No. 15.

Honorable Robert Smith to the Secretary of the Navy.

Washington, Dec. 28, 1810.

SIR—Well satisfied that an enquiry into a certain transaction is to be instituted in virtue of a resolution of the House of Representatives, which has been moved by Mr. Swope, I have only to request you to afford to every person whatever free access to such papers and agents as may lead to a full knowledge of all the circumstances of the case, and especially that you will require general Stricker to state to you whether I, at any time, directly or indirectly, officially or privately, did give to him any instruction or intimation as to the persons from whom he was to procure the bills of exchange purchased by him, and remitted to the navy agents at Leghorn on account of the Navy Department; and whether he, at any time, did in any manner or form give to me any intimation as to the persons from whom he was disposed to purchase the said bills of exchange.

With great esteem, I am, sir, yours,
(Signed) R. SMITH.

No. 16.

The Secretary of the Navy to General Stricker.

December 28, 1810.

"By the special desire of the late Secretary of the Navy, I have to request you to state to me, whether he at any time, directly or indirectly, officially or privately, did give to you any instruction or intimation, as to the persons from whom you were to procure the bills of exchange purchased by you and remitted to the navy agents at Leghorn, on account of this department; and whether you, at any time, did, in any manner or form, give to him any intimation as to the persons from whom you were disposed to purchase the said bills of exchange."

Allow me to request that you will be pleased to transmit to me your answer without delay, as it is intended to accompany a report about to be made to Congress.

I am, sir, very respectfully yours,
(Signed) PAUL HAMILTON.

No. 17.

Copy of a letter from Gen. John Stricker to the Secretary of the Navy, dated

Baltimore, Jan. 2, 1811.

SIR,—I am honoured with your letter of the 28th ult. In reply I beg leave to state, that your predecessor, the late Secretary of the Navy, did not, at any time, directly or indirectly, officially or privately, give to me any instruction or intimation, as to the persons from whom I was to procure the bills of exchange ordered at various periods to be purchased and remitted to the navy agents at Leghorn for account of the Navy Department. Nor did I, in any manner or form, give to him any intimation as to the persons from whom I was disposed to purchase the said bills of exchange, save one bill of 6 000 dollars of W. L. and J. Barney; and that in all purchases of bills for the use of the Navy Department, acting as I knew, I did, with respect to sellers, drawers and endorsers, at my own discretion and upon my own official responsibility, I was guided by the same considerations that would have influenced me, had the bills been bought by me on my own private account.

Having deemed it proper to say this much on the subject of my purchases, I owe it to myself to add a few words as to the character of the bills in question, which I shall do by briefly observing, that as a director of the Maryland Insurance company, where Smith and Buchanan effect the greater part of their insurances, I had frequent opportunities of noticing their shipments to Leghorn, which were of such magnitude as to leave no doubt on my mind as to their bills on Degen, Purviance and Co. being predicated on actual funds, and, being drawn and endorsed as they were, I had the utmost confidence in their solidity, which confidence the statement of colonel Buchanan herewith handed you, and which you will please to consider as part of my reply, will show, was not misplaced. The principal facts therein stated being corroborated by entries in their books, which have been submitted to my inspection for that purpose.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) JOHN STRICKER.

The honorable Paul Hamilton.

CONGRESS.—In Senate,

Thursday, January 3.

The Senate was progressing in the consideration of the bill declaring the laws now in force in the territory of Orleans to extend to and to have full force and effect to the river Perdido, &c. when a message of a confidential nature was received from the President of the U. States. On motion of Mr. Franklin the galleries were cleared.

After remaining with closed doors for some time, they were opened, and the Senate adjourned.

Friday, January 4.

The President communicated a report from the Secretary at War, with respect to the sale of Public arms to the state of Maryland in conformity to an act of Congress, which report was ordered to lie on the table.

The bill continuing for a further time the Mediteranean fund passed a third time.

The bill authorising the sale and grant of a certain quantity of land to the Chesapeake and Dalaware Canal Company, was referred to a select committee.—Adjourned.

Monday, January 7.

Mr. *Bayard* appeared and took his seat.

The report of the Secretary at War, on the expenditures of the monies appropriated for the contingent expences of the military establishment for the year 1810, was read.

A message was received from the President of the U. States, accompanied by the report of the Director of the Mint, and of the operation of that establishment during the last year.

After the consideration of Executive and confidential business, the Senate adjourned.

Tuesday, January 8.

Mr. *Smith* (M.) reported a bill making further provision for the corps of Engineers; which passed to a second reading.

On motion of Mr. *Clay*, the galleries were cleared. After the consideration of the confidential business, the Senate adjourned.

Wednesday, January 9.

The President communicated the report of the Secretary of the Navy on the application and expenditures of the money drawn from the Treasury, from 1st October, 1809, to 10th September, 1810, which was read for consideration.

