

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the register in chancery, enclosing an account of seals and taxes; which was read.

The bill to empower the administrator of Joseph Baxter, late sheriff of Cecil county, to collect the fees put into the hands of the said Baxter for collection in his life-time, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill to alter all such parts of the declaration of rights, constitution and form of government, as prevent persons conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath from serving as jurors, and after amending the same, the question was put: Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative, yeas 55, nays 5.

Mr. Lecompte and Mr. Lucas have leave of absence.

The house formed itself into a committee of the whole on the bill concerning crimes and punishments; Mr. Winder in the chair. After sometime spent therein, the speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Winder reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The question was then put: That the committee have leave to sit again? Resolved in the affirmative.—Adjourned.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on yesterday, except Mr. Lecompte and Mr. Lucas. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The bill to admit persons conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath to serve as jurors, was sent to the senate.

Mr. Street presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Harford county, praying for commissioners to review a certain road; Mr. Physick presented a petition from James Maxwell, an old revolutionary soldier; and Mr. Bland presented a petition from Michael Sanderlan, praying the State may relinquish its title to part of lot No. 56 in the city of Baltimore; which were read and referred.

Mr. Physick delivers a bill entitled, An act to lay out and make public a road therein mentioned in Cecil county; and Mr. Worthington delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of Henry Alexander, of the city of Baltimore, an insolvent debtor; which were read.

Mr. Harryman has leave of absence. Mr. Reid delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorizing William Bruce, late sheriff and collector of Allegany county, to complete his collections; which was twice read, passed and sent to the senate.

Mr. Worthington delivers a bill, entitled, An act authorizing the sale of a lot, piece or parcel of ground, lately possessed by doctor Jeffrey Dilton Shanley, of the city in Baltimore; which was read.

The bill to lay out and straighten a certain road in Harford county, was read the second time, passed, and sent to the senate.

Mr. Herbert delivers a bill, entitled, An act to authorize Thomas Harwood, of Benjamin, late collector of Prince-George's county, to complete his collection; which was read.

On motion of Mr. J. H. Thomas, Leave given to bring in a bill to confirm an act, entitled, An act to incorporate certain persons in every Christian church or congregation in this State.

The bill to authorize a lottery or lotteries in Middle-town, in Frederick county, was read the second time and passed.

The clerk of the house delivers the bill to authorize Elizabeth Philpot to dispose of the land therein mentioned, endorsed, "will pass." Ordered to be engrossed. And the resolutions disapproving of the resolutions of November session, 1803, relative to the embargo, endorsed, "unanimously assented to."

On motion of Mr. Davis, Ordered, That the bill to open a road to Swan creek, in Harford county, and to make a public landing thereat, be recommitted for amendment.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the treasurer of the eastern shore, enclosing a list of fines, forfeitures and amerciaments; which was read.

Mr. Street delivers a bill, entitled, An act to lay out, straighten and amend, a certain road in Harford county; which was read.

Mr. J. H. Thomas presented a petition from William Ahorn, of Frederick county, an old revolutionary soldier; which was read and referred.

The house formed itself into a committee of the whole on the bill concerning crimes and punishments; Mr. Winder in the chair. After sometime spent therein, the speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Winder reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The question was put: That the committee have leave to sit again? Resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. J. Brown and Mr. Hopper appeared in the house.

Mr. Tabbs delivers a bill, entitled, An act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the town of Westminster, in Frederick county, through Harman's Gap, to Hagar's-town, in Washington county; which was read.

Mr. Worthington delivers an unfavourable report on the petition of Samuel Norwood; which was read.

The house adjourns till Monday morning.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1809.

THE house met. Present as on Saturday, except Mr. Harryman. The proceedings of Saturday were read. Mr. Harryman and Mr. Lecompte appeared in the house.

The bill to authorize the drawing of a lottery or lotteries in Middle-town, was sent to the senate.

