r even of any very considerable modification of the obnoxious tariff, although the subject is recommended to the consideration of Congress. But the most remarkable passage in the Address is that, in which the President alludes to the flourishing state of the finances. The Whole of the National Debt, he observes, may be expected to be extinguished, either by redemption or purchase, within the four years of his administration, that is to say—in the course of the ensuing twelve months, three years having already elapsed since Gen. Jackson was placed at the head of the government. When will an English monarch be able to come to parliament with so gratifying an announcement?

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JANUARY 16, 1832.

THE TARIFF.

The House resumed the consideration of the resolution moved by Mr. BOULDIN on the 27th of December, ult.

When the motion was made on Friday, that the House proceed to the business on the Speaker's table, Mr. Davis had the floor, and was replying to the remarks of Mr. Cambreleng, on a resolution he had proposed to offer, should the amendment of Mr. Stewart to Mr. Bouldin's resolution on the subject of the Tariff be withdrawn.

The resolution of Mr. Bouldin is in the words following:

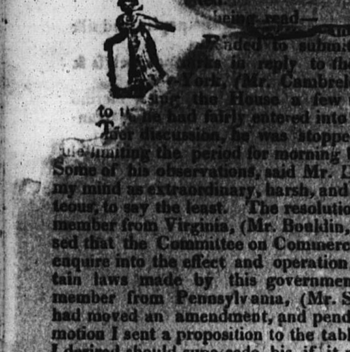
Whereas, in certain ports of the United States ad valorem duties are laid on various articles of import, but the per centum duty required is not laid on the cost or value at the place of production, but on that cost with all charges (except insurance) added, and with 10 or 20 per cent. added to that aggregate.

And whereas, also, various minimum values or prices are affixed by law, (by which to ascertain the amount of duties chargeable on the same goods,) differing widely from the cost thereof; so that from the law itself the rate of duty to be paid on the importation of any given article, subject to ad valorem duties, cannot be ascertained:—

Resolved, therefore, that the Committee of Commerce be instructed to inquire into the pratical effect of these laws, and report to the House the actual per centum on the prime cost, which is imposed by them. That they also inquire how far these duties are, in effect, prohibitory, setting forth as distinctly as they can the various descriptions of imports that are thus interdicted our shores, and so far as may be practicable, to state the costs and charges at which such interdicted goods might be imported.

Mr. Davis, of Mass. had on Friday suggested the following amendment, which he wished to offer, if Mr. Stewart would withdraw his:

Strike out all before and after the word 'Resolved,' and insert the following:—"That the Committee on Manufactures be instructed to inquire into, and report to this House, (if they possess the information,) the practical effect of the revenue laws upon the commerce, agriculture, and manufactures of this country; also, whether frauds are not perpetrated in the importation of goods and the revenue thereby reduced, and how such frauds may be suppressed; also, whether the statute value of the Danish coight not to be modified so as to [illegible] tice [illegible] the actual value in the United [illegible] timore [illegible] accompany their report, if they calls be[illegible] by the evidence upon which [illegible]



[illegible] gentleman from Virginia was bobbing his line among the Committee on Commerce: but no sooner was the proposition made to shift the ground to the Committee on Manufactures, than the gentleman from New York started upon his feet, the mystery was solved, and every thing rendered intelligible. The object to be brought to light, as the gentleman from New York chose to understand it, was certain learned mathematical calculations made some years ago by him, respecting the per centage of duty upon woollen goods. This document, or something like it, he thought, was to be brought before this House by this resolution, and its preamble.

