

CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MONDAY, JAN. 17

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the War Department exhibiting a statement of the contracts entered into by that department during the last year, rendered in compliance with the provision of existing laws.

The Speaker also laid before the House a communication from the same department, transmitting information, required by a resolution of this House, as to the progress which has been made in the civilization of the Indians, &c.

These communications were ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions submitted by Mr. Strother on Friday, which, after some debate, the three first were agreed to without a division.

The question being put, on agreeing to the 4th resolution, requiring of the Secretary of the Treasury to report the price of the stocks, with his opinion "whether it would not be advisable to apply the surplus of the Sinking Fund to the annual expenses of the Government, rather than to resort to loans & taxes;" which, after some remarks upon it, was negatived.

TUESDAY, JAN. 18

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a statement of the payments made at the Treasury for the year 1819.

The Speaker laid before the House also a report of the Secretary of War of the contingent expenses of the military establishment during the year 1819.

These reports were ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

The House then took up the report of the committee of the whole House on the bill providing for taking the 4th census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the U. States.

The amendment made to the bill by the committee of the whole (as reported in the proceedings of the 6th inst.) were successively concurred in. In the course of their consideration some discussion arose, as well on these as on additional amendments which were proposed.

That amendment being under consideration which provides for the enumeration of the manufacturing establishments, &c. a compensation of twenty per cent. on the amount of the other compensation allowed by the act.

Mr. Shycomb questioned the propriety of the allowance. He thought the expense greater than was necessary, and the nation, said Mr. S. will not believe we are in earnest when we speak of retrenchment, while we go on to vote the public money in this way. He did not think the information sufficiently valuable to justify the expense.

After some remarks from Eastern members against this allowance, stating that the agents could, in some instances, enter 3,000 persons in a day.

Mr. Smith of N. C. observed, that whatever might be the case in the northern states, it was very different in the southern states. In the latter, a marshal could not always take down one hundred a day. The assistant would have often to ride 50 or 40 miles a day; to provide and support his horse, &c. For this, and the duties required by the bill, which Mr. S. stated in detail, the proposed allowance of 20 per cent. would be by no means too much. Agreed to.

Mr. Bloomfield moved to amend the schedule in the bill so as to make the returns embrace the number of free white males between the ages of 18 and 26, instead of between 16 and 26, so as to exhibit the number liable to be enrolled, and to show how far the militia returns of the states were correct, &c.

Some objection being made to this amendment in its present shape, by Mr. Campbell and Mr. Whitman, the motion was modified by Mr. Bloomfield so as to provide a separate and additional column in the schedule, for the enumeration of "free white males from 16 to 18 inclusive;" and thus the amendment was adopted.

An amendment was adopted, on motion of Mr. Sampson, in the clause directing the return of manufactures, to except expressly "household manufactures."

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading; and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 19

Mr. Baldwin, from the committee on manufactures, reported a bill to regulate the payment of duties on merchandise imported, requiring cash payments on certain imports; and for other purposes; also a bill laying duties on sales of merchandise at auction; which bills were severally twice read and committed.

Mr. Cuthbert of Georgia, submitted the following resolution for consideration: Resolved, That the Committee on the Slave Trade be instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing a registry of slaves, more effectually to prevent the importation of slaves into the United States or the territories thereof.

Mr. C. observed, that it was known we had an existing law on this subject; the execution of this law depended principally on the national vessels, but from the great extent of the coast of the U. States, slave ships might frequently elude the vigilance of the public vessels, and throw their cargoes amongst our black population, and thus escaping the possibility of being discovered, the law might be violated with impunity. By a register of the slaves of the country, under proper regulations, it appeared to him, Mr. C. said, that it would be practicable, more effectually to enforce the acts prohibiting the slave trade, and preserve the character of the country from reproach.

After some objections from Mr. Randolph, the resolution was agreed to. The House agreed to resume the consideration of the bill providing for the

payment of horses and other property, lost, captured, and destroyed in the Seminole war.

After some debate, the question was taken on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time, and decided in the negative—90 to 64.

THURSDAY, JAN. 20

The Speaker laid before the House a report from the War Department, of the balances of monies unexpended on the 27th of December last, remaining in the Treasurer's hands, as agent of the War Department.

The Speaker also laid before the House a report of the names of the pensioners placed on the Pension list, from each state, under the act of March 18, 1818; rendered in obedience to a resolution of the House of the 20th Dec. last.

These reports were ordered to lie on the table.

A message was received from the President of the U. S. in compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, requesting him "to lay before it, at as early a day as may be convenient, an account of the expenditure of the several sums appropriated for building fortifications, from the year 1816 to the year 1819, inclusive; indicating the places at which works of defence have been begun, the magnitude of the works contemplated at each place, their present condition, the amount already expended, and the estimated amount requisite for the completion of each; also the mode by which the fortifications are built, by contract or otherwise," with a report from the Secretary of War, to whom the said resolution was referred.

