AMERICAN STATE PAPERS.

DOCUMENTS,

LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE,

OF THE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

FROM THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FIRST TO THE THIRD SESSION OF THE THIRTEENTH CONGRESS, INCLUSIVE:

COMMENCING MARCH 3, 1789, AND ENDING MARCH 3, 1815.

SELECTED AND EDITED, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CONGRESS,

BY WALTER LOWRIE, Secretary of the Senate,

AND

MATTHEW ST. CLAIR CLARKE, Clerk of the House of Representatives.

VOLUME V.

WASHINGTON: PUBLISHED BY GALES AND SEATON. 1832.
Statement of moneys arising from interest on stock transferred to the United States, being the amount drawn by the agent to the trustee for the redemption of the public debt, pursuant to the act of the 8th May, 1799, and agreeably to a statement made at the Treasury, No. 10,048, dated 12th September, 1799, viz.

1797, March 31, $22,160 61
June 30, 92,232 47
September 30, 32,266 45
December 30, 32,268 34

$88,912 87

Treasury Department, Register's Office, December 10, 1798.

JOSEPH Nourse, Register.

C.

Statement of moneys received at the Treasury in the year 1797, from the payment of debts which originated prior to the present constitution, being the amount drawn by the agent to the trustee for the redemption of the public debt, on the 30th December, 1797, and agreeably to a statement made at the Treasury, No. 10,048, dated September 10, 1798, viz;

From Daniel Jenifer, for the amount of goods delivered to him at Yorktown, in Virginia, after the capture of that place in 1781, $66 67
From Edward Carrington, late quartermaster general, being the amount of sundry payments made by persons in discharge of their bonds, given for public property sold by him, 1,827 36
From Nathaniel Gilman, late commissioner of the land office for the State of New Hampshire, being the amount deducted from his account of charges for office rent and fuel for clerks, 105 76
From Constable, Rucker & Co. being a balance due the United States for moneys advanced, and tobacco sold them, pursuant to contract with the late Board of Treasury, 16,055 16

$17,714 95

Treasury Department, Register's Office, December 10, 1798.

JOSEPH Nourse, Register.

D.

Statement of moneys arising from the sales of lands belonging to the United States, being the amount drawn by the agent to the trustee for the redemption of the public debt, pursuant to the act of the 3d March, 1795, and agreeably to a statement made at the Treasury, No. 10,048, dated the 13th September, 1798.

1797, December 30, Warrant No. 7,829 in part of the nett proceeds of 43,446 1/4 acres, sold at Pittsburg, pursuant to an act of Congress of the 10th May, 1796, $88,276 73

Treasury Department, Register's Office, December 10, 1798.

JOSEPH Nourse, Register.

5th Congress.]  No. 139.  [3d Session.

VALUATION OF LAND AND DWELLING HOUSES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JANUARY 31, 1799.

Mr. Harper made the following report:

The Committee of Ways and Means, instructed, by a resolution of the 9th instant, to inquire and report, by bill or otherwise, whether any, and what, amendments are necessary to be made in the act, entitled "An act to provide for the valuation of lands and dwelling houses, and the enumeration of slaves within the United States," have attended carefully to that subject, and agreed to the following report, which they beg leave to submit to the consideration of the House:

The attention of the committee has been particularly directed to two parts of the act under which, as far as they have been able to learn, the difficulties yet standing in the way of its execution, have arisen: that which relates to the duty and compensation of assessors, and that respecting the description of dwelling houses.

As to the first, it appears that, although proper persons have, in several States, been prevailed on to act as assessors, at the present rate of compensation, perhaps in an increased degree, in some States where the appointment of assessors, as far as is now known, has not yet been attempted. The committee have been able to perceive no other remedy for it, than to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury, under the direction of the President, to increase the compensations of assessors, in those cases where he may find it necessary—so, however, as that no assessor, principal or assistant, shall receive more than two dollars per day, in the whole, and this measure they recommend to the House.

It further appears, that difficulty and delay arise from the want of a provision for clerks to the principal assessors, whose duty, in the execution of the law, is very important, and must often require a degree of skill in accounts, not always possessed by persons otherwise perfectly well qualified for that office. The committee, therefore, conceive that a clerk ought to be allowed to each principal assessor, his compensation not to exceed one dollar per day while actually employed, and his accounts to be settled like those of the assessors, by the Board of Commissioners.

The committee also find, that some inconveniences have already been experienced from the shortness of time allowed to principal assessors for receiving appeals, and that more may be probably expected. This time, as fixed by the act, is fifteen days, and the commissioners have no power to extend it in any case. Such a power the committee suppose it would be proper to give them.
It has also been suggested, that the time allowed by the act for the assistant assessors to make their returns, which is thirty days, is too short, and ought to be extended; or, at least, that the commissioners ought to be vested with a power to extend it; but this idea has been rejected by the committee, for reasons detailed in a letter from the Treasury Department, which is annexed to this report, and which has been generally held by those in authority to be reasonable and expedient.

