

Mr. N. Choate moved to amend the second member by adding to the end thereof, "together with a copy of any instrument in possession of the Executive, showing that the Spanish government has ordered the Province of Louisiana to be delivered to the commissary or other agent of the French government."

Agreed to—Ayes 64.
The question was then taken by Yeas and Nays on the whole of the original motion, amended as follows:

"Resolved, that the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this House, a copy of the Treaty between the French Republic and Spain, of the 1st October 1800, together with a copy of any instrument in possession of the Executive, showing that the Spanish government has ordered the Province of Louisiana to be delivered to the commissary or other agent of the French government."

And lost—Yeas 57—Nays 59.

Tuesday, Oct 25.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the message from the President of the United States, of the 21st inst. including a treaty and conventions entered into and ratified by the United States and the French Republic, to which committee of the whole House was also referred to a motion for carrying the same into effect; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Dawson reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said message, treaty, conventions and motion under consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were read as follows:

1. Resolved, that provision ought to be made for carrying into effect the treaty and conventions concluded at Paris on the 19th of April, 1803, between the United States of America and the French Republic.

2. Resolved, that so much of the message of the President, of the 21st inst. as relates to the establishment of a provisional government over the territory acquired by the United States, in virtue of the treaty and conventions lately negotiated with the French Republic, be referred to a select committee; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

3. Resolved, that so much of the aforesaid conventions as relates to the payment by the United States, of sixty millions of francs to the French Republic—and to the payment by the United States, of debts due by France to the citizens of the United States, be referred to the committee of ways and means.

The House proceeded to consider the said resolutions; whereupon the first resolution was agreed to, Yeas 90—Nays 25.

YEAS.—Messrs. Austin, jun. Alexander, Anderson, Archer, Barr, Bedinger, Bish, Blackledge, Boyle, Brown, Rutledge, G. W. Campbell, Calley, Chittenden, Claggott, Claiborne, Clay, M. Clay, Clifton, Conrad, Cronin, Davidson, Curtis, Dawson, Dickson, Earle, Paris, Elliot, Eppes, Eubank, Frazier, Foster, Gokey, Gray, Grege, Hampton, Hanna, Harbuck, J. Heister, Hoge, Holmes, Hunt, Jackson, Jones, Kennedy, Knight, Leitch, Lucas, Lyon, M. C. Lewis, M. Greely, Meriwether, S. L. Mitchell, N. R. Moore, J. F. Morrow, New, Newton, J. Nicholson, Oslia, Palmer, Patterson, P. Vance, J. Randolph, jun. T. M. Randolph, J. Kea, Pen, J. Rhea, Tea, Richards, Rodney, Root, Sammons, Sandford, Seaver, Smilie, T. Smith, (N. Y.) J. Smith, (Vir.) Szauford, Stanton, Stewart, Thomas, Thompson, J. Trigg, Van Corlandt, Varum, Verpuk, Walton, Whitehill, M. Williams, Winn, Winston, Wynes, 90.

NAYS.—Messrs. Chamberlain, Cutler, Dana, Daveyport, Dwight, Goddard, Griffin, G. Griswold, R. Griswold, Hatting, Hough, J. Lewis, jun. T. Lewis, Livingston, N. Mitchell, Plater, Sands, J. C. Smith, Steadman, Stephenson, Taggart, Tenney, Thatcher, Wadsworth, L. Williams—25.

The second resolution, was adopted; and Mr. John Randolph, jun. Mr. John Rhea of Tennessee, Mr. Hoge, Mr. Gaylord Griswold and Mr. Bedinger, were appointed the committee.

The third resolution was also agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, inclosing the following Report:

REPORT.

In obedience to the directions of the act supplementary to the act entitled "An act to establish the Treasury Department," the Secretary of the Treasury, respectfully submits the following Reports and Estimates.

The annual net proceeds of the duties on merchandise and tonnage had in former reports, been estimated at nine millions five hundred thousand dollars. That estimated revenue, predicated on the importations of the years immediately preceding the late European war, upon the ascertained ratio of increase of population in the United States, appears from the experience of the two last years, to be under-rated. The net proceeds from that source,

which accrued during the year 1802, exceeds ten millions one hundred thousand dollars. The revenue which has accrued during the two first quarters of the present year, appears from the best estimate that can now be formed, to have been only fifty thousand dollars less than that of the two corresponding quarters of the year 1802; and the receipts in the Treasury, on account of the same duties, during the year ending on the 30th September last, have exceeded ten millions six hundred thousand dollars.

