CONGRSSIONAL.

TWENTY FOURTH CONGRESS—2d SESSION

[Mr. McKEON presented the petitions of inhabitants of the city of New York, praying for a repeal of the duty on coal; also, of Eli Darling of Brooklyn, praying for relief; of P. Green, praying compensation for injury received while defending United States mail; of importers of New York, praying for repeal of duty on diamonds.]

Mr. HIESTER submitted the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of freeing from postage all letters and communications carried by the mails, relating to the common schools and the common schools systems of the different States.

On motion of Mr. HARPER, it was

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire what loss has been sustained by the destruction of the Patent Office by the late fire; what measures are necessary to restore the records, drawings, and models, and for their safe keeping in future; and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. CLAIRBORNE, of Mississippi.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Public-Lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing all such persons as were actually residing on, or cultivating any portion of the public land, and who were prevented from obtaining their pre-emptions under the act of 1834, and previously, by a failure or delays in surveying the public lands, a right to enter one quarter section, to include their residence or improvements; or where such lands have been subsequently floated upon or sold, a right to enter one quarter section, and one edditional eighth, as a compensation for their improvements, to be located in the same district where such improvements or residences may have been had.

On motion of Mr. WHITE of Florida, it was.

Resolved, That the committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for opening a steam-boat canal from the Mississippi river to Pensacola Bay.

On motion of Mr. JENIFER, it was

Resolved, That the memorials and accompanying papers from citizens of Prince Georges county, Maryland, and of the District of Columbia, praying that the bridges across the Eastern Branch of the Patomac river, be made free of toll; also similar memorials praying that the turnpike road within the District line be made free of toll, be withdrawn from the files of the House, and be referred to the committee for the District of Columbia.

ELECTION OF CHAPLAIN.

In execution of the order adopted on yesterday, the House proceeded to ballot for the election of a Chaplain for the House for the present session.

Mr. LEONARD nominated the Rev. O.C. Comstock.

Mr. TALIAFERRO nominated the Rev Henry Slicer.

Mr KENNON nominated the Rev. Elias Harrison.

Mr. LANE nominated the Rev. Thomas B. Balch.

Mr. GALBRAITH nominated the Rev. N. R Snowden.

Mr. ASHLER nominated the Rev. Mason Noble.

Mr. BOCKEE nominated the Rev. J. L. Elliott.

The result of the ballots was as follows:

On the third ballot Mr. Comstock had 103; Slicer 89; Noble 4. Scattering 3.

Whole number	203
Necessary to a choice	102

So the Rev. Oliver C. Comstock, having received a majority of all the votes, was duly elected Chaplain to the House.

On motion,

The House then adjourned.

IN SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, December 21.

Several messages of an Executive character were received from the President of the United States by ANDREW JACKSON, Jr. his Secretary.

A message was also received from the President of the United States, enclosing a report from the Post Master General, on the subject of the conflagration of the General Post Office, and stating that the place now temporarily occupied by that Department is inconvenient and unsafe, and recommending the erection of a fire proof building. The early passage of a law is recommend, so that the materials may be collected during the present winter.

The message was referred to the committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, and ordered to be printed.

A communication was received from the Treasury Department, in reply to the resolutions adopted yesterday, on motion of Mr. WEBSTER. The communication states that great part of the information called for by the first resolution has been already communicated to Congress, and that which is deficient will be prepared without delay, as also the information called for in the second resolution.

Mr. BENTON offered the following resolution, which was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to inform the Senate what amount in gold and silver has been received at each of the land offices since the Treasury order of July 11th took effect; also to inform the Senate of the amount of receipts in certificates given by the Treasurer of the United States for payments to him on account of public lands, and the amount and date of each certificate or receipt, and the name of the payer.

SURPLUS REVENUE.

Mr. CALHOUN asked leave to introduce a Bill to extend the provisions of certain sections therein named, of the act of the 23d of June, 1836, for regulating the Deposites of the Public Money which may be in the Treasury of the U S. to January 1838.

Leave having been given, the Bill was read twice when Mr. CALHOUN moved to postpone its further consideration, and make it the Special Order for Monday se'night.

Mr. WALKER moved to refer the Bill to the committee on Finance.

Some discussion ensued, when Mr CALHOUN moved for its reference to a Special committee, and asked for the yeas and nays on the motion of Mr. Walker, which was ordered.

