

FROM THE FRENCH.

L'ANNÉE, OR, THE YEAR.

Immobilia ne speres, nihil certum.....HORACE.

JANUARY.

LO! my fair, the morning lazy, Peeps abroad from yonder hill, Phœbus rises red and hazy, Frost has stop'd the village mill.

FEBRUARY.

All around looks sad and dreary; Fast the flaky snow descends; Yet the red-breast chirps cheery, While the mitten'd lass at ends.

MARCH.

Rise the winds and rocks the cottages, Thaws the roof and wets the path; Dorcas cooks the savoury pottage, Smokes the cake upon the hearth.

APRIL.

Sunshine intermits with ardour: Shades fly swiftly o'er the fields; Showers revive the drooping verdure, Sweets the sunny upland yields.

MAY.

Pearly beams the eye of morning; Child; forbear the dead unless'd! Hawthorn every hedge adorning, Pluck the flowers—but spare the nest.

JUNE.

School boys in the brook disporting, Spend the sultry hour of play; While the nymphs and swains are courting, Seated on the new made hay.

JULY.

Mads with each a guardian lover, While the vivid lightning flies, Hastening to the nearest cover, Clasp their hands before their eyes.

AUGUST.

See the rovers, glances, dining, Seated on the shady grass; O'er the gate the squirrel declining, Wanton eyes each ruddy lass.

SEPTEMBER.

Hark! a sound like distant thunder, Murderer, may thy malice fail! Torn from all thy love asunder, Widow'd birds around us wail.

OCTOBER.

Now Pomona pours her Treasure, Leaves autumnal strew the ground; Plenty crowns the market measure, While the mill runs briskly sound.

NOVEMBER.

Now he giddy rites of Ceres Crown the harper's dear delight; Ah! the year is flitting from us, Break the day and dream the night.

DECEMBER.

Bring more wood, and see the glances; Join, my friends, our Christmas cheer; Come a carol!—and kiss the lasses— Christmas comes but once a year.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, February 13.

The House went into committee of the whole—Mr. John C. Smith in the chair—on the bill for the reduction of the marine corps.

The bill reduces the officers of the corps to 1 captain and 12 lieutenants, and empowers the President, at any future period, when in his opinion it may be necessary, to augment the number of officers so as not to exceed those as present authorized by law.

Mr. Epes moved to strike out from the word next in the 3d line of the 11th section to the end of the section, and insert—“The whole of the officers of the marine corps except such as are at present in actual service in the Mediterranean, shall be, and the same are hereby discharged from the service of the United States. Provided, however, that if the President of the United States shall deem it expedient to employ a greater naval force than is now in actual service, he shall be, and hereby is authorized to appoint such additional officers as may be necessary for the additional vessels called into service.”

Mr. Leib said it might be proper to state that the bill on the table was the same with that passed by the House the last session, and arrested by the Senate. It was then alleged to be improper to pass it as the state of the country as to its foreign relations, was such as might require the aid of the whole military force in existence. That reason had ceased, and the bill was consequently reported to the House. The committee, who reported it, were of opinion that it was not the intention of Congress to reduce the corps entirely; they had supposed that the reduction contemplated by the bill might be made, and a sufficient number of marines still retained in service. They had considered a Lieut. Col. Commandant unnecessary; as it would be found, by consulting the report of the Secretary of the Navy, lately laid before the House, that not more than 112 marines were attached to this place—they had supposed a captain fully competent to this command, which embraced as large a number as was stationed in any other part of the United States. The bill contemplated the retaining one captain to

be stationed here and twelve lieutenants, three of which were to be attached to the command of Norfolk, Philadelphia and New-York. At Philadelphia there was at present one captain with the command of only fifteen marines. There were likewise several lieutenants and one captain in the Mediterranean. According to the contemplation of the bill, there would be one lieutenant at Philadelphia, another at Norfolk, and another at New-York; and one for the service in the Mediterranean, leaving 5 at this place, which were considered as sufficient to relieve a returning Squadron. It was, therefore, considered that twelve lieutenants would be amply sufficient, allowing the establishment of a marine corps to be necessary.