Under the second head, the description of dwelling houses, the committee find that the provision of the law, which requires that the lists to be delivered to the assistant assessors, shall contain "the number, building, dimensions of windows in each dwelling house, and great progress has given rise to the valuation of real estate in most of the country, and to considerable consequent embarrassment in obtaining the lists. This defect has proceeded, in part, from the trouble which people find in measuring their windows, and in a much greater degree, from an apprehension, and the necessity of doing so in order to avoid the consequences of negligence, or of a mistaken valuation. But it was intended that this return should be made of all the windows in a dwelling house, as many and as certain as possible, for guiding their judgment, in respect to dwelling houses, which it is absolutely impossible for them to inspect individually; and it was conceived that the number and dimensions of the windows in a dwelling house would, in general, afford a pretty just criterion of its value. But further inquiry and consideration have induced the committee to believe that any information can be obtained from these returns, will be far less useful in guiding the judgment of the commissioners, than that was at first supposed; since the number and size of windows varies so much, according to taste, situation, fashion, and other circumstances; while the inconveniences resulting from the measure are real and considerable. They are, therefore, of opinion, that no such return of windows as that required by the law, so as to require no other than a general description of dwelling houses, and other buildings, with their value. But so much remains to be done in the Middle and Southern States, as the popular objections are represented to be, that the number and dimensions of the windows in a dwelling house, would, in general, afford a pretty just criterion of its value.

Pursuant to these ideas, the committee have prepared a bill, which they herewith present to the House.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, January 18th, 1799.

Sir:

On the subject of that part of your letter of the 11th instant, relating to the "Act providing for the valuation of lands and dwelling houses, and the enumeration of slaves," I have the honor to observe—

1st. That the appointments of commissioners and assessors, under the act above mentioned, appear not to have been accepted in any part of the United States, with a view to an emolument. By appealing to the patriotism of the country, it is respectfully suggested to be expedient to attempt a reconsideration and revisal of the act, and it shall be agreeable to the committee, I will particularize these sentiments on this subject.

For the purpose of general information in respect to the details of the valuations, I have the honor to enclose copies of two circular letters to the commissioners, dated the 7th of August and 8th of September, 1798.

I have the honor to be, with perfect respect, sir, your obedient servant,

OLIVER WOLCOTT,
Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means.

The Honorable Robert G. Harper, Esq.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

I have received a report from the Director of the Mint, on the state of the business committed to his superintendence, and a statement of the coinage of the mint of the United States, for the year 1798, which it is proper to lay before Congress.

January 31, 1799.

JOHN ADAMS.
To the President of the United States.

The Director of the Mint thinks it his duty to review his annual report on the state of the business committed to his superintendence, for the information of Government.

With pleasure he refers the President to the enclosed returns of issues of the several species of coin from the mint, since the first of January, 1798; during which time, the coinage has been stopped near three months, occasioned by the late calamitous fever, and the decay of some of the machinery. Yet, by these returns, it will appear that the coinage of gold amounts, in value, to 205,610 dollars; that of silver, to 330,291 dollars; and that of copper, to 9,797 dollars; in the whole, amounting to 645,698 dollars; exceeding, in value, nearly double what has ever been coined at the mint in any one preceding year, and increases the whole amount of the coinage, since the commencement of the business, in October, 1794, to 483,849 dollars, in gold; 792,643 dollars, 75 cents, in silver; and 41,004 dollars, 74 cents, in copper; amounting, in the whole, to 1,316,893 dollars 49 cents.

From information the Director has received, he has no doubt but there will be a full supply of silver bullion for the ensuing year, at the present establishment of the mint; and the frequent deposites of gold, give him encouragement to suppose a proportionate supply of that precious metal will be kept up. The present arrangement, with regard to copper coin, will enable the Director, during the course of the next summer, to supply any demand that is likely to be made for cents, and at present there are a considerable number on hand.

The Director cannot, with propriety, close this report, without mentioning, that, during the last summer, a scheme was discovered for robbing the mint, by persons out of it, in concert with one person employed in the mint; and although the offenders have been detected, prosecuted and punished, yet it fully justifies the observations heretofore offered to the President, on the unprotected state of the mint, to which the Director begs leave to refer.

All which is respectfully submitted to the President.

ELIAS BOUDINOT,
Director.

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,
Jan. 3, 1799.

Statement of the coinage at the mint of the United States, for the year 1798.

GOLD COINS.

