

Indiana Legislature.

Mr. Kilgore, having obtained leave, moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That a select committee composed of two from each Congressional District be appointed to inquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the law now in force as requires members of Congress to be elected by Districts, and if they should deem the change proper to report a bill repealing said law and providing for the General Ticket system of electing them.

Mr. Willet moved to postpone the further consideration of said resolution indefinitely, when, on motion of Mr. Smith of R. said resolution and motion to postpone indefinitely were laid on the table.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to amend an act entitled, "an act subjecting real and personal estate to execution," approved Feb. 4, 1831; which was under consideration when the House adjourned. The question then recurred on the pending motion made by Mr. Smith of F. to postpone the further consideration thereof indefinitely, which was determined in the negative—yeas 20, nays 47.

Mr. Smith of R. moved to re-commit said bill and proposed amendments to the same select committee by which it was reported, with instructions to amend it so that the entire exemption of property from execution shall not exceed fifty dollars, in such articles as the execution defendant may select and to provide for the repeal of all laws on that subject in force in this state.

Mr. Brackenridge moved to amend the instructions by providing in the bill that the wife of the debtor shall have a right to claim the property as exempt from execution and to secure her rights in the exclusive possession, use, and enjoyment of it against her husband or any other person claiming under him, in such cases and upon such conditions as shall be deemed advisable; which motion did not prevail.

Mr. Kelso then moved to amend the instructions by striking out the word "sixty," which was decided in the negative.

The question then recurred on the motion to commit with the instructions proposed by Mr. Smith of R. and carried.

IN SENATE.

Friday, Jan. 2, 1835.

ELECTION OF BANK DIRECTOR.

The Senate then, agreeably to previous arrangement, proceeded to the election of a Director of the State Bank in place of Robert Morrison, when, on counting the ballots, it appeared that Robert Morrison had received 23 votes, being all that were given.

Mr. Battell, from the committee on claims, reported in favor of an allowance to John Crabbs, collector of Jackson county, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Sigler, from the select committee appointed in pursuance of a resolution to draft a memorial to Congress, praying that all those persons who were engaged in the Indian war, between the commencement of our revolutionary struggle and the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four may be placed on the pension roll, made a report of considerable length, accompanied with a memorial of the General Assembly on that subject. The report was ordered to be printed, and the memorial passed to a second reading.

The House proceeded to the election of a Bank Director, and on counting the ballots it appeared that Robert Morrison received 25 votes, and that there were 20 scattering votes.

Mr. Shaw, from the select committee to which was re-committed the bill to amend an act entitled, "an act to subject real and personal estate to execution," approved Feb. 4, 1831, reported the same, amended pursuant to instructions. The amendment provided for exempting the amount of fifty dollars from execution. Mr. Shaw moved to amend the amendment by striking out "fifty dollars" and inserting "seventy five dollars" with the proviso, "that nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to affect in any manner contracts made on rights accrued previous to the publication of this act, and also that some disinterested person shall make the appraisal under oath of the property claimed as exempt from execution whenever the officer having the execution shall believe that property over and above the sum of seventy five dollars is claimed as exempt from execution defendant or defendants; which appraisal shall be returned by the sheriff or other officer serving the process with the execution to the proper officer or court."

Mr. Smith of R. called for a division of the question. After some debate the first branch thereof, to wit, striking out the words "fifty dollars," was put, and was determined in the affirmative—yeas 42, nays 31.

Mr. Vandever moved to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of the bill and pending amendment, which motion was decided in the negative—yeas 13, nays 60.

The question then recurred on the second branch of the amendment proposed by Mr. Shaw to the amendment of the committee, and was determined in the affirmative.

Mr. Stanford moved further to amend said amendment by adding the following as an additional section viz:

"Sec. And any subsequent sale or barter of the property so exempted shall be void, except it be to procure the necessities of life during the inability of the person to pay his debts."

And the question being put, on the motion of Mr. Stanford, it was determined in the negative.

The amendment reported by the committee is amended was then adopted.

Mr. Crume moved further to amend the bill by exempting also from execution two months provisions for the debtor and his family; which did not prevail.

On motion of Mr. Schooling, the bill was further amended by inserting the following clause: "said appraiser shall be entitled to receive for his services 25 cents for such appraisal, to be paid by the debtor claiming such property."

