

Twentieth Congress:

SECOND SESSION.

December 10. In the Senate, to-day, Mr. SILLMAN's resolution for an inquiry into the expediency of abolishing the existing difference of two and a half per cent. between the duties on imported goods and the drawbacks allowed, &c., was agreed to. The memorial from sundry inhabitants of Alexandria, containing charges against a Justice of the Peace for the county of Alexandria, and praying for his removal, was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia. The bill for graduating the price of public lands, making provisions for actual settlers, &c. was read a second time and referred. Mr. Byland was elected Chaplain of the Senate for this session. The several subjects of the President's Message were referred to their appropriate Committees.

In the House of Representatives to-day, several bills were reported from the Committees of Ways and Means, the Territories and Claims, which were read and committed. Various resolutions were then offered. Among others, a resolution was offered by Mr. WEEMS, the object of which was to produce a re-investigation of the Tariff Law of the last session, with a view to the reporting of a bill which would be more acceptable in its provisions, to those sections of the Union which regard the existing law as unconstitutional. It was the intention of Mr. WEEMS to lay his resolution on the table for the present, and he made a motion to that effect; but Mr. MALLORY demanded the question for consideration, and Mr. TAYLOR asked for the Ayes and Noes on that question, which were accordingly ordered. The question on considering the resolution was then put, after the House had refused to permit Mr. WEEMS to withdraw it, and negatively by a vote of 122 to 51. The House then acted on several bills in Committee of the whole. The bill to extend the time for the allowance of drawback, and the bill to continue the present mode of supplying the army, were ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-day. The bill to increase the drawback on sugar refined in the United States was acted on in Committee, and reported without amendment, but its farther consideration was postponed till Monday. The bill relative to a Territorial Government in Huron was made the order of the day for Monday.

December 11. In the Senate, to-day, Mr. HAYNE presented a memorial from the Masters and Commandant of the United States navy, complaining of the impolicy of the laws regulating the pay of the officers of the navy. Mr. ROBBINS introduced a bill prescribing a mode of commencing, prosecuting, and deciding controversies arising between States; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Messrs. SANFORD, ROBBINS, and WOODBURY, were appointed members of the Joint Library Committee, on the part of the Senate. A special Committee on Roads and Canals was chosen by ballot.

In the House of Representatives, to-day, a number of resolutions were adopted; among others a resolution offered by Mr. SPRAGUE, requiring the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the sale of spirits to the army; and a resolution relative to the appropriation of the produce of sales of lands to the purposes of education, by Mr. VINTON. A resolution offered by Mr. LAWRENCE, referring it to the Post Office Committee to enquire into the expediency of prohibiting the transportation of the mail on the Sabbath day, was laid on the table on motion of Mr. BARNARD. Mr. BARTLETT offered a resolution for the printing of 4000 additional copies of the Annual Treasury Report; which, on motion of Mr. McDUFFIE, was laid on the table—Ayes 81, Noes 56. The bills relative to Drawback, ordered to be engrossed on Wednesday, were read a third time and passed. On motion of Mr. VANCE, the bill to continue the present mode of supplying the army was postponed till Monday. A bill to authorize the President to erect Military Store Houses at New York and New Orleans, was acted on in Committee, and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-day. A bill relative to the Northern boundary of Illinois was acted on in Committee, and laid on the table.

December 12. The House of Representatives was to-day occupied on Private bills during the short time it remained in Session. Several resolutions were offered and adopted, but none of them were of public interest. The House adjourned till Monday.

December 15. In the Senate, to-day, Mr. EATON introduced a Joint Resolution of 1819, relative to the election of a Printer to each House of Congress, so as to make a majority, instead of a plurality of votes, necessary to a choice. Mr. SILLMAN gave notice of his intention to introduce a Bill for the construction of a Breakwater at Nantucket.

In the House of Representatives, to-day, the resolutions laid on the table on Friday were taken up and agreed to, but the hour having been nearly consumed

by the offering of petitions, very few new resolutions were offered. The House then took up the Bill making a further allowance of drawback on Sugar refined in the United States, upon which some discussion took place, which was interrupted before and disposition of the Bill by a successful motion to adjourn.

December 16. In the Senate, to-day, Mr. NOBLE introduced two bills for pensioning certain soldiers and widows. Mr. WHITE's resolution referring it to the Committee of the Judiciary to digest and report some improvements in the United States Judiciary system, was agreed to.

