date of the proclamation; particularly and notoriously when the port of Algesiras itself was lately entered and attacked by a British fleet; and because, on a renewal of the blockade, either a new proclamation ought to have issued, or the vessels making for Gibraltar ought to have been premonished of their danger and permitted to change their course, as they might think proper.—Among the abuses committed under pretext of war, none seem to have been carried to greater extravagance, or to threaten greater mischief to neutral commerce, than the attempts to substitute fictitious blockades by proclamation, for real blockades formed according to the law of nations; and consequently none against which it is more necessary for neutral nations to remonstrate effectually, before the innovations acquire maturity and authority, from repetitions on one side, and silent acquiescence on the other."

Mr. Smith, Secretary of the Navy to Commodore Preble.

Navy-Department, 4th Feb. 1804.

SIR—Your letter of the 12th Nov. enclosing your circular notification of the blockade of the port of Tripoli, I have received.

Sensible as you must be, that it is the interest as well as the disposition of the United States, to maintain the rights of neutral nations, you will I trust, cautiously avoid whatever may appear to you to be incompatible with those rights. It is however deemed necessary, and I am charged by the President to state to you, what, in his opinion, characterises a blockade. I have therefore to inform you, that the trade of a neutral, in articles not contraband, cannot be rightfully obstructed to any port, not actually blackaded by a force so disposed before it, as to create an evident danger of entering it. Whenever, therefore, you shall have thus formed a blockade of the port of Tripoli, you will have a right to prevent any vessel from entering it, and to capture for adjudication any vessel that shall attempt to enter the same, with a knowledge of the existence of the blockade. You will however not take as prize any vessel attempting to enter the port of Tripoli, without such knowledge; but in every case of an attempt to enter, without a previous knowledge of the existence of the blockade, you will give the commanding officer of such vessel notice of such blockade, and forwarn him from entering. And if after such a notification, such vessel should again attempt to enter the same port, you will be justifiable in sending her into port for adjudication. You will, sir, hence perceive, that you are to consider your circular communication to the neutral powers, not as an evidence that every person attempting to enter has previous knowledge of the blockade, but merely as a friendly notification to them of the blockade, in order that they might make the necessary arrangements for the discontinuance of all commerce with such blockaded port.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) R. SMITH.

Extracts from a letter of Mr. Smith, Secretary of State, to Mr. Pinkney, dated

Department of State, Nov. 2d, 1810.

"With the duplicate of my letter to you, of the 19th ult. I now send to you a copy of the President's proclamation, founded on the repeal of the Berlin and Milan decrees. Enclosed you will also receive a copy of my letter to general Armstrong, of this day, which will afford you a view of the revocations and understanding under which this proclamation has been issued.

"To the copy of the proclamation herewith transmitted, in relation to West Florida, and to my letter to general Armstrong, touching the same, I refer you for information, as to the views of this government, in taking possession of that country, and as to the considerations which had constrained the President, at this juncture, to resort to this measure.

"This dispatch will be delivered to you, by one of the officers of the United States' frigate Essex, who will have orders to return to his ship, as soon as he shall have received such letters, as you may deem it necessary to transmit to this department."

Mr. Smith to Mr. Pinkney.

Department of State Nov. 15, 1810.

Sir—From a review of the conduct of the British government, in relating to a plenipotentiary successor to Mr. Jackson, as presented in your several communications, including even those brought by the Hornet, at which date, and on which inviting occasion, the subject does not appear to have been within the attention of the government, the President thinks it improper, that the U. States should continue to be represented at London, by the minister plenipotentiary. In case, therefore, no appointment of a successor to Mr. Jackson, of that grade, should have taken place at the receipt of this letter, you will consider your functions as suspended, and you will accordingly take your leave of *absence*, charging a fit person with the affairs of the legation.

Considering the season at which this instruction may have its effect, and the possibility of a satisfactory change in the posture of our relations with Great Britain, the time of your return to the U. States is left to your discretion and convenience.

I have the honor to be, &c.

R. SMITH.

William Pinkney, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

(To be continued.)

CONGRESS.—In Senate,

Tuesday, Dec. 11.

Mr. *Brent* attended.

On motion of Mr. *Leib*,

Resolved, That so much of the message of the President of the U. States as relates to the organization and discipline of the militia be referred to a committee, with leave to report thereon by bill otherwise.

Messrs. Leib, Reed, Smith of Md. Anderson and Gilman were appointed a committee accordingly.

Mr. *Smith* Md. reported the bill to suspend the 2d section of the act regulating foreign coins, without amendment; and it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Wednesday, Dec. 12.

The Vice-President took the chair this day.

