

dates in Congress.

OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, November 9.

On the bill, making further appropriation for the support of the navy, during the year 1867.

ably to the order of the day, the bill was taken up, and the whole, in the chair, on the bill making appropriation for the further support of the Establishment during the year

otion of Mr. G. W. Campbell, the bill was filled up in the following manner:

and subsistence of officers and seamen, <i>dolls.</i>	74,758 29
ships,	31,468 15
airs of vessels,	142,884 61
and subsistence of the marine corps,	18,500
athing for the same,	10,139 42
icines and hospital stores,	1,263 40
inance and military stores,	310,554 60
ber for the navy,	87,500

bill being gone through, a motion was made for the committee to rise, when Quincy wished to ask a question of the chairman of the committee of Ways and Means.

In the estimate which they had from the Secretary of the Navy, it was stated that the timber procured was "for 73 gun-boats;" the appropriation bill was "for the Navy;" he wished to know the reason for this variance; was this timber was the same as that used for the gun-boats; if so, whether anything else than gun-boat timber?

Mr. G. W. Campbell said, that he would endeavor to satisfy the gentleman from Massachusetts. Upon conversing with the Secretary of the Navy, the committee were of the opinion that this timber was procured for other purposes; it was perhaps contained to be used for the erecting of gun-boats; but had been so selected that it could be appropriated to other purposes, if necessary.

Mr. Quincy said, the committee would be glad to have the communication from the President of the United States to this house, which he has made a provision of those articles of military stores, with which we were not before sufficiently furnished; he then states that he had also incurred some expenses unprovided for, for gun-boats. Mr. Q. understood from the communication from the Treasury and Navy Departments, that the present appropriation was for extraordinary expenses incurred for the Navy, other than those which come under the general name of military stores, and not including those expenses for gun-boats. He asked of the chairman of the committee of Ways and Means, merely for information, whether these extraordinary expenses were those which the President alluded to? Whether they were not produced to the house, were not yet behind the curtain? Whether they were the whole expenses that had been incurred?

Mr. G. W. Campbell said, he could only answer to the gentleman's inquiries, that as the message from the President of the United States had informed the house that certain extraordinary expenses had been incurred, and that the estimate would be laid before them; and as such estimates had been laid before the house, the committee had conceived that these expenses were the same as those mentioned by the President, and acted upon them under that impression. They had no information before them from which they could inform the house whether there were other expenditures made, and they had not enquired whether the message had reference to any other.

Mr. Quincy hoped the committee would excuse him if he proposed another question. The committee would perceive that in the documents accompanying the bill, there was a statement of articles said to be purchased. He wished to know of the committee of ways and means, whether in the common sense of the word these articles were actually purchased and paid for, out of what monies the payment had been made? Whether out of the public treasury, from the private resources of the Secretary of the Navy, or from appropriations destined to other objects. The committee would see the direction he wished to give to this enquiry; that the committee might know before they voted this appropriation, the course which had been adopted by the officers of the navy department.

Mr. Eppes said, that neither he nor any member in the house, could satisfy all the enquiries of all the gentlemen from Massachusetts. All the expenses provided for by this law were not authorized by existing laws. Under the extraordinary circumstances which had occurred on the 22d of June last, at a time when the gentleman from Massachusetts himself had declared that the most violent attack which ever disgraced the country was made, the executive had the choice of two courses; either immediately to convene the representatives of the people, or to demand reparation from Great Britain. As the last was the course pointed out by the laws and example of nations, it was deemed proper to postpone the meeting of the legislature till it could be ascertained whether or not the outrage had been authorized by the British government. In the mean time it was deemed necessary to provide for such exigencies as might occur. Under former appropriations military stores had been procured; but all the stores thus obtained were found to belong properly to

the war department; and although the department of war was sufficiently supplied with saltpetre, the Navy department was not; and in case of any pressing emergency, it could have become necessary to purchase it at a high price. It was asked why saltpetre was purchased in preference to powder, it was because it had been found that powder could not be preserved in magazines; on this account it was thought better to purchase the ingredients for making powder than to purchase the article itself as it could be made as fast as wanted. He believed that all the other items of the stores depended on a similar principle.

