

The bill for the assessment and collection of a direct tax and of internal duties, was read a second time, and referred to Messrs. King, Worthington, Giles, Smith and Bullock; and the next day Mr. King reported it without amendment. It was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on Monday.

The bill to increase the capital stock of the Bank of Washington, was on motion of Mr. Weeks, referred to the 1st Monday in Dec. next.

The bill from the house of representatives laying a duty on licences to distillers of spirituous liquors, was referred to the same committee to whom the general taxation bill was referred as a house bill.

On Thursday the bill to prohibit the use of licences or passes granted by the authority of the government of the U. Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, was on motion recommitted to the committee who reported it; who on Saturday returned it with amendments.

The bill for the relief of the owners of the ships Good Friend, Amazon and U. States, and their crews, was read a third time and passed.

The bill freeing from postage all letters and packages to and from the superintendent, general of military supplies, was on Thursday read a third time and passed.

The tax bills passed on Friday in the House were on Saturday severally referred to the committee to whom the assessment bill had been referred.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Saturday, July 10.

Mr. John G. Jackson, (of Va.) offered a resolution on Saturday for amending the constitution of the U. States.

Resolved, by the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, two thirds of both houses concurring, that the following articles be proposed as amendments to the constitution of the U. States, each of which, when ratified by three fourths of the said legislature, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said constitution—

1. Congress shall have power to lay a tax or duty on articles exported from any state.
2. Congress shall have power to make roads in any state, with the consent of the state within which the same shall be made.
3. Congress shall have power to make canals in any state, with the consent of the state within which the same shall be made.
4. Congress shall have power to establish a national bank, with branches thereof in any state or territory of the United States.

The bill imposing a carriage tax passed the house by yeas and nays, 99 to 52.

Mr. Benson, from the joint committee, reported the business necessary to be done before the close of the present session, which chiefly related to revenue and army bills, and the bill prohibiting exportation under the protection of a foreign license.

The bill from the Senate for relinquishing to the captors the claims of the U. S. to certain property captured by private armed vessels, passed through a committee of the whole. Mr. King of N. C. in the chair, was reported to the House.

After considerable debate, the House adjourned without deciding on said bill.

Monday, July 12.

The bill for the relief of Edwin C. Sawyer, white; the bill for to provide for the widows and orphans of military slain in the service of the United States; and the bill for the relief of Alexander Scott; were read a third time and passed.

The unfinished business was resumed, viz, the consideration of the bill to "relinquish the claims of the United States to certain goods, wares and merchandise captured by private armed vessels."

This bill releases all right and claim accruing to the United States under the non importation laws to goods, wares or merchandise the property of British subjects, shipped from British ports since the declaration of war, which have been captured by private armed vessels on the high and open seas, have been libelled and claimed in the courts of the United States in all cases where such goods &c. shall be condemned as prize of war, for the benefit of the captors, &c.]

Wednesday, July 14.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill laying duties on licences to retailers of wines, spirituous liquors and foreign merchandise.

After the adoption of several unimportant amendments—Mr. Bass moved so to amend the bill as to include in the tax wholesale as well as retail dealers. Agreed to.

The committee of the whole then took up the bill laying a duty on Bank Notes, Notes of Hand, and foreign Bills of Exchange of certain descriptions.

Mr. Bass explained the grounds on which he supported this measure at the present time.

Mr. Taylor, after some explanatory remarks, going to show the difficulty of collecting a revenue on stamp duty, and the great inconveniences of such a tax on the people, made a motion to strike out a part of the first section of the bill for laying a tax on promissory notes, &c. so as to impose a duty on bank notes alone.

Considerable discussion arose on this motion—in which Messrs. Taylor, Wright and Jackson supported the amendment, and Messrs. Bibb, Roberts, Clay and Bell opposed it. The question was taken and decided in the negative—yeas 34, nays 61.

Mr. (Speaker) Claiborne then moved so to amend the bill as to confine the tax on notes, &c. to those negotiated at banks, with a view to except from stamp duties the ordinary country transactions by notes &c.

After some remarks, the question was taken on Mr. Claiborne's motion and carried without a division. The bill having been gone through, and some further amendments made thereto, the committee rose, reported the bill to the house, as amended, and obtained leave to sit again, on the remaining bills.

The house proceeded to consider the report of

the committee of the whole; and having gone through the first bill and agreed to the amendments reported by the committee, a motion was made to adjourn, and carried. Half past four o'clock.

