

## By the United States in Congress assembled, Wednesday, August 20, 1788

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**THE Committee, consisting of Mr. Clark, Mr. Dane, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Bingham, and Mr. Baldwin,** to whom was referred the report of the board of treasury respecting a requisition for the year 1788, having reported, "That in order to ascertain whether any or what sums in specie it may be necessary to require of the states the present year, they have taken a general view of the expenditures of every kind of the United States for several years past, and including an estimate for the present year, and have compared those expenditures with the provisions that have been made by Congress for discharging specie demands upon the union during the fame period: that on ascertaining the amount of the said expenditures from January 1, 1784, to January 1, 1788, the amount of the interest which accrued on the foreign debt previous to the year 1784; and the amount of the sums paid for services performed in the years 1782 and 1783, out of the requisition of 1784, they find that those expenditures, and the said interest and services of 1782 and 1783, and estimate, amount to the sums following, viz. DOLS. DOLS. Interest accrued on the Foreign Debt prior to 1784, 265,548 Foreign Interest which became due 1784, 1785, 1786, and 1787, 1,707,571.70 Foreign Interest which becomes due in 1788, 468,981.75 Whole amount of Foreign Interest to 1788, inclusive, 2,442,101.55 Parts of the PRINCIPAL of the FOREIGN DEBT due. Of the French Debt in 1787, 462,962.82 Ditto, ditto, 1788, 462,962.82 Installments of the Foreign Debt, 925,925.74

Interest and parts of the principal of the Foreign Debt which become due from the contracting thereof, to 1788 inclusive, 3,368,027.49 Amount of payments for the said services performed in 1782, and 1783, 230,680.33 Actual expenditures in the years 1784, 1785, 1786, and 1787, in the Civil, Military, Indian, Contingent, Invalid and

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Geographer's departments, 2,111,782.34 Estimate for the year 1788, 326,427 Total amount, 6,036,917.16 Having ascertained the expenditures aforesaid, the committee have found it necessary to enquire what parts of them have been actually paid, and they find these amount to 3,168,442.46 And that the parts of the expenditures aforesaid, remaining unpaid, are as follows: Foreign Interest to the year 1788, inclusive, 1,521,116.33 The principal aforesaid of the Foreign Debt, becoming due in 1787, and 1788, 925,925.74 Arrearages of expenditures in the years 1784, 1785, 1786, and 1787, in the departments aforesaid, 181,005.43 Parts of the estimate of the present year unpaid 240,427 2,868,474.60

The committee having ascertained the extent of the public expenditures and the amount of the unsatisfied demands which have heretofore arisen, and which arise the present year, against the union as aforesaid, proceeded to examine the extent of the provisions already made by Congress, and the parts thereof which may be applied to discharge the unsatisfied demands aforesaid, and they find that the

DOLLARS. Specie requisitions made since January 1, 1784, amount to 5,173,673.22 That the Foreign Loans contracted since January 1, 1784, amount to 1,600,000 Whole amount of provisions, 6,773,673.22 That of the said requisitions there is now due from the states, making a reasonable allowance for what they may have paid to Invalids, sums amounting to 3,292,594.7 Which sums may be applied to pay the unsatisfied demands before stated.

That though a considerable part of the loans before mentioned was applied to discharge debts of the late war, and 338,640 dollars thereof must be reserved for paying interest on the Dutch loans which will become due in the years 1789 and 1790, yet 71,093 dollars, the proceeds of the said loans, may be applied to pay the unsatisfied demands above stated; hence the provisions already made and unapplied are, DOLLARS The arrearages of specie requisitions, amounting to 3,292,594.7 Parts of the loans made in Holland, amounting to 71,093 Proceeds of Jones's captures, comprehended in the expenditures, &c. 20,772.55 3,384,459.62

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By this statement it appears that there is a surplus provision already made beyond the demands in specie, of the year 1788, and of the preceding years, of 854,625.2 dollars, including the provision for the Dutch Interest in 1789 and 1790; so that it will not be necessary to require any specie of the states the present year, beyond the arrearages of the part requisitions. As the part requisitions were calculated to the expenditures of the years in which they were made, and the Invalid pensions and some other expences were not included in the estimates, and as no requisition for specie was made last year, and none by the above statement appears to be necessary this, it may be proper to shew briefly how this happens.

As the Dutch Interest which will become due in the years 1789 and 1790, is already provided for by the late Dutch loans, and as the whole Foreign Interest, and parts of the principal of the foreign debt which become due the present year are already provided for, and as the respective states owe large arrearages of requisitions, and have large internal demands upon them as individual states to satisfy, and their means of paying them must soon be diminished considerably, the committee are of opinion, that it is not advisable to require the respective states to make provision for paying the Interest, and such parts of the Principal of the Foreign Debt, as will not become due till some time in the year 1789: In this case, the specie demands upon the United States for the present and preceding years, amount to 2,868,474.60 to be discharged by surplus provisions of Foreign Loans, and preceding requisitions, which, as before stated, amount to 3,363,687. 7.

