

called by the hon. city council, was held on Saturday last, for the purpose of taking into consideration, measures to be adopted for the relief of the sufferers by the late fatal conflagration at Savannah.

His honor the intendant was called to the chair; and Dr. Edmund Ravenel, appointed secretary—when the following resolutions were *unanimously* adopted:

By judge Johnson—*Resolved*, as the sense of this meeting, that the intendant and Wardens be requested to raise, and remit with all possible dispatch, the sum of *ten thousand dollars*, for the relief of the sufferers by the late destructive fire in Savannah; and express to the citizens of that place, the sincere condolence of the citizens of this place, in the distressing calamity which has fallen upon them.

By judge Johnson—*Resolved*, that committees be appointed by the City council, to collect voluntary Donations in the city; and that a circular letter be addressed to the citizens of the Neck, and also to the inhabitants of the different Parishes, requesting them to pursue similar means of making collections for the relief of the sufferers in Savannah.

By Mr. Thomas Bennett *Resolved*, that similar application be made to the institutions generally of this city, and elsewhere, from which aid may be obtained; and that the Ministers of the respective places of worship, be requested to deliver suitable discourses, and have collections made for the same benevolent purposes.

By Mr. Thomas Bennett—*Resolved*, as the sense of this meeting, that the intendant and Wardens of Charleston, be requested to transmit, with all possible dispatch, the sum of *five thousand dollars*, for the relief of the sufferers by the late destructive fire at Wilmington; and to express to the citizens of that place, the condolence of the citizens of Charleston, at the late distressing and calamitous event.

#### Congressional Proceedings.

TUESDAY, JAN. 25.

##### IN SENATE.

Mr. Rufus King, elected a Senator from the state of New York, appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. Otis addressed the senate this day, at considerable length, in reply to Mr. Pinkney, and in favor of the restriction on Missouri.

Mr. Smith, of S. C. has the floor, and will speak to-morrow on the same subject.

##### House of Representatives.

On motion of Mr. Anderson, it was ordered that the clerk provide, for the use of the committee on the public lands, certain maps of those states and territories which include any of the public lands.

On motion of Mr. Cobb, the resolution laid on the table by him yesterday, proposing an amendment to the constitution of the U. States, was taken up and read, and committed to a committee of the whole house.

On motion of Mr. Allen, of Vt. it was

*Resolved*, that the committee on the judiciary be instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law for securing to the several pensioners of the United States the benefit of their pensions, by exempting any moneys which may be paid on account, from foreign attachment, set off, or other laws in the respective states, by which

such moneys may be intercepted before the actual receipt of them by such pensioners.

Mr. Phelps offered the following resolution for adoption:

*Resolved*, that the committee on the post office and post roads be instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law, that moneys received for postage shall be paid directly into the Treasury of the United States, and that the post master-general of the United States shall annually report to Congress a list of all contracts which he may have made within the preceding year, for the transportation of the mails, and specify, in such report, the name and residence of each contractor, the amount to be paid him, and distance to be embraced in each contract.

After some little discussion, and once refusing to lay the resolution on the table, it took that course and lies on the table.

##### MISSOURI STATE BILL.

The house then, on the motion of Mr. Scott, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Baldwin, in the chair, on the bill authorising the people of the Missouri territory to form a constitution and state government, &c.

Several important propositions were successively made in the course of the sitting, to amend the bill, and a great deal of discussion took place; a view of which, from the late hour of adjournment, could not be prepared for this morning's paper.

The committee rose without deciding on any question, obtained leave to sit again, and

The house adjourned.

##### IN SENATE.

Tuesday, January 25.

On motion of Mr. Macon, it was

*Resolved*, That the committee of finance be instructed to prepare and report a bill to remit the duties which may be payable on a statue of Geit. Washington, to be imported from Europe, executed by the Marquis Canova, for the state of North Carolina.

January 26.

The resolutions of Mr. Dickerson for amending the constitution were further postponed to to-morrow; and

The senate then resumed the consideration of the Missouri question.

Mr. Smith of S. C. addressed the senate, at considerable length, in opposition to the restriction, and in reply to its advocates, when he had concluded,

The senate adjourned.

##### House of Representatives.

Wednesday, Jan. 26.

On motion of Woodbridge, it was

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to enquire whether any, and if any, what further provision may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of the treaty of Brownstown, in the territory of Michigan.

##### MISSOURI BILL.

The proposition under consideration was an amendment; offered yesterday, to the 2d section of the bill, by Mr. Storrs, substantially to alter the limits of the proposed state, so as to make the Missouri river the northern boundary thereof; [with the view of drawing a line on which those in favor of and those opposed to the slave restriction, might compromise their views—his reasons therefor, as well as those of others, for and against the proposition, will be given hereafter.]

Mr. Storrs rose and withdrew the amendment which he had offered yesterday, and in lieu

thereof submitted the following:

*And provided further, and it is hereby enacted*, That forever hereafter, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude (except in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted,) shall exist in the territory of the United States, lying north of the 38th degree of north latitude, and west of the river Mississippi, and the boundaries of the state of Missouri, as established by this act. *Provided*, that any person escaping into the said territory, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any of the states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed according to the laws of the U. States in such case provided, to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.

Messrs. Randolph, Lowndes, Mercer, Brush, Smith of Maryland, Storrs, and Clay, successively followed each other in Debate.

The question being taken on the motion of Mr. Storrs, was decided in the negative.

The reading of the bill proceeded as far as the fourth section, when

Mr. Taylor, New York, proposed to amend the bill by incorporating in that section the following provision:

Section 4, line 25, insert the following after the word "states": "And shall ordain and establish, that there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said state, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: *Provided always*, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any other state, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed, and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid; *And provided*, also, That the said provision shall not be construed to alter the condition or civil rights of any person now held to service or labor in the said territory.

