

CONGRESSIONAL.

IN SENATE.

December 14, 1825.

The following Petitions were presented, and severally referred:

By Mr. Hendricks, the memorial of the General Assembly of Indiana, suggesting the expediency of authorizing, by law, all those persons who suffered a forfeiture incurred prior to the act for the relief of purchasers of public lands, passed in 1821, to apply the amount paid to the purchase of other lands; and, of reducing the price of certain public lands within that state, of an inferior quality.

Also, the Preamble & Resolution of the General Assembly of said State, instructing their Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their exertions in obtaining an extension of the laws passed for the relief of purchasers of public lands, to all holders of certificates who failed to file their application for extended credit; so that they, or their legal representatives, be allowed to apply the instalments paid, in the same manner, and with the same privileges, that they could now do, if they had filed their application for credit with the Register of their respective land districts.

Also, the petition of Margaret Sconce, stating that, before her husband's death, a quarter section of land was purchased, on which one payment was made; since his death she has been unable to complete the payment, and could not, under existing laws, obtain any title: she therefore prays that a title may be granted to her for the quarter section, or a perfect title for that portion which had been paid for.

By Mr. Hendricks, the petition of David Whelchels, stating that he served during the Revolutionary war as an officer of Militia, but was not entitled to a pension, and praying that he may receive the donation of public lands.

Mr. Benton submitted also the following:

Resolved, That a Select Committee be appointed, with instructions to enquire into the expediency of amending the Constitution of the United States, so as to provide for the election of President and Vice President, by a direct vote of the people in Districts.

The Senate then proceeded to consider the following resolution, submitted by Mr. Lloyd, of Massachusetts yesterday:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the navy be directed to cause to be laid before the Senate, the proceedings and judgment of the Court of Inquiry in relation to the employment of the squadron under Com. Porter, for the suppression of piracy in the West Indies, and the transportation of specie, in vessels of the U. States, during the years 1823 and 1824, and, also, the proceedings of the Court Martial in reference to the transactions of Foxardo.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion of Mr. Test, of Indiana, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on the Public Lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reviving the law of the 18th of May, 1824, providing "for the extinguishment of the debt due to the United States by the purchasers of public lands," with an amendment to the same, allowing a discount of 37 1-2 per centum as well on money previously paid as the balance to be paid, so as to prevent, as far as consistent with justice and sound policy, erroneous forfeitures from accruing to the Government.

On motion of Mr. Moore, of Alabama, it was

Resolved, That the Committee of Public Lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adopting some provision which may secure to the persons in possession of public lands the benefit of the crop growing at the time of sale; and, also, to grant to those who may have relinquished lands under the laws heretofore passed, the pre-emption right in becoming the purchaser of those lands at the price such lands may have been originally sold for.

Mr. Buchanan, of P. offered the following, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be directed to lay before this House, the proceedings of the late Court Martial, in relation to the case of Commodore Porter.

IN SENATE.

DECEMBER 15.

Mr. Kane submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That so much of the President's Message as relates to the erection of a Monument to commemorate the great events of the military and political life of Gen. Washington, be referred to a Select Committee, and that the said committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Noble, from the Committee of Pensions, reported, without amendment, the bill "granting a pension to Clark McFerrin," (late a soldier in the army, who, in an alleged fit of derangement, wandered, or deserted, from the military post into the woods, and there, and in consequence, became so much disabled by the effects of cold, as rendered the amputation of a limb, and his consequent

discharge, necessary.) The bill was taken up, in Committee of the Whole, when Mr. Noble moved that the amount of pension be fourteen dollars a month; on which motion a debate took place between Messrs. Noble, Eaton, Chase, Chandler, Mills, and Harrison, on the merit of granting a pension in a doubtful case. Mr. Chandler moved eight dollars as the amount of pension, in favor of which, Mr. Noble withdrew the motion of fourteen dollars. Mr. Miles moved the recommitment of the bill, that the facts of the case might be ascertained and reported. This motion prevailed, and the bill was recommitted accordingly.

The Senate then proceeded to consider the following resolution, submitted yesterday by Mr. Benton:

Resolved, That a Select Committee be appointed, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of amending the Constitution of the United States, so as to provide for the election of President and Vice President, by a direct vote of the people, in districts.

