

ion arises to what extent the reduction shall be sanctioned, the desire of increasing that amount may be more intense in the mind of one member than that of another. Where all are to share in the credit of remission, the distinctive merit to the aspirant for popular favor will belong to him who urges for remission to the largest amount. The committee are of opinion that there may be danger of being led astray by this conception—ten millions of money annually, heretofore appropriated for the discharge of the public debt, will no longer be needed. The most natural conclusion to be drawn from this would seem to be, that ten millions is the amount which may, and ought to receive remission. If the remission of a larger sum can be urged as expedient, it must arise not from that, but from another cause.

The committee believe that there is another view of this subject to be taken, the result of which must produce the conviction, that there is danger even in carrying the remission of taxation to excess. They believe that a portion of the monies levied by taxation may be more profitably returned to the pockets of the people, than left in them.

In that portion of the Message of the President of the United States, which was referred to the Committee on Manufactures, it is stated to be desirable that arrangements should be adopted at the present session, to relieve the people from unnecessary taxation, after the extinguishment of the public debt; and, it is added, that in the exercise of that spirit of concession and conciliation which has distinguished the friends of our Union in all great emergencies, it is believed that this object may be effected without injury to any national interest.

To pay the debts of the United States was the first of the objects for which, by the Constitution of the United States, the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, was conferred upon Congress—to provide for the common defence and general welfare was the second object, and these expressions, read and comprehensive in their import, far from being without meaning in the intention of the framers of the Constitution, embraced the great purposes for which the Constitution itself was formed. They are introduced in that solemn preamble, by which the whole people of the United States, speaking in the first person, "We, the People of the United States," announce the great purposes for which they do ordain and establish this constitution; they are emphatically repeated in the eighth section of the first article, containing the grants of Congress of power; and they are not only grants of power, but trusts to be executed—duties to be discharged for the common defence and general welfare of the Union. To provide for that common defence and general welfare, were obligations imposed upon the organized body on whom the power was conferred of laying and collecting taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, for effecting the purpose—obligations not less imperative than that of paying the debts of the Union. To provide for the common defence and general welfare is the duty, the irremissible duty, of the Congress: the power to levy duties, taxes, imposts and excises, is the means with which they are invested for the execution of the trust. The non-user of the power is a violation of the trust—a violation as culpable as would have been the neglect or refusal to levy taxes for the payment of the public debt. That the intention of the people was to confer the power in great amplitude is apparent, not only from the greatness of the purpose to be accomplished, and from the generality of the terms in which the power is granted, but from the objects of the constitution are announced in the preamble, but from the anxious use of all the words by which the contributions of taxation can be levied—taxes, duties, imposts and excises.

To provide for the common defence. Defence against what? against whom? Defence against every danger, and against every evil which may bear upon the whole community and menace the general welfare—defence, especially against all hostility of foreigners, whether in war, or in peace; for the hostility of Nations to each other is not confined to the times of war. The common defence must be provided for as much against commercial rivalry as against war; for the spirit of mankind is not less insatiable and more grasping than all the Alexanders or Caesars that ambition has inflicted upon the race of Man. That a power, an organized and efficient power, of common defence against this spirit, was indispensable to the independent existence of this Union, if it had ever been questionable before, was proved, with irrefragable demonstration, by the candid avowal of a late eminent British Statesman, studious of reputation for his liberality—a distinguished deliverer of speeches in Parliament in favor of the principles of free trade. He more than once publicly acknowledged that the fundamental maxim of the commercial policy of Britain had been, not only to promote her own prosperity, but to depress that of her commercial rivals and competitors. This system he never, in all his liberality, professed or pretended to discard; on the contrary, he, like his eminent associate and friend, was ambitious only to acquire and leave behind him the renown of a British statesman. His whole system of commercial policy was adjusted to the principle of advancing the commerce and navigation of Great Britain, by depressing that of this country. He repealed restrictive statutes by the hundreds, because they had been enacted against ancient commercial rivals of Britain, but who were so no more. His system was to favor those obsolete, vanquished and crippled adversaries in trade—to convert them into instruments of annoyance against the new and now only formidable rival whom she could dread. The repeal of these statutes gave him opportunities of popular declamation in honor of Free Trade, while, for every restriction against them which he gave up, he devised and put in operation a new one against us.

