CONGRESS.

MONDAY, May 7.

The Senate did not sit on Saturday.

In the House of Representatives, on motion of Mr. Carr, the bill from the Senate, authorising the Secretary of the Treasury to settle the accounts between the United States and the Farmers' and Mechanic's Bank of Indiana, was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Internal Improvements for 1832.—Mr. Sutherland moved to suspend the rule appropriating the day to private bills, for the purpose of taking up the bill making appropriations for certain Internal Improvements for 1832, which had been heretofore reported from the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, which was carried. Several of the amendments, made in Committee having been concurred in, the clause appropriating $5,860 for the purpose of paying for certain repairs made to the Cumberland Road, by L. W. Stockton, was taken up; and after a short discussion in which Messrs Crawford, Sutherland, Mercer, Archer, Stewart and Coulter, took part, was carried. The appropriation for Ocracock inlet, was discussed by Messrs. Hall and Speight, and was carried, ayes 110, noes 45. An amendment was moved by Mr. Hall, for the improvement of the Harbor of Washington, North Carolina, which was lost. The clause appropriating $50,000 for the improvement of the navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, as amended in Committee, was taken up. Mr. Sevier moved to amended it by adding $15,000 for the improvement of the navigation of the Arkansas river which was adopted. Mr. Ashley moved to amend the clause by extending its provisions up the Missouri and Mississippi rivers above their confluence, which was carried. Mr. Denny moved to increase and extend the appropriation up the Menongahela river to Brownsville, which, after a discussion between Messrs. Denny Dewart and Bell, was lost. Mr. White of Louisiana, then moved an amendment extending the provisions of the act of 1824, for the improvement of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, to the mouth of the latter, with a view to remedy the bar which he advocated at some length, and which was adopted. The amendment as amended, was then carried, ayes 68 noes 57 Several amendments proposed in Committee for the construction of roads were concurred in. Mr. Sevier moved an amendment appropriating $20,000 for the construction of certain roads in Arkansas Territory, which was agreed to. Mr. Ashley moved an amendment for the continuation of the Cumberland Road, which, after a discussion, in which Messrs. Ashley, Vance Duncan, McDuffie, Mercer and Irvin, took part, was lost, ayes 55, noes 69.—Mr. Vance then moved an amendment appropriating $10,000 for the purchase of a Toll Bridge on the Cumberland Road, across the Sciota river at Columbus which was lost. Mr. Letcher moved an amendment appropriating $50,000 for the improvement of Cumberland river, which, after a discussion in which Messrs. Letcher, Ingersoll, Blair, of Tennessee, Mercer and Lyon took part, was lost, ayes 63, noes 80. Mr. Mercer then moved an amendment relative to the improvement of the navigation of Savannah river, on which, from the lateness of the hour, the question was not taken.

TUESDAY, May 8.

In the Senate yesterday, Mr. Foot laid on the table a resolution requesting the President to cause to be prepared, and laid before the Senate, at the next session, a plan for the new organization and simplification of the Treasury Department, embracing a reduction of officers, &c.—The resolution laid on the table, on Friday, by Mr Smith, calling on the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish a statement of the amount of duties which would be repealed by the project of a tariff submitted by the Department; and also of the amount repealed by the bill reported by the Committee on Manufactures, was taken up, and modified, on motion of Mr. Hayne, and with the assent of the mover by introducing a provision that the statement should comprise the amount of duties now annually collected, and also the amount which would be repealed by the provisions of both the bills reported by the Committee on Manufactures.

In the House of Representatives, the trial of Gen. Houston was proceeded in and the accused having been conducted to the bar by the Sergeant-at-Arms, commenced a vindicatory address to the House.

The principal line of defence taken was that the assault was not premeditated; that it rusulted from the impulse of the moment only, arising from a keen sense of injury and insult; that it was not for words spoken in debate, but for the after publication of a calumnious libel. He took, also, the ground that breach of privilege, even where committed, was totally undefined. Mr. Houston concluded his remarks at 2 o'clock, when he was conducted from the bar attended in the usual form by the Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Harper, of New Hampshire, then submitted a resolution that the accused be discharged from custody. Mr Huntington submitted an amendment to the resolution, declaring that Samuel Houston has been guilty of a contempt of this House. In support of the proposition, he observed that the case resolved itself into three points, two of them matters of fact, and one a question of law. The first two was the assault committed and was it an assault for words spoken in debate. The other was, whether it was in the power of the House to punish it as a breach of their constitutional privileges. Upon these different points, Mr. Huntington argued at great length, and with his usual force and ability. Mr. Ingersoll moved that the further proceedings be postponed till 11 o'clock, to day, which was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY, May 9.