Since the bill had been reported, a statement of the expenses of the corps had been laid before the House by the Secretary of the Navy. On looking at that statement, he was inclined to the opinion of the gentleman from Virginia, that the whole establishment ought to be done away. It would appear from it, that it was the most expensive military establishment existing in any country. It was so far beyond the ordinary expenses of the military, that, in his opinion, the committee ought not to hesitate a moment about either reducing it, or incorporating it as part of the army. The lieutenant colonel commandant received more than 3,000 dollars a year. This extravagant sum paid for the support of this officer, was a sufficient reason of itself for reducing that office. It appeared that he charged the United States for pay and subsistence 1722 dollars; for house rent, under the denomination of quarters, 500 dollars; for fire wood 200 dollars; for forage (the committee will recollect that he is a marine officer) 200 dollars. It also appeared that subaltern officers, charged 200 dollars for fire wood and forage; how forage could be used on board of ships he was yet to learn. It would further appear that the colonel commandant had passing through his hands the annual sum of between sixty and seventy thousand dollars; and that, in his accounts, there remained to be accounted for a sum of near 13,000 dollars; that for the present year, the unaccounted sums was 5,700 dollars, and for the preceding years 7,200 dollars; making in the aggregate, 12,924 dollars.

Considering the expenses of this corps extravagant, and that if it were necessary, it might be placed on a different footing, and that the marines required might be drafted from the regular military establishment, Mr. Leib said, he should heartily give his assent to the motion of the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. Eutis enquired how, if the proposition of the gentleman from Virginia should be adopted, those officers at present in the Mediterranean, were to be relieved. It must be well known to the gentleman, that one Squadron went out before the other returned. As to the idea of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, to take the requisite number of marines from the army, it was not practicable. The ordinary soldiers were not enlisted for this kind of service; they were not qualified to discharge it; there was another and a stronger objection;—there were not men in the army to be found, who could be spared. For these reasons, he was of opinion that if the bill were to pass, it would be better to keep it in its original shape.

Mr. Epes rose to give the gentleman from Massachusetts (Dr. Eutis) the explanation he asked. If the gentleman were friendly to the principle of the amendment it would be easy to obviate the difficulty he had stated. In making the amendment, Mr. Epes said he had been guided by the conviction that the marine corps, whatever duty they might have performed, had not rendered services equivalent to the expenses incurred in their establishment. The corps had been established in 1798, since which period they had cost the United States 353,573 dollars. There appeared to have been advanced in 1798, 7,200 dollars; in 1799, 37,000 dollars; in 1800, 84,000 dollars; in 1801, 85,000 dollars; and in 1802 to the 30th June 38,200 dollars, making in the aggregate 252,834 dollars. This sum appears to have been actually advanced to the Lieut. Col. Commandant, before he had filed a single account or voucher, and on his individual responsibility. Any one who will examine the accounts will perceive that throughout the whole list of expenses a mode of adjustment is adopted which is calculated to prevent a fair examination of the accounts. It is impossible to ascertain what a particular officer has received and to what he is entitled. I have made a statement laid Mr. E. as far as I have been able, of the sums received by the commandant.

Mr. Epes here specified the several items of charge made by the commandant.

From which it appeared, he said, that he had received 9,170 dollars. It also appeared that, during part of the period covered by these accounts, he had received 480 dollars for quarters. From this statement it followed that the commandant received within 400 dollars as much as brigadier general Wilkinson, whose salary was limited to 2,700 dollars, while C. I. Burrows received 2,398 dollars a year.

He observed that he had not had an opportunity of investigating the other accounts in the statement; but he had seen enough of them to convince him that the corps ought to be reduced. He asked whether it were the interest of the United States to support this establishment at an enormous expense when the adjustment of our differences in the Mediterranean had nearly rendered their services unnecessary in that respect. It was not however, he said, his attention to dwell on the subject. He was fully convinced the corps might be dispensed with, without any injury to the United States. For this purpose a law had passed Congress two years ago, and

it was well understood that the continuance of the officers in the service arose solely from a mistake in wording it.

Mr. Varum said, if he understood the effect of the amendment, it went to reduce the officers and not the men; it would therefore leave the men without any person to command them. This, he apprehended, would produce a state of chaos.

The question was then put on Mr. Epes' amendment, which was negatived—Ayes 45—Nays 50.

