## Proceedings of Congress.

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MONDAY, January 25.

RETUTION of James Price, praying that his claim for Supplies furnished the American army in Canada, may be fettled; was read.

life, a petition of Gabriel Allen, of the state of New-Jerley, praying that duplicates may be granted him tificates which he has loft.

message from the president of the United States, apanied with a letter from the governor of Maryto the president, transmitting the Maryland act fication of amendments to the constitution, as to by congreis, was read.

nouse then resolved itself into a committee of on the bill for the actual enumeration of pitants of the United States, and after making alterations and amendments therein, the comrose, and the further consideration of the same postponed until to-morrow.

r. Hartley, from the committee appointed, preto the house, a bill for the uniform mode of lization throughout the United States, which read the first time.

r. Benson, from the committee appointed, brought bill to give effect to the laws of the United States the state of North-Carolina, which was read the and second times, and ordered to be committed committee of the whole house to-morrow.

message from the senate, by their secretary, with folution, that the business unfinished between the houses at the late adjournment, ought to be reded as if it had not been passed by either; and reefting the concurrence of the house to the same.

motion was made that the house do concur with senate in the said resolution, which was agreed to. Ir. Smith (S. C.) moved the following:

kesolved, That it be established as a standing rule the house, that every future adjournment of confor more than days, shall be considered as rmination of the session, and that at the next meetthe business depending at the time of such adnment, shall not be taken up, unless it be com-

ced de novo. he confideration of this was pollponed until to-

motion, Meffrs. Burke, Huntington and Cader, were appointed to bring in a bill, or bills, ecuring to authors and inventors the exclusive to their respective writings and discoveries. djourned.

## TUESDAY, January 26.

petition of Lucas Lincoln, praying payment for ices performed during the late way, was read. petition from a number of inhabitants of the castpart of Massachusetts, was read, praying that some ation may be made in the collection act, sec. of

house resolved itself into a committee of the on the North-Carolina bill, and made some ations therein; and was then ordered to be end for a third reading to-morrow.

bill for a uniform rule of naturalization was he second time. Some members were for taking sore moved it should be taken up on Tuesday which the house agreed to: petition of James Price was read a second

Ames moved that it should be referred to the cary of the treasury.

his was opposed by Mr. Fitzsimons and Mr. Bouwho thought a select committee would be more r, as the petitioner had before applied to the late refs, and feveral refolutions had been made rebe more convenient for a committee of the to fearch the journals of the late congress, &c. ould be for the fecretary.

question being taken thereon, it was agreed ministee of three be appointed—the members Ames, Fighmons and Boudings.

house resolved itself into a committee of the the bill for enumerating the inhabitants of Madaion made a motion, that the schedule

he brought forward, which had not only for the enumeration of males, temales, black s, above and below a certain age, the s esco bue also that the mumber of

On motion, That another member should be added to the committee, Mr. Madison was appointed.

Mr. Ames, from the committee to whoth was referred the report of the fecretary of the treasury on the petition of Christopher Saddler, made a report, that a bill ought to be brought in for the relief of fuch

A committee was then appointed for that purpose, confishing of the same members as made the above re-

Mr. Ames informed the house, that the committee had prepared a bill for the aforefaid purpose, which he presented to the chair, and which was read.

making compensation to persons employed in the in- to re-commit it. tercourse between the United States and foreign nathe president of the United States shall be authorised what sums shall be paid for particular services, it is to draw on the treasury for a sum not exceeding difficult to conceive how the public business can be 40,000 dollars annually, for the support of officers carried on. He was sure, he said, there was nothing fent abroad, and that a minister plenipotentiary shall in the conflitution against the delegation of such a not receive a falary of more than 9000 dollars per power-and in fact, constant experience was directly annum, a resident 5000, and a charge des affairs 3000. opposed to the position.

Mr. Lee made a motion, that after the word pre- Mr. Smith (S. C.) pursuing the idea of Mr. Sedgficient, the words "by and with the advice and con- wick, adverted to the circumstance of voting 20,000 sent of the senate," be inserted.

the motion-They contended, that it would be im- portion of the fum committed in truff to the president proper and inconvenient for the president to have the and senate of the United States. advice and consent of the senate necessary to draw a Mr. Lawrence opposed the motion for the commit-

principles of the constitution for the president alone withdraw his motion. to have the power: for by the constitution the presi- . Mr. Boudingt was likewise opposed to the rising of dent could not make treaties without the consent of the committee, and enlarged upon the ideas suggested the senate; and he surely ought not to have the cower of fixing and paying the salaries of officers engaged in the negotiation of treaties without the advice of the vices performed in the public offices are known and senare. Mr. Stone also spoke of the influence the open to examination; but that might not be the case

president would derive from the business. Smith replied, as did also Mr. Madison.

Lee at length withdrew the motion for putting the words in the place as above mentioned, but modiffed it. so, that the prefident, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, should apportion the tived salaries to the respective officers sent abroad, but not to exceed the fums above mentioned.

"by and with the advice and consent of the fenate," tive. should be struck out. A debate was then commencing, but Mr. Livermore moved, that the committee should rife, which was agreed to. Adjourned.