Now, I hope to be pardoned by the gentleman—I am sure I shall be by the House and the nation—when I say this important document which is to enlighten the American People, had slipped out of my mind, fallen into the stream of oblivion, and by its own gravitating power, sunk to the bottom. I acknowledge with humility my shame; for I should as soon stand excused, if I had forgot the works of Newton or La Place. But as soon as the line was like to be thrown in another direction, the gentleman fished it up from the bottom, and thus at once, the whole play was made obvious. I mean by this no reproach to the gentleman or to the document, for it is well enough in its place; but what is it? It is the offspring of the fanciful moments of the gentleman, and might be called poetical vagaries in figures. It must have been his recreation in moments of leisure; for it is the extravagance of cent per cent upon supposed cases of duties relating to bockings, baizes, lion skins, toilinets, kerseynets, and other still more singular names, some of them unheard of, and unknown probably, since we manufacture much better articles that have taken their places, except in the vocabulary of some shrewd collector of the customs, or of some learned technical merchant. It is a fine exhibition of extravagance, for the cent per cent. is run up, I believe, not only to an 150 but to 300.

I am charged with smothering this document, with keeping its all prevading light from the American People. Smothering it! I would not if I could blow out the smallest taper lighted by the intellect of the gentleman to illuminate free trade, even if it vainly struggled to rival the noon-tide glare of the sun. No, let these figures in buckram go forth again to the world—let them strut their hour in the newpapers once more—let them thus revive the recollections of the people, for I doubt not their memory has been as false and treacherous as mine in this matter. It is some years since they were published, and the people are still obstinate or obtuse, for they have not or will not be convinced—let them go then to the public, and we shall see whether the people remain incorrigible—whether they still refuse to be convinced in spite of this mass of information.

The gentleman says, the People are deceived as to the minimums in the woollens bill. They ought to be enlightened, and they shall be enlightened. There are some reminiscences in relation to this matter. Some historical facts, which some persons here are acquainted with, and some probably are not; and I will take this occasion to recur to one or two of them. The worthy gentleman reprobates the square yard duty, because he says the people are deceived by it, and he seems to approach these minimums on woollens with as much care and caution as if he were afraid of being fleeced. Now, in relation to some of the specific duties in this law of 1828, let us look back into the journal of that time. I recollect the gentleman in his place in this House declared he would vote, and he did vote, to keep on a specific duty of seven cents a pound on coarse wool, when at the moment it could be purchased abroad for half the money. I also well remember, that he declared he would vote, and he did vote, to increase the duty on molasses to twenty cents a gallon, which was nearly or twice its prime cost at the place of production. I remember also, that he declared he would give the offensive votes, to make the People feel the Tariff. I will, said he bring them to their senses, by making the law as bad and odious as I can. I know he said he would not vote for such a law, but if others passed it, it should be of this offensive character, and should not be put in any other shape, if he could prevent it. Sir, did the People feel it? Do they feel it now, or is it necessary to make a book of figures to demonstrate to them that they feel what they are insensible of? If the People are so dull that they do not understand when they are burdened then let the gentleman have an opportunity to prove it. Let his document go out to enlighten them. If the matter comes to the Committee of Commerce, he shall have my vote for it; but I hope it may meet with better success and call for less criticism and correction than a certain other document emanating from the gentleman as Chairman of the Committee on Commerce in 1830, in which he asserts that the coasting tonnage of Great Britain is be[illegible] eight and nine millions of tons, and that the [illegible] increase in that country, in the short period of a very few years, was equal to the whole coasting tonnage of this country.

This was to demonstrate the prosperous condition of the navigation of a foreign country, and the comparative decline of our own, which we thought prosperous. There is nothing like the demonstration of figures; the only wonder is, that the people, with such a flood of information, will not be convinced that they live under a bad government, and are oppressed.

As to the reference of the inquiries contained in the resolution, I had almost said I feel as indifferent as the gentleman, though I think, if the amendment I propose shall be carried, the Committee on Manufactures is the most appropriate; for the inquiry then will be as to the effect of the revenue laws upon the great branches of industry in this country. What the sentiments of this Committee are, I know not; and I consider it somewhat singular; and certainly unusual, that we should be together for so long a period, and their sentiments be unknown to the House at a moment like this, when they have in charge some of the greatest interests of the country; though I presume in due time we shall learn what they are. I will give them my confidence in this matter, as I would to any Committee of the House on subjects generally, until it is manifest that confidence is misplaced.

