AMERICAN AND Commercial Daily Advertiser.

BALTIMORE: *FRIDAY, Dec. 9.*

CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7.

The bill for the relief of John C. Hurlburt, of Chatham in Connecticut, was further considered, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill authorising the appointment of certain Naval Officers was read a second time.

The Senate took up the amendments of the House of Representatives to the bill sent from this house making further provision for filling the ranks of the army of the U. States," which they agreed to.

NATIONAL BANK.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to incorporate the subscribers of the Bank of the U. States of America.

Mr. Mason's motion to reduce the proposed capital of the Bank from *fifty to twenty* millions being yet under consideration—

An able and comprehensive debate arose as well on the expediency of the proposed Bank as on the particular motion before the Senate, in which Mr. King supported and Messrs. Bibb of Geo. Taylor and Smith opposed the reduction of the capital.

The question was then taken on *Mr. Mason's* motion, and decided as follows;

YEAS.—Messrs. Brown Daggett, Dana, Fromentin, German, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert Mason, Thompson,—13.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brent, Chase, Condit, Gaillard, Lacock, Morrow, Roberts, Robinson, Smith Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Walker, Wharton—18

So the motion was lost.

The bill proposes that subscriptions shall be forthwith opened for *forty* millions of the capital stock.

Mr. *Mason* moved to strike out *forty* and insert *thirty* in lieu thereof; and

A division of the question being required by Mr. Dana—

The question on *striking out* the word *forty* was negatived, by precisely the same vote as that just recorded.

After making further progress in the bill, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, Dec. 7.

On motion of Mr. *Ruggles*, the petition of Paul Reviere and sons, presented on the 8th March, 1814, was referred to the committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

Mr. *Fisk* of N.Y. presented the petition of Isaac Belknap, Lt. Col and sundry other field officers of Gen. Heaman's brigade of N.York militia, in the service of the U. States on behalf of John P. Coxe, Paymaster of the 20th regiment of said brigade, praying that said Coxe may not be held to account to the U. States for a sum of public money stolen from him—Referred to the Committee of Claims.

On motion of Mr. *Archer*, the petition of Dr. Wm. M. Scott, was referred to the committee of Claims.

Mr. *Eppes* of Va. from the committee of Ways and Means who were instructed to enquire into the subject, reported a bill to prohibit intercourse with the enemy, and for other purposes, which was read the first and second time and referred to a committee of the whole house.

On motion of Mr. *Jennings*, a call was ordered to be made on the Commissioner of the General Land Office, for an account of the sums accruing to the Treasury, in each collection district, for the sale of public lands by forfeitures, and whether such forfeitures have occurred more frequently on limited or extended purchases.

The bill directing the staff officers of the army to comply with the requisitions of naval and marine officers in certain cases; the bill to provide for the widows and orphans of volunteers or militia who may die or be killed in the service of the United States; and the bill authorising a composition with private bankers in lieu of the stamp duty, were read a third time, passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

TREASURY NOTES, &c.

The house on motion of Mr. *Eppes* of Va. resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. *Breckenridge* of Va. in the chair, on the bill supplemental to the act authorising a loan of 25 millions and the act lately passed authorising a loan of 3 millions for the service of the current year.

[The *first* section of the bill authorises the Secretary of the Treasury, with the approbation of the President of the United States, to accept Treasury Notes to be prepared, signed and issued for and in lieu of so much of the sum authorized to be borrowed on the credit of the United States, by the 25 million and 3 million loan acts, as has not been borrowed or otherwise employed in the issue of the Treasury Notes according to law, provided the whole amount so to be issued shall not exceed 7,500,000, and applied to the same uses as the loans so authorised were intended to be applied.

The *second* section authorizes the issuing of Treasury Notes in like manner for a further sum of three millions, to defray the expences of the War Department for the remainder of this year, and one million for the Navy Department.

The *third, fourth, fifth* and *sixth* sections provide these Treasury Notes shall be in the same form and possess the same qualities as the Treasury Notes already authorised, be redeemable in the same manner, appropriates money therefor, &c. as well as for the expense of issuing and distributing said notes and for punishing counterfeits thereof.]

The bill having been read through—

Mr. *Eppes* quoted extracts from the letter last received from the Secretary of the Treasury, which we take this opportunity to publish at length, &c.

Washington, Dec. 2, 1814.

SIR—Your letter of the 27th of November has been referred to the committee of Ways and Means, and I am instructed to ask for the amount of the payments to be made during the present quarter on account of the public debt; the funds prepared to meet those payments, and any other information which may enable the committee to decide as to the necessity of adopting additional measures for meeting the public engagements during the present quarter of the year.