Under the existing law of the land, the president was authorized to increase the marine corps to the number of 1004; under present circumstances, he thought proper to exercise that power. No appropriation had been made for the purpose; but it was presumed that if the law provided the power of increasing this corps, it intended that they should be supported and clothed.

As to timber, the same reasoning would apply. It was thought essential to make preparations to guard our defenceless ports and to prevent our cities from being burnt or destroyed. With a view to this purpose it was thought proper to procure a quantity of timber for gun ships; and in order to enable the legislature to give such a form to the preparations for the defence of our harbors as they should think fit, the timber was so selected as to suit any purpose. And if it should not be necessary to make use of his timber, it was well known that it could be sold without loss.

There had been no other expenses incurred than those rendered necessary by the situation in which the country was placed by the attack on the Chesapeake; and he believed the present bill included every additional expenditure that was made.

Mr. Quincy observed, that in making these enquiries his intention was not to cast any blame on the incurring of these expenses. His single object was that he and the house might understand how the thing was done. He did not perceive that either the chairman of the committee of ways and means, or the gentleman last up, had answered his question. One of them had detailed at length the proceedings since the affair of the Chesapeake, which Mr. Q. did not wish to condemn. He wished the house should understand in what manner this business had been managed. Situated as he was upon this floor, possessing no more means of information than any other gentleman in the house, he understood that the articles had been purchased and paid for. Reasoning in his own mind on this subject, as he would on any subject in common life, he could see but three funds from which this 600,000 dollars could be derived: The first fund was the treasury; as they certainly not obtained thence; as they all knew that the treasury cannot pay any money but by warrants; and the Secretary of the treasury cannot issue any warrant, except on an appropriation by law. This thing was not the fund; the next arose from the Secretary of the navy having in his hands appropriations of money destined for purposes authorized by law which he may have applied to purposes which were not so authorized. He did not believe that there was so much more money than was necessary appropriated to any specific objects in the hands of the Secretary as would enable him to meet these additional expenses without affecting other appropriations.

Mr. Q. could then only suppose that the Secretary of the navy had purchased and paid for these articles from his own private purse or that of some other person. He wished to know how it was? If he could not obtain information this way, he must try some other. He wished that the laws of the country should be so modified, as to give all security to the individual who had taken on himself so great a responsibility.

Mr. G. W. Campbell said, he understood that the gentleman's objections at first were not against the appropriation or the propriety of making it; but now he wished to know whether a subordinate officer had actually paid this money, or whether it remained unpaid; and if paid, where the Secretary got money to pay it. For himself he considered it of no importance in what manner the money was paid, whether in dollars or in bank notes or in any other way. The President has declared that he deemed it necessary to procure these materials, because appearances indicated an approaching rupture; if they had not been procured then, they might have become scarce, and perhaps could not be had at all. The materials were stored; the Secretary of the navy had said that they were purchased. He conceived it immaterial whether the money was actually paid, or whether any individual had become responsible for it. It was not usual for the committee of Ways and means or for the house to go into minutiae, or to enquire whether the money were paid one way or another. He asked the gentleman from Massachusetts if it were of any importance whether it were paid a month ago, or should be paid a month hence. The gentleman seemed to endeavor to propose some question that would produce difficulty; he professed to be in favor of the appropriation, and yet wished to throw some obstacle in the way to obstruct its passage. Even had the Secretary appropriated money to this exigency which had been otherwise appropriated, it was a customary measure. There was a time when this doctrine was advocated by the very gentleman who now seemed to oppose it. Mr. C. here read a part of the message from the President to Congress which relates to this subject. He then contended that this proved that the articles spoken of were secured, and that the persons of whom they were procured, were satisfied with the security of government for the purchase. If the propriety of incurring these expenses were brought into question it

might be necessary to give some answer to objections which should be offered. But as it seemed that the propriety of the measure was not questioned, he should go no further into the subject.