## WEDNESDAY, January 27.

in the state of North-Carolina, was taken up, and the bill passed to be enacted.

The bill for the remission or mitigation of fines, bill into consideration to-morrow, but this Mr. forfeitures and cenalties inscertain cales, was read the opposed; he said, he was surprised that gen- second time. Ordered, That it be reserred to a comwere for hurrying this matter through the mittee of the whole house, to be taken into considerawhen every one must know its impertance; he tion on Wednesday next, and that 100 copies be

In committee of the whole, on the bill to provide the means of intercourse between the United States and foreign nations—the motion before the committee yesterday, for striking out of Mr. Lee's proposed amendment, the words, " by and with the advice and con-

fent of the fenate," was again read. Mr. Jackson objected to the principle of the bill, sion of such a solemnity. as tending to establish arbitrary power-as divesting and several resolutions had been made re- the senate of their prerogative—as relinquishing the the settlement of his accounts; and that it control of the house over the treasury of the United States. Besides, he contended, that it is the duty of the house to fix the falaries, and this he conceived the legislature fully competent to. The disposal of the public money is a truft committed to us, nor can we

> Mr. Boudinot was opposed to the amendment, and in fayour of firiking out the words; and contended that the bill went to make all those provisions as fully as the nature of the case would permit, which gentle men appeared to carnelly to contend for:

constitutionally divest ourselves of it.

The bill empowers the prefident to draw out public treatury a specified fum, it has also determ a point beyond we the falaries shall not ex

in different professions, such as merchants, is to reduce the falaries, and to dispose of the approaice, manufacturers, &c. ought to be afcer- priation to the best advantage. This cannot be contained, should be substituted in the room of the one fidered an extraordinary or unconstitutional trust : it in the bill. This was agreed to, and the bill recom- is agreeable to the uniform ulage of the house in making appropriations where any truft is repoted. It is easy to foresee intuperable difficulties in affociating the senate with the president in this business.

Mr. Scott asked whether the question was of a legillative or executive nature-for his part, he thought it of a legislative nature; and therefore granting any power to appropriate the public money, for purposes where the house could not ascertain the quantum neceffary, was acting contrary to the constitution. It was improper, he said, that either the president or fenate, or both, should expend money for any fervices, the amount of which could not be fixed by law. He was therefore wholly opposed to the principle of the bill, and moved that the committee should rife, The house then went into a committee on the bill for the purpose of introducing a motion in the house

Mr. Sedgwick observed, that if a discretionary tions. In that part of the bill which mentions that power cannot be lodged with any person to determine

dollars the last seision for the Indian business-it is A considerable debate now ensued, Mr. Smith true the compensations of the commissioners were (S. C.), Mr. Sedgwick and Mr. Lawrence opposed fixed-but their allowance absorbed but a small pro-

warrant on the treasury for the sums requisite to pay toe's rising: he wished the committee to come to a the ministers on foreign service-That the president decision of the question, whether the senate should be might deem it necessary to send off an ambassador to associated with the president in this business or not-Europe when the senate were not in session, and by he adverted to the constant practice of the house in that means he might be frustrated in his intentions, respect to the heads of departments, who, from the and the public interest suffer. Besides, it would be necessity of the case, are constantly trusted with apbetter for the president alone to be responsible for the propriations which it is true they may not exceed, but trust, than the president and senate together. without particularly specifying the sums they shall pay Mr. Lee and Mr. Stone thought it was again the for certain services. He wished the gentleman would

by Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Smith.

Mr. Scott defended his motion; he said that serwith the present bufiness: that as the bill stands, it militates against the constitution; that consideration would influence him not to withdraw his motion for the rifing of the committee.

The motion for the committee's rifing was nega-

The motion for striking out of the proposed amendment the words " by and with the advice and confent Mr. Lawrence then made a motion, that the words of the senate," was put and carried in the affirma-

The question then was, on the proposed amendment without the words " by and with the advice and confent of the senant," the vote being taken, the amendment was not adopted.

Mr. Lawrence proposed an additional clause for The order of the day for the confideration of the limitting the duration of the bill to the term of three bill for giving, effect to the laws of the United States years, and from thence to the end of the next session of congress thereafter.

> It was moved, that the clause which enjoins thas the accounts of expenditures be rendered under oath, should be struck out.

> Mr. Sedgwick was in favour of retaining the words; there could no injury arise from their being retained in the bill; they may conduce to the public fatiffaction. In the disposition of public monies, cases will frequently concur in which a confidence in the integrity of public officers may be all the fatisfactions the people may receive in the disposal of their money. It is not to be expected that the formality of an oath is to be attended to, the idea meant to be conveyed is, that the accounts are rendered under the impref-

Messis. Huntington, Wadsworth and Ames were severally in favour of the notion for striking out the words. It was observed, that they involved an abfurdity, except gentlemen supposed it necessary that the president should take his oath of office de neve.

The words respecting the oath were struck out. A motion of Mr. Madison's, that the president cause a regular statement of the account of expenditures to be laid before congress, occasioned some further convertation. This motion was adopted.

The whole paragraph, as thus amended, was then agreed to. The motion for the limitation of the bill was next discussed. It was moved, that there he fruck out before " years," and how inferted.

The claufe thus amended was adopted.