

Official Documents.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

We find the following abstract of the report of the Secretary of the navy in a Philadelphia paper.

It gives a succinct and clear statement of the employment of the navy, during the last year, and under this head, recommends the increasing of the permanent force in commission by a ship of the line in addition to the usual Mediterranean squadron, and by another vessel of force always in commission, and ready for sea, to be employed on our own coast ordinarily, and in any special service elsewhere which emergencies may demand. It also strongly urges the importance of placing within the direction of the Executive the means of protecting our commerce with India and China.

The two dry docks are nearly finished, and will be ready for the reception of large vessels on the 4th of July next—he speaks highly of the workmanship and masonry of them as well as their general utility. An appropriation for two heavy steam batteries is also recommended. After reporting in general terms the recommendation of his predecessor of a Naval Academy, &c. he insists, should that not be immediately carried into effect, on the importance of increasing the means of instruction for Midshipmen, &c. now in use in the service, both by better pay and increased numbers of teachers and the purchase of books. He thinks it important that the pay of sailing masters, gunners and riggers should be raised. Rope walks in the yards are strongly recommended. Many important details in relation to the Navy are then stated, and he concludes by saying that he has prepared a general revision of the rules of the Navy, both in its purely naval and fiscal and civil concerns, which, after receiving the President's sanction, will be submitted to Congress.

In the course of the communication, he refers to the detailed plan presented with it for the re-organization of the marine corps, making it a purely naval corps in all respects, and stripping it of its present amphibious character.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

This is a lengthy, and we think, a satisfactory Document. The Secretary recommends that the plan of organization of the War Department, by which the objects of public concern are divided into different classes and assigned to different officers, upon executive authority merely, be regulated by legislative enactment, which, he thinks, would tend much to increase the responsibility and efficiency of the Department.

The subject of desertion is next alluded to, and the Secretary has to regret the frequency of its occurrence. The number of desertions in 1830, was 1251, and in 1831, they are estimated at 1450. The pecuniary loss arising from this cause is stated to be 118,320 dollars. To obviate this condition of things, the Secretary recommends the retention of a part of the bounty and pay, to form a fund for the soldier when discharged—to reduce the term of service, and increase the pay of the rank and file of the army.

The evils of intemperance are particularly alluded to in the report—72,337 gallons of whiskey were issued in the year 1830.—The report recommends that liquor be entirely withheld from the soldiers, and that in lieu thereof, a liberal compensation be allowed.

The appointment of chaplains at military stations is recommended, and the Military Academy at West Point favorably spoken of. It is recommended that an appropriation be made for the repairs of the Cumberland road, and that it then be surrendered to the states through which it passes, on condition that they will keep it in repair.

A Topographical Survey of our coasts, harbors, lakes and rivers, is advised. The expenditures of the Ordnance Department exceeds \$900,000 annually; and the value of the accumulated property is twelve and a half millions. The number of muskets in service is 450,000, and the annual demand equal to 18,300. The number manufactured at the public armories is 26,000, and at private works 11,000 at an average cost of 12 dollars each.

The establishment of a U. States Army for the fabrication of cannon, is strongly recommended to the consideration of Congress. An increase in the number and pay of the Medical Corps is suggested as highly necessary.

More than half the report is occupied in a consideration of our relations with the Indians. From a full view of the subject, Mr. Cass is persuaded that they should be advised to remove to the lands appropriated to them in the West. If they remain, he thinks their fate is written in the annals of their race—if they remove, we may yet hope to see them renovated in character and condition by our example and instruction, and by their own exertions.

He recommends that a liberal provision be made for their emigration, and suggests some fundamental principles for our adoption on the basis of our intercourse with them. As a solemn declaration that the country is theirs and their descendants as long as they choose to occupy it—a corresponding determination not to encroach on their territory, and an effort to satisfy them of our sincerity. A determination to ex-

clude, by a system of surveillance upon the borders, all ardent spirits from their country—the suppression, by force, of all attempts at hostility among themselves—an encouragement to the severality of property and suitable security of the same—assistance in Agriculture—leaving them in the enjoyment of their own peculiar institutions, so far as compatible with their own safety and with the great objects of improvement—the eventual employment of competent instructors. Arrangements have been made with several of the Ohio Tribes for the cession of their reservations, and for their emigration to the West.—Lancaster Herald.

