

COL. TOWSON & COL. GADSDEN.

The injunction of Secrecy having been removed from the following proceedings in relation to the difference of opinion between the President of the United States and the Senate, respecting the nomination and appointment of the above Gentlemen to office, we give them to our readers:

IN SENATE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1822.

The following written message was received from the President of the United States: To the Senate of the United States:

I nominate the persons whose names are stated in the enclosed letter from the Secretary of War, for the appointments therein respectively proposed for them.

The changes in the army, growing out of the act of the 2d of March, 1821, "To reduce and fix the Military Peace Establishment of the United States," are exhibited in the official register for the year 1822, herewith submitted for the information of the Senate.

Under the late organization of the artillery arm, with the exception of the colonel of the regiment of light artillery, there were no grades higher than lieutenant colonel recognized. Three of the four colonels of artillery provided for by the act of Congress of the 2d of March, 1821, were considered therefore, as original vacancies, to be filled, as the good of the service might dictate, from the army corps.

The pay department being considered as a part of the military establishment, and within the meaning of the above recited act constituting one of the corps of the army, the then paymaster general was appointed colonel of one of the regiments. A contrary construction, which would have limited the corps specified in the 12th section of the act to the line of the army, would equally have excluded all the other branches of the staff, as well as that of the pay department, which was expressly comprehended among those to be reduced. Such a construction did not seem to be authorized by the act, since, by its general terms, it was intended to have been intended to give a power of sufficient extent to make the reduction, by which so many were to be disbanded, operate with as little inconvenience as possible to the parties. Acting on these views, and on the recommendation of the board of general officers, who were called in, on account of their knowledge and experience, to aid the Executive in so delicate a service, I thought it proper to appoint Col. Towson to one of the new regiments of artillery, it being a corps in which he had eminently distinguished himself, and acquired great knowledge and experience, in the late war.

In reconciling conflicting claims, provision for four officers of distinction could only be made, in grades inferior to those which they formerly held. Their names are submitted, with the nomination for the brevet rank of the grades from which they were severally reduced.

It is proper, also, to observe, that, as it was found difficult, in executing the act, to retain each officer in the corps to which he belonged, the power of transferring officers from one corps to another was resorted in the general orders published in the register, till the 1st day of January last, in order that, upon vacancies occurring, those who had been put out of their proper corps might, as far as possible, be restored to it. Under this reservation, and in conformity to the power vested in the Executive by the 1st section of the 75th article of the general regulations of the army, approved by Congress at the last session, on the resignation of Lieut. Col. Mitchell, of the corps of artillery, Lieut. Colonel Lindsay, who had belonged to this corps before the late reduction, was transferred back to it, in the same grade. As an additional motive to the transfer, it had the effect of preventing Col. John Taylor and Maj. Woolley being reduced to lower grades than those which they held before the reduction, and Captain Cobb from being disbanded under the act. These circumstances were considered as constituting an extraordinary case, within the meaning of the section already referred to of the regulations of the army. It is, however, submitted to the Senate whether this is a case requiring their confirmation—and, in case such should be their opinion, it is submitted to them for their constitutional confirmation.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, Jan. 17th, 1822. (Here follows the list of Appointments made last summer, which are already in possession of the public.)

The message was read. On motion, ordered, that it be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, to consider and report thereon.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23, 1822.

On motion, by Mr. Williams, of Tennessee, ordered, that the message nominating persons to promotions and appointments in the army, be printed for the use of the Senate, under an injunction of secrecy.

MONDAY, FEB. 25, 1822.

Mr. Williams, of Tenn. from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the message of the 21st January, nominating persons to promotions and appointments in the army, reported on the nomination of Richard S. Saterlee; and resolved, that the Senate do advise and consent to the appointment, agreeably to the nomination.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1822.