On motion of Mr. *Clay* the galleries were cleared and so remained till the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

Wednesday, January 2.

ORLEANS TERRITORY.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the bill for admitting the territory of Orleans as a state into the union.

After considerable debate the committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again; but before leave was granted, the house adjourned.

Thursday, January 3.

The resolution of Mr. Love, presented a few days since, calling on the Secretary of the Treasury, for information relative to the United States Bank, was taken up, and agreed to without opposition.

Mr. *Rhea*, (Ten.) reported a bill "further providing for the government of the territory of Louisiana;" which was referred to a committee of the whole.

TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. *Bibb* said it would be recollected that in the course of the discussion yesterday on the subject of admitting the territory of Orleans as a state into the union, he had explicitly declared himself in favor of such a course whenever there was information before the House to justify it. The bill now before the House on that subject provided for including in that territory the tract of country the occupation whereof had recently been directed by the President of the U. States. He had said yesterday that, although this step had been taken, the President had given a pledge that the territory should hereafter be a subject of negociation; and that in making it a state they would forever preclude negociation on the subject. Mr. B. said, when the bill again came up, it was his intention to move to strike out the provision relating to this territory; but before that bill came up, he thought proper to move the following resolution.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of annexing to the Mississippi Territory, or of creating into a separate territorial government, the tract of country lying south of the 31st degree of north latitude, and extending from the river Perdido, to a line drawn along the middle of the lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain, and the river Iberville, to its junction with the river Mississippi.

The discussion of this resolution had progressed to some extent when a message in writing was received from the President of the U. States by Mr. Edward Coles.

CLOSED DOORS.

The Speaker, having opened the message, declared it to be of a confidential nature.

The subject then under discussion was postponed; the galleries were immediately cleared, and all strangers excluded.

The doors were closed the remainder of the sitting; which continued till 4 o'clock.

Friday, January 4.

BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. *Burwell* reported the following bill: [omitted from its length.]

The bill having been read through for information.

Mr. *Bassett* made a motion for the rejection of the bill, grounding it on the constitutional objections to its passage.

After remarks from various gentlemen, which our want of room alone compels us to omit for the present—

Mr. *Baseett* withdrew the motion for rejection, and moved to postpone it to Monday.

After some discussion,

The Speaker decided, that on the first reading the bill, if a second reading was objected to, no motion could be received, but to reject it.

Mr. *Bassett* wished a discussion of the question. Several gentlemen unfriendly to the bill appeared desirous that it should take its usual course, and declared that they should vote against rejection.

Influenced these suggestions, Mr. Gholson, who had again moved to reject the bill, withdrew his opposition; and the bill was read a second time and referred to a committee of the whole.

On a question when it should be taken up, great interest appeared to be excited.

For Wednesday next 38, against it 74.
Tuesday 58, against it 59.

Monday was agreed to without a division.

ORLEANS TERRITORY.

The house again resolved itself into committee of the whole on the bill for erecting the Orleans territory into a state.

Mr. *Wheaton* spoke against the bill on constitutional grounds.

Mr. *Miller* spoke against it, and *moved to strike out the whole substance of the bill, and insert a provision for* INCORPORATING ONE STATE *the Orleans and Mississippi territories.*

This motion was opposed by Messrs. Rhea, (T.) Bibb, Gholson, Macon and Poindexter.

The committee rose about 4 o'clock without coming to a decision; and, after ordering the memorial of the legislature of Orleans to be printed, and refusing to print Mr. Miller's proposed amendment, the house adjourned.

Saturday, January 5.

A letter from the Secretary at War, transmitting a statement of the expenditure of the monies appropriated for the contingent expenses of the military establishment for the year 1810, was read.

CLOSED DOORS.

On motion of Mr. *Montgomery* the galleries were cleared; and the doors closed, and so continued for the remainder of the sitting, the House having adjourned at a quarter past four.

Monday, January 7.

The order of the day was called for on the bill continuing in force for years the act incorporating the subscribers to the Bank of the United States. The House refused to take it up, 56 to 44.

The order of the day was also called for on the bill erecting the Orleans Territory into a state; which also the House refused to take up.

On motion of Mr. *Montgomery*, the galleries were cleared, and the doors were closed; and so remained till five o'clock, when the House adjourned.

Tuesday, January 8.

The House sat during the whole of this day with closed doors.

Wednesday, January 9.

A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, comprising a statement of the application and expenditure of appropriations for the service of the Navy for the year 1810, was read.

A report of the secretary of the Treasury, on the subject of illegal settlers on Public Lands of the United States, was read & referred to the Committee, on Public Lands.