CONGRESS.

Twenty-second Congress—First Session. TUESDAY, Dec. 20. In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Chambers, on leave, introduced a bill to provide for the payment to the States therein named, of interest for advances made by them to the U. States during the last war, which was read twice and referred. The election of officers of the Senate having been gone into, in pursuance of the resolution of the 13th instant, Walter Lowry, was re-elected Secretary, having received 40 out of 41 votes; and Mountjoy Bayley was re-elected Sergeant-at-arms and Door-keeper, having received 34 of 36 votes. Mr. Sackford was elected assistant Door-keeper on the sixth ballot; and the Rev. Mr. Durbin was elected Chaplain on the second ballot.

In the House of Representatives, among the petitions and memorials presented, was one of the latter from the State of Virginia, on the subject of unfunded claims of that State upon the U. States, accruing from the war of the Revolution, which was presented by the Speaker, on the motion of Mr. Barbour, referred to a select committee of seven. Mr. Mercer presented a petition from the President and Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, praying for an amendment of their charter, and for further aid in prosecuting that work. Mr. Arnold presented a petition for the reduction of postage on newspapers, and for other purposes connected with the Post Office Department. Mr. Sevier submitted a memorial of the General Assembly of Arkansas, on the subject of certain claims to land, which he strenuously argued should be referred to a select committee; it was, however, ultimately referred to the committee on the Judiciary. Mr. Whittlesey, of Ohio, reported 38 private bills from the committee claims, which were read twice and committed to a Committee of the Whole House. Mr. Doddridge, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported on the petitions of certain citizens of Pennsylvania, on the subject of slavery in the District, requesting to be discharged from a further consideration of that part of it which relates to the abolition of slavery. The House agreed to the report and resolution, and the Committee was accordingly discharged. A variety of resolutions were afterwards introduced; the most important of which was one by Mr. Dearborn instructing the committee of Ways & Means, to enquire into the expediency of exempting from duty, tea, coffee, wines, pepper, spice, indigo, and wool, under certain limitations, (when the current market price of such wool shall not exceed, in the United States, twelve cents per pound.) Mr. Dearborn subsequently modified his resolution by changing the reference to the committee on Manufactures; a debate ensued, in the course of which Mr. Hoffman, Mr. Dearborn, Mr. McDuffie, Mr. Lewis Condict, Mr. Cambreleng, Mr. Everett, of Mass., Mr. Adams and Mr. Wayne, addressed the House. The discussion was arrested by the expiration of the hour, when Mr. Bates, of Mass., had obtained possession of the floor. The Speaker presented a communication from the Secretary of State, on the subject of the fifth census, which was referred to the Census Committee, and at 3 o'clock, on motion of Mr. Davis of Mass., the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21. In the Senate, yesterday, the report of the committee on Finance, relative to a further reduction of the duty on Tea, was discussed at some length by Messrs. Webster, Smith, Clay, Hayne and Chambers. It was finally laid on the table. The resolutions submitted on Monday by Messrs. King and Robbins, were adopted. Mr. Benton reported a bill providing for equipping and mounting a portion of the army of the U. States. Mr. Smith reported a bill providing for the armament of certain fortifications. Mr. Wilkins reported a bill to provide for the satisfaction of the claims of American citizens for spoiliations committed by the French prior to 1800. It was referred to a select committee consisting of Messrs. Wilkins, Webster, Chambers, Dudley and Brown.

In the House of Representatives, a memorial was presented for a Breakwater on Lake Champlain, and a resolution was offered for the creation of a harbor on Block Island; both of which, after some debate, were referred to the Committee on Internal Improvements. The resolution submitted on Monday, by Mr. Dearborn, for the exemption from duty of Tea, Coffee, Wines, Spices, Indigo, &c. was withdrawn by the mover. Mr. McDuffie, from the committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill explanatory of the act reducing the duty on Tea, Coffee and Cocoa, which was referred to the committee of the Whole. A bill for the regulation of the pay, emoluments, and allowances of the Officers of the Army, was reported from the committee on Military Affairs, and referred to the committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

THURSDAY, Dec. 22. In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Poindexter submitted a resolution, directing the Committee on Finance to enquire into the expediency, of fixing a rate of duties on foreign

imports, not exceeding twenty per cent. ad valorem, on any one article imported into the United States, nor lower than ten per cent. ad valorem, so as to produce a net revenue of \$15,000,000 annually. Mr. White, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported a bill, with a view to the extinguishment of Indian title to land in the State of Indiana, which was ordered to a second reading. The bill to provide for the armament of certain fortifications, and the bill to provide for equipping and mounting a portion of the Army of the United States, were read a second time, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. Some time was spent in the consideration of Executive business; after which, the Senate adjourned to this day, 12 o'clock.

