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French Constitution

The following translation has been carefully compared with the original and may be considered as correct.

[Concluded.]

CHAP. X.

FINANCE.

Public Contributions.

Art. I. The public contributions are established and fixed every year by the legislative body.

They may not extend beyond that year, if they are not expressly renewed.

The proprietors of the funds are taxed on the amount of their income.

Those who are not holders in the funds and who by their industry are in a situation to contribute to the public expenses, pay a personal contribution.

III. The legislative body may establish such kind of contribution as it shall judge necessary; but it cannot altogether suppress the real nor the personal contribution.

IV. Every individual who, not being in the situation provided for by articles V and VI, of Chapter II, of the Constitution, has not been comprised in the list of personal contributions, has the right of presenting himself before the municipal administration to be there inscribed; the administration inscribes his name, if there be cause for so doing, and determines the amount to which that citizen shall be taxed.

V. The contributions of every kind are distributed amongst all the contributors according to their faculties.

VI. The executive directory directs and superintends the collection and the fulfilment of the contributions, and gives that end, all the necessary orders.

VII. The detailed accounts of the execution of the agents general of execution are published at the commencement of each year.

It shall contain likewise the state of the different contributions, and of all the public revenues.

VIII. The statements of those receipts and expenditures are distinguished according to their nature; they state the sums received and expended year by year each part of the general administration.

X. Accounts of the particular expenses of the departments and relative to the tribunals, to the administrations, to the professors of the sciences, to all public works and establishments, are, in like manner, to be made public.

XI. The administrations of department and the municipalities shall not have power to establish any public contribution, nor to make any appropriation over and above the sums fixed by the legislative body or to agitate or permit, with a view thereto authorized by it, any subscription at the expense of the citizens of the department, commune, or canton.

National Treasury and Accounts.

Art. I. There are five commissioners of national treasury chosen as members of the executive council by the legislative body in the same terms.

II. The duration of their functions is five years; one of them is re-elected every year.

III. The commissioners of the treasury are charged with the supervision of the receipt of all the national debts.

They order the payment of all public debts.

To keep an account of each of these receipts and expenditures, with all the receipts and payments which may be accounted with the national treasury.

To maintain with the treasury of each department, a correspondence respecting the exact and regular receipt of the funds.

XIV. They may pay nothing, under pain of trepass, but in virtue of a decree of a decree of the legislative corps and when the funds decreed by it agree with each object.

2d. Of a decree of the legislative corps and when the funds decreed by it agree with each object.

3d. Of a decision of the directory.

XV. Neither can they under the pain of trepass, effect any payment, if the warrant signed by the agent general of execution whom that species of expense may concern, does not mention the date as well as the decision of the executive directory, as of the decree of the legislative body which authorized the payment.

XVI. There shall be five commissioners of national accounts appointed at the same time, and in the same manner with the commissioners of the treasury.

XVII. They are also appointed for five years, one of which is renewable each year.

XVIII. The commissioners of accounts shall cause to be rendered at the periods fixed by law, statements of the several accounts supported by vouchers, and shall pursue the settling and judging of those accounts.

XIX. In case of death, disqualification, or dissolution of one of the commissioners of accounts or of the treasury, his successor is appointed by the legislative body.

The new member is elected only for the residue of the time of his predecessor, but if that time does not exceed six months he that is thus elected shall live five years and an half.

XX. The legislative body forms every year a list of two hundred jurors, for auditing and judging accounts.

XXI. The commissioners of accounts, from from this list a jury of 21 citizens, of which the party accountable shall have a right to challenge 7; and the executive directory 7 others.

XXII. If the challenges do not reduce the number of jurors to seven, the jurors not challenged, shall reduce themselves to that number by lot.

XXIII. One of the commissioners of accounts shall present the papers to the jury, he will make all those observations that are proper, and will give the necessary orders for putting it into a state to produce his decision.

CHAP. XI.

Exterior Relations.

Art. I. The French republic does not take arms but to maintain its liberty, preservation of its territory, the or defence of its allies.

II. War cannot be declared but by a decree of the legislative body, on the formal and necessary proposition of the executive directory.

III. The two legislative com. are enuncur, in the ordinary forms, in the decree by which war is declared.

IV. In case of hostilities impending or commenced, or threats of preparations for war against the French republic, the executive directory is bound to declare, for the defence of the state the means at its disposition, under charge of informing the legislative body without delay.

They may also want out in that case, the magazines of arms and the new legislative decrees which circumstances shall require.

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for point of view of the executive directory, and to be signed by the president of the directory, and to be countersigned by the president of the directory, and to be countersigned by the president of the directory.

It is authorized to those persons who are appointed to those positions, as well as to those who are appointed to those positions, as well as to those who are appointed to those positions.