7,974 Eagles, - - - - - - - - - - - $73,740
24,987 Half Eagles, - - - - - - - -  154,323
614 Quarter Eagles, - - - - - - - -   1,935

$905,610

SILVER COINS.

327,536 Dollars, - - - - - - - - - - - $327,536
27,550 Dimes, - - - - - - - - - - -  2,755

330,291

COPPER COINS.

979,700 Cents, - - - - - - - - - - -  9,797

$545,698

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, Treasurer's Office, Jan. 3, 1799.

BENJAMIN RUSH.

3rd Session.

No. 141.

MINT.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JANUARY 31, 1799.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, January 31st, 1799.

Sir:
I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a letter from the Comptroller of the Treasury, dated the 30th instant, accompanied with certain statements, which have been prepared under the direction of that officer, in pursuance of the seventh section of the act passed on the 2d of April, 1792, entitled "An act establishing a mint, and regulating the coinage of the United States." I have the honor to be, with perfect respect, sir, your obedient servant,

OLIVER WOLCOTT

The Honorble the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Comptroller's Office, January 30th, 1799.

Sir:
In obedience to the seventh section of an act, passed the 2d of April, 1792, entitled "An act establishing a mint, and regulating the coinage of the United States," I have caused to be prepared certain statements, marked A, B, C, D, and E, which are herewith laid before you, for the purpose of being transmitted to the Legislature. In future, similar statements will be prepared, annually, as the law directs, and the manner of keeping and rendering the accounts of the mint, will be so modified as to show, at proper periods, the exact loss or gain upon the coinage of copper.

I have the honor to be, sir, with perfect respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN STEELE.
A Statement of Appropriations, made by law, for the Mint Establishment, from its institution to 31st December, 1797, with the amount of Warrants drawn by the Secretary of the Treasury, in favor of the Mint.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Act</th>
<th>Amount of Warrants Drawn</th>
<th>Salaries</th>
<th>Mint Establishment</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2d, 1792</td>
<td>$7,000 00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$7,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2d, 1793</td>
<td>$11,594 88</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$11,594 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14th, 1794</td>
<td>$13,000 00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$13,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2d, 1795</td>
<td>$13,705 00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$13,705 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2d, 1796</td>
<td>$18,648 28</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$18,648 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2d, 1797</td>
<td>$22,110 34</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$22,110 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27th, 1796</td>
<td>$28,679 78</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$28,679 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27th, 1798</td>
<td>$33,274 66</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$33,274 66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance carried to the mint establishment, unexpended on 31st December, 1794, $76 38.

Balance unexpended of the several appropriations, by law, for the mint establishment, 1st January, 1798, as per public accounts, $33,778 78.

Treasury Department, Register's Office, December 24th, 1798.

Joseph Nourse, Register.
### A—Continued.

**A Statement of Appropriations, made by law, for the payment of the Salaries of the Officers of the Mint.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page of public accts.</th>
<th>Amount of warrants drawn on the Treasurer of the United States for salaries of the officers, in</th>
<th>Date of Act</th>
<th>Amount brought from the statement, No. 1, being so much which remained applicable to the payment of salaries of the officers, on 31st December, 1793,</th>
<th>Date of Act</th>
<th>Balance remaining of the appropriations, by law, for the payment of the officers of the mint, on 1st January, 1798,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>8,347 11</td>
<td>March 14th, 1794</td>
<td>2,850 50</td>
<td>1,565 77</td>
<td>43,650 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>11,267 93</td>
<td>January 3d, 1795</td>
<td>8,600 00</td>
<td>10,400 00</td>
<td>$42,550 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>6,625 00</td>
<td>February 6th, 1796</td>
<td>10,600 00</td>
<td>798 7</td>
<td>1,565 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>3,456 10</td>
<td>June 1st, 1796</td>
<td>8,900 00</td>
<td>200 00</td>
<td>$1,565 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>10,314 13</td>
<td>March 3d, 1797</td>
<td>9,600 00</td>
<td>10,600 00</td>
<td>$1,565 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>378 39</td>
<td>1st January, 1798</td>
<td>10,400 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December 24th, 1798.**

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.
A Statement of the application of moneys advanced from the Treasury of the United States, for the support of the Mint establishment, from the institution thereof, to the 31st December, 1797.

The moneys paid by the Treasurer of the Mint, upon warrants drawn on him by the Director, and admitted at the treasury of the United States, on the adjustment of his quarter yearly accounts, were as follow:

INCIDENTAL AND CONTINGENT EXPENSES AND REPAIRS OF THE MINT.