On motion of Dr. Leib the period from which the reduction is to take place was fixed to be the 1st of March.

When the committee rose and reported the bill, which the House immediately took up, and ordered a third reading to morrow—Ayes 68.

TUESDAY, February 14.

Mr. Rodney observed that a subject had some time since been before Congress, in which the commercial world was considerably interested; he alluded to the fixing a standard of weights & measures. Under an impression that this was a fit time to resume its consideration, he moved a resolution to instruct the committee of Commerce and Manufactures, to enquire into the expediency of fixing a standard of weights and measures.

Mr. Leib suggested the propriety of referring the subject to a select committee, in which idea Mr. Rodney acquiesced. When Dr. Mitchell after assigning a number of reasons which led him to be of opinion that Congress would not, during the present session, be enabled to arrive at any conclusive measures on the subject—moved to postpone the resolution until to morrow.

In which Mr. Rodney acquiescing, the motion was ordered to lie until to morrow.

An engrossed bill for the relief of certain military pensioners in South Carolina was read the third time and passed.

An engrossed bill for the reduction of the marine corps was read the third time, and passed—Ayes 73—Nays 40.

Mr. Thomas's motion for the appointment of a joint committee of the two Houses to report when it will be expedient to adjourn, and what business it will be proper previously to attend to was agreed to.

Mr. Bard's motion for the imposition of a tax of ten dollars upon every negro imported into the U. States was taken up.

A debate arose which continued till 4 o'clock, when an adjournment took place without any decision.

Messrs. Bard, Findley, S. L. Mitchell, & Sloan, supported; and Messrs Lowndes, Bedinger, Macon, Moore, & Huger, opposed the resolution.

Aerial Voyage.

MILAN, (ITALY) October 19, 1803.

The circumstance of the aerial voyage of Mr. Zambaccari the hour at which he set off, the darkness of the night, the rapidity of the ascension, and the extraordinary height to which he appeared to rise, have all contributed to render this voyage remarkable one, and have excited the public interest by the consequences with which they were likely to be attended. Mr. Zambaccari and his companions only formed the resolution to depart, in order to satisfy the wishes of the multitude and avoid ill treatment. Mr. Zambaccari rising in the air, took his leave of the spectators by crying out to them—Adieu, Fellow Citizens; adieu, my country. He appeared to possess an unfortunate fate. They rose, as we have already stated, very rapidly. The balloon swelled very much.

The rupture of the equilibrium was too great; it appears that nothing was calculated. They were then carried off by the air, and blown about at random in the pines of the arid sphere. At length, after many hours navigation, they fell into the Adriatic sea, on the 8th of October, at 8 o'clock in the morning, and owed their safety to a bark which picked them up. The following is the substance of what our travellers have described, at the Imperial Board of Health, at Venice.

“We left Bologna on Friday night the 7th instant, to gratify the impatience of the multitude, who demanded our departure with constant outcries. At three quarters past midnight, we abandoned ourselves to the strong ascending power of our globe, flattering ourselves, that in proportion as the gaz escaped, we should gradually descend at a little distance from the city, but the covering of the balloon was so compact, that it prevented any gaz whatever from escaping, and it became impossible for us to descend, in spite of the use we made of our oars, one of which we lost a short time after our departure. The balloon now rose to a height that it became impossible to determine, by the aid of the thermometer; for that we had taken with us, being constructed after Magellan's method, it became necessary to arrange, previous to using it, which it was utterly impossible for us to do, as our hands were totally benumbed with cold.

“The Count Zambaccari felt by this time a strong inclination to vomit, and Dr. Grasseti, found a very great difficulty in breathing. Both of them were soon seized with an irresistible drowsiness, and in a few minutes sunk down upon the flooring of the gallery, in a profound sleep.

“Signior Andreoli, being the only one who had been able to resist falling asleep, awakened Count Zambaccari, who immediately asked what state the barometer was in, but it was impossible to inform him, as our lamps were extinguished.

“Signior Andreoli, in a little time afterwards, informed his companions, that he had heard the noise of the waves; Count Zambaccari then treated them to endeavour, if possible, to light the lamps again, but the phosphoric wax candles with which we had provided ourselves were of no service to us. We were thus forced to try steel, by which we succeeded in procuring a light.