FRIDAY, Dec. 23. In the House of Representatives a great number of resolutions were offered, adopted and referred; among which was a resolution by Mr. Carson, instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia to enquire into the expediency of allowing to the District of Columbia a Delegate in Congress.

In the Senate, yesterday, the resolutions offered by Mr. Holmes, calling on the President of the United States for information in relation to the trade to the British West India colonies &c., were adopted. The bill to provide for the extinguishment of Indian title to land in the State of Indiana, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. Mr. Benton gave notice that he would, to-day, ask for leave to introduce a bill to reduce the price of Public Lands. Some time was spent in the consideration of Executive business. When the doors were opened, the Senate adjourned to this day, 12 o'clock.

In the House of Representatives, a petition was presented, by Mr. Bates, from citizens of Massachusetts, praying the abolition of Slavery and the Slave Trade within the District of Columbia. Many resolutions were offered and adopted; among which were the following: by Mr. Bouldin, for an inquiry into the comparative cost of various articles of merchandise in this country, and in those from which they are usually imported—having particular reference to woollen goods, of the various qualities—by Mr. Drayton, instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to enquire into the expediency of making compensation to American citizens, for losses sustained by French spoiliations, committed prior to September 1800—by Mr. Blair, of Tennessee, for appropriating the proceeds of the sales of the public lands among the several States and Territories, for the purposes of Internal Improvement and Education—and by Mr. Doddridge, for an enquiry into the expediency of the erection of a Bridge across the Ohio, at Wheeling. Bills were reported for the establishment of an Assay Office in the gold region of the Southern States, and for making further provision for the relief of distressed American seamen in foreign countries. Many private bills were acted on in the Committee of the Whole.

SATURDAY, Dec. 24. In the Senate, yesterday, petitions were presented by Messrs. Benton, Buckner, and Johnston. The bill to enable the President to extinguish the Indian titles to lands in Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan, and the bill confirming to Joshua Kennedy a tract of land in the city of Mobile, were severally read the third time, and passed. Mr. Benton gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill to reduce the price of public lands. The Senate adjourned over to Tuesday next.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, after the usual presentation of petitions a variety of bills were reported and acted upon. Among them was one introduced by Mr. Carson, from the Committee on Naval Affairs; to compensate Mrs. Susan Decatur, the widow of the late Commodore Decatur, for the services rendered by her husband in the destruction of the frigate Philadelphia at Tripoli. It was read twice and committed. Mr. McDuffie, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported the General Appropriation Bill for 1832; which was read a first and a second time, and referred to a committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. Nearly thirty private bills were passed, and a large number were forwarded through a committee of the Whole: At 3 o'clock, the House adjourned till Tuesday next.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

Session of 1831-32.

SATURDAY, Dec. 17. In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Boyd, offered the following resolution, which was read and laid on the table:—

Resolved, That the Judiciary committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of bringing in a bill, prohibiting the public execution of criminals, capitally convicted and sentenced to death, and to provide for their execution within the prison walls.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. McCullough presented a petition for a renewal of the Charter of the Chambersburg Bank. Mr. Rankin presented a petition for the creation of Lewisburg, in York County into a Borough.

Mr. McCullough gave notice that he would on Monday next ask leave to bring in a bill entitled, a supplement to an act incorporating the borough of Waynesburg, and changing the name thereof to Waynesborough.

Mr. Peltz submitted a resolution, which was laid on the table, as follows:—

Whereas, An act assessing a tax upon personal property, passed, at the last session of the legislature, has been complained of as inquisitorial in some of its features, and vexatious to the citizens. Therefore,

Resolved, That the committee of ways and means be directed to inquire what alterations are necessary in said law, and whether some other mode of assessing and col-

lecting personal tax cannot be resorted to, to produce the same amount of revenue.