On motion, by Mr. Benton, resolved, that the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to make a report to the Senate, shewing the number of the Colonels in the army of the United States on the 1st of March

1821, their names, dates of commission, and corps. Also, shewing the number of Colonels in service under the peace establishment of 1821, their names, the highest grade before held by them, the date of that commission, and the corps to which they belonged if attached to any corps. Also, shewing the number of Adjutant and Inspector Generals in service on the said 2d of March, their names, the highest lineal rank previously held by each in the United States army, and the date of that commission. Also, showing the number of Adjutant and Inspector Generals in service under the peace establishment of 1821, their names, the highest lineal rank previously held by them, and the date of commission. Also, a list of all transfers and promotions made under or since the said act of March 2d, showing the names, grades, dates of commissions, and corps to which each belonged at the time of the transfer or promotion, and the office to which transferred or promoted. Also, showing the highest lineal rank held by Col. R. Butler in the army of the United States, at any time before the said 2d of March, the time when, and his rank when he may have quit the line of the army; and the grade and date of commission of Maj. William Bradford, at the date aforesaid.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1822.

Mr. Williams, of Tenn. from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the message of the 21st January, nominating to promotions and appointments in the army, made the following report; which was read: That Col. Towson, on the 2d day of March, 1821, was Paymaster General; that he held neither rank nor command in the army; and, not belonging to any corps of the army, the President had no power, under the law reducing and fixing the Military Peace Establishment, to arrange him to the command of one of the regiments retained in service by said act.

The Committee further report, that Colonel Gadsden, on the 2d of March, 1821, was one of the two Inspector Generals of the army, both of whom were retained in service by the act reducing the army; that there were two Adjutant Generals in service, one of whom was retained in service; and the President was not authorized to dismiss both of them, and retain Col. Gadsden as Adjutant General.

The Committee further report, that Col. Fenwick, on the 2d of March, 1821, was Lieutenant Colonel of the light artillery; that, by appointing him to the command of one of the regiments of artillery, it will disband, as supernumerary, a full Colonel, who, by the terms of the law of the 2d of March, 1821, was entitled to be retained. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Senate do not advise and consent to the nomination of Col. Fenwick.

The Committee further report, that Generals Macomb and Atkinson, Majors Bradford and Daliba, are nominated to grades below the rank they formerly held in the army; that the principle of *vazee* was recognized by the Senate on the reduction of the army in 1815; and, under the authority of that precedent, the Committee recommend that the four last mentioned nominations be confirmed.

Mr. Williams, from the same Committee, pursuant to a resolution of the 8th inst. reported the army register of May 17, 1821; which was read.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1822.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination of Nathan Towson to appointment in the army, as contained in the message of the 21st January, and, after debate, The Senate adjourned.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1822.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of Nathan Towson; and, on motion, ordered, that it lie on the table.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1822.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of Nathan Towson; and, on the question, "Will the Senate advise and consent to this appointment?" it was determined as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, of Ohio, Brown, of Lou. Eaton, Edwards, Findlay, Holmes, of Miss. Johnson, of Ken. Johnson, of Lou. King, of Alab. King, of N. Y. Knight, Lanman, Mills, Otis, Parrott, Southard, Talbot, Stokes—19.

NAYS—Messrs. Barton, Benton, Boardman, Chandler, D'Wolf, Dickerson, Elliott, Gaillard, Holmes, of Maine, Lloyd, Lowrie, Macon, Morrill, Palmer, Pleasants, Ruggles, Seymour, Smith, Taylor, Thomas, Van Dyke, Walker, Ware, Williams, of Miss. Williams, of Tenn.—25.

So it was resolved, that the Senate do not advise and consent to the appointment of Nathan Towson, to be Colonel of the second regiment of artillery.

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 1822.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination of James Gadsden, to be Adjutant General, contained in the message of the 21st January; and, after debate, The Senate adjourned.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of James Gadsden to be Adjutant General, contained in the message of the 21st January; and, on the question, "Will the Senate advise and consent to this appointment?" it was determined as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, of Ohio, Brown, of Lou. Eaton, Edwards, Elliott, Findlay, Holmes, of Miss. Johnson, of Ken. Johnson, of Lou. King, of Alabama, King, of N. Y. Knight, Lanman, Mills, Otis, Parrott, Southard, Stokes, Williams, of Miss.—20.

NAYS—Messrs. Barton, Benton, Boardman, Chandler, D'Wolf, Dickerson, Gaillard, Macon, Holmes, of Maine, Morrill, Noble, Palmer, Pleasants, Seymour, Smith, Talbot, Taylor, Thomas, Van Buren, Van Dyke, Walker, Ware, Williams, of Tenn.—23.

