

to effect with the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Sweden, Prussia, and with Hamburg, Bremen, Lubeck, and Oldenburg, with a provision made by subsequent laws, in regard to the Netherlands, Prussia, Hamburg, and Bremen, that such produce and manufactures, as could only be, or most usually were, first shipped from the ports of those countries, the same being imported in vessels, wholly belonging to their subjects, should be considered and admitted as their own manufactures and productions.

The government of Norway has, by an ordinance, opened the ports of that part of the dominions of the King of Sweden, to the vessels of the United States, upon the payment of no other or higher duties, than are paid by the Norwegian vessels, from whatever place arriving, and with whatever articles laden. They have requested the reciprocal allowance for the vessels of Norway in the ports of the United States. As this privilege is not within the scope of the act of the 3d of March, 1815, and can only be granted by Congress; and as it may involve the commercial relations of the Union with other nations, the subject is submitted to the wisdom of Congress.

I have presented thus fully to your view our commercial relations with other powers, that, seeing them in detail with each power, and knowing the basis on which they rest, Congress may in its wisdom decide, whether any change ought to be made, and, if any, in what respect. If this basis is unjust or unreasonable, surely it ought to be abandoned; but if it be just and reasonable, and any change in it will make concessions subversive of the principles of equality, and tending in its consequences to sap the foundation of our posterity, then the reasons are equally strong for adhering to the ground already taken, and supporting it by such further regulations as may appear to be proper, should any additional support be found necessary.

The question concerning the construction of the first article of the treaty of Ghent, has been, by a joint act of the Representatives of the United States and of Great Britain, at the court of St. Petersburg, submitted to the decision of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia. The result of that submission has not yet been received. The Commissioners under the 5th article of that treaty not having been able to agree upon their decision, their reports to the two Governments, conformably to the provisions of the treaty, may be expected at an early day.

With Spain, the treaty of February 22d, 1819, has been partly carried into execution. Possession of East and West Florida has been given to the United States, but the officers charged with that service by an order from his Catholic Majesty, delivered by his Minister to the Secretary of State, and transmitted by a special agent to the Captain General of Cuba, to whom it was directed, and in whom the government of those provinces was vested, have not only omitted, in contravention of the orders of their sovereign, the performance of the express stipulation, to deliver over the archives and documents relating to the propriety and sovereignty of those provinces, all of which it was expected would have been delivered, either before or when the troops were withdrawn, but defeated, since, every effort of the United States to obtain them, especially those of the greatest importance. This omission has given rise to several incidents of a painful nature, the character of which will be fully disclosed by the documents which will hereafter be communicated.

In every other circumstance the law of the 3d of March last, for carrying into effect that treaty, has been duly attended to. For the execution of that part which preserved in force, for the government of the inhabitants, for the term specified, all the civil, military, and judicial powers, exercised by the existing government of those provinces, an adequate number of officers, as was presumed, were appointed, and ordered to their respective stations. Both provinces were formed into one territory, and a governor appointed for it, but, in consideration of the pre-existing division, and of the distance and difficulty of communication between Pensacola, the residence of the Governor of West Florida, and St. Augustine, that of the Governor of East Florida, at which places the inconsiderable population of each province was principally collected, two Secretaries were appointed, one to reside at Pensacola, and the other at St. Augustine. Due attention was likewise paid to the execution of the laws of the United States relating to the revenue and the slave trade, which were extended to these provinces. The whole territory was divided into three collection districts, that part lying between the river St. Mary's and Cape Florida, forming one, that from the Cape to the Apalachicola, another, and that from the Apalachicola to the Perdido, the third. To these districts the usual number of revenue officers were appointed; and, to secure the due operation of these laws, one judge and a district attorney were appointed, to reside at Pensacola; and, likewise, one judge and a district attorney to reside at St. Augustine, with a specified boundary between them; and one marshal for the whole, with authority to appoint a

deputy. In carrying this law into effect, and especially that part of it relating to the powers of the existing government of those provinces, it was thought important, in consideration of the short term for which it was to operate, and the radical change which would be made at the approaching session of Congress, to avoid expense, to make no appointment which should not be absolutely necessary to give effect to those powers, to withdraw none of our citizens from other pursuits, whereby to subject the government to claims which could not be gratified, and the parties to losses, which it would be painful to witness.