On motion of Mr. Bigger, the bill was further amended by exempting from the repealing clause so much of the act of 1831 as recognizes wearing apparel as no part of an execution defendant's estate.

On motion of Mr. Smith of F. the bill was further amended by giving to the officer levying the writ authority to administer the oath to the appraiser.

The question was then put, shall said bill be engrossed and read a third time tomorrow, and was determined in the affirmative—yeas 46, nays 28.

PROBATE BUSINESS.

The House resumed the consideration of the resolution moved by Mr. Crume on the 20th ult. providing for the organization of Probate Circuit Courts, and arrested on that day by the expiration of the hour allotted for the consideration of resolutions.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Newman, to strike out the resolution from the resolving clause, for the purpose of inserting a substitute which would place the probate business in the Circuit Court, it was decided in the negative.

On the question, shall said resolution be adopted? it was decided in the negative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Bigger, Bradbury, Bell, Carter of C. Chapman, Crume, Culbertson, Curtis, Dunning, Evans, Hannaman, Hardesty, Johnson of F. Kelso, Kilgore, Liston, Lowe, Marshall, Moore, Newman, Ray, Rockhill, Smith of F. Stafford, Thompson, Vawter, Wallace, Wilson of H. Wilson of V. and Gregory Speaker—30.

NAYS—Messrs. Angle, Armstrong, Bennett, Bower, Brackenridge, Bryan, Carr, Conwell, Cook, Curry, Davis, Gaddes, Green, Hargrove, Harris, Henkle, Hoagland, Howard, Howell, Johnson of M. Latshaw, Leslie Lockhart, McCalley, McDougle, McIntire, Mendenhall, Nave, Parks, Phelps, Puckett, Schooling, Shank, Shaw, Smith of R. Stanford Storm, Strain, Torbet, Vandever, Walker, Willett, Wilson of P. Woodruff, and Wright—45.

On motion of Mr. Conwell,

Resolved, That the committee on the judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law, allowances to Executors and Administrators for their services, a certain per cent, in proportion to the amount of the estates by them settled; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Woodruff,

Resolved, That the judiciary committee inquire into the expediency of making a special allowance to guardians upon some definite rule, and also to compel guardians to renew their bonds every two years.

On motion of Mr. Lockhart,

Resolved, That the committee on the judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the punishment of masters of steam boats for carrying any person or persons beyond the place to which they may have shipped, contrary to the will of such passenger or passengers; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Kelso; the resolution moved by Mr. Kilgore on yesterday and laid on the table, relative to electing Representatives to Congress by general ticket throughout the state, was taken up, Mr. Crume moved to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of said resolution, which motion prevailed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Armstrong, Bell, Bennett, Bigger, Bower, Brackenridge, Bradbury, Brett, Bryan, Carr, Carter of C. Cook, Crume, Culbertson, Gurry, Curtis, Davis, Dunning, Evans, Gaddes, Green, Hardesty, Hargrove, Harris, Henkle, Hoagland, Howard, Howell, Johnson of M. Johnson of F. Latshaw, Leslie, Liston, Lockhart, Lowe, Marshall, McCalley, McDougle, McIntire, Moore, Nave, Newman, Parks, Puckett, Ray, Schooling, Shank, Shaw, Smith of F. Smith of R. Stafford, Stanford Storm, Strain, Torbet, Vandever, Walker, Willett, Wilson, of P. Wilson, of V. Woodruff, Wright, and Gregory, Speaker—63.

NAYS—Messrs. Angle Chapman, Conwell, Hannaman, Kelso, Kilgore, Mendenhall, Phelps, Rockhill, Thompson, Vawter, Wallace, and Wilson of H.—13.

IN SENATE.

Saturday, Jan. 3, 1835.

Mr. Whitcomb, from the committee on the judiciary to whom was referred.

The same gentleman, from a resolution on that subject, reported a bill to amend an act to organize Probate Courts and defining the powers and duties of executors, administrators, and guardians, which was read and passed to a second reading.