VII. It belongs to the executive power to conclude, and to sign, or cause to be signed, with foreign powers, all treaties of peace, of alliance, of commerce, of neutrality, of consular, and of other agreements necessary to the good of the state. Their treaties and agreements shall be negotiated in the name of the French republic by the diplomatic agents appointed by the executive directory, and charged with their functions.

VIII. In the case where a treaty covers secret articles, the arrangement of these articles cannot affect the public articles.

IX. Treaties are not binding till after having been examined and ratified by the legislative body; nevertheless secret conditions receive a provisional execution the moment they are concluded by the executive directory.

X. Neither of the legislative councils deliberate on war, or peace but in general committee.

XI. Foreigners established or not in France; succeed their parents, foreigners, or French; they may contract, acquire, and receive, estates situated in France; and their disposal of the same shall be regulated by all the laws which shall be made on that subject.

CHAP. XII.

Revision of the Constitution.

Art. I. When experience shall point out the inconvenience of any articles of the constitution, the council of ancients then propose the revision.

II. The proposition of the council of ancients in this case is submitted to the ratification of the council of five hundred.

III. When, in space of six successive years, the proposition of the council of ancients ratified by the council of five hundred, has been made at three epochs, epochs two years distant from each other, at least, an assembly of revision is constituted.

IV. This assembly is formed of two members from each department all elected in the same manner as the members of the legislative body, and meeting under the same conditions as those of the council of ancients.

V. The council of ancients designates for the meeting of the assembly of revision, a place distant twenty myriamètres (about six leagues) at least, from the legislative body.

VI. The assembly of revision has the right to change the place of its residence, observing the distance prescribed in the preceding article.

VII. The assembly of revision cannot exercise any legislative or governmental functions—they possess themselves to the revision of the constitutional laws.

VIII. All the authorities continue to exercise their functions till the changes proposed by the assembly of revision, have been accepted by the people, and until the new authorities have been put into action.

IX. The members of the assembly of revision deliberate in common.

X. Those citizens who are members of the legislative body at the time of convoking the assembly of revision, cannot be elected members of that assembly.

XI. The assembly of revision shall deliberate on the place where they have agreed to meet.

XII. The members of the assembly of revision deliberate in common.

XIII. No citizen can renounce, in whole or in part, the compensation to which he is entitled by law, on account of his public functions.

XIV. No power constituted in the constitution, has the right to suspend the execution of any part of the laws which shall be passed by the assembly of revision.

The members of the assembly of revision cannot be suspended, nor removed at any time, nor what they have done be annulled, in consequence of their functions.

During the course of their functions, they cannot be accused, or brought in arrest, except by a decision of the same members of the assembly of revision.

CHAP. Last

Art. I. There does not exist among the citizens any distinction of rank that of public functionaries, and relative to the exercise of their functions, and so forth.

II. The law recognizes no religious law, nor any other engagement contrary to the natural rights of man.

III. No one can be hindered from speaking, writing, printing, or publishing his thoughts, on all subjects, without being held responsible.

IV. No one can be hindered from exercising his religious worship, which has chosen, nor be compelled to contribute to the support of that which he does not adopt.

V. There is no birth, privilege, freedom, except a common liberty, the liberty of commerce, and the exercise of industry, and the arts of every description.

Every prohibitory law of this kind, when circumstances render it necessary, either to the individual or to the community, shall be temporary, unless formally renewed.

VI. The citizens have the liberty to assemble peaceably and without arms; they are then under the superior surveillance of the police; and cannot form corporations, nor associations contrary to public order.

VII. No assembly of citizens can form itself into a popular society.

No particular society can occupy itself on political questions, nor correspond with any other; nor affiliate itself—nor hold public meetings nor compose small societies and assemblies distinguished one from another, nor impose conditions of admission, nor eligibility, nor arrogate the rights of exclusion; nor cause their members to wear any external sign of their association.

VIII. The citizens cannot exercise their political rights but in the primary assemblies, or communes.

IX. All the citizens are free to address to the public authorities their petitions, but they ought to be individual; no association may present one collectively, except constituted authorities, and solemnly for an object connected with the constitution.

X. The constitution guarantees inviolability of property; or a just indemnification where the public use has justly taken place; requires that it should be inscribed.

XI. No one can wear an external mark to distinguish him from the other citizens, and which recalls his former functions or services rendered.

XII. The members of the legislative body and all the public functionaries, carry in the exercise of their functions, the sign of the authority, with which they are vested; the law will determine the form of it.

XIII. No citizen can renounce, in whole or in part, the compensation to which he is entitled by law, on account of his public functions.

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XXV. The French people... the executive directory the administrators and judges... to mothers, to the education of young citizens...

XVI. The French people... DONE, in the Committee of Eleven, the 4th Messidor, 3d year of the Republic.

From the COVINTAGE MIRROR

A Publication in the Columbian Mirror of the 25th ult. signed 'A Federalist' under pretence of discussing a certain act of a public servant...