It has been seen, with much concern, that, in the performance of these duties, a collision arose between the Governor of the Territory, and the Judge appointed for the Western District. It was presumed, that the law under which this transitory Government was organized, and the commissions which were granted to the officers, who were appointed to execute each a branch of the system, and to which the commissions were adapted, would have been understood in the same sense, by them, in which they were understood by the Executive. Much allowance is due to officers employed in each branch of this system, and the more so, as there is good cause to believe that each acted under a conviction, that he possessed the power which he undertook to exercise. Of the officer holding the principal station, I think it proper to observe, that he accepted it with reluctance, in compliance with the invitation given him, and from a high sense of duty to his country, being willing to contribute to the consummation of an event, which would ensure complete protection to an important part of our Union, which had suffered much, from incursion and invasion, and to the defence of which, his very gallant and patriotic services had been so signally and usefully devoted.

From the intrinsic difficulty of executing laws deriving their origin from different sources, and so essentially different in many important circumstances, the advantage, and, indeed, the necessity, of establishing, as soon as may be practicable, a well organized government over that territory, on the principles of our system, is apparent. This subject, therefore, is recommended to the early consideration of Congress.

In compliance with an injunction of the law of the 3d of March last, three Commissioners have also been appointed, and a board organized, for carrying into effect the eleventh article of the Treaty above recited, making provision for the payment of such of our citizens, as have well founded claims on Spain, of the character specified by that treaty. This board has entered on its duties, and made some progress therein. The Commissioner and Surveyor of His Catholic Majesty, provided for by the fourth article of the Treaty, have not yet arrived in the United States, but are soon expected. As soon as they do arrive, corresponding appointments will be made, and every facility be afforded, for the due execution of this service.

The Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, since the termination of the last session of Congress, has been removed from Rio de Janeiro to Lisbon, where a revolution, similar to that which had occurred in the neighboring kingdom of Spain, had, in like manner, been sanctioned, by the accepted and pledged faith of the reigning Monarch. The diplomatic intercourse between the United States and the Portuguese dominions, interrupted by that important event, has not yet been resumed, but the change of internal administration, having already materially affected the commercial intercourse of the United States with the Portuguese dominions, the renewal of the public missions between the two countries, appears to be advisable at an early day.

It is understood that the Colonies in South America have had great success during the present year, in the struggle for their Independence. The new Government of Colombia has extended its territories, and considerably augmented its strength; and at Buenos Ayres, where civil dissension had, for some time before, prevailed, greater harmony and better order appear to have been established. Equal success has attended their efforts in the provinces on the Pacific. It has long been manifest, that it would be impossible for Spain to reduce these Colonies by force, and equally so, that no conditions, short of their independence, would be satisfactory to them. It may therefore be presumed, and it is earnestly hoped, that the Government of Spain, guided by enlightened and liberal counsels, will find it to comport with its interests, and due to its magnanimity, to terminate this exhausting controversy on that basis. To promote this result, by friendly counsel, with the Government of Spain, will be the object of the Government of the United States.

In conducting the fiscal operations of the year it has been found necessary to carry into full effect the act of the last session of Congress, authorising a loan of five millions of dollars. This sum has been raised at an average premium of five dollars fifty-nine hundredths per cent. upon stock bearing an interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, redeemable

at the option of the government after the first day of January, 1835.