The gentleman from New York, on this as well as on several other occasions, (when I have sat and borne it,) has uttered on this floor declamatory phillipics against the manufacturers, designating them by harsh and reproachful terms, such a monied aristocrats; overbearing, monopolizing capitalists. Why is this language, which might be pardoned as the offspring of excitement, repeated? I will not question the motives of the gentleman, but I must say it looks like an attempt at effect out of doors—at display—and it does make false impressions on the minds of those unacquainted with the matter, and therefore does injury.

It has generally been the pleasure of those who would be thought great advocates for free trade, as they call it, to make the woollens interest their target to fire at. Why this determined hostility? Why is this interest always flouted at? Why is it the perpetual theme of unmeasured denunciation? I will make a few remarks on the capital brought into action by this interest, in reply to the gentleman, that he and others may see who is denounced and what they aim to prostrate.

I shall not be very specific as to sums, but I will furnish data from which accurate computations may be made, adapted to the difference in the value of agricultural property in different portions of the country, and I will then call on the gentleman to refuse, if he can, the inference which must be made. I say then that there is scarce an employment in the country that diffuses its benefits so wide and gives such encouragement to labor as the manufacture of woollens. What is woolen cloth? It is almost exclusively from bottom to top the produce of agriculture. In the first place the raw material, the wool, is from the back of the sheep, and in the second place the labor which works it, and which is comparatively great, is maintained and supported upon the products of agriculture; and further some of the most costly dyes, such as Indigo, are also the fruit of agriculture. It follows that the cost of woollen goods goes mainly to the benefit of agriculture, and I think there is no hazard in asserting that every dollar of capital which is invested in the manufacture of wool gives employment, constant and unceasing, to from five to six dollars of agricultural capital. I will throw out some data which may not be precisely accurate in its application throughout the country, but it will enable every one who chooses to investigate the subject, to satisfy himself that there is no error in the general inference I have made. Suppose we take a woollen mill costing $100,000, which is a far greater sum than most of them cost; for the greater portion of the establishments are on a moderate scale; such a mill, if built with economy, would employ from 160 to 170 persons in it, and would work up annually about 200,000 pounds of wool. I will not undertake to state with precision how many sheep it would take to produce this quantity, for I am not informed how much the average shearing in this country is, of wool in a good condition for the market. We have some information on this head as to foreign countries. In Germany, including Hungary, Gallicia, and Prussian Poland, they clip two pounds a head; in Spain and Portugal, one and a half; in France, two and a half; in England, three and three fourths. The wools, however, of France and England are of inferior quality to those of Germany, Spain, and Portugal. If our sheep yield two pounds at a clipping, then such factory would take the wool of 100,000 sheep annually, the value of which may be easily estimated. There is some difference of opinion as to the quantity of land required to keep that number of sheep; some allow three and some four to the acre for the season, including summer and winter; this is also a matter that every one can adjust upon his own experience or information and determine the value of the land required. It will take also of agricultural produce to sustain the laborers and horses employed by such a mill, about the value of $9000 annually. I shall not undertake to estimate the value of the land necessary to yield this amount of produce annually. Every farmer, however, can do it, for he knows what the surplus of his labor is worth. But an estimate founded upon this data may be made as gentlemen please; the amount of agricultural capital to which the woollens business gives employ will be found to greatly exceed the capital vested in the manufacture of the goods, and will amount, I think, upon any reasonable valuation, to five or six times as much. This, sir, is a matter worthy of investigation, for this interest diffuses itself more widely and extends its benefits to a greater number of laborers and small capitalists than any other whatever, and it is of quite as much importance that we should understand it, as it is that we understand the amount of duties on lion-skins, toilinets, and swansdowns.