How that he feels an inferior zeal for the rights of his fellow citizens, not that he shrinks from an enquiry into his conduct as a servant of the public...

The words of the constitution which are said to give to each branch of the legislature an unlimited power of concealing public transactions...

The power of Congress to impose secrecy and blame upon its members, is certainly not found in this place to which we have been so confidently referred.

Deliberations of the legislature upon the propriety of entering into a war...

the mode of conducting it; certain articles of treaties which by the contracting powers are stipulated to be kept secret...

The exception in the clause under consideration can only have relation to measures of the kind above stated...

It would be staining the constitution of this clause still further, to say, that it authorizes either house to forbid its members to speak...

Had the same majority of the Senate which passed a vote for shutting their doors and defeated various attempts afterwards made to get them open...

Should a treaty contain stipulations for altering the Government, and subverting the liberties of the people...

The power of Congress to impose secrecy and blame upon its members, is certainly not found in this place to which we have been so confidently referred.

It may perhaps be supposed to be given in the preceding clause, which says, that 'each House may determine the rules of its proceedings'...

ould admit, it may be plausibly contended, that in determining the rules of its proceedings, either house may decide, that the proceedings on any particular subject shall be conducted in secrecy...

A particular justification of the act of publishing the British treaty is not intended, of law the Public will judge and pronounce its condemnation...

On the next day I drew up, and forwarded to the commanding officers of regiments orders for raising the two detachments...

The commanding officers of regiments apportion the quotas thereof due from their several regiments among the companies composing them...

I have not the vanity to suppose that the Public can feel any particular interest in what concerns my character...

On the 3d day of September, 1794, I received two packets containing orders to raise the different quotas required from the sixth Brigade...

I last evening received fondry dispatches from the Major General of the Division, they embrace so many details...

used on the particular date for these regiments to assemble in battalions, for the purpose of completing, by draft, what voluntary enrollment may have been supplied...

On the 4th of September I wrote to the Lieut. Colonel of the brigade as follows, viz.

The governor of the Commonwealth having directed a second detachment of Militia, amounting to 3000 Infantry...

The commanding officer hopes for the honor of the brigade, that their quotas will be furnished by voluntary enrollment...

The despatch necessary to be used would not admit of my personal attendance throughout the brigade...

Each County furnished a troop of militia, when but one was called for from the brigade, which rendered the representation more than sufficient...

The number of Infantry from the 5th Brigade rank and file.

from whence I drew up the amount of those who wished to serve, that I tried every means to persuade and animate both officers and men to turn out in support of the law...

My conduct squared with these professions, and I exerted every means in my power to promote the service...

It is true that from the great prevalence of the autumnal fevers at that time, from a considerable part of the Loudoun militia consisting of persons religiously scrupulous of bearing arms...

Whether in the retired moments of confidential friendship, the untimely freedom of social converse, or the public discharge of my official functions...

The 4th of Sept. was the earliest day I could enter on the business, the 18th I issued marching orders, and on the 26th of the same month the detachment was formed and marched forward...

Required, in actual service.

Each County furnished a troop of militia, when but one was called for from the brigade, which rendered the representation more than sufficient...

ways present at the public meetings attended; to their exertions on the occasion the public are much indebted...

To whom what further respect is due to this wretched attack upon my character; it remains only to announce to the public the author.

Being called on by General Mason to say, whether he neglected his duty in raising the militia ordered from his brigade to serve against the insurgents...

I do certify, that in consequence of my letter, dated the 4th of September, '94, I assembled the militia of my regiment in battalions...

DEAR SIR, The following summary of your address to the different battalions of my regiment may serve as a complete answer to the several interrogatories in the first paragraph of your letter to me...

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The Town and Dumfries, will be offered On Thursday Evening, October 31st, with a Favourite Play, Farce, &c.

The Square of Lots, at present occupied by Major Henderson's Gunpowder, will be sold separately from the vacant grounds...

Five Dollars REWARD, SRAYED or STOLEN, A Bay HORSE, About thirteen hands and a half high, ten years old...

N O T I C E, THE PARTNERSHIP OF MANSFIELD & M'CREERY, Is this day dissolved, by mutual consent.

T O B E S O L D, At the Vendue Store opposite Mr. Williams's Tavern, Next Monday the 5th Instant, A Variety of Articles, For Cash or Country produce.

Charles and Jesse Ewell, At their store opposite the Dumfries Warehouse have lately received a new supply of GOODS suitable for the next season...

THE evident advantages which Agriculture and Commerce, must receive, from the making good the navigation to the Town of Dumfries...

WAS Stolen from the subscriber about ten days ago, A HOUND P U P P Y, About six Months old, and well known Black & White...

WILLOUGHBY TESTS, October 1, 1795.

The Town and Dumfries, will be offered On Thursday Evening, October 31st, with a Favourite Play, Farce, &c.

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