The question being taken on the first motion, it was decided as follows:—Yeas 22 Nays 22.

The vote being equal, the Chair decided the question in the affirmative.

Mr. RUGGLES presented the credentials of John Dana, elected a Senator from Maine in the place of E. Ripley, and he was qualified and took his seat.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Special Order, when Mr. Webster addressed the Senate in opposition to the Treasury Order, and spoke until half past four, without concluding.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 21.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Mr. BELL, from the committee on Indian Affairs, reported a bill to regulate, in certain cases, the disposition of the proceeds of lands ceded by Indian tribes to the United States; which was read twice, committed, and made the order of the day for this day.

On motion of Mr. BELL, the House then went into committee of the Whole on the foregoing bill—Mr. GARLAND of Va. in the chair, which was considered and reported to the House without amendment.

The SPEAKER having resumed the chair, the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

On motion of Mr BELL, all the papers committed to the committee on Indian Affairs at the last session, in relation to directing an inquiry into the abuses and irregularties of the Indian Department, were recommitted to that committee.

APPROPRIATION BILLS.

Mr. CAMBRELENG, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported the following bills:

1 A bill making appropriations for the suppression of Indian hostilities.

2 A bill making appropriations for the payment of revolutionary and other pensioners of the United States for the year 1837.

3 A bill making appropriations for the naval service for the year 1837.

4 A bill making appropriations for the support of the army for the year 1837.

5 A bill making appropriations for certain fortifications of the United States for the year 1837

6 A bill making appropriations for the current expenses of the Indian Department, and fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribe, for the year 1837.

All the foregoing bills were severally read twice, and referred to the committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

On motion of Mr. CAMBRELENG, the Committee of the Whole on the state of Union, was discharged from the further consideration of the "bill to exempt merchandise, imported under certain circumstances, from the operation of the nineteenth of May, 1828, entitled 'An act in alteration of the several acts imposing duties on imports," and the same was recommitted to the committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. CAMBRELENG, from the same committee, reported a bill for the relief of Samuel Hixon, Sons, and others, which was read twice and committed.

THE MINT.

Mr. CAMBRELENG gave notice that he should, on to-morrow, ask the House to go into committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, on the bill supplementary to the act entitled "An act establishing a mint and regulating the coins of the United States." He gave as a reason for so doing, the indispensible necessity of passing this bill at the commencement of the year.

WEST POINT ACADEMY.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the motion made by Mr. PEARCE of Rhode Island on yesterday, to reconsider the vote of the House on Monday last, by which the following resolution was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Select Committee appointed to investigate the affairs of the West Point Academy be authorized, by themselves, or a sub committee, to visit the Academy for the purpose mentioned in the resolution under which they were appointed.

Mr WARD remarked that, inasmuch as a select committee had been apuointed by the House, he was willing to accord to them what was their desire.

Mr. W. stated he was further impressed that it was time this question in relation to the institution at West Point, should be put at rest; for until it was, they must expect to have the business of the House delayed, as it was on the last night of the last session, in opposing the bill making appropriations for its expenses.

Mr. JARVIS then moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Mr. VANDERPOEL said there seemed to be more attraction at the other end of the house than at this, and he would therefore move a call of the House; which was negatived.

Mr. VANDERPOEL then called for the yeas and nays upon the motion to lay the motion reconsideron the table; which were ordered, and were-yeas 86; nays 77.

So the resolution was laid on the table.

IN SENATE.

Thursday, December 1836.

Mr. WRIGHT, on leave, introduced a Bill in addition to an act entitled, an act to provide more effectually for the settlement of accounts between the U. S. and Receivers of the Public Money.

Also a Bill for anticipating the payment of the indemnities awarded to citizens of the United States against France under the Convention of 1831 and against the King of the Two Sicilies in 1832.

Mr. SWIFT on leave introduced a bill to provide for the more and religious instruction of the Army of the U. States.

Mr. HENDRICKS offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for the continuation of the Cumberland Road, in the States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

SPECIAL ORDER

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Special Order, being the resolution to rescind the Treasury Order.

Mr. WEBSTER resumed and concluded the argument he commenced yesterday against the legality as well as the policy of the Treasury Order.

The Senate adjourned till Monday.

[The proceedings of the intervening dates are not of sufficient general interest to authorise our devoting to their publication the large space which they would require.]

IN SENATE—DECEMBER 29.