Which resolution after some debate, was referred to a Select Committee, with instructions to report the best mode of electing President and Vice President of the United States.

DECEMBER 19.

Messrs. Benton, Van Buren, Dickerson, Holmes, Johnson of Ken., Hayne, Macon, White & Findlay, were appointed a Committee to amend the Constitution of the United States.

Agreeably to notice, Mr. Dickerson asked, and having obtained leave, introduced the following resolution; which was read, and passed to a second reading:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled two thirds of both Houses concurring, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the U. States be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States; and, which, when, ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution.

"No person who shall have been elected President of the U. States a second time, shall again be eligible to that office."

Mr. Cobb submitted the following Resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee appointed on Thursday last to inquire into the expediency of amending the Constitution of the United States, in relation to the mode of electing President and Vice President, be further instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the Constitution as to prohibit the appointment of any Senators or Representatives in Congress to any office of honor, trust, or profit, under the authority of the United States, during the period for which such Senators and Representatives shall have been elected.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Mr. Kane's resolution, relative to the erection of a Monument to General Washington and agreed thereto.

H. OF REPRESENTATIVES.

CONGRESS OF PANAMA.

The following resolutions offered on a previous day by Mr. Hamilton, of South Carolina, came up for consideration:

Resolved, That the President of the U. States be requested to transmit to this House copies of all such documents, or parts of correspondence, (not incompatible with the public interests to be communicated,) relating to an invitation which has been extended to the Government of this country "by the Republics of Colombia, of Mexico, and of Central America, to join in the deliberations of the Congress to be held at the Isthmus of Panama," and which has induced him to signify to the House, that "Ministers, on the part of the United States, will be commissioned to join in those deliberations."

Mr. Hamilton said, that, since the meeting of the House this morning, he had been informed, by an honorable Member, whose official station gave him the best means of information, that it was the intention of the President, in due time, to communicate to the House all the papers connected with the call embraced in the resolution now on the table. He would, therefore, postpone, for the present, inviting the House to consider, reserving to himself, nevertheless, the privilege of calling it up at a future period, should he conceive it necessary.

Suppression of the Slave Trade.

Mr. Forsyth, of Georgia, offered the following, which lies one day of course:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House copies of such portions of correspondence between the United States and Great Britain, on the subject of the Convention for suppressing the Slave Trade, as have not heretofore been, and which can be communicated without detriment to the public interest.

On motion of Mr. Boon, of Indiana, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of a further

extension of the act of Congress, approved May 26, 1824, the provisions of which authorize the State of Indiana to survey and mark through the public land of the United States, the route of a Canal by which to connect the navigation of the rivers Wabash and Miami, of Lake Erie; and to inquire into the expediency of providing for an additional reservation from sale of the public lands through which the route aforesaid is proposed to run.

And then, on motion of Mr. McCoy, the House adjourned.

IN SENATE.

DECEMBER 20.

Petitions were presented by Messrs. Johnson, of Kentucky, Hendricks, Noble, Marks, Thomas, Mills, Barton, and Williams, and were severally referred.

Mr. Noble, from the Committee on Pensions, to whom was re-committed the bill "for the relief of Clark McFerrin," made a report thereon; which was read.

Mr. Van Buren submitted the following motion for consideration:

Resolved, That Congress does not possess the power to make Roads and Canals within the respective States.

Resolved, That a select committee be appointed, with instructions to prepare and report a Joint Resolution, for an amendment of the Constitution, prescribing and defining the power Congress shall have over the subject of Internal Improvements, and subjecting the same to such restrictions as shall effectually protect the sovereignty of the respective States, and secure to them a just distribution of the benefits resulting from all appropriations made for that purpose.

Indiana Legislature.

IN SENATE.

SATURDAY, DEC. 17.

The Senate, in committee of the whole, took up the joint resolution relative to purchasers of public lands, to which some amendments were made, and the resolution was ordered to be read a third time on Monday next.

The engrossed joint resolution relative to purchasers of public lands, was read a third time and passed, Mr. Pennington alone voted in the negative.

