Congrefs

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

House of Representatives.

Friday, February 17.

Dr. Leib, from the committee appointed on the fubject, reported a bill more effectually to fecure the independence of the judges of the courts of the United States.

Referred to a committee of the whole houfe on Monday next.

Mr. Claiborne from the committee appointed to bring in a bill making further provifion for extinguifhing debts due from the United States reported a bill.

Referred to a committee of the whole on Monday.

On motion of Mr. Dana, the committee of commerce and manufactures were inftructed to enquire into the expediency of amending the feveral acts fixing the compenfations of officers of the cuftoms.

Dr. Mitchill prefented a memorial from fundry owners of unregiftered veffels in the city of New York, praying that veffels originally of foreign conftruction, but rebuilt two thirds within the United States, and veffels originally built within the "Fredifh" territories, and having fince loft their regifters, may be employed in the whale and feal fifheries, fubject to no higher duties or tonnage than are paid on veffels duly regiftered and recorded when employed in like manner; provided fuch veffels are wholly owned by citizens of the United States; the petition ftates that the number of fuch veffels, now deftitute of regifters, and failing only under fea-letters is very great, and the number likely to encreafe; and urges the utility of employing them in the fifheries, ufing the ordinary rate of duties, as an equivalent for bounty and capital encouragement of thofe ufeful branches of bufinefs.

Referred to the committee on foftering and encouraging the fifheries.

A meffage was received from the prefident of the United States, by Mr. Harvie, his fecretary, giving certain information refpecting the fituation of the lands of the United States in the vicinity of Detroit.

Referred to a committee appointed to enquire into the expediency of amending the feveral acts refpectiug the fale of public lands.

Mr. Nicholfon reported a bill fupplementary to the act providing for a navy peace eftablifhment.

The bill provides for the appointment of fundry agents to fuperintend the fhips laid up in ordinary.

Referred to a committee of the whole on Monday.

Mr. Nicholfon made a report on the petition of ——— Marftellar, &c.—praying for divorces—The report ftates that the committee have not thought it neceffary to enquire into the merits of the individual cafes, under the conviction that a general power to grant divorces fhould be vefted in fome tribunal. For this purpofe the report concludes with a refolution to invift the circuit court with power to allow divorces.

Refolution agreed to—ayes 75—and referred to a felect committee to bring in a bill.

Mr. Rodney to whom was referred a memorial from W. H. Harrifon, prefident of the convention of the Indiana territory, and other memorials, made a report.

Referred to a committee of the whole on Monday.

An engroffed bill to amend the charter of Alexandria was read the third time and paffed—ayes 79.

Previoufly to its paffage, Mr. Sloan fpoke againft it, principally on account of the reftriction of the right of fuffrage to freeholders.

The houfe refumed the confideration of the unfinifhed bufinefs of yefterday, viz.—what day fhould be made the order to the committee of the whole to confider the bill laying a TAX OF TEN DOLLARS upon every SLAVE IMPORTED into the United States."

Mr. Lowndes moved that the further confideration of the bill fhould be poftponed till the firft Monday in December.

On this motion a long debate enfued, which did not terminate till near five o'clock.

It was fupported by Meffrs. Lowndes, Huger, Roger Grifwold, Gregg, Allton, Holland, Rodney, and Sandford; and oppofed by Meffrs. Findley, Sloan, Conrad, Smilie, Lucas, Eppes, Jackfon, S. L. Mitchill, Elmer, Stanton, and Bedinger; when the yeas and nays, being required, were, yeas 55—nays 60.

The queftion was then taken on a poftponement to the firft Monday in May. Loft, ayes 42, noes 59.

Mr. Findley moved a poftponement to the fecond Monday in March: which motion after fome debate, prevailed—ayes 56, noes 50.

[To prevent an erroneous impreffion being made on the public by the above proceedings, it is proper to remark that, during the whole difcuffion, not a fingle voice was raifed in defence of the act of the legiflature of South Carolina allowing the importation of flaves; but that, on the contrary, while by fome of the fpeakers its immorality and impolicy were feverely cenfured, by all its exiftence was deprecated. A large number of thofe who voted for the poftponement, advocated it on the exprefs and fole ground that it would give the legiflature of South Carolina an opportunity, which they believed would be embraced, to repeal the act.]

