

...shall pay fifty shillings, to be collected by the sheriff of the county, wherein such vessel may be anchored, and by him accounted for in the same manner as the other taxes are by this act directed.

And be it further enacted, That no sinking fund tax shall be collected for the year 1804. J. REDDICK, S. S. S. CABARRUS, S. H. C. Ratified, December 22, 1803.

The Legislature of this State adjourned on the 29th ultimo. The following Acts were passed during its session.

AN Act to amend the several Land Laws in this State, so far as respects the Surveys being made and returned into the Secretary's Office.

Appointing Commissioners to extend the boundary line of this State and the State of South-Carolina.

To authorise the defendant on an Indictment for a libel, to give the Truth in Evidence.

To amend an Act passed in 1802, entitled, An Act to amend the 6th section of an Act passed at Raleigh in 1801, entitled, An Act to amend the several Land Laws of this State.

To amend an Act passed in 1801, entitled, An Act to fix a uniform time for taking the lists of Taxable Property throughout the State, and for enforcing the collection of Taxes.

To repeal that part of the first clause of an Act of the Assembly of 1795, entitled, An Act directing the manner in which the Clerks of the Several Superior and County Courts shall hereafter make their returns to the Comptroller, that requires the Clerk to make oath in open Court.

To repeal the 5th section of an Act of the General Assembly, passed in 1801, entitled, An Act to amend the several Land Laws in this State.

To empower the County Courts to make allowance where lands are returned on the lists of taxable property by mistake or otherwise, so that a certificate from their Clerk may be allowed as lists of insolvents.

To extend the jurisdiction of a single justice, and to amend the several laws now in force in this State relative to the recovery of debts before a Justice of the Peace.

To authorise the Secretary of State to issue warrants and duplicates thereof.

To amend and revive an Act passed at Raleigh in 1796, to encourage the cutting a navigable canal from Roanoke river, or the waters thereof, near the town of Plymouth to Pungo river, and to make other and more effectual provision for the same.

To amend the several laws now in force, to regulate and fix the prices of inspecting and cooping Tobacco within this State.

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To facilitate the division of lands.

To repeal so much of an Act passed in 1777, for appointing Sheriffs and directing their duty in office, and which requires sheriffs to obtain commissions from the Governor or previous to their entering on the duties of their office, and to direct the manner in which they shall be commissioned in future.

To authorise the State of Tennessee to perfect titles to lands reserved to this state by the cession act.

To amend the Militia Laws of this state, and to revise that part which relates to the cavalry department.

To amend the 41st section of an Act of the General Assembly for establishing courts of law, and for regulating proceedings therein.

To raise a revenue for the payment of the civil list and contingent charges of the government for the year 1804.

Directing the manner of appointing Electors to vote for a President and Vice-President of the United States.

To ratify an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

For the relief of Innis academy.

To authorise and empower the field officers and captains of the militia of their respective counties to appoint the place or places for holding their separate regimental or battalion musters in certain cases.

To encourage Francis X. Martin to publish a revival of certain acts of assembly.

To establish an Academy in the town of Wilmington.

An Act granting an additional separate election to the inhabitants of the county of New-Hanover.

Giving further time for registration of bills of sale and deeds of gift.

To tax all suits that may hereafter be bro't in the county court of New-Hanover.

To amend an Act passed in 1777, so far as respects the appointment of Rangers, to prevent the abuses in taking up stray horses, cattle and sheep, and other things therein mentioned.

To direct in what manner the fees of a Coroner in holding an inquest, shall be paid.

LEXINGTON, (Ken.) Nov. 22.

