue officers, as was seen by the report from the treasury department. He thought it possible for the laws to be so amended as to prevent similar defalcations in future. For that purpose he wished the following resolution to lie on the table:

“Resolved, that a committee be appointed to enquire whether any and what alterations are necessary to enforce the payment of money due from the various revenue officers of the United States.” Agreed. —adjourned.

## LONDON, October 19.

THIS morning arrived the Hamburg Mail due on Wednesday. The details which it brings are highly satisfactory. The boasted advantages of Buonaparte before Mantua, appear much less formidable than they did in his representation of them. Field Marshal Wurmser, it is true, shut up in Mantua, but this seems to have been a voluntary step, for the purpose, no doubt, of reinforcing the garrison, and taking upon himself the command of that important post.

A letter from one of our Continental correspondents, dated Bremen the 7th inst. upon the authority of a letter from Augsburg of the 29th ult. informs us, that Buonaparte had been defeated, and having thrown himself into the small fortress of Sanquinetto, had been surrounded, and finally taken prisoner.—This account wants confirmation; but thus we may presume from the silence of the last French journals respecting the operations in Italy, and from the reinforcements marching to the Austrian army, that the tide of fortune is as much changed in that quarter as in Germany.

Respecting Moreau, this mail brings little in addition to the former. He was continuing his retreat, but was frequently obliged to alter his route, he was, according to circumstances, pressed by the Austrians, and harassed by the Inhabitants of the countries through which he was retreating. From the causes, the diminution of his forces must have been very great, and from the slowness of his retreat, we may easily imagine the difficulties he has to encounter.

The King of Naples had determined again to act with vigor offensively. He had detached a considerable body of cavalry and infantry from the interior of the country to act with the Austrians, and a part of his fleet had again put to sea.

By the accounts brought by the messenger from Vienna, we learn that the Emperor had raised two hundred thousand additional troops, that were marching to the reinforce-

ment of his different armies; in his capital alone he raised seventeen thousand men in one week; such was the noble ardour of patriotism that pervaded the Austrian states.

By the messenger from Venice, we learn, that a report was stated by Mr. Drake, the British Envoy, and generally believed there, that Buonaparte had been defeated in the Tyrol.

October 21.

The three Hamburg Mails that were due, reached town this morning. They bring a vast variety of interesting matter, of which we shall endeavour to lay before our readers a satisfactory abstract.

One very prominent and important part of the intelligence is, the repeated accounts of Buonaparte having been taken prisoner. This event was stated in our paper of Monday last, in a letter from a correspondent at Bremen, and it was the only account of it which came to this country.

An article from Vienna, of the 5th, states, that General Wurmser had frequently attacked and repulsed the enemy with loss.

A letter from Hanau, of the 5th inst. says, that the Gazette there asserts, that Field Marshal Wurmser had on the 23d, attacked the French near Sanguinetto, and defeated them with the loss of 15,000 men; and this is further strengthened by an article from Ratibon of the 3d inst. which says that Wurmser, after six days fighting, had entirely defeated the enemy on the 20th, whose loss in killed amounted to 6000 men, and in prisoners to 7000. Among the latter was Buonaparte.

Moreau was continuing his retreat towards Switzerland, but not without being frequently attacked, and as often defeated by the Austrian corps that surround him. We refer to the variety of articles which we have taken from the mails, for a particular detail of the circumstances of his retreat, and the situation of his army.

The Archduke Charles was continuing his route into Swabia, and General Petrasch was advancing to the Black Forest, to cut off the retreat of the French by that route. It seemed to be the design of Moreau to get into Switzerland, but the Austrians will doubtless follow him thither, nor quit him till his destruction shall complete.

On the Lower Rhine, there had been for some affairs of posts, which uniformly ended to the advantage of the Austrians.

The disorder of the French armies continued unabated, and the troops of the routed army; and the reinforcements of the North, had broke into open rupture.

October 22.

We present, in our paper of this day, some further extracts from the Flansburgh Mails, and which the late hour of delivery of the letters, prevented us from giving in our paper of yesterday.

On the 11th inst. the Austrians stormed and carried the important post of the Tete du Pont of Neuwied, making the whole of the French who defended it prisoners of war.

Gen. Hotze had passed the Rhine near Mannheim, with a detachment of 10 or 12,000 men. The proposed object of this manœuvre was supposed to be a diversion, while the Archduke should attack Kehl.

Articles from Milan of the 24th, and Venice of the 25th ult. concur in stating, the obstinate actions had taken place near Mantua. On the 21st a battle was fought, in which the French lost 4000 men, and a great quantity of Artillery; and it was concluded that the siege of Mantua must be a second time raised.

On the 23d ult. the vanguard of a reinforcement of 18,000 Austrians had reached Treviso, within two or three days march of Mantua.

An article from Milan, of the 26th ult. states, that the Pope had given a negative to