On motion of Mr. Embree, it was

Resolved, That the President of the State Bank be requested to report to the Senate an exhibit of the condition of the State Bank and Branches up to the first day of January inst. as soon as ascertained; and also a statement

of the expenses incurred in organizing and the probable expense annually to be incurred in conducting the State Bank, and also a copy of the by-laws for the government of the Branches, and the names of the officers of the different Branches &c.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

December 13th.

The Speaker laid before the House the following report of the Commissioners to superintend the erection of the State House; which was read and referred to the committee on public buildings.

Indianapolis, Dec. 6, 1834.

To the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

The undersigned Commissioners to superintend the erection of the State House, respectfully report during the past year the progress of the building has been such as to satisfy them that it may be completed at least one year sooner than is required by the contract; and this the contractor proposes to do, provided the payments can be made as the work progresses. This we think can be done, except the amount required by law to be reserved until the building is completed. The workmanship and materials are thus far in the opinion of the Commissioners equal to the contract. 19,433.93 has been paid to the contractor for work done and materials furnished between the 1st Dec. 1833 and the 1st Dec. 1834.

Several alterations in the plan of the building have been made, none of which will materially augment the cost, and several of them we believe should be made. It has been proposed to place the stairs at the outside, instead of the centre of the rotunda, to make sky lights for the two Halls; to have for the second story, first a rough floor, then a covering of lime and mortar, and then a floor of thin plank, which it is supposed will lessen the noise from below and be a great security against fire. The Senate chamber might also be altered according to a drawing exhibited by the contractor, but the commissioners do not think that the galleries for the Representative Hall should be dispensed with.

In conclusion they beg leave respectfully to suggest that provisions should be made for inclosing the State House square, perhaps for the present with a good fence; that the appointment of a person to be specially charged with the protection of the building, should be authorized by law, and that the defacing, or endangering the building should be prohibited by sufficient penalties.

Respectfully submitted,

N. NOBLE,
M. MORRIS.
S. MERRILL.

Robbery of Newspapers in the Post Office—A very curious report, for which we cannot find room to day, appears in the Courier and Enquirer of this morning. The result of it is, that daily and other papers of this city, put in the Post Office here for distant subscribers, had had their wrappers torn off, and then been sold by one of the persons employed in the office as waste paper. The extent to which this has been carried, may be inferred from the fact, that one witness stated he had bought four thousand four hundred papers within two months from Mills in the Post Office.—A. Y. Amer.

THE PUBLIC LANDS—The annexed extracts from the Annual Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, exhibit a summary of the operations of that office for the year 1834. In his preliminary remarks, the Commissioner states that

"The sales of the national domain are annually increasing with the tide of emigration to the West and Southwest, and the accumulating population of those fertile and extensive regions. The vast territory of the valley of the Mississippi, extending east and west, from the Allegheny to the Rocky Mountains, and north and south from Upper Canada to the Gulf of Mexico, present a scene for the contemplation of the philanthropist and political philosopher, and a field for the operations of the legislator, of the most sublime character and moral influence, as connected with human society, hitherto unprecedented in the annals of the world. With a free white population greatly exceeding that of the United States at any period of the revolution, with every means of subsistence for tens of millions of population, and with resources beyond necessity of human wants and human convenience, with a climate more temperate and mild, and a soil more prolific and fruitful, than any which has hitherto been discovered, there requires no stretch of the imagination—no genius of exaggeration—no confidence in prophecy—to anticipate the future revenue and means of strength, prosperity and happiness, which the Divinity has designed and allotted to the transmontane valley of North America."

"The annexed statement exhibits for the year 1833, and the first three quarters of 1834, the quantity of public lands sold in each State and Territory; the amount of purchase money; the several amounts received in cash, in forfeited land stock, and in military bounty land scrip; and the amount of money paid into the Treasury. By this statement, and by a reference to my last annual report, it will appear that the sales of 1833 exceeding those of 1832, 1,393,885 acres, 1,856,908 dollars of purchase money, and of the amount paid into the Treasury, 1,344,306 dollars; and that the sales of the first three quarters of 1834 exceed those of the corresponding quarters of 1833, 330,291 acres;

137,040 dollars of purchase money, and of the amount paid into the Treasury, the sum of \$56,518 dollars. It is probable the aggregate amount of sales for this year will exceed those of the last, as also the amount of cash paid into the Treasury. The returns of the last quarter of the year generally present the largest amount of sales and purchase money.