Mr. *Franklin* attended.

DISTRESSED SEAMEN.

The following message, addressed to both Houses, was received from the President of the U. States by Mr. *Edward Coles*, his Secretary:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I lay before Congress, and recommend to their early attention, a report of the Secretary of State, from which it will be seen that a very considerable demand, beyond the legal appropriation, has been incurred for the support of seamen distressed by seizures, in different ports of Europe, of the vessels to which they belonged.

JAMES MADISON.

December 12, 1810.

REPORT.

Department of State, Dec. 11, 1810.

Sir—The funds which had been provided by law for the relief and protection of destitute American seamen in foreign countries, have been this year rendered inadequate to their contemplated object by the extensive seizures of our vessels in Europe, and the effect thereof on the situation of the crews.—The advances, which have been necessarily made by our ministers and consuls abroad to supply the wants of those seamen, and to procure them passages to the U. States, have greatly exceeded the amount of these appropriated funds. Of those advances, accounts requiring immediate reimbursment, have already been rendered to the amount of 75,500 dollars, and it is apprehended that others may yet be received.

As these accounts cannot be paid under any existing law, it is respectfully proposed to submit to the consideration of Congress the propriety of passing a law, which will appropriate a sum of money for the repayment of the advances of which accounts have already been exhibited, and which at the same time will provide for any similar expences that may have occurred or may occur during the present or the ensuing year. With this view I have the honor of laying before you the enclosed estimate.

With sentiments of great respect and consideration, I have the honor to be, &c. R. SMITH.

The President of the United States.

ESTIMATE

For reimbursing advances made by the bankers under the direction of any of the ministers of the United States and by consuls, for the relief of destitute American seamen, and for discharging engagements entered into by the consuls for their passages home, during the present year, and for defraying moreover such expences of a like nature as may be necessarily incurred during the year 1811, 100,000 dollars.

R. SMITH.

Department of State, Dec. 11, 1810

The message and report were referred to Messrs. Franklin, Crawford and Goodrich.

Mr. *Brent* presented the petition of the President and Directors of the Bank of Washington, praying for an act of incorporation: which was referred to the committee to whom was referred the petition of the Bank of Potomac.

The Senate proceeded to ballot for a chaplain. Mr. Addison was elected.

The bill to suspend the 2d section of the act for regulating foreign coins, was read a third time and passed.

Thursday, December 13.

Mr. *Clay* attended.

The bill authorising the transportation of certain documents by mail free of postage was read a third time and passed.

COLLECTION OF REVENUE.

Mr. *Leib* submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, that a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of directing the Secretary of the Treasury to deposit for collection, in other banks than that the United States, and its branches, the bonds given to the government for duties, and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Two reports, were received from the Secretary of the Treasury, in pursuance of resolutions of the Senate, on the subject of claims barred by the statute of limitations.—Ordered to lie on the table.

Friday, December 14.

The President communicated a report of the Secretary of War, made in obedience to the resolution of the Senate at their last session, directing him to prepare a system of regulations for improving the discipline of the militia of the United States; which was read and referred to the committee on so much of the message of the President of the United States as relates to the organization and discipline of the militia of the United States.

The resolution yesterday offered by Mr. *Leib* was agreed to; and Messrs. Leib, Crawford and Goodrich appointed a committee accordingly.

Mr. *Giles* presented the memorial of the city council of Washington, praying sundry amendments to the charter of incorporation, which was read and committed to Messrs. Dana, Tait, Gailard, Horsey and Giles.

Adjourned to Monday.

House of Representatives,

Tuesday, Dec. 11.

The following committees were severally appointed in pursuance of the resolutions yesterday adopted on the subject of the President's message.

On Foreign Relations.

Messrs. Eppes, Taylor, Fisk, Montgomery, Seaver, Chittenden and Desha.

On West Florida affairs.

Messrs. Wright, Sage, Gardner, Crawford, Lewis, M'Bridge and Rhea Ten.

On a National University.

Messrs. Mitchill, Burwell, Macon, J. Porter, Pitkin, Wheaton and Ringgold.

On the Army and Fortifications.

Messrs. Dawson, Helms, Cobb, Rea Pen. Champion, Livingston and Hubbard.

On the Militia.

Messrs. Root, Cobb, J. Smith, M'Kee, Scudder, Blaisdell, Turner, Holland. Weakley, N. R. Moore, Huntington, Porter, Butler, Morrow, G. Smith, W. Chamberlin and Jemings.

On the Military Academy, &c.

Messrs. P. B. Porter, Love, Lyle, Pearson and Ely.

On the Navy.

