

ne zeal and activity due to so important an object, and with all the despatch practicable in so extensive and great an undertaking. The survey of our maritime and inland frontiers has been continued; and at the points where it was decided to erect fortifications, the work has been commenced, and, in some instances, considerable progress has been made. In compliance with resolutions of the last session, the board of commissioners were directed to examine in a particular manner the parts of the coast therein designated, and to report their opinion of the most suitable sites for two naval depots. This work is in a train of execution.—The opinion of the board on this subject, with a plan of all the works necessary to a general system of defence, so far as it has been formed, will be laid before Congress, in a report from the proper Department, as soon as it can be prepared.

In conformity with the appropriations of the last session, treaties have been formed with the Quapaw tribe of Indians, inhabiting the country on the Arkansas, and with the Great and Little Osages north of the White river; with the tribes in the state of Indiana; with the several tribes within the state of Ohio, and the Michigan territory, and with the Chickasaws; by which very extensive cessions of territory have been made to the United States. Negotiations are now depending with the tribes in the Illinois territory, and with the Choctaws, by which it is expected that other extensive cessions will be made. I take great interest in stating that the cessions already made, which are considered so important to the United States, have been obtained on conditions very satisfactory to the Indians.

With a view to the security of our inland frontiers, it has been thought expedient to establish strong posts at the mouth of the Yellow Stone river, & at the Mandan village on the Missouri; and at the mouth of St. Peters on the Mississippi, at no great distance from our northern boundaries. It can hardly be presumed, while such posts are maintained in the rear of the Indian tribes, that they will venture to attack our peaceable inhabitants. A strong hope is entertained that this measure will likewise be productive of much good to the tribes themselves; especially in promoting the great object of their civilization. Experience has clearly demonstrated, that independent savage communities cannot long exist within the limits of a civilized population. The progress of the latter has, almost invariably, terminated in the extinction of the former, especially of the tribes belonging to our portion of this hemisphere, among whom loftiness of sentiment, and gallantry in action, have been conspicuous. To civilize them, and even to prevent their extinction, it seems to be indispensable that their independence, as communities, should cease, and that the control of the U. States over them should be complete and undisputed. The hunter state will then be more easily abandoned, and recourse will be had to the acquisition and culture of land, and to other pursuits tending to dissolve the ties which connect them together as a savage community, and to give a new character to every individual. I present this subject to the consideration of Congress, on the presumption that it may be found expedient and practicable to adopt some benevolent provisions, having these objects in view, relative to the tribes within our settlements.

It has been necessary, during the present year, to maintain a strong naval force in the Mediterranean, and in the Gulf of Mexico, and to send some public ships along the southern coast, and to the Pacific ocean. By these means amicable relations with the Barbary powers have been preserved, our commerce has been protected, and our rights respected. The augmentation of our navy is advancing, with a steady progress, towards the limit contemplated by law.

I communicate, with great satisfaction, the accession of another State, Illinois, to our Union; because I perceive, from the proof afforded by the additions already made, the regular progress and sure consummation of a policy, of which history affords no example, & of which the good effect cannot be too highly estimated.—By extending our government, on the principles of our constitution, over the vast territory within our limits, on the Lakes and the Mississippi, and its numerous streams, new life and vigor are infused into every part of our system. By increasing the number of the States, the confidence of the state governments in their own security is increased, and their jealousy of the national government proportionably diminished. The impracticability of one consolidated government for this great & growing nation, will be more apparent, and will be universally admitted. Incapable of exercising local authority, except for general purposes, the general government will no longer be dreaded. In those cases of a local nature, and for all the great purposes for which it was instituted, its authority will be cherished. Each government will acquire new force and a greater freedom of action, within its proper sphere. Other innumerable advantages will follow: our produce will be augmented to an incalculable amount, in articles of the greatest value for domestic use and foreign commerce. Our navigation will, in like degree, be increased; & as the shipping of the Atlantic states will be employed in the transportation of the vast produce of the western country, even those parts of the U. States which are the most remote from each other will be further bound together by the strongest ties which mutual interest can create.

The situation of this District, it is thought, requires the attention of Congress. By the Constitution, the power of legislation is exclusively vested in the Congress of the U. States. In the exercise of this power, in which the people have no participation, Congress legislate in all cases, directly on the local concerns of the District. As this is a departure, for a special purpose, from the general principles of our system, it may merit consideration, whether

an arrangement better adapted to the principles of our government and to the particular interest of the people may not be devised, which will neither infringe the constitution, nor affect the object which the provision in question was intended to secure. The growing population, already considerable, and the increasing business of the District, which it is believed already interfere with the deliberations of Congress on great national concerns, furnish additional motives for recommending this subject to your consideration.