I have the honor to be,
Your most obedient,
JOHN W. EPPES.

Hon. Mr. Dallas,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Treasury Department, Dec. 2, 1814.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated this morning, stating that mine of the 27th of Nov. addressed to the committee on a national bank, has been referred to the committee of ways and means.

In my communications to the committees of congress, I have never been disposed to disguise the embarrassments of the treasury. A frank and full developement of existing evils will always, I hope, be best calculated to secure the attention and exertion of the public authorities; and, with legislative aid, I am still confident, that all the difficulties of a deficient revenue, a suspended circulating medium, and a depressed credit, may be speedily and completely overcome. My only apprehension arises from the lapse of time—as a remedy which would be effectual to-day, will, perhaps, only serve to increase the disorder to-morrow.

In answering the enquiries of your letter, permit me to state: 1st. The amount of the payments which were to be made during the whole of the present quarter on account of the public debt, and the funds prepared, or applicable to meet those payments: 2d. The payments that to remain to be made and the funds that remain meet them, for the residue of the quarter: and, 3d. General information in relation to additional measures, for meeting the public engagements.

1st. POINT.

It is respectfully stated, agreeably to an estimate which was formed on the 4th of October, 1814.

Dr.

1. That during the quarter commencing the 1st Oct. 1814, and ending the 1st of January, 1815, including both days, there was payable for the principal and interest of treasury notes, during the whole quarter, chiefly at Boston, N.York and Philadelphia, a sum of	4,457,069 80
2. That during the said period, there was payable for the principal and interest of temporary loans, at Boston, Baltimore and Charleston the sum of	771,125
3. That during the same period, there was payable in dividends upon the public funded debt, at the several loan offices, the sum of	1,900,000
	$7,128,124, 80

Cr.

1. That there were bank credits scattered throughout the U. States, on the 1st of October, 1814, amounting by estimate to	2,500,000
2. That there was receivable from the customs, during the whole quarter, the sum of	1,800,000
3. That there was receivable on account of the sales of public lands, during the same period, a sum of	160,000
4. That there was receivable on account of internal duties and direct taxes, during the same period, a sum of	900,000
5. That there was receivable on account of loans, during the same period, a sum of	1,700,000
6. That there might be obtained, upon an issue of treasury notes, during the same period, a sum of	2,500,000
	$9,560,000

From which it results,

1. That the amount of the whole payments for dividends of public debt, for temporary loans, and for treasury notes, during the whole of the current quarter, was	7,128,194 80
2. That the amount of the whole of the estimated receipts of the treasury, was	9,560,000
Leaving a surplus of receipts of	$2,431,805 20

It is believed that this estimate, formed upon official facts and experience, would have been substantially realized in the event, if the banks had not suddenly determined to suspend their payments in specie. But for that occurrence, the dividend on the public debt would have been punctually paid to the individual creditors of Boston, on the 1st of Oct. last; the transfer of the public funds from one place to another place, in order to meet the public engagements, would have continued easy and certain; the credit, and use of treasury notes, (limited to the specified amount) would probably have been preserved; and the revenue arising from duties and taxes, would not have been materially intercepted, if at all, in its passage to the treasury, by payments in treasury notes.

2D POINT.

DR.

1. That of the principal and interest of the treasury notes, payable during the present quarter, and which have already fallen due, there remains on this day unpaid, at the places mentioned in the schedule A. the sum of	1,902,680 80
2. That the principal and interest of the treasury notes which will become due on or before the 1st of Jan. 1815, at the places mentioned in the schedule B. amount to	1,243,720
3. That the dividends on the public debt payable on the 1st of Jan. 1815, at the places mentioned in the scheduce C. amount to the sum of	1,873,000
4. That the principal and interest of temporary loans, payable during the present quarter, and contracted at the treasury, in part execution of the authority granted by the act of congress, passed the 14th of March, 1812, and payable at Boston on the 15th and 31st Dec. amount to	506,875
	$5,526,275 80

CR.

1. That on the 28th ult. there were bank credits in the Banks specified in the schedule D. applicable to the payment of the public debt during the present quarter, [deducting the amount of bank credits (814,000) which, as it could not be transferred for the payment of public debt has been recently applied to the appropriations for the war and navy departments] amounting to	2,371,287 13
2. That the amount receivable during the remainder of the present year, on account of the loan of 6 millions, applicable, also, to the payment of the public debt, if no failure in payment occurs, will be about	450,000
3. That the estimated amount receivable during the remainder of the present year, on account of customs, applicable also to the payment of the public debt (subject to various contingencies, such as the non payment of bonds, the payment of bonds in treasury note, &c.) may be stated at	350,000
4. The estimated amount receivable during the remainder of the present year, on account of the sales of the public land subject, however, to contingent payments in treasury notes may be stated at	150,000
5. The estimated amount, receivable during the remainder of the present year, for internal duties and direct tax, subject, however, to contingent payments in treasury notes, may be stated at	450,000
	$3,772,287 13

From this second view of the debt and credit of the account limited merely to the payment of the public debt, becoming due for the residue of the present quarter, it appears.