For seventy-three thousand seven hundred and seventy-three dollars and ninety-six cents, being the amount expended for the requisite buildings and repairs, and procuring apparatus, making machines, wages, of the workmen, and other expenses, including three lots of ground, with buildings thereon, purchased for carrying on the operations of the mint, viz:

Two lots, with a house thereon, cost, $4,266 66
Paid from 19th July, 1792, to 31st March, 1793, 9,736 74
from 1st April, 1793, to 30th June following, 2,122 07
from 1st July, 1793, to 30th September, 1,173 94
to 1st Dec. 1,536 15

INCIDENTAL AND CONTINGENT EXPENSES AND REPAIRS OF THE MINT.

from 1st January, 1794, to 31st March following, 2,668 71
from 1st April, " to 30th June " 1,688 80
from 1st Oct. " to 30th September, 3,665 04

from 1st Oct. " to 31st December following, including 1,800 dollars paid for a large lot of ground, 4,344 51

from 1st January, 1795, to 31st March following, 7,147 20
from 1st April, " to 30th June " 5,371 91
from 1st July, " to 30th Sept. " 5,169 50
from 1st October, " to 31st Dec. " 6,729 85

COPPER PURCHASED FOR COINAGE.

Pounds.

6,235 purchased from 19th July, 1792, to 31st March following, $18,834 56
11,745 " from 1st April, 1793, to 30th June 1,486 69
2,435 " from 1st July, " to 30th Sept. 2,791 36
19,807 " from 1st October, " to 31st Dec. 693 50

29,637 purchased in London, by Thomas Pinckney, minister pleni-
potentary, 5,351 99

2,747 purchased for coining, and freight of thirty cases of copper, in London, 7,569 58

2,464 including freight of five cases, from London, purchased and shipped by Thomas Pinckney, 189 73

Charges at New York, for the storage of ten casks of copper nails, the property of the United States, 1,115 72

162 purchased from 1st July, 1794, to 30th September following, 111 80
316 " from 1st Jan., 1795, to 31st March 6,976 83
1,188 " from 1st April, " to 30th June 23 22
2,676 " from 1st Oct. " to 31st Dec. 79 40

11,565 " from 1st January, 1796, to 31st March following, 5,904 51
3,794 " from 1st April, " to 30th June 623 22
806 " from 1st July, " to 30th Sept. 1,122 80
24,324 " from 1st Oct. " to 31st August, 1797, 5,262 88
19,281 " from 1st September, 1797, to 31st Dec. following, 5,804 51

135,498 SALARIES TO THE OFFICERS OF THE MINT.

For forty-six thousand four hundred and ninety-four dollars and fifteen cents, being the amount paid to the officers of the mint and their clerks, for their respective compensations, allowed by law:

From its institution, to the 31st March, 1793, 4,094 88
1st April, 1793, to 30th June following, 1,275 00
1st July, " to 30th Sept. " 1,275 00

1st January, 1794, to 31st March following, 2,067 00
1st April, " to 30th June 2,008 33
1st July, " to 30th Sept. 2,127 78

1st January, 1795, to 31st March following, 2,275 00
1st April, " to 30th June 2,275 00
1st July, " to 30th Sept. 2,275 00

9,912 93
From 1st January, 1796, to 31st March following, - 3,575 00
1st April, " to 30th June " - 3,575 00
1st July, " to 30th Sept. " - 3,575 00
1st October, 1796, to 31st August, 1797, - 5,976 45
1st Sept. 1797, to 31st Dec. do. - 3,630 80

Balance, eleven thousand seven hundred and fifty-two dollars and eight cents, which remained in the hands of the treasurer of the mint, on the 1st January, 1798, to be thereafter accounted for by him, agreeably to treasury settlement, No. 5,543.

The moneys advanced to the treasurer of the mint, for the time being, during that period, were one hundred and sixty-six thousand four hundred and sixty-seven cents, viz:

In 1792, - $7,000 00
1793, - 18,648 28
1794, for the mint establishment, - 32,746 33
for salaries of the officers, - 10,072 40
1795, for the mint, - 10,110 34
for salaries, - 11,320 10
1796, for the mint, - 59,471 00
for salaries, - 24,314 13
1797, for the mint, - $166,447 67
for salaries, - 24,314 13

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.
Abstract of Settlements made by the Treasurer of the Mint, with the United States, from 18th July, 1794, to 30th June, 1798, exhibiting the deposits of Bullion, the value of Coins paid, allowances for wastage, and the balances at the different periods of settlement, remaining in the hands of the Officers of the Mint, and in the Bank of the United States.