Messrs. Basset, Mumford, Quincy, Kenan, Milnor, Taylor and Jackson.

Messrs. Ringgold, Gray, Swoope, Knickerbacker, and Winn took their seats to day.

Mr. *Van Ransselaer* presented the petition of certain persons claiming lands for services performed in the provincial army, then in the service of G. B. between the years 1754 & 1764; the petitioners state that they have been informed that a grant was made by the King of Great Britain, for the benefit of said officers and soldiers, of land bordering on the Mississippi near the junction of the Ohio with the same.—Referred to the committee of public lands.

A report was received from the Comptroller of the Treasury on the subject of unsettled balances; which was referred to the committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. *Gardner* presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of the state of Massachusetts, praying for the erection of several buoys in the mouths of certain rivers.—Referred.

Several other petitions, of a private nature, were presented and referred.

The bill authorising the transportation of certain documents free of postage was read the third time and passed.

According to order, the House proceeded to ballot for a chaplain. On counting out the votes it appeared that the Rev. Jesse Lee was duly elected.

On motion of Mr. *Rhea* (T.) sundry petitions from the inhabitants of the Louisiana Territory, praying for the second grade of territorial government, presented at the last session, but not acted on, were referred to a select committee. This committee consists of Messrs. Rhea, (T.) Roane, Matthews.

Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Messrs. Kennedy and Franklin appeared.

The letter and report of the Secretary of the Treasury as published in the Star of the 25th ult. were received and read, so much thereof as relates to the revenue was referred to the committee of Ways and Means, and so much as relates to the act respecting commercial intercourse, &c. to the committee of Foreign Relations.

A message was received from the President of the U. S. [See the message above.] The message and report of the Secretary of State, having been read, were referred to the committee of Ways and Means.

AFFAIRS OF THE DISTRICT.

On motion of Mr. *Love*, the petition of the President and Directors of the Bank of Alexandria was referred to the committee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. *Van Horn* presented the petition of the President and Directors of the Bank of Washington, and of sundry inhabitants of Washington county; the petition of the President & Directors of the Union bank of George-town; and the petition of the Washington Navy Yard Mechanical Society; severally praying for acts of incorporation.—Referred to the committee on the District of Columbia.

On motion of Mr. *Morrow*,

Resolved, That the committee of public Lands be instructed to enquire whether any, and, if any, what further provision is necessary to be made for settling the claims to lands, and for surveying and sale of the lands of the U. States in the Territory of Orleans and Louisiana, and that the committee report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. *Fisk* reported a bill for the apportionment of representatives among the several states according to the 3d enumeration. [The ratio of apportionment is reported blank.] The bill was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole.

PATENT OFFICE.

Mr. *Mitchell* remarked that Congress had, by virtue of the power expressly granted by the constitution to secure to individuals their intellectual property, passed several statutes, together constituting what was called the patent office. He said it was extremely evident to every one who enquired into the subject, that the power granted to the Secretary of State in this respect was incomplete. Adverting to the measures taken at the last session & commenced at this towards the improvement of the state of that office, Mr. M. said he wished to go a step further by adopting the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire whether any & if any what amendments ought to be made in the several acts ensuring to individuals an exclusive privilege in their several inventions and discoveries; and that they report thereon by bill or otherwise.

The resolution was agreed to.

The bill from the Senate to suspend the second section of the act for regulating foreign coins was twice read and committed.

Mr. *Johnson* presented the petition of John & Edward Tauner, of Louisiana Territory, praying the aid of the United States in opening a canal and road which they state will be of great utility in faciliating internal communication and intercourse in that country. Referred.

Thursday, December 13.

Messrs. Allen, Barry, and Smelt attended this day.

On motion of Mr. *Johnson*,

Resolved, That the committee of Ways and Means be instructed to prepare and bring in a bill fixing the number and compensation of clerks in the several departments of the government of the United States.

Mr. *Mumford* presented a memorial from sundry inhabitants of the city of New York remonstrating against a supposed operation of the late proclamation of the President on those merchants who had previously sent orders for supplies of British goods. Referred to the committee of Foreign Relations.

Mr. *Mitchell* presented a petition of certain persons who had imported at a great expence a number of salt pans, and praying on account of the utility of the object to be exempted from the payment of the duty thereon. Referred to the committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

THIRD ENUMERATION.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. *Basset* in the chair, on the bill to apportion the Representatives according to the third enumeration of the people of the United States

The question occurring on filling the blank with the number of souls which should entitle to a representative.

[Considerable debate ensued on filling the blank with the ratio of 40,000 and lost—several other numbers were proposed, but the bill was finally ordered to lie on the table, 53 to 49.]

