



"Ours are the Plens of fair delightful Peace,
"Unwar'd by Party Rage to live like Brothers."

VOL. II.

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No. 61.

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY.

From a late French Paper.

ALL the papers have spoken of the voyage of discovery to be taken by the two French ships *Naturaliste* and *Geographe*, under the command of Captain Baudin. One of the objects of the expedition is, to establish in a positive manner the navigation of New-Holland. The French Government have adopted all the means in their power to render the voyage useful to natural history, and to the knowledge of the manners of savage life. At the same time Vaillant, so celebrated for his travels in the interior parts of Africa, will set off to explore new regions. He is to seek for the famous city which is said to be situated in the Torrid Zone, and he is to prepare or establish commercial relations with those countries, with which, hitherto, no trade has been carried on but the slave trade. The expenses of his journey are to be defrayed by a company of merchants at Marseilles, called the Society of Interior Africa. This society wished to shew its respect for the persons employed in the expedition, by giving a farewell dinner to Captain Baudin. Fifty persons were invited; Baudin was placed between Vaillant, who did the honours of the day, and Bougainville. All the toasts were followed by airs, played by the confular band which was at the battle of Marengo. Vaillant gave as a toast—To the ships *Naturaliste* and *Geographe*, may they sail without danger to the farthest part of the world. Captain Baudin gave—Buonaparte, the First Consul of the Republic, and patron of the expedition. The expedition will set sail almost immediately.

The Capitol in the Federal City.

From a Northern Paper.

THE RED CHAIRS.

That part of the Capitol which is finished, and fitted up for the accommodation of the two Houses of Congress, is prepared in a style of elegance which reflects much credit upon the assiduity and taste of Claxton, who has the direction of it; much more indeed than the extravagance of the appropriations do upon the economy of those who voted for them. In England the members of the House of Commons are so simple in their manners, that they can sit upon benches. This practice has attained in most of the American States. Where then shall we find a precedent to justify, or reason to excuse the profligacy of expending twenty dollars to build a gaudy, sumptuous chair, for the seat of a Member of Congress? Does it comport with the plainness and simplicity which ought to pervade every branch of a Republican Government? Or does it quadrate with the state of our finances, when our national debt is encreasing with gigantic strides (it will always encrease in equal pace with corruption and extravagance) and when we are paying usurious interest for additional loans every year? Is it not extraordinary that a country extending two thousand miles in length, bounded on the two sides by the Atlantic and the Mississippi, cannot procure materials for that simple convenience a chair?

Surprising! But it has been thought necessary to send to the West-Indies for mahogany; to London for red morocco or goat skins, and to Birmingham for nails, to construct this intricate piece of furniture! Where is the surprising advantages of those gaudy fixtures in the Senate Chamber? We see that the members do not fly to their glittering seats with more ardour, nor with so much punctuality as do the Representatives, whose furniture is more plain; and where is the propriety of this distinction? Two words will account for the exotic qualities of the red chairs! *British Influence!* The British wish to promote extravagance with us, to destroy our Republican system: They wish us to go to their islands for mahogany, for the same reason that we wish them to come for our lumber: If they can sell us manufactured goods, it promotes their manu-

facturing interest: So it is with the brags nails, &c.

Although we cannot excuse the folly, or apologize for the profligacy of this management, no reflection ought to rest with Mr. Claxton; he has only performed what he was ordered to do, and that with much neatness and elegance.

DOUBLE WRITING.

The following Advertisement was published in a London paper of September last.

By his Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, the newly invented machine for writing with two pens, producing at the same instant two originals, according to the common mode of writing, is offered to the commercial, legal and literary world, as well as to all persons desirous of preserving authentic records of their correspondence, statements, compositions, &c. &c.

This invention, which is reduced to a practice both easy and free from every defect, has been sanctioned by the patronage of some of the most distinguished characters in the kingdom, and of several foreign ambassadors. Many persons, who have been obliged to have recourse to the copying or rather pressing machine, have experienced the most complete satisfaction in the use of the Double Writer. The trouble and inconvenience attending the former, are totally superceded by the latter, which is so justly formed that there can be no mistake in its use, and constructed with such mechanical exactness and solidity, as to preclude the necessity of all repair. By this machine, on the merits of which alone the patentee rests his pretensions to general encouragement, the merchant and trader, those concerned in the various departments of the public service, gentlemen of almost every description in the law, and all persons engaged in an extensive and important correspondence, will be enabled not only to save the great trouble and expence, but also to avoid the possibility of incorrectness, to which the best copyists are too frequently liable.