The message was read, and with the documents, order d. to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Davidson, it was resolved, that the committee on post-offices, and post roads be instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing the following post roads in North Carolina, viz: from Wadesboro in Anson county, to Charlotte, in Mecklenburg county, by way of Edward Fielding's, Culpepper's store, Jacob Austin's, Charles T. Alexander's, and Maxwell's store to Charlotte, and return by way of Azrai Cockburn's and Wm. Taylor's, to Wadesboro.

The engrossed bill providing for taking the 4th census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the U. S. was read the third time, passed, and sent to the Senate.

Several bills of a private nature were under consideration.

FRIDAY, JAN. 21

The Debate on the Missouri Question was resumed yesterday in the Senate, by Mr. Pinkney, of Maryland, who, after the disposition of some minor business, took the floor, and spoke until near 3 o'clock, against the proposed Restriction. Before he had concluded his speech, he gave way for a motion to adjourn, and the Senate adjourned to Monday. Mr. P. still, of course, resume his remarks on Monday morning.

In the House of Representatives, but little business was acted on yesterday. After the presentation and reference of petitions, and the reception of one or two reports on private claims, it was found that the interesting debate in the Senate had attracted so many members from their seats as to leave the House without a quorum. A motion to adjourn was negatived by yeas and nays—54 to 19; after which a call of the House was moved, but it was superceded by another motion to adjourn, which succeeded, and the House adjourned about 1 o'clock.

CIVILIZATION OF THE INDIANS.

Letter from the Secretary of War transmitting to Congress a report of the progress which has been made in the civilization of the Indian Tribes, and the sums which have been expended on that object.

Department of War, Jan. 15.

Sir: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 6th inst. "that the Secretary of War be directed to report whether any, and, if any, what, progress has been made in the civilization of the Indian Tribes, and the sums of money, if any have been, expended on that object, under the act of the last session," I have the honor to make the following statement:

No part of the appropriation of ten thousand dollars annually, made at the last session, for the civilization of the Indians, has yet been applied. The President was of opinion, that the object of the act would be more certainly effected, by applying the sum appropriated in aid of the efforts of societies, or individuals, who might feel disposed to bestow their time and resources to effect the object contemplated by it; and a circular (of which the enclosed is a copy,) was addressed to those individuals and societies, who have directed their attention to the civilization of the Indians. The objects of the circular were to obtain information, and disclose the views of the President, in order to concentrate and unite the efforts of individuals and societies, in the mode contemplated by the act of the last session. The information collected will enable the President to apply, early in this year, the sum appropriated. The economy and intelligence with which it will be applied, under the superintendance of zealous and disinterested individuals, will, it is hoped, carry into effect, as far as practicable, the views of Congress.

While many of the Indian Tribes have acquired only the vices which a savage people usually become tainted, by their intercourse with those who are civilized, others appear to be making gradual advances in industry and civilization. Among the latter description may be placed the Cherokees, Chickasaws, and perhaps the Creeks, most of the remnants of the six nations, in the State of New-York, the Wyandots, Senecas, and Shawanese, at Upper Sandusky, and Wapakonetta. The Cho-

rokees exhibit a more favorable appearance than any other tribe of Indians. There are already established two flourishing schools among them. One at Balford under the superintendance of the American Board for Foreign Missions at which there are at present about 100 youths of both sexes. The institution is on the Lancasterian plan, and is in a very flourishing condition. Besides reading, writing, and arithmetic, the boys are taught agriculture, and the ordinary mechanic arts, and the girls sewing, knitting, and weaving. At Spring Place in the same nation, there is a school on a more limited scale, under the superintendance of the United Brethren or Moravians. Two other schools are projected in the same nation, one by the American, and the other by the Baptist Board, for Foreign Missions; and arrangements are making to establish two other schools among that portion of the Cherokee Nation which reside on the Arkansas. The Choctaws and Chickasaws have recently evinced a strong desire to have schools among them, and measures have been taken by the American Board for Foreign Missions for that purpose. A part of the former nation have appropriated \$2000 annually, out of their annuity for 17 years, as a school fund. A part of the six nations, in New-York, have, of late, made considerable improvements; and the Wyandots, Senecas, and Shawanese, at Upper Sandusky, and Wapakonetta, have, under the superintendance of the Society of Friends, made considerable advances in civilization.

