

additional family would spend their winter at Washington, in consequence of it. The only effect of this increased compensation would be that the expensive habits and inclinations of one portion of the members would be encouraged and excited, whilst others, who were more saving and economical, would carry heavier purses home with them.

Another argument had been advanced, which likewise carried with it some appearance of plausibility. It was said this addition of pay would lessen the anxiety and necessity for executive favors and appointments; and that executive influence and control in and over that body, would be thereby diminished. He was convinced, however, it would have a contrary tendency. The moment a seat in Congress was regarded as a money job, or members were induced to change their habits, and live beyond their regular means, by a temporary addition to them, they would imbibe expensive notions and inclinations—their wants would increase, their families, as well as themselves, would be disposed to ape the follies & extravagancies of the rich contractor, unprincipled speculator, and every other description of monied men, or of men without money, who lived by means of their wits, and at the expense of the industrious classes of the community. Dependence must be the natural and unavoidable consequence. An overweening anxiety and irresistible necessity of obtaining executive favors and patronage, *per fas aut nefas*, must, as certainly, follow. Moderation, frugality and economy were the only safeguards to the independence and integrity of men in public life. It was not only in direct opposition to the most sacred maxim of morality, thus to lead them into temptation; but the doctrine of the present day, and that preached up on the present occasion, which went to persuade members that it was necessary to live in a style beyond what was decent, respectable and comfortable, and to entice them into expenses and a kind of living beyond what they were accustomed to, or had the private means of keeping up at home, was contrary to the soundest dictates of common sense, and dangerous in the extreme. By doing so, they must become needy and craving, and be placed precisely in that situation most likely to render them subservient to, and then perhaps reluctant yet not less implicit tools of that branch of the government, which could alone supply their immediate and most pressing wants, and hold out to them in expectation a rich harvest and ample share of the loaves and fishes at its disposal.

But it was contended by the chairman of the committee, that this increase of pay, and change of the per diem into a salary, would shorten the sessions of Congress—put an end to long speeches—in a word, be the panacea or cure-all to every evil. Such might be the case in part, particularly as relates to the shortening of the sessions of that body. He more than doubted, nevertheless, if it was so, whether such an alternative was altogether desirable.—The honorable chairman appeared to him, not to have examined with his usual sagacity both sides, before he had made up his mind on the question.—Upon his own data, it would seem evident, on the one hand, that an augmentation of pay could not be necessary; for his arguments went to show, that the present \$6 per diem, tempted members to make long speeches, and spin out the session—to the end, that they might reap the greater emolument by remaining here, and obtaining a greater number of days' pay. It followed of necessity, that the old and present allowance was found experimentally to be not only sufficient but highly desirable. On the other hand, if the per diem was changed into a salary, and that salary increased, in order to shorten the sessions and put down long speeches, might there not (deducing the same probable effects from the same efficient causes) be with justice serious apprehensions entertained lest the members should, in time to come, be induced to shorten the sessions too much, and hurry over the public business, somewhat unadvisedly, and before it was properly and sufficiently matured? This was, perhaps, too often the case, even at this time, and under existing circumstances.

What, then, was to be expected, according to the data given, from a measure, the necessary operation of which was, to place the interest of the individual in direct opposition to his duty, and to render his emolument greater or less, in exact proportion to the shortness of the period he devoted to his public duties, and remained in this, as it was said, most expensive city.—Now, tho' he was by no means fond of too much regulation, yet he confessed he saw no very great inconvenience or danger likely to accrue to the republic, from too much discussion. For his own part, he would rather be condemned to listen to fifty long and tedious speeches, than contribute, sub silentio, to the passage of one bad law, or be obliged to vote for a measure he had not heard explained, or did not comprehend.