### Periods of Settlement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Deposites in Standard</th>
<th>Coins of Gold and Silver Made at the Mint</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Silver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18, 1794</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 1795</td>
<td>3,293 12 0</td>
<td>57,308 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1, 1795</td>
<td>Aug. 31, 1797</td>
<td>15,453 12 4</td>
<td>231,041 91 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1, 1797</td>
<td>June 30, 1798</td>
<td>10,649 18 10</td>
<td>189,331 87 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total value of Deposites</td>
<td>617,992 98 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>1,297 8 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>16,755 9,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>196,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>5,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total value of Coins paid</td>
<td>323,144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Value of Coins Paid at the Mint

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,078 16 21</td>
<td>54,735 00</td>
<td>247,169 6 22</td>
<td>285,195 40</td>
<td>339,930 40</td>
<td>153,225 15 10</td>
<td>147,292 0 9 2</td>
<td>406,513 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18,511 7 22</td>
<td>222,454 84 1</td>
<td>153,225 15 10</td>
<td>176,729 03 9</td>
<td>393,293 88</td>
<td>153,225 15 10</td>
<td>147,292 0 9 2</td>
<td>406,513 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,035 18 3</td>
<td>160,658 32 1</td>
<td>344,574 73 4</td>
<td>405,513 7</td>
<td>1,845 95 4</td>
<td>1,911 04 3</td>
<td>1,845 95 4</td>
<td>1,911 04 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Allowance for Wastage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight.</th>
<th>Value.</th>
<th>Gold.</th>
<th>Silver.</th>
<th>Total value of Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40 3 21</td>
<td>603 41</td>
<td>69,341 7 20</td>
<td>80,002 25</td>
<td>80,019 68 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53 1 19</td>
<td>604 26</td>
<td>69,341 7 20</td>
<td>80,002 25</td>
<td>80,019 68 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107 9 23</td>
<td>1,011 04 3</td>
<td>69,341 7 20</td>
<td>80,002 25</td>
<td>80,019 68 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D—Continued.

**BALANCE TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR.**

In the hands of the Melter and Refiner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 4 23</td>
<td>111 7½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 4 23</td>
<td>111 7½</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commissioners of Inspection, for Assay Pieces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 18 19</td>
<td>1 18 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93 3 6</td>
<td>1,656 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deposited in the hands of the Treasurer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78,425 19 0</td>
<td>90,491 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,656 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

D—Continued.

**BALANCE TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR.**

In the hands of the Treasurer, for Assay Pieces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99 11 6</td>
<td>3,770 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 9 2</td>
<td>459 50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Bank of the United States.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49 14 13</td>
<td>475 15½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,391 8 22</td>
<td>24,726 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,617 11 5</td>
<td>28,766 691</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total amount of balance to be accounted for.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>144 15 3</td>
<td>2,573 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151,426 15 2</td>
<td>1,254 8 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Treasury Department, Register's Office, December 24th, 1798._

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.
D—Continued.

Explanation of the balance of Gold and Silver remaining to be accounted for by the Treasurer of the Mint, on the 1st of July, 1798.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>26,307.2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount of Coins made and paid during said period, per abstract,</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>34,656.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowance for wastage, do.</td>
<td>63.8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance remaining to be accounted for, on 1st July, 1798,</td>
<td>1,617.11</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December 24th, 1798.

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.
An abstract of the settlement of accounts made by the Treasurer of the Mint, with the United States, of bullion deposited by individual persons at the Mint, from 18th July, 1794, to 30th June, 1798; of the coins made and delivered; and balance, either in bullion or coin, which remained to be accounted for, by the officers of the Mint, at certain periods.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPOSITS IN STANDARD BULLION, FROM 18TH JULY, 1794, TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1795.</th>
<th>WEIGHT.</th>
<th>VALUE.</th>
<th>GROSS.</th>
<th>DETAILED.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>oz.</td>
<td>dwt.</td>
<td>grs.</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits in Standard Bullion, from 18th July, 1794, to 30th September, 1795.</td>
<td>2,444</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coins made at the Mint during that period, and paid by the Treasurer to the persons who deposited the same.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>54,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance remaining to be accounted for on 30th September, 1795.</td>
<td>54,015</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>339,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BALANCE REMAINING TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR ON DEPOSITS, &amp;c. FROM 1ST OCTOBER, 1795, TO 31ST AUGUST, 1797.</th>
<th>WEIGHT.</th>
<th>VALUE.</th>
<th>GROSS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>oz.</td>
<td>dwt.</td>
<td>grs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coins made and paid during the above period.</td>
<td>12,511</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This sum is deducted, being charged in his account of receipts and expenditures.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance remaining to be accounted for on 31st August, 1797, per statement No. 7,486,</td>
<td>12,511</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits from 1st October, 1795, to 31st August, 1797,</td>
<td>1,391</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowance for wastage per warrant No. 6,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litharge returned (per receipt) to John Vaughan,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four deposits made by James Swan, and assigned to the Bank of the U. States, withdrawn.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance remaining to be accounted for on 1st September, 1797, per statement No. 10,039,</td>
<td>12,511</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits, &amp;c. from 1st September, 1797, to 30th June, 1798,</td>
<td>10,649</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coins made at the Mint, and paid during that period.</td>
<td>9,035</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance remaining to be accounted for on 1st July, 1798,</td>
<td>9,035</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December 30th, 1798.</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EQUALIZATION OF THE DUTIES ON IMPORTS FROM INDIA.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, FEBRUARY 28, 1799.