When we view the great blessings with which our country has been favored, those which we now enjoy, and the means which we possess of handing them down, unimpaired, to our latest posterity, our attention is irresistibly drawn to the source from whence they flow. Let us then unite in offering our most grateful acknowledgments for these blessings to the Divine Author of all good.

JAMES MONROE.

## CONGRESS.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, NOV. 16.

A quorum of the Members being present, Mr. Henry Clay took the chair.

A committee waited upon the President to know when he would make his communication to Congress.

The Speaker laid before the House the Constitution of the State of Illinois, which was ordered to be printed.

TUESDAY, NOV. 17.

The Message of the President of the United States was received and read.—For a copy of it see the first page.

But little other business was done.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18.

The following gentlemen compose the several standing committees, which have been appointed by order of the House.

*Of Ways and Means*.—Messrs. Smith of Md. Burwell, Pitkin, Sargent, Trumble, Crawford and Tallmadge.

*Of Elections*.—Messrs. Taylor of N. Y. Alex. Smith, Merrill, Shaw, Boss, Whitman and Tarr.

*Of Commerce and Manufactures*.—Messrs. Newton, Seybert, McLane of Del. Mason of Mass. Irving, Baldwin and Kinsey.

*Of Claims*.—Messrs. Williams of N. C. Rich. M'Intosh, S. Moore, Walker of Ky. Culbreth and Gilbert.

*Of the District of Columbia*.—Messrs. Herbert, Peter, Boilen, Cobb, Claiborne, Colston and Stuart of Md.

*Of Public Lands*.—Messrs. Poindecker, Campbell, Heidricks, Terry, Mercer, Jones and Butler of Iowa.

*Of the Post Office and Post Roads*.—Messrs. Livermore, Blount, Barber of Ohio, Townsend, Sampson, Terrell and Settle.

*Of Pensions and Revolutionary Claims*.—Messrs. Rice, Wilkin, Ruggles, W. P. Malley, Owen and Orr.

*Of Public Expenditures*.—Messrs. Desha, Anderson of Pa. Garnett, Cushman, J. S. Smith, Hunter, and Williams of Con.

*On the Judiciary*.—Messrs. H. Nelson of Va. Hopkinson, Edwards, Beecher, Storrs, Quarles and Mosely.

*Of Private Land Claims*.—Messrs. Robertson, Pindall, Hoeg, Hubbard, Bayley, R. Moore and B. Smith.

*Of Enrolled Bills*.—Messrs. W. Wilson and Speed.

*Of Revised and unfinished business*.—Messrs. Taylor of N. Y. Hale and Whiteside.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. H. Nelson in the chair, on the state of the Union; and took into consideration the Message of the President of the United States, yesterday received.

Mr. Taylor, of New York, moved sundry resolutions, for reference of the different parts of the Message, to the following effect:

1. That so much as relates to the subject of Foreign Affairs, and to the Independence of the South American States, be referred to a select committee.
2. That so much as relates to Military Affairs, and so much as relates to the Proceedings of the Courts Martial on the trial of Arbutnot and Ambrieste, and to the conduct of the War with the Seminole Indians, be referred to a select committee.
3. That so much as relates to the Navy and to the Naval Depots, be referred to a select committee.
4. That so much as relates to cessions of territory from the Indians, be referred to the committee of Public Lands.
5. That so much as relates to the civilization of the Indian tribes, be referred to the same committee.
6. That so much as relates to the subject of Manufactures, be referred to the committee of Commerce and Manufactures.
7. That so much as relates to the unlawful introduction of Slaves into the United States, be referred to a select committee.
8. That so much as relates to the subject of Revenue, be referred to the committee of Ways and Means.
9. That so much as relates to the District of Columbia, be referred to the committee for said District.
10. That the said committees have leave to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

These resolutions were severally agreed to without opposition or remark.

Mr. Taylor also submitted, at the same time, four other resolutions, to this effect:

1. That a committee be appointed to consider and report on the subject of the organization and discipline of the Militia.
2. That a committee be appointed on the subject of Internal Improvement.
3. That a committee be appointed on the subject of the Public Buildings.
4. That a committee be appointed to enquire whether any amendment should be necessary to the act of the last session granting pensions to Revolutionary survivors.

