By the introduction of th's amendment, or of one embracing similar principles, and incorporating the amendment of his colleague, Mr. G. said, he should be prevailed upon to vote for the section. It had been suggested to him by some gentlemen that it might be more agreeable to the people of Louisiana, and consonant with our plans of territorial government, to vest the powers of a legislative council, for the first year, in the governor and judges, making it their duty to provide for the election of a council thereafter by the people. It was also intimated that some other gentlemen had prepared different amendments as a substitute to the whole section. When he heard them read, he might, perhaps, prefer them to his own. Mr. G. concluded by moving the amendment stated above.

Mr. LEIB said his amendment did not in the least interfere with that of his colleague, with whom he fully accorded in sentiment.

Mr. VARNUM was of opinion that the section in the bill provided such a kind of government as had never been known in the United States. He thought sound policy, no less than justice, dictated the propriety of making provision for the election of a legislative body by the people. There was not only the common obligation of justice imposed upon congress to do this, but they were bound by treaty—the treaty with France expressly says,

"The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages & immunities of citizens of the United States."

The treaty makes it obligatory on the United States to admit the inhabitants of Louisiana, *as soon as possible*, to the enjoyments of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States—In order to decide the principle of this section of the bill by an expression of the sense of the committee, he would move that the committee should rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again; with the view of refusing them leave, and afterwards referring the bill to a select committee to receive a modification in conformity to the opinions of the House.

Mr. HUGER trusted the committee would not rise. He knew not the impressions, on this subject, on the minds of other gentlemen. But the information lately received from Louisiana convinced him of the propriety of proceeding with the bill immediately. In addition to the principles contained in the section under consideration, there were others of great importance. He thought it would be most advisable, in a future stage of discussion, to commit the bill to a select committee, if any material alterations should be made in it. It was best, at present, to deliberate fully on the several provisions of the bill, and for gentlemen to make an interchange of opinions. Were the bill now committed, the report of the committee would not advance the business in the least, as that report might be as objectionable to the House as the bill from the Senate.

Mr. ELLIOT for like reasons assigned by the gentleman from South Carolina, and for other reasons, hoped the committee would not rise. He did not believe the section under consideration, was, in its present form, consistent either with the spirit of the Constitution or the treaty; but he believed that by the introduction of a small amendment, the section might be rendered perfectly consistent with them, and the passage of the bill be greatly accelerated. He preferred a middle course between the existing section and the amendment offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania. Whatever amendments were necessary would be easily offered and discussed at present; whereas no desirable object could be effected by a referrence.

Mr. GREGG said it also appeared to him that no valuable purpose would be answered by referring the bill to a select committee. What can such a committee do? There exists a diversity of sentiment in the House on principle. Some are for giving to the people of the territory, instead of the President, the power of electing the members of the legislative council. Here then are two distinct principles, and unless the House determine which of them it will adopt, a select committee can do nothing. Let us settle the principles of the bill first, and then refer it to a select committee to modify it in correspondence with them.

Mr. EUSTIS said this subject was in his opinion, inferior to no other discussed this session. With regard to the provisions of the section under consideration, it was to be expected that there would be a diversity of opinion. Gentlemen inimical to them had taken different grounds. One gentleman desires the power of the governor to prorogue the council to be rescinded; another gentleman wishes an entire change in the formation of the council; and a third is in favor of the committee rising, that the bill may go to a select committee to report different provisions for the government of the people of Louisiana from those contained in the bill before us. This motion necessarily brings the principle on which the council is organised by the bill before us.

It is extremely difficult to form any system of government for this territory with our ideas of civil liberty under the constitution of the United States. It appears to me, said Dr. Eustis, that before we determine the principle on which the council is to be formed, it is necessary distinctly to understand the genius, the manners, the disposition and state of the people to be governed. The treaty has been resorted to by my colleague to shew that they are entitled to elect their own legislature. It says,

"The inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States."

Are the people of Louisiana admitted into the union at this time, or not, with all the rights of citizens of the United States? The answer to this enquiry will lead to a right decision of the question under discussion. If they are so admitted, they are entitled to all the rights of citizens of the United States. And if they are thus entitled, there remains another enquiry, are they qualified from habit, and from the circumstances in which they are placed, to exercise these high privileges? If they are both entitled and qualified to enjoy them, we can have no hesitation in pronouncing the bill grounded on a wrong principle, that it ought to be rejected, and another bill, of a far different nature, be introduced in its room. But I do not consider the subject in this light. The people, in my opinion, are, at present, unprepared for, and undesirous of exercising the elective franchise. The first object of the government is to hold the country. How? By protecting the people in all their rights, and by administering the government in such a manner as to prevent any disagreement among them—to use no other term.—Suppose the people called upon to chuse those who are to make laws for them, does the information we possess justify the belief that this privilege would be so exercised as to conduce to the peace, happiness and tranquility of the country? I apprehend not. On the sentiments of the House on this point, the decision of this motion must turn.

