

Nineteenth Congress of the U. S.
SECOND SESSION.

Monday, Dec. 4.... This being the day established for the annual meeting of Congress, the members who had reached Washington City, assembled in their respective Chambers.

SENATE.

The Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN, Vice-President of the United States, took the Chair at 12 o'clock; and the roll being called, it appeared that there were 37 members present. The usual formalities with the House of Representatives were interchanged; and Messrs. Smith and Macon were chosen a Joint Committee on the part of the Senate, to wait on the President of the U. S. and inform him that the two Houses were ready to proceed to business.

Mr. Hayne of South-Carolina, gave notice that he should, on Wednesday next, ask leave to introduce "a bill to establish a uniform system of Bankruptcy throughout the United States."

And then the Senate adjourned until next day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

At 12 o'clock, the House was called to order by the Hon. JOHN W. TAYLOR, of New-York, Speaker of the House. The roll being called over, 173 members answered to their names. After appointing a Joint Committee to wait on the President; adopting the usual orders for newspapers, &c. the House adjourned.

The President of the United States transmitted, this day, to both Houses of Congress the following

MESSAGE:

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the H. of Representatives:

The assemblage of the Representatives of our Union in both Houses of Congress at this time occurs under circumstances calling for the renewed homage of our grateful acknowledgements to the Giver of all Good. With the exceptions incidental to the most felicitous condition of human existence, we continue to be highly favored in all the elements which contribute to individual comfort and to national prosperity. In the survey of our extensive country, we have generally to observe abodes of health and regions of plenty. In our civil and political relations, we have peace without and tranquility within, our borders. We are, as a people, increasing with unabating rapidity in population, wealth, and national resources; and, whatever difference of opinion exist among us, with regard to the mode and the means by which we shall turn the beneficence of Heaven to the improvement of our own condition, there is yet a spirit, animating us all, which will not suffer the bounties of Providence to be showered upon us in vain, but will receive them with grateful hearts, and apply them with unwearied hands, to the advancement of the general good.

Of the subjects recommended to the consideration of Congress at their last Session, some were then definitively acted upon. Others left unfinished, but partly matured, will recur to your attention, without needing a renewal of notice from me. The purpose of this communication will be, to present to your view the general aspect of our public affairs at this moment, and the measures which have been taken to carry into effect the intentions of the Legislature as signified by the laws then and heretofore enacted.

In our intercourse with the other nations of the earth, we have

still the happiness of enjoying peace and a general good understanding—qualified, however, in several important instances, by collisions of interest, and by unsatisfied claims of justice, to the settlement of which, the constitutional interposition of the legislative authority may become ultimately indispensable.

[The President then refers to the decease of the late Emperor of Russia, in whom the United States lost a long tried, steady and faithful friend; the confidential interchange of sentiments with him, respecting the South American Republics, left to the other governments of Europe no alternative, but that of sooner or later acknowledging their independence. Satisfactory assurances have been received, that the reigning Emperor's sentiments are conformable to those of his predecessor.

Our commercial relations with France are in a state of gradual and progressive improvement: the claims of our citizens upon the French government for spoiliations, remain unadjusted.

The government of the Netherlands have resumed the discriminating duties upon vessels, in an indirect form; and the Act of Congress of the 7th January, 1824, relative to the abandonment of discriminating duties on Netherland vessels, is recommended to the consideration of Congress.

During the last session of Congress, treaties of amity, navigation and commerce, with Denmark and Central America, upon the principles of equality and reciprocity in their broadest and most liberal extent, were signed at Washington; and have since been ratified by the contracting parties.

Our relations of friendly intercourse with all the European powers, have not materially varied since the last session of Congress; excepting our commercial intercourse with the colonial possessions of Great Britain, in America. The British government claims exclusive possession of their trade, and declines negotiating about it; this refusal leaves the United States no other alternative than that of regulating, or interdicting altogether, the trade on their part...the whole subject is recommended to the calm deliberation of Congress.

The Commissioners under the 7th article of the treaty of Ghent, have nearly closed their labors. The Commission for liquidating the claims of indemnity for slaves carried away after the close of the war, has been sitting, with doubtful prospects of success.

With the American governments of this hemisphere, our friendly and commercial relations are in a continual state of improvement. The result of the first meeting of the Ministers at the Congress at Panama, has confirmed the President in the conviction of the expediency to the United States of being represented there. The surviving member of the U. States mission has proceeded to his destination; and a successor to the other distinguished and lamented member, who died on his way to the Isthmus, will be nominated to the Senate.

Our fiscal concerns are less exuberantly prosperous than they were at the corresponding period of last year. The net revenue of the present year will not equal that of the last; and the receipts of that which is to come, will fall short of those in the current year. More than eleven millions have been applied during the present year to the discharge of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States, and the capital debt has been reduced upwards of seven millions. The balance in the Treasury, on the first of January last, was \$5,201,650 43 cts. The expences of the year, amounting to upwards of a million less than its income, will leave a balance in the Treasury, on the first of January, 1827, of \$6,400,000. The estimated receipts of the coming year, will fall short of the whole expences of the present year, little more than the portion of those expenditures applied to the discharge of the public debt, beyond the annual appropriation of ten millions, by the Act of third March, 1817. At the passage of that Act, the public debt amounted to

one hundred and twenty-three millions and a half; on the first of January next, it will be short of seventy-four millions. Some considerations offered respecting the ebb and flow of our revenue, and a recommendation to use the most vigilant economy, and of resorting to all honorable and useful expedients, for pursuing with steady and inflexible perseverance the total discharge of the debt.