Mr. Bland presented a petition from Isaac Vanbibber, and others, praying that the treasury may be directed to pay them money paid in the treasury by Mark Alexander; Mr. J. Brown presented a petition from James Dorrell, an old soldier; Mr. Archer presented a petition from John Smithson, of Harford county, praying that a road through his land may be shut; Mr. Randall presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Baltimore county, praying for a bridge over the Great Falls; Mr. Harryman presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Baltimore county, praying for a road; Mr. Hileary presented a petition from Thomas Greenwell, of Allegany county, praying he may be authorized to remove his slaves from Virginia to Maryland, and Mr. Worthington presented a petition from the justices of the peace of Baltimore county, praying they may be allowed to charge for writing probats; which were read and referred.

Mr. Randall delivers a bill, entitled, A supplement to an act, entitled, An act for opening a certain road in Baltimore county therein mentioned; Mr. Street delivers a bill, entitled, An act to lay out and open a road in Harford county; Mr. Bland delivers a bill, entitled, An act to prevent insurance on lottery tickets; Mr. Worthington delivers a bill, entitled, An act to incorporate the Washington cotton manufacturing company, of the city of Baltimore; and Mr. Seth delivers a bill, entitled, An act to authorize and empower the levy court of Talbot county to issue and levy a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned; which were read and referred.

Mr. Plater delivers a favourable report on the petition of Cornelius Manning; which was read; also a petition from John McWilliams, late sheriff of Saint-Mary's county, praying further time to complete his collection; which was read and referred.

Mr. Wilson presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Somerset and Worcester counties, counter to the petition for the suspension of fairs; Mr. Tabbs presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Williams-Port, praying a law for the regulation of the market in said town; and Mr. Bayly presented a petition from sundry inhabitants of Somerset county, praying that the road from the line of Delaware to Salisbury, in said county, may be made a public road; which were read and referred.

Mr. Davis delivers a bill, entitled, An act to open a road to Swan creek, in Harford county, and to make a public landing place thereat, as amended; which was read.

On motion of Mr. J. E. Spencer, the following resolutions were read.

Whereas the unexampled conduct of Francis James Jackson, late minister plenipotentiary of his Britannic majesty near the United States, has induced the President to make known, that no further communications will be received from him; And whereas the General Assembly of Maryland, duly appreciating the consequences of such procedure; therefore Resolved, That the conduct of Francis James Jackson, in charging the executive with closing the rate negotiation with his predecessor, Mr. Erskine, under a perfect knowledge that the powers vested in him were not commensurate to the object, was a violation of the decorum and respect due the American government.

Resolved, That after the explicit and repeated declarations of the president, (through the proper organ of communication,) that he had no knowledge of any want of power in Mr. Erskine to conclude the late negotiation, and that if such knowledge had existed the arrangement would not have been made, that then the reiteration of the original charge was in effect to add insult to injury.

Resolved, That the circular letter, bearing the signature of the said Francis James Jackson, is an additional proof of the disrespect and contempt which has marked the conduct of that minister towards the American government, and is highly calculated to rouse the indignant spirit of an independent people.

Resolved, That the suspicion expressed by Francis James Jackson, through Charles Oakley, his Britannic majesty's secretary of legation, for the personal safety of himself and suite, intimates an abandonment, on our part, of the most sacred principle of the code of nations, and contains an unwarrantable reflection upon the people of the United States.

Ordered to have a second reading on Tuesday the 19th inst.

Mr. Holbrook, Mr. P. Spencer and Mr. Gale, have leave of absence.

Mr. J. Brown delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the relief of John Campbell, of Queen-Anne's county; which was read.

On motion of Mr. J. E. Spencer, Leave given to bring in a bill for the more effectual prevention of duelling.