Saturday, February 18.

Mr. Eppes offered the following refolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire whether the monies drawn from the treafury of the United States on account of the marine corps, from the year 1798 to the end of the year 1803, have been faithfully applied to the public fervice in conformity to exifting laws, which was immediately taken up, agreed to, and referred to Meffrs. Eppes, Sands, M'Crery, Leib, and Boyle.

On motion of Doctor Leib the committee of ways and means were inftructed to inquire into the expediency of abolifhing the office of lieutenant colonel commandant of the marine corps.

Mr. Moore offered a refolution, inftructing the committee of commerce and manufactures to inquire into the expediency of authorifing the prefident of the United States to employ perfons to explore fuch parts of the province of Louifiana, as he may think proper, and to report their opinion thereupon to the houfe.

Mr. Moore faid it was fcarcely neceffary to make any remarks on the object of this refolution. The government were not in poffeffion of a good geographical defcription of Louifiana which it was very defirable that they fhould poffefs; inafmuch as its limits were not completely defignated in the articles of ceffion; and as the time not, perhaps, be diftant, when its boundaries may be a fubject of a negociation between the former owners of the province and the United States.

The refolution was agreed to—ayes 53.

Doctor Mitchill from the committee of commerce and manufactures, made a report on the fubject of laying duties for the fupport of light houfes.

The report is accompanied with feveral documents, and concludes with a refolution that a duty of forty cents a ton be laid on foreign veffels entering the ports of the United States, for the fupport of light houfes.

The houfe took up the report of the committee of the whole on the bill making provifion for perfons difabled by known wounds received the revolutionary war.

After feveral amendments being made which will be mentioned hereafter, the further confideration of the bill was poftponed to Tuefday next:

A meffage was received from the fenate ftating that they had paffed a bill relating to the recording and regiftering veffels in the diftrict of New Orleans.

The bill allows all the inhabitants of Louifiana on the thirtieth of April laft, to obtain regifters.

Referred to a committee of the whole on Monday.

Monday, February 20.

A bill for erecting Louifiana into two territories, and making provifion for the temporary government thereof, was received from the fenate, and referred to a committee of the whole on Wednefday.

Mr. J. Randolph faid that the houfe would recollect that he had on a former day offered a refolution barring any claims derived under any act of the ftate of Georgia paffed in the year 1795, in relation to lands ceded to the United States. It was not his purpofe in rifing at this time to trefpafs on the patience of the houfe—Nor did he know that he fhould in future offer any remarks additional to thofe he had already made. But he conceived it his duty to place the fubject in fuch a point of light that every eye, however dim, might diftinctly fee its true merits. For this purpofe he withdrew the refolution which he had before offered, and moved the following refolution:

Refolved, That the legiflature of the ftate of Georgia were at no time invefted with the power of alienating the right of foil poffeffed by the good people of that ftate in and to the vacant territory of the fame, but in a rightful manner, and for the public good:

That when the governors of any people fhall have betrayed the confidence repofed in them and fhall have exercifed that authority, with which they have been clothed for the general welfare, to promote their own private ends under the bafeft motives and to the public detriment, it is the unalienable right of a people, fo circumftanced, to revoke the authority thus abufed, to refume the rights thus attempted to be bartered, and to abrogate the act thus endeavoring to betray them:

That it is in evidence to this houfe that the act of the legiflature of Georgia paffed on the 7th of January 1795, intitled "an act for appropriating a part of the unlocated territory of this ftate, for the payment of the late ftate troops, and for other purpofes," was paffed by perfons under the influence of grofs and palpable corruption practiled by the grantees of the lands attempted to be altenated by the aforefaid act tending to enrich and aggrandife, to a degree almoft incalculable, a few individuals, and ruinous to the public intereft:

That the good people of Georgia, impreffed with general indignation at this act of attrocious perfidy and unparrallelled corruption, with a promptitude of decifion highly honorable to their character, did by the act of a fubfequent legiflature paffed on the 13th February 1795, under circumftances of peculiar folemnity, and finally fanctioned by the people, who have fubfequently engrafted it on their conftitution, declare the preceding act, and the grants made under it, in themfelves, null and void, that the faid act fhould be expunged from the records of the ftate, and be publicly burnt; which was accordingly done; provifion, at the fame time, being made for reftoring the pretended purchafe money to the grantees, by whom, or by perfons claiming under them, the greater part of the faid purchafe money has been withdrawn from the treafury of Georgia:

That a fubfequent legiflature of an individual ftate has an undoubted right to repeal any act of a preceding legiflature, provided fuch repeal be not forbidden by the conftitution of fuch ftate, or of the United States:

That the aforefaid act of the ftate of Georgia paffed on the 13th of February 1796 was forbidden neither by the conftitution of that ftate, nor by that of the United States:

That the claims of perfons derived under the aforefaid act of the 7th January, 1795 are recognifed neither by any compact between the United States and the ftate of Georgia, nor by any act of the federal government:

Therefore refolved that no part of the five millions of acres referved for fatisfying and quiting claims to the lands ceded by the ftate of Georgia to the United States and appropriated to quiet or compenfate any claims derived under any act, or pretended act of the ftate of Georgia paffed, or alledged to be paffed, during the year 1795.

On confidering the refolutions, the houfe divided—ayes 53—carried.

Mr. J. Randolph then moved their reference to the committee of the whole on the bill providing for the fettlement of fundry claims to public lands lying fouth of the ftate of Tenneffee.

Carried—ayes 50—noes 30.

A committee was appointed to enquire into the expediency of altering the times of holding the diftrict court of Rhode Ifland.

Mr. Leib reported a bill to repeal the act fixing the rank and pay of the commanding officer of the corps of marines.

Referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Mr. Lattimore prefented a memorial from the merchants of New Orleans, expreffive of their attachment to the United States, and difpofition to fupport the conftitution thereof, and representing the grievances under which they labor from the payment of export duties, &c.

Referred to the committee of the whole on the bill relating to the regiftering of veffels in the diftrict of New-Orleans.

The bill to authorife the courts of the United States, to appoint commiffioners to take depofitions out of court, &c having paffed through committee of the whole was ordered to a third reading to-morrow.

Mr. Newton reported a bill altering the days of feffion of the diftrict court for the diftrict of Virginia—made the order for Monday next.

The houfe went into a committee of the whole—Mr. Varnum in the chair—on the report of a felect committee on the bill from the fenate, to divide the Indiana territory into two feperate governments. The report, for reafons affigned, recommends a rejection of the bill.

The report was fupported ay Meffrs. Gregg, and Lyon, principally on the ground that the population around Detroit was too fmall to juftify the expences attending a feperate territorial government, and on the ground that if the advantages derivable from a feparate government were conferred on them, they might and would be claimed, with equal juftice, by feveral detached fettlements in the Miffiffippi and Louifiana territories.

The report was oppofed by Meffrs. Lucas, Jackfon, Sloan, and morrow on a variety of grounds. They contended that equal juftice was due to every member of the American community, and that of courfe, however fmall the population, it was entitled to the fame protection with a community compofed of larger numbers; that the diftance of this population from St. Vincennes was fo great as to deprive them of benefits refulting from the adminiftration of juftice; that Michilimackinack, which exported produce valued at above 200,000 dollars, and from whofe imports the United States derived a revenue of 17,000 dollars, was more than 800 miles from the prefent feat of government.

The queftion being put on agreeing to the report, it paffed in the negative, yeas 34.

When the bill, from the fenate, was read, and fo amended as to defignate the new territory by the name of *Michigan*, inftead of North Weftern Territory; and the committee rofe and reported the bill, which was ordered by the houfe to a third reading to-morrow.