“The Count then leaning over the side of the gallery, was able plainly to discover the surface of the sea. He immediately attempted to lay hold of a bag of sand, but had not time to throw it out, for the balloon fell in the waves with so much rapidity, that the shock forced the water five feet upwards.

“It was then about half past two in the morning. To get our balloon out of the water we were obliged to throw out all our ballast, and our remaining instruments.

“The balloons immediately rose, and thus afforded us the means of shaking off the water from our clothes. We were unable to estimate the height of our second ascension, but it was extraordinary high, if we may judge from the trouble we had in hearing each other, which indicates an extreme rarefaction of the air. Our clothes were covered with a thick mist condensed and frozen. A cloud hovered over us, and we had passed through three which were now under our small boat. The moon appeared to be on a level with us, and of the color of blood. It was at this period that doctor Grasseti was seized with a violent bleeding at the nose. At three o'clock, the balloon from its weight and loss of gaz, began to descend a second time with a less rapid motion. Once more cast upon the sea, no other resource remained to us than to suffer ourselves to be carried along by the force of a westerly wind, which blew with astonishing violence against the balloons, and siled it like the bill of a vessel. Sometimes we were driven beneath the angry waves, at others we floated on their surface, but were still carried along with such impetuosity, that from the coast of Romagna we were driven to that of Istria. For five whole hours we were struggling with death; at length, on Saturday, at eight o'clock in the morning, we found ourselves in sight of the port of Veruda, from which we were ten miles distant. Mr. Antonio Bazol, came to our assistance, and saved us in a bark.

“The moment the small boat was emptied of its travellers, the balloon rose rapidly, and in a few minutes was completely filled, a proof of its extraordinary elevation. We distinctly saw it carried toward Mount Offorio; as for ourselves we were conveyed to Pola; the cold had affected us severely, particularly our extremities. After having remained in that village for four days, we embarked for Venice, where we arrived this morning at eight o'clock.”

Such is the recital which Mr. Zambaccari and his companions have given of their dangerous voyage. The public papers add, that they remained for a whole day without the power of speech, and were so fatigued that it became necessary to cut their clothes, in order to undress them.

GALLIC FRATERNITY.

HAMBURG, NOV. 4.

Our city has been for these two last days in great confusion and embarrassment, from which it is not likely that it will be able to extricate itself without considerable sacrifices. What has been long foreseen and foretold by all who have paid any attention to political matters, is at length come to pass. The French having entirely stripped Hanover of every thing that it was possible for them to get at, and having certainly set out upon the principle of maintaining the army of Hanover at the expense of the other people, no matter of whom, finding now that no more is to be got in that quarter, have applied to the Hanse Towns, as being the nearest, the weakest, and most able to furnish them with money.—They have accordingly, made a formal demand of a very large sum (as it is said, of four millions of dollars) in the shape of a loan, for which they offer to mortgage the Duchy of Lauenburg. The French minister, Citizen Remhardt, has also presented a long incalculatory memoir to the Senate, wherein he complains, that people are here employed to recruit for England, and has named several persons as being engaged in this recruiting; that a ship on board of which some hundred persons are going as settlers in America, is really destined for England, and that the said settlers are English recruits, and many other complaints of a similar nature, and equally founded in justice and truth. Last night the Senate was assembled and again this morning, as were also the Alderman and Council of 60; but nothing was decided, and, therefore, nothing can be positively known, the Senators, &c. being bound to disclose no part of the deliberations, till after a decision has taken place. All that is known is, that the proposals above mentioned were deliberated on, and as is generally believed, rejected provisionally. To morrow is a general meeting of the citizens, when it will be decided what is to be done. It is not probable that the city will be forced to comply rather than expose itself to be put under military execution. Gen. Berthier, who has been here on this business, for this few days past, was upon change the day before yesterday, and endeavored to persuade the merchants to come into this measure. They represented to him that it was not possible, in the present state of things, for them to agree to such a step; that he knew, as well as they could tell him, that their trade was at a total stand, &c. To all this, it seems, he could find no better answer than to say, “Il faut faire quelque chose pour la Grand Nation.”