Mr. Burrows submitted a resolution, which was laid on the table, as follows:—

Resolved, That the committee of ways and means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for a general State valuation of all property made taxable by the act, entitled an act to increase the county rates and levies for the use of the commonwealth, passed the 25th day of March, 1831, so that a uniform standard may be established by which such property shall be assessed according to its fair but full value.

Mr. Beaver submitted a resolution, which was adopted, as follows:—

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary system be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making such alterations in the laws regulating the general elections within this commonwealth, as will make it more convenient for naturalized citizens to prove their right to vote at the general elections of this commonwealth, than by producing their certificates of naturalization.

Mr. Vansant submitted a resolution, which was laid on the table, as follows:—

Whereas, the States of Virginia and Maryland are about to pass some penal enactments for the purpose of expelling their free black population from their respective States, amounting to the number of about 123,000, whereby the adjoining States without some counteracting provision, by law, must be overrun by an influx of ignorant, indolent and depraved population, most dangerous to the peace, rights and liberties of the citizens, and tending to undermine the fundamental principles of the Republic. Therefore,

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary system be instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law to protect the good citizens of this commonwealth against the evils arising from the emigration of free blacks from other States into Pennsylvania.

On motion of Mr. Valentine,

Resolved, That the committee on inland navigation and internal improvement be authorized, if deemed expedient, to make a selection from the documents accompanying the report of the canal commissioners, of such as ought to be printed upon the Journals of the House.

Mr. Ramsey made an unfavorable report, on the petition of Mary North, which was agreed to.

Mr. Patterson, of Washington, reported, "A supplement to an act entitled 'an act to increase the county rates and levies, for the use of the commonwealth, passed the 25th day of March, 1831.'"

Mr. Rankin reported "An act to incorporate the York and Maryland line rail road company."

MONDAY, Dec. 19. In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Boyd's resolution relative to the execution of criminals capitally convicted and sentenced to death, within the prison walls, was considered, and adopted.

In the House, to-day, the reading of the report from the Commissioners of the Internal Improvement Fund, appears to have been the only business transacted, excepting the election of Bank Directors. Michael E. Israel and George N. Baker, were elected Directors of the Bank of Pennsylvania; Edwin N. Bridges and Abraham Okie, of the Philadelphia Bank, and John Forney for the Columbia Bridge Company.

TUESDAY, Dec. 20. This morning, in the Senate, the resolution from the House of Representatives, for the adjournment of the legislature, on Friday next, to meet again on the 3d of January, was agreed to, Yeas 18—Nays 12. The following gentlemen were elected by the Senate, directors on the part of the state, to the Bank of Pennsylvania, William J. Leiper, James Gowen; for the Philadelphia Bank, Lewis Ryan, John B. Frey; and for the Columbia Bridge Company, Robert Boyd.

Home Industry.

It is estimated that the capital now invested in the various manufacturing establishments in the U. States, amounts to \$250,000,000. The cotton-mills consume one-fifth of the entire cotton crop of the South, and New England consumes, annually, one million barrels Southern flour. Suppose we had "Free Trade"—allowing England, France and the whole world, to enter our markets with their goods, free of duty—a single year would see the wreck of our own workshops, and the depopulation of our Lowells, Dovers, and Pawtuckets. And suppose that the two hundred million and fifty million dollars should be vested in the cultivation of cotton and flour, how would the account then stand with the present cotton planter, who is so loud in denouncing the Tariff? What would be the price of his favorite staple, with the market in New England wholly cut off, and the supply doubled, if not trebled? He could sell but little, and that little would be extremely low. We have not a doubt, that were the present Tariff repealed, and foreigners admitted into our ports cost free, the effect would inevitably be such, that, within a few years, the cotton planter would be loudest in importunities for its re-enactment. He would feel the necessity of a proper division of labor, and would be convinced that an excessive over-production of cotton rendered the article nearly valueless. And so with the grower of flour. Were the production of that article doubled or trebled, and the demand for it diminished, the cultivator, from the necessary depression of its price, would not be content with his fate, though in the full enjoyment of the exalted blessings of "Free Trade!"—Vermont Courier.