Mr. Randolph said, from what he heard of the debate, it appeared to him that some doctrines had been advanced by the gentleman on his left, (Mr. Campbell) which had not been heretofore considered as the true old high doctrine, the true republican or democratic doctrine. He had heard it stated, with some surprise, that the misappropriation of public money, or, in other words, to apply public money which had been appropriated for one object to another, was a matter of little importance, and unworthy of being made a question of enquiry in this house. He thought very differently. He had not heard much of the debate; but he had heard enough to convince him that an alarming—a damning heresy on the subject of politics, was likely to become prevalent in this body. Mr. R. said he would take the liberty of reading an extract from the first communication which the present President of the U. S. made to Congress, in which he recommends it as prudent to multiply barriers against the misapplication of public money, by confining expenditures to express appropriations. Mr. R. read the passage to which he alluded as follows: "In our care to the public contributions entrusted to our direction, it would be prudent to multiply barriers against their dissipation, by appropriating specific sums to every specific purpose susceptible of definition; by disallowing all application of money varying from the appropriation in object or transcending it in amount; by reducing the undefined field of contingencies, and thereby circumscribing discretionary powers over money; and by bringing back to a single department all accountabilities for money, where the examination may be prompt efficacious and uniform." These opinions said he are at total variance with the doctrine now advanced—the present doctrine threatens a war of extermination to these opinions. Doctrines which were then held sacred, and on which he had always acted and upon which he trusted he should always continue to act, appeared now to be deserted.

The gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Campbell) had stated, that there—as a time when certain gentlemen sanctioned the doctrines for which he now contends. It was equally true, he said, that there were others who, contemporaneously too, defended the principles for which he now contended. Does the gentleman from Tennessee consider us as political roundabouts, to be changed by changing circumstances? If this be the fact the sooner we know it the better.

Mr. R. called the attention of the house to an enquiry formerly made into the conduct of general Hamilton, supported by a colleague of his now in the Senate. What was the crime alleged against the general? It was that he had applied monies appropriated for one purpose to defray the expenses of another. This was the charge which was then made, and supported with great ability.

Mr. R. allowed that the crisis which occasioned the extraordinary expenses in question was an immediate one. It was so critical, that Congress ought to have been immediately convened, in order that they might have given authority by law for these extraordinary expenses, and for adopting such measures as national feeling and national honour called for.

He confessed he felt extremely reluctant to vote large sums for the support of our degraded and disgraced navy, for expenses too that had been illegally incurred. He had endeavored in vain, to procure Gallatin on Finance, (which certainly ought to be in their library). In that book he recollected a case exactly opposite to the present, where the President of the U. S. during the Pennsylvania insurrection, made use of money to defray the expenses incurred, which had been appropriated for a different object; but not having the book in his possession, he would not venture to quote it, lest he should not do it correctly. Mr. R. concluded by saying, that when he rose, he did not mean to have said so much on the subject. If any thing had escaped him grating to any gentleman's feelings, he hoped it would not be ascribed to any intention to offend; but he could not withhold his indignation on hearing such anti-republican and highly federal opinions, as had been supported by the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. Fisk said, that the bill now before the house went to provide for two objects; the one authorized by law, to wit, the increase of the marine corps; the other authorized, the procuring of timber and purchase of ordnance, &c. The Secretary of the navy told them, in his communication, and in his letter to the committee of ways and means, that they had no stock of these articles on hand; and that saltpetre was wanting, and was then purchased at the lowest price; timber also had been procured, which was in the highest degree necessary for the defence of our ports and harbours. It would not be doubted but the President had a right to make these provisions; they would have thought him deficient in duty if he had not done it. The President had thought it advantageous to lay in these stores, from the aspect of the times; it simply rested with house to say, whether this appropriation should be made or withheld. If in paying this money or appropriating it, any fault had been committed by the officers of government, if they had exceeded or violated their trusts, it would be time enough to enquire into it when it came properly before the house.

The gentleman from Virginia considered these doctrines as anti-republican; whether

this were the case or not, the example had been set before. There was a case on record which would justify them. He alluded to a bill passed the first session of the ninth Congress.

He thought it therefore very immaterial whether money had been paid out of monies not appropriated, or out of monies otherwise appropriated. It was conceived that Congress would justify the act by an actual appropriation. The only part of the expenditure which the house could object to, was that which related to saltpetre and naval stores; and he conceived these had been purchased with a due regard to the interest of the country.