There was another aspect in which this subject presented itself to him, as of vital importance, and as affording cause for serious alarm. He was perfectly

satisfied, in his own mind, that no measure could be devised, which would increase so enormously and fearfully, the influence of the executive over the legislative branch of the government, or throw the latter so completely under the control of the former, as this salary system. Not only the sessions would thereby be injuriously shortened, but business would be hurried through any how and every how. Congress would meet for little else than to lay taxes and make appropriations. Laws would be passed as they were sent ready drawn up from the several Departments, and measures, kindly and previously matured by the industry and superior wisdom of the executive, would be adopted, right or wrong, with little if any discussion.—He entreated gentlemen to take this view of the subject, before they made up their minds on the question, and to postpone the bill at least till the next session, and until they had gone home and consulted with their constituents in regard to it. He could not, for his own part at least, but regard this change of the per diem into a salary, or gross sum, as a dangerous innovation, and one likely to be attended with the worst consequences.

Our government had been described with some humor, and not less justice, perhaps, as a species of logocracy. It was in fact and in essence very much of one. It could not get along without considerable discussion. The people ought and would know, what were the motives which led to this or that measure, or why one law was passed, and another rejected. Now, he knew of no mode by which this information could be obtained by them, more conveniently or satisfactorily, than through the debates of Congress, and the speeches of their Representatives. He was disposed, therefore, to view this cacothet loquendi, which some gentlemen (who possessed it in no trifling degree themselves) complained so much of, with some little indulgence. There was, indeed, at times, irksome, tedious and most ridiculous speeches made in the house. But gentlemen enjoyed a privilege which they had very generally, and not very unfrequently availed themselves of during the present session—the privilege of not listening to such speeches, whilst the good people abroad read them, or read them not, according as the subject, or speaker, or any other circumstance, excited their curiosity, or attracted their attention.

These few observations, he hoped, would tend to reconcile the worthy gentlemen from Kentucky, a little, to the inconvenience of long speeches, and would also, he trusted, plead in some measure his own apology for the length of time he had encroached upon their patience. He should not have indulged himself to such an extent, but that the active opposition to the bill appeared to derive almost exclusively upon himself, whilst the first talents in the house had been brought forward in support of it. He would further observe, that in the ground he had taken, he thought himself supported by the spirit, if not the letter of that article of the constitution, which prohibited a Senator or Representative from being appointed to any civil office under the U. States, that had been created, or the emoluments of which were increased during the time for which he had been elected. Certain he was, that in South Carolina, his native state, and the one he had the honor, in part, to represent, no act to increase the compensation of the members of the Legislature, could take effect till after a new election; nor did the provisions, of any such act go into operation, except in favor of those who were chosen to serve in a succeeding legislature. He had long, therefore, been accustomed to regard this as the true and the most decorous, as well as the most correct principle, and he should not, he trusted, be accused of presumption, if he ventured to recommend it to that house, as a precedent which it would well become them to imitate.

Before he sat down, Mr. Huger said, he would add, that he was perfectly aware, the stand he had made in opposition to an increase and change of the per diem into a salary, (indeed it had been more than insinuated in the course of the debate) would be attributed to a desire of obtaining popularity, and an anticipation of the popular effect it would probably have out of doors. He would not say that such feelings might not have had some influence on his mind and conduct; for he pretended not to be less fallible than those around him. But he could with justice, and in sober truth aver, that he was opposed upon principle to the measure, and more especially to the change of the per diem into a fixed salary; a system that, he was perfectly satisfied, would augment most enormously the power of executive influence, which no one, he believed, would deny, had increased, was increasing, and would be, if it was not already placed by this new system beyond all control. Besides, convenient as he acknowledged such an addition to his pay, would be to himself at the present time, as well to other gentlemen, yet when he recalled to mind the heavy taxes which have been or must be laid; the exorbitant tariff of duties on foreign importations, likely to be adopted; the large unprecedented (at least in time of profound peace)

appropriations they were called upon to make; the number of veterans who had lately been disbanded, and thrown penniless upon the world; the heavy debt which had been incurred, and partially funded; the large outstanding demands not yet liquidated,—in a word, when he passed in review these and similar matters, it did seem to him that the proposed measure was wrong, and most obviously ill timed. He at least could not reconcile it to himself, and tho' sneered and laughed at by more than one honorable gentleman for so expressing himself, he would repeat, he should be ashamed to return home and acknowledge that, under such circumstances, and at the close of so bloody and expensive war, he had voted for, or even neglected to oppose an increase of pay to himself and to those who, like himself, represented the good people of these United States on that floor, and consequently held the purse strings of the nation at their disposal.