Mr. Oliver asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill, to repeal the law giving justices of the peace power to levy a poll tax. Read and ordered to a second reading to-morrow.

H. OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, December 16th, 1825.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Jackson presented a petition of George H. Dunn, and others of Dearborn county, praying that further power may be given to the commissioners on the state road leading from Lawrenceburgh to Indianapolis; which was read and referred to a select committee of Messrs. Jackson, Guion and Pepper.

Mr. Pepper from the select committee to whom was referred the petition of Annanah Rollins and John Dixon, reported a bill for the relief of revolutionary soldiers, which was read the first time and passed to a second reading to-morrow.

Mr. Stanford, after having obtained leave presented a bill to amend the act entitled "an act regulating crimes and punishments;" which was read the first time and passed to a second reading to-morrow.

The House proceeded to consider the orders of the day.

The bill for the relief of Gideon B. Hart late collector of Bartholomew county, was read the second time and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time to-morrow.

Tuesday, December 20th.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Keen, from the committee on the affairs of the town of Indianapolis, reported a bill making an appropriation for building a fire proof house, to contain the offices of the Secretary of State and Clerk of the Supreme Court, which was read the first time and passed to a second reading to-morrow.

Mr. Jackson, from the select committee to whom was referred the petition of George H. Dunn and others, of Dearborn county, reported a bill to authorize the commissioners on the state road from Lawrenceburgh to Indianapolis, to apply certain money therein named; which was read the first time and passed to a second reading to-morrow.

Mr. Lewis, of Franklin, was added to the select committee, to whom was referred that part of the Governor's message which relates to the establishment of a canal from Lawrenceburgh to Fort Wayne.

From BUENOS AYRES papers have been received, at New York, to the fifth ultimo, inclusive. A great battle was fought a short time previously, between a force of 2000 Brazilian cavalry, commanded by Colonel Dentos Manuel, and an equal force of the Monte Videans (or Banda Orientalists) under the command of Gen. Lavalleja, in which a decisive victory was gained by the latter. The Brazilian army sustained a loss of 400 men killed, and 470 taken prisoners, including 52 officers, with 2000 stand of arms, 10 pieces of artillery, &c. The loss of the Orientalists was comparatively small, amounting to thirty killed and seventy wounded.

INVASION OF CUBA.

SAVANNAH, DEC. 5.—The Editors of the Georgian have been favored with the following extract of a letter from Carthage. It is from an officer of note in the Colombian Navy, to his brother in this city.

CARTHAGENA, 23d Oct. 1825.

"I presume you have heard of the intended expedition fitting out at this place against the Island of Cuba, consisting of one 74, five frigates, six sloops of war, and a number of brigs, schooners, gun boats, &c. The number of troops will consist of from ten to twelve thousand, and it is generally believed, from the disaffected state of affairs, and revolutionary disposition of the inhabitants, that we will find an easy conquest, or at least we are sanguine to that effect. All that prevents our departure is being obliged to wait for the arrival of the two frigates from New York, which are daily expected."

"Thus, you see, I shall in a few days be on the field of action. I had obtained a furlough for the purpose of visiting the United States, when I received orders to proceed direct to Carthage, at which place I arrived with the squadron from Puerto Cabello, to reunite with the squadron against Cuba. The operations of the squadron are to be directed by Gen. Leno Clementi, Commodore Beluche, and myself. As yet I do not know what ship I will be on board of, but expect shall be given a preference to one of the new frigates, having understood that they will be superior to any vessels afloat, and equal in force to a 74, being intended to mount 64 guns of heavy calibre."

"This expected expedition must cause great uneasiness to the wealthy inhabitants of that rich and beautiful island, and I sincerely hope that they will not expose themselves to an useless and destructive warfare, for, as soon as the banner of Colombia is unfurled on their shores, there will be thousands to join her standard daily—but should they not accede to our proposals, doubtless that rich and fertile country will be laid waste to the ravages of war."

"We are making great preparations for the celebration of Bolivar's birth day, on the 28th instant, which it is believed will excel anything in brilliancy given here since the possession by the Colombians. There is already upwards of \$10,000 for a dinner, ball, and supper, which will be extremely gratifying to the feelings of the community, not only from its being the birth-day of the illustrious Bolivar, but the entrance on that day of Pedro Gaul, Esq. with other diplomatic characters, who are on their way to meet the Ministers and Delegates of the North and South Republics, at a General Congress at Panama."