According to this bill the governor and council are to make the laws. Suppose the council is in session and that the governor possess no power to prorogue them. Suppose they should engage in acts subversive of their relation to the United States. Would not this power be of essential utility? It appears to me indispensably necessary that a vein of authority should ascend to the government of the United States, until the people of the territory are admitted to the full enjoyment of state rights. From that knowledge of this people, which I have been able to acquire, I have formed an opinion that authority should be constantly exercised over them without severity, but in such a manner as to secure the rights of the United States and the peace of the country.

The government laid down in this bill is certainly a new thing in the United States; but the people of this country differ materially from the citizens of the United States. I speak of the character of the people at the present time.—When they shall be better acquainted with the principles of our government, and shall have become desirous of participating in our privileges, it will be full time to extend to them the elective franchise. Have not the House been informed from an authentic source, since the cession, that the provisions of our institutions are inapplicable to them.—If so, why attempt, in pursuit of a vain theory, to extend political institutions to them for which they are not prepared? I am one of those, who believe that the principles of civil liberty cannot suddenly be engrafted on a people accustomed to a regimen of a directly opposite hue. The approach of such a people to liberty must be gradual. I believe them at present totally unqualified to exercise it. If this opinion be erroneous, then the principles of the bill are unfounded. If, on the contrary, this opinion is sound, it results that neither the power given to the President to appoint the members of the council, or of the governor to prorogue them, are unsafe or unnecessary.

The extension of the elective franchise may be considered by the people of Louisiana a burthen instead of a benefit. I have understood there is none of that equality among them which exists in the United States; grades are there more highly marked, and they may deem it rather a matter of oppression to extend to them the privileges which we deem inestimable, and with the value of which we have been long familiar.

Before we decide this principle, it is absolutely necessary to consider the relation of these people to the United States. I consider them as standing nearly in the same relation to us as if they were a conquered country. By the treaty they are, it is true, entitled to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States, and to be incorporated in the union, as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution; but can they be admitted now? Are they at this moment so admitted? If not, they are not entitled to these rights; but if they were I should doubt the propriety of extending them to them.

If the present provisions of the bill are carried into effect, there will be more security than will arise under the motion of my colleague. It is very natural and honorable to gentlemen of liberal minds to be desirous of extending to this people the privileges enjoyed by our own citizens, but sentiments of this kind, however liberal and praiseworthy, may be carried in the face of facts, and may operate injuriously on those they are intended to benefit. I have thrown out these sentiments for the consideration of the committee, and if they shall determine in favour of striking out this section, I shall consider the decision as equivalent to losing the bill. Upon the whole as the bill only purports to provide for a temporary government, and as in the course of a year we shall have more information respecting the country, when it will be in our power, in case such information shall justify it, to extend all the privileges which gentlemen now seem so desirous of doing—I hope the committee will not rise or agree to strike out this section.