Mr. H. concluded by repeating, he did not think the session too long. The house was sometimes vexed with the *cacothet loquendi*, but the consequence was, that measures had a fair and deliberate consideration. It was necessary, he thought, the community should rightly understand the acts of Congress, and one of the advantages of this speechification, was, that the people would be well informed, and our measures be well matured. Long speaking, he contended, was no such great evil as had been asserted—he would rather have ten days speaking than one law; for many laws were an evil. Mr. H. said that the Abbe Sicard, so celebrated for teaching the deaf and dumb, had lately published that there was a nation in North America who had no language at all, but did every thing by signs. Gentlemen had better introduce that plan here. He was friendly to debate because he himself felt its good effects, for he now entertained very different opinions on some subjects from those he brought here. Ours, he said, was a *logocracy*; it was in vain to deny it, and we ought to act in the spirit of the government, &c. Mr. H. adverted to the charge of folding newspapers, &c. and said it was no worse than the practice of lounging about the house as some did. He concluded by declaring it his opinion that instead of diminishing the sessions, he thought it would be better to make them longer, and as to the pay, he thought the honor of the station was sufficient to bring gentlemen to Congress, without any influence from pecuniary considerations.

(Debate to be continued.)

From the New-Orleans Gazette.

A gentleman who arrived from Boquilla de Piedra, whence he sailed on the 14th December last, informs us that the Republican General Guadalupe Victoria was attacked at the king's bridge on the 15th December, by the van of the Spanish army, consisting of 5000 men, in order to force that passage, and conduct to Vera Cruz a convoy with eleven millions of dollars, which were detained at Xalpa for several months. The attack was repeated for seven successive days. On the eighth the royalists attempted to carry by storm the two small forts which command the pass; they gallantly reached the glacis, but the terrible fire of the republicans killed great numbers and compelled the rest to a precipitate retreat. The republican army lost only a captain and few men. When our informant departed, Gen. Victoria was pursuing the enemy, and information had been received that a force of 7000 men was approaching from the interior to form a junction with the division of Gen. Victoria.

We learn by Dr. P. Berris, who left Boquilla on the 2d December, and also by the above mentioned gentleman, that Gen. Morelos, now a member of the executive, (who was reported in the Havana Gazette as having been made prisoner at Atango,) is at Tehuscan the present seat of congress, where he discharges the duties of his high office.

Extract of a letter to a gentleman in Baltimore, dated March 19.

"Four officers and some sailors belonging to the American squadron at Mahon, were shot there lately in an affray with the Spanish soldiers.—Commodore Shaw demanded that exemplary punishment should be immediately inflicted on the soldiers, as they were the aggressors, and then with his squadron left the port, without waiting the reply of the Spanish government to his demands."

QUEBEC, April 18.

The Season.—On Friday the 12th inst. there was a heavy fall of snow nearly to the depth of one foot, and every day since more or less snow has fallen. The country has all the appearance of the middle of winter; the depth of snow being still between three and four feet. We understand that in many parishes, the cattle are already suffering from a scarcity of forage.

Latest Foreign Intelligence.

NEW-YORK, May 1.

The well known and very fast sailing ship Trident, Capt. Rea, arrived at this port yesterday, in 35 days from Liverpool, having left there on the 24th March.

By this arrival the Editors of the Mercantile Advertiser have received London papers of the 22d March, Liverpool of the 23d, and Lloyd's List to the 19th, from which the following extracts are copied.

Amongst these articles, the most interesting to the great body of the English nation is that which informs us that the proposition in Parliament for continuing the property tax has been rejected, and that the ministry were in a minority. Ayes 201, Noes 238; majority 37. The decision was heard in the house with loud plaudits.

Upland Cotton had been sold in Liverpool at 20 3/4 per pound.

On the 20th March, the Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice that on Monday next, in the committee of ways and means, he did not intend to propose the continuance of the war duties on malt, (estimated at two millions) the relinquishment of which, he said, he was convinced, would afford the most effectual relief to the agricultural interest, and observed that since he had been deprived of so great a resource as the property tax, and thereby compelled to have recourse to the money market, it was of little consequence, that the loan should be increased by the amount of the calculated produce of the malt duty.

Lord Castlereagh had moved for leave to bring in two bills—the one more effectually to regulate the intercourse of neutral ships with the Island of St. Helena, while Bonaparte should be detained there. He observed, that doubts had been entertained whether it was competent to the Crown to detain a prisoner after the war, and tho' he did not partake of those doubts himself, he proposed the bill with a view to remove them.

LONDON, MARCH 16.

Col. Fulton left town on Thursday night with despatches for America.

The last Irish papers are filled with accounts of tumult and outrage in that country, which but too fully justify the military force asked for by ministers to ensure tranquility. Three Baronies in the county of Louth have been proclaimed:—Upper Dundalk, Lower Dundalk, Ardee and Louth; and we lament to add, that several other districts in Wexford and elsewhere are ripe for similar measures.

Two great Russian houses failed lately at St. Petersburg—one of them for 5,000,000 of rubles. Their misfortunes are attributed to an extensive monopoly of colonial produce, particularly sugar, for the disposal of which they had been enabled to find no advantageous market.

MARCH 22.

On Wednesday the French Ambassador had a long interview with Lord Castlereagh at his office.

A Morning paper states, that the trial of Sir Robert Wilson and Messrs. Hutchison and Bruce is expected to come on about the 5th of next month. Several British noblemen and gentlemen will, it is said, be requested to give evidence. Among others Earl Grey is mentioned.

The Queen's Drawing Room. Yesterday her majesty held a drawing room at her Palace in St. James's Park; it being the first that has been held this season, great curiosity was excited in the public mind, and an immense concourse of people were assembled in the Park and its vicinity.

Her majesty left her private apartments about 2 o'clock, accompanied by the Princesses Augusta and Mary, attended by the ladies in waiting, maids of honor, &c. Soon after, Mr. Adams, the American Ambassador, was introduced to the Queen by Viscount Castlereagh. His excellency had afterwards a private audience of her majesty and delivered his credentials, and was most graciously received.

Mrs. Adams, the lady of his excellency, was introduced by the Countess of Bathurst, in the room of Viscountess Castlereagh, who had not arrived at court previous to the Queen entering the drawing room.

Extract of a letter from an officer attached to Lord Exmouth's fleet in the Mediterranean, dated Malta, the 28th of January, 1816: "The pirates of Barbary have for some time past committed great depredations on almost every power in Europe. Their success has made them so insolent, that they at last attacked the English flag. Sir Thomas Maitland, the governor of Malta, in consequence embarked in the Bombay to put a stop to their career. Tripoli acceded to all the governor proposed, and at Tunis a negotiation soon settled every thing. The Bey went on board the Bombay on a visit and after partaking of a cold collation, returned to the shore. The riches displayed by him & suite, in their dress, &c. was beyond conception. He made a present to the governor of a lion, ostriches, horses, beautiful fowling piece, and a pair of pistols set in coral. To the ship—bullocks, sheep, poultry of all sorts, coffee, sugar, rice, &c. sufficient for a week's consumption; besides 1000 dollars to be distributed a-

mong the people. On the return of the Bombay to Malta, she was ordered to the Ionian Islands with money to pay the troops, where the plague began its ravages. A village not far from Corfu had been burnt, and others were to share the same fate. In consequence of this, the Bombay returned immediately and was placed under the strictest quarantine.