Mr. Taylor remarked, on these resolutions, that it would be seen they embraced subjects not referred to in the President's message; but he believed it to be entirely consistent with parliamentary practice, in the committee of the whole on the state of Union, to present for consideration any or all the important subjects likely to come before Congress during the session. Among these subjects, he thought

were those embraced in these resolutions. Among them, that of the organization and discipline of the militia was unquestionably of immense importance; the subject was indeed among the unfinished business of last session, but he thought it proper to raise a committee on it, that any propositions for improving or amending the system, might be referred to it. The subject of roads and canals, too, though not noticed in the Message, was also lying over from the last session, and it was probable that other propositions of that character might be made during the session. The subject of the public buildings was one which had excited some interest and some enquiry into the causes of the disappointment of the reasonable expectations entertained, that they would have been in a greater state of forwardness than they are at present; a committee would properly be appointed to inquire into the matter.—The subject of Revolutionary Pensions, also, incidentally noticed only in the Message, had produced some excitement in the country, and a disposition prevailed among some to restrict, and among others to enlarge the provisions of the law on the subject. This, therefore, appeared to him to deserve the attention of the House. He thought the subjects all of sufficient moment to justify the reference of them to committees.

Mr. Pitkin, of Connecticut, objected to acting on these subjects, as proposed, on the ground that they did not flow from the Message; and that it had been usual, in committee of the whole on the state of the Union, on the President's Message, not to introduce any propositions foreign to the Message. He thought the practice a good one, and did not wish to depart from it without strong reason. He therefore moved that these propositions lie on the table.

Mr. Taylor said, that, being in committee of the whole on the state of the Union, every thing relating to the public concerns was fully before them. He did not think it important that his motion should originate in committee, but he protested against being limited, in committee of the whole on the state of the Union, although the Message had been referred to it, to the range of subjects embraced in that document.

The resolves were ordered to lie on the table, by a vote of 61 to 50.

The committee rose and reported the resolves previously agreed to; which were concurred in by the House.

Mr. Taylor then moved, anew, the propositions last above stated which in committee, had been ordered to lie on the table, which were agreed to.

That for the appointment of a Chaplain to each House, was also agreed to.

The House then proceeded to ballot for a Chaplain on its part. Rev. Burgess Allison was nominated by Mr. Spoonfield, and Dr. Wm. Rogers by Mr. Sergeant.—The votes being counted out, were found to be

For Rev. Burgess Allison 72  
Dr. Wm. Rogers 52

So Mr. Allison was chosen Chaplain on the part of the House of Representatives.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19.

The following gentlemen were announced as having been appointed to compose the several committees yesterday established, viz:

*Committee on Foreign Affairs*.—Messrs. Forsyth, Holmes, Barbour of Va. Spencer, Baldwin, Allen of Vt. and Hopkinson.

*On Military Affairs*.—Messrs. Johnson of Ky. Reed, T. M. Nelson, Huntington, Gage, Stewart of N. C. and Peter.

*On Naval Affairs*.—Messrs. Pleasants, Silsbee, Parrott, Sawyer, Schuyler, Rogers and Bateman.

*On the subject of Indian Affairs*.—Messrs. Southard, Williams of N. Y. Murray, Walker of N. C. Richards, Butler of N. H. and Pogram.

*On the illicit introduction of Slaves*.—Messrs. Middleton, Upham, Lawyer, Floyd, Mumford Lincoln and Linn.

*On the Militia*.—Messrs. Harrison, Smyth of Va. Quarles, Moreton, Jones, Savage and Owen.

*On Roads and Canals*.—Messrs. Tucker, Storrs, Lewis, Sergeant, Porter, Crafts and Marchand.

*On Public Buildings*.—Messrs. Bassett, Bellinger, Adams, Clagett, Folger, Bayly and Rice.

*On Revolutionary Pensions*.—Messrs. Bloomfield, Burwell, Ogle, Wallace, Drake, Herkimer and Wilson of Mass.

*Library committee on the part of this House*.—Messrs. Seybert, Mason of Mass. and Irving.

Mr. McLean, Representative from the new State of Illinois, being in attendance—

The Speaker stated to the House a difficulty which he felt in deciding upon the propriety of administering the oath to him, in consequence of Congress not having concluded the act of admission of the State into the Union. Under this difficulty, he submitted the question to the decision of the House.

After some remarks *pro* and *con* the question being put, it was decided apparently by a large majority, that the Speaker should not at this time administer the oath of office.

On motion of Mr. Irving, of N. Y. a resolve was passed, instructing the committee on Naval Affairs to inquire into the expediency of extending, for a further term of five years, the pensions to the widows and orphans of the officers, sailors and marines killed on board the armed ships of the United States, during the late war.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, a select committee was ordered to be appointed, to enquire into the expediency of allowing to Michigan Territory a Delegate in Congress.

On motion of Mr. Sawyer, of North-Carolina, the committee of commerce and manufactures were instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law for staking certain parts of Currituck Sound.

