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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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CONGRESS.

SENATE.

Tuesday, April 17.—The general appropriation bill was taken up, and some discussion took place as to the propriety of the appropriation for the agents for claims in London and Paris, but no motion was made in regard to them. On motion of Mr. Forsyth, the appropriation of \$1,400, for the salary of the Clerk employed to issue Land Scrip, was reduced to \$1,150. Mr. Poindexter moved an amendment, the effect of which was to strike out the salary for the Minister at Colombia, and to substitute for it \$6,750, for six months' salary, from the 1st of January last, and the expenses of his return. A long discussion took place on this motion, after which it was rejected by a vote of 20 to 21. The bill was then reported to the Senate, and the amendments made in the committee of the whole, were severally read and concurred in, with the exception of the amendment allowing \$250,000, instead of \$190,000 for the expenses of the United States Courts in the District of Columbia, in which, after a long debate, the Senate refused to concur, by a vote of 15 to 24.

Wednesday, 18th.—Mr. Dallas introduced a bill supplementary to the act for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States, which was twice read and referred to the committee on the judiciary.—The bill providing for the vaccination of Indians, with a view to prevent the ravages of the small pox among them was taken up; and, after a long discussion, the bill underwent some modifications, and was ordered to a third reading, by a vote of 30 to 11.—Mr. Forsyth submitted a motion to reconsider the vote of yesterday, by which the appropriation for the expenses of the United States' Courts was reduced, and it was laid on the table.—The bill exempting vessels from Portugal from the operation of the law imposing certain discriminating duties, was considered and ordered to a third reading.

Thursday, 19th.—A message was received from the President, transmitting printed copies of each of the Treaties, concluded with the Indian tribes.—The general appropriation bill was taken up. The amendments already adopted in the committee of the whole being under consideration. The amendment increasing the allowance for contingent expenses of the Land Office from \$9,000 to \$13,000 was opposed,

and the question on concurrence in it being taken, it was decided in the affirmative by a vote of 21 to 18. The amendment striking out the appropriation for the outfit of a Minister to France was objected to by Mr. Smith, and a discussion in relation to the expenses of diplomatic intercourse, in this and former administrations, arose, in which Messrs. Smith, Foot, Hayne, Webster, Forsyth and Mangum took part. The discussion was broken off by an adjournment.

Friday, 20th.—A message was received from the President transmitting the instructions and correspondence relating to the Colonial Trade, not heretofore communicated.—A resolution submitted by Mr. Buckner, calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for certain information relative to the public lands, was agreed to.—Mr. Hendricks laid on the table a motion to re-consider the vote, ordering to a third reading, the bill providing for the vaccination of the Indians.—The appropriation bill was taken up—the question being on concurring in the amendment, adopted in the committee of the whole, striking out the appropriation for an outfit of a Minister to France. The discussion of this question was continued till four o'clock, when the Senate adjourned till Monday.

Monday, 23d.—Two messages were received from the President of the U. States—one, transmitting a report from the Secretary of State, recommending the passage of a law making it penal to counterfeit the foreign coins in circulation; and the other, transmitting a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, in relation to the public lands, prepared in obedience to the resolution of the 26th March last.—The motion of Mr. Hendricks for the reconsideration of the vote, on ordering the bill providing for extending the means of vaccination to the Indians to its third reading, was taken up, and the vote was reconsidered. Mr. Frelinghuysen then submitted an amendment, which was adopted after a short debate; and, on motion of Mr. Grundy, the bill was recommitted, with instructions, to the committee on Indian affairs.—The consideration of the appropriation bill was resumed, and the debate of Friday was continued by Messrs. Miller, Clayton, Tyler, Clay, Smith, Holmes, King, Bibb, Sprague, and Forsyth. On taking the question, the amendment made in committee of the whole was concurred in—yeas 23, nays 21. So the appropriation of \$9,000, for the outfit of a Minister to France, was stricken out of the bill. After adopting some amendments, and rejecting others, the Senate adjourned.

H. OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, April 17.—Mr. Wickliffe, from the committee on the public lands, made a report adverse to the views of the Secretary of the Treasury, in relation to the sale of the public lands, to the respective States in which they are situated, and adverse to the dis-

tribution of the proceeds of said sales, recommending a reduction of the present price of the public lands, but, inasmuch as some of the new States favor the course recommended by the Department, the report concludes with resolutions, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to obtain certain information upon the subject, to be submitted to Congress next session.—Mr. J. Davis, from the committee on privileges, reported a detailed order of the proceedings for the trial of Gen. Houston, which after some time spent in explanation and discussion was agreed to. Mr. Davis then offered a resolution directing that the trial commence on Friday next at one o'clock—which time was afterwards altered upon the suggestion of Mr. Clay, by the substitution of to-morrow at 12 o'clock, and the resolution was adopted.—The general pension bill was then taken up. Mr. Wickliffe proposed an amendment including in the provisions of the bill those who defended the western frontier up to the treaty of Greenville. A spirited discussion ensued, when Mr. Daniel said he had moved this amendment in committee and firmly believed he could demonstrate that the pension included in the amendment, came within the principles on which the bill was placed—but being unwilling to go into the argument at this late hour, he moved an adjournment. On this motion the yeas and nays were ordered, and it was carried—yeas 81, nays 77.