Those facts afford satisfactory evidence that the wealth of the United States increases in a still greater ratio than their population, and induce a belief that this branch of the public revenue may now be calculated at ten millions of dollars.

From the statement (A) it will appear that the same revenue for the two last years of the late European war (1800 and 1801) calculated at the present rate of duties, averaged 11 600,000 dollars a year; but although it might with some degree of probability be supposed that the renewal of hostilities will again produce a similar increase, no inference from that period is drawn in this report, in relation to the revenue of the ensuing years.

The statement (B) shews the several species of merchandize on which the duties on importations were collected during the year 1802; the portion of that revenue which was derived from drawbacks, and that which arose from the extra duty on merchandize imported in foreign vessels.

Although the sales of the public lands during the year ending on the 30th day of September last were affected by the situation of the western country; two hundred thousand acres have been sold during that period; and as it appears from the statement (C) that, independent of future sales, the sums already paid to the receivers, together with those which, exclusively of interest, fall due during the three ensuing years, amount to 1,250,000 dollars, the annual revenue arising from the proceeds of these sales, cannot be estimated at less than four hundred thousand dollars.

The extension of post-roads, and the acceleration of the mail, will diffusing and increasing the benefits of the institution, have, as an object of revenue, rendered it less productive. The receipts from that source, have amounted, during last year, to 27,000 dollars; but as neither these, nor those arising from some other smaller incidental branches, are of sufficient importance to affect any general result, the whole existing revenue of the United States will be computed at only ten millions four hundred thousand dollars.

The permanent annual expenses of government which, under existing laws, must be defrayed out of that revenue, amounting to nine millions, eight hundred thousand dollars, to wit:

1. The annual appropriation of 7,500,000 dollars, for the payment of principal and interest of the debt; of which about three millions and an half are at present applicable to the discharge of the principal, and the residue to the payment of interest,	dols. 7,500,000
2. The current expenses of government which according to the estimates for the year 1804, consists of the following items:	
For the civil department and all domestic expenses of a civil nature,	791,000
For expenses attending the intercourse with foreign nations, including the permanent appropriation for Algiers, and all other expenses relative to the Barbary powers,	134,000
For the military and Indian departments,	875,000
For the naval establishment, calculated on the supposition that two frigates and four smaller vessels shall be kept in commission,	650,000
	2,500,000
And deducted from the permanent revenue of	10,400,000
Leave a surplus revenue of	600,000

Six hundred thousand dollars applicable to other objects.

The following extraordinary resources and demands not being of a permanent nature, are not included in that calculation, to wit:
The specie in the Treasury, which, on the 30th day of September last, amounted to 5,860,000
The arrears of the direct tax, estimated at 250,000
The outstanding internal duties, amounting to near 400,000
And the sum which will be repaid to the United States, on account of advances, heretofore made in England, for the prosecution of claims estimated at 150,000
Constituting an aggregate 6,660,000

More than six millions six hundred thousand dollars, which, after retaining the sum which is necessary to keep in the Treasury, will be sufficient to discharge the demands due on account of the convention with Great-Britain, and amounting to dols. 2,664,000
Sundry extraordinary expenses in relation to the conventions with France and Great-Britain, estimated at 100,000
The loan obtained from the State of Maryland, for the City of Washington, amounting to 200,000
And also to pay two millions of dollars on account of Louisiana, 2,000,000
4,964,000

Being the same sum which was reserved for the purposes contemplated by the law of last session, appropriating that amount for the extraordinary expenses attending the intercourse with foreign nations.

It appears by the estimate [D] that during the year ending on the 30th September last, the payments from the Treasury on account of the public debt, have amounted to 3,096,700 dollars.

Which, together with the increase of specie in the Treasury, during the same period, amounting to 1,320,000
4,416,700

makes an actual difference in favor of the United States, of more than four hundred thousand dollars during that year.