What do those who make war on the woollens propose to do? To transfer this business from the farmers and manufacturers of this country across the water to the hands of foreigners—to the farmers and manufacturers of other nations—that is the proposition—it is to put a stop to the immense operations of this capital and labor and give others the benefit of it. It is these classes of our citizens, the spinner, the weaver, the farmer who follows his plough and shears his sheep, that are denounced as monied aristocrats, as haughty monopolists, who are to be stripped of their employments. Who is it that dares assail the working men with such opprobrious charges? Sir, it is importers, and commercial capitalists, and it is a fact established as early as 1824, that about four-fifths of the importers of woollens were then foreigners, and it is said that about seven eighths of them are so now. Why are the Americans, our countrymen driven from this trade? Because they cannot keep pace with the English in perfecting machinery, and bringing goods through the custom house. A document has recently been published by a committee who have examined the transactions at the custom house in New York, and it states that four of these foreign houses have in the last twelve months imported more than a million and a half worth of woollens. These are the men, sir, that beset our doors with incessant complaints about the tariff, and cry out against the farmer and manufacturer as monied aristocrats— they have, sir, capital without limit, and by means of it bestride our necks, as the monster did that of Sinbad the Sailor, and we are as incapable of shaking them off. Sir, this language towards the manufacturers is abusive, and in charity I excuse it on the ground that those who utter it are ignorant of the men of whom they speak. I do not intend, sir, to be forced at this time into the discussion of the great questions which have been started. But I felt it a duty I owed to the worthy class of my fellow citizens who have been greatly misrepresented, and to that efficient body of working men whom I immediately represent, to repel the unfounded charges brought against them, and to throw them back upon the assailants to whose skirts they will cling.

Sir, the proposition of the gentleman from Virginia demands an account of the effect and operation of the revenue laws; but the object seems to be to limit the enquiry to the per centage paid for goods. This would be a most imperfect view of the matter—it would be but a glance at one side—and while I do not object to the views and wishes of the mover, I desire information of a more enlarged character, will enable us to understand the great interests committed to our care, and guide us to useful results.

Among other things, I should hope the complaints as to frauds may be carefully investigated. Sir, it is alledged that a foreign house has, during the past season, been compelled to pay in additional duties alone by having their goods marked up above their own false valuation $15,000; and others have also paid large sums in the same way. These are the men that are crying out at the doors of this hall against monied aristocrats. These matters, sir, ought to be looked into with care, for public sentiment demands it.

There is another matter which also deserves examination in connexion with this subject—it is our statute value of the English £. By an early law of the United States, the value of imported goods was required to be set down in the invoice in the currency of the country from whence they were imported, and that there might be no diversity of opinion, the value of foreign coins was fixed by law—that of the pound sterling, at $4 44, where it has remained to this day, and is so estimated at the custom-house now. The actual value, however, in our present currency is about $4 90. This brings goods into the country under their actual cost, as the statute value is false, and a part of the protection to our industry is taken away in this manner.—I am not sure that I understand the exact reason of this change of value which time has effected, but it seems to me to be explained in this way: Silver, in England, is a tender for debts only which are under forty shillings. The value of gold to that of silver is as 1 to 16; and this is nearly the ratio in Europe, while by our laws we value it as 1 to 15. The consequence is, our statute value of gold in the coin is less than it is worth in Europe, and hence it becomes mere merchandize, and is bought up for exportation. The value of silver, on the other hand, in England, is less than the statute value of our coins, and as it is also there a mere article of merchandize, our coins will not sell there for the same as they pass here. These circumstances only cause perplexity, and it is time his government looked into the matter, and conformed its laws to the actual value of the precious metals.

On the whole, these are matters which ought, in the adjustment of the revenue, to receive attention, and I hope the gentleman from Pennsylvania will withdraw his amendment, and let the sense of the House be expressed upon my proposition.

