CONGRESS.

[From the National Journal.]

TUESDAY, Jan. 17.

In the Senate, the Bill to prevent desertion in the Army, and for other purposes, was read the third time and passed. The Committee on Naval Affairs made a report on the communication of Com. Porter, accompanied by the expression of their opinion, that there was nothing in the character of the transactions that requires the interference of the Senate, and that it is due to the preservation of a proper discipline, and to the reputation of our officers, that appeals should not be encouraged from the decisions of the Military Courts. Three resolutions were submitted, one by Mr. Hayne, for information in relation to the surveys of the harbour of Charleston and the port of St. Mary's, with a view of deciding upon the expediency of establishing a Navy Yard at either of those places The Bill declaring the assent of Congress to an act of the State of Alabama, for improving the navigation of the port and harbour of Mobile, was, after some discussion ordered to lie on the table.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. Hamilton (of S. C) reported a Bill to increase the Corps of Engineers. A bill was also introduced by Mr Burgess (of R. I) to provide for persons engaged in the land and naval service in the Revolutionary war, in conformity with a recommendation contained in the President's Message. A Bill was introduced by Mr Baylies (of Massachusetts) to establish a military post at the mouth of the Columbia river, and to provide for the exploration of the coasts and waters. The Resolutions offered on Friday, relative to the compensation of Postmasters and the West Point Cadets, were agreed to. Resolutions were laid on the table by Mr. Scott, (of Missouri) calling on the Treasury Department for a list of balances due by the Receivers of Public Money on account of the sales of public lands for the last year; and by Mr. Miner, of Pennsylvania,) asking for an account of the revenue from the imports and tonnage at the ports in the Delaware and the Chesapeake, in New York and Boston, from 1790, to the last day of December, 1825 Resolutions were adopted on motion of Mr. Verplanck, (of New York,) referring the documents relative to the marine hospitals to the Committee on Commerce, with instructions relative to the expediency of amending the Bill for the relief of sick and disabled seamen; and, on motion of Mr. Wright, (of Ohio,) authorizing an inquiry as to the survey of a road from the east end of the Black Swamp road in Ohio, to intersect the Cumberland road, near Washington, in Pennsylvania. The Judicial Bill was then taken up in Committee, when Mr. Cook spoke for about an hour in support of the bill.

Mr. Stevenson, of Pennsylvania, presented in the House of Representatives yesterday a petition of the Mayor and Corporation of this City, representing that the channel in the Eastern Branch has become nearly choaked up, and praying that Congress will make an appropriation to assist the citizens in the removal of the obstructions.

WEDNESDAY Jan. 18.

In the Senate, two Bills were reported; one for the relief of sundry citizens of Baltimore, whose property was sunk in the harbour during the late war, and the other for the relief of Ebenezer Oliver and others. Three Resolutions were submitted: two by Mr. Johnston, (of Louisiana;) one for the erection of light houses at Cape Florida and Cape Carnaveral, and the other by Mr. Clayton, relative to the change of a post route in the State of Delaware. the Resolutions offered yesterday were all agreed to.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, the consideration of the Judicial Bill was again taken up in Committee, when Mr. Buckner, of Kentucky, Mr. Livingston, of Louisiana, and Mr. Ingersoll, of Connecticut, all spoke very ably in support of the Bill. Mr. Ingersoll is a new member, and attracted great attention by the pertinence of his remarks, and the force and chastity of his expression. A Bill was passed for altering the time of holding the District Court in the Northern District of New York. On motion of Mr. Baylies, of Massachusetts, a resolution was laid on the table, calling for information as to the correspondence between Great Britain and the United States respecting that part of the boundary of the United States bordering on the Pacific Ocean. No other business of any importance was transacted.

THURSDAY, January 19.

In the Senate, the bill amending the Judicial System, which was made the order of the day, was ordered to lie on the table, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Mr. VAN BUREN, being prevented from attending by indisposition. The bill for the relief of sundry citizens of Baltimore was ordered to be engrossed for its third reading, without opposition—and the bill 'supplementary to an act to perfect certain locations and sales of public lands in Missouri,' passed April 26 1822, passed, and was sent to the House of Representatives for concurrence. Mr. JOHNSON, of Kentucky, gave notice of his intention to bring in a bill to authorize the Columbian College, in this district, to raise certain sums by lotteries, for the benefit of that institution. A memorial was presented by Mr. HAYNE, from the City Council of Charleston, for the establishment of a Marine Hospital at that place, for the use of sick and disabled seamen.

