Congreſs of the United States.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wedneſday, January 26, 1803.

Mr. Jones introduced the following motion with a few prefatory remarks.

Reſolved, That the repeal of the diſcriminating duties on foreign tonnage and merchandize imported in foreign veſſels recommended by the committee of commerce and manufactures in their report on that ſubject made on the 10th inſtant, ſhall not extend to foreign ſhips or veſſels, or the articles imported therein from the colonies or dependencies of any foreign nation, unleſs the ſhips and veſſels of the United States ſhall enjoy the ſame privileges in the navigation and trade between the United States and ſuch colonies or dependencies as are or may be allowed to the ſhips and veſſels of the nation to which ſuch colonies or dependencies may belong.

Referred to a committee of the whole to whom was referred the report of the committee of commerce and manufactures on countervailing duties.

The houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole on the report of a ſelect committee on ſo much of the preſident's meſſage as relates to a warfare with Tripoli, &c. Mr. Varnum in the chair.

The reſolution with which the report concludes, authorizing the procuring four ſhips of war not exceeding ſixteen guns each, was agreed to without a diviſion; when the committee roſe and the houſe immediately confirmed the report, and ordered a bill to be brought in.

Mr. Hill, from the committee on the memorial from certain inhabitants of Wilmington, (N. C.) made a report, with an accompanying bill.

The report concludes with a reſolution that the memorial be referred to the ſecretary of ſtate to be laid before the preſident.

The report was agreed to, and the bill referred to a committee of the whole.

The houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole on the bill for the importation of ordnance, arms, &c.

Mr. Varnum in the chair.

Mr. Rutledge propoſed an amendment, for extending the right of importation duty free to individuals as well as ſtates.

Meſſrs. Bacon and S. Smith ſaid a few words againſt, and Meſſrs. Macon and Rutledge in favor of the amendment; when on the queſtion being taken, it was loſt.

Ayes 36—Noes 45.

The committee then roſe and reported the bill without amendment.

On taking the queſtion and ordering the bill to be engroſſed for a third reading, the yeas and nays were required, and were yeas 46—Nays 49.

The refuſal to engroſs is equivalent to a rejection of the bill.

The houſe went into a committee of the whole.

Mr. Dawſon in the chair, on the bill for laying out a new road in the county of Waſhington.

Mr. Varnum moved to krike out the 1ſt ſection. He thought that if any, a general proviſion ſhould be made.

Mr. Griſwold objected to other parts of the bill, coinciding with Mr. Varnum as to the 1ſt ſection.

Mr. Dennis moved that the committee ſhould riſe, in which caſe he would move for a recommitment of the bill to a ſelect committee, with inſtructions to report a bill making general proviſions on the ſubject of roads within the territory of Columbia.

This motion was carried without a diviſion; the committee roſe, and were refuſed leave to ſit again; when Mr. Dennis's motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Mitchill, the houſe went into a committee of the whole. Mr. Dawſon in the chair, on the bill for the encouragement of learning and the promotion of the uſeful arts.

Mr. Bayard moved to amend the ſection ſo as to extend the privilege of obtaining patents to aliens as well as citizens.

On this motion, a debate enſued until the hour of adjournment.

Meſſrs. Bayard, S. Smith, and Early ſupported, and Meſſrs. Randolph, Griſwold, and Mitchill oppoſed the motion.

On the queſtion being put, the motion was loſt.

Ayes 19.—Noes. 44.

Thurſday, January 27.

Mr. John C. Smith, from the committee of claims, reported on the memorial of the mayor and commonalty of Alexandria reſpecting expences incurred for quarantine, that it would be expedient to paſs a law reſpecting quarantine, but that the requeſt of the memorialiſts to be reimburſed monies expended by them being unreaſonable, ought not to be granted.

Referred to a committee of the whole houſe to-morrow.

Dr. Mitchill preſented a memorial from a number of mechanicks of the city of New-York againſt the repeal of diſcriminating duties.