Mr. Johnson of Kentucky, proposed a resolution, instructing the military committee to enquire into the expediency of establishing two additional military Academies, one in the neighborhood of the City of Washington, and one at Newport, in Kentucky.

Mr. Williams, of North-Carolina, wished to have included in this resolution a third academy, at some point in S. Carolina; it being but reasonable, if the North, the West, and the centre were accommodated, that the Southern section should receive the same attention.

After some conversation, to accommodate the wishes of Mr. Williams, the resolution was so modified by the mover as to propose an enquiry into the expediency of establishing *one or more* additional academies; and in this shape was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, of Ky. the committee on the Post Office was instructed to enquire into the expediency of increasing the salaries of the Assistant Postmasters General—whose salaries, at 1700 dollars per annum, Mr. J. said, were incommensurate with their important and laborious duties.

On motion of Mr. Jones, of Ten. the committee on Military Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the payment for property lost or destroyed by the enemy, and for horses lost for want of forage during the late war between the United States and the Seminole nation of Indians.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Thursday, Nov. 19.

Mr. Holshouser presented the petition of Jesse A. Pearson and others of Rowan, praying for the incorporation of a company to build a toll-bridge across the North Yadkin river, which was referred.

On motion of Mr. Love, a committee on Military Land Warrants was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Beard, Williams and Brown, of the Senate, and Messrs. Love, Williamson and Mebane of the House of Commons.

A committee was appointed to whom all bills and petitions on the subject of separate elections shall be referred.

A message was received from the Senate, proposing to ballot on Saturday next, for a Senator to represent this State in Congress after the 4th of March next, nominating N. Macon, for the appointment, which was concurred with.

On motion of Mr. R. Sanders, a joint select committee was appointed to enquire into the expediency of increasing the Banking Capital of this State, to report by bill, or otherwise. Messrs. Gaston, Murphey and Wellborn were named in the Senate, and Messrs. Mebane, Sanders & Dickens, in the Commons.

Received from the Senate, a bill to divorce James Hoffer, from Deborah, his wife.

Mr. Vaughan presented a bill to confirm the judgment of the Superior Court of Richmond county, divorcing Jane B. Robinson, wife of William D. Robinson, from the bonds of matrimony.

Friday, Nov. 20.

The subjects recommended to the attention of the Legislature in the Governor's Message were severally referred to select committees, as follows:

On Public Education, to Messrs. Martin, Brownrigg, and Rayborne, of the Senate, and Messrs. Sanders, Caldwell and Mangum of the Commons.

On the Judiciary, to Messrs. Gaston, Welborn and Benton, of the Senate; and Messrs. Stanly, Love, and R. H. Jones, of the Commons.

On Internal Improvements, to Messrs. Murphey, D. Jones and Davidson, of the Senate; and Messrs. Mebane, Winslow and King, of the Commons.

On the Criminal Code, to Messrs. Conner, Glisson and Steed, of the Senate; and Messrs. V. Allen, Scott and Phifer, of the Commons.

On the Militia Laws, to Messrs. Atkinson, Felton and Dobson, of the Senate; and Messrs. Brown, Beard and L. D. Wilson, of the Commons.

On amendments proposed to the Constitution of the U. States, to Messrs. Phifer, Fisher and Alston, of the Senate; and Messrs. Black, Fraser and Helme, of the Commons.

On what relates to the State Bank, to Messrs. Murphey, Hall and Calloway, of the Senate; and Messrs. Dickey, M'Nairy and Brevard, of the Commons.

On the conflicting claims between this State and Tennessee, to Messrs. Terry, Williamson and Ramsay of the Commons. The Senate committee not learnt.

A committee was appointed on arrears of Taxes.

Mr. Stanly presented certain documents in relation to the election of Miles Allen, one of the Representatives of Ashe county, which were referred to the committee of Elections.

The following bills were presented. By Mr. Holshouser, a bill for the division of Rowan and Currituck counties.

Mr. Mebane, a bill to regulate and change the mode of appointing Patrols in the several counties in this State.

Received from the Senate, a bill to amend an act passed in 1812, relative to the Courts of Equity, in cases of partition;

And a bill to authorise the cutting of a canal from the waters of Currituck Sound to the North River, in Currituck county.

Saturday, Nov. 21.

Mr. Winslow presented a petition from the Merchants of Fayetteville, establishing a Flour Warehouse in said town.—Referred.

Mr. Montgomery, from the balloting committee for a Senator of the U. States, reported that Nathaniel Macon was duly elected.

A committee was appointed to revise the laws for suppressing Vice and Immorality.