To resist the action of such statesmen in Europe, and the operation of such systems, a power, proving for the common defence was indispensably necessary and was expressly bestowed in the very first grant of power to Congress, and coupled in the same sentence with that for the payment of the Public Debt.

To provide for this Common Defence was accordingly in conjunction with the payment of the national debt the first object which commanded the attention of Congress, or the organization of the Government, under the present Constitution. The very first act of the first Congress of the United States after that organization, (of which the act for the administration of official duties forms a part) was an act for laying a duty on goods, wares, and merchandise, imported into the United States; and this act, by an exception to a general law, adopted from the first and ever since observed, was preceded by a preamble declaring its objects, as follows: Whereas it is necessary for the support of Government, for the

discharge of the debts of the United States, and the encouragement and protection of manufactures, that duties be laid on goods, wares, and merchandise, imported.

And thus the very first act of the organized Congress, united with the law of self-preservation, by the support of the Government just instituted, the two objects combined in the first grant of power to Congress, the payment of the public debt, and the provisions for the Common Defence, by the protection of manufactures. The next act was precisely of the same character, an act of protection to manufactures still more than of taxation for revenue; an act imposing duties on tonnage, by which a duty of six cents a ton was raised upon the vessels of the United States entering their ports, and fifty cents per ton upon all foreign vessels; nor was this the only discrimination between the duties of tonnage levied upon the vessels of the United States and upon foreign vessels; upon all vessels built there after wards in the United States, but belonging in whole or in part to foreigners, the duty levied was thirty cents per ton. And upon all merchandise imported in foreign vessels, an addition of ten per cent. on the amount of duties, was levied. These discriminations were all protective duties—protective of the domestic manufacture. The argument which denies the power of Congress to levy duties for the protection of domestic manufactures, pronounces unconstitutional these two first acts, by which Congress exercised its powers—acts, among the most memorable, among the most beneficial exercises of power, which have rendered the Constitution itself a blessing to the nation. It expunges from the Constitution the grant of power to provide for the Common Defence.

To pay the debts of the Nation was an object of more immediate urgency than even that of providing for the common defence. It was to enable the Nation itself to do justice to others. To provide for the common defence, was the discharge of a debt which the nation owed to itself—a debt of wider scope, of deeper import, of more permanent duration. The power of levying money to pay the debts, was power limited by the consumption of the object. The power of contracting further debts was conferred by another grant. The exercise of these powers, would, in its nature, be occasional and temporary, that of providing for the common defence was permanent and unceasing; a debt still paying, still to owe, and limited in its duration only by that of the existence of the nation itself. The payment of the debts is about to be consummated. The power of levying duties, taxes, imposts, and excises, for that purpose, is about to be extinguished in its own fulfillment. There being no debts to be paid, the power of levying taxes for their payment will for the time cease to exist; but remain not merely unimpaired, but acquiring fresh strength, and more impressive weight, from the accomplishment of the nation's liberation from debts; swelling and expanding with the increase and expansion of the population and wealth to be defended; and destined to enlarge its dimensions and gather accumulating weight and intensity to a period coeval with the destined existence of the federal Union.

To say that the extinction of the Public Debt will not discharge the nation from the obligation, or divest Congress of the power of providing for the common defence, seems to be an observation exceptionable only for its extravagance. And yet, the opinion that the payment of the debt should be seized upon as the occasion for the abandonment and sacrifice of all efficient measures for the support of the Public Councils, with a confidence, an eagerness and a vehemence, which places it in a small degree beyond the pale of argumentative reason, and with a show of inflexibility which has an air of staking the Union itself on the question at issue.