The main question of the restriction on slavery in the future state of Missouri, being thus fully before the house, and the usual hour of adjournment having arrived—

The committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again; and

The house adjourned.

Thursday, January 27.

##### IN SENATE.

The senate resumed the Maine and Missouri bill; and Mr. Ruggles, Mr. Trimble, Mr. Morril, and Mr. Logan, successively spoke to the question before the house.

The further consideration of the subject was then postponed to to-morrow; when Mr. Roberts takes the floor again, in support of his motion for the restriction on Missouri.

The resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States, as it respects the choice of electors of President and Vice President of the United States, and the election of the Representatives in the Congress of the U. States, being read the third time—

A motion was made, by Mr. Lloyd, to amend the same by striking out the words, "that, for the purpose of choosing electors of President and Vice President of the U. States, the persons qualified to vote for Representatives in each district shall choose one elector. The two additional electors, to which each state is entitled, shall be appointed in such manner as the legislature thereof may di-

rect," and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following.

"That, for the purpose of choosing electors of President, and Vice President, of the United States, each state shall, by its legislature, be divided into a number of districts, equal to the number of electors of President and Vice President to which such state may be entitled. The districts shall be formed of contiguous territory, and the persons qualified to vote for Representatives in each district shall choose one elector."

The question on said motion was decided in the negative.

The question on the passage of the resolve was then taken, and decided in the affirmative.

And the senate adjourned.

##### House of Representatives.

Among the memorials presented this day, was one from the legislature of the state of Ohio, praying that provision may be made for the relief of such purchasers of public land as may forfeit the same from their inability to complete the payment therefor.

##### RESPECTING THE SPANISH TREATY.

Mr. Floyd, of Va. submitted for consideration the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be communicated to this house, if in his opinion consistent with the public good, whatsoever information he may possess, relative to the extent of territory which the instructions of the Minister plenipotentiary of his catholic majesty authorised him to cede to the United States in his negotiation with the Secretary of state, which resulted in the treaty of 22d February last; and likewise at what period he obtained that information."

On suggestion of Mr. Sergeant, the resolve was so amended, by consent of the mover, as to request the president, instead of instructing the Secretary of state, (as at first offered,) if in his opinion it should be expedient, to cause the required information to be laid before the house—the objection being to leaving a compliance with an order from the house *discretionary* with any officer of the government subordinate to the highest in authority.

The question being taken on agreeing to the resolution thus amended, it was decided in the negative. Ayes 67, Noes 88.

Friday, Jan. 28.

Mr. Anderson, from the committee on the public lands, reported a bill to designate the boundaries of districts, and establish land offices, for the disposal of public lands not heretofore offered for sale, in the states of Indiana and Alabama, which was twice read and committed.

##### MISSOURI BILL.

The house then again went into committee on this subject, Mr. Baldwin in the chair.

Mr. Holmes, of Massachusetts, resumed the floor, and occupied about two hours in concluding the argument which he commenced yesterday, against the proposed restriction.

Mr. Smyth, of Virginia, followed on the same side, but had not proceeded far in his argument, when he gave way for a motion for the committee to rise.

The committee rose accordingly, and obtained leave to sit again; and

The house adjourned to Monday.

##### IN SENATE.

Monday, Jan. 31.

Mr. Sanford presented to the senate certain resolutions of the legislature of New-York, declaring the right of congress to require of new states, not comprised within the original boundaries of the United States, the prohibition of slavery as a condition of their admission into the Union; and instructing the Senators from New York to oppose the admission of any such state without such a condition; which resolutions were read.

Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, submitted the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that the president of the United States be requested to lay before the senate such information as he may possess relative to the execution of so much of the first article of the late treaty of peace and amity between his Britannic Majesty and the United States as relates to the restitution of slaves, and which has not heretofore been communicated."

The senate then resumed the consideration of the Missouri question.

Mr. Barbour, of Virginia, rose and addressed the senate more than three hours, against the proposed restriction, but, before concluding his speech intimated a desire to be allowed to defer the remainder of his remarks to to-morrow; and the subject was accordingly postponed:

The senate then went into the consideration of executive business.

Tuesday Feb. 1.

Mr. Otis submitted the following resolution for consideration:

*Resolved*, that the committee of Finance be instructed to enquire into the expediency of reviving, for—years, the law making foreign gold coins a tender.

##### House of Representatives.

Monday, Jan. 31.

*Amendment of the Constitution.* Mr. Baldwin, of Pennsylvania, offered the following resolution, which was twice read and committed to a committee of the whole house.

*Resolved*, By the Senate and house of Representatives of the U. States of America in congress assembled, two thirds of both houses concurring, that the following amendment to the constitution of the United States be proposed to the legislatures of the several states; which, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the states, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, apart of the said constitution:

That congress shall make no law to erect or incorporate any bank, or other monied institution, except within the District of Columbia, and every bank, or other monied institution, which shall be established by the authority of congress, shall together with its branches, and offices of discount and deposit, be confined to the District of Columbia.

##### THE MISSOURI BILL.

The house then again resolved itself into a committee of the whole; Mr. Baldwin in the chair, on this bill—Mr. Taylor's motion to impose on the proposed state, a restriction respecting slavery, being still under consideration.

Mr. Smyth, of Virginia, resumed the argument which he commenced on Friday, against the restriction, and spoke until near 6 o'clock; when,

On motion of Mr. Reid, the committee rose, obtained leave to sit again; and

The house adjourned.