Mr. Cambreleng rose in reply. He, perhaps, owed an apology to the gentleman from Massachusetts. He certainly did, if on Friday last he had uttered any thing harsh or rude towards that gentleman. There was no one who stood higher in his respect—certainly none whom he should feel so little disposed to offend. But, said Mr. C. while I make this concession to the gentleman from Massachusetts, an explanation is due to myself.—The gentleman has been pleased to say that we have been bobbing for a long lost document sunk by its weight in the bottom of the sea—he has almost insinuated that the gentleman from Virginia, (Mr. Bouldin) and myself had arranged the matter between us—that we had prepared our fishing rod, hook, and line, to drag up this ponderous document. What were the circumstances which caused the excitement to which the gentleman has referred. The gentleman from Virginia, some two or three weeks since, offered a resolution simply requiring some mercantile calculations which I certainly thought would be useful to every member of the house, whatever might be his doctrines, in examing the great question of a general reduction of our taxes. The resolution called for calculations on the charges of importation, freight, exchanges, transportation, &c. on woollens cottons. It required simple calculations of the duty under the various minimums when these goods were honestly imported—and a statement of such cottons and woollens as were prohibited by the heavy duties imposed by this mode of calculation, which arbitrarily imposes the duty in some instances of five times the value of the article.

This, sir, was a very simple enquiry—the information ought to have been desired by as it was certainly useful to all. But what was the course pursued by the gentleman from Massachusetts? The moment the resolution was presented, the gentleman from Massachusetts moved to lay it upon the table. The gentleman from Virginia afterwards moved to take it up, and the House refused—he renewed the attempt—called for the Ayes and Noes—then the gentleman from Massachusetts voted for it—but for what purpose? Not, sir, to obtain the information sought for—but to propose a substitute—a sort of blanket, which effectually smothered the enquiry proposed by the gentlemen from Virginia. If the gentleman will read his resolution, the House will perceive that it would have put an end to the enquiry. He must pardon me, sir, for evincing some excitement that a gentleman of his high standing—one not surpassed in either House for candor, or ability—should endeavor, by such means, to suppress a call for information. I will support his resolution whenever he chooses to propose it, but not as an extinguisher to the enquiry proposed by the gentleman from Virginia.

The gentleman has thought proper to treat with contempt all petty calculations about flannels, baizes, fearnoughts, toilinets, swansdowns, &c. &c. These were strange terms to his ears—he is utterly ignorant of them.—This is not surprising, sir, for one of the champions of the American system—he moves in a lofty elevation—far above the meridian of the poorer and laboring classes. Sir, the gentleman may be, as he professes to be, utterly ignorant of the common terms applied to those substantial necessaries of life; but I will venture to say there is not a laborer, a mechanic, or a farmer, in the Union, who does not well understand all the terms which the gentleman has attempted to ridicule.

The gentleman from Massachusetts has introduced much extraneous matter, to which on a proper occasion, I shall reply. Some things require to be noticed now. He has thought proper to refer incidently to a Report of the committee on Commerce—to a statement of British tonnage, &c. I will merely new say, sir, that the statement to which he refers rests upon the authority of British official documents—the best that we can have on this side of the Atlantic; and, sir, I will add, that whenever that gentleman will question the facts or the arguments of that Report, I shall at least feel it a duty to defend them.—On this subject, that has never yet been done, as the gentleman from Massachusetts knows. And yet, sir, I have seen it gravely stated, in the North American Review, as a matter of fact, that that Report had not only been discussed, but refuted. I had thought, sir, that there were gentlemen on this floor connected in some measure with that Review, who might have contradicted that statement.

The gentleman from Massachusetts has spoken of the importance to the country of the woollen manufacture, and has enlarged upon its advantages to the wool grower. I concur with that gentleman in his view of its importance: but when he addresses an argument *ad captandum* to our wool growers, he must pardon me if I answer him in a similar way. I hope he will offer a resolution proposing that the Committee on Manufactures should inquire what quantity of woollen goods have been imported by those patriotic and disinterested manufacturers whom he has described, for the purpose of encouraging foreigners, for whom the gentleman seems to entertain such an antipathy. Let us see how far our patriotic and disinterested manufacturers have been encouraging the British wool grower by importing British wool and British yarns. Sir, I do not object to those importations. Our manufacturers have a right to get their materials wherever they can buy them the cheapest; but let us not be told of the frauds of merchants, and the patriotism of manufacturers.