An attempt was yesterday made to cut short the discussion in the Committee of the House of Representatives, on the Judicial Bill. With a view to bring the debate, which has now occupied the House for a fortnight, to a point, Mr. MERCER, at the suggestion of Mr. STORRS, of N. York, withdrew his motion to amend the bill by striking out the first section. Mr. STORRS then submitted a motion to amend the bill by striking out three additional Judges, and inserting two; so as to make the whole number of the Supreme Judges nine instead of ten, which is the number proposed in the bill as it was reported. The motive in making this proposition was, to divert the discussion from the general principle of the bill. It is likely that the Committee will report the bill to day, if the object of the motion should be obtained. A report, in part, was made by the Committee on Elections, on the subject of the Michigan election. The report, which will be found in our proceedings, states that the Board of canvassers had exceeded their duty. The subject of a post road from Baltimore to Philadelphia was referred to the Post Office Committee, on motion of Mr. MITCHELL, of Maryland. Mr. WICKLIFFE, of Kentucky, laid on the table a resolution on the subject of a Canal from the Mississippi to the Bay of Pensacola. Mr. LIVINGSTON laid some resolutions on the table to appoint a Committee to report at the next session on the expediency of consolidating the existing laws in relation to duties on imposts and tonnage, and for making uniform the laws relative to foreign bills of exchange. A resolution was also agreed to, on motion of Mr. INGHAM, of Pennsylvania, directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into an alleged professional misdemeanor. It is charged against a District Attorney, that after prosecuting a public debtor, he received a fee from the debtor, himself—or rather his assignee—to render him service in the case. The subject excited some indignation in the House, and the Committee was clothed with authority to send for persons and papers.

FRIDAY, Jan. 20.

In the Senate, a bill was reported by the Committee on Naval Affairs, for the establishment of a Naval Academy, and the Committee on Roads and Canals, to whom was referred the bill to provide for the survey of the proposed Canal and ship channel across the peninsula of Florida, reported the same without any material amendment, with a report of the opinion of the Committee, and a long communication from Mr. White, the Delegate from Florida, on the subject. Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, had leave to bring in his bill for the benefit of the Columbian College. Mr. Bunion, from the select committee, reported a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, on the subject of the election of President and Vice President, accompanied by a report of eighty manuscript pages, the reading of which occupied about an hour and a half. Three thousand copies of the report were ordered to be printed. The bill for the relief of sundry citizens of Baltimore was laid on the table, and the bill supplementary to the act to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage gave rise to some debate, from which it appeared that a confidential agent had been sent to Philadelphia, to investigate the facts relative to the recent custom-house transactions in that city.

After a little more discussion yesterday, in the House of Representatives, on the subject of the Judicial Bill, on which Mr. Wright, of Ohio, was the principal speaker, followed briefly by Mr. Wood, of New York, and Mr. Kremer, of Pennsylvania, the bill was reported without amendment. In the House, a division took place, by ayes and noes, on a motion by Mr. Storrs, of New York, to give but two new Judges, which was decided in the negative—the ayes being 60, and the noes 119. Mr Mercer moved to recommit the bill to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to amend it so as to separate the Appellate from the Circuit Court, and reduce the Judges in the former to 5. This question will probably be discussed to day. A bill was reported by Mr. Hemphill concerning Roads and Canals, which authorizes the President to apply to the purposes of Internal Improvement any surplus money which may remain in the Treasury, at the close of each session of Congress. Mr. Drayton, of South Carolina, laid a resolution on the table, inquiring of the Secretary of War what had been done on the subject of the defence of the harbour of Charleston. A resolution was also laid on the table by Mr. Holcombe, of New Jersey, calling for an estimate of the cost of certain live oak timber, and the preservation of the live-oak and red cedar on the public lands. A few other resolutions of minor importance was offered.

SATURDAY, Jan. 21.

The Senate did not sit yesterday.

In the House of Representatives a bill was reported from the Naval Committee for the establishment of a Naval School. The character of this bill may be understood, by reference to the abstract of our proceedings of the House. A bill was also reported, to authorize the laying out and opening certain roads in the Territory of Michigan. Bills for the relief of Thomas P. Withers, and forming a line between the Land Districts in the Territory of Michigan, were also reported. The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Holcombe, of New Jersey, relative to Live Oak Timber, was agreed to, with a trifling modification; and that offered by Mr. Drayton, of South Carolina, relative to the fortifications of Charleston, was adopted. Mr. Davis, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Wickliffe, of Kentucky, offered resolutions somewhat similar in their object, asking for information as to the rules by which the War Department has been governed in the granting of pensions; which, with a resolution offered by Mr. Scott, of Missouri, calling for a statement from the Treasury Department, of money paid by the purchasers of Public Lands, which have become forfeited to the United States, since the commencement of the Land system; lie one day on the table.