The Secretary of the Treasury, to whom was referred, by order of the Senate of the United States, on the 24th of May, 1798, the petition of William Gray, Jr. and other merchants of the State of Massachusetts, respectfully submits the following report:

The petitioners are merchants concerned in trade between the United States and the British East Indies; the stock of goods consigned to them from the United States consists principally of Spanish milled dollars; these dollars were invested, at Calcutta, in merchandise, at the rate and exchange of two hundred and fifteen sicca rupees for one hundred Spanish dollars. By the 40th section of the collection law, passed on the 4th of August, 1790, the rupee of Bengal, by which the sicca rupee, a coin of India, is supposed to have been intended, is valued at fifty-five and a half cents, in money of the United States.

The collector of the customs at Salem required the petitioners to exhibit the original cost of the merchandise imported by them, in sicca rupees, to which he added twenty per cent., pursuant to the direction in the 39th section of the collection law, and upon this amount of rupees, reduced to money of the United States, at the rate of fifty-five and a half cents per rupee, the ad valorem duty of twelve and a half per cent., has been demanded.

The petitioners represent the value of the rupee, as declared in the collection law, to be excessive; and as the goods imported by them were in fact purchased with Spanish dollars, they request that they may be allowed to exhibit the cost of the said goods in dollars, and to pay duties accordingly. They further represent, that this indulgence has been granted in some parts of the United States, and that they have been injured by the unequal construction of the law in different officers.

The Secretary has examined the subject, and is satisfied that the petition contains a candid statement of all the facts within the knowledge of the petitioners.

The following is an illustration of the mode of calculation adopted by the collector, and also of the proposed substitute.

1st. By the rule adopted by the collector, the Spanish dollars were reduced to rupees, at the current market value; or, as in the case stated in the petition, 100 dollars were valued, in rupees, at - - - R. 215.00
To which 20 per cent. was added, according to the 39th section of the collection law, or - - - 43.00
R. 258.00

The above sum of 258 rupees, reduced to money of the United States, at fifty-five and a half cents per rupee, is equal to $142.19

Upon which duty of twelve and a half per cent., being computed, produced to the revenue, for the proceeds of 100 dollars, invested in merchandise, at the exchange of 215 rupees per 100 dollars, the sum of $17.90

Original investment, in dollars, - - - - - - - - - - 100.00
To which add twenty percent. according to the 39th section of the collection law, or - - - - - - 20.00

The rate of duty, at twelve and a half percent, computed on 120 dollars, would give to the revenue only $120.00

The question under consideration is important, both to the revenue and to the merchants: for, if the principles assumed by the petitioners are correct, an excess, amounting to nearly one-fifth of the legal duties, has been demanded.

The Secretary, in the course of his inquiries on this subject, has ascertained the following facts:

1st. That dollars are not considered as money in Bengal, and that the price is variable; that, of late, dollars have been worth from 212 to 215 sicca rupees per 100 dollars.

2d. That there are various kinds of money known in India, under the general denomination of rupees; of which the sicca rupee, a real coin, is understood to be the standard.

3d. That, by assays at the mint of the United States, the intrinsic value of the sicca rupee, when compared with money of the United States, is found to be forty-seven cents.

4th. That the current rupee is an ideal money of account, the value of which is sixteen per cent. below that of the sicca rupee.

5th. That the accounts of the East India Company are kept in current rupees; that formerly, invoices sent to the United States were made out in the same currency, but that, latterly, invoices are made out in sicca rupees. It having been understood that the duties imposed by the laws of the United States were granted with reference to that description of money.

6th. That bills of exchange on London, payable from six to fifteen months after sight, have of late years been negotiated at Bengal, at various rates, from two shillings to two shillings and sixpence sterling, per current rupee.

7th. That the pagoda of India is valued, in the collection law, at one dollar and ninety-four cents, whereas, the intrinsic value of this coin is found, by assays at the mint, to be no more than one dollar and seventy cents.

The Secretary is of opinion that, notwithstanding the rupee and pagoda of India are estimated above their intrinsic value, when compared with coins of the United States, yet, that the rule now established cannot be inequitable, because it is from its nature invariable, and must at all times subject merchants, who purchase goods of the same quality, at one price, in India, to the payment of the same amount of duties in the United States. If these coins should be estimated at a less value than at present, no other consequence would follow than a reduction of the present established rates of duties, which, considering the nature of the trade, cannot be deemed excessive.

