taken of the captors of Andre, by an honorable member of the House of Representatives.

Now I am on the subject, if you will afford me a little room, I may as well tell what I know of the other two. Isaac Van Wart was still living the last time I was in that part of the country, about three miles from the spot where Andre was taken. He is a most respectable looking man, and, among all those who know him, bears a character corresponding with his appearance. He was, like Mr. Paulding, the son of an honest farmer in middling circumstances, and his habits and education corresponded with his birth. Few men in his situation are more respected, and none deserve it more. The Washington Benevolent Society in New York used to send for him on the 4th of July, to give dignity to their procession, while the sons of Tammany paid the same compliment to Major Paulding. Van Wart is an old fashioned Federalist, but the other was, during his whole life, a sturdy Democrat.

Of Williams, I have never been able to learn any thing particular. He removed from West Chester soon after the conclusion of the war, and I believe kept up no intercourse with his old companions from that time. He is, however, still alive, I believe.

Another remarkable object connected with the capture of Major Andre, was the famous tulip tree, near the spot where he was intercepted. It was the most majestic of the sons of the forest—one hundred and twelve feet high, ten paces round about, and its spreading branches extended over the neighboring fields on each side of the road. It was struck with lightning some years ago, shivered from top to bottom, and soon after blown down; not a vestige of it remains. Many people had little trifling articles made out of the wood, to keep as memorials; and it was, I remember, particularly noted by the good folks around, that the tree was struck with lightning the very day the news of Arnold's death arrived. The landscape connected with this little history is extremely picturesque and beautiful, and if our painters chose to make it the subject of a historical picture, I should think it might be interesting.

These matters are not of much consequence, yet I thought it might be worth while to correct the mistake, and record what I knew about this little romantic incident in our early history. Some centuries hence, people may perhaps feel a curiosity to know something about these illustrious "cow-boys," as the honorable member was pleased to call them. I have a complete private history of the events which preceded and followed the capture of Major Andre, with an account of what he said and did, from the mouth of one of the captors. Some day or other, if the public should evince a disposition to hear it, I may give it in full. The only secret history of the affair extant is the account of Joshua Hett Smith, who accompanied Andre across the river, and was suspected of being in the secret of his mission. It is full of slanders of Washington, Greene, and the worthy yeomen of West Chester, and contains declarations and assertions of facts totally irreconcilable with the true history of the affair.

Yours, &c.

WEST CHESTER.

CONGRESS.

In Senate.

MONDAY, Jan 17.

Mr. Thomas, of Illinois, gave notice, that he should on to-morrow, ask leave to introduce a bill by the title of "A bill to prohibit the introduction of slavery into the territories of the United States North and West of the contemplated State of Missouri."

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the admission of the State of Maine, into the Union, as proposed to be amended by the annexation of Missouri. And the said proposed amendment being under consideration—

Mr. Edwards offered an amendment, having in view the principle of compromize (by exclusion of slavery from the other territories of the United States)—but subsequently withdrew it, to give an opportunity for the following motion:

Mr. Roberts moved to add to the amendment (whereby Missouri is proposed to be admitted to form a constitution) the following proviso:

"Provided, that the further introduction into said state of persons to be held to slavery, or involuntary servitude, within the same, shall be absolutely and irrevocably prohibited."

This motion was supported at length, by Mr. Roberts, opposed by Mr. Elliot, and supported by Mr. Morrill.

And then the Senate adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 18.

One or two reports, on private claims, were made, and others previously made, concurred in.

Agreeably to notice given, Mr. THOMAS asked and obtained leave to bring in the following Bill, which was read and passed to the second reading.

A BILL to prohibit the introduction of Slavery into the territories of the United States north and west of the contemplated state of Missouri.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the sixth article of the ordinance of Congress, passed on the thirteenth day of July one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, for the government of the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, shall, to all intents and purposes be deemed and held applicable to, and shall have full force and effect in and over, all the territory belonging to the United States which lies west and north of a line beginning at a point on the parallel of north latitude thirty degrees and thirty minutes, where the said parallel crosses the western boundary line of the United States; thence, running east, along that parallel of latitude, to a point where the said parallel is intersected by a meridian line passing through the middle of the mouth of the Kansas river, where the same empties into the Missouri river; thence, from the point aforesaid, north, along the said meridian line, to the intersection of the parallel of latitude which passes through the rapids of the river Des Moines, making the said line to correspond with the Indian boundary line; thence, east, from the point of intersection last aforesaid, along the said parallel of latitude, to the middle of the channel of the main fork of the river Des Moines; thence, down and along the middle of the main channel of the said river Des Moines, to the mouth of the same, where it empties into the Mississippi river: thence due east, to the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi river: thence, up and following the course of the Mississippi river, in the middle of the main channel thereof, to its source; and thence, due north, to the northern boundary of the United States.