So it was resolved, that the Senate do not advise and consent to the appointment of James Gadsden to be Adjutant General.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination of Alexander Macomb, to be Colonel of the corps of engineers, contained in the last mentioned message, and,

On motion, by Mr. Smith, ordered, that the question, "Will the Senate advise and consent to this appointment?" be taken by yeas and nays.

On motion, ordered, that the nomination lie on the table.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1822.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nominations to promotions and appointments in the army, as contained in the message of the 21st of January, and not before acted on.

On the question, "Will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment of Alexander Macomb to be Colonel of engineers, with the brevet rank of Brigadier-General?"

A division of the question was called for, and the vote was taken on the first member thereof, which was determined as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Boardman, Brown, of Lou. Brown, of Ohio, Dickerson, Eaton, Elliott, Findlay, Holmes, of Miss. Johnson, of Ken. King, of Alab. King, of N. Y. Knight, Lanman, Macon, Mills, Morrill, Parrott, Pleasants, Southard, Stokes, Talbot, Van Buren, Vandyc, Walker, Williams, of Tenn.—26.

NAYS—Messrs. Barton, Benton, Chandler, D'Wolf, Gaillard, Holmes, of Maine, Noble, Palmer, Ruggles, Seymour, Smith, Taylor, Thomas, Ware—14.

The vote was taken on the second member of the said question, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Benton, Brown, of Lou. Eaton, Edwards, Elliott, Findlay, Johnson, of Ken. Holmes, of Miss. Johnson, of Lou. King, of Alab. King, of N. Y. Lanman, Macon, Mills, Morrill, Otis, Parrott, Pleasants, Seymour, Southard, Stokes, Talbot, Van Buren, Van Dyke, Walker, Ware, Williams, of Tenn.—28.

NAYS—Messrs. Barton, Boardman, Brown, of Ohio, Chandler, D'Wolf, Dickerson, Gaillard, Holmes, of Maine, Knight, Noble, Palmer, Ruggles, Smith, Taylor, Thomas—15.

So it was resolved, that the Senate do advise and consent to the appointment of Alexander Macomb, agreeably to the nomination.

On the question, "Will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment of Henry Atkinson, to be Colonel of the sixth regiment of infantry, with the brevet rank of Brigadier-General?"

A division of the question was called for, and the vote was taken on the first member thereof, and determined as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Boardman, Brown, of Lou. Brown, of Ohio, Dickerson, Eaton, Edwards, Elliott, Findlay, Holmes, of Miss. Johnson, of Ken. Johnson, of Lou. King, of Al. King, of N. Y. Knight, Lanman, Macon, Mills, Morrill, Otis, Parrott, Pleasants, Southard, Stokes, Talbot, Van Buren, Van Dyke, Walker, Williams, of Tenn.—29.

NAYS—Messrs. Barton, Benton, Chandler, D'Wolf, Gaillard, Holmes, of Maine, Noble, Palmer, Ruggles, Seymour, Smith, Taylor, Thomas, Ware—14.

And the second member of the question having been agreed to, it was resolved, that the Senate do advise and consent to the appointment of Henry Atkinson, agreeably to the nomination.

The Senate then proceeded to consider, separately, the nominations contained in said message, which had not been finally acted on; and, resolved, that they do advise and consent to the said appointments agreeably to the nominations, respectively, with the exception of Samuel B. Ashe, Daniel Parker, J. R. Fenwick, and William Bradford; which were, on motion, ordered to be postponed to Tuesday next.

On motion, by Mr. Smith, to re-consider the vote of yesterday on the nomination of James Gadsden, it was determined as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, of Lou. Brown, of Ohio, Chandler, Eaton, Edwards, Elliott, Findlay, Holmes, of Miss. Johnson, of Ken. Johnson, of Lou. King, of Alab. King, of N. Y. Knight, Lanman, Mills, Noble, Otis, Parrott, Smith, Southard, Stokes, Williams, of Miss.—23.

NAYS—Messrs. Barton, Benton, Boardman, D'Wolf, Gaillard, Holmes, of Maine, Macon, Morrill, Palmer, Pleasants, Ruggles, Seymour, Talbot, Taylor, Thomas, Van Buren, Van Dyke, Walker, Ware, Williams, of Tenn.—21.