On motion of Mr. Mebane, the Public Treasurer was directed to confer with the President & Directors of the State Bank, in order to ascertain whether the State may not subscribe to the unsubscribed Stock of the Bank, without such subscription being subject to be scaled as proposed by the late Resolution of their Board; and if so, what number of shares

may be so subscribed for, and upon what terms.

Mr. Roulhac presented a bill to amend an act passed in 1815, to incorporate the company to make a Turnpike Road from Pungo River, in Hyde, to Plymouth. Mr. Winslow, a bill to authorise the Commissioners of the town of Fayetteville to raise money for opening and completing part of the road from Fayetteville to Morganton.

Received from the Senate, the Report of the Committee to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the State Bank; in which the authority of the Directors to postpone the dividends of the new Stock, or to alter the mode of receiving subscribers, the Proxy is questioned, though it is not alleged the refusal of proxies is to operate favorably to subscribers with small capital. The committee give their opinion, "that the directors of the State Bank have been manifestly guilty of fraud and dishonesty; and that the State Bank has redeemed the Paper Currency, which the war of our Revolution threw into circulation, and which for twenty-five years indicated a poverty unbefitting the character and the wealth of the State; and has substituted in its place a paper of equal value, but of a higher grade, founded upon the labour and the uprightiness of the State; and the Committee hope, that the solicitude which the Legislature will always feel for the character and prosperity of this Institution will be duly appreciated by those to whom the management of its concerns shall, from time to time, be conferred." At the conclusion of the Report, the Committee express a wish to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

They were accordingly discharged.

Monday, Nov. 26.

A communication was received from the Public Treasurer, stating that he had conferred with the Directors of the State Bank as instructed; and that their answer was, that they did not feel themselves at liberty to receive a Subscription from the State on any other terms than those offered to individual subscribers.—The Treasurer's letter was sent to the Senate.

Received from the Senate, a message proposing to ballot to-morrow morning for a Governor for the ensuing year, nominating John Branch, the present Governor, Concurring with.

The bill for the division of Rowan and Currituck counties, being on its second reading, Mr. Stanly moved to postpone indefinitely, which motion was carried.

A Resolution was received from the Senate, making it the imperious duty of the Members of both Houses to attend the Treasurer in obtaining as many shares of the unsubscribed Stock of the State Bank as practicable; which being taken into consideration, was rejected.

Tuesday, Nov. 24.

Mr. Smith, from the balloting committee for a Governor, reported that John Branch was duly elected.

Mr. Michaux presented the petition of Isaac Berry and others, praying for a bill to be passed authorising James Barnett to erect a Toll-Bridge across Dan-River near Leaksville; and

Mr. Seales presented a memorial from Robert Galloway on the same subject. Both were referred.

Mr. Hawkins presented the petition of James Seawell and his associates, of Fayetteville, which being read, Mr. Hoffer a bill to authorise and empower James Seawell & his associates to build a Bridge across Cape-Fear River near Fayetteville.

Mr. Sanders from the Committee of Propositions and Grievances, reported in favor of passing the divorce bills referred to them.

Mr. Prince, from the Committee of Elections, reported against Miles Allen and recommended his seat to be vacated and it was vacated accordingly. An election was ordered on the 29th Decr.

A resolution was received from the Senate, for the appointment of a committee to enquire into the expediency of making provisions by law for electing Sheriffs the people. Committee appointed.

Mr. Jordan presented a bill to amend the Militia Laws of this State.

Received from the Senate, a bill to amend the Superior Courts the exclusive power of emancipating slaves.

A bill for raising the fees of the Solicitors of the Superior Courts.

A bill directing the laying out of a road from Milton, in Caswell county, to the point in the South-Carolina line, in direction to Augusta, in Georgia.

A bill to amend the 2d section of an act passed at last session, to revise and amend the laws respecting wrecks and wrecked property.

Wednesday, Nov. 25.

A message was received from the Senate, proposing to ballot to-morrow morning for Councilors of State.

Mr. Caldwell presented a bill to amend so much of the 4th section of an act passed in 1814, concerning Divorce nisi, as requires the interference of the Legislature to ratify the judgment of the Superior Court.

Received from the Senate, a bill relating to James Seawell the right of navigating the waters of Cape Fear River between Fayetteville and Wilmington on steam boats;

A bill to repeal so much of an act passed in 1791, as authorises an indictment for an insufficiency of fences during crop-time and

A bill to repeal an act passed in 1791 to alter the mode of punishing the offence of stealing.

On motion of Mr. Terrell, from the Board; and if so, what number of shares

Resolved, That a joint select committee be appointed, consisting of a member