Mr. Bacon laid the following motions on the table:

Reſolved, That it is expedient for congreſs to recede to the ſtate of Virginia, the juriſdiction of that part of the territory of Columbia, which was ceded to the United States by the ſaid ſtate of Virginia; by an act paſſed the 3d day of December, in the year 1789, entitled "An act for the ceſſion of ten miles ſquare," or any leſſer quantity of "territory within this ſtate to the United States, in congreſs aſſembled," for the permanent ſeat of the general government."

Provided, the ſaid ſtate of Virginia ſhall conſent and agree thereto.

Reſolved, That it is expedient for congreſs to recede to the ſtate of Maryland the juriſdiction of that part of the territory of Columbia which was ceded to the United States by the ſaid ſtate of Maryland, by an act paſſed the 19th day of December in the year 1791, entitled "An act concerning the territory of Columbia and the city of Waſhington.

Provided the ſaid ſtate of Maryland ſhall conſent and agree thereto.

On motion of Mr. Nicholſon a committee was appointed to enquire whether it is expedient to make any, and if any, what alterations in the acts for the eſtabliſhment of a marine corps, and for fixing the rank and pay of the commanding officer.

Mr. Griſwold preſented a memorial from eleven of the late circuit judges of the United States, repreſenting that they have been diveſted by law of their judicial duties, and requeſting congreſs to define the duties to be performed by them, and to aſſign ſome judicial tribunal competent to a deciſion of their claim for ſalary.

Mr. Griſwold moved a reference of the memorial to a ſelect committee.

Mr. Gregg moved a reference to the committee of claims.

Mr. Randolph moved a reference to a committee of the whole houſe.

This laſt motion, after debate, prevailed; ayes 53.

Mr. Randolph moved that it be made the order of the day for that day.

Mr. Griſwold moved that it be made the order for to-morrow.

Mr. Randolph's motion prevailed.

When the houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, Mr. Dawſon in the chair.

Mr. Griſwold then ſubmitted two reſolutions.

The *firſt* to provide by law for defining the duties of the circuit judges.

The *ſecond* to provide by law for ſubmitting to judicial deciſion the right of the judges of the circuit court to compenſation.

After debate, the committee divided on the firſt reſolution; ayes 34; noes 56; loſt.

And on the ſecond reſolution, ayes 35; noes 57; loſt.

Mr. Varnum then ſubmitted a reſolution; that the prayer of the petition ought not to be granted, and that the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition, which was carried without a diviſion.

The committee roſe and reported this reſolution, which was agreed to; the yeas and nays being called; yeas 61; nays 37.

(A more detailed ſtatement in our next.)

The ſpeaker laid before the houſe a memorial and remonſtrance from the citizens of Alexandria, againſt a territorial legiſlature.

REPORT.

The committee of ways and means, who were inſtructed to enquire whether any, and if any, what alterations or amendments are neceſſary to be made in the act, entitled, "An act to amend an act to lay and collect a direct tax within the United States,"

REPORT—

THAT your committee conceive it unneceſſary to offer any reaſons in addition to thoſe contained in the letter of the ſecretary of the treaſury, hereto ſubjoined, tending to prove the inexpediency of any legiſlative proviſion in relation to this ſubject. They, therefore, ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That no alterations or amendments are neceſſary to be made in the act, entitled An act to amend an act to lay and collect a direct tax within the United States.

SIR,

THE committee of ways and means, being inſtructed to enquire "whether any, and if any, what alterations or amendmendments are neceſſary to be made to the act, entitled An act to lay and collect a direct tax within the United States," have directed me to requeſt of you ſuch information on the ſubject as you may deem material. It may not be amiſs to obſerve, that this reſolution, although couched in general terms, is occaſioned by a grievance complained of in the ſtate of New-York, viz. that from the mode in which the aſſeſſment has been made in that ſtate, proprietors of land are unable to aſcertain the amount due by them, and are thereby expoſed to the injuſtice of being compelled to pay the tax upon lands in which they have no kind of intereſt.

