

His Excellency Gabriel Holmea, attended in the House of Commons this day at 12 o'clock, and in the presence of the members of both houses qualified as Governor for the ensuing year, the usual oaths being administered by Chief Justice Taylor.

MONDAY, DEC. 9.—A message was sent to the Senate, proposing to ballot immediately for a Senator to Congress, and nominating for that appointment, Mountfort Stokes, Bartlett Yancey and John Branch, Esqs.

The bill authorizing the proprietors of Beard's Bridge to keep a ferry in certain cases—the bill to alter the time of holding the County Courts of Person—the bill to amend an act passed in 1777, making provision for the poor and for other purposes—the bill to restore John Shately of Wilkes county to credit, and the bill directing the distribution of the acts of Congress, passed their first reading.

Two ballotings took place this day for Senator, the result of the 1st was as follows: Branch 81; Stokes 58; Yancey 46. Ninety-five being a majority, no election took place.

On motion of Mr. Graham, Resolved: That the committee on Internal Improvements be instructed to inquire into the propriety and policy of the State granting a charter for the purpose of improving the great travelling road from the Saluda Gap through Buncombe, by Asheville to the Tennessee line, beyond the Warren Springs—and that they further inquire into the expediency of the State becoming interested in one half of the stock raised under said charter.

Mr. E. Graham, from the committee appointed to conduct the balloting for Senator, reported the state of the votes as follows: Branch 84; Stokes 62; Yancey 38. Another balloting was ordered for tomorrow.

Mr. Beall, from the committee appointed on the Road Laws, made a report, recommending the passage of a bill to amend the road laws—which report was concurred in, and the bill passed its first reading.

TUESDAY, DEC. 10.—Mr. Mebane, from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred the resolution directing them to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the existing laws authorizing imprisonment for debt, made a report, recommending the passage of a bill for the relief of debtors, in relation to debts contracted after the first day of January next—the report was concurred in and the bill read the first time.

Mr. Hill, from the balloting committee for Senators, reported the state of the votes as follows: Branch 85; Stokes 57; Yancey 48. Mr. Mebane, from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred a resolution instructing them to inquire into the propriety of altering, amending or repealing the acts of Assembly now in force relative to the removal of suits and prosecutions from one county to another, to report by bill or otherwise.

A message was received from the Governor, covering a report from the Adjutant General of the State, by which it appears, that the aggregate number of the militia amounts to 58,019, exceeding the return made last year by 18,402.

The bill directing the time and place of sales of lands and slaves under execution, being on its 2d reading, a motion was made for its indefinite postponement, which was negatived, 64 to 29.

The following bills were presented: By Mr. Gordon, a bill to appoint commissioners to view and lay off a road from the town of Wilkesborough to Mrs. Bogle's in the county of Iredell.

Mr. G. Smith, a bill directing the manner of appointing juries in the county of Davidson.

Mr. Cox, a bill declaring the effect of deeds and conveyances in trust to prevent fraud and unnecessary litigation.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7.—Mr. Mebane, from the Judiciary Committee, to whom was referred that part of the Treasurer's Report relative to sums under \$100, made a report, recommending the passage of a bill on the subject, to provide for the collection of debts due to the State which do not exceed \$100. This report was concurred in, and the bill passed its first reading.

Mr. Jiggins, from the committee appointed to conduct the balloting for a Treasurer, Comptroller and Public Printer, reported that John Haywood was elected Treasurer, Jos. Hawkins Comptroller, and Thomas Henderson Public Printer. The state of the votes for comptroller was, Hawkins 131, T. Turner 21.

A message was returned to the Senate, in answer to one received, proposing to ballot for Councilors of State, nominating Theo. Lacey, Allen Rogers, Wm. Davidson, Thos. Wynns, Gideon Alston, William Blackledge, Benjamin Robinson and David Gillespie.

The bill directing the time and place of selling lands and slaves under execution, passed its 3d reading.

CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.—SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5.—Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, gave notice that he should, on Monday next, ask leave to introduce a bill to abolish imprisonment for debt.

Mr. Barton gave notice, that he should, on Monday next, ask leave to bring in a bill concerning the lands to be granted to the state of Missouri for the purposes of education, and other public uses.

MONDAY, DEC. 9.—On motion of Mr. Pleasants, the Senate proceeded to the election of a chaplain, and on counting the ballots, they stood as follows: For the Rev. James McIlvaine 23. Rev. John Brice 9.

Mr. McIlvaine, having received a majority of the whole number of votes, was accordingly elected.

The Senate then, according to the order of the day, proceeded to the appointment (by ballot, agreeably to the practice of the Senate) of the standing committees.

The following message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Brent of the Department of State: To the Senate of the United States: In compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 8th of May last, requesting "information relative to the Copper Mines on the southern shore of Lake Superior, their number, value, and position, the nature of the Indian tribes who claim them, the practicability of extinguishing their titles, and the probable advantage which may result to the Republic, from the acquisition and working of these mines," I have with me transmitted a Report from the Secretary of War, which comprises the information desired, in the resolution referred to.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4.—On motion of Mr. Cook, of Tenn, it was Resolved, That the committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prescribing, by law, a mode by which the Senators and Representatives, and Delegates in Congress, shall receive their compensation, and also, a mode by which the contingent expenses of the Senate and House of Representatives shall be liquidated.