Mr. *Poindexter*, from the committee appointed on the subject, made a report concluding with the following resolution:

Resolved, *That it is expedient to admit the Mississippi Territory into the Union, as a separate and independent state, on a footing of equality with the other states; and that the provision ought to be made by law to enable the people of the said territory to elect a convention to form a constitution, to be submitted to Congress for their approbation.*

Mr. *Poindexter* wished it to be adopted, and again referred to a select committee, with instructions to report a bill.

On motion of Mr. *Pitkin*, the resolution was referred to a committee of the whole, 64 to 38.

Mr. *Calhoun* was added to the Committee of Ways and Means, to supply the place of John Taylor, esq. removed to the Senate.

A message was received from the President of the United States, inclosing a report from the Director of the Mint on the subject of the operations of that establishment for the year 1810.

About two o'clock, Mr. *Burwell* moved the order of the day, on the bill continuing in force the act incorporating the subscribers to the Bank of the United States; which was not agreed to—ayes 55, noes 60.

ORLEANS TERRITORY.

On motion of Mr. *Macon*, the House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill for admitting the territory of Orleans into the Union as a State.

Mr. *Miller's* proposed amendment was before the committee the last time the subject was under consideration; and the question of course now recurred on the same motion.

Mr. *Barry* & Mr. *Bacon* opposed it.

The amendment was disagreed to by a large majority.

Mr. *Barry* then proposed the following amendment to the bill:

Provided, *That the U. States hereby reserve the power of altering the bounds of said territory, so as not materially to diminish its extent, except so far as relates to that portion of it situated south of the 31st degree of north latitude, and east of a line drawn along the middle of the lakes Pontchartrain, Maurepas, and the river Iberville to its junction with the Mississippi, the power over which is hereby expressly reserved to the United States, to be disposed of in any manner that may be deemed proper.*

After some conversation, in which Mr. Sheffey declared his intention of moving the amendment which follows, and Mr. Poindexter expressed his approbation of it—

Mr. *Barry* withdrew his amendment to make room for it.

Mr. *Sheffey* then moved to insert the following in place of that part of the bill which prescribed the boundaries of the future state.

"All that territory now contained within the limits of the territory of Orleans, except that part lying East of the river Iberville and a line to be drawn along the middle of the lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain to the ocean."

Mr. *Bibb* stated, that if this amendment was adopted, as he hoped it would, he should call up a resolution which he had submitted a few days ago for appointing a committee to enquire whether the territory West of the Perdido should be added to the Mississippi territory or assume the form of territorial government. This would become an after question for the House to decide.

Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *Rhea* opposed the amendment on the ground that the treaty of 1803 with France guaranteed to the undivided territory of Orleans a right to become a state, &c. on the same conditions with other states.

Mr. *Bibb* and Mr. *Ely* supported the amendment on the ground of the expediency of leaving that part of the territory, the right to which the President had declared should be a subject of future negociation, in such a state as would enable the U. States to negociate respecting it.

Mr. *Sheffey's* motion was agreed to, Ayes 63.

Mr. *Miller* moved an amendment to the bill going to restrict the right of suffrage to white males. He did it on the ground that the mixed population of Orleans was so numerous that they might elect a person of color to the National Legislature; with whom Mr. M. said he should feel no inclination to act.

Mr. *Poindexter* stated the fact of there being in Orleans many of the description of people called Creoles, who were very wealthy and respectable, &c.

Mr. *Miller's* motion was negatived, Ayes 17.

The period for the election of a convention was fixed at the 3d Monday in September next, and the time of its meeting on the 1st Monday in November.

The committee rose and reported the bill as amended, which was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading tomorrow. Adjourned at half past four.

By the Agricultural Society of

POTTER'S TOWN.

BELIEVING that it would be of great advantage to the Farmers of the Eastern Shore to establish an *Annual Fair* at some convenient place, for the sale and exchange of all kinds of Stock and Domestic Manufactures. The object the society has in view, is to promote the growth of useful stock, and to encourage domestic manufactory as the surest and best means of obtaining happiness and wealth: at this annual meeting the farmer would have it in his power to procure the best breed of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, that the country afford, and by crossing and mixing of them, the growth would be much promoted—This may be done with little expence to the farmer, for the pigs might be exchanged for the lambs, and the cattle for the horses, and each farmer might be suited with little expence to himself—there the farmer would find a ready sale for any surplus stock he may have, and the manufacturer a ready market for his cloth, linen, linsey, stockings, hats, leather, &c. &c.—Therefore,

Resolved, That the secretary of this society cause the following scheme of an annual Farmer's Fair, to be published in each of the Easton newspapers 3 successive weeks

JOHN STANTON, Presdt.

WM. POTTER, Sec'ry.

January 29, 1811——3

A Scheme of an Annual Farmer's Fair.