The gentleman has also referred to the proceedings on the Tariff of 1828. When he referred, sir, to the votes on that occasion, I expected, at least, from one of his candor, that he would have fairly stated the occasion of the votes to which he has referred. He knew, sir, that it was our design to defeat that bill—a bill denounced on all hands—and justly, and upon high authority, denominated a "bill of abominations"—if that denounced bill became a law it was not the fault of those with whom I had the honor of acting, but of those gentlemen who voted for the bill with all its "abominations." Sir, the gentlemhn from Massachusetts shall not misunderstand me—he has represented me as pronouncing phillipicks against the manufacturing interest. It is true that I have spoken freely, and I shall do it again, of that class of manufacturers who are perpetually making appeals to this House for laws to enable them to increase their exactions from the community. These are the gambling offspring of our Tariff laws. But, sir, that gentleman has never heard me assail that much more numerous class of our manufacturers who rely upon their own efforts, and pray that Congress will let them alone. These are not the feeble creations of artificial legislation. They rest on a more solid and substantial foundation.

But, sir, I shall not go into these questions now; nor follow the gentleman from Massachusetts further in his argument. When the proper time shall arrive I hope I shall be prepared to engage in that grave and momentous debate in which most of us will be called upon to take a part. When we assembled here I had supposed that, we had all come with a just and patriotic determination to examine thoroughly every branch of revenue, and to enquire, with an impartiality, and a spirit entirely national, what branches of revenue could be dispensed with, and what reduced without detriment to the public interest. I little supposed, sir, that we were to engage in skirmishes of this character on the threshhold of so grave an inquiry. I had hoped, sir, that we should go into the discussion with a mutual desire and determination to adjust this great question with a patriotic regard to the interest of the manufacturer on the one side & the consumer on the other. I shall not be driven from that course.—I shall not vote for any measure calculated to shock it or to annihilate any branch of industry. Whatever changes are proposed should be gradual—existing interests should be justly regarded—but while these interests are thus respected, it becomes our duty to inquire whether the enormous duties now imposed upon coarse cottons, coming from Cambric, the heavier descriptions of iron, and raw brown sugar, may not be gradually reduced without injury to those interested in these branches of industry, and whether the consumption and general industry of the country may not be relieved from oppressive taxation—whether a duty of 25 per cent., and incidental charges equal to 25 more in not an adequate permanent encouragement for any branch of industry—and whether we are not imperatively called upon to reduce the extravagant rates of 75, 100, and 150 per cent. now imposed. We are approaching, sir, a dangerous crisis—one which will require the exercise of all our patriotism. It would be wise in our iron masters and sugar planters, to prepare for the crisis, and in a spirit of patriotism to make some sacrifice of a portion of their incomes to the public good.

The public voice demands a reduction of our revenue to the measure of our annual expenditure; it may not be prudent, it may not be wise for our large capitalists to resist.—Should they persist in a determination to surrender nothing, but to persevere in a system of injustice and oppression, they may postpone the reduction of our taxes, but the longer it is postponed the worse it will be for every branch of industry—they may rely upon it the contest will never be terminated until our taxes are reduced.

To satisfy the gentleman from Massachusetts that we were not bobbing for the lost document, I hope the gentleman from Virginia will allow his resolution to go to the Committee on Manufactures. It calls for nothing but calculations and information which I am sure will be faithfully given by that committee, and which is all that the House can desire.

Mr. Davis observed, in explanation, that the gentleman had mistaken what he had intended to say, if he supposed him to have imputed to the gentleman from New York any dishonorable motives in the part he had taken.

Mr. Cambreleng replied, that the document to which his remarks had referred was not that which the gentleman from Massachusetts seemed to apprehend there was a design to fish up, but a different one, drawn up since.

Mr. Bouldin now addressed the House, observing that when he had at first moved the resolution, he had no thought that that sort of discussion would follow which had since occurred. He had himself deemed the resolution to be what some gentlemen had since said it was, as harmless and mild as Peter Pindar's nipperkin of milk; but, had a bottle of aquafortis been thrown in among the gentlemen, it could scarcely have produced more flinching. And indeed the conduct of the gentleman from Massachusetts had, at the time reminded him of the same saying which that gentleman had applied to the behaviour of the gentleman from New York: the bird that is hit may be known by its fluttering.