The payment of the Public Debt has been an object of extreme solicitude, as well to the People as to every Administration of the General Government, from the establishment of the constitution to this day. To that the whole public domain, in one of the earliest acts of the government, was pledged. To that the proceeds of all the sales of the Public Lands were devoted. At the commencement of the present century, seven millions three hundred thousand dollars of the annual revenue of the nation were applied by one general act of appropriation to this purpose. That sum was shortly afterwards raised to eight millions—and a considerable new debt having accumulated during our late war with Great Britain, the sum of ten millions yearly was appropriated in the year 1816 to the extinction as well of that, as of the prior Revolutionary debt, interest and principal. So long as this burden bore upon the conscience no less than upon the resources of the People, their exertions for effecting the second object of the grant to Congress of the power of taxation, to provide for the common defence and general welfare, were necessarily much cramped and confined. One great, fundamental and never to be forgotten maxim, was the polar star of all the legislation of Congress upon this subject, and should be so in all future time. That is, to lay the burden of taxation in such proportion as should be tolerable to every portion of the people; and next to that, and inseparably connected with it, was the maxim of apportioning the burden in such manner as to equalize, as far as possible, its pressure, upon all the different sections, and all the great interests of which the Union is composed. Such has in fact always been the policy of Congress, and with regard to the general principle it is so obviously conformable to the first principles of justice, that it is not likely ever to be forgotten. And the constitution of the United States, apportioning the Representation of the People in this House according to their respective numbers in the several States, and of the States in the Senate, by an equal number for each State; but voting by numerical majorities, the term of service in both branches being of limited time, has so organized the power of raising contributions from the People, for the fulfillment of their duties and the promotion of their welfare, as to avert, perhaps as effectively as any device of human ingenuity can avert, the danger that the power entrusted for the promotion of the general welfare, and for the establishment of justice, should be perverted to the purpose of corruption, or abuse for the establishment of iniquity.

Such has been, accordingly, the general and fundamental rule of action, to the Congress of the United States, under all the vicissitudes of our history. But the government of the United States was a novelty in the annals of the world. The constitution was an experiment, and all its operations have, even to the present time, been experimental. It presented the spectacle of a nation spread over a territory exceeding that of the Roman empire, governed by a Representative Democracy, combined with a confederacy of sovereign and independent States. It was the steadiest, least of normal and political being. It seemed an attempt to counteract the universal law of gravitation, to navigate against wind and tide—to surmount the irresistible current of time—to surmount the process of this experimental legislation, mistakes, some of them of grave character, and of alarming consequences, have more than once been made. During the administration of the first President, an essay upon the moralist, an article, which, to the mind of the moralist, and to the heart of the christian, presents a subject, above all others, suited to heavy, to burdensome, if not to prohibitory taxation, was found in practice so ill adapted to bear the burden of an extremely moderate duty, that the attempt to raise one kind in one portion of the Union the flame of two successive rebellions, while, throughout all the other States, it was submitted to almost without a murmur.

At a later date, and during the administration of Mr. Jefferson and of Mr. Madison, a restrictive system adopted for the common defence, against the belligerent hostilities of the contending European Powers, was found to operate with peculiar severity and harshness and Eastern section of the Union; and there arose a spirit of extreme discontent at the system of government then pursued, which being further exasperated by the subsequent War, provoked the people in that quarter of the country, till some of them were almost ready to renounce their connection with the Union.

The war terminated, but the restrictive system which had preceded it, and the necessities with which the War itself was attended, had created and fostered a new and more extensive system, and applying them to the exercises of the mechanic arts, had placed Great Britain at the head of the manufacturing nations of modern times, and by that sympathy which circulates through all the veins and arteries of national power, had made her also at the same time the first and greatest of commercial nations. Such was the multiplication of physical power by the agency of machinery, that at the period which allusion is now made, the mechanical inventions then in use in Great Britain were estimated at an equivalent to the manual labor of two hundred millions of people. Thus, producing more, and at less cost, than her rivals, and by the many articles which contribute to the comfort and enjoyment of man, she was enabled in a great measure to command the markets of the world; and connecting with these advantages a steady system of commercial policy, not only self fish and monopolizing, but, as explicitly avowed in the parliamentary speeches of Mr. Huskisson, aimed with permanent, unrelenting, premeditated hostility against the commerce, navigation and manufactures of other nations, her rivals and competitors, she had succeeded in rendering them all tributary to her industry, and in no small degree dependent upon her power.

Of this hostility, and of this dependence, the People of the United States had shared more than the inhabitants of any other portion of the globe. From the time when they had shaken off their colonial dependence, they became in the eyes of their step mother the most hated of her rivals. The inability of their confederated brethren without resources of common defence, commercially at her mercy, and the tenderness of her mercies was cruelly felt. It was in the instant self preservation of the United States, that had originated, and it was relief from the pressure of that iron hand, that the very first acts of the Congress of the United States were provisions for the common defence by the protection of domestic manufactures.