There has been issued, under the provisions of this act, four millions seven hundred and thirty-five thousand two hundred and ninety-six dollars thirty cents, of five per cent. stock; and there has been, or will be, redeemed during the year, three millions one hundred and ninety-seven thousand thirty dollars seventy-one cents of Louisiana six per cent. deferred stock, and Mississippi stock.—There has, therefore, been an actual increase of the public debt, contracted during the year, of one million five hundred and thirty-eight thousand two hundred and sixty-six dollars sixty-nine cents.

The receipts into the Treasury from the 1st of January to the 30th of September last, have amounted to sixteen millions two hundred and nineteen thousand one hundred and ninety-seven dollars seventy cents, which, with the balance of one million one hundred and ninety-eight thousand four hundred and sixty-one dollars twenty-one cents in the Treasury on the former day, make the aggregate sum of seventeen millions four hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty-eight dollars ninety-one cents.

The payments from the Treasury during the same period have amounted to fifteen millions six hundred and fifty-five thousand two hundred and eighty-eight dollars forty-seven cents, leaving in the Treasury, on the last mentioned day, the sum of one million seven hundred and sixty-two thousand three hundred and seventy dollars forty-four cents. It is estimated that the receipts of the fourth quarter of the year, will exceed the demands, which will be made on the Treasury, during the same period, and that the amount in the Treasury on the 30th of September last will be increased on the first day of January next.

At the close of the last session, it was anticipated that the progressive diminution of the public revenue in 1819 and 1820, which had been the result of the languid state of our foreign commerce in those years, had, in the latter year, reached its extreme point of depression. It has, however, been ascertained that that point was reached only at the termination of the first quarter of the present year. From that time until the 30th of September last, the duties secured have exceeded those of the corresponding quarters of the last year, one million one hundred and seventy-two thousand dollars; whilst the amount of debentures, issued during the three first quarters of this year, is nine hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars less than that of the same quarters of the last year.

There are just grounds to believe that the improvement which has occurred in the revenue, during the last mentioned period, will not only be maintained, but that it will progressively increase through the next and several succeeding years, so as to realize the results which were presented upon that subject by the official reports of the Treasury, at the commencement of the last session of Congress.

Under the influence of the most unfavorable circumstances, the revenue, for the next and subsequent years, to the year 1825, will exceed the demands at present authorized by law.

It may fairly be presumed, that, under the protection given to domestic manufactures, by the existing laws, we shall become, at no distant period, a manufacturing country, on an extensive scale. Possessing, as we do, the raw materials, in such vast amount, with a capacity to augment them, to an indefinite extent; raising within the country aliment of every kind, to an amount far exceeding the demand for home consumption, even in the most unfavorable years, and to be obtained always at a very moderate price; skilled, also, as our people are in the mechanic arts, and in every improvement calculated to lessen the demand for, and the price of labor, it is manifest that their success, in every branch of domestic industry, may and will be carried, under the encouragement given by the present duties, to an extent to meet any demand which, under a fair competition, may be made on it.

A considerable increase of domestic manufactures, by diminishing the importation of foreign, will probably tend to lessen the amount of the public revenue. As however a large proportion of the revenue, which is derived from duties, is raised from other articles than manufactures, the demand for which will increase with our population—it is believed that a fund will still be raised from that source, adequate to the greater part of the national expenditures; especially as those expenditures, should we continue to be blessed with peace, will be diminished by the completion of the fortifications, dockyards, and other public works; by the augmentation of the navy to the point to which it is proposed to carry it, and by the payment of the public debt, including pensions for military services.