In the Senate, yesterday the resolution offered the previous day by Mr. Foot, requesting the President to communicate at the next session, a plan for the reorganization of the Treasury Department, was agreed to. Mr. Dickerson then rose for the purpose of calling up the bill to provide for a distribution of the proceeds of the Public Lands; but at the request of Mr. Smith, on account of the thinness of the Senate, he postponed his motion until a later period of the day, or until to-morrow, as the opportunity might be most favorable. The Senate then proceeded with the general orders. The bill for the appointment of a recorder of the General Land Office was taken up, and after some discussion was laid on the table. A communication was received from the Secretary of the Treasury enclosing printed statements, one for each member of the Senate, in part reply to the resolution sent by the Senate on the preceding day requiring a statement of duties which would be repealed by the bill recommended by the Department, and by the bill reported by the Committee on Manufactures. Two or three bills giving relief to French settlers in Louisiana, the names of which could not be correctly caught, were ordered to a third reading. The Senate then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, viz: the Post Office Bill. Mr. Holmes concluded his remarks in favor of the amendment of Mr. Bibb, abolishing the postage on Newspapers. The debate occupied the Senate till the hour of adjournment.

The House of Representatives immediately on assembling, at eleven o'clock proceeded with the trial of Gen. Houston. Mr. Polk, of Tennessee, who had possession of the floor at the adjournment of the preceding day, addressed the House at some length. He entered into a legal argument, to show that there was no cause for a further interference in the case, on their part, on the ground of the vague and indefinate nature of their power with respect to contempts; and considering, also that the assault and battery complained of was committed, not so much for words spoken in debate as for the publication of libellous matter afterwards. Mr. Ellsworth followed on the opposite side of the question contending that it was an inherent right of the House to protect its own deliberations; and that the freedom of debate had been infringed, in the present instance. Mr. Drayton argued, also, in opposition to the further action of the House upon the matter, and maintained that, from the facts proved to them, the accused ought to be discharged. He admitted the power of the House to punish where a breach of privilege has been actually committed but said it was apparent to him, that the event of the assault had taken place, not on account of words spoken in debate, but from their publication by Mr. Stanbery He was in favor, therefore, of the resolution, and should vote against the amendment of Mr. Huntington, to declare Gen Houston guilty of a contempt. Mr. Cooke of Ohio, designated the assault as an outrage of a daring and atrocious character, which it became the House to punish, if it were intended to preserve the freedom of debate, and to legislate exempt from violence or intimidation. He concluded his argument at a ¼ past four o'clock; when, on motion of Mr. Doddridge, of Virginia, further proceedings were postponed till 12 o'clock to day.

The House then proceeded to take up the Internal Improvement Appropriation Bill. Mr McKennon said, that the subject before them (the amendment making an appropriation for the Cumberland Road) was of great importance, he should move a call of the House. The motion was negatived, and the House adjourned,

THURSDAY, May 10.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Foot from the Committee on Pensions reported the bill from the House entitled an act in addition to an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the naval and military service of the United States during the war of the revolution, without amendment, and moved to lay the bill on the table, but the motion being out of order was withdrawn. Mr. Dickerson then moved the Senate to take up the bill to provide for the distribution, for a limited time, of the proceeds of the Public Lands.

The motion being unsuccessful, the Senate proceeded to consider the motion made by Mr. King to refer the bill from the Committee on Manufactures to the Committee on the Public Lands. This motion led to some discussion, and was finally determined in the affirmative by the casting vote of the Vice President, the votes being as follows:

Ayes—Messrs. Benton, Bibb, Brown, Ellis, Forsyth, Grundy, Hayne, Hendricks, Hill, Kane, King, Mangum, Marcy, Miller, Moore, Poindexter, Robinson, Smith, Tazewell, Tipton, Troup, White, 22.