FOREIGN COINS.

The house resolved into a committee of the whole on the bill from the Senate to suspend the second section of the act for regulating foreign coins.

The bill went through a committee of the whole and was reported to the house. The question occurred—Shall the bill be read a third time?—which after some debate was ordered to lie on the table—50 to 43.

Friday, December 14.

Mr. *Southard* from the committee of revisal, &c. made a report of unfinished business—which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Newton* reported a bill authorising the issuing of debentures in certain cases—which was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole.

On motion of Mr. Newton,

Resolved, That the committee of Commerce & Manufactures be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making Iberie, on the river Teche, in the Territory of Orleans, a port of entry; and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Gold,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law for ascertaining and settling the controverted bounds of the lands of the United States at West Point in the state of New York.

On motion of Mr. Porter,

Resolved, That the committe of Commerce and Manufactures be instructed to enquire into the expediency of removing the office of the collector of customs for the district of Buffaloe from the village of Buffaloe to Black Rock.

FOREIGN COINS.

On motion of Mr. *Newton*, the House resumed the consideration of the bill to suspend the second section of the act regulating Foreign Coins.

Mr. *Quincy* moved a re-commitment of the bill to a select committee, on the ground that it would, he apprehended, as it at present stood, go to admit the gold coins of foreign powers to circulate at their nominal instead of their real value; by which means certain coins would become a tender at their nominal value, which were not worth so much by four cents in the dollar. To the principle of the bill, he said, there could be no objection—and he only wished that a committee should be appointed to examine the operation of the bill and ascertain whether it would be as he suspected or not.

After a few observations from Messrs. Mitchell and Bacon on the subject, the bill was referred to a committe of five.

THIRD CENSUS.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, 51 to 44, Mr. *Basset* in the chair, on the bill for apportioning the Representatives according to third enumeration of the people of the United States.

The question pending when the committee rose yesterday was on filling the blank for the ratio of apportionment with 50,000.

This question was lost, ayes 26.

The number 43,000 was next proposed and lost, 48 for it, 56 against it. The number 40,000 was next proposed, and after debate, agreed to by the committee, ayes 78.

The committee then rose and reported the bill as amended.

The question was put on concurring with the committee of the whole in filling the blank with 40,000—

But a motion was made by Mr. Quincy to postpone the bill till Monday, and eventually carried, 55 to 43.

Mr. *Sheffey* presented the memorial of Simeon Knight, stating that he whilst acting as paymaster in the army of the United States, had, under the authority of the late Secretary at War, General Henry Dearborn, paid to Brigadier General James Wilkinson the sum of 1450 dollars, being the amount of extra rations allowed him as commander of a seperate post whilst at New Orleans; but that on presenting his vouchers for settlement at the War Office, payment of the same was withheld; and praying relief. Referred to the committee of claims.

Mr *Van Horn* presented a memorial from the First and Second Chambers of the City Council of Washington, praying for certain alterations in their charter. Referred to the committee on the District of Columbia.

TO FARMERS.

Having been informed of the advantage of using the tops of Indian Corn, cut as rye straw, to be mixed with potatoes or meal, as a food for horses or cattle, I have been making the experiment during the present year. I find that my cattle thrive better on this fodder, than on rye straw (cut and used in the same manner). The corn stalk certainly contains a quantity of farine substance, and therefore must be highly nutritive. Being cut and scalded with a small quantity of bran, they afford an excellent mess for milch cows. In the common way of foddering cattle with corn tops, the blades are greedily eaten, but the stalks are wasted. By adopting the plan recommended, the whole affords a nutritive food.

The scarcity of oil at Venice in 1807, occasioned by the destruction of Olive trees during the war, led to the introduction in that state of the Chinese radish, which, we understand, has of late been very successfully cultivated there. The oil is said to be superior to that already known, not merely for the table, but for producing light, and many medical purposes, particularly in pulmonary and rheumatic affections, and also in pleurisies and convulsive coughs.—The practicability of a similar cultivation here, is well worth the attention of the naturalist.

HUGH RICE,

BOOT & SHOE MAKER,

(OPPOSITE THE NEW BANK.)

HAS just received from Baltimore, a handsome assortment of

LEATHER,

and can now furnish those gentlemen who are disposed to deal with him, with BOOTS of the newest fashion and best quality.

Easton, December 4, 1810——m

H. RICE has, in addition to his usual supply, received a quantity of genuine *BENSOLES*, which is no inconsiderable acquisition.

CASH GIVEN FOR

Clean Linen and Cotton Rags,

AT THE STAR OFFICE.