SECRET PROCEEDINGS.

The House having yesterday, previous to adjournment, removed the injunction of secrecy as to their proceedings the two past days, it appears they were as follows:

Thursday, July 13.

Mr. Stuart submitted the following Preamble and Resolution for consideration:

Whereas the seat of the general government, from the unprepared and defenceless state of the district of Columbia, is in imminent danger, if an attack should be made thereon; and whereas the fleet of the enemy is understood to be within a few hours sail of the capitol; and whereas the immense value of public property exposed to destruction, the great value of the public records and other deeply interesting considerations render it peculiarly important that any invasion of the metropolis should be met with vigour and successfully repelled; whereupon,

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, a distribution of such arms as are in the possession of the government within the district, should be immediately made, to be placed in the hands of all able bodied men within the district willing to be embodied liable to perform military duty, and also in the hands of such members of this House as may be willing to receive them, to act against the enemy in any manner not incompatible with their public duties.

And a question being taken whether the subject matter of the said proposition requires secrecy, it was determined in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. Rhea that the said proposition do lie on the table.

For the motion,	64
Against it	74

A motion was made by Mr. Gholson, to strike out the preamble, and carry in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. Barwell, to refer the motion to the military committee.

For the motion,	74
Against it,	44

And the doors were then opened.

Friday, July 16.

Mr. Troup, from the military Committee, made the following report:

The committee on military affairs, to whom was referred a resolution of yesterday, having relation to the present movements of the enemy, report,

That they have examined into the state of preparation, naval and military, made to receive the enemy, and are satisfied that the preparation is in every respect adequate to the emergency, and that no measures are necessary on the part of the House to make it more complete.

On motion of Mr. Grosvenor, the report was ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. Bibb, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the proceedings of yesterday and to day.

Mr. Nelson reported a bill "supplementary to the act to encourage the destruction of the armed vessels of war of the enemy" (appropriating \$3000 to carry it into effect) which was twice read and committed.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill to lay a duty on imported salt.

After some amendments had been made—

Mr. Macon moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill to the first Monday in Nov. next. For the motion 51—Against it 85.

Further amendments were made, among which was one, on motion of Mr. Yancey, to reduce the duty from twenty to twelve and a half cents per bushel. On motion of Mr. Barnett, this vote was reconsidered; and the question being again taken to agree to the said proposed amendment, was decided in the negative. For the amendment 69—Against it 70.

Mr. Wright moved to reduce the duty from twenty to fourteen cents per bushel. For the motion 55—against it 74.

The title of the bill was then amended so as to read "A bill laying a duty on imported salt; granting a bounty on pickled fish, and allowances to certain vessels employed in the fisheries;" and the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Foreign.

Boston, July 10, 1813.

The recent arrivals from France and England, have furnished us much interesting intelligence. The Campaign in Germany has been opened by a bloody battle of no very decisive character. The victory is claimed on both sides. The Russians who remained in possession of the field of battle, have since deemed it prudent to retire behind the Elbe. The French have advanced as the allies have retrograded. The head quarters of Bonaparte were at Dresden at the last dates, and most of the divisions of his army had passed to the right bank of the river. There had been several skirmishes since the battle of the 2d of May. The Russian army of the West, under Barclay de Tolly, estimated at 100,000 effective men was advancing towards the seat of war. The king of Prussia had ordered a levy en masse in his dominions. This is a sufficient evidence of his sincerity in the cause he has espoused. To counterbalance this, however, the king of Saxony had again taken an active part in favor of the French. His troops at Turgau had united with the Grand Army. It was understood that Austria would declare on the 24th of May, what course she would adopt in regard to the present contest. A strong hope was entertained in England that she would, at least, take neutral ground. The Swedes had sent a considerable body of troops into Pomerania. The last division of 5000, sailed from Gottenburgh on the 18th of May. The Danes were in Hamburg and its vicinity, to the number of 14,000. It was expected that they would be permitted to retain possession of that territory during the war. Some misunderstanding had grown up between Sweden and Denmark, in consequence of the ambitious designs of the for-

mer upon Norway. It was feared that it might eventually lead to open hostilities.

Dantzick still held out. On the 1st of May, the day when its surrender was announced in London. It would seem, too, that Glogau has not yet fallen.

The sailing of our ministers to Russia, was known in England. The Courier, a distinguished ministerial print, expresses its surprise at the precipitancy of our government, and thinks that the proposition will be peremptorily rejected. No late news had been received from Spain or Portugal.