"The accompanying tabular statement shows the amount of forfeited land stock issued and received at each land office, and of military bounty land scrip received, with the aggregate in each State and Territory, to the 30th of September last. On an examination of which, it will appear there has been issued of forfeited land stock, \$646,154.66, of which there has been received in payment for lands sold, the sum of \$632,743.85, leaving a balance not presented at the Land Offices of less than \$13,500.

"By the several acts of May, 30, 1830, July 13, 1831, and March 2, 1832, lands were appropriated to satisfy unlocated Military Bounty Warrants for services rendered in the army of the revolution, in the Virginia State Line, and Navy, in the Virginia Continental Line, and in payment for United States warrants for the same service. The appropriation made by these acts is unlimited, as to the United States warrants, and for those of Virginia, amount to 310,000 acres, for which scrip was directed to be issued. Of this quantity of the Virginia warrants, scrip has been issued for 796,820 acres, leaving a balance of 13,180 acres yet to be satisfied, for which scrip will be issued as soon as the applicants shall complete their title papers to their warrants. A statement hereto annexed, shows the number of each description of which have been satisfied under these laws, the quantity of land for which scrip has been issued, the amount thereof in money, at one dollar and twenty five cents per acre, with the number of certificates issued, and their several totals, in which statement it will be seen, that, to the 15th inst. 1544 warrants have been satisfied containing 892,570 acres, equal to \$1,118,212.50, in 12,049 certificates of scrip; and by the statement C, it appears, of this amount, the sum of \$1,000,360.12 have been received in payment of public lands, up to the 30 Sep. last. Virginia warrants have already been filed for about 60,000 acres, exceeding the amount which can be satisfied with scrip out of previous appropriations. I have data by which to calculate the amount not yet filed, but from verbal information, I am of opinion it would not be safe to estimate it at less than 50,000 acres. It is in the will of Congress whether further appropriations shall be made for the same.

"The surveys of the public lands have progressed during the present year as rapidly as practicable, and to the utmost extent provided by law for the discharge of office duty, by the several Surveyors General."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6th, 1834.

In passing through the Rotunda of the Capitol this morning, it was my luck to witness the uncovering of the front of Mars, while Peace lay prostrate at his feet. It struck me, and I believe every one, as an ominous exhibition. The statues are nine and a half feet high, and are doubtless, well worthy of a place in the capitol.

As we are about to "make reprisals upon French property," i. e. to make prize of French ships and cargoes, I have had the curiosity to enquire how many of these same ships are exposed under ordinary circumstances, to our cruisers, and also where they are to be found. I find that the Commercial Marine of France embraces about 8,000 vessels, of the aggregate burden of 744,000 tons, and manned by 57,000 men. Of this number, 820 vessels of the average burden of 250 tons are engaged in foreign trade out of Europe—1800 vessels, averaging the like number of 250 tons, trade to different countries in Europe; and 5,380 vessels of 30 tons each are employed in the coasting trade [petit cabotage.] The vessels trading out of Europe are chiefly distributed, as follows:

To India	35 merchantmen.
Island of Bourbon, &c.	70 do
South Seas	25 do
Brazil	65 do
River Plato	20 do
Mexico	40 do
Cuba	50 do
Hayti	60 do
United States of America	36 do
West Indies, not belonging to France	29 do
Cayenne	25 do
Senegal and Goree	40 do
Martinique & Gaudaloupe	300 do
Whale fisheries	5 do

Circumnavigation by way of China &c. The French navy with which we are likely to make ourselves better acquainted, is undoubtedly, next so that of England, the most formidable in the world. It was recognized and permanently organized, in its several branches, by the ordinance of 1829 since which time it has rapidly improved in every particular. The number of vessels aloft ("vaisseaux a flot," that is, fit for sea, whether in ordinary or commission, in 1832, is stated as follows: Ships of the line 53, Frigates 68, Corvettes 33, Brigs 67, Galliot Cutters, &c. 121, Steam ships, bombs, &c. &c. 27—total 374. To this force considerable additions were made during the last two years.

The injuries for which we seek redress arose out of seizure made by the Frenchman der

The Berlin decree, dated the 21st November 1807.