The senate then resumed to the consideration of the bill for the admission of Maine into the Union, as proposed to be amended by the superaddition of provisions for the admission of Missouri. The proposition of Mr. ROBERTS, for annexing a certain condition to the admission of Missouri, being under consisideration,—

Mr. MORRIL concluded the speech which he yesterday began, in favor of the restriction. It being late before Mr. M. concluded, the Senate then adjourned, on motion of Mr. WALKER, of Georgia, who it is presumed, will next take the floor in this Debate.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 19.

The sitting to-day was almost wholly spent in the debate on the *Missouri question.*

At an early hour Mr. WALKER, of Georgia, took the floor against the right of imposing the proposed restriction on the State of Missouri.

Mr. MELLEN, of Massachusetts, advocated the restriction.

Mr. EDWARDS, of Illinois, spoke against the restriction; and

Mr. LEAKE, of Mississippi, followed on the same side. When he had concluded,

The Senate adjourned, on motion of Mr. ROBERTS, who of course has the right to the floor to-morrow.

The business which was acted on previous to the debate, was not important, but shall be stated hereafter.

THURSDAY, Jan. 20.

The debate on the Missouri question was resumed this morning.

Mr LOWRIE, of Pennsylvania, addressed the Senate in support of the resolution.

Mr. BURRILL, of Rhode Island, followed on the same side; and

Mr. MACON, of North Carolina closed this day's debate by a speech against the restriction.

The Senate adjourned, on the motion of Mr. PINKNEY, of Marylsnd, who will take the floor to-morrow morning.

House of Representatives.

MONDAY, Jan. 17.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the War Department, exhibiting a statement of the contracts entered into by that Department, during the last year, rendered in compliance with the provision of existing laws.

The Speaker also laid before the House a communication from the same Department, transmitting information required by a resolution of this House, as to the progress which has been made in the civilization of the Indians, &c.

These communications were ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

The House then on motion of Mr. Strother, proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions submitted by him on Friday—the question being on the amendments proposed thereto by Mr. Lowndes—

The first amendment for striking out the words "without delay" was agreed to without a division.

Mr. Strother opposed the second amendment, proposing to strike out that part of the 4th resolution which requires the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury whether, if the price of stock is above par, it will probably continue so until the period at which the stock issued in the late war becomes redeemable, &c.

Mr. Smith of Md. said it was customary to ask of the Secretaries a statement of facts, but very seldom their opinions, on public matters.

Mr. Strother rejoined, and further maintained his opinions.

The question was then taken on the amendment proposed by Mr. Lowndes, and agreed to.

Mr. Floyd moved to amend the first resolution by striking out the words which require the secretary to state the actual balance "in the hands of the Treasurer, as agent of the navy department and the war department," inasmuch as these balances, having been drawn from the treasury and placed in the hands of the treasurer as agent for the other departments, were now beyond the control of the Secretary, &c.

The motion was lost, and the three first resolutions were successively agreed to without a division.

The question being put, on agreeing to the 4th resolution, requiring of the Secretary of the Treasury to report the price of the public stocks, with his opinion "whether it would not be advisable to apply the surplus of the Sinking Fund to the annual expenses of the Government, rather than resort to loans and taxes."

After a short debate,

The question was taken on agreeing to the resolution, and negatived, without a division; and

The House adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 18.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a statement of the payments made at the Treasury for the year 1819.

The Speaker laid before the House also a report of the Secretary of War of the contingent expences of the military establishment during the year 1819.

These reports were ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

On motion of Mr. HENDRICKS, it was

Resolved, That the committee on the public lands be instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing an additional land office in the state of Indiana.

FOURTH CENSUS.

The House then, on motion of Mr. CAMPBELL, took up the report of the committee of the whole House on the bill providing for taking the 4th census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States.

The amendments made to the bill by the committee of the whole (as reported in the proceedings of the 6th inst.) were successively concurred in. In the course of their consideration some discussion arose, as well on these as on additional amendments which were proposed.