1. That the debts amounts to the sum of	5,526,275 80
2. That the resources to pay the debt (excluding the sum applied to the army and navy departments as before stated, and excluding the possible proceeds of new loans, and new issues of treasury notes, for the single purpose of paying public debt) amount to	3,772,287 13
	$1,753,938 67

The difference between the results of the statements, under the first and second points, will be accounted for, by the unexpected effect of payments in treasury notes, on account of duties, taxes and land; by the total cessation of the use of treasury notes, either to pay the public creditors or to raise money; and by an avoidable variance in estimates, depending upon a variance in the state of information at the treasury. A priority of payment may be justly claimed by the holders of the funded debt; and, therefore, it is proper to add,

1. That the amount of public credits, as estimated in the preceding statement, is the sum of	3,772,287 13
2. That the amount of the dividend on the old and new funded debt, payble on the 1st of January, 1815, is the sum of	1,873,000
3. And that, consequently, the surplus of the resources, after satisfying that single object, is the sum of	$1,899,287, 13

It will be observed, that these estimates do not include, as an item of the debt, the dividend on the funded debt, amounting to 200,000 dollars, which was not actually paid to the individual creditors at Boston on the 1st of Oct. last. But it is omitted, because an adequate fund in the state bank was seasonably provided for the occasion, and the usual treasury draft was issued in favor of the commissioner of loans, so as to deduct a corresponding amount from the bank credits of the government. The state bank declined, for several reasons (which it is unnecessary to repeat) paying in coin, or in bank notes, and most of the public creditors refused to accept the treasury notes, which the banks offered to them, as an alternative payment. It is not considered, that, under these circumstances connected with the general state of the circulating medium (which places the power of the government to meet its engagements, on the same footing with the power of the most opulent of its citizens) there can exist any just reproach upon the public credit or resources. But, nevertheless, efforts have been anxiously made by this department, and are still in operation, to satisfy the public creditors, independent of the fund which was originally set apart, and which still remains on deposit at the state bank, by all the remaining means at the disposal of the treasury.

Nor, on the other hand, have I included in the statement of our resources to pay the public debt, the unexecuted authority to borrow upon public loans, and to issue treasury notes. I have only included the items of revenue, which, in ordinary times, would be deemed certain and effective: reserving any surplus of those items, with the loan and the treasury notes, to meet the general appropriations for the public service.

3D POINT.

It is respectfully stated, that the non-payment of the treasury notes, and the hazard of not being able to pay the dividend on the public debt, according to the respective contracts, was chiefly (I believe entirely) owing to the suspension of specie payments at the banks, and the consequent impracticability of transferring the public funds, from the place in which they were deposited to the place in which they were wanted. I have endeavored, therefore, to induce the banks, as the performance of an act of justice, not inconsistent with their interest, or their policy, to assist in alleviating the fiscal embarrassments of the government, which they have thus contributed to produce. The answers to my last proposition (of which a copy is annexed in schedule E) have not been received.

But the danger of depending upon gratuitous aids, (of depending, indeed, upon any thing but the wisdom and the vivilance of Congress) makes, with every day's experience a deeper impression upon the mind. In speaking, therefore, of additional measures for meeting the public engagements, during the present quarter of the year, I derive great satisfaction, in reflecting upon the inevitable and immediate effect of the legislative sanction (even so far as it has already been given) to a settled and productive system of taxes, for defraying the expences of government, and maintaining the public credit. This policy embracing in its course, the introduction of a national circulating medium, and the proper facilities for anticipating, collecting and distributing the public revenue, will, at once, enliven the public credit, and even the existing resources of the present quarter, must ripen and expand under an influence so auspicious. But something may be conveniently and usefully added. For instance:

1. A discretionary authority may be given, by law, to issue Treasury Notes, for the amount of the sums now authorized to be raised by law.
2. An authority may be given, by law, to transfer bank credits, from one place to another place, in order to meet the public engagements, allowing a reasonable rate of exchange.
3. Appropriations may be made, by law, to defray the extra expenses of the War and Navy Departments, during the present year; and a general authority may be given to borrow, or to issue Treasury Notes, to supply any deficiency in former appropriations for those departments, and for the payment of the public debt, the treasury notes and the civil list.