Altho' partial advances may be made, under the present system, to civilize the Indians, I am of opinion, that, until there is a radical change in the system, any efforts which may be made, must fall short of complete success. They must be bro't gradually under our authority & laws, or they will insensibly waste away in vice and misery. It is impossible, with their customs, that they should exist as independent communities, in the midst of civilized society. They are not in fact an independent people, (I speak of those surrounded by our population,) nor ought they to be so considered. They should be taken under our guardianship; and our opinion, and not theirs, ought to prevail, in measures intended for their civilization and happiness. A system less vigorous may protract, but cannot arrest their fate.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant, J. C. CALHOUN.

Hon. H. CLAY, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

[CIRCULAR.]

Department of War, 3d Sept. 1819.

Sir: In order to render the sum of ten thousand dollars annually appropriated at the last session of Congress for the civilization of the Indians, as extensively beneficial as possible, the President is of an opinion, that it ought to be applied in co-operation with the exertions of benevolent associations or individuals, who may choose to devote their time or means to effect the object contemplated by the act of Congress. But it will be indispensable, in order to apply any portion of the sum appropriated in the manner proposed, that the plan of education, in addition to reading, writing and arithmetic, should, in the instruction of the boys, extend to the practical knowledge of the mode of agriculture, and of such of the mechanic arts as are suited to the condition of the Indians; and in that of the girls to spinning, weaving and sewing. It is also indispensable that the establishment should be fixed within the limits of those Indian nations who border on our settlements. Such associations, or individuals, who are already actually engaged in educating the Indians, and who may desire the co-operation of the government, will report to the Department of War, to be laid before the President, the location of the institutions under their superintendance; their funds; the number and kind of teachers; the number of youths of both sexes; the objects which are actually embraced in their plan of education; and the extent of the aid which they require; and such institutions as are formed but have not gone into actual operation, will report the extent of their funds; the places at which they intend to make their establishments; the whole number of youths, of both sexes, which they intend to educate; the number and kind of teachers to be employed; the plan of education adopted; and the extent of the aid required.

This information will be necessary to enable the President to determine whether the appropriation of Congress ought to be applied in co-operation with the institutions which may request it, and to make a just distribution of the sum appropriated. In proportion to the means of the government, co-operation will be extended to such institutions as may be approved, as well in erecting necessary buildings, as in their current expenses.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant, J. C. CALHOUN.

NATIONAL ECONOMY.

At a meeting held by the Tammany Society, some time ago, a pamphlet was written and adopted on the subject of the embarrassments of trade, the necessity of encouraging domestic manufactures, and other incidental topics, connected with the times; copies of which were ordered to be transmitted to several distinguished citizens, from whom answers have been received; which, as they relate to its objects, have been ordered to be published by the Society. The pamphlet was written by John Woodward, Esq. of New-York, and is justly considered a very able production,

not alone in reference to the great objects which it embraces, but for the sound republican principles which it inculcates. The reply of Mr. Madison, will be found peculiarly interesting. N. Y. Nat. Adv.

Quincy, Dec 9, 1819.

Sir: I have received the favor of an obliging letter, which you did me the honor to write me on the 29th November—be pleased to present my thanks to the Society of Tammany, or Columbian Order, for this honorable mark of their attention.

I admire the frankness and fortitude, with which they have censured a multitude of errors and abuses in the policy, morals and manners of this nation; no satire can be too severe, no condemnation too inexorable, for my taste, on these topics.

I wish you and your society success in discountenancing all pernicious customs and usages, and all deviations from a wise and virtuous national economy.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

JOHN ADAMS. Clarkson Crolius, Esq.

THOMAS JEFFERSON returns his respectful thanks to the President and Members of the Tammany Society, for the favor of their address on the subjects of economy and manufactures.—He has read it with pleasure, and finds in it much to approve, little to doubt, and less to add—perhaps he should have added, the suppression of drawback among the remedies for the disease of over-trading ourselves. It is desirable we should employ so much of our capital, as is necessary for exchanging our superfluous produce for the comforts we want; but the drawback goes further, and encouraging the employment of an additional portion in employing the same functions for other nations, in becoming brokers of the commerce between the nations of Europe, and between Europe and Asia, a branch which, more than all others, exposes us in the risk of embroilment in foreign wars. He thinks this portion of capital would be better employed at home in manufactures and agriculture, than in burthening us with the wars which belong to their commerce, and which should be theirs, not ours.—The moment, too, seems favorable when all fictitious capital is extinguished, and the solid is pausing to see the issue of the present crisis of our gambling commerce. He prays the President and Society to accept his assurances of high respect and consideration. Monticello, Dec. 10, 1819.

Montpelier, Dec. 1819.

I have received, Sir, the copy of the Address of the Society of Tammany, with which I have been politely favored.