Should this inconvenience be peculiar to the ſtate of New-York (which committee preſume not to be caſe) we wiſh to be aſſured of the fact.

With perfect eſteem,
I am, ſir, yours,
JOHN RANDOLPH, Jun.

The ſecretary of the treaſury.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
3d January, 1803.

SIR,

I HAD the honor to receive your letter containing certain enquiries on the ſubject of the direct tax.

There can be no doubt that the aſſeſſment of lands has not been as correct as might have been wiſhed; and that in the ſtate of New-York, as well as in all others, where a conſiderale quantity of unoccupied lands were liable to taxation, proprietors of ſuch lands are, in many inſtances, unable to aſcertain with preciſion the amount due by them, and muſt run the riſk either of paying more than the ſum actually due, or of having their land ſold under the proviſions of the act.

But neither is the ſituation of proprietors in New-York worſe than that of owners of ſimilar property in other ſtates; nor does it appear practicable at this late period to correct the former aſſeſſment. The aſſeſſment in that ſtate, ſo far as related to unoccupied lands, was rendered more correct than in almoſt any other; for the act of May, 1800, which was paſſed upon a repreſentation from New-York, and under which the commiſſioners of that ſtate acted, enable them to equalize the tax on thoſe lands with much more correctneſs than was done in thoſe ſtates where the aſſeſſments were completed, and the returns tranſmitted to the treaſury prior to the act. And it muſt be obſerved, that the aſſeſſment had been completed before that act in every ſtate except New-York, North-Carolina, Georgia, and South-Carolina. Similar embarraſſments to theſe now complained of in New-York have therefore been encountered, and even to a greater extent in the ſtates of Maſſachuſetts, Pennſylvania, Virginia, and Kentucky.

If to this conſideration be added the difficulty and expence of correcting the aſſeſſment, the impoſſibility of extending the benefit of any proviſion which might now be adopted to ſtates where ſales ſhall have previouſly taken place, the ſmallneſs of the ſum (not more than 15,000 dollars) thus outſtanding in New-York, and the recollection that the preſent difficulty might have been almoſt altogether avoided, had the proprietors complied with the directions of the act in giving complete liſts of all their lands; it is believed that no ſufficient reaſon can be given why a partial correction ſhould at this time be applied to an aſſeſſment which is no longer conſidered as a permanent work.

I have the honor to be with reſpect,
Sir, your obedient Servant,
ALBERT GALLATIN.

The hon. JOHN RANDOLPH, eſq.
Chairman of the Committee
of Ways and Means.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE

Appointed on ſo much of the meſſage of the preſident of the United States, of the fifteenth ultimo, "as refers to the warfare with Tripoli, and to the relation with the other Barbary powers."

The committee to whom was referred "ſo much of the preſident's meſſage as relates to the warfare with Tripoli, and to the relation with the other Barbary powers," ſubmit to the houſe the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That proviſion ought to be made by law, for building or purchaſing four veſſels of war, to carry not exceeding ſixteen guns each.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, *Jan.* 18, 1803.

Sir,

I am honored with your's of the twenty-third ultimo.

For the more effectual protection of the ſeamen and commerce of the United States, in the Meterranean and adjacent ſeas, I would recommend that congreſs authoriſe four ſmall veſſels of war, not exceeding 16 guns each, to be built or otherwiſe procured, leaving it to the diſcretion of the executive, to procure them in the manner that may hereafter be found the moſt expedient.

The ſubjoined eſtimate No. I. exhibits the probable expence of building a veſſel of 14 and 16 guns. This eſtimate is made out from the beſt information I can obtain. The price of labor and materials varies ſo conſiderable in the different ſea port towns, that the expence of building veſſels depends very materially upon the place ſelected for the purpoſe. It is preſumed, however, that on an average 24,000 dollars for each veſſel would be ſufficient: and of courſe, ſhould the executive be authorized to procure four veſſels of the ſize herein recommended, that an appropriation of 96,000 dollars would be adequate to the object.