The Double Writer will be found peculiarly useful in copying drawings, and to gentlemen who travel it must be more valuable in point of accuracy and secrecy than the most able and confidential amanuensis. The execution of the machine is so exactly minute, as to render it impossible to discover the slightest difference in a hair stroke, or in the marks or punctuation. The space occupied by the machine is very trifling, as it is contained in a small sized portable writing desk.

Manufactured and sold only by J. H. Farthing, No. 43, Cornhill, London.

WASHINGTON CITY.

BY JOHN ADAMS,

President of the United States of America,
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS a Treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States of America and his Majesty the King of Prussia, was concluded and signed at Berlin on the eleventh day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine, by the Plenipotentiaries of the said United States and of his Majesty the King of Prussia, duly and respectively authorized for that purpose:

And whereas the said Treaty has by me on the one part, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, and by his Majesty the King of Prussia, on the other part, been duly approved and ratified: And whereas, the ratifications thereof were duly exchanged at Berlin, on the twenty-second day of June last past; Now therefore, to the end that the said Treaty may be executed and observed with punctuality and the most sincere regard to good faith, on the part of the United States, I do hereby make known the premises, and enjoin and require all persons bearing offices, civil or military, within the United States, and all others, citizens or inhabitants thereof, or being

within the same, to execute and observe the said Treaty accordingly.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand. Done at the city of Washington, the fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred, and of the Independence of the United States the twenty-fifth.

(L. s.) JOHN ADAMS.
By the President,
JOHN MARSHALL.
Secretary of State.

Congress.

Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to Congress.

Washington, Nov. 22, 1800.

SIR,
I deem it proper through you to inform the House of Representatives, that I have obtained permission of the President of the United States to resign the office of Secretary of the Treasury, at the close of the present year.

I indulge a hope that I may without presumption declare, that the different offices with which I have been entrusted since the establishment of this Department, have been executed according to my best skill and judgment, with a conscientious regard to the rights of individuals, and under an impressive sense of responsibility to the government. In conformity with these professions, I now freely submit the whole of my conduct to any investigation which the House of Representatives may be pleased to institute.

I cannot omit this only opportunity, which may ever be afforded of expressing the sincere sentiments of gratitude which I now feel, and shall ever cultivate, for the many proofs of confidence and indulgence which I have experienced in the course of my official communications with the Legislature; at the same time I request, that if the liberty I have now taken to invite their attention to a matter of personal concern, should be deemed in any degree unsuitable, the error may be attributed to a just and reasonable desire, that my conduct may on proper evidence, appear to have deserved their approbation.

I have the honor to be, with perfect esteem and deference,

SIR,
Your most obedient servant,
OLIVER WOLCOTT.

The Hon. Theodore Sedgwick,
Esq. Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund
Respectfully report to Congress as follows:

That the measures which have been authorized by the board, subsequent to their report on the 11th of December, 1799, so far as the same have been completed, are fully detailed in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, to this board, dated the twenty-seventh of November, 1800; and in the proceedings of the officers of the Treasury therein referred to, which are herewith transmitted, and prayed to be received as part of this report.

JOHN E. HOWARD,
President of the Senate pro tem.
Nov. 24, 1800.

The Secretary of the Treasury
respectfully reports to the
Commissioners of the Sinking Fund,

That no purchases of the debt of the United States have been made since the date of the last report to Congress of the 11th day of December, 1799; and that the sums of the Capital Stock heretofore purchased and transferred, prior to the present year, in trust for the United States, the interest whereon is appropriated by law towards the redemption of the public debt, amount to four millions, seven hundred and nineteen dollars and sixty cents, as will more particularly appear from documents hereto annexed, marked A.

That the following sums have been applied towards the discharge of the principal debt of the United States since the date of the last report to Congress of the 11th of December, 1799.