Just as the Speaker had called up the unfinished business of the preceding day, Mr. Stevenson, of Pennsylvania, rose, and communicated to the House the death of Mr. Farrelly, one of the representatives from that state. On motion of Mr. Ingham, who delivered a pathetic and just eulogy on his deceased colleague, the House resolved *unanimously*, to wear crape on the left arm for a month. The House then adjourned.

The discussion of the Judiciary Bill was expected to come on in the Senate, during the present week; but, owing to the indisposition of Mr. Van Buren, it was postponed. In the House, the General appropriation Bill, will probably be taken up, after the Bill to amend the Judicial System shall be disposed of.

From the Maryland Republican.

FISCAL CONCERNS.

A comparison of our own concerns with similar concerns of our neighbors, is often useful. Pennsylvania is a much larger, and more expensive state to govern than Maryland—she has more resources also. The receipts into her state treasury the last year, was $543 790. The receipts into our state treasury was $441 083—of the latter, however, $133 717, was a payment from the United States, of stock held by the state in the loan paid off last year; but on the other hand, $144 014 of the Penn. receipts, was on loan. The largest item in the Pennsylvania receipts, is for dividends on bank stock $121,716. Maryland derives from bank dividends and from interest on United States stock $37 000 only, besides this difference, Pennsylvania receives $32,000 for tax on bank dividends, whence Maryland gets nothing into her treasury. Her next largest item is for auction duties $75 000—from this source our treasury gets not a cent. Her next largest item is from duties on dealers in foreign merchandise $51,153—from this source, Maryland has, the last year, obtained 6,610 dollars. Tavern licenses is the next item, 42,573, our ordinary & retailers licenses were $35,170 Land and land office fees, 28,484, is their next largest item. We have $1,317 from a similar source. Her next is auction commissions, $19,100—we have nothing from this source. Her next is for dividends on bridge and turnpike stock, 12,165—from a similar item, we get $390. Her tax on offices is $8 450, ours is $1,363 Next she has militia and exempt fines, $4,153, which we have nothing like. These constitute the principle items of her receipts.

But Maryland has resources of revenue which Pennsylvania does not avail herself of. The first that presents itself, is, perhaps, peculiar to Maryland, and one, that it is odd, should ever have been thought of—I mean the tax on Marriages. I know of no way for the public spirited gentleman who has been so many years at the head of the committee of divorces to redeem the evils he has proposed to society, by separating those whom God has joined together, but to get this tax repealed. If the state wants funds so wretchedly that the sum cannot be dispensed with, let the same amount be raised, or double it if you choose, by a tax upon Bachelors over thirty five—besides, such a proposition would be *very disinterested* from the gentlemen alluded to—but to return to the subject. Last year there must have been nearly 2000 marriages in Maryland I suppose, for there was $7,805 derived to the treasury from marriage licenses, which all married men remember cost $4 each, $40 786, was derived from direct tax—3 640, from fines and forfeitures—32,953 from lottery licences and lotteries, and 28 653 from duty on tobacco, none of which sources Pennsylvania derives any thing from. So much for a comparison of receipts.

A comparison of the items of expenditure is not quite as easily made. The largest Pennsylvania item is a general one, 'for the expenses of government,' 179 368. This, I presume, covers what in the Maryland, account is entered under the head of Civil list, $10,619, Judiciary Department $34,394, Journal of Accounts, 42,617, and some smaller items, amounting altogether to nearly $100,000. Their next largest amount is $80,000 for the Penitentiary at Philadelphia, and $23,599 for the Penitentiary at Pittsburg—extensive buildings are erecting at both places. The charge on the Maryland treasury this year was 7,999 for the Penitentiary, from which ought to be deducted $1,397 received from the institution, leaving a balance of $6 602 as the actual expenditure for that item—Their next item is $75,859, for interest paid on loans. Some of the charges upon our treasury for this item, I presume is included under the miscellaneous head—altogether, it must have been about 6 or $7000. Their next item is $68,560 for internal improvement. We hope to have a handsome sum to this item next year; this year we show nothing to that account.—Their next item is militia expenses, $23,449—ours have been $500 this year to the adjutant general, and they talk of saving even that. I wonder whether the militia system of Pennsylvania is worth the difference, say $23,000 per year more than ours? Their next item is pensions and gratuities, $24,727; our pension list costs $16,486. Their deaf and dumb asylum costs them $18,582—we have no such item; but we pay $10,479 to schools & colleges, which they do not pay any thing to. We have a charge of nearly $10,000 for tobacco ware-houses also—besides last year paying $5,900 to the Baltimore Hospital, and $17,763 to the Washington Monument.