THE Farmers of Talbot, Queen Ann's and Caroline counties will meet at Hillsborough annually, on the third Monday in August, for the sale and exchange of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs; domestic manufactures, grain, grass seeds, &c. &c.

If the gentlemen farmers of Talbot and Queen Ann's should approve of the above scheme, they are requested to appoint for each county, three farmers, to meet at Hillsborough on the first Monday in May next, as managers of the above proposed fair.

FOR SALE,

A NEGRO WOMAN and her two Children. Apply to the Editor.

Easton, December 25, 1810——m

NEW YORK, JANUARY 30.

VERY LATE FROM FRANCE.

Yesterday arrived at this port the fast sailing schr. Maria-Louisa, Skiddy, in 26 days from Bordeaux, which port she left on the first of January.—Capt. S. has obligingly favored the editors of the Mercantile Advertiser with French papers to the 27th of Dec. from which we have translated every article of any importance.

Our French papers contain London dates to the 16th of December. The king of England was represented to be slowly recovering. It was also expected a regency would be appointed in England, and that a complete change in the ministry would take place.

The U. S. frigate Essex, which carried out the Presidents proclamation of the repeal of the Non Intercourse with France, arrived at L'Orient on the 5th of December, and the Messenger arrived in Paris on the 12th. The President's proclamation had been published throughout the French empire, and was received with great joy.

Nothing had transpired from the French government, relating to American affairs after the receipt of President's proclamation; and no change was known to have taken place since our last advices.

FOREIGN NEWS.

LONDON, December 13.

An American vessel which has arrived at Portsmouth, brings news from Lisbon more recent by three days than that received by the Jasper. We learn that there has been no important change in the position of Massena's army. His rear guard has established itself behind Zezere as far as Punhete. The head quarters of the English continue to be at Cartaxo.

It is almost certain that all the operations of the campaign are suspended for one or two months. Massena has taken, without finding any obstacle, a position which lord Wellington himself declared to be impregnable.

In case of a regency, the following changes are spoken of in the first political circles as likely to take place for composing the new ministry: First lord of the treasury, lord Holland: lord chancellor, sir Arthur Pigot: president of the council, the duke of Bedford; the three Secretaries of State, lord Grenville, earl Grey, and the right hon. G. Ponsonby; chancellor of the exchequer, Mr. Huskisson; the first lord of the admiralty, earl St. Vincent; grand master of the ordnance, earl Moira; treasurer of the navy, Mr. Sheridan; lord Chamberlain, the marquis of Hereford; grand equerry, the duke of Northumberland; lord privy seal, earl Spencer; lord lieutenant of Ireland, earl Darnley; chancellor of Ireland, Mr. Wm. Adam; master of the wardrobe, lord Dundas; attorney-general, Mr. Garrow; solicitor general, Mr. Jekyll; president of the board of controul, Mr. Tierney.

It is said that if his majesty's health shall not be sufficiently re-established to enable him to prorogue Parliament by commission on Thursday (18) there will be on that day another adjournment unto Monday; after the physicians of his majesty shall have been examined before the privy council.

December 16.

Yesterday dispatches were received from lord Wellington, dated Cartaxo, Dec. 1st, at which time no change had taken place between the two armies.—Massena had fortified Santaran, and added new works. It is believed he waits for reinforcement. There have been some skirmishes in the environs of Baylen, but without any important result.

To Journeymen Boot and Shoe Makers.

WE the subscribers, master cordwainers of the city of Baltimore, do engage to give to any number of Journeymen Boot and Shoe makers, who will come to the city of Baltimore, and commence in our employ the most profitable work, constant employment, good wages, and punctual payment:

James Sloan	Wm. Darrington
Sherm & Dillon	James Ives
Robert Buchanan	John Clarke
John Jephson	Wm. Millar
Angello Atkinson	Jas. Lambee
James Dryden	John Vernon
Danl. M'Milton	D. M'Henry
John Edwards	Richd. Spencer
Benj W. Caldwell	Sewall Long
Alex. B. Hanna	Benj. Walters
Heslip and Son	John Wamaling
Jno. N. Miller	L. Donsee
Wm. Jones	Wm. Dungan
Edwd. Hagthrop	John Martin
Peter Shallie	Robt. Boggas
Jas. H Clarke	Jas. White
Jno. W. Keirle	C. B. Long
Solm Shields	Abrhm. Wright
Henry Huber	Philip Wirts
Rezin Pool	John Harman
Wm. M'Cleary	Jno. M Lampley
Patrick Savage	Geo. Schroder
Jacob Laffettra	Edwd. Hall

☞ The editors of the Aurora and Philadelphia Gazette at Philadelphia; Intelligencer, at Lancaster; Maryland Herald, at Hager'stown; Star, at Easton, and National Intelligencer, at Washington, are requested to insert the above eight times successively, and forward their accounts to this office for payment.

December 25, 1810——8