It cannot be doubted, that the more complete our internal resources, and the less dependent we are on foreign powers, for every national, as well as domestic purpose, the greater and more stable will be the public felicity. By the increase of domestic manufactures, will the demand for the rude materials at home be increased, and thus will the dependence of the

several parts of our Union on each other, and the strength of the Union itself, be proportionally augmented. In this process, which is very desirable, and inevitable under the existing duties, the resources which obviously present themselves to supply a deficiency in the revenue, should it occur, are the interests which may derive the principal benefit from the change. If domestic manufactures are raised by duties on foreign, the deficiency in the fund necessary for public purposes should be supplied by duties on the former. At the last session it seemed doubtful, whether the revenue derived from the present sources would be adequate to all the great purposes of our Union, including the construction of our fortifications, the augmentation of our navy, and the protection of our commerce against the dangers to which it is exposed. Had the deficiency been such, as to subject us to the necessity, either to abandon those measures of defence, or to resort to other means for adequate funds, the course presented to the adoption of a virtuous and enlightened people, appeared to be a plain one. It must be gratifying to all to know, that this necessity does not exist. Nothing, however, in contemplation of such important objects, which can be easily provided for, should be left to hazard. It is thought that the revenue may receive an augmentation from the existing sources, and in a manner to aid our manufactures, without hastening prematurely the result, which has been suggested. It is believed that a moderate additional duty on certain articles would have that effect, without being liable to any serious objection.

The examination of the coast, for the construction of permanent fortifications, from St. Croix to the Sabine, with the exception of a part of the territory lately acquired, will be completed in the present year, as will be the survey of the Mississippi, under the resolution of the House of Representatives, from the mouth of the Ohio to the Ocean—and, likewise, of the Ohio, from Louisville to the Mississippi. A progress, corresponding with the sums appropriated, has also been made in the construction of these fortifications at the points designated. As they will form a system of defence, for the whole maritime frontier, and, in consequence, for the interior, and are to last for ages, the utmost care has been taken to fix the position of each work, and to form it on such a scale as will be adequate to the purpose intended by it. All the inlets and assailable parts of our Union have been minutely examined, and positions taken, with a view to the best effect, observing, in every instance, a just regard to economy. Doubts, however, being entertained, as to the propriety of the position and extent of the work at Dauphin Island, further progress in it was suspended soon after the last session of Congress, and an order given to the Board of Engineers and Naval Commissioners, to make a further and more minute examination of it, in both respects, and to report the result, without delay.

Due progress has been made in the construction of vessels of war, according to the law providing for the gradual augmentation of the navy, and to the extent of existing appropriations. The vessels authorized by the act of 1820 have all been completed, and are now in actual service. None of the larger ships have been, or will be, launched, for the present, the object being to protect all which may not be required for immediate service from decay, by suitable buildings erected over them. A squadron has been maintained, as heretofore, in the Mediterranean, by means whereby peace has been preserved with the Barbary powers. This squadron has been reduced the present year to as small a force as is compatible with the fulfilment of the object intended by it. From past experience, and the best information respecting the views of those powers, it is distinctly understood that, should our squadron be withdrawn, they would soon recommence their hostilities and depredations upon our commerce. Their fortifications have lately been rebuilt, and their maritime force increased. It has also been found necessary to maintain a naval force in the Pacific, for the protection of the very important interests of our citizens engaged in commerce and the fisheries in that sea. Vessels have likewise been employed in cruising along the Atlantic coast, in the Gulf of Mexico, on the coast of Africa, and in the neighboring seas. In the latter many piracies have been committed on our commerce, and so extensive was becoming the range of those unprincipled adventurers, that there was cause to apprehend, without a timely and decisive effort to suppress them, the worst consequences would ensue. Fortunately, a considerable check has been given to that spirit by our cruisers, who have succeeded in capturing and destroying several of their vessels. Nevertheless, it is considered an object of high importance to continue these cruizes until the practice is entirely suppressed. Like success has attended our efforts to suppress the slave trade. Under the flag of the United States, and the sanction of their papers, the trade may be considered as entirely suppressed; and, if any of our citizens are engaged in it, under the flags and papers of other powers, it is only from a respect to the rights of those powers

that these offenders are not seized and brought home, to receive the punishment which the laws inflict. If every other power should adopt the same policy, and pursue the same vigorous means for carrying it into effect, the trade could no longer exist.