The rule suggested by the petitioners, of considering the value of our money, or even of foreign money, in the United States, as the criterion for determining the cost of merchandise in foreign countries, appears to be inadmissible; gold and silver, when exported, can be considered in no other light than as merchandise, without subverting that principle of the revenue laws which has established foreign currencies, or monies of account, as the criteria for computing the duties ad valorem. The consequences of an abandonment of this principle might, on some occasions, exceedingly embarrass commerce, by causing a sudden exportation of the specie capital of the country; at any rate, the revenue would fluctuate with the course of exchange and the variations of the prices of our exports in foreign markets.

The Secretary finds that a few entries were admitted at New York, on which the invoice prices of India merchandise were computed in dollars; the mistake was, however, soon discovered, and corrected. As, therefore, the petitioners exported their goods from the United States, after the passage of the 40th section of the law, the Secretary is of opinion that the interposition of the Legislature, in this case, is not expedient.

All which is respectfully submitted.

OLIVER WOLCOTT.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, February 27, 1799.
SINKING FUND.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, DECEMBER 11, 1799.

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 of the 16th of December, 1798, 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 10th of December, 1799, 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.

SAMUEL LIVERMORE,
President of the Senate, pro tempore.

December 11, 1799.

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

That no purchases of the public debt of the United States have been made, since the date of the last report to Congress, on the 19th day of December, 1799: and that the sums of 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 reduction of the public debt, amount to two millions seven hundred and thirty-four thousand four hundred and seventy-nine dollars and forty-four cents, as will more particularly appear from the document 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 15th of December, 1798:

1st. To the fourth 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, 1796, and the act in amendment thereof, passed on the 28th day of April, 1796, became payable on the first day of January, 1799, the sum of $874,938.02.

2d. To the payment of the seventh instalment of the subscription loan for bank stock, due on the first day of December, 1798, the sum of 200,000.00.

3d. To the payment of the second instalment of a loan of one million of guilders, obtained in Holland, and which fell due the present year, pursuant to a contract, dated the 1st of June, 1797, estimated at 40 cents per guilder, the sum of 50,000.00.

4th. To the payment of the first 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 14th of March, 1798, estimated at 40 cents per guilder, the sum of 50,000.00.

Amounting, in the whole, to $1,034,938.02.

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

1st. The interest fund on the sums which accrued upon the stock purchased, and vested in the commissioners of the sinking fund, in trust for the United States, as particularly stated in the document hereto annexed, marked B, $89,375.72.

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, 6,710.68.

3d. The fund arising from the sales of lands in the Northwestern territory, as particularly stated in the document hereto annexed, marked D, 11,963.11.

4th. The fund arising from dividends on the capital stock belonging to the United States, in the Bank of the United States, from the 3d of March, 1795, to the 30th of June, 1798, after deducting the interest paid on the subscription loan for the same period, as particularly stated in the document hereto annexed, marked E, 144,889.08.

5th. The fund arising from a loan obtained of the Bank of the United States, pursuant to the 6th section of the act passed on the 3d of March, 1795, entitled "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 reference to the objects, mentioned in this report, 581,999.43.

Amounting, in the whole, to $1,034,938.02.

Making, in the whole, an equal amount to the reimbursement before mentioned.

There remained in the hands of the Treasurer of the United States, as agent of the Board of commissioners, on the first day of December instant, the sum of five hundred thousand seven hundred and eighteen dollars and fifty-five 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 fifth instalment of the six per cent. stock, bearing a present interest, and the eighth instalment of the subscription loan for stock of the Bank 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, Secretary of the Treasury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, December 10, 1799.
A General Statement of the several stocks transferred to the United States, to the 31st December, 1798, inclusively; the interest upon which, by the acts of the 8th May, 1792, and 3d March, 1795, is appropriated for the redemption of the public debt.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 per cent stock</td>
<td>$631,786 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 per cent stock</td>
<td>$137,689 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred stock</td>
<td>$47,936 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5¾ per cent stock</td>
<td>$79,055 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of the several species of stock</td>
<td>$1,471,875 88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Purchased with moneys received on account of the surplus of duties, to the end of the year 1790, as per statement thereof, heretofore rendered:

- $439,016 19
- $303,884 96
- $115,198 37
- $974,446 48

Total: $1,182,263 06

Ditto, on account of a loan of $2,000,000, ditto:

- $401,073 90
- $31,731 94
- $108,975 84
- $102,975 84

Total: $614,836 47

Ditto, out of the interest fund, ditto:

- $631,786 85
- $137,689 66
- $47,936 47
- $79,055 79

Total: $935,979 91

Amount transferred to the United States:

- $1,400 00
- $1,400 00
- $1,400 00
- $1,400 00

Total: $2,734,479 44

(a.) In payment for land on Lake Erie, sold to the State of Pennsylvania,

- $60,449 44
- $8,718 85
- $30,924 72
- $151,292 41

In discharge of the debts due to foreign officers,

- $186,988 33
- $24,438 68
- $202,426 01

In the payment of certain balances, which originated prior to the present constitution,

- $4,225 95
- $6,747 40
- $10,303 66
- $21,277 02

In the repayments of commutation by sundry military officers,

- $14,934 22
- $10,475 40
- $7,467 09
- $32,873 71

In payment for lands sold under the act of the 18th May, 1796, and received in pursuance of the act of the 3d March, 1797,

- $7,849 57
- $9,599 81
- $1,400 00
- $11,847 78

Total: $274,446 48

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December, 4, 1799.

JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.
B. Statement of moneys arising from interest on stock transferred to the United States, being the amount drawn by the agent to the trustees for the redemption of the public debt, pursuant to the act of the 8th May, 1792, and agreeably to a statement made at the Treasury, No. 11,064, dated the 25th November 1799.

1799, March 30, .................................................. $22,364 46
    June 30, .......................................................... 22,364 46
    September 27, .................................................. 22,364 46
    December 29, .................................................. 22,364 46

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December 4th, 1799. JOSEPH Nourse, Register.

C. Statement of moneys received at the Treasury in the year 1798, from the payment of debts which originated prior to the present constitution, being the amount drawn by the agent to the trustees for the redemption of the public debt, on the 29th December, 1798, pursuant to the act of the 3d March, 1795, and agreeably to a statement made at the Treasury, No. 11,064, dated the 25th November, 1799.

From Timothy Pickering, late quartermaster general, for a balance of public moneys which remained in his hands, .................................................. $3,878 86
From Edward Carrington, late deputy quartermaster general, on account of moneys received by him for public property sold, .................................................. 2,831 82

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December 4th, 1799. JOSEPH Nourse, Register.

D. Statement of moneys received into the Treasury in the year 1798, from the sale of lands belonging to the United States, being the amount drawn by the agent to the trustees for the redemption of the public debt, pursuant to the act of 2d March, 1795, and agreeably to a statement made at the Treasury, No. 11,064, dated 25th November, 1799.

1798, December 29. Warrant No. 9040, in part of the nett proceeds of 43,446½ acres sold at Pittsburg, pursuant to an act of Congress of 18th May, 1796. .................................................. $11,963 11

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December 4, 1799. JOSEPH Nourse, Register.

E. Statement of moneys arising from dividends on the capital stock belonging to the United States, in the bank of said States, from 3d March, 1795, to 30th June, 1798, after deducting the interest on the subscription loan for the same period, being the amount drawn by the agent to the trustees for the redemption of the public debt, pursuant to the act of 3d March, 1795, and agreeably to a statement made at the Treasury, No. 11,064, dated 25th November, 1799.

1798, December 29. Warrant No. 9,039, in favor of said agent. .................................................. $144,889 08

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, December 4, 1799. JOSEPH Nourse, Register.

6th CONGRESS.] No. 144. [1st SESSION.

MINT.

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS, JANUARY 8, 1800.

Gentlemen of the Senate
and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

A report, made to me on the first day of this month, by the Director of the Mint, through the office of the Secretary of State, with the documents attending it, I transmit to both Houses of Congress, for their consideration.

JOHN ADAMS.

UNITED STATES, January 8th, 1800.

To the President of the United States.

The Director of the Mint respectfully reports, that there has been coined and issued from the mint, from the first day of January, to the thirty-first day of December, 1799, inclusive, the quantity of 213,285 dollars, in gold coin; 423,515 dollars, in silver coin; and 9,106 dollars and 68 cents, in copper cents; amounting to 645,906 dollars and 68 cents, or 1,365,681 pieces of coin; which, added to the former returns, makes the whole of the coinage, since the establishment of the mint, 696,330 dollars in gold, 1,310,158 dollars and 75 cents in silver, and 50,111 dollars and 49 cents in copper cents; making the amount of the whole coinage of the mint, 1,962,800 dollars and 17 cents; all which will more fully appear by the enclosed returns from the treasurer of the mint; as also, that the coinage of the last year has exceeded that of any former year, by 100,008 dollars 68 cents.

It is almost needless to observe, that the 50,000 dollars in copper coin, required by the second section of the act of Congress, passed on the 8th of May, 1795, being now completed, it becomes necessary for the Treasurer of the United States to comply with the provision of the said section, by giving the public notice therein mentioned.