The resolution here proposed two or three simple enquiries, founded on a statement of the facts contained in the preamble. It expressed no more than a desire to know what rate per cent. was in fact laid by the law which requires the payment of ad valorem duties on certain description of goods. Before this could possibly be ascertained, a piece of information was requisite which was possessed alone by custom house officers, or by merchants engaged in the importing trade. How could it possibly be known unless reference was first had to the bulk and value of the goods and the charges which were to be added to the value before the tax was calculated: For the law directed that all those charges except insurance, were first to be added to the prime cost of the article and then ten per cent. laid on that gross amount before the rate of duty of 45, 40, or 25 per cent. was calculated. What he sought was a succinct account of the amount of tax the people actually had to pay on each kind of goods imported and this was surely a reasonable enquiry. For ought it not to be known what were the duties at present actually paid, before the discretion of Congress could be intelligently exercised as to the degree in which it was proper that the taxes should be reduced or augmented? It was acknowledged on all hands that they should have to act on the gener[illegible] act during the present session, and it was right that they should possess the light which was needed in order to prepare them to do so. The resolution contained not a word from which it could be determined whether, in the opinion of its author, the duties ought to be diminished or increased.

It was, indeed, true that the information, in reference to the *minimums* might, in one view of it, be obtained by simple calculation; and the inquiry would never have been sent to the Committee of Commerce had it stopped at that point; the mover would have made the calculation for himself; but he wanted to ascertain how far the goods which the People stood in need of were in effect prohibited by the force of law. Mr. B. said he would, in a moment, consent to have the Resolution referred to the Committe on Manufactures, were it not an absurdity in terms to refer to that committee an inquiry, which, in every view of it, manifestly pertained to the Committee on Commerce. In answer to a plain simple inquiry as to the matter of fact as it actually existed, viz: what duty was paid on certain goods in consequence of the Tariff Law and the practice under that law, they were answered here and there all over the House with the statement that no such enormous duty was in fact paid, as those who bore the burden thought that they paid, because the duty was in fact avoided by fraud and corruption. Mr. B. said he was the last man in that House who would refuse an inquiry going to investigate the existence or the extent of such frauds as were alleged. But had not the law of 1828 received the sanction of that House and of the other branch of the Legislature, he should have felt himself authorized to say as soon as the law was proposed, that there was embodied in that law itself a spring of corruption that could not fail of furnishing steams that would pervade every part of the Union. Far be it from him to do aught which might prevent an inquiry, the result of which would go to shew how far the previously honest course of our merchants had been corrupted by the baleful effects of that law. No facts that could be produced would surpass the conclusions his mind had drawn from the nature of the law itself. Had the gentlemen opposed to him permitted a very simple inquiry to receive a direct and simple answer, he should have had no objections to their adding any other queries tending to elicit and expose existing corruption.—But may not this at once be manifest, that although bad men might by false oaths evade the law, they alone reaped the benefit accruing from their crime, while the fair trader obtained that modicum of profit only which might remain to him after a just exposition and conscientious obedience of the law?—Were the people who in fact bore the burden at all relieved by the frauds of those who improperly got their goods through the custom house?

Mr. B. asked whether the information he had sought was not important to those who asked additional protection, as to those who complained of the onerous effect of the duties already laid?

He said he had almost understood the remarks of the gentleman from Massachusetts to contain the insinuation, that in proposing the resolution he had offered, he did not honestly desire a statement of what duties were actually paid; but had acted in consequence of a contrivance with the gentlemnn from N. York, Mr. Cambreling, to fish up some document which had sunk to the bottom of the sea.

Mr. Davis here interposed to explain, and said that if such had been the gentleman's understanding of his remarks, he greatly misconceived them. He ment to impute to him nothing dishonorable.

Mr. Boudlin resumed and said, that he could not persume that gentleman would have imputed to him any thing that was dishonorable.