Mr. Whipple, of N. H. offered for consideration the following resolution: Resolved, That the committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the act making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States, passed April 25th, 1808, so that the arms, provided in virtue of said act, and transmitted to the several States composing this Union, and the Territories thereof, shall, by each State and Territory, be deposited and kept in proper arsenals, to be provided by such State or Territory, to be delivered to the militia thereof only when they may be called into actual service.

Mr. Taylor, of N. York, suggested that the committee to be appointed on the general subject of this resolution would seem to be the proper one to which to refer the consideration of this resolution. At the last session, Mr. T. had himself been of the opinion that all subjects connected with the militia and the army, should be referred to the same committee. But, on the motion of a gentleman from Tennessee, a different direction had been given to them, so as to refer to separate committees what related to the militia and to the army. This course having been pursued at the first session of the present Congress, he thought it ought to be persevered in at this session, to the end that the same gentlemen, or nearly the same, being appointed on the same committees, the house might have the advantage of the information gained and the reflection bestowed upon the subjects at the last session. For the present, therefore, he moved that this resolve should lie on the table, until the committees should have been appointed on the President's message.

Mr. Whipple assenting to this course, the resolve was ordered to lie on the table.

The usual standing committees were then appointed, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5.—On motion of Mr. Williams, of N. C. it was Resolved, That the committee on the Post-Office and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of extending the stage route from Salem by Ashe Court-House, in N. C. to Jonesborough, in Tennessee.

On motion of Mr. Hall, it was Resolved, That the committee on the Post-Office and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a post route from Fayetteville, N. C. to Norfolk, Va. and from thence up the bay, by steam boat carriage, to Baltimore, or such other place, as will be most convenient, at all seasons of the year, to form a junction with the main stage road.

CLAIM OF BEAUMARCHAIS. Mr. A. Stevenson, of Va. called the attention of the House to a communication made, at a late period of the last session of Congress, by the President of the United States, transmitting to the House the

correspondence which had taken place between the French government and the United States relative to the claim of the heirs of Beaumarchais. The subject had been referred to a select committee, which did not report upon it. He now moved that the subject be again referred to a select committee.

The question on referring it to the committee of claims was taken, and decided in the negative; and the subject was referred to a select committee of five members.

On motion of Mr. Smith, of Md. the bill reported at the last session, proposing a revision of the tariff of duties on imports, was re-committed to the committee of Ways and Means.

MONDAY, DEC. 9.—On motion of Mr. Malbury, of Vt. it was Resolved, That the committee on Revolutionary Pensions be directed to inquire into the expediency of allowing such persons who may have been stricken from the Pension Roll, to make new application, and be placed thereon, on complying with the requisitions of the pension laws of 1818 and 1820.

A letter was laid before the House, from the first Comptroller of the Treasury, transmitting a list of balances on the books of receipts and expenditures, which have been due more than three years, prior to 30th Sept. last; also, a list of balances standing on the books of the revenue, unsettled by the collectors of the customs, during the period before mentioned.

The next business on the list of orders of the day was two bills, the one for disciplining the militia of the United States, and the other for clothing them at the public expense when called into actual service. The House having resolved itself into a committee of the whole thereon, Mr. Condit in the chair—

The first of these bills was read. On the suggestion of Mr. Little, the committee rose, and the bill was recommitted to the committee on the militia, there to be amended, that it might be presented to the House at once in the shape in which the committee wished to have it.

On the other bill (for clothing the militia) the committee obtained leave to sit again.

INTELLIGENCE.

He comes, the herald of a noisy world, News from all nations hord'ring at his back.

LOSS OF THE ALLIGATOR.

NORFOLK, DEC. 4.—In the brigantine Ann Maria, Capt. Somers, which arrived here yesterday, in 13 days from Matanzas, came passengers Lt. Dale, late commander of the United States' schooner Alligator, Purser, A. Y. Humphreys, Surgeon Morgan, Acting Lieut. V. M. Randolph, Acting Sailing Master P. Henley, Midshipman Bowman, Acting Midshipmen Ball and Jenkins, and 32 men of the crew of the Alligator, taken from the wreck of that vessel, by the Ann Maria, on the 23d ult.

On the night of the 19th November, between 10 and 11 o'clock, the Alligator ran on Carysford Reef, about 36 miles to the southward of Cape Florida—every effort was made to get her off, by throwing over some of her guns, shot, spars, spare sails and rigging, starting her water casks, &c. but all proved unavailing. Having been three days and nights on the Reef, they desisted a sail, and making signals of distress, she immediately ran down for the Alligator, and took out all her officers and crew.

All hopes of saving the Alligator being now at an end, she was accordingly abandoned, after setting fire to her fore and aft, and soon after she blew up. On Sunday last, off Cape Hatteras, Hector Williams, a colored man, late cook of the Alligator, fell overboard; the boat was immediately got out, and an effort made to save him, but, blowing fresh, and a heavy sea running, it was unsuccessful.