A Message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. ANDREW JACKSON, Jr. his Secretary, containing a report from the Secretary of the Navy, in compliance with the resolution of the Senate, of the 24th inst.

Mr. GRUNDY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which the President's Message on the subject, had been referred, reported a bill for the admission of the State of Michigan into the Union, on an equal footing with the original States; and, on motion of Mr. GRUNDY, the bill was read the first and second time, and was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. GRUNDY then proposed that the bill be read the third time to day.

Mr. CALHOUN considered this as one of the gravest and most important questions that could be brought before the Senate. He was as anxious as any one for the admission of Michigan, but the question whether her assent had been given to the boundary prescribed by Congress was an important one, and ought to be deliberately considered. He therefore proposed to postpone the bill and make it the order of the day for next Monday week.

Mr. GRUNDY was anxious for the speedy passage of the bill, in order that Michigan might receive her share of the Surplus fund, to be distributed on the first of Jauuary next The facts, he said, were all exceedingly plain, though he was aware that gentlemen might differ as to the course to be pursued under them. The second Convention of Michigan was not, it was true, called like the first, which refused its assent to the boundary, in pursuance of an act of the Territorial Legislature—but the Convention was elected by a much larger majority of voters than those who elected the first Convention, and the act of Congress did not say in what manner the Convention which should give the assent should be called.

Mr. CALHOUN at Mr. GRUNDY'S suggestion waved his motion so as to make the bill the order of the day, for Monday next

Mr. MORRIS observed, in justice to himself, as he was on the committee who framed the bill, that it did not, in all its parts meet with his concurrence. He was willing to pass an act for the admission of Michigan into the Union at once, but he objected to the preamble which declares that Michigan has given her assent to the Boundary prescribed by the act of Congress Now the second Convention was not called in pursuance of any proper authority, as the first was. He did not, however, consider this necessary, as the Northern Boundary of Ohio was a matter sufficiently established, and he was opposed at the last session, to the condition required of Michigan.

Mr. BUCHANAN thought that this was not the proper time for a discussion, and he did not propose to enter into it. It was perfectly clear, however, to his mind, that there was no difficulty in passing an act at once for the admission of Michigan. The assent of that State had been given by a Convention, elected by a much larger majority of votes than those who elected the first Convention, called in pursuance of an act of the Territorial Legislature, and the act of Congress very properly did not say that this assent must be given by a Convention, authorized by an act of the Territorial Legislature, because it would have had the effect of preventing Michigan from coming into the Union, without the consent of its Legislature.

Mr. BENTON adverted to the opposition that had been made to the admission of Michigan into the Union at the last session, and thought he saw symptoms of the same opposition now. The bill that passed at that session, was only got through, he said, in consequence of a majority of the Senate determined to set the bill out late on a Saturday night. The bill might be put off till Monday, but he gave notice, that he would come to the Senate on that day, with his cloak around him, determined to camp on the ground till Michigan was admitted.

The debate was further continued by Messrs. Calhoun, Ewing and Morris, after which it was postponed to and made the order of the day for Monday next, and the documents were ordered to be printed.

Mr. CALHOUN'S resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for statements of the receipts and expenditures of the present year, in order to found on it estimates of the probable revenue of the coming year, was considered and adopted.

Mr. WRIGHT, from the Committee on Finance reported with amendment, the bill from the House, supplementary to the establishing the mint, and for the regulation of the Coins of the United States. Also, without amendment, the bill making appropriations for the payment of the Revolutionary and other pensioners of the United States, and gave notice that he would call up this bill at an early day next week.

COURT MARTIAL

Proceedings of Thursday, Dec. 22d

FREDERICK, Dec. 22, 1836.

It having been generally known through the City and its neigborhood, that Gen. Clinch would present his important testimony this morning, anually large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, honored this day's sitting of the Court with their presence. With Capt. Waite of the Quarter-master's Department of the Army of Florida, and Lt. Locke, formerly a commissary of subsistence, the Court had but little business. Their testimony being mostly explanatory, and of the character of much that has preceded it, I shall pass it over and proceed to say what I know of Clinch.