Noes—Messrs. Bell, Buckner, Clay, Clayton, Dallas, Dickerson, Ewing, Foot, Frelinghuysen, Holmes, Johnston, Knight, Naudain, Prentiss, Robbins, Ruggles, Seymour, Silsbee, Sprague, Tomlinson, Waggaman, Wilkins—22.

The Vice President then gave his vote in the affirmative. The Senate then resumed the Post Office Bill. Mr. Bibb concluded his remarks in favor of his amendment and the discussion consumed the day.

In the House of Representatives several Reports in pursuance of calls of the House, were received from different Departments.

Mr. Newton from the Committee on commerce reported a bill "making appropriations for building Light Houses, Light House Beacons, and Monuments, and placing buoys" [The aggregate amount of the proposed appropriations is about 130,000 dollars.] The bill received its first and second readings.

The House then again proceeded to to the consideration of the resolution respecting the case of Samuel Houston, with the amendment proposed thereto; which was debated by Messrs. Doddridge and Beardsley. After several ineffectual attempts to postpone and adjourn, further proceedings were postponed until 11 o'clock, A. M. to day. Before Mr. B. had concluded his remarks, and at six o'clock, the House adjourned.

FRIDAY May 11.

In the Senate yesterday, Mr. Silsbee presented two memorials from owners, agents, and captains of steam boats, navigating Long Island Sound, praying that additional lights may be established on the Sound, which was referred to the Committee on Commerce. Mr. Hayne offered a resolution, calling on the Secretary of the Treasury to report various information including the gross amount of revenue received for imports and tonnage for years which were specified, and designating various articles on which the report was required to be specific, such as tea, coffee, cocoa, wines, &c. The resolution was agreed to. The Senate then resumed the unfinished discussion on the Post Office Bill. Mr. Clayton and Mr. Holmes spoke in favor of the amendment, (to abolish the postage on newspapers) when the question was taken and decided in the negative by the following vote:

Yeas.—Messrs. Bell, Bibb, Clay, Clayton, Ewing, Foot, Frelinghuysen, Hayne, Holmes, Johnson Knight, Miller, Moore, Naudain, Poindexter, Prentiss, Robbins, Ruggles, Seymour, Silsbee, Sprague, Tomlinson—22.

Nays.—Messrs. Benton, Brown, Buckner, Dallas, Dickerson, Dudley, Ellis, Forsyth, Grundy, Hendricks, Hill, Kane, King, Mangum, Marcy, Robinson, Smith, Tazewell, Tipton, Troup, Tyler, White, Wilkins—23.

So the motion to amend was decided in the negative.

The bill was then further amended in its details and thus amended was reported to the Senate. The amendments were then concurred in, and the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives a bill was reported by Mr Ellsworth, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to prevent and punish the making and transporting of counterfeit foreign coin; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Mardis of Alabama, submitted the following, which he intends to offer to the Bill for reducing the duties on imports, &c. when it shall be taken up:

"*And be it further enacted*, That, from and after the passage of this act, all the public lands of the United States which have been, or may hereafter be offered at public sale to the highest bidder, and shall remain unsold for a period of four years, shall be subject to sale by entry, at eighty cents per acre.

And be it further enacted, That all the public lands of the United States which have been, or hereafter may be offered for sale at public auction to the highest bidder and shall remain unsold for the period of five years, shall be subject to sale by entry, at seventy cents per acre.

And be it further enacted, That all the public lands of the United States which have been, or may hereafter be offered at public sale to the highest bidder, and shall remain unsold for a period of ten years, shall be subject to sale by entry, at fifty cents per acre.

The House then resumed the consideration of the case of Samuel Houston, now in custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms for an alleged breach of privilege. Mr. Beardsley concluded his remarks against the motion for declaring him Guilty thereof. He was followed by Messrs. Southerland, Mitchell of S. C., and Crane Mr. Burges having obtained the floor at a late hour in the day, moved that further proceedings should be postponed until 11 o'clock, A. M. this day. The House refused to postpone, by the following vote, ayes 76, noes 83. Thereupon, Mr. Speight moved a call of the House, which was ordered. The Roll was partly gone through, and being then suspended, Mr. Reed renewed the motion to postpone until 11 o'clock. The propriety of postponement was discussed by Messrs. Kerr Wayne, and McDuffie. Mr. Craig moved to amend the motion by inserting 10 o'clock. This motion not being in order, Mr. Reed withdrew his motion; and Mr. Craig moved to suspend the rule of the House, to enable him to submit a motion that when the House adjourned, it should meet at 10 o'clock. The House suspended the rule, ayes 107, noes 45; and the motion of Mr. C. prevailed. Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Reed, the further proceedings were postponed until 10 o'clock, A. M. on Friday, and at 5 o'clock the House adjourned.