Mr. LYON said when he first thought of rising on this subject it was merely to remind the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. Huger) and the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. Elliot) that there was no need of the hurry they seemed to think necessary on this occasion, as the bill before us contains a section providing against its going into operation until October next; and to express his hope that the committee would rise, as there were so many traits in the bill so disgusting to him that he would be willing to send it to any select committee; better it they might, but he thought they could not make it worse. Yet after having heard the gentleman from Massachusetts advocate the principle of the section under consideration, he could not avoid making a few observations. I think, said Mr. L. that these people have a right by nature and by treaty to have some concern in their own government, and although they may not be completely qualified for self-government, and we may not be willing to put them on the same footing with the people of a free and independent state, I know of no reason why they may not be allowed by their representatives to come before the governor in an organised way with an expression of their wishes and their wants, and to propose for his adoption laws they may think fitting and salutary for their country, I am not ready to say with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Leib) that I wish to take from the governor the power of convening and proroguing the Legislative Council or Assembly. I am willing for the present he should have that power, as well as an unqualified negative on their bills. In that case how can the Representatives of that people injure our government, it is the business of the governor appointed by the Executive of the Union to watch over them for the interest of the nation, his power will be ample for the protection of that interest. When they ask his assent to those things that are fitting and proper, he will give it I hope; when they ask it for those things which are not fitting or proper, he will no doubt refuse it; and if they should at any time become troublesome, he will prorogue them, and tell them to go home about their business. I cannot refuse these people the humble boon, the pitiful specimen of liberty, the laying before their governor by their representatives for his consent the bills they wish passed into laws for their local accommodation, and for their satisfaction, with respect to their rights and their property; neither would I mock their feelings by a Legislative Council appointed by the President of the United States; I do not believe he wishes that power, I do not think it fits his character; how is he to divine who it is best to appoint. I would as soon compliment Mr. Bonaparte with that power. I dare say he is better acquainted with the people there, but the gentleman from Massachusetts seems to think these people are not desirous of exercising the power of electing legislative representatives. If that is the case, do not we owe something on this score to principle, to consistency, to the national honor pledged by treaty. If there is danger on that score (which I am pretty sure there is not) let the government be so organized that it can go on without the representatives of those districts who neglect or refuse to elect. But the most ludicrous idea I have heard expressed on the subject is, that these people must be kept in slavery until they can be learned to think and behave like freemen. "Establish the government proposed and let them learn under that to enjoy the rights and benefits of freemen." I wonder how much longer this probationary slavery is to last in order to bring about the purpose proposed, for my part I believe they have already had it longer than has done them any good. I really wish to know how much longer this apprenticeship is to continue, & what are the symptoms by which we are to know when slaves are fitted to become freemen. I shall, sir, eventually vote for the committee's rising, although I am quite willing to hear what farther can be said in favor of this section.

[*To be continued.*]

Foreign Intelligence.

New York, April 20.

The British Packet, which arrived here yesterday from Halifax, left Falmouth on the 13th March, and brings London papers of the 10th, one day later than our advices via Boston. They contain nothing interesting, in addition to what we have before given, excepting the following article, which we copy from a paper of the latest date received at this office:

LONDON, March 10.

The Royal Assent was last night giving by commission to several Bills in the House of Lords. On this occasion Lord Fitzwilliam expressed some doubts as to the regularity of the proceeding, the necessary information with respect to the state of his Majesty's health not having yet been obtained. The Lord Chancellor, with much apparent agitation, said, he was perfectly aware of the caution and circumspection which so grave and important a subject required; and under that impression he assured the Noble Earl, that in venturing to procure the assent of his Majesty to the commission, he had proceeded with fear and trembling. Not confiding entirely in the reports of the Physicians, he had solicited and obtained a personal interview with the Monarch, which had been repeated, and in the course of which he held much conversation with his Majesty relative to the nature of the bills included in the commission; the result of which was, that the whole of them obtained the Royal assent. Of the responsibility attached to his official situation, his lordship professed himself fully aware; and, feeling the entire force of that responsibility, he had acted upon it on the present occasion. After this unequivocal assurance of the competency of his Majesty to the exercise of his kingly functions, no reasonable doubt can be entertained of the favorable progress made by his Majesty.

BULLETIN.

March 10—afternoon—"We continue to entertain a favorable opinion of his Majesty's recovery." Signed as usual.

On the eighth of March, the Russian Ambassador waited on Lord Hawkesbury, to know the cause of the embargo; which was explained to his satisfaction.

February 28.

The debate which took place in the House of Commons on Monday night, was perhaps the most important, taken altogether, which has occured in parliament for a series of years. That upon the much lamented indisposition of our beloved Sovereign, was pre eminently interesting.—Though the real malady which has withdrawn our excellent Monarch from the eyes of his people for the last month has been shrewdly guessed at, it remained for the minister to tear away the veil behind which love, and respect, and delicacy, had hitherto concealed it. Mr. Addington specifically explained the nature of the king's indisposition, when he told the house, that "upon the authority of his majesty's physicians, comparing his present situation with the situation of his majesty on two former occasions, they are unanimously of opinion that his majesty's illness will be of shorter duration." Here the minister expressly explains the nature of the king's malady.

France and Denmark.

The French ambassador at Copenhagen, lately made renewed demands of that cabinet, respecting the shutting of the Sound against British vessels, accompanied by a threat that if the Danish government declined doing so, France would assume to herself the execution of the measure. A courier was immediately dispatched to Petersburgh, and the Ambassador was informed, that his Danish majesty could not accede to the wishes of his court.

March 8.

We two or three days ago expressed an opinion that the plot discovered on the 16th ult. in Paris, was a plot contrived by Bonaparte, for the purpose of getting rid of a formidable rival, and a man who he was afraid to leave behind him, should it be necessary for him, for any length of time, to quit his capital. In this opinion we are upon reflection more and more confirmed. Many of the circumstances attending the supposed conspiracy which have been officially given to the world in the report of the minister of Justice, are upon the face of them falsehoods, and we have no doubt that all the documents which will be brought forward to substantiate the charges against Gen. Moreau, will turn out to be deliberate forgeries. Our first opinion is very considerably strengthened by the fact, in which, we believe, we are accurate when we state very positively, that Gen. Pichegru, the man, who, in the report of the aforesaid minister of justice is represented as having been pursued from house to house, has not lately been out of England, and we know that on Monday night last, he spent his evening at the York coffee-house, St. James's street, at that time probably not even dreaming of the deep laid plot in which the Corsican despot makes him take so active and important a part in the heart of Paris.

The Dutch papers say that the chief consul has been twice at the theatre since he has played off his precious plot, and has been received with great acclamations. This was precisely the catastrophe which he wished to produce.

Moreau, it is said, has been very free of his remarks on the consular government. He lately observed, that of the Tree of Liberty nothing was left but *Pecorce*. This pun, which implies either the bark or the Corsican, was, of course, not well relished at the Thuilleries, particularly as it was recommended by truth as well as by humour.

Bonaparte's observation in answer to the fawning congratulations of the legislative body, implying, that if the welfare of the country were concerned in the plot, the conspirators should have been tried before a military tribunal, and been executed the same night, is an unwary acknowledgment, and shews what sort of a trial it would have been, since condemnation and execution were to follow of course.

It is impossible to form any opinion relative to the affair in which Moreau has been arrested at Paris, but it is well known that Bonaparte viewed him with more jealousy than any other man in France. It is by no means improbable that the chief consul gradually removed all the troops who were likely to have espoused the cause of Moreau before he ventured to secure his person.

It would not be wonderful if the arrest of Moreau were to be the fore-runner of the tyrant's fall. The constituted authorities as they are called, felicitate the usurper on his escape, and promise to pledge their lives for his protection; but so they did with Robespierre a few hours before he was led away to the scaffold, when they exulted over his destruction.

TOULON FLEET.

Our Falmouth letter repeats the report of the French squadron having got out of Toulon, and it is added, that they had got into Carthagena. It is now said to consist of 14 ships of the line. We must still doubt the fact of its having made its escape till such intelligence reaches us through a more authentic channel.

INVASION.

Bonaparte is stated to have issued orders for accelerating all the preparations for the invasion of this country. General Dumas and rear-admiral Mongeon were on a visit of inspection to the different ports and dock yards of Belgium, with a view also to forward the equipments. The greater part of the gun-boats and transports at Flushing had put to sea with troops on board, but in consequence of a fog had returned into port.

ALGIERS.

The Dey has forced the British Consul to leave his territories; and though applied to by letter from Admiral Nelson, and threatened with a hostile visit from the British cruizers persists in his refusal to receive the Consul again.

Two persons, named Pilot and Lebourgenis, have been shot in France. They were charged with a design to assassinate the first consul.

In the German Empire, many things have been recently done to meliorate the condition of the people. In regard to commerce much more rational plans are adopted than have hitherto been.—The Elector of Baden has abolished the imposition of the Jew tax. The Convent of Fulda has been suppressed, and in it has been established a manufacture of wool. Commerce has not been forgotten at Hamburg, under all its embarrassments. On the 23d of January, was opened in that city, a superb room for the merchants, called Torsen Hall, by 700 subscribers. The room was constructed and decorated after the plans of M. Ramee, a French architect in the city. The profits from the visits paid to it are given to the poor.

PARIS, Feb. 9.

Addresses flow in from all quarters, congratulating the first consul on his escape.

After the report criminating Moreau, was read, the President expressed his regret that so brave and distinguished an officer, as general Moreau, should be implicated in a plot. The laws, he said, would decide his guilt or innocence.

In the opening of the session of the Tribunate, yesterday, Gen. MOREAU (brother of the general) interrupted the proceedings by a request to be heard.—He then said,

"You have heard the report made against MOREAU. I cannot see with