He concluded by expressing his hope, that the House would sanction the resolution in its original form, and not overload it with an amendment, requiring in reply a mass of figures so great, that the report when obtained would be too bulky to be read, and would consequently leave the people as ignorant of the true state of things, as they were before.

Mr. Bates, of Maine, said that he had no wish to put an end to this discussion; but as he observed that many gentlemen were taking notes, and probably preparing to address the House, he would move that the House do now proceed to the business on the Speaker's table, and to orders of the day. This motion was lost; and then

The House adjourned.

TWENTY SECOND CONGRESS,

SECOND SESSION.

From the Washington Gl[illegible]

In the Senate, yesterday [illegible] of the late Th[illegible] Tuesday [illegible] "[illegible]ift," containing 100 [illegible]lens Discovery," near [illegible] containing 100 acres of [illegible] Knapp's Lott" and "Part of [illegible] of the Senate on the [illegible]ning 150 acres of land, more [illegible] of "Fleming's Freshes" containing [illegible] of land, more or less, and part [illegible] and Knapp's lot" containing 50 [illegible] or less; also two Beds, Bead[illegible] and one Horse and cart, [illegible] lands and tenements [illegible] Bullen, to pay and [illegible] and writs of vendi[illegible] costs, due and to [illegible] and Mr. Hill, of New Hampshire, spoke about three hours in opposition to it.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Drayton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the Secretary of War to compromise and secure to the government the title of an Island in the State of Delaware, upon which Fort Delaware is situated. The resolution, heretofore proposed by Mr. E. Everett, calling on the President for a copy of part of a treaty with the Chickasaw tribe of Indians, was further debated by Messrs. Huntington and Polk. The debate was arrested by a call for the orders of the day. The apportionment bill was again taken up, and discussed at great length. The motion of Mr. Hubbard, to strike out 48,000 and insert 44,000, as the ratio, was finally agreed to—Yeas 98, Nays 96. The House then adjourned.

FRIDAY, Feb. 3.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr Smith, introduced, on leave, a bill authorizing a subscription on the part of the United States to the stock of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail road Company. The resolution of Mr. Frelinghuysen, respecting Indian Affairs, was made the order of the day for Tuesday next. Mr. Clay's resolution was then taken up; and, after some explanations from Mr. Hayne, Mr. Clay commenced a speech in support of the Resolution and in reply to those who had opposed it, and after speaking nearly three hours, he gave way to a motion to adjourn.

In the House of Rcprentatives, Mr. Johnson of Kentucky, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a bill establishing certain post roads, and to alter & discontinue others, and for other purposes: The Resolution proposed by Mr. E. Everett, in relation to the Treaties with the Chickasaw tribe of Indians, was further discussed by Mr. Clay of Alabama, until the expiration of the hour usually allotted to morning business. The apportionment bill was then taken up. Mr. McKennon of Pennsylvania, who, on yesterday, voted with the majority on the motion to strike out 48 and insert 44,000 as the ratio of representation, moved a reconsideration of that vote. The motion to reconsider was carried—yeas 100, nays 74. The question then recurred on the amendment proposed by Mr. Hubbard, to strike out 48, and insrrt 44.000 as the ratio. Mr. Allen of Kentucky, moved to recommit the Bill to a Select Committee, with instructions so to fix the ratio as to reduce number of members to 200. This motion was rejected—yeas 32, nays 161. The House then adjourned.

SATURDAY, Feb. 4.

In the Senate, yesterday, the consideration of Mr Clay's Resolution, relative to a modification of the Tariff, was resumed. Mr. Clay resumed his argument in support of the principles of the Resolution, and in reply to the arguments urged against it, and, after speaking two hours and a half, he gave way to a motion to adjourn. The Senate adjourned to meet on Monday next, when Mr. Clay will resume, and probably, conclude, his speech.

In the House of Representatives, a joint resolution was adopted, appointing a joint Committee to make arrangements for the celebration of the centenial birth-day of George

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