A suggestion is made whether some further legislative provision may not be necessary, to come in aid of the state of unguarded security, in the collection of the revenue of impost, which certain occurrences in one or two of our principal ports, within the last year have disclosed.

The reports of the Secretaries of War, and of the Navy, discover the present condition and administration of our land and naval forces. The army is found adequate to all the purposes for which in time of peace it can be needed or useful; and reference is made to the other duties of the War Department, viz: the erection of fortifications; pay of Revolutionary pensioners; our relations with the Indian tribes; internal improvement, embracing surveys for the location of Roads and Canals. The Report of the Board of Engineers, respecting a communication between the tide waters of the Potomac, the Ohio, and Lake Erie, is prepared, and will forthwith be laid before Congress. The Report of the Board of Officers, convened to prepare a complete system of Cavalry tactics for the U. S. is also submitted for consideration.

The Navy of the U. S. at present consists of twelve line-of-battle ships, twenty frigates, and sloops of war in proportion. It may not be necessary or expedient to add for the present any more to the number of ships; but if the yearly appropriation for the gradual increase of the Navy is continued, it may be profitably expended in providing a supply of timber to be seasoned, and other materials for use; in the construction of docks; or in laying the foundations of a School for Naval Education, as Congress may think proper. The small portions of our Navy engaged in actual service, have been usefully employed.

The Report of the Postmaster General is highly satisfactory. The revenue of the Office, even of the year including the latter half of 1824, and the first half of 1825, had exceeded its expenditures more than \$45,000; that of the succeeding year has been still more productive; the excess of the receipts over the expences of the year, has swollen from \$45,000 to nearly \$80,000. During the same period, contracts for additional transportation of the mail in stages, for about two hundred and sixty thousand miles have been made, and for seventy thousand miles annually, on horseback. 714 new Post-Offices have been established within the year, and the increase of revenue within the last three years, as well as the augmentation of the transportation by mail, is more than equal to the whole amount of receipts, and of mail conveyance, at the commencement of the present century.

The land titles derived by individuals from the governments of France and Spain, in Louisiana and Florida, are recommended to Congress, for speedy adjustment.

A selection has been made of a site for a county Jail in Alexandria, and the building of a Penitentiary for the District has been commenced; the expediency of maturing a system for the regulation of the Penitentiary is suggested.

The President concludes as follows:]

In closing this communication, I trust that it will not be deemed inappropriate to the occasion and purposes upon which we are here assembled, to indulge a momentary retrospect, combining, in a single glance, the period of our origin as a National Confederation with that of our present existence, at the precise interval of half a century from each other. Since your last meeting at this place, the Fiftieth Anniversary of the day when our Independence was declared, has been celebrated thro-

out our land: and on that day, when every heart was bounding with joy, and every voice was tuned to gratulation, amid the blessings of Freedom and Independence, which the sires of a former age had handed down to their children, two of the principal actors in that solemn scene, the hand that penned the ever-memorable Declaration, and the voice that sustained it in debate, were, by one summons, at the distance of seven hundred miles from each other, called before the Judge of all, to account for their deeds done upon earth. They departed, cheered by the benedictions of their country, to whom they left the inheritance of their fame, and the memory of their bright example. If we turn our thoughts to the condition of their country, in the contrast of the first and last day of that half century, how resplendent and sublime is the transition from gloom to glory! Then, glancing through the same lapse of time, in the conditions of the individuals, we see the first day marked with the fulness and vigor of youth, in the pledge of their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, to the cause of freedom and of mankind. And on the last, extended on the bed of death, with but sense and sensibility left to breathe a last aspiration to Heaven of blessing upon their country; may we not humbly hope that to them, too, it was a pledge of transition from gloom to glory; and that, while their mortal vestments were sinking into the clod of the valley, their emancipated spirits were ascending to the bosom of their God!

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.
Washington, Dec. 5, 1826.



Carborough,

TUESDAY, DEC. 12, 1826.

Religious.—We are requested to state, that the Rev. W. M. J. NEWBORN will preach the FUNERAL SERMON of Drury Young, dec'd, on Thursday, the 21st inst. at the residence of Mrs. Atkinson, in Halifax County.

Also, the Rev. R. T. DANIEL will preach in this place, on Sunday 31st inst.

President's Message....In consequence of our inability to lay this important state paper entire before our readers, we have given as copious an abstract as our limited columns will permit.

No Foreign News....European advices to the 26th October, have been received in our northern cities. The extracts given are unimportant.

The Fall Races over the Scotland Neck Course, commenced on Tuesday, 28th ult.

First Day....The Jockey Club Purse, \$200, two mile heats—taken by Mr. West's b. m. Margaret Green, without opposition.

Second Day....The balance of the Jockey Club Purse, \$150, two mile heats:
Mr. West's s. h. Ugly John, 1 1
Mr. Bullock's b. f. Molly Walk-in, 2 2
Time—first heat, (dead heat,) 3 min. 58 sec.; second heat, 4m. 1s.; third heat, 4m. 8s.

Third Day....Proprietor's Purse, \$100, one mile heats: