

FOREIGN NEWS.

LATE FROM ENGLAND.

The ship Triton, Holesob, arrived at Boston, sailed from Liverpool the 6th of February by which London dates are received to February 4.

The Triton brought 5000 letters, and has goods for 59 consignees.

Gen. M. Gregor arrived at Liverpool in the William Ewart, from Nassau, and proceeded to Scotland.

A meeting was held on the 1st of February, at the Crown and Anchor Inn, London, for the purpose of raising a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, at which Sir Francis Burdett presided, and several resolutions were passed. Sir Francis subscribed 105*l.* and Lord Cochrane the same sum.

The London Courier of the 2d, in speaking of American affairs, again indulges in its former degrading acrimony. Speaking of the occupation of Amelia Island, it says—"Amelia Island was taken possession of by the United States troops on the 24th Dec. Com. Amey wrote a letter to the American officer, in which he not unsuccessfully questioned the right of the American government to occupy the Island, & expressed his surprise that a nation which so recently got its own independence, should obstruct others in the pursuit of the same object. This is, at least, fair language between Republicans, who, we think, should not be very fastidious about their associates. We have heard no outcries yet from the journals in this country which affect to advocate the universal rights of mankind at the proceedings of America. We need not hunt at the exclamations of horror with which we should have been assailed, had a legitimate government, that is, a royal government, occupied a territory as a measure of precaution. But Republicans, are privileged to "commit the oldest sins the newest kind of ways."

Speaking of the occupation of Amelia and the publication of the secret journal of Congress, the London Star of Feb. 5, says—"The North American system seems to require, at this time, some official elucidation, and if we mistake not very greatly, it will not be long that one or more of the Governments of Europe will be able to avoid demanding some satisfactory explanation. Britain has precisely the same right to occupy Amelia Island at this moment, that the U. States had on the 22d Dec. last."

A fine statue of the late Right Hon. Wm. Pitt, will shortly be placed in the Bank of England. The figure is cut by an eminent sculptor in a sitting posture, and the likeness and character are singularly striking. This mark of respect to the memory of that distinguished statesman has been paid for by private subscription.

The proposed basis for the military contingent for the states of Germany, which subject was taken into consideration by the diet on the 19th inst. requires a levy of 2 per cent. on the population of that great country.

PARLIAMENTARY COMPENDIUM.

From the Liverpool Mercury of February 6. Shortly after the opening of Parliament, the Earl of Liverpool stated that a Noble Friend of his, to whose department this business specially referred, would give notice of his intention to present a bill for the repeal of the act commonly called the Habeas Corpus Suspension Bill.

The Earl of Aylesford moved the usual address. He adverted to the melancholy loss the country had sustained in the death of the Princess Charlotte; and stated that the difficulties under which the country had for so long a period labored had been great, but the present state of affairs afforded a more gratifying prospect.

Earl Stanhope deprecated a systematic hostility to ministers, who had steered the vessel of state through a heavy and tremendous storm. He had heard with great pain, the report relative to the withdrawing the allied troops from France. They might as well at once release the prisoner at St. Helena. Undoubtedly the House of Bourbon could not rely for support upon the throne of France on the affections of the people of that country. When unaided by foreign force they had been twice expelled. It must be obvious, that if another convulsion took place in France, the whole of Europe must be again involved in war, in which this country could not escape taking a part. Then would the laurels we had won wither on our brow, & the battle of Waterloo would have been fought in vain. The Duke of Otranto had given it as his decided opinion, that if the allied troops were withdrawn, the Bourbons would not remain in France. The allies had twice conquered France—and, by the right of conquest, they might have partitioned France according to the divisions in Cæsar's commentaries. As for Louis XVIII, his disposition afforded every reason to believe that he

would become an instrument in the hands of the Almighty to keep down the bad passions of the French people.

In this view, the tranquility of Europe was the end, and the government of the Bourbons the means. The consequence of withdrawing the Army of Occupation would probably be a convulsion leading to revolution. The French would again overrun the Netherlands and the Rhenish provinces, and demand the release of Bonaparte. He adjured ministers to use every effort to avert any resolution on the part of the allies to withdraw their troops, pregnant as he feared such resolution must be, with the most calamitous consequences.

Addresses of condolence to the respective members of the Royal Family, on the death of the Princess Charlotte, were moved and adopted.

Mr. Burdett gave notice that he should shortly present some petitions in favor of parliamentary reform.

LONDON, FEB. 4.

The Paris papers of Wednesday & Thursday arrived in the course of yesterday. The Chamber of Deputies are now occupied with separately discussing the several articles of the recruiting law, and the various amendments proposed to each. The latter seem to fare but badly, for most of the clauses have as yet been carried in their original state. The principal exception to this relates to the 5th article, which fixed the peace establishment of the departmental legions at 150,000 men, and the number to be allotted for each year at 40,000. The amendment of the committee increased the maximum of the peace establishment to 240,000 men, and this was finally adopted by the Chamber.

We regret that the proposition for annually voting the army was rejected by a great majority. The chamber had proceeded only as far as the 5th article on Wednesday. It appears that the speech of Marshal Gouvion St. Cyr, produced such an impression on his auditors, that the decorum of the Assembly was violated by strangers, who proudly cheered several parts of it. This was adverted to on the following day by M. Poyfey de Cere, who proposed that the rules of the Chamber should be strictly enforced, & every stranger who gave signs of applause or disapprobation, be dismissed from the galleries.

On Saturday both Houses of Parliament met. In the Lords the royal assent was given by commission to the bill for repealing the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act.—In the commons nothing particular occurred.

The London Star observes—"That almost every account that reaches us from Germany shows that the public mind is far from being in a state of quiet which promises a permanent rest."

STILL LATER.

The ship Poeschontas, Capt. H. Wind, arrived at Charleston, in 29 days from Liverpool.

LONDON, FEB. 7.

A letter dated Edinburgh, Feb. 4, says—"I beg to inform you, that a gentleman has this moment done me the honor to call and inform me, that the Regalia of Scotland, consisting of Crown, Sceptre, &c. are found. They are in a state of the most splendid and perfect preservation."

FEBRUARY 10.

We have received the Paris papers of Friday, and find by them, contrary to our expectations, that the anticipation of the President of the Chamber of Deputies has been realized. The discussion upon the Recruiting Law actually closed on Thursday, when the projet was carried by a majority of 55. The articles which remained for deliberation related to the mode of military promotion, and the only difference of opinion which seemed to exist upon that part of the law, arose from the apprehensions of some, that the prerogative of the Crown would be impaired by fixing the precise course of that promotion. Abstractedly considered, we think the interest of the military better secured by the positive enactments of a law, than if left to the will of an individual. The principle of promotion by seniority, is one not easily liable to objection. It holds out a prospective reward, and the certainty of its attainment gives it a proportionate value.

THE ARMY.

Our advices from the army are to the 6th of this month. At that time the Georgian Militia were within 20 miles of Fort Scott. Their march had been much impeded by bad roads, some parts of the route being almost impassable. We understand the troops generally enjoyed good health; and, notwithstanding their privations and sufferings, are in fine spirits.

No additional particulars have reached us respecting the disasters which befel Gen. Gaines and his little party, in descending Flint River. An official report of all the circumstances concerning it, will no doubt be made.

An affray of a very serious nature occurred last week at Hartford, between some citizens of that place and waggoners in the public service on the one side, and a portion of the Tennessee troops stationed there, on the other. Captain Chisholm of the latter, was killed; and several of the combatants severely wounded. With the merits of this quarrel, which led to the shedding of blood, we are unacquainted, perhaps both parties were to blame.—We regret to state, however, that the conduct of many of the Tennessee troops, since they came among us, has not been such as it should have been. Instead of cultivating our good will, they have sought, it is believed, every opportunity to wound and inflame the feelings of our inhabitants, by bestowing on them various opprobrious epithets.

We have also noticed in a late Tennessee paper, *intimidating* comparisons between the martial prowess of the people of that state, and of this—and in a work, purporting to be the "Life of General Jackson," injurious reflections are made on the character and military ardor of the Georgian and South-Carolina militia, while engaged in the former contest with the Creek Indians. Even Gen. Jackson himself, it is feared, has given currency, perhaps without intending it, to these opinions. If report be true, he said, while on his way to the seat of war, "were the Indians to commit as many murders in Tennessee as they had upon the frontier of Georgia, the women and children of that state would turn out and fight them." Such a remark, if made, was an *unwarranted* reproach on our patriotism and bravery. The Georgians may not be as boastful and vain-glorious as some, but they are as high-minded and spirited as any people.

The present has been aptly styled "the era of good feelings." May it long continue! Friendly sentiments, we hope, will be reciprocally cherished by the people of Georgia and Tennessee, and particularly by that portion of them in service. Conduct in either, calculated to irritate, should be discountenanced and punished. To soothe and harmonize them—to hush their bickerings and allay their asperities, should be the object and endeavor of all. Geo. Journal.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, MARCH 30.

Mr. Lowndes, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported the bill from the Senate, to increase the salaries of certain officers of the government, with some amendments [making the bill take effect from the first of April next, instead of Jan. last, and striking out the appropriation contained in the bill, leaving it to be provided for in the general annual appropriation bill] which, together with the bill, were committed to a committee of the whole House.

Mr. Holmes, of Massachusetts, from the committee appointed to enquire whether any, and what, clerks or other officers in either of the departments, or in any office at the seat of government, have conducted themselves improperly in their official duties, made a long report, embracing a particular detail of facts touching the conduct of several clerks, accompanied by a voluminous mass of papers, containing evidence, &c. and concluding with the following resolutions:

- 1. Resolved, That it is expedient to prohibit the clerks in the several departments from acting as agents for claimants against the United States.
2. Resolved, That it is expedient to prohibit the clerks in the several departments from engaging in the business of trade.
3. Resolved, That the several acts relating to the Treasury Department should be amended & certain penalties increased.
4. Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report a bill or bills to carry into effect the above resolutions.

The report was ordered to be printed, and, after a few remarks from Mr. Lowndes, who, without in the least questioning the correctness of the object of the committee, suggested whether the present course was proper, which would in effect cast censure on the Heads of the Departments for permitting these irregularities, when it was known, and he presumed to the committee also, that the Executive Departments had for some time had this subject under consideration and were engaged in applying remedies to the irregularities referred to by the committee—the resolutions were severally agreed to, and a committee was appointed accordingly.

Mr. Robertson, of Louisiana, from a select committee to whom the memorial of Gales & Seaton was referred, made a report thereon, accompanied by a bill authorising a subscription to the History of Congress; which bill was twice read and committed.

Mr. Tucker, of Virginia, from the committee to whom was referred that part of the President's message relating to roads, and canals, and semina-

ries of learning, reported the following resolutions, which were, on motion of Mr. Bassett, ordered to lie on the table and be printed:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to lay before this House at the ensuing session of Congress, and report a plan for the application of such means as are within the power of Congress, to the purpose of opening and constructing such roads and canals as may deserve and require the aid of the government, with a view to military operations in time of war, and to the more complete defence of the United States. And also, a statement of the works of the nature above mentioned, which have been commenced, the progress which has been made, and the means and prospect of their completion, together with such information, as in the opinion of the Secretary shall be material in relation to the objects of this resolution.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to prepare and report to this House at their next session, a plan for the application of such means as are within the power of Congress to the purpose of opening and improving roads and making canals, together with a statement of the undertakings of that nature, which as objects of public improvement, may require and deserve the aid of the government; and also a statement of works of the nature above mentioned which have been commenced, the progress which has been made in them, the means and prospect of their being completed, the public improvements carried on by states or by companies or by corporations, which have been associated for such purposes, to which it may be deemed expedient to subscribe or afford assistance, the terms and conditions of such associations, and the state of their funds. &c. such information, as, in the opinion of the Secretary, shall be material in relation to the objects of this resolution.

The Speaker laid before the House papers referred to in the report of the Secretary of State of the 14th inst. accompanying the message of the President of that date, on the subject of our affairs with Spain; embracing an immense volume of correspondence between our government and the ministers of Spain, antecedent to that communicated on the 14th, and sundry other papers—transmitted to the House by the Secretary of State, in obedience to instruction from the President of the United States. The papers were referred to the committee on foreign relations.

The House then took up and proceeded to consider the amendments reported by the committee of the whole to the bill making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1818, which amendments were severally concurred in without debate, with the exception of that making an appropriation of 150,000 dollars to pay the judgment of damages recovered against David Gelston and Peter A. Schenck, in the Supreme Court of New-York, by Gould Hoyt, for the seizure of the vessel the American Eagle. The clause finally passed, by a vote of 60 to 59.

The amendments having been gone through—

Mr. Forsyth moved to strike out the specific appropriation of 50,000 dollars, to pay the mission to South America, and to add the 50,000 dollars to the contingent fund.

Mr. F. remarked, in explanation of his motion, that the specific appropriation supposed that the persons sent by the President were official characters; as such, it was necessary that their appointments should be submitted to the Senate. They would be considered in the light of ministers of some grade, sent to a foreign government, and not agents appointed under the discretion of the Executive, to acquire information. The practice of all former times required the payment to be made out of the contingent fund, whose expenditure was trusted wholly to Executive discretion. The recognition of such unofficial agents, and a specific appropriation to pay them, would be to establish a precedent for the most extensive abuses; abuses which could not well be committed by expenditures out of the contingent fund. He believed there was little difference of opinion as to the propriety of the course adopted by the government, and none to the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet its views. He supposed that his motion would prevail without difficulty, and reconcile every possible objection to that part of the appropriation bill.

Mr. Lowndes signified his approbation of Mr. Forsyth's proposition; and the motion was agreed to without opposition.

Mr. Anderson, of Ken. then rose and renewed the proposition unsuccessfully made in committee of the whole by Mr. Clay, to appropriate a sum not exceeding 18,000 dollars for an outfit and one year's salary of a Minister to the United Provinces of the River Plate, the outfit to be paid and the salary to commence whenever the President shall deem it expedient to send a minister to the government of the said provinces.

The question was taken and negatived by 115 to 45.

All the Members from this State voted in the negative, except Messrs. Owen and Walker.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The joint resolution sent to the Senate from this House, fixing on the 15th proxima for the adjournment of the session, was returned from the Senate with an amendment, substituting the 20th of April for the 15th, which after an unsuccessful motion for indefinite postponement, was agreed to without division.

The joint resolution directing medals to be struck, and, together with the thanks of Congress, presented to Major Gen. William H. Harrison and Governor Isaac Shelby, was received from the Senate, and read three times and passed.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31.

The bill fixing the time (the 20th of November) for the next meeting of Congress, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill from the Senate declaring the assent of Congress to an act of the Legislature of North-Carolina for the relief of sick and disabled American seamen, was read the third time and passed.

The engrossed bill making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1818, was read the third time and passed.

The order of the day being announced, on the bill making appropriations, (the first of \$52,984 to pay claims now due at the Treasury, and the second of \$50,000, to meet the demands that will be made under existing contracts, towards completing the Cumberland road.)

Mr. Spencer, of New-York, rose, and moved that the committee of the whole House be discharged from the consideration of the bill, and that it be postponed indefinitely.

This motion brought on a short debate on the merits of the bill, it was negatived 82 to 56.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill.

Mr. Bassett moved to strike out the 2d section of the bill, (appropriating 250,000 dollars to meet the demands that will be made under existing contracts, for carrying on the work.) and spoke in support of his motion, Lost 61 to 48.

Mr. Tucker of Va. moved to add a new section to the bill providing for a road from the United States road to Winchester in Virginia, which was lost by a large majority; and then—

Mr. Tarr moved an additional section, to enable the President further to construct and complete the national road from Cumberland to the Ohio river, that two hundred thousand dollars be appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be repaid out of the fund reserved for laying out and making roads to the state of Ohio, which was negatived.

Mr. Bassett next moved to add to the second section the following proviso: "Provided, that nothing in this or any former law shall pledge the government to any further appropriation;" which motion was negatived—only about 20 rising in its favor.

Mr. Ballard Smith, moved an amendment in favor of rendering navigable James River, from the mouth of Sooney's Creek to the mouth of Dunlap's Creek, and for rendering navigable the Great Kanawa, which was negatived without a division.

The committee then rose and reported the bill without amendment; and the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—ayes 67, noes 62.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1.

Mr. Pleasants, from the committee on naval affairs, made a report on the resolutions, some time since submitted by Mr. Johnson of Va. on the subject of the Court-martial upon Captain Perry and Captain Hoath of the marines. The report was long, with the statement of the opinion of the committee, that the defect was not in the law but in the administration of it.

Mr. Johnson, of Virginia, made several observations on the report; contending that if there had been any omission of duty on the part of any officers entrusted with the administration of the law, they ought to be brought to the notice of the House, and maintaining his original idea, that the law was unequal and defective, and he submitted a resolution instructing the same committee, to report a bill to deprive any officer who should strike his inferior officer, draw or raise a weapon upon him, of his commission.

Mr. Pleasants made some remarks in explanation, and moved that the report and resolution be laid on the table and printed, which was carried without a division.

The engrossed bill fixing on an earlier period for the next meeting of Congress than is appointed by the constitution, was read the third time and put on its passage and carried 57 to 42.

The engrossed bill making further appropriations for carrying on the national road from Cumberland to the