It is stated that in the town of Bristol, Conn. which contains a population less than two thousand, thirty thousand clocks of dif-

ferent kinds have been made within the last year, averaging at least eight dollars each; at which rate the manufacture of clocks in that small town brings an annual income of \$240,000. Bristol contains two large factories for making brass clocks, in which about 800 hands are constantly employed. Between thirty and forty dwelling-houses, and one house for public worship, have been erected this year, and another house for worship will soon be finished. The whole town is said to have the appearance of much thrift and industry. So much for Connecticut (wooden) clocks.

When Mr. Jay made his treaty with England in 1793, cotton was not even mentioned in it as an article of American production. In the course of 30 years, that is in 1824, the growth of cotton was 550,000 bales. In the present year the crop is 1,038,847 bales! worth, at an average, of 300lbs. to the bale, and at 8 cents per-pound, twenty-five million of dollars! Of this quantity, the port of New Orleans alone exported four hundred and twenty-six thousand four hundred and eighty-five bales.

Various Matters.

Information Wanted of Samuel Brookman, who removed from Cumberland county, Pa. into the western part of New York, about 12 or 14 years ago, and if living, his sister Catharine Patten, aged about 48 years, and Phebe Ann, her daughter, arrived in this town on Friday last, having travelled from New River, Botetourt county, Va. in search of said Samuel Brookman, and they are now here in ill health, entire strangers to all, and utterly destitute of any means of support. If this should meet the eye of Mr. Brookman, or any person acquainted with him, by communicating his present residence they will give relief to these broken hearted and suffering females. Buffalo, N. Y. Dec. 12, 1831.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—We last week took a cursory view of the message and pointed out a few of the many objections to which it is liable.—The egotism which prevades it and the arrogance in laying claim to merit for what is the necessary effect of a system with whose formation the present executive had nothing to do, which is one of the most prominent features of the message, cannot do otherwise, than impress the reader with feelings unfavorable to the source from which it emanated. Where the iteration of I and My does not excite contempt it certainly must elicit a laugh. It forcibly reminds one of the anecdote of some English author who being present at the first performance of a play which was instrumental in "getting up" was so much pleased with every part of it that with each change he would cry out "that is mine." At length a storm was represented and the thunder rolled—"that's my thunder too!" exclaimed the enthusiast—and the audience roared with laughter. "Jove's power to thunder" was wrested from him.—Fred. Herald.

MR. ADAMS.—A Washington correspondent of the Gazette says of Ex-President Adams, now a member of the House of Representatives. "He is one of the best speakers in the House. He has taken his seat in the inner circle, on the left of the chair, next to Mr. Everett, and he wears the same old hat, with a band an inch and a quarter wide, which he used to wear when Secretary of State; and, now and then, he is observed to administer to some unlucky member his old pump-handle shake of the hand."

DISTRESSING AND FATAL OCCURRENCE.—We learn from the Hartford (Ct.) Mirror, that on Monday evening, the 5th inst., in Saundfield, Mass., on the borders of Conn., a young man and his wife were hurried to death, in a cabinet maker's shop. The circumstances are briefly these:—Marvin, who owned the shop, had employed a journeyman, a young married man, for whom he was building a house—during the progress of which, he slept, together with his wife and the apprentices, in a partitioned part of the shop. The apprentices went away in the evening, and the fire in the shop must have been left unguarded—for, during the night, Mr. Marvin was alarmed by the cry of fire, and hastening to the spot, he found the roof fast falling in upon the unfortunate inmates of the building, who had not awakened to a consciousness of their perilous situation in time to save themselves from a horrible death.

The Norfolk Beacon of Monday last says: "John M. Baker, Esq. of Pennsylvania, lately appointed Consul of the U. States for the port of Rio Janeiro, with his family, have been in town for several days. They will embark this morning in the brig Sultana, Capt. Lindsay, bound to that port, which vessel will be towed down to Hampton Roads by the steamboat Columbus."

The Court of Appeals of this State have fixed upon Monday next, the 26th inst., as the day for hearing the argument in the Rail Road and Canal case. In consequence of the inability of Mr. Taney to attend on that day, Mr. Webster has been retained by the Rail Road Company, and is expected to take part in the argument. We understand that, should the decision of the Court of Appeals be adverse to the, in our opinion, well grounded claims of the Rail Road Company, they will not be able to appeal to the higher jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, whilst the Canal Company, who claim title to the disputed point under the Constitution of the U. States, may carry the question before that august tribunal.—Frederick Examiner.