That amendment being under consideration which provides, for the enumeration of the manufacturing establishments, &c. a compensation of twenty per cent. on the amount of the other compensation allowed by the act—

Mr. SLOCUMB questioned the propriety of the allowance. He thought the expence greater than was necessary, and the nation, said Mr. S. will not believe we are in earnest when we speak of retrenchment, while we go on to vote the public money in this way. He did not think the information sufficiently valuable to justify the expence.

Mr. SMITH, of Md. moved to amend the amendment allowing 20 per cent. so as to provide that it should not *exceed* that amount, and "to be apportioned in proportion to the services rendered, under the direction of the Secretary of State."

This amendment being agreed to—

Mr. M'COY moved to amend the amendment by striking out *twenty,* and inserting *ten* per cent.

Mr. SMITH of Md. thought this amount entirely inadequate to the service required. The whole amount of compensation for this service at the last census, was 69,000 dollars, and if this motion prevailed, it would reduce the amount to be divided amongst the marshals, to 20,000 dollars. This would be too little—in fact, not enough to pay the assistants which must necessarily be employed.

The question was put on Mr. M'Coys, motion, and *negatived.*

Mr. STORRS made an unsuccessful motion to insert a provision to require the assistants to return the number of "dwelling houses."

Mr. BLOOMFIELD moved to amend the schedule in the bill so as to make the returns embrace the number of free white males between the ages of 18 and 26, instead of between 16 and 26, so as to exhibit the number liable to be enrolled, and to shew how far the militia returns of the states were correct, &c.

Some objection being made to this amendment in its present shape, by Mr. CAMPBELL, and Mr. WHITMAN, the motion was modified by Mr. BLOOMFIELD so as to provide a seperate and additional column in the schedule, for the enumeration of "free white males from 16 to 18 inclusive;" and thus, the amendment was adopted.

An amendment was adopted, on motion of Mr. SAMPSON, in the clause directing the return of manufactures, to except expressly "househould manufactures."

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading; and

The House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 19.

Mr. BALDWIN, from the committee on manufactures, reported a bill to regulate the payment of duties on merchandize imported—[requiring cash payments on certain imports] and for other purposes; also a bill laying duties on sales of merchandize at auction;—which bills were severally twice read and committed.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. CUTHBERT, of Georgia, submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That the committee on the Slave Trade be instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing a registry of slaves, more effectually to prevent the importation of slaves into the United States or the territories thereof.

The resolution was agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting a report of the quarter-master-general relative to the terms of the contract for transportation of troops, &c. of the Yellow Stone expedition; made in obedience to a resolution of this House, which was ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker also laid before the House, a report of the Secretary of the Navy, relative to the harbour of Presque Isle on lake Erie; made in obedience to a resolution of this House of the 26th of February last; which report was referred to the committee on Roads and Canals.

The bill from the Senate for the relief of Mathew Barrow was taken up, read the third time, and passed by yeas and nays,—110 to 27.

LOST PROPERTY IN THE SEMINOLE WAR.

The house then agreed, on motion of Mr. JONES of Tennessee, by a vote of 63 to 57, to resume the consideration of the bill providing for the payment of horses and other property, lost, captured and destroyed in the Seminole war.

An animated discussion again took place on the merits of this bill, and on various propositions to change or amend its provisions—which it is not necessary to attempt a view of, the arguments, pro and con, having been already so fully reported.

Messrs. SMITH, of Maryland, COBB, CANNON, STORRS, JOHNSON, of Virginia, BARBOUR, PINDALL, M'COY, WALKER of North Carolina, MERCER, and FOOT, took part in the discussion, which continued till near 4 o'clock—of whom Messrs. BARBOUR, CANNON, and JONES were friendly to the bill, and Messrs. PINDALL, M'COY, STORRS, JOHNSON, of Virginia, MERCER, and FOOT, opposed to it.

The question was finally taken on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time, and decided in the negitive:

For engrossing the bill	64
Against it	90

So the bill was *rejected;* and

The House adjourned.

THURSDAY, Jan. 20.

The Speaker laid before the house a report from the War Department, of the balances of monies unexpended on the 27th of December last, remaining in the Treasurer's hands, as agent of the War Department.

The Speaker also laid before the House a report of the names of the pensioners placed on the pension list, from each state, under the act of March 18, 1818; rendered in obedience to a resolution of the House of the 20th December last.

These reports were ordered to lie on the table.