The above is an outline of the information contained in the London papers from the 12th to the 27th of May. We have been obliged to limit ourselves to a mere sketch, in order to present our readers with the official account of the battle of Lutzen as given by France and Prussia. Those who know the habitual exaggeration of the French bulletins, and the modesty and correctness of the Russians will be able to draw their own inferences from the two statements.

The French have not pushed forward since passing the Elbe, but appear to be following the course of the river.

Despatches from Lord Cathcart corroborate the Prussian account.

From the New York evening Post.

Important Foreign News.—By the arrival of the schooner Whip, at this port, in 44 days from Bordeaux, and the ship Fair American at Boston, in 42 days from Portsmouth, (Eng.) we have received European news to the 27th of May. The campaign in Germany was opened by a general and bloody battle, but not of a decisive character. The victory is claimed by both sides. From these accounts the reader will be able to judge of the result of this sanguinary conflict. He will perceive that the French accounts admit that they had 10,000 men killed and wounded, but say the loss of the allies was from 25,000 to 30,000. They state also that they had taken a number of prisoners, but do not say how many, nor do they mention the name of a single officer, nor of the capture of a single piece of artillery or standard. The Allies assert that they remained on the field of battle the night following, and were ready to renew the action the next day, but that the French declined. That they could not bring their numerous cavalry into play against the enemy, which was the cause of their retreat across the Elbe.

The Russian army under Barclay de Tolly, estimated at 100,000 effective men was advancing, and it was expected would meet the Grand Army on the plains between the Elbe and Oder where it was supposed another battle would be fought, which would decide the fate of the campaign. The King of Prussia has ordered a levy en masse in his dominions, which is a sufficient evidence of his sincerity in the cause. The king of Saxony had entered with the same spirit, on the side of the French. The conduct of Austria continued mysterious; The French accounts make no mention of her; but there was a strong hope in England that she would at least take neutral ground. The Danes were at Hamburg and its vicinity, to the number of 14,000 men, and it was thought they would be permitted to retain possession of that territory during the war. There had been some severe skirmishing between the outposts of the armies with various success, both before and after the battle of the 2d of May; but as late as the 12th, nothing decisive had taken place. The Prussians appeared to have adopted the Russian plan of burning and devastating their country, rather than it should fall into the hands of the enemy. Dantzick held out on the 1st of May.

We find very little in the English papers relative to American affairs, excepting the debate in parliament which we have given. The sailing of our ministers to Russia was known in England, but we find nothing from the government on the subject. The editors of some of the papers give it as their opinion, that the proposition of negotiation through Russia will be peremptorily rejected.

IMPORTANT.

Extract of a letter from Messrs. Barnard and Brothers, dated Liverpool, May 13.

"A debate upon the policy of interdicting all commercial communication with the United States, during the war, took place in the House of Commons on the 10th inst. The sense of the House was to prohibit the import of U. S. produce into to; but the Chancellor of the Exchequer having expressed a wish to consult the mercantile interests, no resolutions were moved. Our government has refused to negotiate through the medium of Russia."

Domestic.

LATEST AND AGREEABLE NEWS FROM FORT MEIGS.

FRANKLINTON, July 5.

In order to quell the perturbation at present prevailing in the public mind, and to relieve our fellow citizens from the painful anxiety created by the intelligence received during last week from Fort Meigs and Lower Sandusky, we are induced to publish, as speedily as possible, the following particulars, bro't by the express mail, arrived last night.

Gen. Harrison arrived at Fort Meigs on the 28th ult.—found the place in perfect safety, and not threatened by the British or their allies. He dispatched col. Johnson's regiment of mounted men to the river Raisin to reconnoitre and collect information—col. Johnson discovered no enemy—brought with him some Canadians, who informed that the British had not received such an accession to their Indian forces as had been reported; but that 100 Indians had left the river Raisin for Lower Sandusky to scout, pillage and massacre. On col. Johnson's return to Fort Meigs, gen. Harrison ordered a detachment to go immediately in pursuit of the Indians, but unfortunately they had done all the mischief they could do before they were discovered. They killed 2 dragoons who were hunting their horses near the fort at Lower Sandusky, and murdered a family within a hundred yards of the fort, consisting of 2 men, 1 woman and 2 children. They immediately retreated towards Fort Meigs, and must

have passed within a mile and a half of Harrison, who was on his return from Fort Meigs with an escort of only about 20 men. The news with his customary good fortune, arrived at Lower Sandusky on Friday last. The British would start the next day for Cleveland. Col. Johnson's regiment were expected at Lower Sandusky on Friday.