The eſtimate, No. II. ſhews the annual expence of maintaining at ſea a veſſel of 14, and a veſſel of 16 guns.

With much reſpect,
I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient ſervant,
ROBERT SMITH.

Hon. WILLIAM EUSTIS.

No. I.

Eſtimate of the expence of building (of ſeaſoned white oak) rigging and equipping a veſſel of war, to carry 14 and 16 guns, excluſively of military ſtores.

	Dolls.	Cts.
Veſſel of 14 guns, 200 Tons.		
Aggregate	20,786	67
Veſſel of 16 guns, 240 Tons.		
Aggregate	24,824	

No. II.

Eſtimate of the annual expence of maintaining at ſea a veſſel of 14 and a veſſel of 16 guns.

	Dolls.	Cts.
Veſſels of 14 guns, 90 men.		
Aggregate	27,768	25
Veſſels of 16 guns, 120 men.		
Aggregate	30,163	17

In SENATE of the UNITED STATES.
January 19th, 1803.

The committee, to whom was referred the reſolution of the 7th inſtant, "to enquire whether any, and if any, what legiſlative meaſures may be neceſſary for admitting the ſtate of Ohio into the union, or for extending to that ſtate, the laws of the United States,"

REPORT:—

That the people of the eaſtern diviſion of the territory North Weſt of the river Ohio, in purſuance of an act of congreſs, paſſed on the 30th day of April, 1802, entitled, "An act to enable the people of the eaſtern diviſion of the territory North Weſt of the river Ohio, to form a conſtitution and ſtate government, and for the admiſſion of ſuch ſtate into the union, on an equal footing with the original ſtates, and for other purpoſes:" did on the 29th day of November, 1800, form for themſelves a conſtitution and ſtate government. That the ſaid conſtitution and government ſo formed is republican, and in conformity to the principles contained in the articles of the ordinance, made on the 13th day of July, 1787, for the government of the ſaid territory; and that it is now neceſſary to eſtabliſh a diſtrict court within the ſaid ſtate, to carry into complete effect the laws of the United States, within the ſame.

SALEM, January 20.

Extract of a letter received here, dated at Joanna, (one of the Cormoro Iſlands,) Auguſt 10th, 1802.

"The ſhip Neptune, captain Simpſon, of Philadelphia, from the Iſle of France, bound to the eaſt coaſt of Africa, was caſt away on the iſland of Patte, in the night, about 22 months ago. They were plundered by the natives of almoſt every thing they poſſeſſed. They made out to get to a ſmall port in the neighborhood, where the owner of the ſhip purchaſed a ſmall boat, and arrived here, and afterwards went to Moſembique. Captain Simpſon, and Mr. Gantt, the chief mate, remained here ſome time, and then departed in a boat for the iſland of Madagaſcar. Mr. Gantt left behind him a memorandum in writing, in which he ſtated that Mr. Stoddert, ſecretary of the navy, was his uncle. It is about fifteen months ſince the Neptune's crew were in Joanna.

"A ſmall ſhip has lately been at this iſland, with 33 Frenchmen, who were conſpirators againſt Buonaparte. They were ſent from France to the Seychell iſlands, being baniſhed on account of the conſpiracy. The governor of Seychelle felt himſelf obliged to ſend to the governor of the Iſle of France, to take them away, as they threatened to ſeize any veſſel that touched at the iſland. General Magellon diſpatched a ſmall ſhip and took them from Seychell, and landed them here, where, during a ſtay of only 20 days, 22 of them died, among the reſt general Roſſinier, the principal; the remainder, ſome ſick and ſome well, went in Arab veſſels to Moſembique.