The present opportunity enables me to assure you, sir, that I am preparing, with all possible diligence, to report to the committee of Ways and Means, upon the subjects which they have been pleased to confide to me.

1. The Tax Bills are numerous, new in some of their principles, and complicated in most of their details; nor are the best sources of information at hand. They will, however be drafted and sent to the committee in succession.
2. The plan for establishing a competent sinking fund is under consideration, and will probably, be ready to be reported, before the tax bills are passed.
3. The estimates for the expenses of 1815; the annual approbation bill; and the bills to authorize a loan, and an issue of Treasury Notes for that year, are, also, objects of attention.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

A. J. DALLAS.

John W. Eppes, Esq. Chairman of the committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. *Eppes* then explained the object of this bill, which was to carry into effect the Secretary's recommendations, except that part which relates to the tranfer of funds from one quarter to another, which they had determined to postpone until the question relating to a National Bank should have been finally acted on, &c.

The blanks in the bill were then filled on motion of Mr. *Eppes*, with seven and a half millions to supply the possible deficiency in the two loans, and with three millions for the deficiency in the provision for the military and one million for the deficiency in the provision for the naval service for the remainder of the present year.

No debate took place on the principle of the bill. Some discussion and amendment took place on the section for punishing counterfeiters of the bills, in which Messrs. Gaston, Ward, and Hopkins of Ky. took part.

The committee at length rose and reported the bill; which, the amendments having been concurred in, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on motion of Mr. *Eppes*, on the bill making further appropriations for the support of the government during the remainder of the year, Mr. Lewis in the chair.

Mr. *Eppes* read a letter he had received from the Secretary of War in relation to the deficiency of appropriations in that department;—from which it appeared that though it was impossible to ascertain with precision at this time the number of militia in service during the past summer, there was little doubt but their expences would greatly exceed the appropriations made for those objects.

On motion of Mr. *Eppes*, the blanks in this bill were then filled with three millions for the military department, one million for the naval department, and other sums for the expences of Congress, &c.

And the committee rose and reported the bill; which as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. *Ingersoll of Pa.* laid upon the table, without preface, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the committee on Military Affairs be instructed to report to this House a bill or bills for classifying the free male population of the United States from the age of 21 years to the age of 45 years, for the purpose of drafting therefrom a sufficient number annually to fill up the ranks of the Regular Army.

2. *Resolved*, That the committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to report to this House a bill or bills for the immediate, constant and gradual augmentation of the Navy of the U. States by adding annually (with the least possible delay in the amendment and progress of the system) to the ships of the line, frigates sloops of war, and other vessels now built or building.

The consideration of them not being required at this time, they lie on the table of course.

MILITIA DRAFT

The remainder of this day's sitting was occupied in committee of the whole, on the consideration of the bill authorising the President to call into service 80,430 militia for the defence of the U. States.

The first of the amendments reported by the select committee which came under consideration, was that authorizing the President, on failure of the Governors of the several states to comply with the requisition to call directly on the officers of the militia to cause the draft to be made. This amendment was supported by Messrs. Johnson of Ky Bobertson & Troup and opposed by Mr. Pearson. It was agreed to, Ayes 90.

The next amendment goes to change the whole rate of apportionment, so as to fix it on the principle of free population, as ascertained by the last census, instead of the principle of representation, as if it were a direct tax on which principle the apportionment was fixed in the bill by the Senate

This amendment was opposed on opposite grounds, however, by Messrs. Fisk of N. Y. Calhoun, Ingersoll and Forsyth, and advocated by Messrs. Gholson, Troup and Pearson. This short debate was interesting, and we regret that the narrow limits allowed us to day will not permit us even to afford a sketch of it.—This amendment was also agreed to. [The quota of the district of Columbia is thereby reduced to 263 instead of 430.] Other amendments were proposed, and further discussion took place.

The committee rose, without having gone through the bill

And the house adjourned.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 5.

The abuse with which some of the London Editors load the U. States on account of the war will not surprise our readers when we inform them that in one Lloyd's List of Sept. 23d, now in our possession, is an account of not less than 40 British vessels captured by our cruisers, some of them of immense value.—Amongst these are enumerated, 10 vessels taken by the Herald privateer of N. York; the Doris transport, from Senegal, prize to the Grampus; William M'Gar, from Senegal, by the Decatur; Mentor, Dubois, Newfoundland, by the Adams; Mary, of Poole, by do. schr. ———, of Plymouth, by do. a ketch from Havanna, by the York; Brothers, Raleigh from St. John, burnt by the Grand Turk; 6 vessels by the privateer Harrison; Hero, from Newfoundland; 6 vessels by the Invincible Napoleon; a small fleet by the Grampus, and another by the Scourge.