On the question "Will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment of James Gadsden to be Adjutant General?" it was determined as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Brown, of Lou. Brown, of Ohio, Eaton, Edwards, Elliot, Findlay, Holmes, of Miss. Johnson, of Ken. Johnson, of Lou. King, of Alab. King, of N. Y. Knight, Lanman, Mills, Otis, Parrott, Smith, Southard, Stokes, Williams, of Miss.—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Barton, Benton, Boardman, Chandler, D'Wolf, Dickerson, Gaillard, Macon, Holmes, of Maine, Morrill, Noble, Palmer, Pleasants, Ruggles, Seymour, Talbot, Taylor, Thomas, Van Buren, Van Dyke, Walker, Ware, Williams, of Tenn.—23.

So it was resolved, that the Senate do not advise and consent to the appointment of James Gadsden, to be Adjutant-General.

On motion, by Mr. Benton, resolved, that the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the facts, and inform the Senate, whether Col. Robert Butler has resigned, or refused to accept the place of Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel in the military peace establishment of the United States, and whether his resignation has been accepted.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1822.

The following written message was received from the President of the United States: To the Senate of the United States:

Having executed the act, entitled "An act to reduce and fix the military peace estab-

lishment of the United States," on great consideration, and according to my best judgment; and, referring from the rejection of the nomination of Col. Towson & Col. Gadsden, officers of very distinguished merit, that the view which I took of that law has not been well understood, I hereby withdraw all the nominations on which the Senate has not decided, until I can make a more full communication and explanation of that view, and of the principles on which I have acted, in the discharge of that very delicate and important duty.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, March 26, 1822.

The message was read.

(Proceedings to be continued.)

MR. WILLIAMS'S CIRCULAR.

To the Citizens of the Thirteenth Congressional District of N. Carolina.

FELLOW CITIZENS—The recognition of the independent governments of Mexico and South America, is an event calculated to distinguish the present as an important era in the history of our country. There is no reason, either physical or moral, which should hold the people of America in dependence upon those of Europe. The United States, settled at first principally by emigrants from England, remained subject to the mother country, till causes too well known to require comment, impelled them to separate. In like manner, the colonies of South America have depended on old Spain, till they also, in imitation of our example, have found it necessary to dissolve the connexion. In their progress to independence, the United States have felt a lively interest.—It was natural and proper we should do so, for the people of that country have been operated upon by causes analogous to those which induced us to assert our rights. Mutual interests and sympathetic feelings have been thus excited from the commencement of their struggle to the present time. But the government of the United States, from considerations which were deemed of a paramount nature, did not think it prudent to make an acknowledgement of their independence, while a doubt of the fact could exist. This difficulty, however, being removed, the President no longer hesitated as to the course to be pursued; and, accordingly, on the 8th of March, in a message to the House of Representatives, he recommended the recognition of the independent governments before mentioned. The message was referred to the committee on foreign affairs, to whom such subjects properly appertain. The committee, after mature deliberation, reported unanimously, in favor of the measure, and the house adopted it by an unprecedented majority.

There is a fitness in one republic recognizing the existence of another, in any portion of the globe; but it is peculiarly proper in this case, for the people of the south are Americans inhabiting the same continent as ourselves;—attaining to independence by the same patient, persevering and patriotic efforts. Between two such people there ought to be the greatest friendship and good will. As evidence of the existence of such sentiments on our part, we find the message of the President has been received with unusual applause throughout the country. Some indeed of our ablest politicians think the measure ought to have been sooner adopted. Whatever honest diversity of opinion may have heretofore existed on this point, there is no longer any necessity for its continuance, since our government has taken the step so much desired by all.—Perhaps no proposition, equally important, ever had such undivided support in Congress. The republics of the new world will now form a counterpoise to the monarchies of the old; and it is to be hoped, the late events in South America, connected with our own memorable revolution, will give additional impulse to the cause of freedom in every country. In this view of the case, the recognition of those governments becomes a matter of singular interest, of transcendent consequence both to us and to them,—to us who were the vanguard in a great conflict for liberty; to them who followed and terminated the victory.