"This place affords excellent water, and a plenty of vegetables, fruit, &c. and there would be a great ſtock of bullocks and goats, if the Madagaſcar people did not come here and take them away. At times this iſland has been invaded by 20 or 30,000 people from Madagaſcar--the laſt time they came over with one thouſand boats, and were very near conquering the iſland, as the inhabitants were reduced to the greateſt extremities, and ſhut up in their principal town. They were at laſt obliged to retire, but carried away many of the Joanna people for ſlaves. I find the people here to be a ſet of beggars, from the king down to the pooreſt of them."

BOSTON, January 22.

Arrived laſt evening, the ſch'r Betſy, captain Payſon, from Oporto, 46 days. Sailed in company with brig Samuel, Clarke, for Baltimore. Left, brig Ann and Francis, Williamſon, of Norfolk, for Teneriffe; Union, Bythewood, for Madeira. December 14, lat. 33, 47, long. 20, 12, ſpoke brig Maſſafuro, Stanwood, from Plymouth, for Charleſton.

The above veſſels came over the ſhoals in company with ſix or eight ſail bound to different ports; among which were the brig Henry, Jones, from St. Croix; and a Spaniſh brig from Malaga, both for this port.

January 23.

Cleared, brig Roſa, Layret, Rio-de-la-Plata; Succeſs, Doggett, Amſterdam; Salem, Nickerſon, Weſt Indies; ſchr's. Juno, Hall, Havre-de-Grace; Joanna, Hammond, Europe; Harmony, Hall, Alexandria; Leonidus, Luce, Baltimore.

NEW-YORK, January 27.

The ſtore of Mr. John Breath, jun. No. 38, Water-ſtreet, near Coentie's-ſlip, was broke into on Tueſday evening, by ſome perſon or perſons at preſent unknown, who took out a few pieces of dry goods and all the money in the drawer. They obtained entrance by cutting a hole in the window-ſhutter, large enough to admit a man. The burglary was affected without any noiſe, and the robbers got clear off with their booty.

Entered, ſch'r Commerce, Mather, N. Carolina, 7 days; ſloop Jenny, Jameſon, Norfolk, 4.

Cleared, ſhips South-Carolina, Steel, Havre-de-Grace; George, Simpſon, Londonderry; brigs Benjamin, Ingraham, Jamaica; Siſters, Mackie, Dublin; Thomas Pinckney, Renegon, Port-Republican; Georgia, Rogers, Savannah; ſch'rs John and Ann, Atkinſon, Sligo; Hope, Geer, Barbados.

January 28.

A daring robbery was committed about 6 o'clock on Wedneſday evening at the houſe No. 208, Water-ſtreet, by a perſon not yet diſcovered, who ſlipped in at the ſtreet door unperceived by any of the family, and took from one of the rooms a portable writing-deſk, containing money and papers of conſiderable value, the property of captain Pettigrew, who boarded in the houſe. Captain Pettigrew ſaw the robber as he was ſtepping out of the paſſage with the deſk, purſued him to Crane-wharf, and would probable have overtaken and ſecured him had he not ſtumbled in the dark and fell over ſome caſks which had been ſuffered to obſtruct the paſſage in that part of the town. Captain P. was much hurt by the fall, and rendered unable to make any further effectual purſuit. The thief got clear off with his booty.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Cadiz, to his correſpondent in Salem, dated November 4.

"Our health-office has lately received an order from court, not to admit in this port any veſſels coming from Philadelphia, or any of the ports adjacent to it; and on the ſtrength of that order a ſhip, arrived a few days ſince from Delaware, has been actually turned off from this bay. It is alſo reported, that all veſſels coming from any other port in the United States whatever, are to be ſubject to a very rigorous quarantine previous to their being admitted into Pratick. If this ſhould prove true, it will of courſe put a temporary ſtop to all American buſineſs in this quarter. But whatever may occur on this head, I underſtand the American conſul here intends ſending an official advice, to ſerve for the government of the merchants throughout the United States.

"P. S. Nov. 10. The quarantine buſineſs above alluded to is certain."