The day previous to her being wrecked, the Alligator had been in chase of a strange sail.

Three or four weeks previous to her falling in with the wreck of the Alligator, the Ann Maria was captured by the piratical schooner Revenge, (since taken by the Alligator,) and after running her aground, and selling out her cargo of salt to boats that came from the shore, the pirates assisted in getting her off again, and suffered her to depart for Matanzas. At the time the Ann Maria was captured, she had on board a lady passenger, Mrs. Power, of Wilmington, (N. C.) who also has arrived here in her. The pirates did not treat her impolitely, and suffered her to retain every thing that she claimed as her property.

About the 4th or 5th of November, 20 miles to leeward of Havana, the British frigate Hyperion passed under the Alligator's stern, and while in sight, boarded and captured the Colombian schooner Montilla, and a Spanish drogger, her prize, then in company.—Beacon.

NOFOLK, DEC. 7.—Capt. Hatton of the brig Undaunted, arrived here yesterday in 23 days from Cadiz, states, that the day he sailed, 25th Oct. being at the office of the American Consul, a gentleman called in, and after some conversation in Spanish, which he did not understand, departed, when Capt. Hatton was informed by our Consul, that the purport of the con-

versation was, that a severe battle had just been fought in Catalonia, between the Constitutionals and Royalists, in which the latter retreated with great loss.—Capt. H. did not learn any particulars.

Captain Hatton represents the state of Spain as lamentable in the extreme, convulsed with internal dissensions, and misery and want every where manifest. Nothing was doing in Cadiz, and the people almost in a state of starvation. Assassinations, robberies and murders were matters of every day's report. The streets were continually thronged with mobs, and combinations forming hourly among the hostile parties, to facilitate the purposes of mutual destruction.—Beacon.

PIRATES.

We perceive it stated in the Baltimore American, that it is understood Commodore Porter is ordered to the command of the West India station, for the suppression of piracy;—for which service, it is known that he has tendered the resignation of his seat in the board of Navy commissioners.

This paragraph is corroborated, if not confirmed, by the following article, which we have copied from the National Intelligencer of Tuesday.

"A message was received, yesterday, in the senate and in the house of representatives, from the President of the United States. It was not read previous to adjournment, in either house. It is believed, that it has relation to the recent outrages of the pirates on our commerce, and on that of other nations, in the West Indies, and recommends further measures for their suppression."

This is cheering intelligence to the commercial world, and to the community at large; and if Com. Porter has been selected for the arduous duty necessarily devolving on the officer who shall have command of our squadron in the West India seas, we feel satisfied that he will not disappoint the hopes and expectations of his country.—Pet. Republican.

The following article appears in the New-York papers: "Important.—Negotiations respecting the Piracies near Cuba have been carried on between the British and Spanish Governments, and it is said that they have been so far successful, that the latter have given the former permission to make use of any part of their territory in any expedition to suppress or punish the Buccaneers. It is supposed to be in consequence of this arrangement that the Medway 74, and Seringapatam frigate, have lately sailed from England on secret service—and we may soon expect to hear of their taking possession of certain places on the coast of Cuba. A great sensation had been produced in England by the frequent arrival of accounts of the plunder of British vessels and outrages on their officers and seamen."

It is certainly "important" to merchants and navigators that piracy should meet its just fate, and that he who follows it should be driven to honest occupation, or disabled forever from pursuing that. But is not this arrangement, between the two governments of Great Britain and Spain, pregnant with consequences still more important? How are these "certain places in the Island of Cuba" to be held by the British forces? Is the occupation to be temporary merely, or is it to be of longer continuance? Heaven knows, we covet not the Island of Cuba, nor any other colonial possession. We should consider the possession of it an evil. But there are degrees of evil, one worse than another; and we should suppose it a worse evil to the United States that any foreign maritime power, but particularly the greatest maritime nation, should acquire the possession of that Island, and the consequent command of the Gulf of Mexico, the absolute freedom of which is indispensable to the safety even of the intercourse among the several states of the Union. We do not mean to suggest that the British Government has any views of this sort; but the occupation of stations on the island might insensibly produce the disposition to possess the whole of it. The first footing obtained by the British in the East Indies, was not connected with views of conquest, but the temptations to it were too strong, and excuses were not wanting.

All that we mean to say at present is, that the future destination of Cuba cannot be uninteresting to the People of the United States; and that there is a greater evil than its being politically and territorially connected with the United States—though we hope the necessity for such a connection, should it ever occur, is far distant.—Nat. Intel.

James Pleasants, one of our senators in congress, was elected Governor of Virginia, on the 10th inst. by a vote of 131, at the first ballot. His opponents were, Geo. Hay, who got 35 votes, and Limn Banks, the Speaker, who got 18.

Mr. Madison, the ex-president, was first put in nomination by Mr. Jones, of York, and there was no candidate offered in opposition to him;—but it being positively asserted that he would not serve, if elected, he was withdrawn, and Pleasants, Hay and Banks were put in nomination.

Pet. Republican.