The Milan decree, dated 23d Nov. and 17th Dec. 1807.

The Rambouillet decree, dated 23d March 1810.

The Trianon decree, dated 5th August 1810.

The seizures were made, in Antwerp in 1807. In Holland in 1809. In Bilbao, St. Sebastian, Bayonne, Port Passage, &c. in 1810. In addition to all which we have a claim for upwards of thirty vessels, with their cargoes, captured and burnt at sea by French squadrons, to prevent their giving information to the British of the position of the squadron.

These injuries have been the subject of discussion from 1812 to 1831. In 1812 Mr. Barlow commenced the negotiation, and in the hope of bringing it to a close, followed the Emperor Napoleon to Russia; but died at Wilna during the retreat. In April 1814 Louis the 16th was proclaimed king of France and in November 1817 we again appealed to the justice of the French Government, through our Minister at that Court. In January and in April 1817, the prime Minister M. de Richelieu, admitted that indemnification was due to our merchants; but avoiding liquidating the debt, in consequence of the embarrassed state of the French finances. In 1819 and 1830 separate claims of our citizens were again presented. In 1822 our Minister addressed a note to Viscomte de Montmorency, of the department of foreign affairs, from which resulted an interview, and promises of future adjustment were made. At this period, differences existed, on the subject of tonnage; and the two governments were carrying on, a "Custom house war." Those differences, however, were arranged, by a Convention signed at Washington in June 1822, by Hyde de Neuville. From this period up to 1830, the negotiations were carried on, alternately, at Washington and Paris, but without any favorable result.

In January 1830, Mr. Rives commenced two negotiations one official and one confidential. They continued until the 19th of June, with prospects of ultimate success. But then followed the revolution of July, in which the existing Government, termed, in France, the restoration, was overthrown. As soon as the new government was organized, the negotiations were renewed, and continued until the 4th of July 1831, when a treaty was signed a Paris.

STOCK OWNED BY THE UNITED STATES—The following is a list of The Stocks owned by the government of the United States at the present time.

10,000 shares stock in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company	\$899,000 00
800 shares stock in the Dismal Swamp Canal Company	200,000 00
2,335 shares stock in the Louisville and Portland Canal Company	233,500 00
2,250 shares stock in the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company	450,000 00
	\$1,882,000 00
63,434 shares stock in the Bank U. S.	\$6,434,000 00

*The balance of the original subscription to the Bank United States, 6,566 shares, was transferred to the Treasurer of the United States, for the use of the Secretary of the Navy, for the payment of Navy and Privateer Pension funds, under the provision of an act of Congress.

A rumor was current in Wall street on Friday last, that orders had been received at the Navy Yard from Washington, to have all the vessels now on the stocks, in such a state of forwardness as to allow of their being launched within thirty days notice.

Of the hundred members of the Pennsylvania Legislature 55 are farmers, and fifteen lawyers, two, says the correspondent of a Philadelphia morning paper—gentlemen, and the remainder merchants and mechanics.

Extract of a letter from a member of Congress to the Editor dated

"WASHINGTON, Jan. 1, 1835.

Nothing of interest has occurred in the legislation of Congress for the last week. Yesterday Mr. Adams delivered before both houses, the President, Heads of Department, and an immense assembly of Ladies and Gentlemen, an eloquent oration on the life and character of Lafayette. It occupied near three hours in the delivery, and abounds with interesting incidents in the life of this great man, connected with the history of the American and French Revolutions. Many just sentiments are expressed on the advantages of republican and representative government. Lafayette was a distinguished man, and as a patriot and Benefactor, I would give him the precedence over all men of the age in which he lived and moved, except Washington, who in the estimation of the world, is not surpassed; and who was deservedly said to be "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

In conformity to usage, neither house met this day, and the President's house was open from 12 to 2 o'clock, to all who chose to enter it. The weather here is that of a northern winter the ground being covered with snow near two feet deep, on which the sun has for some days made little impression.

The house of Representatives is yet occupied with the Bill regulating the pay of the officers of the navy, and as it embraces all the officers of the Navy, it will be some time before it can be disposed of. There are also on the table bills respecting the public lands; government deposits; Indian territory; and appropriations for the expenses of government that will furnish, with many other bills, work for the balance of this short session.