It was this protection, with regard to one of the most important articles of domestic industry that of ship building, was immediate and effective. Your statistical writers, Seybert and Pitkin, tell you that it operated like enchantment, and that it is to be rewarded with instant success the memorable example given by the American People to all the nations of the earth, of constituting themselves, by a peaceable and social compact, founded on the basis of human rights, one confederated People, seemed to adapt the general history of the world, in the most signal manner to the new organization of the American Government. The wars of the French Revolution, immediately succeeding, gave redoubled efficacy to the argument advanced by our new institutions to our shipping and navigation. They opened to France and Britain were overruled by the paramount interests of their belligerent condition. The ports of their tropical islands were burst open to our ships and our trade, by powers beyond their control. We became the carriers of France because her commercial flag was banished from the ocean by the naval supremacy of the British power; we became often the carriers of Britain herself, interested to trade with her enemy through the medium of a neutral flag.

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met the approbation of any member but the reporter. He hoped this fact would be borne in mind by the House in the perusal of the report.

Mr. J. S. Barbour said, it was incumbent on him to make an explanatory remark in consequence of his peculiar position on the Com. ment of this bill. He had been charged with the settlement of this bill, the most distracting of all the questions before the House. Upon some matters he was divided in the proportion of six to one. Under such circumstances, he had resolved to refer to the deliberations of the Committee, the most perfect spirit of compromise which was consistent with those constitutional principles which throughout his political life he had regarded as his sheet anchor. In the Committee a correspondent feeling had been expressed—and by no individual more distinctly than by the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Adams.) But when the committee came to the consideration of practical points they had found their opinions widely apart from each other. With many of the sentiments contained in the report he not only agreed to, but felt gratified to see the committee for the force with which they were expressed. But with the general principles of that report he felt compelled to express his decided disapprobation. Those principles were not drawn from the limited powers given to this government by the constitution—but from the general grounds of the social compact. With reference to the bill just reported, he deemed it far more explicable to southern views and southern feelings, than the bill reported to the House by the Secretary of the Treasury. He had not been satisfied with that bill—he thought it concealed much exceptable matter that did not appear on its surface—under all circumstances he had thought it would be better to take it with all its evils than hazard the occurrence of far greater evils. With these remarks upon the principles of the report and bill, he would not detain the House further, until the subject should come up regularly for discussion.

Mr. L. Combs moved to print 10,000 copies of the bill and report, which was agreed to.

Mr. Cambreleng, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill authorizing the entry of vessels from the Cape of Good Hope and beyond the same, into the port of Edgartown, in the State of Massachusetts, which was read twice and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

The bill making appropriations in conformity with the stipulations of certain Indian treaties, was read a third time and passed.

The bill providing for the sale of public ground in Pensacola and St. Augustine, was read a third time and passed.

Several bills from the Senate were read twice and referred to the appropriate Committees.

Mr. McDuffie then moved that the House proceed to the special order of the day—THE TARIFF.

Mr. Taylor said the Committee of Manufactures had just reported their bill—in order to give time for its being printed, he moved that the special order be postponed till Monday next.

Upon this motion a discussion arose, in which Messrs. Cambreleng, R. M. Johnson, Watmough, McDuffie, Burd, E. Everett, J. S. Barbour, Sutherland, Polk and Stewart, took part, when the question was taken and the motion carried.

any, and if any, what measures were necessary to enforce the process of the United States Courts, was considered and agreed to. Mr. Smith gave notice that he should, this day, call up the bill authorizing a subscription on the part of the United States to the stock of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company. The bill to modify and continue the charter of the Bank of the United States, was taken up at 1 o'clock. Mr. Moore offered an amendment to the effect that no branch should be established in any State, without the assent of that State, and that the capital of the branch should be taxable in like manner, with the capital of other banks within each State, but he said he should not call it up for consideration at present. Mr. Webster offered an amendment, the effect of which is to strike out the clause which prevents the Bank from establishing more than one branch in each State; except where more than one is established already; which was agreed to without discussion. Mr. Webster then moved to amend the bill by altering the mode of paying the bonus required, in such manner that the Bank pay yearly, for fifteen years, one hundred thousand dollars to the Government. This motion was opposed by Mr. Benton, who also spoke earnestly, and at considerable length in opposition to any final action on the Bank question at the present session. He also indicated a plan for the organization of a Bank upon the principles of the Scottish Bank, which, he said, he would, at a suitable time, propose. Mr. Buckner, Mr. Dallas, and Mr. Clayton, spoke in reply to various points in Mr. Benton's remarks. Mr. Marcy made some suggestions in opposition to the amendment. The question was then taken on Mr. Webster's amendment and decided in the affirmative—Ayes 32, Noes 10. Mr. Webster laid on the table two other amendments, which were ordered to be printed, and the Senate then adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Root, from the Select Committee on that subject, reported a set of joint resolutions relative to the election of President and Vice President of the United States, which were referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. Mr. Slade concluded his speech on the Wisconsin case when Mr. Grennell moved the previous question, which was sustained—the question being divided, the Judiciary Committee were discharged, Ayes 111, Noes 65, and the case referred to the Secretary of the Treasury, Ayes 113, Noes 54. The House then took up in Committee the contested election from Virginia, and after some time spent in the discussion, Mr. C. C. Johnston was declared duly elected to his seat, Ayes 85, Noes 35. The House then adjourned.

Thursday, May 29. In the Senate yesterday, several memorials were presented, remonstrating against any reduction in the present duties on protected articles. The bill making appropriations for the Indian Department, for the year 1839, was taken up, amended, and ordered to a third reading. The bill to repeal so much of the law relative to Brevet Rank as authorizes the President to confer that rank on officers who have served ten years, was considered, amended so as not to affect rights which have already accrued, and ordered to a third reading. The bill to increase the number of Surgeons and assistant Surgeons in the United States Army was ordered to a third reading. At one o'clock the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to modify and continue the act incorporating the subscribers to the United States Bank. Mr. Webster withdrew the amendment authorizing an additional subscription to the stock of the Bank of the United States, at any time, to prohibit the Bank from issuing notes of a less denomination than twenty dollars, was agreed to. Mr. Moore's amendments, one providing that no branch should be established in any State, without the assent of that State, and the other rendering each branch liable to taxation by the several States, were considered and debated at great length.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Pendleton presented a petition from a large number of the citizens of Dutchess county, N. Y. praying that measures may be adopted for the release of the missionaries confined in the Georgia Penitentiary—which he proposed to refer to a Select Committee with instructions to enquire into the expediency of providing by law that where the Supreme Court of the United States shall declare an act of imprisonment to be illegal, a habeas corpus may issue for bringing the person so illegally imprisoned, before any Judge of the Supreme or District Courts, and discharged, and also for repealing so much of the Judiciary act as requires a case carried from a State Court to the Supreme Court to be remanded for execution; and to authorize the Supreme Court to execute their own judgments.

Mr. P. commenced an elaborate argument upon the constitutional questions involved by these questions. After he had proceeded for some time, Mr. W. Thompson rose and said, he was very unwilling to interrupt the gentleman, but as the day was devoted to another object, he would enquire how long it would take to finish the argument?

Mr. Pendleton said, two hours at least.

Mr. Bell suggested that the argument should be permitted to go on; it could be answered next week.

Mr. Bates, of Maine, objected to the course. Mr. Pendleton enquired whether he was not entitled to proceed.

The Speaker decided he was not, by the express terms of the 45th rule of the House, unless by the consent of the House.

Mr. Pendleton requested that consent; upon which the question was taken, and the motion lost.

The following resolutions were submitted by unanimous consent, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on Revolutionary Claims be instructed to enquire into the expediency of continuing in force, for some limited term of time, the laws mentioned and referred to in the sixth section of the act, entitled "an act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers of the Virginia line and navy, and of the continental army, during the revolutionary war," approved, May 30, 1830.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Public Lands be instructed to enquire into the expediency of authorizing the soldiers of the late war, their heirs or representatives, who may hold an unassisted bounty land warrant, to locate it on any unappropriated and unimproved fractional quarter section of land, in the bounty tract of Illinois, which may contain less than 160 acres, provided they receive it in full satisfaction of their warrant or claim for 160 acres.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to enquire whether it is expedient to amend the act, entitled "an act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers of the Virginia line and navy, and of the continental army, during the revolutionary war," approved, May 30, 1830.

Resolved, That a Select Committee be appointed, with instructions to enquire and report what measures are necessary to secure to the Representatives of the people, in this House, their constitutional privileges of freedom of speech and deliberation.

Resolved, That said Committee be instructed to enquire into the origin and extent of the conspiracy manifested by recent members, and murderers attempted, against members of this House.

Resolved, That said Committee be instructed to enquire into the allegation made by a member of this House in his place, charging the President of the United States with countenancing and approving by language of his, some of the late acts of violence and outrage, committed upon Representatives; and whether language has been used by him tending to rebuke or censure this House, for its enquiry into an assault upon one of its members.