MONDAY May 14.

Neither the Senate nor the House of Representatives sat on Saturday.

On Friday evening, the discussion in the House upon Mr. Huntington's amendment, in the breach of privilege case, was continued by Mr. Kerr of Maryland and Mr. Dickson, of New York, both in support of the right of the House to punish for breach of privilege, and of the expediency of exercising the power in the present instance. The proposition of Mr. Huntington, declaring Gen Houston to be guilty of a contempt and breach of privilege, was agreed to. Ayes 106, noes 89. Mr. Clay moved that further proceedings in the case are inexpedient. Mr. Huntington moved that Gen. Houston be reprimanded by the Speaker on Monday at 12 o'clock, and that he be prohibited from admission to the floor of the House. The first amendment of Mr. Huntington was adopted, and the latter rejected. The resolution, as amended, was then agreed to. Ayes 96, noes 84. At nearly 11 o'clock, the House adjourned.

On the above the National Intelligencer says—We congratulate our readers universally that the case of Breach of the Privileges of the House of Representatives, which has so long occupied the attention of that body, has at length terminated. It has eventuated in the assertion of the authority of the House, and the affirmation of the fact of a contempt having been committed.

National Republican

CONVENTION OF YOUNG MEN

THURSDAY, May 10.

The Convention was called to order at 9 o'clock, and the Throne of Grace was addresed in a fervent manner by the Rev. Mr. Post, of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. Stuart, of Maryland, submitted the following, which was unanimously agreed to.

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of one Delegate from each State represented in this Convention, and one from the District of Columbia, be appointed to wait on Henry Clay, of Kentucky, and inform him of the unanimous concurrence of the National Republican Young Men of the United States, in convention assembled, in his nomination to the office of President of the United States; and that they extend to him the assurance of the profound respect entertained by this Convention for his exalted virtues, his comprehensive intelligence, and his uncompromising patriotism, and ascertain at what time and place it will be agreeable to him to receive the respects of this Convention.

On motion of Mr. Gramage, it was unanimously

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of one Delegate from each State represented and one from the District of Columbia, be appointed, to inform John Sergeant, of Pennsylvania, of the unanimous and hearty concurrence of the National Republican Young Men, in Convention assembled, in his nomination to the office of Vice President of the United States.

On motion of Mr. Brantz, of Maryland, it was unanimously

Resolved, That a committee to be appointed by the Chair, which shall consist of one Delegate from each State, represented in the body, and one from the District of Columbia, whose duty it shall be to express to Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, the last surviving signer of our Declaration of Independence, the high sense entertained by the members of this Convention of the virtues of himself and associates, and of their labours in the great cause of national union and independence.

In support of this resolution, Mr. Brantz addressed the Convention at some length.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Van Schaick, of New York, who also spoke for a short time in favour of the resolution.

Mr. Halsey, of New Jersey, submitted the following:

Resolved, That this Convention is desirous of visiting the tomb of George Washington; and that a Committee be appointed respectfully to apprize the proprietor of the estate of Mount Vernon of the wish of the Convention, and to make suitable arrangements to carry this resolution into effect.

Mr. Halsey advocated this resolution at considerable length; and was followed by Mr. Sandford, of Connecticut, who seconded its adoption; Mr. Brent of Maryland, also added a few words in its support.

The resolution was then unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Lee, of the district of Columbia, submitted the following:

Resolved, That the National Republican Young Men of the United States, in this Convention assembled, do highly approve of the wisdom and firmness of the Senate of the United States, in rejecting the nomination of Martin Van Buren, as Minister to England; and also applaud the independence and patriotism of John C. Calhoun, Vice President of the U. States, in giving the casting vote on that occasion.