The payments on account of the principal of the public debt, from the first day of April, 1801, to the 30th day of September, 1803, have amounted, as appears by the estimate [E] to dols. 9,924,004

The specie in the Treasury, on the first day of April, 1801, amounted to 1,794,000
And on the 30th September, 1803, to 5,860,000

Making an increase of 4,066,000

These two items constitute an aggregate of dols. 13,990,004
From which deducting the extraordinary resource arising from the sales of the bank shares, which produced 1,287,600

Leaves for the true amount of the true difference, 12,702,404

in favor of the United States, for that period of two years and a half, a sum of twelve million seven hundred thousand dollars.

From that view of the present situation of the financial concerns of the United States, it seems that the only question which requires any consideration, is, whether any additional revenues are wanted, in order to provide for the new debt which, if Congress should pass the laws necessary to carry the treaty with France into effect, will result from the purchase of Louisiana.

The sum which the United States may have to pay by virtue of that treaty, amounts to fifteen millions of dollars, and consists of two items, viz. 11,250,000 dollars, payable to the government of France, or to its assignees, in a stock bearing an interest of six per cent. payable in Europe, the principal of which will be discharged at the Treasury of the United States, in four annual instalments, the first of which shall commence in the year 1818; 2dly, a sum which cannot exceed, but may fall short of 3,750,000 dollars, payable in specie at the Treasury of the United States, during the course of the ensuing year, to American citizens having claims of a certain description on the government of France.

It has already been stated, that two millions of dollars may be paid from the specie now in the Treasury, on account of the last item; and the whole amount of the new debt which may be eventually created, cannot exceed thirteen millions of dollars, the annual interest of which is equal to 780,000 dollars; but on account of commissions, and variations of exchange, will be estimated at 800,000 dollars.

The existing surplus revenue of the United States will, as has been stated, be sufficient to discharge six hundred thousand dollars of that sum, and it is expected that the net revenue at New-Orleans will be equal to the remaining two hundred thousand dollars.

That opinion rests on the supposition that Congress shall place that port on the same footing as those of the United States; so that the same duties shall be collected there, on the importation of foreign merchandize as are now by law levied in the United States; and that no duties shall be collected either on the exportation of produce or merchandize from New-Orleans to any other place; nor on any articles imported into the United States from the ceded territories, or into those territories from the United States.

The statements F, G, H, exhibit the annual exports and imports of the United States to and from Florida and Louisiana, for the years 1799 to 1803; and the statement G particularly shews that the exportation from the Atlantic States to those colonies of articles not of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United States, amounted for the years 1799, 1800, and 1801, to 6,622,189 dollars; making an average of more than two millions two

hundred thousand dollars, of foreign articles, liable to pay duty, annually imported into Florida and Louisiana, from the United States alone.

It is ascertained that the exportations from the United States to Florida, are so trifling that that statement may be considered as applying solely to New-Orleans; and it is also known that almost the whole of those importations were consumed within that colony, and that during the war the supplies from the United States constituted by far the greater part of its imports.

From thence it results that the annual importation into the ceded territory, of articles destined for the consumption of its own inhabitants, and which will, under the revenue laws of the U. States, be liable to pay duty, may safely be estimated at two millions five hundred thousand dollars; an amount which, at the present rate of duties, will yield a revenue of about 350,000 dollars. From that revenue must be deducted 150,000 dollars, for the following items, viz:

1st. The amount of duties on a quantity of sugar and indigo equal to that which shall be imported from New-Orleans into the United States as those articles being imported free from duty, will diminish by so much the revenue now collected in the sea ports of the United States. The whole amount of sugar exported from New-Orleans is less than 4,000,000 of pounds, and that of indigo is stated at about 30,000 pounds. Supposing (which on account of this exemption, is not improbable) that the whole of these articles should hereafter be exported to the United States, the loss to the revenue will be about 100,000 dollars.

2d. No increase of expense in the Military Establishment of the United States, is contemplated on account of the acquisition of territory; but the expenses of the civil administration of the Province and those incident to the intercourse with the Indians, are estimated at 50,000 dollars; leaving for the net revenue derived from the Province, and applicable to the payment of the interest of the new debt, 200,000 dollars, as above stated.

The only provisions which, if that view of the subject be correct, appear necessary, and are respectively submitted, are

1. In relation to the stock of 11,250,000 dollars to be created in favor of the government of France, or of its assignees;

That that debt be made a charge on the Sinking Fund, directing the Commissioners of the fund to apply so much of its proceeds as may be necessary for the payment of interest and reimbursement or redemption of the principal, in the same manner, as, by the existing laws; they are directed to do in relation to the payment of interest and discharge of the principal of the debt now charged on that fund.