Of the $133,000 received by Maryland from the U. States, $80,000 has been invested in Bank stock, and it may be assured that the balance has been used to pay off the loan which the state owed—Maryland is now entirely out of debt. Pennsylvania owes a state debt of $1,999,935 28½. Each state reports about $70,000 in treasury.

For the Easton Gazette.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

MR. GRAHAM,

Throughout the United States nothing seems to excite and engross the public attention so much as *internal improvement*, which is neither more nor less than connecting different parts of the country by canals, and which in a national point of view, ought in my estimation to call forth the wisdom and talents of our national councils. Gentlemen on the Western Shore had taken up the subject with great zeal and ardour, and had calculated on the interference of the state legislators, expecting that they would have fallen into the views of the late Convention, held in Baltimore. The report made and adopted by this highly respectable body of gentlemen, which by the bye was *self-created* was certainly an able one, and if it could be carried into effect, would greatly contribute to promote the prosperity of that part of the country, through which the proposed canal might be made to pass so as to unite the waters of *Lake Erie and the* river, more especially of Patapsico, which would connect our great city, Baltimore, with the western lakes, and place it upon a higher scale than the proud city of New York, which already has united the lakes with the Atlantic Ocean. The scheme is a stupendous one, and might appal the genius of a Clinton and his coadjutors, who have accomplished a work almost unparallelled in the world.

That Baltimore will continue to increase in wealth and rank among the first cities of the world, I have little doubt, but that a canal, which would unite the lakes with the river Patapsico, which washes the shores of Baltimore, would contribute to the wealth and prosperity of the state of Maryland, in all its parts, is another question!!

It is the duty of our legislative body to deliberate on every subject and to act upon it promptly, whenever it shall be made to appear, that the interest and prosperity of the State demand their united wisdom, so far as the state is concerned in *internal improvement*, as stated by the self-created Convention. I suppose the legislature have given their opinions by putting a negative upon the scheme, perhaps under a conviction, that it ought to be taken up in a national point of view. Unless Congress take up the subject nothing will ever be done, while the contending interests of several states will necessarily be concerned.

I is too apparent, that this *self-created Convention* composed altogether of Western Shore gentlemen, has been too much influenced by selfish motives, and did not consult the interest of the public so much as might have been expected from so much patriotism united for the general *improvement* of the country. Suppose the subject had been taken up in the legislature, would the Eastern Shore have attracted their attention? it is presumed it would not! Nay, what benefit could the Eastern Shore derive from this great canal as contemplated, except in a national point of view? I confess, I can see none! in fact not more than the state of Maine, unless we are to be exclusively benefitted by the growth and wealth of Baltimore, while our produce must be necessarily diminished in value.

New York has effected her great canal scheme by her own resources, and it is said, the tolls are increasing and will yield an immense revenue to the State. But it is questionable whether the contemplated Canal, which is to unite the waters of the lakes and the Chesapeake, would ever be so beneficial to the state of Maryland, if ever fully accomplished, inasmuch as it must be known, there are so many outlets to the ocean, which would draw off a considerable portion of produce which would come from that portion of the country, through which the canal would pass. Should the canal be accomplished, it is almost certain, that the state at large can never derive much advantage from the scheme, while every other means of *internal improvement* would be thrown out of consideration, more especially as regards the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Has ever any thing been done by our legislature to improve our internal resources? I believe, there has not, though there is no part of the globe more susceptible of improvement! Nothing is wanting, but the attention of the members in General Assembly met, to begin and accomplish the most beneficial as well as the most salutary scheme that ever was conceived. Scarcely a man of the least consideration and reflection will be at a loss to determine, that I allude to the all important scheme of reclaiming our MARSHES, which occupy so large a portion of our best soil, while they in their present situation, spread their baneful influence for miles on every side of our rivers, not only on the Eastern Shore but also on the Western Shore. The fact is, the uplands on the Eastern Shore near the marshes are deteriorating every year, because the country is so unhealthy and labour made so unprofitable from that source more especially.

Is it not the duty of the legislature to devise every means of improving the health and prosperity of every section of the state and to leave *national improvements* to the national government? Could the zeal of the capitalists be called forth by any plausible scheme devised by our legislative body, the work would soon be commenced, and most certainly accomplished in a few years. In fact, the work has been commenced by a few individuals on the river Nanticoke, and it is already proved that the scheme is practicable. If so much can be done by individuals, how much more might be accomplished by the combined wisdom and resources of the State?