Mr. G. W. Campbell regretted very much that the gentleman from Va. had either misunderstood him, or had mistated what had fallen from him. What he had said was this, and this only, that there might be a case which would authorize the application of money destined for one purpose to another; he was not prepared to say that this was such a case, but that such a case might happen. He felt surprised that these doctrines were stigmatized as anti-republican or federal, and that it had been said they were playing a game of political roundabout; the expression was not surely meant to convey an idea that they were now advocating a doctrine which they had once opposed. He had said that it was necessary to inquire whether these sums were paid or not; he had not said it was immaterial whence they had been drawn, if they were paid. He appealed to the chairman and to the house if these were not the expressions he had used. He thought that the exigency would warrant the purchase of these materials; the President had told them these were extraordinary expenditures; hence he could not see how this question involved the principle of applying money destined for one purpose to another.

He felt as much reluctance to vote for large naval appropriations as the gentleman from Virginia; he never had been in favor of them, nor ever should be. He conceived that if any thing could authorize such expenditures, this outrage did; and if the President had neglected to put the nation in a state of defence, the people would have had reason to complain of the inefficiency of government: it was the duty of the President to adopt such measures as would have been authorized by Congress had they been sitting at the time.

The question now was, whether the house would sanction these expenditures or not; whether the exigency of the case would justify them? He had not expected that objections would have been made to the details of the bill, or that it would have become a question whether the money was actually paid by the Secretary of the navy or not.

[Debate to be continued.]

PARIS, September 19.
Hopes are entertained that the King of Denmark will not ratify the convention of Copenhagen. The prince royal has testified his utmost indignation at the conduct of his general, in making concessions exceeding his military powers. He has refused to receive Mr. Jackson, the English agent, who had presented himself at Kiel. He has declared he will continue a war with England; and retake by force what had been wrested from him by surprise and treachery.

NEW-YORK, Nov. 18.
Arrived, the schr. Joseph, Bassett, 4 days from Yarmouth, fish.
The schr. Sea-Horse, from Guilford.
[No Clearances yesterday.]
Below, last night, the U. S. sloop of war Wasp, capt. Smith, 4 days from Boston—and in the Office, two other ships one of which is probably the Constitution frigate, from Boston, as she sailed with the Wasp. The schr. Hero, Smith, from Savannah, and a brig, were also below.

The Rope-Walk on Brooklyn Heights, with a considerable quantity of hemp and cordage, the property of capt. Wm. Clark, was last night, between 10 and 11, destroyed by fire.

The following letter from the Secretary of war to the Mayor, was received in answer to his letter, enclosing documents forwarded by order of the common council, relating to the means of fortifying and protecting this harbour, and ordered to be published.
JOHN PINTARD, Clerk.

War department, Nov. 12th, 1867.

Sir,
Your letter of the 3d. instant, accompanied by a report of a committee of the corporation of the city of New-York, two reports of colonel Williams, a chart of the harbor and an estimate of the expense of a line of blocks has been duly received and submitted to the consideration of the President of the United States, who has authorized me to say that there will be no indisposition on his part to the extension of the means of defence for the harbour of the city of New-York, as contemplated by the corporation, whenever a suitable session of the bed of the harbour shall be made by the legislature of the state, and the necessary funds are provided by Congress.

I have written to governor Tompkins on the subject, and have indicated the expediency of such an Act of the legislature as the case may require.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,
Your Obedient Servant,
H. DEARBORN.

HON. MARINUS WILLETT, Esq.
Mayor of the City of New-York.

TRENTON, (N. J.) November 16.
On Friday on motion of col. Ogden, of counsel with col. Burr, and with the assent of the attorney-general, we understand the supreme court granted an order to quash the indictment in the case of the state against Aaron Burr for the murder of general Hamilton. It appears that the indictment was very materially defective, and particularly in that it alleged the murder to be committed in this state, whereas the fact was well established that the death took place in the state of New-York—and that it was the opinion of the bar generally that the in-

dictment in its present form could not be sustained.
Burr is said to have been in the neighborhood of this city, at Morrisville; how true the report is we know not.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 19.