The want of economy in the use of imported articles enters very justly into the explanation given of the causes of the present general embarrassments. Were every one to live within his income, or even the savings of the prudent to exceed the deficits of the extravagant, the balance in the foreign commerce of this nation could not be against it. The want of a due economy has produced the unfavorable turn, which has been experienced. Hence the need of specie to meet the call on the vaults of the banks; and the discontinuance of their discounts, followed by their curtailments: Hence too the failure of so many of the banks, with a diminished confidence in others: And hence, finally, a superabundance of debts without the means of paying them.

The address seems very justly to charge much of the general evil, by which the banks themselves have been overwhelmed, on the multiplicity of these institutions, and a diffusion of the indiscriminate loans of which they have been the sources. It has been made a question, whether banks, when restricted to spheres in which temporary loans only are made to persons in active business, promising quick returns, do not as much harm to imprudent, as good to prudent borrowers.—But it can no longer be a doubt with any, that loan-offices, carrying to every man's door, and even courting the acceptance of, the monied means of gratifying his present wishes, under a prospect or hope of procrastinated repayments, must, of all devices, be the most fatal to a general frugality and the benefits resulting from it.

The effect of domestic manufactures in diminishing imports, and, as far as they are carried on by hands attracted from abroad, or by hands otherwise idle or less productively employed, without a proportional diminution of exports, merits certainly a distinguished attention in marking out an internal system of political economy, and in counteracting a tendency in our foreign commerce to leave a balance against us. The relief from the source would be more effectual, for the circumstance that the articles

which contribute much to the excess of our imports over our exports, are articles, some not likely soon, others perhaps not at all, to be produced within ourselves. There is moreover a feature in the trade between this country and most others, which promotes not a little an unfavorable result. Our exports being chiefly articles of food, for manufacturers, or for a consumption easily surcharged, the amount of them called for, never exceeds what may be deemed real and definite wants. This is not the case with our imports. Many of them, some the most costly, are objects neither of necessity nor utility, but merely of fancy and fashion, wants of a nature altogether indefinite. This relative condition of the trading parties, although it may give to the one furnishing the necessary and profitable articles, a powerful advantage over the one making its returns in superfluities, on extraordinary occasions of an uninterrupted intercourse; yet in the ordinary and free course of commerce, the advantage lies on the other side; and it will be the greater in proportion to the lengthened credits on which the articles gratifying extravagant propensities are supplied. Such an inequality must, in a certain degree, control itself. It would be completely redressed by a change in the public preferences and habits, such as is inculcated in the address.

In not regarding domestic manufactures as of themselves an adequate cure for all our embarrassments, it is by no means intended to detract from their just importance, or from the policy of legislative protection for them. However true it be in general that the industrious pursuits of individuals ought to be regulated by their own sagacity and interest, there are practical exceptions to the theory, which sufficiently speak for themselves. The theory itself, indeed, requires a similarity of circumstances, and an equal freedom of interchange among commercial nations, which have never yet existed.—All are agreed, also, that there are certain articles, so indispensable, that no provident nation would depend for a supply of them on any other nation. But besides these, there may be many valuable branches of manufactures, which, if once established, would support themselves and even add to the list of exported commodities; but which, without public patronage, would either not be undertaken, or come to a premature downfall. The difficulty of introducing manufactures, especially of a complicated character and costly outfit, and above all, in a market preoccupied by powerful rivals, must readily be conceived. They appear, accordingly, to have required, for their introduction into the countries where they are now seen in their greatest extent and prosperity, either the liberal support of the government, or the aid of exiled or emigrant manufacturers, or both of these advantages.

In determining the degree of encouragement which can be afforded to domestic manufactures, it is evident that, among other considerations, a fair comparison ought to be made of what might be saved by supplies at home during foreign wars, to say nothing of our own, with the experience of supporting manufactures in times of peace, against foreign competitors in our market. The price of domestic fabrics, though dearer than foreign, in times of peace, might be so much cheaper in times of war, as to be cheaper also than the medium price of the foreign, taking the two periods together. Yet the American manufacturer, if unprotected during the period of peace, would necessarily be undermined by the foreign; and he could not be expected to resume his undertaking at the return of war, knowing the uncertainty of its duration, and foreseeing his certain ruin at the end of it. Estimates on these points cannot be made with much precision, but they are not on that account to be overlooked; and in making them, a strong leaning ought to be indulged towards the policy of securing to the nation independent resources within itself.

If I have extended these remarks beyond the proper limits, I must find my apology in the nature of the subject, and in the tenor of your letter for which I pray you to accept my acknowledgements, with my respects and good wishes.

JAMES MADISON. Clarkson Crolius, Esq.

MANUFACTURES OF CONNECTICUT.

At a meeting of a number of gentlemen from various parts of the State who are friendly to the encouragement of national industry, lately held in the city of Hartford, Conn. a committee was appointed to procure returns from all parts of the State, the present condition of different manufacturing establishments;—and although the returns are deficient, and many establishments are known not to have been reported, yet the following results appear.