When the free navigation of the Mississippi was withheld from the citizens of the Western Country, we petitioned, we remonstrated, we offered to risk our lives and fortunes to acquire our natural right. When that right was secured to us by treaty, we sat down and contemplated with pleasure the growing importance of our country. But

when the port of Orleans was again shut by the Spanish Intendant, we felt the indignation of injured and insulted freemen; and our confidence in the justice of the General Government only restrained us from immediate acts of violence. We were not disappointed in the prompt attention and exertions of that government. By a treaty with France, New-Orleans and the Province of Louisiana were ceded to the United States. Spain has refused to deliver them up—and we must abandon them or fight. The President has authorised our government to hold in readiness 4000 men to march and take possession. The government has done its part, it now remains for you, Citizen Soldiers, to perform yours. You have waited with patience the result of negotiation—you have expressed your confidence in the General Government—you have pledged your lives and fortunes to support it in such a measure as the honour and interest of the U. States may require. Your country calls to arms—you must step forward and assert your rights.

On Saturday last Captain Wyatt's company of militia paraded in this town—34 men only mustered, 25 of whom enrolled themselves as volunteers.

Yesterday Captain Postlethwait's company of Light Infantry paraded—24 men only were on parade, and 20 enrolled themselves.

Extract of a letter from the Honourable John Breckenridge, dated Nov. 1.

"The bill enabling the President to take possession of Louisiana, finally passed both Houses on Saturday last; and the bill creating stock will pass in the Senate in a few days; having passed the other house last week. The Western members from the best accounts they could obtain, were fearful there was some disposition in the Spanish Government to withhold the possession of Orleans, and that our force in that quarter was not sufficient to take it. Under this impression they were desirous that the President should send down from Kentucky and Tennessee, 1500 or 2000 horsemen. This number has been thought more than sufficient by the government; but orders were dispatched last night to the governor of Tennessee to equip and march with all possible dispatch, 500 horsemen, to join our present force at the Natchez, which consists of 4000 regular troops, and about 700 or 800 militia from that territory. This force, it is judged, will be sufficient, unless the Spanish government should have gotten a reinforcement from the Havana, and mean to make a vigorous opposition. The President does not believe this will be the case; but such an event is so important, and as the object to be obtained is so important, he will run no risks about it; and he has directed the Governor of Kentucky to have immediately organized and held in readiness 4000 volunteers to march by the 30th of December, if necessary. Similar orders are given to the Governors of Ohio and Tennessee—the first for 500, and the last for 1500 or 2000 men. With this force we cannot fail of success.

"Should these volunteers be wanting, they are to go by water, and to continue in service four months if necessary.—Boats, provisions and arms, if they cannot furnish themselves, will be supplied by the government, from a large stock now at the Natchez."

### KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE.

The following resolution has passed both Houses of the Legislature.

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

WHEREAS, by a resolution of the late General Assembly, the people of this commonwealth stand pledged to support at the expense of their lives and fortunes, such measures as the government of the United States might pursue, to secure to the citizens, not only the free and uninterrupted navigation of the Mississippi, but also a place of deposit for their produce on its banks. And whereas, by the treaty concluded with France, not only these objects have been secured, but a great acquisition of territory obtained, the future advantages of which are almost incalculable.

And whereas, the President of the United States has required the governor of this commonwealth to have in readiness by the 20th of December next, 4000 militia volunteers to serve on a four months expedition to Louisiana,

Resolved, That each non-commissioned officer and private, who shall voluntarily enter into service, and actually descend the river Mississippi, on the said expedition, in the said corps of volunteers, and shall serve out the time for which they shall be enlisted, unless sooner discharged, shall receive as a compensation in addition to the pay and emoluments provided by the law of the United States, a warrant for 150 acres of land, which may be located on any waste and unappropriated land in this commonwealth, and a bill pursuant to the said resolution shall be bro't in to appropriate the said lands, and make provision accordingly.

### NEW-YORK, December 10.

By the arrival of the ship Favourite, in 35 days from Liverpool, we have been put in possession of Liverpool papers to the 3d of November, inclusive, containing London dates to the 1st; being, we believe the latest received in town. These papers contain intelligence of a highly interesting nature; they detail the principal occurrences in the different nations of Europe, their situations, the operations of the belligerent powers, and the vast preparations for attack on the part of

France, and defence on the part of the United Kingdoms. The threatened invasion has not yet been attempted, but the various movements of the French troops, the positive orders to General officers to repair to their respective ports, the state of forwardness in which the gun-boats are, and a combination of circumstances lead us to suppose that the moment is not far distant, when the blow will be struck, which will put an end to the existence or independence of Great-Britain, or establish her power upon such a basis, as the lapse of ages cannot undermine.

The United Kingdoms, unappalled by the threats and preparations of their implacable foe, proudly conscious of their strength, and secure as to the issue of any attempt of invasion, at the same time that they neglect no means of defence, and exhibit the appearance of a nation in arms, are actively engaged in finding out new channels of commerce to dispose of their manufactures and colonial productions. While thus pursuing the arts of peace amidst the din of war

France, actuated by a thirst for glory and the hopes of plunder, and led on by Buonaparte, has sworn to humble her hated Rival or perish in the attempt. She spares no expense, and appears to think lightly of the sacrifice in the prosecution of this design; eager to injure Britain by every method in her power, she has provided an army of 40,000 men for their subjugation.

Portugal, the government of which anxious to avert or protract the impending blow, has entered into a negotiation.

Spain, takes an active part. From the present disposition, of her Masters it appears impossible that she can remain much longer neutral. Her ancient spirit gone, her Councils under the controul of France, her immense treasures arrived, urged by Britain to declare her intention, and pressed by France to enter into the war, her only hopes of peace rest in the result of her proposals to

Russia to act as mediator. She finding it for her interest to remain neutral during the present war, has hitherto remained friendly with all the belligerent powers. At present, however, a coolness exists between her ambassador, Count Marceff, and the court of the Thulleries. Her once formidable rival

Turkey is fast verging towards annihilation; her fair province, Egypt, is, with the exception of Alexandria, which was surrounded and had offered to capitulate, entirely in possession of the Mamelukes, in other provinces disaffected Pashas, re at the standard of rebellion, to which thousands of deluded wretches flock, and who, when attacked by superior numbers, are deserted by their leaders, and pay with their heads the price of their disobedience.

Of the other nations in Europe, who are either wrapped in profound peace or attached to the powers at war, nothing merits particular notice.

### PHILADELPHIA, December 8.

From Natchez, Nov. 17. "The treaty has arrived, together with dispatches for Governor Claiborne. It is said that the detachment leaves Fort Adams for New-Orleans, in ten days from this."

By the late arrivals from St. Jago, we have interesting particulars relative to the evacuation of Aux-Cayes, which did not take place until the blockade of that town by the British, and the consumption of every living animal, had reduced the garrison to the utmost extremity; forced to abandon Aux-Cayes, gen. Brunet, conciliated to his duty as a soldier, the humanity of a man, after taking every necessary measure for the safety of the troops and inhabitants, he destroyed, before he quitted the town, every implement of war that yet remained in his possession; the guns were all rendered forever unfit for use, the muskets, powder, &c. were thrown into the sea.

### WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.

By the last mail government has received dispatches from New-Orleans, dated as late as the 29th ult. by which it appears that Mr. Landais, who was charged with the original orders to Mr. Laussat to receive Louisiana from Spain, arrived there late on the 25th ult. and that the 30th at noon was appointed by the Spanish and French Commissioners as the time for the delivery on the part of Spain and the receipt of possession on the part of France. By subsequent accounts from Natchez as late as the 2d of December the forces of the United States were embarking in order to proceed with Gov. Claiborne and General Wilkinson, the American Commissioners, to receive and occupy the country in the name of the United States.

Extract of a letter from a respectable house in Natchez, dated 22d November.

"Every preparation is making to take possession of Orleans—about 600 men under Gen. Wilkinson, will leave this for that place in six or eight days. Mr. C. C. Claiborne and Gen. Wilkinson are appointed Commissioners to receive the ceded territory, and Mr. C. C. Claiborne, Governor and Intendant of Louisiana for the time being.—No opposition is expected to the taking possession of the country."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman residing near the Natchez, dated Dec. 2.

"The governor set out this day for New-Orleans with a number of troops, with the determination to take possession by force, if the Spaniards should refuse the delivery; which I suppose they will not. The governor received a letter from general Wilkinson last night informing him that the Spaniards were

making preparations to deliver the post, and to receive our troops on friendly terms." Another letter of similar date, states that information had been that morning received from New-Orleans, that that place would be delivered without any difficulty being made.

## CONGRESS.

[Sketch of the Debates.]

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, December 5.

On the motion of Mr. R. Griswold, the following resolution was taken into consideration:

"Resolved, That the Post-Master-General be directed to repair and report to this House a statement of the gross sum received in each state for the postage of letters, packets and papers in the years 1801, 1802, and 1803, respectively, together with the sums which have been paid in each year, and in each state, for commissions to Post Masters, for carrying the mail, and for all other expences, in relation to the Post-Office in each state respectively.—Referred.

Mr. Rodney called for the order of the day on his resolution to extinguish the State Balances.

Mr. Early moved a postponement of the further consideration of the subject to the 1st Monday in January, assigning for reason the unrepresented situation of the state of New-Jersey, a creditor state to a considerable amount.

The question of postponement was then carried—Ayes 82.

Mr. Van Horne moved a resolution for the appointment of a committee to enquire into the expediency of granting further time to the proprietors of military land warrants to obtain and locate the same. Agreed to.

Monday, December 12.

The Amendment to the Constitution was this day reported by the Committee of Enrollment, when the Speaker signed it, and the House passed a resolution requesting the President of the U. States to transmit it to the several States. The Clerk of the House carried the Amendment, with this resolution, to the Senate for concurrence. The Vice-President having signed the Amendment, it was moved, on the Federal side of the Senate, that it should be sent to the President for his approbation. On this motion, a debate ensued which occupied the day. By the supporters of the motion, it was contended, contrary to all precedent, that the amendment required the approbation of the President.

On the question being taken by yeas and nays, the following gentlemen voted in the affirmative: Messrs. Adams, Hillhouse, Olcott, Pickens, Plumer, Tracy and White. Mr. Dayton was the only federal member who voted in the negative. The nays 23.

A more extraordinary motion was perhaps never submitted to Congress. Many amendments have been made under federal administrations, and such an idea as the necessity of the President's signature, never appears to have been dreamt of.

Wednesday, December 14.

The House took up the report of the committee of the whole on the report of the committee of ways and means on the expediency of discontinuing the office of Commissioner of Loans in the different states.

The report of the committee of the whole was a disagreement to the report of the committee of ways and means, and a recommendation to the House to adopt a resolution that it is expedient to discontinue the office.

After a debate of considerable length, the report of the committee of the whole was agreed to by yeas & nays—Yeas 58, Nays 55.

Thursday, December 15.

The House went into a committee of the whole, Mr. Dawson in the chair, on the bill giving effect to the laws of the United States, within the territory ceded by France to the United States.

Dr. Latimore moved an amendment, the object of which was to preserve the Mississippi district, as it has been heretofore, in relation to the entry and delivery of merchandise, instead of making, as the bill provides, New-Orleans the only port of entry for the Mississippi territory, and to give time for information, moved that the committee should rise.

Agreed to, and leave given to the committee to sit again.

AN ACT to repeal an act entitled "An act to establish a uniform system of Bankruptcy throughout the United States."

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the act of Congress passed on the 4th day of April, 1800, entitled "An act to establish a uniform system of Bankruptcy throughout the United States" shall be and the same is hereby repealed. Provided Nevertheless, That the repeal of the said act shall in no wise affect the execution of any commission of bankruptcy which may have been issued prior to the passing of this act, but every such commission may and shall be proceeded on and fully executed as though this act had not passed.

NATHL. MACON, Speaker of the House of Representatives. A. HURR, Vice-President of the U. States, and President of the Senate.

December 19, 1803. Approved, TH. JEFFERSON.