The following message was received from the President of the U. States, by Mr. J. J. Monroe:

To the House of Representatives.

In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, requesting me "to lay before it, at as early a day as may be convenient, an account of the expenditure of the several sums appropriated for building fortifications, from the year 1816 to the year 1819, inclusive; indicating the places at which works of defence have been begun, the magnitude of the works contemplated at each place, their present condition, the amount already expended, and the estimated amount requisite for the completion of each; also the mode by which the fortifications are built, by contract or otherwise," I now transmit to the House a report from the Secretary of War, to whom the said resolution was referred, which, with the documents accompanying it, contains all the information required.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, Jan. 19, 1820.

The message was read, and, with the documents, ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH of Md, laid before the House a statement from the Adjutant and Inspecter General, exhibiting a comparative view of the army expenditures, before the late war, and the estimated expenses for the present year; which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. FOOT offered the following resolution for consideration.

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to enquire into the expediency of regulating by law, the election and returns for Representatives in the Congress of the United States.

On motion of Mr. WILLIAMS of N. C. the resolution was laid on the table.

The House adjourned.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 10.

MACHANICAL CHIMNEY SWEEPER.

On Saturday last, a number of respectable citizens were invited to witness the operation of a newly invented Machine, denominated the Mechanical Chimney Sweeper. The operation was performed in one of the chimneys in the Eastern part of the N. York Institution—and was repeated several times with entire success. We have no doubt that the principle, on which the Machine is constructed, will completely answer the object in view—and that when the contemplated improvement shall have been made in the rods, it will be brought into general use, and the present cruel and inhuman practice of sending boys up the Chimneys will be entirely abolished.

This Machine is the invention of Doctor EDMONSON, of this city, who, at our request, has furnished us with the following description both of its principles and the mode of its operation:—

"The principle of the *Mechanical Chimney Sweeper,* consists in placing a pulley on the top of the flue. This is done by a pair of jointed levers, which are passed up the chimney by means of a rod; and which, by the force of springs, expand when they arrive at the top of the flue. These levers are retained in a right line by two brace chains, so connected on the centre as to be unlocked at pleasure. The brush consists of eight small brushes, so attached to springs as to be susceptible of any form, and of contracting or expanding to the dimensions of different flues. The levers being placed on the top of the flue, one end of the rope is made fast to the upper and the other to the lower end of the brush; and, by a brisk alternate motion, the brush is passed up and down the flue until it is cleaned. The operation being completed, the levers are unlocked by a ball made fast to the rope a few inches above the brush and are taken down by the rope."

Civilization of the Indians.

Letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting to Congress a report of the progress which has been made in the civilization of the Indian Tribes, and the sums which have been expended on that subject.

Department of War, Jan. 15.

SIR:

In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 6th inst. "that the Secretary of War be directed to report whether any, and, if any, what progress has been made in the civilization of the Indian tribes, and the sums of money, if any have been expended on that object, under the act of the last session," I have the honor to make the following statement:

No part of the appropriation of ten thousand dollars annually, made at the last session for the civilization of the Indians, has yet been applied. The President was of opinion, that the object of the act would be more certainly effected, by applying the sum appropriated in aid of the efforts of societies, or individuals, who might feel disposed to bestow their time and resources to effect the object contemplated by it—and a circular (of which the enclosed is a copy,) was addressed to those individuals and societies, who have directed their attention to the civilization of the Indians. The objects of the circular were to obtain information, and disclose the views of the President, or in order to concentrate and unite the efforts of individuals & societies, in the mode contemplated by the act of the last session. The information collected will enable the President to apply early in this year, the sum appropriated. The economy and intelligence with which it will be applied, under the superintendence of zealous and disinterested individuals, will, it is hoped, carry into effect, as far as practicable, the views of Congress.