It is said in the Paris papers, the Count Lauriston who presided in the Council of War, which condemned the Boyer to death, has recommended him to the Royal mercy.

Denmark, under her recent treaty with the Dey of Tripoli, is to pay him 30,000 piastres annually for 7 years.

NEW-YORK, May 3.

By the fast sailing schr. Sparya, from Havre, the Editors of the Mercantile Advertiser have received Paris papers to the 30th of March, inclusive, containing London dates to the 25th.

A new tariff had been proposed in the French Parliament, but not yet discussed. It proposes a large discrimination between imports in French and foreign vessels.

The Duke of Berri was shortly to be married to the daughter of the hereditary Prince of Naples.

Gen. Debelle, who had been condemned to death, was pardoned at the intercession of the Duke of Angouleme. Gen. Travot and Colonel Boyer, also condemned to death, had been commuted for 20 years imprisonment. General Monton Duvernot was arrested at Lyons on the 23d of March, & transferred to the prison of Roanne. Messrs. Wilson, Bruce, and Hutchison have been transferred to the prison of the Conciergerie.

No change has taken place in the French ministry.

A steamboat had arrived at Paris from Rouen, which excited much curiosity and interest.

Upland cotton had been sold at Havre at 64 sous; Louisiana at 74.

FROM FRANCE.

Letters and papers from Paris, of the 2d of April state, that general Debelle, who was condemned to death for conspiracy with Bonaparte, had been pardoned through the intercession of the duke d'Angouleme.

Gen. Travot, also condemned to death, had it commuted to 20 years imprisonment.

Gen. Monton Duvernot, was arrested at Lyons, March 23, and confined in the prison of Roanne.

The duke of Berri was to have been married in a few days to the daughter of the hereditary prince of Naples.

A Steam boat had arrived at Paris from Rouen. This novelty had excited a great deal of the public attention.

The price of cotton at Havre de Grace, April 4, was 46 sous for upland, and 47 for Louisiana. The new tariff had not yet been discussed in the French parliament.

LONDON, MARCH 16.

This day the chancellor of the exchequer moved in the house of commons, that a grant of 60,000*l.* a year, be voted in order to provide a suitable establishment for her royal highness Princess Charlotte Augusta, and his serene highness Prince George Leopold Cobourg de Saalfeld, to be continued during the lives of their highnesses, and that his majesty be enabled, in case of her royal highnesses demise, to settle the sum of 50,000*l.* on his serene highness the Prince of Cobourg.

The motion was cordially approved by Messrs. Tierney, Brougham, and other members of the opposition, and agreed to *nem. con.*

In the conversation on the subject, Mr. Vansittart (the chancellor of the exchequer) mentioned that it was proposed to grant their royal highnesses an outfit of a year's salary—40,000*l.* for the various expenses of state, carriages, wine, &c.—10,000*l.* for dresses, and 10,000*l.* for an addition to her royal highnesses jewels. Lord Castlereagh also mentioned, that the right of residence of the princess where she pleases had been provided for in the marriage settlements; and whenever the Princess chose to visit the continent, her residence might be shortened at the will of the king or the prince regent.

MARCH 28.

We received this morning letters from Paris of Sunday last. One of them says that rumors prevail at Paris (to which we attach not the slightest credit) of the Austrian army having re-entered France.

Paris, March 25.

"I should think I was deficient in my duty toward you, were I not to apprise you, that rumors of an alarming nature are now current, in societies which, from their opportunities of correct information, rarely leave room for suppositious intelligence. It is affirmed that the Austrian armies passed the frontiers of the French kingdom on the 13th inst. and that a declaration of their views was published at Embrun, in Dauphiny, on the 15th. Various are the conjectures here on the motives of this invasion; some pretend that it is connected with the refusal of this power to restore Gallicia to Poland, which was considered a