I have often thought, it was a most unfortunate circumstance, that the emigration of Hollanders had not been encouraged by the State at an early period of our independence! What wonders would they have accomplished, as they have done in their own country and also in their colonies of Demarara, Surinan, &c. countries, which are within the tropics, where the tide does not ebb and flow more than two feet.

I again repeat it, that nothing ought to gain so much of the attention of legislative wisdom as the health of the people at large. Without health, what are all the other blessings of this world? Let this scheme of INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT be undertaken and carried into effect, and wealth as well as health would increase ten and a hundred fold. As a proof of what I am now predicting, I will beg leave to transcribe a few extracts made from a "paper read by M. Gaetano Georgini in Paris," which may be found more at length in the American Farmer, vol. 7, page 327. "M. Gaetano begins by observing, that man better than any other organized being adapts himself to all climates. Nevertheless, he finds in the insalubrity of the air in some places causes of destruction, when the temperature and the fertility of the ground otherwise provide him with the means of happiness and opulence. It is of great consequence, therefore, that the causes and cures of this insalubrity should be accurately known." With other observations, he goes on to state, that "on the south of the Ligurian Appenines, there is a marshy district," which he describes minutely. "I shall not stop" says Mr. Georgini, "to describe the condition of the population in those parishes nearest the marshes to Vaariggis, which was then only a collection of fishermen's huts. The effects of the *Mal'aria* are too well known that I should describe them. In the places I have mentioned, they occurred every year in all their horror. The natives, few in number and perpetually attacked with diseases of the liver or the spleen, presented through the whole year the afflicting spectacle of feeble and languishing children, of men barely convalescent, in the midst of whom age was unknown," thus describing diseases with all their horrors year after year, until the work of *internal improvement* was begun and finally completed in 1741, and here disease ceased, and did not recur, until the work went down, but again ceased as soon as the marshes were made wholesome by *improvement*.

The population in eleven parishes amounted in 1733 to 1509, and in 1823 it had increased to 9108. This is worth calling *improvement*, and such improvement might be made on all our marshes in the space of a very few years. if the same rage could be got up for *marsh improvement* as is prevailing from one end of the United States to the other for improvement by Canals. It would certainly be more delightful to see our marshes covered with fields of corn and grass, affording food for an increasing population and ten thousand cattle where one thousand could not before have subsisted, than to see water flowing in Canals. Disease, which before desolated the country, would be scarcely heard of! Instead of the yellow hue and palid countenance, blooming health would reign, and the present reproach of agues and fevers would be banished forever. Fragrant flowers would diffuse their delightful perfumes, and the nauseous effluvia of marshes be no more heard of in the charming scenery, which would be gradually improving by the industry of man, no longer enfeebled by disease.

A NATIVE OF THE EASTERN SHORE.
January, 1826.

From the New York Advocate.

OPERA CLOAKS.—AN ANECDOTE.

About a year ago a merchant of this city imported a number of very beautiful silk cloaks for ladies, which were supposed to be fine articles for covering their pretty bosoms, or for pulling round their delicate shoulders. One morning he called his clerk Joe to him—"Joe, you will advertise those silk cloaks to morrow morning." Joe pulled his pen from behind his ear, cut a piece of the nib off, and drew out the advertisement. It was inserted next day, and next day, and next day again and again. No buyers came, and Joe had nothing to do but stand behind the counter, with short nibs sticking behind his ear, and his hands rummaging in the bottom of his breeches pockets trying to catch a single sixpence which had hid itself among a handful of clear buttons. Some time after this happened Joe was again directed to advertise his cloaks, and again it was done. The fair creatures (meaning the ladies of course) approached—looked at them—tossed them—tumbled them, and turned up their provoking little noses. They would not buy—no—not they—they would as soon take the lover's leap out of pure spite. Well things went on in this manner until Signor Garcia and the Italian company set themselves down among us and began *una voce-ing* and *poco fa-ing* until every one's head was turned. Joe rummaged his pockets—picked out a couple of shillings—went up among the gods—was in ecstacy and rapture—and next morning was directed to put in the newspaper another advertisement about the everlasting cloaks Joe's head being full of the opera—the divine opera, wrote out in fair and legible characters, *Opera Cloaks*—a *bran new* importation, &c.—Next morning Joe was standing as usual behind the counter, and, behold! a blue eyed beauty came in—"have you any *opera cloaks*, sweet sir?"—Joe down with the opera cloaks, and *blue eye* fitted herself in a trice and paid the price without a single grudge. Another fair lady came in—'you have opera cloaks' said she. 'To be

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