While many of the Indian tribes have acquired only the vices with which a savage people usually become tainted, by their intercourse with those who are civilized—others appear to be making gradual advances in industry and civilization. Among the latter description may be placed the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and perhaps the Creeks, most of the remnants of the Six Nations, in the State of New-York, the Wyandots, Senecas, and Shawnese, at upper Sandusky, and Wapakonetta. The Cherokees exhibit a more favorable appearance than any other tribe of Indians. There are already established two flourishing schools among them. One at Bairnard, under the superintendence of the American Board of Foreign Missions, at which there are at present about one hundred youths of both sexes. The institution is on the Lancastrain plan, and is in a very flourishing condition. Besides reading, writing, and arithmetic, the boys are taught agriculture, and the ordinary mechanic arts, and the girls sewing, knitttng, and weaving. At Spring Place in the same nation, there is a school on a more limited scale, under the superintendence of the United Brethren, or Moravians. Two other schools are projected in the same nation, one by the American, and the other by the Baptist Board, for Foreign Missions; and arrangements are making to establish two other schools among that portion of the Cherokee Nation which reside on the Arkansaw. The Choctaws and Chickasaws have recently evinced a strong desire to have schools established among them, and measures have been taken by the American Board of Foreign Misssions for that purpose. A part of the former nation have appropriated two thousand dollars annually, out of their annuity, for seventeen years, as a school fund. A part of the Six Nations, in New York, have of late made considerable improvement; and the Wyandots, Senecas and Shawanese, at Upper Sandusky, and Wapakonetta, have under the superintendence of the Society of Friends, made considerable advances in civilization.

Although partial advances may be made, under the present system, to civilize the Indians, I am of opinion, that until there is a radical change in the system, any efforts, which may be made, must fall short of complete success.—They may be brought gradually under our authority and laws, or they will insensibly waste away in vice and misery. It is impossible, with their customs, that they should exist as independent communities, in the midst of civilized society. They are not in fact an independent people, (I speak of those surrounded by our population,) nor ought they to be so considered. They should be taken under our guardianship; and our opinion, and not theirs, ought to prevail, in measures intended for their civilization and happiness. A system less vigorous may protract, but cannot arrest their fate.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

Hon. H. CLAY,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

[CIRCULAR.]

Department of War, 3d Sept. 1819.

SIR:

In order to render the sum of ten thousand dollars annually appropriated at the last session of Congress for the civilization of the Indians, as extensively beneficial as possible, the President is of an opinion, that it ought to be applied, in co-operation with the exertions of benevolent associations or individuals, who may choose to devote their time or means to effect the object contemplated by the act of Congress. But it will be indispensable, in order to apply any portion of the sum appropriated in the manner proposed, that the plan of education, in addition to reading, writing, and arithmetic, should in the instruction of the boys, extend to the practical knowledge of the mode of agriculture, and of such of the mechanic arts as are suited to the condition of the Indians; and in that of the girls, to spinning, weaving, and sewing. It is also indispensable that the establishment should be fixed within the limits of those Indian nations who border on our settlements. Such associations, or individuals, who are already actually engaged in educating the Indians, and who may desire the co-operation of the government, will report to the Department of War, to be laid before the President, the location of the institutions under their superintendance; their funds; the number and kind of teachers; the number of youths of both sexes; the objects which are actually embraced in their plan of education; and the extent of the aid which they require; and such institutions as are formed but have not gone into actual operation, will report the extent of their funds, the places at which they intend to make their establishments; the whole number of youths, of both sexes, which they intend to educate: the number and kind of teachers to be employed; the plan of education adopted; and the extent of the aid required.

This information will be necesaary to enable the President to determine whether the appropriation of Congress ought to be applied in co-operation with the institutions which may request it, and to make a just distribution of the sum appropriated.

In proportion to the means of the government, co-operation will be extended to such institutions as may be approved, as well in erecting necessary buildings, as in their current expenses.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

To ——

Maryland Legislature.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Abstract of Proceedings.

TUESDAY, Jan. 18, 1820.

Mr. Lecompte reports a bill laying duties on retailers of dry goods, and providing for the increase of duty on licences to retailers of spirituous liquors, and for other purposes.

The house resumed the consideration of the further supplement to the act amending and reducing into system the laws relative to last wills and testaments, which after some amendment was passed and sent to the senate for concurrence.

Mr. Polk reports a bill relating to sales of land, made in pursuance of judgments rendered by justices of the peace, and to confirm sales heretofore made by constables by virtue of writs of fieri facias.

Mr. Dorsey reports a further supplement to the act concerning crimes and punishments.

Mr. W. R. Stuart reports a bill to make public a landing on Chester River, in Queen Ann's.

Mr. Duvall reports a bill for the encouragement of Agriculture.

Mr. W. R. Stuart reports a bill to pay the civil list and other expences of civil government.