"South America must become the emporium of trade, and young men of gentle and liberal education cannot do otherwise than rise to fortune, especially if speaking the language and writing well."

"There has just this moment arrived a splendid 64 gun ship from Swedeland, sold to this Government, with a complement of 6000 men. She is a fine ship in appearance, and will augment our force greatly. We are momentarily expecting a frigate from England for this Government, and we shall be here some time yet before we sail."

The ensuing description of singular edifices, is taken from the account of an embassy sent in 1463, from Henry III King of Castile, to Tartary.

"And without the said town were two towers, as high as a man could throw a stone, made of clay and men's heads; with other two towers, which had fallen to the ground; & the heads of which the towers were made, were those of some tribes called White Tartars, who were natives of a country between Turkey & Suria. Now, when Tamerlane departed from Sebastria, which he had entered, and went to Damascus, which when he had destroyed, he found in his way this race of people, and, giving them battle, overthrew them, and took many of them prisoners, whom he sent to the land of Damogan, that they might dwell and multiply therein, as the said land was thinly peopled. Whereupon they travelled thither, and gathering themselves together, lived as they used to do in the fields, and as soon as they had all united, as it were, in one body, they wished to return to their own country, upon which they set to rob and to ravage whatever they found in their way, and proceed as far as they could towards their home. But being still near the said city, they were overtaken by the host of their Lord, Tamerlane, which routed them, and killed them as many as there could be found; and their Lord did then order, that their heads should be made the said four towers, which was done accordingly, by building them with one layer of heads and another of clay. And moreover, Tamerlane caused to be proclaimed, that whoever took a White Tartar prisoner, should kill him wherever he might happen to be, and so it was done; for the troops, on learning this order, wherever they met, killed as many White Tartars as they could lay hold of, so that they were to be found along the coast, in one place ten, in another

er twenty in another thirty or forty dead bodies; in which way, as the Tartars say, more than sixty thousand were killed. And the people of this city declare, that many times during the night, lights are seen around the said towers."

THE GOOD LAFAYETTE.

Can there be found a single true American, who will begrudge his quota of the \$200,000 granted by Congress to this heroic Apostle of Liberty, who has fought for Freedom in two worlds—when he learns to what noble purposes the funds thus given have been applied? If there be any such, we envy not his feelings. Read the following, which is one of many instances of benevolence exhibited by this ornament to the age.

It was stated some months since, that General BARTON, the officer of the Revolution who captured Prescott on Long Island, was then, and had been for many years, the tenant of a jail, in Danville, in the state of Vermont.

We learn by the Danville, Vermont Star, of December 6, received yesterday, that while on board the Brandywine, General La Fayette wrote to General Fletchet, of Vermont, enclosing a draft, with a request that the sums for which Gen. Barton was confined should be paid. This request was complied with in a most delicate manner, and Barton now enjoys freedom. How is the name of La Fayette connected with all that is really great in public, & good in private life!

We learn from the Albany Daily Advertiser that the Canal tolls this season will amount to at least \$500,000. Last year the amount of tolls was \$389,120 8; thus giving an increase to this year of \$210,970 92.

The President's Message was conveyed from Washington to Baltimore, by express, a distance of 37 miles, in one hour and three quarters.

COUNTING-HOUSE ALMANACK.

For 1826—the 50th year of Independence.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				
February				1	2	3	4
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March				1	2	3	4
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April							1
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	30						
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June				1	2	3	
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July							1
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October		1	2	3	4	5	6
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November			1	2	3	4	
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December						1	2
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	31						

MAILS.

Western Mail arrives every Tuesday evening; departs same evening, 9 o'clock. Indianapolis Mail arrives every Wednesday evening; departs Thursday morning, 8 o'clock. Brookville Mail arrives every Wednesday evening; departs Thursday morning, 8 o'clock. Versailles Mail arrives every Sunday morning; departs Saturday morning. Petersburg Mail arrives Saturday; departs same day, 12 o'clock.