

made a Spanish territory the place of rendezvous and encampment of an enemy, and which has still more lately permitted the Indian inhabitants of that territory, (whom Spain was bound by treaty to restrain) to engage in savage hostilities against us; for all these acts of war, a people less attached to peace would seek redress only by war. To capture and confiscate the ships and property of the wrong-doer, would be admitted to be a policy of mildness and forbearance. But, by such reprisals, the government that does the wrong suffers less than the offending subject. It seems a more just reprisal to occupy the province which has been made an instrument of injury, which has been designated by Spain herself as the fund for our indemnity, and whose occupation by the United States, will stop the accumulation of claims for compensation and redress, which the misgovernment of that neglected colony continually produces. The committee submit to the house a bill to authorize the president of the United States to take possession of East and West Florida, and establish a temporary government therein.

There appears too much reason to believe, from the mistake of the Spanish negotiator, as to the dates of the Spanish grants, which it was intended to annul, if the projected treaty had been ratified, that the crown lands in Florida may be insufficient to provide the expected indemnity for our losses. But these may be applied, as far as they will go, to the compensation of our citizens, and for the excess of our claim, Spain, by whose act the domain of Florida has been rendered inadequate, must expect us to look westward. Perhaps, when our attention is thus forced to a direction more interesting to Spain, her government may at last admit that it is as much her interest as ours, that the just claims of the United States should be provided for by friendly convention, and we may hope that the next treaty between the two nations may be executed as well a signed.

The following bill accompanied the report:

*Be it enacted, &c.* That the president of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to take possession of, and occupy, the territories of East and West Florida, and the appendages and appurtenances thereof; and he is hereby authorized, for that purpose, to employ any part of the army and navy of the United States, and the militia of any state, which he may deem necessary.

*And be it further enacted,* That until the end of the next session of congress, unless provision for the temporary government of the said territories be sooner made by congress, all the military, civil, and judicial powers exercised by the officers of the existing government of the same territories shall be vested in such person and persons, and shall be exercised in such manner, as the president of the United States shall direct, for maintaining of said inhabitants of said territories in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion; and the laws of the United States relative to the collection of the revenue, and the importation of persons of colour, shall be extended to said territories; and the president of the United States shall be, and he is hereby authorized, within the term aforesaid, to establish such districts for the collection of the revenue, and during the recess of congress to appoint such officers, whose commissions shall expire at the end of the next session of congress, to enforce the said laws, as to him shall seem expedient.

*And be it further enacted,* That the sum of — dollars is hereby appropriated, for the purpose of carrying this act into effect, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and to be applied under the direction of the president of the United States.

The bill was twice read, and referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The resolution lying on the table to authorize the publication of part of the secret journal of congress, under the articles of confederation, and the amendments reported thereto by the select committee, being read, were concurred in by the house, and the resolution, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

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

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I transmit to the house of representatives, in pursuance of their resolution of the 22d of last month, a report from the secretary of state, with the papers containing the information requested by that resolution.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, March 29, 1820.

To the President of the United States: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, and to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities. I have also the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities.

ting to the president the papers containing the information in possession of this department requested by the resolution.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

Department of State, 7th March, 1820.

[The documents accompanying this report were ordered to be printed.]  
*Military Appropriations.—Fortifications.*  
The house again resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill appropriating monies for the support of the military establishment for the year 1820.

The whole of the remainder of the day was occupied on this bill, and principally on the subject of the appropriation for fortifications.

The debate resulted in fixing on 800,000 dollars as the amount of appropriation for fortifications, for the present year, being the sum recommended by the committee of ways and means.

Before finishing the consideration of this bill, the committee rose (at four o'clock) and the house adjourned.

Friday, March 10.

On motion of Mr. Cannon, it was

*Resolved,* That the committee of the whole house who have under consideration the bill making appropriations for the military establishment for the year 1820, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the military academy at West Point, in the state of New York; also of repealing all laws in relation to said academy, from and after the first day of May next, and exposing to sale to the highest bidder all the property of the United States, in and about the same, in such manner as may be directed by the president of the United States.

The bill from the senate for changing the mode of disposing of the public lands from credit to cash; and the bill, also from the senate, for extending the time for payment for the public lands, &c. were twice read, and referred to the committee on public lands.