Deeply impressed with the blessings which we enjoy, and of which we have such manifold proofs, my mind is irresistibly drawn to that Almighty Being, the Great Source from whence they proceed, and to whom our most grateful acknowledgments are due.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, Dec. 3, 1821.

NORTH-CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30.—The bill to repeal an act passed last session to provide for the payment of costs when a slave is convicted of a capital crime, was rejected on its second reading.

Mr. Williamson presented a bill to increase the number of jurors in the Superior Courts of the county of Lincoln, which passed its first reading.

MONDAY, DEC. 3.—On motion of Mr. Wade,

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Commons, that the Public Treasurer of this State be requested to lay before this General Assembly, a statement of all such information as he is authorized by law to receive from the officers of the State Bank of North-Carolina, and from the officers of the Banks of Newbern and Cape Fear, so far as respects the amount of their capital stock, and of the debts due to the same; of the monies deposited therein; of their notes in circulation, and of their cash in hand.

On motion of Mr. Bryan, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the State of North-Carolina is greatly interested in the State Bank, and a more intimate knowledge of its affairs would at all times be useful to the community: Therefore, be it resolved, that a joint select committee be appointed to confer with the stockholders of said bank on the propriety of so amending their charter, that the power of electing such number of Directors as the State may be fairly entitled to, be vested in the General Assembly; and that it be made the duty of the said Bank Directors to report to the General Assembly annually, the amount of the debts due to said bank, by each of the Directors of said Bank and its Branches, where the sum shall exceed \$5000; and whether such Directors whose debt exceeds the said amount of five thousand dollars, have paid such instalments as have been exacted and paid by other dealers with the Bank.

Messrs. Bryan, Wade, Ruffin, Miller and Pool, of the Senate; and Messrs. Fisher, Hinton, Alston, M'Dowell and Martin, of the House of Commons, were appointed a committee on the bank resolution.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30.—Petitions presented. By Mr. Fisher, the petition of Henry W. Connor, of Lincoln, praying a divorce; by Mr. Clement, the petition of John Jarrett, praying release from a militia fine; by Mr. Fisher, the petition of Wm. H. Kerr, praying to have a fine remitted. These petitions were referred.

The House adopted a resolution, on motion of Mr. Stanly, requiring all resolutions, where money is claimed, to be read three times.

The Judiciary Committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of so altering the Supreme Court law, as to prevent the issuing of executions for more than its own costs upon judgments rendered by it.

The bill to repeal the act of last session, providing for the payment of costs, when a slave is convicted of a capital crime, was read the second time. Mr. Hillman moved to postpone it indefinitely.

The bill passed its second reading—76 to 46.

SATURDAY, DEC. 1.—A report from B. Daniel, Adjutant-General of the State, was received and read. The number of militia of the State, agreeably to the returns received, is 41,873. But the Adjutant General is conscious that there is great incorrectness in the returns, as the census of 1820 gives us 66,000 men between the ages of 18 and 45.

Mr. Stanly, from the Judiciary committee, reported a bill to repeal part of the act of 1818, respecting the Supreme Court. Passed its first reading. [Contemplates repealing that part empowering the Governor to call in a missive Judge.]

MONDAY, DEC. 3.—Mr. Beard presented the memorial of several citizens of Burke, praying an extra session of the Superior Court, each year.—Referred.

On motion of Mr. Smith, of Hillsboro', the Judiciary committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the laws establishing the Superior Courts, so that the counties of Bertie, Cumberland, Orange, Burke, Rowan, Rutherford and Halifax, shall at each term be allowed one week extra; and to inquire into the expediency of dividing the state into seven districts.—The latter clause was referred to a select joint committee, consisting of Messrs. Hillman, Stanly, J. S. Smith, Moore and Fisher of this House.

Mr. Fisher presented a bill authorizing Rowan county court to lay a tax to build a Poor-House.

Mr. Brittain presented a bill for the bet-