Extract of another letter.

"Nov. 11. The late quarantine law impoſed on veſſels from the United States will occaſion a temporary ſuſpenſion of the intercourſe between our countries; but I ſincerely hope it may not be of long duration."

A Salem paper of Friday laſt ſays, "On Tueſday morning laſt, a ſhock of an earthquake was experienced here, and on Wedneſday evening another.

Entered, brig Ceres, Burnham, Savannah, 5 days; ſchooner Henrietta, Alford, Newbern, 4; ſloop Corneliа, Wilber, Frederickſburg.

Cleared, barque Thomas and Ann, Ruſton, London; ſchooner Little Tom, King, Trinidad; Mary, Thompſon, Jamaica; Jane, Atkinſon, Cape-Francois.

PHILADELPHIA, January 27.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS.

As various opinions have circulated reſpecting the number of houſes built in this city, the laſt year, a gentleman has had them enumerated, and as the ſubject is a matter of intereſt to all the citizens, the following reſult is publiſhed for general information. As much care has been beſtowed upon it, the accuracy of the liſt may be depended on. The whole number is 338 BRICK and 136 FRAME houſes, excluſive of houſes or ſtores built eaſt of Water-ſtreet.

It is to be lamented that ſo many frames are erected; and when we consider their liability to ſpeedy decay, as well as their extreme danger from fire, both to the poſſeſſor and his neighbors; and then reflect that a brick building can be erected at the ſame expence, provided it be finiſhed internally in the ſame rough and ſlight manner that frames uſually are: one can only be aſtoniſhed at human folly.

January 28.

A ſhip and two ſchooners, inward bound, arrived at Reedy-Iſland on Tueſday laſt.

January 29.

ADDISON'S IMPEACHMENT.

From our Correſpondent.

LANCASTER, January 26, 1803.

"Mr. M'Kean, the attorney-general, occupied Monday, in behalf of the proſecution, and ſpoke until half paſt ſeven in the evening. The proſecution was then cloſed on both ſides, and the ſenate adjourned.

On Tueſday morning the ſubject was agitated in the ſenate, and made the order of the day for Wedneſday. At ten o'clock this day, the ſenate proceeded to aſcertain whether Alexander Addiſon was *guilty* or *not guilty*; conformably to order, the names of the ſenators were called, and they voted as follows:

Thoſe who voted for *guilty*:

William Findley,	Thomas Morton,
James Gamble,	John Pearſon,
James Harris,	John Porter,
Jonas Hartzell,	William Reed,
John Heiſter,	John Richards,
John Kean,	William Rodman,
Preſly Carr Lane,	John Steele,
Chriſtian Power,	Robert Whitehill,
Aaron Lyle,	Samuel Maclay,
William M'Arthur,	Speaker—20.
Thomas Mewhoter,	

Thoſe who voted for *not guilty*:

Mathias Barton,	Thos. Johnſon, and
James Ewing,	John Jones—4.

So that Alexander Addiſon was found guilty conformably to the conſtitution.

After conſiderable debate on the puniſhment to be inflicted, the ſenate adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow morning."

[*Aurora.*]

CHARLESTON, January 19.

On Monday laſt the trials of William Weathers and William Butner came on in the court of Seſſions, charged with an attempt to rob the South-Carolina bank. As no perſon lived in the bank houſe, the attorney-general could only indict them for a miſdemeanor. The trial took up upwards of eight hours; the jury remained out for a conſiderable time on Monday night, and yeſterday morning returned a verdict of William Weathers, guilty; William Butner, not guilty. We underſtand that an arreſt of judgement will be moved in favor of Weathers, on the ground that the verdict is contrary to law.

Abner Robinſon, who was apprehended on ſuſpicion of being an accomplice, was diſcharged, nothing having appeared againſt him on which an indictment could be grounded.

NORFOLK, January 22.

Entered, ſchooner Commerce, Hunt,