Wednesday, 18th.—Mr. Plummer resumed his speech upon the motion to discharge the judiciary committee from the consideration of the Wiscasset case, which he continued till the expiration of the hour allotted to morning business.—Mr. C. Johnson offered a resolution authorizing Gen. Houston to introduce counsel upon the floor to assist in his defence, which was agreed to.—Mr. Patton offered a resolution directing that the testimony of the case of Gen. Houston should not be published in the newspapers during the pendency of the trial, which, after a discussion, was withdrawn by the mover. Gen. Houston was then introduced into the House, attended by Mr. Key, his counsel. He was arraigned by the Speaker. In reply to an interrogatory, the accused denied that he intended to commit, or that he believed he was committing, any contempt towards the House of Representatives, or any breach of its privilege or the privilege of any of its members. He denied that the act complained of constitutes any such contempt or breach of privilege, and is prepared to justify his conduct, so far at least as the rights and privileges of this House and its members are concerned, by proof. After some additional proceedings, on motion of Mr. J. Davis, further proceedings were postponed till to-morrow at 12 o'clock. A discussion relative to admitting Gen. Houston to bail, took place upon a resolution offered by Mr. Conner, which was withdrawn, and the House adjourned.

Thursday, 19th.—Mr. Plummer continued his remarks until the expiration of the hour allotted to morning business, on the Wiscasset case.—Mr. Conner offered again the resolution which he withdrew on Wednesday, directing that Gen. Houston be discharged from custody upon bail. Mr. T. R. Mitchell moved an amendment discharging the accused from custody without bail. This motion was opposed by Mr. Dickson. At the request of Mr. Speight, Mr. Mitchell withdrew his amendment, and the resolution of Mr. Conner was laid on the table for the present. Gen. Houston and his counsel (Mr. Key) were then introduced into the House by the Sergeant at Arms. After being enquired of by the Speaker whether he was ready to proceed with his trial, which he answered in the affirmative, Mr. Coulter, the chairman of the committee of managers on the part of the House, requested that the Hon. Mr. Stanberry might be sworn. He was accordingly sworn by the Speaker. Interrogatories were propounded on the part of the managers, to which he replied giving a detailed account of the occurrences between himself and Gen. Houston. After responding to the questions put by the managers, Mr. Key, in behalf of the accused, requested the attendance of certain members of the Senate as witnesses. A message was accordingly sent to the Senate requesting their attendance. Messrs. Grundy, Buckner, Tipton and Ewing soon afterwards made their appearance and took their seats as assigned them on the floor of the House. Certain interrogatories were then propounded on behalf of the accused to Mr. Stanberry. After they were answered, a question arose on an objection to an interrogatory proposed by the counsel of the accused, which was made by Mr. Dickson, and was argued by that gentleman and the counsel for the accused. The question was taken by yeas and nays, and the objection was overruled by the House—yeas 101, nays 32. An objection arose upon a collateral matter involved by the answer to the interrogatory which had been sustained by the House, which gave rise to a discussion, which continued till nearly 5 o'clock, when the whole subject was postponed until to-morrow.

Friday, 20th.—Mr. Plummer resumed his remarks on the subject of the charges made against the Collector of the port of Wiscasset, but the hour allotted to morning business expired in a few minutes, when the House proceeded to the trial of Gen. Houston. The question pending at the adjournment on Thursday was disposed of. Mr. Stanberry continued his testimony, which was arrested in several instances by objections to its relevancy. Before he had concluded his testimony, the trial was postponed until to-morrow 11 o'clock, and the House adjourned.

Saturday, 21st.—The usual morning business was laid aside; in conformity with the vote of the preceding day, for the purpose of proceeding with the

trial of Gen. Houston, for breach of privilege. The House sat till 4 o'clock, and considerable progress was made in the trial. The examination of Mr. Stanberry was resumed and concluded; and Gen. Vance, of Ohio, and Col. Cave Johnson, of Tennessee, were afterwards respectively sworn in their places in the House, and interrogated. Before, however, the examination of the latter was brought to a close, the further prosecution of the case was postponed till 12 o'clock on Monday. Before the rising of the House, the time for the Bank Committee to report the result of the recent investigation at Philadelphia, was extended to the next week.

Monday, 23d.—A message was received from the President of the United States, transmitting a report of the Secretary of State, suggesting the propriety of passing a law making it criminal to counterfeit, within the limits of the U. States, the coins of foreign nations. On motion, it was referred to the committee on the judiciary.—Mr. Drayton offered a resolution providing for the embodying into one act, by the Secretary of War, all the various laws on the subject of the army, which was laid on the table.—Mr. Bullard laid before the House certain resolutions of the Legislature of Louisiana, on the subject of the renewal of the Bank charter, and the construction of a ship channel from New Orleans to the Gulf of Mexico.—The House then took up the report on the case of the Wiscasset charges, and after some remarks from Mr. Evans, of Maine, Mr. Plummer resumed his argument in favor of referring the subject to the Treasury Department. On the expiration of the hour, the House proceeded to the trial of Gen. Houston. The testimony delivered on Saturday by Col. Cave Johnson, of Tennessee, was read over, and that gentleman was further examined by the counsel for the accused, and by various members of the house. Senators Grundy, Buckner, and Tipton, and Mr. Wm. P. Shaw, were then sworn and examined. At 4 o'clock, further proceedings were postponed till the next day, and the House then adjourned.

At the recent term of the Burke Superior Court, Mrs. Betsey Silvers was tried for the inhuman murder and burning of her husband, Charles Silvers, in December last, and found guilty. The defendant prayed an appeal to the June term of the Supreme Court, which was granted. The deceased was only about 19 years of age, had been married to the defendant about two years; had one child; had parted from his wife several times during their union, on account of want of harmony. The defendant is represented as being several years older than her husband.

We perceive by the Southern papers that the last number of the Southern Review has been issued. It has survived four years, and after struggling in vain to obtain adequate patronage, has ceased to exist.