The engrossed resolution directing the publication of the secret journal of the old congress, from the treaty of 1783, to the commencement of the government, was read a third time, and passed.

The house having again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the military appropriation bill—

Mr. Cobb withdrew the motion which he yesterday offered to amend the bill, under the impression that it had better be annexed to the bill making the civil appropriations for the current year.

Mr. Cocke inquired from the chairman of the committee of ways and means, what portion of the appropriations contained in this bill related to the expenses of the expedition up the Missouri river—his object being to strike out that part of the appropriation.

Mr. Smith, of Maryland, answered, that he could not say more on this subject than was disclosed by the report on this subject by the war department, in pursuance of the requisition of this house, and which was in possession of the house.

After some conversation, it appeared to be settled that the proper time for Mr. Cocke's motion would be when the question came before the house for concurrence in the appropriations agreed to by this committee.

And on motion of Mr. Clay, this bill having been gone through, it was ordered to lie on the table.

The house then proceeded to the consideration of the proposition of Mr. Cannon, directing the committee of the whole to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the military academy.

Whereupon a debate of three hours arose, of which it is not possible to crowd even a very brief report in this paper.

Mr. Clay submitted a resolution, "that it is inexpedient at this time to abolish the military academy at West Point."

Those who supported the affirmative and negative sides of this proposition, in debate, were as follows:  
*Affirmative.*—Messrs. Clay, Campbell, Foot, Tomlinson, Fuller, Smith, of Maryland, Smyth, of Virginia, Bloomfield, Brown, and Case.

*Negative.*—Messrs. Livermore, Ross, Stevens, Walker, Smith, of N. Carolina, and Cannon.

Among the supporters of the academy, Mr. Campbell, and perhaps others, were of opinion the number of students might be reduced one half, and of course the expenditure proportionably.

A motion was made to strike out the syllable *in* from Mr. Clay's motion, so as to make it read *expedient* instead of *inexpedient*. This motion was negatived after a division, in which it was supported by forty-one votes.

And Mr. Clay's motion prevailed by a like majority.

The committee then rose and reported their agreement to this resolution; and also reported, with amendments, the military appropriation bill.

And the house adjourned.

Saturday, March 11.

The house proceeded to consider the report of the committee of the whole on the bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment for the year 1820.

On the question to concur in filling the blank for medical, hospital and quarter-master's stores, with 500,000 dollars, a debate was commenced by Mr. Cocke,

of Tennessee, opposition being made to it by him, on the ground of hostility to the Missouri expedition.

The further prosecution of that expedition was supported and opposed by the following gentlemen:

*Affirmative.*—Messrs. Simkins, Strother, Smith, of Md. Cook, Quarles, Smith, of Virg. Rhea, and Sergeant.

*Negative.*—Messrs. Cocke, Storrs, Hardin, Ross, and Foot.

The question being taken on agreeing to the proposed sum of 500,000 dollars for this item of expenditure, was decided thus:—For this amount 70—Against it 75.

So the house refused to concur with the committee of the whole in filling the blank with this sum. And, without proceeding further in the bill,

The house adjourned.

Monday, March 13.

MISSOURI EXPEDITION.

The house then again proceeded to the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment for the year 1820.

And the question being on filling the blank for the quarter-master's department—the house having on Saturday refused to fill it with 500,000 dollars—

Mr. Cocke moved to fill it with 400,000; thus reducing it a hundred thousand, with a view to arresting the Missouri expedition.

Mr. Trimble moved to fill it with 480,000. He intimated his opinion, that, after what had passed indicative of the views of this house, and particularly under the present aspect of our foreign relations, the expedition would be restricted to the Council Bluffs. But, even in retracing its steps, &c. certain expenses must be incurred, to the same amount, or very nearly, as if the expedition had gone on.

Now again commenced the debate on the merits of the expedition to the Yellow Stone, or rather to the Mandan villages; when the following gentlemen supported and opposed the prosecution of the expedition.

*Affirmative.*—Messrs. Holmes, Strother, Brown, Ford, Cross, of N. York, Cook, Nelson, and Rhea.

*Negative.*—Messrs. Southard, Floyd, Johnson, Cocke, Foot, and Storrs.

Mr. Holmes had moved to fill the blank with 495,000 dollars; being, in effect, a proposition to retain the appropriation for the prosecution of the Missouri expedition to its ultimate objects.

At the close of the debate, the question on this proposition was decided, by yeas and nays, by the following vote:

For that sum,	77
Against it,	88

On Mr. Trimble's motion, the vote was—

For his motion,	77
Against it,	84

On the motion of Mr. Cobb to fill the blank with 450,000 dollars, (predicated on the maintenance of the expedition at the Council Bluffs,) the question was not taken by yeas and nays, but was decided affirmatively, by a large majority.

And the house adjourned.

Tuesday, March 14.

Mr. Smyth, of Md. presented a petition of sundry merchants and underwriters in the city of Baltimore, in the state of Maryland, praying to be indemnified for spoiliations committed on their property on the high seas by French cruizers, between the years 1795 and 1798, under the authority of illegal orders and decrees issued by the government of France; their claims upon which for redress were relinquished by the government of the United States in the convention of the 30th Sept. 1800; and the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Smyth, of Va. from the committee on military affairs, reported the following bill:

*Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled,* That so much of any act as unites the military academy with the corps of engineers, and subjects the professors, assistant professors, and teachers, (not being officers of the army of the U. States.) and cadets of the said academy, to martial law, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.

*And be it further enacted,* That the superintendent and professors, or a majority of them, shall constitute a court for the trial of cadets charged with conduct unbecoming a gentleman, insubordination, neglect of duty, or other offence against law or morality, and may sentence any cadet found guilty, according to the nature of the offence, to be censured, suspended, or dismissed from the academy.

*And be it further enacted,* That the president of the United States shall have authority to appoint visitors of the said academy, to direct examinations and reports to be made, to prescribe the course of instruction which shall be observed, and to make rules for the regulation, management, and control of the said academy.

*And be it further enacted,* That every cadet hereafter to be admitted, shall be healthy and well formed, and shall, together with his father or guardian, sign a promise in writing that he will, if he shall be appointed an officer in the army of the United States, serve five years, unless sooner discharged; and on failure to perform such promise, the cadet so failing, and his father or guardian, shall

be jointly and severally liable to pay to the United States the expense of the education of such cadet.

The bill was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Slocumb, the committee on the judiciary was instructed to inquire and report to this house, whether any, and, if any, what measures are necessary to be taken for the greater security of debts due the United States in consequence of certain loans of powder, lead and other munitions, belonging to government, having been made to private citizens by any officer of the United States.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, it was

*Resolved,* That the president of the United States be requested to communicate to this house any information which may have been received by the department of state, or other executive department, of the amount of claims of the citizens of the United States for Spanish spoiliations upon their property and commerce, or those for which the Spanish government is held responsible.

On motion of Mr. Campbell, a committee was ordered to be appointed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the satisfaction of unlocated warrants which have issued to officers, and soldiers of the Virginia line on the continental establishment; and also for emanation of patents in cases where locations have been made and patents not obtained.

Mr. Bloomfield submitted the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That Brigadier General Boyd, of the army of the United States, in the late war with Great Britain, be admitted within the house of representatives.

The said resolution being read, Mr. Floyd moved to lay the same on the table; which motion was negatived, and the resolve was agreed to.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment for the year 1820.

The item of fortifications next presenting itself for consideration—and the question being on concurrence with the committee of the whole in filling the blank for the amount with the sum of eight hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Butler, of New Hampshire, and Mr. Cocke, opposed the filling the blank with the amount, and Mr. Smith, of Md. defended it.

The question was decided affirmatively, by yeas and nays, 103 votes to 51.

The next question was on concurring in the appropriation for contingent expenses, books, maps, &c. for the military academy.

To try the sense of the house on the question of appropriating any thing for that institution, the question was taken by yeas and nays, and was decided in favor of the appropriation by 111 votes to 42.

On the question to concur with the committee of the whole in striking out the clause making an appropriation for the completion of the arsenal at Augusta, in Georgia—

Some debate took place between Messrs. Cobb, Smith, of Md. Reid, and Cuthbert, on the subject. When, on the question being taken, the house refused to strike out that clause; and agreed to fill the blank with the sum of 27,000 dollars, viz: 25,000 for completing the arsenal, and 2,000 dollars for draining the marsh near it.