The General is in the vicinity of fifty, hair inclined to grey, brows and eyes Webs terian six feet in height, and TOUT ENSEMBLE, that, of one accustomed to the exercise of authority. From the jocose character of his incidental observations whilst engaged in attesting, we should imagine that his health and spirits survive the effects of his many arduous services in the field and though withdrawn from the service of his country, he retains the possession of a soldier's attributes. There is perhaps, no one in the army, or out of it, whose opinion in matters connected with the Southern Indians, could be so advantageously consulted as his; with the Creeks and Seminoles, he is particularly familiar.—Surrounded by circumstances, which rendered the retention of his commission, an obligation to those who conferred it, and possessing a frank and fearless spirit he long ago in the strongest language called the attention of the war Department to the probability of a protracted and sanguinary contest with these people and urged a timely recourse to the requisite precautions. His opinions were disregarded, and the disastrous consequences are known to the nation—"I shall not, Mr. President," said Gen. Scott, "propound to witness, the usual introductory questions; shall not ask Gen. Clinch, to tell the Court or the people, the character of the relation he held to me in the Florida war.—As second in command, his position was too conspicious to demand designation at this time, or in this place—I shall therefore, with your permission, dispense with the leading queries.' The General's replies were clearly confirmatory of all the statements adduced by previous witnesses, and wholly exonerating Scott from the smallest share in the failure of the Florida campaigns. The most interesting scene of the morning, was the direct examination of the witness by Gen. Macomb.—He was a veteran who had refused the proffer of high rank from the President himself; one who had hunted the savage foe in the prairie and the hammock; one unconnected with the rivalries of military aspirants or political jugglers, and present only from a sense of duty to his countrymen. He it was to whom the President directed the Judge Advocate to propound the following question, and he it was, who annexed to it its very pertinent response.

Question—General, what in your opinion, led to the failure of our campaigns in Florida, under the conduct of Major Gen. Winfield Scott?

Answer—The want of energy and political forecast in the late head of the War Department. The necessity of providing against Indian outrage, and enabling troops to act promptly and efficiently against them, was long ago suggested to that high functionary. It was not until too late that he awoke from his dreams of political preferment, and turned his attention to bleeding and suffering Florida. It was then impossible to do more than expose a handful of regulars to massacre; our illy provided and gallant volunteerss to disease and starvation; the hability of our government to suppress a savage insurrection, and the character of our gallant officers to scurrilous animadversion.

Question. Are the Seminoles good soldiers?"

Answer. "Yes where they have the advantage of ground and numbers."

Question. "Were your troops never beaten by them?"

Answer. "No."

Question. "Are the Seminoles well equipped?"

Answer. "I never inspected them."

Question. "What was the probable cause of disease among the Florida troops?"

Answer. "Excessive fatigue in beating through the hammocks all day, and want of proper rest at night—Meagre diet, and an insufficiency of that—want of water, and suitable clothing, and the general dispiriting circumstances associsted with these causes."

Question. "Was the water for the use of the troops generally bad?"

Answer. "It was sometimes so thick, that we had great difficulty in swallowing it. It was the water of stagnant pools, and marshes, and loaded of course, with animalcula,

Question. "Did Major General Scott lack in zeal and solicitude in bringing the war to a rapid conclusion?"

Answer. "No"

I have thrown together, in a condensed form, nearly all of the principle interrogations and replies, and feel assured that if my statement does not accord with the Journal of the Court in identity of language, it at least does in a faithful portraiture of the spirit of the examination. I had designed taking notes, but an intimation from the Court that general comments would be preferable to detailed official minutiæ, and that they would unhesitatingly veto the publication of all reports of the latter character; and having no desire to run inappositely to the desire of the distinguished and honorable gentlemen composing the Court, I very natually abandoned the project I have also, always omitted the introduction of matters relating to the bussiness of the quarter-master's and commssioner's departments—the numberless inquiries before the Court on the subject of transportation, &c.' periods at which streams were forded, bridges and cause ways built horses drowned and steamboats grounded, and the thousand incidents, which the Court, the parties immediately concerned, and the government alone, car deem of importance. They are of course essential to the establishment of facts and the elucidation of the case, but they are obviously out o place in a newspaper—a medium of direct and appreciable intelligence, not the VADE MECUM of a field adjutant. To the accuracy of all I have published, the Court and those who have witnessed its proceedings, will, I am sure, readily attest.

General Clinch handed to the Court copies of official letters to the War Department on the subject of the Seminoles. They were copies of those, transmitted to the Adjutant General of the Army, before the late war with that people, and are filled with importunities for assistance from the General Government. General Macomb being somewhat tardy in directing the Judge Advocate to read them. General Clinch observed, "let them read sir, there is nothing treasonable in them."