Thus it appears that the reports of Fort Meigs and Lower Sandusky being attacked, were premature.

The frontiers may now be considered in a state of more perfect safety than they have ever been before. Major Croghan, with nearly 500 men, is stationed at the Broad Ford, 17 miles from Lower Sandusky, and col. Johnston's regiment of mounted men are at Lower Sandusky, ready to move to any point which may hereafter be endangered.

His excellency Governor Meigs, on first receiving intelligence of the late alarms, began his known zeal, vigilance and patriotism to prepare for the worst. Several companies were immediately ordered out and are now on the march. His excellency, who is here at present, sent expresses in different directions this morning to order the militia to return to their homes.

We congratulate our agricultural friends on the improbability of their being again called on to leave their farms at this important season of the year.

HIGH LAND, July 13.

About Sun rise, this morning, an Express arrived from Fredericksburg—and put into the hands of the following Dispatch:

Sir—From information received this morning by express from the Col. Commandant of Key George County, the British fleet consisting of several frigates, and number of smaller vessels in the Potomac, and by last night's post, of one's Perry. Captain Green with his Virginia Militia of the town are now under arms, and presses are sent to inform the Officers in the adjacent counties. Three rifle companies from the 51st Regiment arrived here a few hours ago, their march to Richmond under orders from your Excellency. They are commanded by Captain Barwell, Somers and Gikerson. We are these companies to remain here till it is ascertained what course the enemy means to take. Whether he means to proceed up the River, or to make an attack on this town, a few days will develop. The Officers commanding these companies, under orders from your Excellency, have consented to the solicitation of the Mayor and Council of the town, to wait until we can hear from you. For this purpose that gentlemen will hand you this, waits on you. We hope you will permit these companies to remain here in the neighborhood of the Potomac. We have sufficient quantity of Powder. These companies have rifles. If you permit them to remain here, to our wishes, some Ball and Powder will be wanting. Be so good as to forward an answer by the bearer as speedily as possible.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Geo. French, Major.

Should your excellency determine, we are to remain here, you will have the news to order on Tents, Powder, Ball, &c. We have nothing with us but good men, and rifles.

Robert Carter Burwell, Capt.

James H. Sowers, Capt.

Ciamor Catlett, Lieut. Com'l.

Captain Sambaugh also begs leave to state, also is placed in the same situation and waits on your Excellency's further orders.

Wm. WOODYEAR, Lieut.

P. S. His troops from Shenandoah County. P. S. An Express has this moment arrived stating that the enemy was in a few miles of Potomac Creek. 4 o'clock.

Within five minutes after the Express came the executive had adopted his measures. A detachment of Riflemen and Troopers, have started for Fredericksburg, and will reach there to-morrow sun rise. Such is the promptness of our mounted troops! So quick in march! Now put in execution! Col. McDowell (of Augusta) has gone on from the Flying Camp, near the city, to take the command. Tents, &c. &c. are on their way. We have no fears for the safety of Fredericksburg. Our troops will wait on the enemy until they see him out of the Potomac.

Extract of a Letter from Sackett's Harbor, dated the 3d July, to the editors of the New York Gazette.

"A part of Thursday, 1st of July, and during that night the British Commodore Sir James Yeo, having previously concerted a plan to destroy our vessels at their moorings in this harbour, lay out about 8 miles distance from here, the point Peninsula, in the direction to Kingston, so completely sheltered as to be unobserved by any person from this place, and the Peninsula being uninhabited had made him secure in his project so far, which was to have taken place that night, under cover of the night, to have made an attempt to board and set fire to the fleet.

He had got ready a number of barges, armed with 500 picked seamen on board the barges, armed with pistols, cutlasses, &c. and paper fire rockets, and 400 marines and soldiers also barges, was to have made the attack.

But fortunately a deserter came in with the intelligence. The military and naval commanders immediately made the preparations for that night, but at the piping of alarm to scatter the fleet of his designs, he left his ambuscade and went to Kingston.

"Our fleet went off the point the next morning, and returned again in a few hours, but the enemy had fled. No ships or vessels of war were with Yeo as appears.

"What a pleasing and fortunate circumstance it would have been had our fleet after seeing the new ship under the batteries, for she was really crammed with soldiers besides the crew, immediately out for the wind was to carry off the