The house resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of Pensions and revolutionary claims, when the following were assented to: In favor of Thomas Davis, Isaac Kent, Wm. Merrick, Wm. Byas, Richard R. Tasker, Benjamin, Popham, Richard Faggett, James Frazier, Nehemiah Beckwith, Wm. Coe, Stephen Varlow, Wm. Rigby, Isaac Knight, Wm. Lewis, Thomas Lloyd, Charles Sewall, John Catherwood, Thomas Duffee, Joseph Bush, Paul Minnitree, Wm. Jones, and George Gray.

The house adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 19.

Mr. Peter offered for consideration a resolution proposing to extend the term of payment of the loan of $30,000 due from the Potomac company to the state of Maryland, to the 1st December, 1825, provided the president and directors pay the interest due on said loan on or before the 1st day of July 1821.

On motion by Mr. Dorsey, the following order was read:

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Western Shore be requested to furnish this house with a statement of the annual revenue received in each and every year from eighteen hundred and twelve till eighteen hundred and twenty, designating from what sources of revenue the same were received; and also a statement of the annual funds of the state, and designating what part of the principal is unproductive; also a statement of the probable receipts into the treasury for eighteen hundred and twenty, corrected by the receipts from the same items of revenue for the year eighteen hundred and nineteen; and any information which he can procure from the district attorney in relation to suits now depending, to recover taxes imposed by the lottery law of eighteen hundred and seventeen, as to the time when suits were brought, if judgments have been obtained, if not, when the same will be obtained, and when it is probable the state will obtain the money due thereon.

The House adjourned.

THURSDAY, Jan. 20.

The additional supplement to the act to provide for the organization and regulation of the courts of common law was referred to the consideration of the next general assembly.

Leave given to report a bill to alter and amend the act relating to lotteries.

Leave given to report a bill respecting suits or actions whereon judgments may be reversed and writs of procedendo awarded.

The House adjourned.

FRIDAY, Jan. 21.

On motion by Mr. Maulsby a message was sent to the senate proposing to go into the election of bank directors on the part of the state on Monday next.

Leave given to report a bill regulating the mode of staying executions, and repealing certain acts of assembly, and for other purposes: Mr. Kennedy reports said bill.

Mr. Dorsey reports a bill respecting suits or actions wherein judgments may be rendered and writs of Procedendo awarded.

On motion by Mr. Dorsey, the following order was read:

Whereas the present reduction of the annual state revenue, requires that the General Assembly of Maryland should adopt some system of finance, to prevent any further diminution of the state capital: and whereas, the Corporation of the city of Baltimore, has under the construction of their act of incorporation, assumed the right to lay a duty on sales of foreign merchandize at public auction, and from which duties the treasury of the said city has received since eighteen hundred a sum of four hundred thousand dollars, and upwards, all of which has been appropriated to the relief of her own citizens from the city taxes; & whereas if this power, thus exercised by the Corporation is not restrained, and the whole revenue derived from that source is not brought into the treasury of this state, a direct tax on the assessable property of the citizens of this state must be resorted to. Therefore, ordered by this house, as an expression of their opinion, that a law ought to be adopted providing for inhibiting the Corporation of the city of Baltimore from laying any such duties, and providing for laying a duty of two per cent. on sales of foreign merchandize at auction, to be applied in aid of the general revenue of this state, and for the benefit of the good people thereof.

Ordered, That the Governor and Council be requested to cause the preceding expression of the opinion of this house to be published in the several newspapers edited at Easton, Frederick, Hagerstown, Annapolis, and any two in the city of Baltimore, for two months previous to the first day of Oct. next.

The bill to alter the time of meeting of the General Assembly to the first Monday in November, was taken up and after considerable debate, rejected.

The house proceeded to the second reading of the order relative to obtaining information from the Treasurer. And on motion by Mr. Montgomery the question was put, that the following words be stricken out.

"And also a statement of the annual funds of the State, and designating what part of the principal its unproductive, also a statement of the probable receipts into the treasury for eighteen hundred and twenty, corrected by the receipts from the same items of revenue for the year eighteen hundred and nineteen," for the purpose of inserting the following:

"Likewise a statement of the expenditures during said periods, and in what manner, and upon what objects expended, and the names of the persons to whom monies have been paid, otherwise than on the journals of accounts and the civil list; also what description of Capital has been disposed of, and on what terms and to whom, and when."

A division of the question was called for by Mr. Maulsby, and put on striking out. Determined in the negative.

Mr. Montgomery's amendment was then added to said order, and the order assented to.

Mr. Wm. Dickinson was appointed by the house, a director on the part of the state of Maryland in the bank of Baltimore, for the ensuing year.

The House adjourned.

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