This resolution was received with a hearty applause, and when the cheering had subsided, Mr. Lee addressed the Chair in its support, in a few brief but appropriate remarks. Mr. Flagg, of S. Carolina, succeeded, and was followed by Mr. Lewis, of Virginia. Mr. Dwight of Massachusetts, stated that he was in England at the time of the conclusion of the "arrangement;" and testified to the sneers and covert expressions of Englishmen on the subject, spoke of the reflections cast by them on this country and its administration; all which arose from the conduct of the American Minister and the miserable "arrangement" made by him with Lord Aberdeen. Mr. Benedict, of New York, then took the floor, and reflected with much severity on the political conduct of Mr. Van Buren. He denied that he was a distinguished son of New York. She acknowledged no man to be such, who would lick the dust from the foot of a monarch's throne. The speeches of Mr. Lewis and Mr. Flagg were also very pointed; and each of the speakers was loudly cheered.

The question being finally put on the adoption of the resolution, it was unanimously agreed to.

FRIDAY, May 11.

The Convention was called to order at 9 o'clock, and the Chair was taken by Mr. Faulkner, of Virginia, one of the Vice Presidents. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Hilt, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Stuart, of Maryland, from the Committee appointed to wait upon Mr. Clay, and inform him of his nomination to the office of President of the United States, by the Young men of the National Republican party, submitted the following report: which was read and adopted:

The committee appointed to wait upon Mr. Clay, and make arrangements for his reception, respectfully report: That they have had the same under consideration, and after mature deliberation recommend that Mr. Clay be waited upon by a sub-committee, consisting of John M. Steuart, Edward G. Prescott, and H. C. Flagg, at ten o'clock this morning, who shall conduct him to a seat on the right hand of the President; that the Chairman of this committee shall introduce him to the President, and the President introduce him to the Convention. After being introduced to the Convention, which shall rise on the announcing of his name, the President shall address him on behalf of the Convention, and the Convention shall, without being seated, receive his answer.—It is further especially recommended, that no demonstration, by applauding, be made by the Convention until after Mr. C. shall have answered the President's address. All which is respectfully submitted. By order.

JOHN M. STEUART, Chairman.

Mr. Clay having been announced as present in the ante-room, in pursuance of the arrangements agreed upon the sub-Committee conducted him to a seat on the right of the Chair, and introduced him to the Presiding officer of the Convention, by whom he was introduced, in general terms, to the delegates. Then addressing himself to Mr. Clay, he said—

SIR: As the organ, and in the name of the National Republican Young Men in this convention assembled, I welcome your presence on this interesting occasion and tender to you, in their behalf, the respects the gratitude, and the admiration of those that surround you. Your private worth and public services have placed you before them—the object of their patriotic labors and hopes.

About to close the duties that brought us together, we could not, as a body separate, without this offering of our feelings and sentiments to the man whose name and principles are associated with the liberty and glory of our beloved country.

With such a name, and such principles, we go forth united and active in a great cause—and feel assured, that, in an appeal to the young men of America, the CONSTITUTION and HENRY CLAY will be triumphant.

To which Mr. Clay responded as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention:—In conformity with your resolution, communicated through a Committee of your body, I have the honor of presenting myself before you; and I avail myself of the occasion to express the deep and grateful sense which I entertain for the distinguished proofs which you have on this, and other days of your Session, given to me of your esteem and confidence. Should I be called by the People of the United States to the administration of their Executive Government, it shall be my earnest endeavor to fulfil their expectations; to maintain, with firmness and dignity, their interests and honor abroad; to cradicate every abuse and corruption at home; and to uphold, with vigor, and equality, and justice, the supremacy of the Constitution and the laws.

Our greatest interest, in this world, is our liberty. Derived from our ancestors, by whose valor and blood it was established, it depends upon the vigilance, virtue, and intelligence, of the present generation, whether it shall be preserved and transmitted to posterity, as the most precious of all earthly possessions. Next to that, in importance is our Union, indissolubly connected with it, also derived from the fathers of our country. But what we want is a practical, efficient, and powerful Union—one that shall impartially enforce the laws towards all; whether individuals or communities, who are justly subject to their authority: a Union which, if it shall ever be deemed necessary to chide one member of the confederacy, for rash and intemperate expressions, threatening its disturbance, will snatch violated laws and treaties from beneath the feet of another member and deliver Free Citizens of the United States from unjust and ignominious imprisonment.

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