Mr. Thomas, from the joint committee of the two houfes, made a report, fpecifying the bufinefs, in their opinion, neceffary to be tranfacted the prefent feffion, and concluding with a refolution that it be clofed the 12th of March.

Meffrs: Huger and Varnum advocated an immediate agreement to the report; and Meffrs. Nicholfon, Leib, Smilie, Findley, and S. L. Mitchill fupported a poftponement.

The motion to poftpone its confideration to Friday was agreed to—ayes 56—noes 49.

Dr. Mitchill reported a bill to provide for light houfes and buoys, &c.

Referred to a committee of the whole.

STAR,

OR,

E'n. Shore General Advertiser.

EASTON, Tuesday Morning

March 6, 1804.

The ftate of New-Jerfey has agreed to ratify the propofed amendment to the Conftitution of the United States—yeas 24—nays 15, in the Houfe of Affembly—yeas 8—nays 5, in the Council.

The ftate of New-York has alfo decided in favor of the propofed amendment, in the Houfe of Reprefentatives—yeas 79—nays 14. The Senate had previoufly adopted unanimoufly the meafure.

An entire fleece of wool taken from a fheep laft fummer, (the property of William B. Smith, efq. near this town,) of thirteen months old, after being tolerably wafhed, weighed *thirteen pounds and a half*, down weight.—On the fame farm, on the 25th ult. the carcafe of a mutton killed by Mr. Smith, weighed *one hundred and twenty pounds* down weight; the fat that came off the call of the mutton weighed *twelve* pounds. The above facts are fubftantiated by refpectable, difintereffed perfons who were prefent.

Washington, February 29.

REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS of President and Vice President.

At a meeting of one hundred and ten republican members of the fenate and houfe of reprefentatives of the United States, held at the capital in Wafhington, on the evening of the 20th of February, 1804.

Stephen R. Bradley, of the fenate, was unanimoufly called to the chair.

After a very able difcuffion of the importance of electing the moft proper characters for the next prefidential election, *THOMAS JEFFERSON* was unanimoufly nominated for the next Prefident—and the ballots being taken *GEORGE CLINTON*, governor of New York, was by a very large majority, nominated for the next Vice-Prefident.

A refpectable committee, confifting of a member from each ftate, was appointed to make proper arrangements. *Nat. Intel.*

On the 9th ult. a meeting of the republican members of the legiflature of New-York was held at Albany, when *George Clinton* was unanimoufly nominated Governor, and *Jeremiah Van Renffelaer*, Lieut. Governor. Both thefe gentlemen having declined a re-election, at a fubfequent meeting *John Lanfing, jun.* was unanimoufly nominated Governor, and *John Broome*, Lieut. Governor. Both thefe gentlemen have agreed to ferve. [*N. Intel.*

Extract of a letter from Kaskias.

Indiana territory, Kaskashia, October 18, 1803.

Albert Gallatin, Efq.

Dear Sir,

"You have no guefs how the United States are impofed on by the Spanifh officers fince they have heard of the ceffion of Louifiana. Grants are daily making for large tracts of land and dated back; fome made to men who have been dead 15 or 20 years, and transfered down to the prefent holders. Thefe grants are made to Americans with a referve of intereft to the officer who makes them; within fifteen days the following places have been granted, to wit: 45 acres choice of the lead mines, 60 miles from this, heretofore referved to the crown of Spain. The iron mine on Wine-creek, with 10,000 acres around it, about 80 miles from this place, and formerly referved by the crown of Spain. 60,000 acres, the common touching St. Louis, heretofore given by the crown of Spain to the inhabitants of the village. The mine (though of doubtful value) and 5,000 acres adjoining, and many other grants of 10, 15, 20, and 30,000 acres have been made. I could name perfons as well as places."

Jesse Hollingsworth & Son,

COUNTY-WHARF, BALTIMORE,

HAVE FOR SALE,

FRESH Clover Seed, from Lancafter; French and Nova-Scotia Plaifter of Paris, ground and in the lump; Cologne Mill-Stones, from 3 feet 3 inches, to 4 feet 8 inches; Bar Iron; Nail Rods; Caftings; Crowley, German and Bliftered Steel; Salt, fuitable for fifheries; Beef; Pork; Flour; Corn; Rye; Peas; Beans; Sugar; Coffee; &c. &c. &c.