It requires but little fore-sight to observe that the governments of the old world tend to reformation, and that mankind even there may indulge the hope for a better state of things. The people of old Spain were formerly considered the most wretched, and their government the most despotic, of any in civilized Europe. But they have recently undergone an important change. Instead of an absolute monarchy, the people have in a good degree, asserted their rights, and confided the powers of the nation to a Cortes, a body of men somewhat resembling our Congress or other legislative assemblies, in the several states. The right of the people to govern themselves, is there perhaps better maintained than in any other country, except in the independent states of North and South America. The immediate cause of that revolution was an unwillingness in the subjects of the mother country to engage in war for the reduction of the colonies. Hence it is inferred that old Spain will view (as she ought to

view) with a favorable eye, the recognition of the independence of South America.

Symptoms of the same desire to govern themselves have been manifested by the people of other countries. In Naples the late attempt to establish free government, proved unsuccessful by the unhallowed interposition of the powers forming what they impiously call "The Holy Alliance." The flame of liberty may be there stifled for a while, but it is not extinguished, and will burst forth again on the first suitable occasion, with renewed splendor and with bitter effect. The Greeks, the most renowned people of antiquity "both in arts and in arms," have risen against the Turks who have held them for centuries past in degraded and slavish subjection. This contest seems likely to put in motion the gigantic power of Russia, which proffers to aid and succour the Greeks.—We, who have the happiness to live under the benign influence of a free government; created and administered by ourselves, can have only a faint idea of the oppression endured by the Greeks, and it must be satisfactory to behold Russia taking an interest in their defence;—"Man kind cannot be in a worse condition than under the odious, the abominable tyranny of the Turks; and should no other change be practicable, it would be a great point gained by the Greeks if they could be transferred to Russia. Such an event would strengthen the cause of free government in proportion as the political condition even of the Russians is better than that of the Turks." But we have reason to hope the work of reformation would not end at that point, for the mind of man needs only to be put in motion, to have an impulse to freedom, to produce the most beneficial results. No one, for example, could have imagined that the march of free principles would be so rapid as it has been since the declaration of our independence in 1776. Any people accustomed to resist the practice of tyranny upon others, will, in time, resist that practice upon themselves. Russia, therefore, must be influenced by the principles she is engaged in teaching to the Greeks, and will, at last, notwithstanding the nature of her own institutions, become a convert to more liberal doctrines.

In my last communication, it was deemed expedient to mention, somewhat in detail, the reasons which have uniformly influenced a wish on my part, that our government should adopt a wholesome economy in administering its finances. At the session before the last, a saving in our expenditure was made, amounting to 2,209,556 dollars; and at the last session a further saving of 2,593,517 dollars;—so that the entire saving effected in those two years, was upwards of 4,800,000 dollars. In consequence of these measures, the President was enabled at the beginning of the session to inform Congress, that "under the influence of the most unfavorable circumstances, the revenue for this and subsequent years to the year 1825, would exceed the demands authorized by law." But had not Congress wisely adopted those measures, instead of a sufficient revenue, there would now be a deficiency of more than 4,600,000 dollars, to meet which, we must have borrowed more money or imposed taxes;—either of these alternatives should be carefully avoided, unless made necessary to sustain the credit of the nation. As the greatest revenue will be insufficient if used extravagantly, so a revenue comparatively small, will answer every purpose if it is frugally expended. The economy which it is thus incumbent on us to practice, should not be momentary only, but uniform and uninterrupted. At the last session there was a difference of opinion as to the extent to which this system should be enforced. Some thought, we should lop off only the most prominent branches of expenditure; others considered it better at once to retrench, with moderation it is true, but yet with efficiency, and save all we could to meet unforeseen contingent or distant demands as they might arise. A sort of medium between the two opinions was determined on as the most judicious course at that time. But at the present session it has been found necessary to take up the subject again, and proportion our measures to a system of expenditure, yet more economical. If this plan were carried to a greater extent than is proposed, or is likely to be adopted, it would have been far preferable to loans, exchange of stocks, or any other scheme which could have been devised. A further reduction, however, will probably be effected at this session, amounting in the several branches of expenditure, to about one million of dollars.

While reducing the expenses of the Navy, by lessening the number of useless officers, it is proposed on the other hand to raise the rank of those kept in service, by creating one Rear-admiral and five Commodores. But it seems to me this is quite inexpedient in time of peace,—if ever necessary, it could be so only in time of war, and then it ought to be proposed as a boon for him, who with an equal or inferior force should gain the first victory over the enemy. Thus offered, the rank of Admiral might be of service to the country, and would certainly confer renown on him who should be the first to acquire it. But judging from the conduct of our officers and