Resolved, That said Committee further enquire and report, whether, from the origin and extent of this conspiracy, and from the characters who may be found implicated therein, either as principals or accessories, a determination be not manifested, not only to overawe and intimidate the Representatives of the people, but also to impede the progress of public measures, and prevent the legislation of Congress upon great and important subjects yet undecided.

Resolved, That to enable the said Committee to execute the duties assigned by the foregoing resolves, power is hereby given them to send for persons and papers.

The question was taken on suspending the above resolutions, and was lost—Ayes 78, Noes 113. Several bills, from the Senate were reported from the Standing Committees, to which they had been referred.

Mr. McDuffie moved to postpone all the bills on the Speaker's table, until to-morrow; which was agreed to.

THE TARIFF.

Mr. McDuffie moved the House resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, in execution of the special order of the day, which was agreed to—Mr. Speight in the Chair.

Mr. McDuffie moved that the bill from the Committee of Ways and Means, to reduce and equalize the duties on imports be taken up—which was accordingly read.

Mr. McDuffie then went into an extended explanation of the views on which this bill was based, with which he occupied the attention of the Committee nearly three hours without concluding his speech. He gave way to a motion by Mr. W. H. Davis, that the Committee rise, which was agreed to, and the House adjourned.

Wednesday, May 30.

In the Senate, yesterday, on motion of Mr. White, making appropriations in conformity with certain treaties with the Creeks, Choctaws, and other tribes of Indians. An amendment, reported from the Committee on Indian Affairs, appropriating \$30,740 for the Choctaws, who had relinquished lands according to the provisions of the 19th article of the treaty with that tribe, was agreed to, and the bill was ordered to a third reading. Mr. Smith moved that the Senate take up the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Bill, and the question being taken by Yeas and Nays, it was decided in the negative, Yeas 18, Nays 23. The Senate proceeded on motion of Mr. King, to consider the Bill for the appointment of a Recorder of the general Land Office, and prescribing the mode in which Patents for public lands should be issued. After some debate, Mr. Forsyth moved, by a vote of 21 to 14, that the bill, yesterday ordered to a third reading, be read a second time, and passed.

The bill providing for the appointment of a Commissioner of Indian Affairs and other purposes was considered as a Committee of the Whole. Mr. White explained the objects of the bill and on his motion, the salary of the Commissioner was fixed at \$3000 per annum. The bill was ordered to a third reading.

BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

The bill to modify and continue the act incorporating the subscribers to the U. States Bank, was taken up, as the unfinished business of the session, the question being on Mr. Forsyth's motion, to amend the amendment proposed by Mr. Moore, by striking out the clause requiring the assent of a branch within it, the establishment of a branch within it. This motion was decided in the affirmative.

The second branch of Mr. Forsyth's amendment, to insert a few words, merely to render the amendment of Mr. Moore verbally correct, was agreed to. Mr. Sprague then moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Moore, by substituting for it a provision that the bonus required of the Bank shall be distributed among the several States, in proportion to their population. Upon this motion a discussion took place, in which Messrs. Sprague, Webster, Tozwell, Forsyth and Smith participated, and the Senate, without taking the question, adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Verplanck, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill accompanied with a report "for the discharge of certain judgments against the former Marshal of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania."

[This bill is to provide for the payment of the heavy judgments obtained by a number of Marine Insurance Companies, in the city of New York against the United States Marshal of Pennsylvania, acting under the authority of the late Secretary of the Treasury in the famous ten cases, so long litigated in the courts of the United States, and finally decided at the last term of the Supreme Court.]

The bill was read twice and committed to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Two messages were received from the President of the United States, through Mr. Donelson, his Private Secretary, the first transmitting the instructions which resulted in the Treaty with the Sublime Porte; and the second, the instructions under which the negotiations with Denmark were prosecuted and determined.

On motion of Mr. Adams, 3000 extra copies of the foregoing documents were ordered to be printed.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The resolution heretofore offered by Mr. H. Everett, calling for information relative to a contract made by the Postmaster General for printing blanks, &c., and the amendment proposed by Mr. Whittlesey, of Ohio, for raising a committee to enquire into the general management of the Post Office Department, came up in course.

Mr. H. M. Johnson resumed his remarks, which had been suspended some days ago—of his friend from Ohio (Mr. Whittlesey,) persisted in his amendment, he would endeavor to go into a discussion upon matters and things in general, upon which he could find much to say. He would prefer, however, that