The next item which excited attention was that which embraces an appropriation of 2,775,000 for the payment of the military and revolutionary pensioners. Hereupon arose a debate; of which we have not room to trace even the outlines. It began by Mr. Barbour's objecting to the amount of this appropriation, because of his intention to propose certain restrictive provisions on the subject, which, if adopted, would reduce the number of revolutionary pensioners.

The debate was kept up with some animation until near 4 o'clock; when the house decided, by yeas and nays, to agree to the above amount of appropriation, being necessary to the payment of the pensions actually granted.

The bill was then at length ordered to be engrossed for a third reading; and The house adjourned.

Wednesday, March 15.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the war department, transmitting statements of the sums which have been actually paid since the peace establishment, to the general officers and their staff, specifying particularly on what account, to whom, and when, paid—rendered in obedience to a resolution of this house.

On motion of Mr. Hooks the committee on commerce were instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a port of entry at the mouth of Pascagoula, in the state of Mississippi.

On motion of Mr. Shaw, it was

*Resolved,* That the secretary of the navy be directed to lay before this house the amount of money received under the act providing for the deduction of two per cent. from the sale of prizes

captured by private armed vessels, and condemned under the laws of the United States, for the benefit of the disabled officers and seamen of such private armed vessels. Also, the number of invalids, together with the amount of their pensions charged upon that fund, as well as the amount paid to the widows and children of such officers and seamen, slain in such service, and the amount of the balance, if any, remaining in the hands of the treasurer of the above fund, unapplied.

Mr. Slocumb moved to proceed to the consideration of the resolution offered by him, for fixing a period for the termination of the present session: and the motion to take it up was negatived.

The engrossed bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment during the year 1820, was read a third time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The remainder of the day was spent in committee of the whole on the appropriation bill for the payment of the civil list.

Considerable discussion took place on some of the items of the bill; particularly on that, appropriating the salary of a thousand dollars to the reporter of the decisions of the supreme court. A motion to strike out that clause failed by a large majority.

The committee had not gone through the bill at half past three o'clock; when the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

And the house adjourned.

## Late Foreign Intelligence.

Charleston, March 13

By the ship Meteor, captain Glover, arrived on Saturday afternoon, in the extraordinary short passage of 28 days from Liverpool, which place she left on the 11th ultimo, we have received London papers to the 8th ult. inclusive.

George the 3d, king of England, died at Windsor on the evening of the 24th of January, in the 82d year of his age, and in the 59th year of his reign. He was born on the 4th of June, 1738, and succeeded his grand father George the 2d, on the 25th of October, 1760.

The duke of Kent died about a week before his venerable father—and the late prince regent, now George the 4th, had been dangerously ill, but was considered better at the last dates.

The prince regent had been publicly proclaimed king throughout the United Kingdom. A proclamation for this purpose was read in the different cities, towns, &c. at periods previously notified, and immense concourses of people generally attended.

In the national distress, occasioned by the death of the late king, and the duke of Kent, and the illness of the new king, George the 4th, all remembrance of the radicals appears to be absorbed—scarcely a word is said about them in any of our papers.

The winter in England had been very severe. The mails between England and Scotland were repeatedly retarded, in the month of January, by the snow.

Several persons had been tried and convicted at Manchester, for illegal training and drilling, and sentenced to imprisonment—in most cases to three and six months—in one for three years.

Ireland is in a disturbed state. Several private individuals, of some standing, had been assassinated from political causes.

Troops were embarking at Liverpool, for Ireland: the disturbances in that country rendering an additional military force necessary.

There had been a great flood of the river Lee, which inundated a considerable part of the city of Cork. The houses had at least four or five feet of water on the ground floor. Hammond's marsh, Clark's marsh, Hanover street, Nile street, Cross street, and all the lanes by which they are intersected, presented an uninterrupted sheet of water, on which were rapidly hurried along fragments of furniture, tables, chairs, &c.

A report prevailed in London on the 8th of Feb. of the death of Mr. Grattan, in Ireland. But Irish papers received that day contradicted the report; and add, that he had perfectly recovered from the indisposition which occasioned it.

There had been the most destructive inundations in Holland. Many villages were under water, and in some places entire houses, with all their inhabitants, were swept away.

“In the dreadful situation of the districts inundated by the prodigious rise of the waters, it is some consolation to see the anxious attention of his majesty to the distress of the suf-