Capt. Gardner of the ship Western Trader, from Liverpool, was boarded on the 10th ult. by the British frigate Amherst 6 days from Plymouth, and treated politely—the boarding officer informed capt. G. that the Revenge cutter had sailed for the U. S. and that on the day preceding, they had spoken a cutter 3 days out, who informed that an embargo had been laid on all American vessels in Plymouth.

Arrived, ship Western Trader, Gardner, Liverpool, merchandise; brig Commerce, Johnson, Mantanzas, sugars; schr Rising Sun, Burden, N. Port. R. I. barley and cheese; Almira, Briggs, Boston, fish; Huntress, Montgomery, N. York, merchandise; Rover, Gardner, Nantucket, oil; Amity, Johnson, St. Thomas; Polly, Scriven, Crooked Island, salt; Juno, ———, Boston, merchandise; sloop Prosperity, Moore, N. York, merchandise.

Cleared, schooner Collector, Mayo, Co. runna.

Yesterday arrived ship Western Trader, Gardner, from Liverpool. Left there ship Perseverance, Pile, of Philadelphia, for N. Orleans, time of sailing uncertain, and others reported by the Eliza.

Same day, arrived brig Commerce, Johnson, 18 days from Mantanzas. Left there brig Industry, of Newburyport, for Philad. in 2 days; schr Rebecca Cohoon, of and for Philadelphia, in 2 days; brig Troy, ———, of and for New-York, in 2 days; brig Friendship, Skilling, for Boston in 2 days; and two schooners for Charleston, names not recollected.

Same day, schr Polly, Schriver, 17 days from Crooked Island—on the 10th Nov. in lat. 35. 30, long. 75, spoke ship Ocean, from Liverpool, bound to Wilmington, N. C. out 58 days.

FROM HALIFAX—Numerous letters state, that orders have been received there from England, to organize the militia and put the fortifications in repair. One hundred militia were employed daily, in assisting on the works; and large reinforcements were expected there. So say the letters.

[Jackson.]

A letter from Halifax says, "Sir Richard Strachan is understood to be ordered to this station, with four additional ships of the line." We believe it probable that admiral Strachan or some other distinguished British officer, is appointed to succeed adm. Berkeley, on the Halifax station; the rest is conjecture.

[Ibid.]

FEDERAL GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

By the Pocahontas arrived at Norfolk, from Liverpool, we have received our file of London and Liverpool papers, both to the second of November. The New-York arrival brought papers one day later, of course these contain little news not already before our readers. The following we have not before seen.

LONDON, October 1.
Some time ago it was said that an attempt would be made to take the Danish ships in the port of Christiansand. A gentleman who was at Christiansand on the 10th has brought the information that Flecker or Flekkeroe, a small island at the mouth of Christiansand harbor, was in our possession, and that two British ships of the line, and a Cutter were menacing Christiansand, where there were two Danish ships of the line, one of them an 88 gun-ship.

The sequestration on English property was taken off at Elsinore on the 15th ult.

Sir Stephen Sharpe, who in the beginning of August was dispatched on a special mission to the Russian government, had arrived at Petersburg on the 29th of that month.

Three vessels from Holland, reached Gravesend yesterday, they left it on the 18th, having previously to the rigid enforcement of the Dutch decree obtained their licences of departure. They have brought a vast number of letters, by which we learn that the whole responsibility of the full execution of the late decree is vested in an officer of the name of Gogle, who is appointed by Napoleon, and who is to act under the influence and discretion of instructions from Paris, and not to be responsible for his conduct to any other tribunal. This has been done to avoid references or application to king Louis on the matter. Every passenger who in future may arrive on the Dutch coast, before he can be permitted to land is to deposit in the hands of Mr. Gogle one thousand guilders, to be forfeited in a given time, should discovery be made that such passenger came last from a British port.

PENNSYLVANIA.

It appears, from the latest statement in the Philadelphia papers, that the Constitutionals have a majority in the house of representatives. Poulson gives it thus,

Constitutionalists, - - - 44

Democrats, - - - 42

One of the delegates from Fayette, classed as a democrat, is reported to be a constitutionalist. If so, Mr. Kean's majority will be 4.

Letter bag of the brig Adherbal, captain McMeal, will be taken from the Coffee House on Sunday morning at nine o'clock.