In the House of Representatives, a great number of resolutions were offered yesterday, among which, one by Mr. HODGES, of Massachusetts, referring to the Committee of Ways and Means to enquire into the expediency of reducing the duty on Coffee, was rejected, by a vote of 70 to 47. Several petitions were presented from the North and East, praying for duties on auction sales. The House then resumed the consideration of the bill allowing an additional drawback on Sugar refined in the United States. Some further discussion took place, which terminated in the order for the engrossment of the bill for a third reading this day, by a vote of 117 to 71. Nat. Journal.

Indiana Legislature.

December 10. Not many subjects of a general nature have as yet been brought forward in either branch of the legislature. Since the elections have been disposed of, several important matters have been referred to appropriate committees. Amongst those which have been discussed are—An alteration in the militia laws—On abolishing the office of circuit prosecutors, and providing for a prosecutor in each county. This however was negative. The proposition to postpone the widow's claim of 100 dollars, till the decedent's debts are paid, was also rejected by a large majority. An additional Standing Committee has been created in the H. R. styled the Committee of Propositions and Grievances. Several inquiries have been instituted on propositions to amend the probate act, revenue laws, and the law of descents. A joint resolution has passed both houses and been approved by the Gov. giving the canal commissioners time until next Saturday to make their report.

December 13. But few important subjects have been finally acted on in the Senate. A bill has been reported by the Judiciary committee, providing for two additional Circuits, and for increasing the number of terms in each county, which will probably pass the Senate. They have determined, as will be seen by the proceedings, to grant no divorces, which will it is presumed put an end to applications of that sort. A joint resolution for the removal of the Pension Office from Corydon to Indianapolis, has been postponed indefinitely, which will perhaps settle that question for the present. A bill has been engrossed for a third reading, and will probably pass, for the formation of the county of Cass. A joint resolution on the subject of the right of the state to soil within its limits, will pass by a large majority. On this subject there is some difference of opinion, whether it ought to be demanded as a right, or asked as a favor. The subject of allowing additional representation to the frontier counties has been agitated, and referred to the Judiciary committee to report by bill or otherwise. Some members have constitutional scruples against increasing the representation, except at the times provided for new apportionments. The fate of the measure is uncertain. Nothing however, but constitutional scruples will prevent its adoption. Some bills and joint resolutions have been passed, for which see proceedings. An effort will be made to amend the militia law.

In the House, on Wednesday, a resolution declaring the legislature had no power to grant divorces, was argued at great length. The resolution was not adopted.—On Thursday the committee of ways and means, reported against the expediency of adopting at present the ad valorem system of taxation, with which the house concurred. The bill to amend the act concerning the Secretary of State, was also lost. The bill for the continuation of the Michigan road to the Ohio river, was among the orders of the day for this day (Saturday), but for want of time not taken up. It will probably come up in a few days: the point on the Ohio is left blank. The canal commissioners this day reported a long and detailed report; 2000 copies are ordered to be printed. It is expected the select committee on the subject of the public domain, will report in a few days. Several private bills have passed the House.

December 17. In the Senate, no bills of much general importance have been passed since our last publication. Neither the Canal nor the Michigan Road question has, as yet, occupied the attention of the Senate. The report of the Canal Commissioners was made to the Senate this day, and it is presumed it

will be acted on as speedily as possible. A bill amendatory to the act regulating the election of members of Congress, which had passed the House of Representatives, was this day passed in the Senate, with an amendment providing that the next election for Representatives in Congress shall take place in 1831 and biennially thereafter; so that, if this amendment shall receive the sanction of the other House, members will hereafter be elected the August immediately preceding the winter they take their seats. A bill amendatory of the act relative to crime and punishment has been engrossed for a third reading. It proposes several alterations and amendments to the old law, among which is one authorizing the infliction of stripes. The bill providing for additional Circuits, was in committee of the whole this afternoon, and but little progress was made, the members disagreeing in the details. The fate of the bill is very uncertain. Many local and private bills, (perhaps more than usual during the first two weeks of the session) have been passed; and justice requires us to remark that a praiseworthy disposition to dispatch business, is manifested by the Senate.

In the House, on Monday, the Judiciary Committee reported a Bill, declaratory of the powers of Juries. Also a Bill, changing Congressional elections, so as to avail ourselves of the increased representation, so soon as the census is taken. Mr. Levenworth, Chairman of the select Committee on the question of eminent domain, reported a joint resolution, preceded by a preamble of great length, asserting the title of the public lands in the State: 500 copies were ordered to be printed. The House spent the whole of Monday and Thursday afternoons in Committee of the whole, on the Michigan road bill. No progress was made toward filling up the blank. A Bill has passed the House to repeal the law respecting fugitives from labour. The Canal Committee has not yet reported. Ind. Journal.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

There has been a great meeting in the county of Kent on the subject of Catholic emancipation, at which certain measures for the support of the established church were carried by a large majority. Shee, Shiel, Hunt, Cobbett, and many other prominent liberals were present and addressed the meeting, which was very turbulent. Various movements of different corps of troops in Ireland are announced.