Not to particularize several instances in which the estimates have in no great degree exceeded the actual expenditures, the surplus provisions will be principally found under the few following heads: In the requisition for the year 1784, 1,000,000 of dollars were provided for the services of 1782 and 1783—769,320 dollars of which were not applied to those objects; in the same requisition, 161,461.57 dollars were required and not appropriated, and in the requisition of 1786, there was a surplus called for by mistake of 333,111, and a large surplus has arisen in the past requisitions by applying a considerable

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part of the late Dutch loans to paying foreign interests, &c. to pay which, appropriations in those requisitions had been made—past appropriations have also been eased considerably by other means. It is to be observed that the loans made by the United States in Holland, in the years 1787 and 1788, amount when filled, to 800,000 dollars—that provision is made in the past requisitions of Congress for sinking the principal of the foreign debt, 925,925.74 dollars, so that when the states shall seasonably pay up the arrears of past requisitions, Congress will be enabled to lessen the foreign debt, notwithstanding the said loans of 1787 and 1788—to pay the interest due on the foreign debt to the year 1788, inclusive—to pay the current expences of the federal government of the present and preceding years, and to be provided in some measures for the demands of the year 1789.

Under these circumstances the committee are of opinion, that the monies lately borrowed in Holland be applied solely to discharging the Dutch interest, and certain demands arising against the United States in Europe; that an adequate sum of the arrears due of the past requisitions be appropriated for the services of the present year, and that one year's interest on the domestic debt be called for and made payable in indents;”—Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That of the arrearages due on the requisitions of 1784, 1785 and 1786, be and there is hereby appropriated for the services of the present year, the sum of three hundred and twenty six thousand, four hundred and twenty-seven dollars, and for the following purposes, to wit, DOLLARS. For the Civil department, 108,587.60 Military department, 119,839.30 Surveys of Western Lands, 4,000 Indian Treaties, 20,000 Invalid Pensions, 58,000 Contingencies, 16,000 326,427

*Resolved*, That the states be and they are hereby required to pay into the Treasury of the United States on or before the first of July next, the sum of one million, six hundred and eighty-six thousand, five hundred and forty-one dollars, and twelve ninetieths of a dollar, being the amount of one year's Interest on the Domestic Debt of the United States; and that the quotas of the several states of the aforesaid sum, be as follows, to wit: DOLLARS.

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New-Hampshire 59,258 Massachusetts, 252,339.63 Rhode-Island, 36,326.18 Connecticut, 148,516.18 New-York, 144,185.57 New-Jersey, 93,728.36 Pennsylvania, 230,698.18 Delaware, 25,238.72 Maryland, 159,096.81 Virginia, 288,391.18 North-Carolina, 122,564.54 South-Carolina, 108,160.54 Georgia, 18,036.63 1,686,541.12.

*Resolved*, That the several states be allowed to discharge their respective quotas of the said sum by Indents for Interest on Loan-office Certificates, and upon other certificates of the liquidated Debts of the United States, *in such manner as they judge most expedient*, and to ascertain the evidence of Interest due on Loan-office Certificates, the holders thereof respectively shall be at liberty to carry them to the office from which they issued; and the holders of other Certificates of liquidated debts of the United States, to carry the same to the Loan-officer of that state wherein they are inhabitants, or if foreigners, to any Loan-office within the United States, and to have the interest thereon settled and certified to the last day of the year 1787.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing requisition for 1,686,541.12 dollars, when paid, shall be passed to the credit of the states respectively, on the terms prescribed by the resolve of Congress of the 6th day of October, 1779.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Treasury furnish the several Loan-officers with Indents to be issued for interest as aforesaid; and also with such checks and instructions as they from time to time shall judge necessary, to prevent counterfeit certificates of debts from obtaining a settlement of Interest, and to detect counterfeit evidence of Interest, and thereby to avoid receiving them in discharge of taxes; which Indents of Interest being parted with by the holder of the Principal, shall be deemed evidence that he has received satisfaction for the same, and shall be receivable from any state in the union, whether issued in such state or any other state.

*Resolved*, That the state paying such Indents of Interest into the Treasury of the United States, shall have credit for the same, and such payment shall be considered as a

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discharge of Interest on the Domestic Debt, in the proportion that each state avails itself of the said Indents of Interest; but no state shall have a right to pay more than its quota, as specified in the existing requisitions of Congress, in the said Indents of Interest.

*Resolved*, That the Board of Treasury be, and they are hereby directed to transmit to each state an account of their respective arrears on requisitions in Specie and Indents, and to state to them the necessity there is of their making payments of their arrears in Specie, to enable Congress to discharge the current expences of the Federal Government, and the Interest, and parts of the Principal of the Foreign Debt, which are become due, and remain unpaid.

Requisition for 1788