That so much of the duties on merchandize and tonnage as will be equal to seven hundred thousand dollars, being the sum wanted to pay the interest of that new stock, be added to the annual permanent appropriation for the Sinking Fund, making, together with the existing appropriation, eight millions of dollars, annually applicable to the payment of the interest and principal of the public debt.

And that the said annual sum of eight millions of dollars remain thus pledged and be vested in the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund in trust for the said payments, until the whole of the existing debt of the United States, and of the new stock, shall have been reimbursed or redeemed.

As a sum equal to the interest accruing on the new stock will thus be added to the sinking fund, the operation of that fund, as it relates to the extinguishment of the existing debt, will remain precisely on the same footing as has been heretofore provided by Congress. The new debt will neither impede nor retard the payment of the principal of the old debt; and the fund will be sufficient, besides paying the interest on both, to discharge the principal of the old debt, before the year 1818, and that of the new within one year and an half after that year.

II. In relation to the American claims the payment of which is assumed by the convention with France.

That a sum not exceeding 3,750,000 dollars inclusive of the two millions appropriated by a law of the last session of Congress for defraying the extraordinary expenses incident to the intercourse with foreign nations, be appropriated

for the payment of those claims, to be paid out of any monies in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

That for the purpose of effecting the whole of the payment, the President of the United States be authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding 1,750,000 dollars, at an interest not exceeding six per cent a year.

And that so much of the proceeds of the duties on merchandize and tonnage as may be necessary, be appropriated for the payment of the interest and for the reimbursement of the principal of the loan which may eventually be effected by virtue of the preceding provision.

It is not proposed to charge the loan on the sinking fund, because its amount, in case it shall be effected, cannot at present be ascertained; and because it may, perhaps, under the then existing circumstances of the Treasury, be found more expedient not to borrow the money, and, in lieu of it, to pay out of the sinking fund the whole or part of the two last instalments payable by virtue of the convention with Great-Britain, as authorized by the Act making provision for the payment of the whole of the public debt.

It is evident that the possibility of thus providing for the payment of the interest of a new debt of thirteen millions of dollars, without either recurring to new taxes or interfering with the provisions heretofore made for the payment of the existing debt, depends on the correctness of the estimate of the Public Revenue which has been submitted. Although it is not without difficulty that the hope of such favorable result is entertained, some reliance is placed on the solidity of the basis on which the estimate is grounded. It rests principally on the expectation that the revenue of the ensuing year shall not be less than that which accrued in the year 1802. No part of it depends on the probable increase which may result from the neutrality of the United States during the continuance of the war in Europe; nor even on the prospective augmentation, which, from past experience, may naturally be expected to arise from the gradual increase of population and wealth. Nor has that effect been taken into consideration which the uninterrupted free navigation of the Mississippi, and the acquisition of New-Orleans may have either on the sales of the public lands, or on the general resources of the inhabitants of the western states. All which is respectfully submitted,

ALBERT GALLATIN,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Wednesday, Oct. 26.

The House was engaged until four o'clock in discussing the report of a select committee, as formerly stated on an amendment to the constitution, respecting designating the electoral votes given for President and Vice-President. The debate developed great diversity of opinion as to the form of the amendment. After numerous propositions of amendment the report of the select committee, verbally amended, prevailed by a large majority.

Mr. Randolph, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for carrying into effect the Louisiana convention: the bill directs the Constitution of stock, according to the terms of the convention, and the delivery of the same to the agents authorized by the French government, after Louisiana shall have been taken possession of by the United States.

A bill was received from the Senate, enabling the President to take possession of Louisiana, and for the establishment of a temporary government over Louisiana, which was twice read and referred to the same committee.

Thursday, Oct. 27.

M. Lyon observed that the country in which he lived had been for some time supplied with salt and lead from the Louisiana country, on which articles considerable and burthenome duties are imposed. For the purpose of liberating the citizens from those duties, he moved a resolution, declaring it expedient that provision should be made for suspending the collection of all duties on articles imported into the ports of the United States from the territory ceded to the United States by the Louisiana convention, with the view of having it submitted to the committee of Commerce and Manufactures. Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. J. Clay the House went into a committee of the whole on the amendment of the constitution—Mr. Varum in the chair.