Baltimore, March 6, 1804. 3

NOTICE.

BY Virtue of a *fieri facias* iffued at the fuit of Thos. W. Armatt, and James C. Copper, and directed to the Sheriff of Talbot county, will be fold by public auction to the higheft bidder for cafh, on Wednefday the 14th inft. the following Lands and Tenements of Samuel Nicols, viz.

One lot or parcel of land, lying and being in Talbot county, on the fouth fide of a branch of Thread-Haven Creek, commonly called Peach-Bloffom Branch, containing the quantity of twenty-five acres of land, more or lefs.

Alfo, all and fingular thofe tracts or parcels of land called Poftumney, Muckie-Mire and Coventry, all fituate, lying and being in Talbot county, and containing (in all thofe laft mentioned tracts) the quantity of four hundred and forty three acres of land, more or lefs. The firft mentioned lot or parcel of land will be fold on the premifes, at 12 o'clock A. M.: and the laft mentioned lands, will be fold at the Court-Houfe in Eafton, at 4 o'clock P. M. and fubject to a mortgage from faid Nicols, to a certain John Clayland, deceafed; for the fum of thirteen hundred pounds; and to an annuity of ten pounds to Philemon Ferrell for his life.

PHILEMON WILLIS, Sheriff of Talbot County.

Eafton, March 6, 1804. 2

FOR SALE,

THE Subfcriber offers the Ground lying on Harrifon-ftreet, from the old Market-houfe up to the ftreet oppofite to Mr. Hammond's, on a credit of 1, 2, and 3 years.

This Property from its central fituation, is as valuable as any now offered for fale in the Town of Eafton. And if the purchafer is difpofed to let it out on a ground rent, he may immediately clear 25 per cent. on the terms that will be offered by

Robert Lloyd Nicols.

Eafton, March 6, 1804. 8

NOTICE.

ALL Perfons having claims againft the Eftate of Charles Adams, late of Queen-Ann's county, deceafed; are requefted to meet at Roe's-Crofs-Roads, on Saturday the 28th of April next, at 10 o'clock, with their Accounts properly authenticated, when a dividend will be made of faid eftate. And all perfons indebted to the faid eftate, are requefted to make immediate payment.

RICHARD HYNSON, & ELIZABETH HYNSON, } *Admin.*

March 6, 1804.

Was committed to the jail of Wafhington county, as a Run-away, on the 30th of January laft, a Negro man named NACE, appears to be about 55 years old, ftoop fhouldered; his clothing a kerfey coat, home-made woolen trowfers and ftockings, and a pair of ftrong fhoes—Says, he belongs to the heirs of William Peachy, living in the lower end of Richmond county, ftate of Virginia, near Hobb's Hole. If the owner of faid Negro does not releafe him, he will be fold for his jail fees, according to law.

JACOB SCHNEBLY, Sheriff of Wafhington county, Maryland.

Hager's-town, March 6, 1804. 3

Notice is hereby Given,

THAT the Subfcriber hath obtained from the Orphan's Court of Dorchefter county in Maryland, letters teftamentary on the perfonal Eftate of Col. Thomas Woolford, deceafed; all perfons having claims againft the faid deceafed, are hereby warned to exhibit the fame, with the vouchers thereof, to the fubfcriber, at or before the twenty-fifth day of Auguft next, they may otherwife by law be excluded from all benefit of the faid Eftate. Likewife thofe who are indebted to the aforefaid deceafed, are hereby requefted to make an immediate fettlement, either in cafh or by giving their bond, bill or note with approved fecurity; they may otherwife expect fuits, without any delay, to be commenced:

Given under my hand, this twenty-fifth day of February, Anno Domini, 1804.

ROGER WOOLFORD, Ex'r of Tho's Woolford, decea'd.

Dorchefter, March 6, 1804. 3