Gen. Scott, on the conclusion of the examination of Gen. Clinch, rose and observed, that he blieved he had no right to request an adjournment, but that he would be gratified by the Court in having his case set aside for a few days, for the reasons previously given. He had a heavy mass of documents to revise, reunite and condense, and stated, that no time would be lost by the arrangement proposed.—The President observed that the Court would commence every day as usual, and when ready for adjournment, would signify its will to that effect,—That, for the present, the Court stood adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock. The Court stood adjourned accordingly.

POSTCRIPT,—Friday Dec. 23d. 11 o'clock, A. M. The court have adjourned to meet on the 4th of Jan. 1837, at half past 1 P. M.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

"ANNAPOLIS, Dec. 31, 1836.

In the Senate to-day, the bill to confirm the act of last Session, requiring the assent of two thirds of each branch of the Legislature to pass an act of divorce, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. The engrossing of a bill in the Senate is a test question.

In the house, leave was given on motion of Mr. Alexander to the Judiciary Committee to report a bill to determine the time from which the act of the General Assembly shal operate.

Leave was granted, on motion of Mr. Perry, to report a bill to charter a company to make a Turnpike Road from some point on the National Turnpike west of Cumberland, to intersect the Northwestern Turnpike in Virginia, at some point in Alleghany County.

Leave was granted Mr. Richardson to report a bill to incorporate the Friendship Beneficial Society of Baltimore

Leave was granted Mr. Ridgely to report a supplement to the act for the relief of the heirs of Jane White, late of Baltimore.

An order was adopted, on motion of Mr. Richardson, requesting the Commissioners under the Indemnity act to furnish the House a schedule of the items destroyed for which indemnity was given, with their value, and the testimony upon which they founded their value.

SURPLUS REVENUE.

The bill as it passed both branches of the Legislature, is as follows:—

An act to authorise the Treasurer for the Western Shore, to receive such sum or sums of money as shall be awarded to the State of Maryland, under the provisions of the act of Congress, therein mentioned.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That the Treasurer for the Western Shore be, and he is hereby authorised to receive from the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, such sums of money as shall or may be awarded to the State of Maryland, as and for its proportion of the public revenue of the United States, which is to be distributed under the provisions of the act of Congress entitled, An act to regulate the deposites of the Public Money.

Sec. 2 *And be it enacted*, That the Treasurer of the Western Shore shall be, and hereby is authorised to deliver to the Secretary of the United States, Certificates of Deposite for the sum or sums of money to be received by him for this State as aforesaid, which certificates shall be signed by the said Treasurer, and in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury aforesaid, shall express the usual and legal obligations and pledge the faith of this State for the safe keeping and payment thereof; and shall pledge the faith of this State to pay the said monies, and every part thereof, from time to time, whenever the same shall be required by th Secretary of the Treasury for the purposes, and in the manner and proportions set forth and described in the aforesaid act of Congress.

Sec. 3. *And be it enacted*, That if the Treasurer shall receive payment of the sum or sums of money to be awarded as aforesaid to this State, in checks or drafts on the Union Bank of Maryland and Franklin Bank of Baltimore, or either of them, he shall be and is hereby authorized to demand payment thereof And whenever any sum or sums of money aforesaid shall be paid to the Treasurer, it shall be his duty to deposite the same in the Union Bank of Maryland, Franklin Bank of Baltimore, and Farmer's Bank of Maryland, in the following proportions,—not less than one quarter nor more than two-fifth parts thereof in the Farmer's Bank of Maryland, and the residue in the Union Bank of Maryland and Franklin Bank of Baltimore in such proportions as to the Treasurer may seem proper, the whole to be held by said Banks subject to the control of the General Assembly.

January, 21 1837.

The General Assembly at 12 o'clock re-elected Governor VEAZY. He received 70 of the 81 votes, cast.

In the House, Mr. Culbreth submitted an order proposing that the Committee on Ways and Means, enquire into the expediency of making a temporary investment of the State's portion of the surplus revenue. It lies on the table.

Leave was given Mr. Ely to report a bill to incorporate the Mineral Company of Baltimore County. In the Senate, so much of the Executive Message as relates to education was referred to Messrs Schley, Beckat, Brown, Wright and Hambleton.

So much as refers to the Governors late Proclamation and the subject which called it forth were referred to the Judiciary Committee on motion of Mr. Ricaud.

Nothing further of interest transpired, the chief portion of the session being occupied in the election of Governor.

Januury, 3d. 1837.

The following gentlemen, members of the late Council were this day re-elected:—The Hon Gwynn Harriss, Wm F. Johnson, John McKenny, N. F Williams and William L. Jones.

A joint committee of the two Houses waited on the Governor and informed him of his election, they reported on their return, that he would attend in the Senate Chamber on Thursday next to quality.

In the Senate, Robert M. Tidball, Esq. of Washington County, and Joseph S Cothman, Esq. of Somerset County, were elected Senators in the place of Wm. Price and Thomas King Carroll, Esq.

The bill reported by Mr. Brown to ascertain the sense of the people of Baltimore County on the propriety of Separating the County from the City, was read a second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill to increase the representation of the City of Baltimore in the House of Delegates, and the bill to require the concurrence of two thirds of each Branch of the Legislature to annul a marriage contract, were passed and sent to the House.

In the House of Delegates a memorial of the President and Directors of the Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail Road Company, asking further aid of the State, was presented by Mr. McLean, and referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

A petition of Elizabeth Harvey of Baltimore, praying a divorce, was also presented by Mr. McLean

Mr. Buchanan had leave to report a bill giving to Mechanics and Laborers a lien on the property upon which they erect houses, &c.

On motion of Mr. Worthington the Committee on Education were instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing a general system of Education.

On motion of Mr. Perry the committee on Education were introduced to enquire into the expediency of applying the interest of the Surplus Revenue to the purposes of Education.

Mr. Culbreth submitted an order which was adopted, appointing J. J. Speed, Esq. a Director in the Bank of Baltimore.

The order submitted by Mr. Culbreth yesterday directing the Committee of Ways and Means to enquire into the expediency of making a temporary investment of the States portion of the Surplus, was adopted.

Mr. Harriss submitted a message proposing to the Senate to adjourn sine die on the 20th of February next, which lies on the table. The bill reported by Mr M'Lean for the relief of Elizabeth McCalee of Baltimore was passed.

Mr. Ridgely reported a supplement to the act for the relief of the heirs of Jane White of Baltimore, the object of this bill is to provide for the filling of vacancies in the Commission.

On motion of Mr. Ridgely, the Treasurer was called upon to inform the House whether any additional awards had been made by the Commissioners under the Indemnity act, and if any, to name them.

The object of the enquiry was to test the correctness of some statements, that, additional awards had been made to those for whom indemnity had been provided in the 1st award. The Treasurer reported that the only additional awards were one of $113,30 to C. R. Brown and $16,42 to Charles Richardson. These persons obtained no indemnity under the first award.

January, 4th 1837.

The Senate to-day elected Samuel Jones, Jr. Esq of Baltimore, in the place of John V. L. McMahon, resigned.

The Carroll County bill after being read a second time was laid on the table.

In the House, Mr. Richardson from the Committee to which it was referred, reported without amendment, the bill which originated in the Senate to confirm the act of last session, providing for an increase of the Delegation of the City of Baltimore.

The Committee on Colored Population, on motion of Mr. Boyd, were directed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting slaves of non-residents from going at large in this State

The Committee on Ways and Means, on motion of Mr. Duke, were directed to enquire into the propriety of appropriating the Surplus Revenue to a State or Real Estate Bank, for the benefit of the land interest.

Leave was given on motion of Mr. Maulsby to introduce a bill declaratory of the act concerning contempts of court.

The bill reported by Mr. Brengle to confirm the New County Act was taken up as the order of the day, when a motion was made by Mr. Worthington, to postpone into the 18th after being debated it was negatived—it then on motion of Mr. Ely, was postponed to the 11th inst.

REPORT

ON THE SURPLUS REVENUE.

The Committee of Ways and Means to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the distribution of the Surplus Revenue of the United States, have had the subject under consideration, and beg leave to

REPORT:

That the State of Maryland ought to accept of its proportion of the Surplus Revenue of the United States which is to be distributed under the provisions of the act of Congress, entitled, "An Act to regulate the Deposites of the Public Money," and that the Treasurer for the Western Shore should be authorised to receive such sum or sums of money as shall be awarded this State, and to give certificates of Deposite therefor in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and to the effect expressed by the thirteenth section of the same act. The obligation exacted for repayment of the monies which may be apportioned to this State is merely nominal, so long as our present condition of prosperity shall continue the monies about to be distributed, cannot be required for defraying any wants of the Treasury, and if it should be our fate to experience a reverse of fortune, the repayment of the principle must be exacted gradually, in small sums, and after reasonable notice In the mean time the State will derive a benefit equal to the interest or profit which may be made by a judicious investment of the monies which shall be received.

As the time within which it is desired that the legislature shall pass on the question whether this State ought to accept its proportion of the public Revenue is necessarily limited, your committee have thought they would consult the public expectation by presenting to the House their views on that question simply, leaving the permanent investment or appropriation of the monies which may become receiveable, for the subject of a future report

In the bill which is herewith reported, they have therefore made provision only for a temporary employment of the fund.

Your committee suppose that the payments to the State of Maryland, will be made in checks or drafts on the Union Bank of Maryland and Franklin Bank of Baltimore the Deposite Banks of the General Government in Baltimore.

The Treasurer of the Western Shore might consider it his duty to demand immediate payment of those checks or drafts, and in conformity with the usage of his office, deposite the proceeds in the Farmers' Bank of Maryland, at Annapolis, which is the general Depositie Bank of this State. It is apprehended that the sudden abstraction of a larger sum of money from the circulation of Baltimore would increase the pressure which your committee are informed already exists there to a considerable extent, and it is very doubtful whether the sum which thus might be withdrawn could be advantageously employed by the Farmers Bank of Maryland. It is therefore proposed that the monies in question shall be withdrawn from the public Deposite Banks gradually, and with a just regard to their convenience, and as they are withdrawn, shall be deposited in the Bank of Baltimore, and Farmer's Bank of Maryland, in such proportions as the Treasurer, on his discretion, may think fit, to be held subject to the future direction, of the legislature, and in the mean time to be applied to the discount of real paper at short dates.

A single reason induces your committee to prefer the bank of Baltimore to the Union Bank of Maryland, and the Franklin Bank of Baltimore, as a bank of desposite in the city of Baltimore. The State is a stockholder in the bank of Baltimore to a considerable amount, and will therefore derive a large proportion of profit on the employment of the deposites on the business of that bank, the States also a large stockholder in the Farmers' of Maryland. This Bank is selected with a view of relieveing the pressure which exists throughout the Tobacco growing district of this State, to an extent fully equal to that which prevails in the city of Baltimore. Tobacco which is the great staple of Saint Mary's, Charles, Calvert and Prince George's counties, and a portion of Anne Arundle county, is at present, and for months past has been unsaleable Hence the Planters are unable to meet their engagements to their agents or commission merchants in Baltimore, from whom they have obtained advances on their produce. An accommodation to the planter would directly relieve him by protecting his produce from a forced sale, it would also operate as an accommodation to the commission merchants, by enabling the planter to furnish him with funds to meet his acceptance made on account of the Planter. Looking to the usual course of trade between Baltimore and Annapolis, it is probable that the whole operation may be effected without transferring any considerable sum of money from Baltimore, so that its only result would be to aid the growers of our great staple by appropriating a portion of the fund to the relief of a particular class of merchants of that city.

The condition of the Farmer in the grain growing districts of the State differs materially from the condition of the Planter. The embarrassment of the Planter arises from a temporary depression in the money market His crop is abundant, and when it becomes saleable (as it is hoped will be the case in a few months,) will afford him entire relief. But the crop of the Farmer is almost wholly lost—he has nothing on which he can predicate his drafts on a commercial agent; it would therefore seem that no measure of relief will materially assist him short of an accommodation, to be continued until his next year's crop shall be brought to market. If however your committee should be wrong in this view, the Farmers' Bank of Maryland through the agency of its branches at Frederick Town and Easton, will be enabled to extend adequate relief as well to the Farming as to the Planting interests; and it is to be presumed that the Treasurer in the exercise of the discretion which is proposed to be conferred on him will be governed by the extent of the facilities which that Bank may be required to yield in favor of those interests.

Your committee are unable to determine with any degree of accuracy, the precise rule by which the apportionment should be made of the fund in question, between the Bank of Baltimore and Farmers Bank of Maryland. The whole fund may be used advantageously in Baltimore. It is therefore against the interests of the State to remove to the Farmers Bank more than can be profitably used by that Institution. To lessen the weight of the Treasurers responsibility, they suggest as their

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