The same paper notices the sailing from Plymouth, on the 18th, of the Norge and Bedford men of war, Hydra, Ulysses, Bucephalus, Belle-Poule, Dover, Porcupine, Alceste, Fox and Niobe frigates, and sloops Dragon and Portia, with TROOPS FOR AMERICA, and the departure from Brest, from the 1st to the 8th Sept. of the Lis and Marengo men of war, Erygone, Duchess of Angouleme, Hermone, Meduse and Danae frigates, and the Vesuve, Actæon, Messages, and Mouche corvettes, *for the West Indies.*

A letter from St. Bartholomews, states, that 18 sail of French Merchant vessels have arrived at Guadaloupe.

On Saturday morning, a few minutes before 6 o'clock, a centinel in capt. Bremner's company at Fort Fish, Harlem Heights, shot Richard Weeks, of Dtuchess county, who was on his way home, having just been pardoned and released from the State Prison. The centinel hailed Weeks three times, as is the custom, and Weeks was in the act of running away, when the centinel fired; the ball penetrated through his body, and he died in a few moments.

DEPREDATIONS IN THE SOUND.

"MILFORD, *Saturday, noon.*

"The enemy are in Long Island Sound again, at 11 o'clock this morning, a small schr. tender to the enemy, drove ashore on the Eastern side of our harbour, the sloop Margaret, capt. Goodwin, of Middletown. The tender did not board the Margaret.

"The sloop Gleaner, capt. Chapman, of Hartford, was captured last evening off Stratford Point, by a wood sloop. The Gleaner was from New-York, with a valuable cargo.

"The crew of a Rhode Island sloop which was captured last evening, has been landed in this neighborhood. The tenders and the captured vessels are to the westward of this harbor."

FROM JAMAICA.

CHRISTOPHE AND PETION.

By the Express, Capt. Taylor, the Editors of the N. York Gazette, have received Jamaica papers to the 29th of Oct. They state that a treaty of peace has been signed between Christophe and Petion, by which they mutually agree to surrender St. Domingo to the French government; and all the property, except that occupied by General officers, to be given up to their respective owners.

Flour at Gonives was 40 dollars a barrel, none having been received from the U. States for two months.

BARBADOES, OCT. 24.

American cartel brig Perseverance.—On Thursday last, the cartel brig Perseverance, capt. Whitney, which arrived at this port some time since from Philadelphia, got under way suddenly, and sailed, *leaving all her passengers behind.* Several boats put off, to overtake her, but the master of the brig, it seems, refused to heave too, to permit them along side. The reason for this disgraceful and inhuman behaviour is stated to have arisen from fear of seizure in consequence of his having been concerned in smuggling and other shameful violations of the honorable neutrality of a flag of truce. The *Flying Fish* schooner was the same evening sent in pursuit of the said cartel—and from the captain's having disgracefully runaway with the brig and property on board, and left his unfortunate countrymen behind in distress, we hope he will be overtaken and brought to that punishment which his conduct so highly merits.—If the admiral's tender is so fortunate as to fall in with her, she will probably be taken into Antigua for examination.

ST. JOHNS, (Antigua) NOV. 7.

On Friday last Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane in H. M. S. the Tonnant, arrived at Bassaterre, Guadaloupe, 21 days from Halifax—report states for the purpose of collecting the whole of the vessels of war and the disposable troops on this station, for a secret expedition against some part of the United States of America; at this advanced season of the year it is most probably against the southern states. BALTIMORE HAS BEEN DESTROYED! whether the public buildings and works only, or the entire city, is not known to a certainty. Our troops had it in possession for twenty-four hours, but learning that the Americans were in force they embarked without loss. Another of their frigates, the JAVA, *is burnt!!*

FEVER AT GIBRALTAR.

Extract of a letter from Gibraltar, dated 25th of Sept. 1814.

"The first symptoms of the dreadful fever now raging here, were discovered on the 16th ult, when 2 Italians died of it. No precautions were taken until the 18th, when the places of public worship were closed by an order from the commander in chief, and foul bills of health issued. On the 23d, these precautions were dropt, the churches ordered to be opened, and clean bills of health issued. Cases of the fever, however continue to occur, and on the 2d inst. finding the contagion to spread very much, the order was again renewed for shutting the churches, which, with the issuing of foul bills of health, has continued ever since, altho' the communication between the town