FRANCE.

Sixty or eighty clerks employed in the arrival department of the post office at Paris, have been seized by the police, and all their private letters, &c. taken possession of by the officers.

RUSSIA, TURKEY, &c.

Varna has at last fallen into the possession of the Russians. This event occurred on the 11th of October; its fall is attributed by some to treachery; but it appears that a body of Russian troops succeeded on the 7th of Oct. in penetrating to the heart of the city, which was effected by a passage opened in consequence of the springing of a mine, and notwithstanding they were compelled to retire, the Turks concluded they were no longer safe within the walls and proposed to capitulate. At the period the Russians effected an entry into the city, a general attack was made by the troops without, and so great was the consternation, that Jussuf Pacha himself was the first to command his followers to lay down their arms without stipulation of any kind. The captain Pacha and a few followers, threw themselves into the citadel, but were soon made prisoners; or, according to another version, permitted to retire by taking the road to Pravati, or embarking at Bourgas.

From the accounts of the prisoners it is conjectured that the garrison of Varna, with the armed inhabitants, amounted in the beginning to at least 22,000 men; at the time of the surrender, they numbered but 6,000.

Choumla is still besieged, and in Little Walachia the Turks have been defeated. The campaign may be said to have closed, but the Russians appear to be making vigorous preparations for the ensuing season: The sultan having taken the field, he cannot return to the capital, according to the custom of his predecessors, without bringing peace, & hence we may infer that the war will be soon terminated, either by negotiation or the sword.

The Allgemeine Zeitung gives a Constantinople date of September 25th, which says, that the porte has given an answer to the last demand of the powers, which has been sent to Corfu; and that notwithstanding the favor of Providence shown to his arms he was willing to negotiate on the basis mentioned, and wished to see the ambassadors at Constantinople.

The new levy in Russia had excited great enthusiasm.

There has not been that general yielding of the fortresses in the Morea, heretofore stated; some of them were

besieged, and cannon, &c. forwarded from France to reduce them. The French are suffering for the want of provisions.

BUENOS AYRES AND BRAZIL.

The treaty of peace between these two governments, has caused great rejoicings among the people of Buenos Ayres. The commissioners who arrived with the news were hailed with loud and repeated vivas.

The Brazilian blockade was raised on the 30th Sept. previous to which the squadron captured the brig Hussar, of Baltimore, and burned her to the water's edge; and committed some outrages upon an English ship. A Brazilian consul had arrived at Buenos Ayres, and a great number of vessels from various ports. A body of Buenos Ayrean troops have had an engagement with some chilian Indians, which caused a trifling loss on both sides.

William B. Giles has been re-elected Governor of Virginia, without any regular opposition.

TREASURER'S REPORT,

Submitted to the legislature on the 3d inst.

Amount in the treasury, December 1, 1827, \$19,153 24

Receipts from that time to the 30th Nov. 1828, inclusive:

From the revenue assessed for 1822, \$306 25
" 1823, 683 34
" 1824, 323 90
" 1825, 225 98
" 1826, 875 10
" 1827, 24,491 31
" 1828, 2,720 32

From assessments not previously reported to auditor, 103 43

Total revenue \$29,736 14

Penalties on collectors for default in payment, 93 38

From A. Campbell, superintendent French Lick, 100 00

Fines on persons scrupulous of bearing arms, 174 40

From sales of lots in Indianapolis, 4,104 85

From sales of seminary lands, 8,087 87

From administrator of B. McAughey, who left no heirs, 23 04

Interest paid in advance on loans of seminary funds, 1,007 40

Total receipts, \$43,321 08

Making in all, \$62,474 32

Expenditures during the above period:

For printing for last legislature, and paper, &c. for present, 2,901 67

Contingent expenses, 309 15

State library, 75 38

Expenses of last legislature:

Pay and mileage of members, \$9,510 35

Pay of Clerks, & door-keepers, 1,311 00

Salaries of adjutant & quarter master general, 80 25

Do. of executive officers, 2,482 53

Do. of judiciary, 6,063 20

Do. of Prosecutors, 818 58

Premiums for wolf scalps, 400 00

Expenses of presidential electors, 160 00

Do. of state prison, 315 04

House rent for governor, 161 00

Specific appropriations for state library, 100 00

For stationary for last legislature, 265 51

Special allowances, 699 74

Making the ordinary expenses of the state, 25,684 33

Allowances from seminary funds, 261 39

Salary of superintendent and books for loan office, 82 55

Interest paid the president state seminary, 652 50

Interest on treasury notes, 1 41

Treasury notes burnt, 41 00

Salary and allowance to agent Indianapolis, 287 16

Auditor's per centum, 25 97

Paid on appropriation for governor's house, 850 00

Do. on road & canal fund, 5,850 00

Salary of agent at Fr. lick, 100 00

Appropriations for boring, 500 00

Loans made to sundry persons from seminary fund, 16,750 00

Leaving a balance in the treasury of 11,348 01

\$62,474 32

Of appropriation for the Wabash canal there is undern 1,300 00
Judiciary claims not audited 1,400 00
Executive " " 100 00
Prosecutors " " 325 00
Adjutant and quarter master generals, 75 00
Agent for Indianapolis, 100 00
Appropriations for improving Laughey, 250 00

Total, \$6,357 34

Which, when paid, would leave in the treasury 5,090 67

The ordinary expenses of the current year may be estimated at \$26,000. In addition to what has been received of the revenue of 1828, there will probably yet come into the treasury the sum of \$27,000. From former delinquencies there will probably be paid as much as will be left unpaid of the revenue of 1828. There will, therefore, be \$6090 67 applicable to such measures beyond the ordinary expenditure, as the legislature shall direct.

Respectfully submitted,
SAMUEL MERRILL, Treasurer.

From the Indiana Journal.

Mr. Editor: The writer of this has spent some days of the last month examining the country on the St. Joseph of Lake Michigan, the Wabash and Kankikee. This country, except the Kankikee, is embraced in the purchase made this fall from the Pottawatomies, and should you think this scrawl worthy a place in your paper, it is at your disposal.

We set out from Fort Wayne, a north-westerly direction for the Elk-heart, a large tributary of the St. Joseph of the Lake. The first twenty miles after leaving the Fort, the country is mostly covered with a heavy forest of timber; but a small portion of the soil is of a good quality for farming. After passing Blue-grass creek, we passed a few miles of country the land of an inferior quality, thickly timbered with oak and hickory, interspersed with a number of small lakes, from which flows to the southwest the head branch of the Tippecanoe river; we then entered the Elk-heart bottom, this bottom is about eight miles wide, soil and timber of the best quality. Elk-heart creek is a fine boatable stream, running north-west, and the depth of the water (above the knees of our horses) affording a sufficiency at the driest season for all kind of machinery. After crossing this creek we entered the Elk-heart prairie about six miles long and from two to four wide; soil of best quality. Along the south-west margin of this beautiful prairie flows the Elk-heart creek, on the north bank of which, and in the prairie, is the site of Five Medals village, well known to our soldiers of the late war, as the residence of the Pottawatomie war chief Five Medals; this creek unites with the St. Joseph a few miles south of the line dividing Indiana and Michigan Territory, and near this point is also the entrance from the north of a large creek, which flows from Pleasant Lake in Michigan Territory; at the junction of these waters is a fine town site, possessing the advantage of being surrounded by a country of good land, and on the bank of the St. Joseph river, which is a deep boatable stream, affording plenty of water for keel boat navigation from this point to the Lake at all seasons of the year—distance 75 to 100 miles by the river. Twenty miles below the mouth of Elk-heart is the southern bend of the St. Joseph. At this place the American Fur company have an establishment to carry on trade with the Indians; it is situated on a high dry plain, affording a very handsome and extensive site for a village; through this place, the road, as lately laid off from Lake Michigan to Indianapolis passes, affording it the advantage of a road south to the Wabash, as well as the river north-west to the Lake, at all times navigable, with a good harbour for the largest lake vessels, and a safe bay at its entrance into the Lake, and also a high and beautiful site for a town, on the margin of the Lake at the mouth of the river.

From the southern bend of the St. Joseph we travelled west to Lake Michigan, the country is dry and beautiful until we arrive within three or four miles of the Lake, part rich barrens, and part first rate timbered land, with a large portion of prairie. We travelled part of the distance on the U. States' road, from Detroit to Chicago; this road, which crosses the north boundary of Indiana, about thirty miles east of Lake Michigan, and continues parallel with and near the north line of Indiana to the southern point of Lake Michigan. The tract of country through which this road passes, was purchased from the Indians at the treaty of the Wabash, called the ten mile purchase, and is embraced between the north line of Indiana and the Kankikee river and ponds. This tract of land is perhaps surpassed by no other, for beauty and fertility of soil. There may be a scarcity of timber after it is settled. It is watered with some spring rivulets, and has many beautiful lakes from a 1-4 to 1 and a 1-2 miles in circumference, with dry banks, sandy,