1st. To the 5th instalment of the six per cent. stock, bearing a present interest, which pursuant to the act, entitled "An Act making further provision for the support of public credit, and for the redemption of the public debt," passed on the 3d day of March, 1795, and the act in addition thereto passed on the 28th day of April, 1796, became payable on the first day of January, 1800, the sum of

716,394 36

2d. To the payment of the eighth instalment of the subscription loan for bank stock, due on the last day of December, 1799, 200,000

3d. To the payment of the third instalment of a loan of one million of guilders obtained in Holland, and which fell due in the present year, pursuant to a contract dated first of June, 1787 estimated at forty cents per guilder. 80,000

4th. To the payment of the second instalment of a loan of one million of guilders obtained in Holland, and which fell due in the present year, pursuant to a contract, dated the 13th of March, 1788, estimated at forty cents per guilder 80,000

5th. To the payment of an instalment of a loan of three millions of guilders obtained in Holland, and which fell due in the present year pursuant to a contract dated the first of January, 1790, estimated at forty cents per guilder, 240,000

Amounting in the whole to Dols. 1,316,894 36

The payments before enumerated have been made out of the following funds:

1st. The interest fund, or the sums which accrued upon the stock purchased and transferred to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, in trust for the United States, as particularly stated in the document hereto annexed, marked B, 522,323 10

2d. The fund arising from the payment of debts which originated prior to the present Constitution of the United States, as particularly stated in the document marked C, 2,942 39

3d. The fund arising from dividends on the capital stock belonging to the United States, in the bank of the United States, from the first of July, 1798, to 30th of June, 1799, after deducting the interest on the subscription loan for the same period, as particularly stated in the document hereto annexed, marked D, 29,940

4th. The proceeds of the duties on goods, wares and merchandise imported; on the tonnage of ships or vessels, and on spirits distilled within the United States, and stills appropriated by the 8th section of the act of March 3d, 1795, intitled "An act making further provision for the support of public credit, and for the redemption of the public debt," being for the period and in the reference to the objects mentioned in this report, 763,587 85

Dols. 1,316,894 36

Making in the whole an equal amount to the reimbursements before mentioned.

There remained in the hands of the Treasurer of the United States, as agent of the Board of Commissioners, on the twenty-fifth day of

the present month one hundred and sixty-nine thousand and eighty-seven dollars and four cents, which with the growing produce of other appropriated funds, will be sufficient for the reimbursement, at the close of the present year, of the sixth instalment of the six per cent. stock, bearing a present interest, and the ninth instalment of the subscription loan for stock of the United States; which reimbursements are required to be made by the 11th section of the act of Congress, passed on the 3d of March, 1795, herein before mentioned.

All which is most respectfully submitted by
OLIVER WOLCOTT.

Document A. is an enumeration of the different descriptions of stock redeemed, viz. 1,841,607 dols. 9 cents of six per cent. 514,836 dols. 47 cents of three per cent. 966,376 dols. 4 cents Deferred; 1,280,000 dols. of five per cent. 1,400 dols. of 5½ per cent.

It also contains a specification of the various sources of revenue, which make up the total sum redeemed. Documents B, C and D, are not given, as the contents of each are exhibited in the preceding report, with sufficient detail to satisfy the mind of the reader.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

Monday, Dec. 1, 1800.

The bill for compensating, and extending the privilege of franking to the delegate from the Territory N. W. of the Ohio, was read a third time, and passed.

Tuesday, Dec. 2:

Mr. Macon, from the committee of claims, reported that the demand of Philip Wilson was barred by the act of limitations, and that finding in his case no reason for suspending the act, they recommended that the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted. The report was agreed to by the House.

Mr. Claiborne stated that during the last session, a committee was appointed to enquire into the state of the trade, authorized by law, with the Indian Nations. That Committee had reported unfavorably to the trade. But desirous of maturing with deliberation a new plan before the old one was supplanted, they had reported a bill for continuing the existing system for one year.

The bill had passed the House of Representatives unanimously, but had been postponed by the Senate to this Session.

For his own part he was altogether unfavourable to the trade; for he believed that it answered no good purpose in relation to the Indians, while it was a loss to the United States. It was, however, proper that some legislative provision should be made immediately. The old law regulating the officers who had the superintendence of the trade, had expired, and they were of consequence under no legal control.

He therefore moved the appointment of a committee, to enquire into the expediency of carrying on any further trade on a capital furnished by the United States, to report by bill or otherwise, which motion being read a second time, was agreed to, and a committee of three appointed.

Mr. Otis observed, that at the time he moved for the reference of the letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, he was of opinion that it might be necessary to give particular instructions to the committee to regulate their measures in the contemplated investigation. But on further reflection, he thought it would be best to leave the Committee at large to make investigation in such way as they, in the progress of their inquiries, might deem most satisfactory. Objects, not foreseen, might occur, requiring different modes of procedure from any now agreed upon. Such was the opinion of the committee, who had directed him to move an instruction to the committee, to examine into the state of the Treasury, the mode of conducting business therein, the expenditures of the public money, and to report such facts and circumstances as will conduce to a full and satisfactory understanding of the