The bill authorizing a lottery for raising a sum of money for the purpose of erecting a building to be called the Baltimore Female Academy, was read the second time and passed.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the bill concerning crimes and punishments; Mr. Winder in the chair. After sometime spent therein, the speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Winder reported the said bill, with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Chapman, the following resolutions were read.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, to unite with such gentlemen as may be appointed by the senate, for the purpose of viewing and examining the penitentiary-house now erecting near the city of Baltimore, to answer the objects contemplated by a revision of the penal code of this State, under the consideration of this legislature; and that said committee report to this general assembly, what, in their opinion, is necessary for the completion of the said penitentiary, that such steps may be immediately taken thereon as may be calculated to carry the said establishment into effect.

Resolved, That — be a committee for the aforesaid purpose on the part of this house.

Mr. Calvert presented a petition from Richard Johnson, of Prince-George's county, praying he may receive interest on a sum of money refunded to him by the State; and Mr. Boyle presented a petition from Nicholas Brewer, register in chancery, praying to be reimbursed for expenses in fitting up a room for his office; which were read and referred.

The bill to amend and abolish the forty-fifth article of the constitution and form of government, was read the second time and passed.

Mr. J. Thomas, Mr. Barr and Mr. St. Thomas presented in the house.

The bill to incorporate a company for making an artificial road from the town of New-Castle, was read the second time, and after amending the title thereof, the question was put: Shall the said bill pass? Resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Cotton delivers a bill, entitled, A further additional supplement to the act, entitled, An act to ascertain the allowance to jurymen and witnesses of the general court, and the several county courts in this State; which was read.

The bill for the relief of Henry Alexander, was read the second time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Seth, Ordered, That the bill to alter all such parts of the constitution and form of government of this State as relate to voters and the qualification of voters, have a second reading on to-morrow.

The bill for the relief of John Campbell, was read the second time and passed.

Mr. Bland delivers a bill, entitled, An act for the benefit of the creditors and children of George Malby, late of the city of Baltimore; which was read.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, DEC. 1.

MR. MACON, after some observations on the state of the navigation of the U. States, offered two resolutions to the following effect: The first went to exclude all vessels from the ports of the United States coming from ports where the vessels of the United States are prohibited an entry. The other authorized the renewal of registers to such vessels owned by citizens of the United States, as may have lost their papers; and prohibits the issuing of sea letters or any other custom-house document in future to vessels not built in the U. States and owned by citizens thereof.— The resolutions were referred to the committee of commerce and manufactures to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Dana offered a resolution respecting American freights (the same as the one he offered the last session.) The resolution goes to deprive ships and vessels of their charter of vessels of the United States, unless a certain portion of the mariners on board are natural born subjects of the U. States. Referred to the committee of commerce and manufactures to report by bill or otherwise.

MONDAY, DEC. 4.

MR. TROUP submitted a number of resolutions, whose object was the vindication and protection of our commercial rights against the hostile aggressions of the belligerents of Europe. He remarked, that the commerce, the small remnant of commerce, which we were suffered to enjoy on the ocean, it was not difficult to ascertain—so little was there of it! It was but right that we should discover upon what principle it was, that England and France had issued their orders and decrees against neutral commerce? It was not a belligerent right; because if we submitted to the mere paper proclamations of blockade and commercial exclusion in time of war, we must likewise submit to them in intervals of peace. They were equally illegal

at all times. They were not founded upon any one right whatever growing out of war. What was to prohibit us from trading to England and France what they do to us? If England gave out licenses to us to trade to the continent, let us too give licenses to her ships to trade to the Brazils and the Spanish Main; and to which she had no more claim than we have. It France and England seized our vessels, and detain and confiscate the property of our merchants, we have the same right to do so to them. These resolutions were whose object was similar to that which were intended to effectuate—the maintenance of our commercial rights. In regard to France, they would approach nearer to what in their application to those two nations shew. France had little or no concern upon the ocean; and these measures seem to indicate towards her a more unequivocal hostility, than towards Great Britain.

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorize the president by law to intruct the commanders of armed vessels of the U. S. to bring into the ports of the same, all vessels with their cargoes, the property of the subjects of the king of G. Britain, in France, bound to other ports than those in the dominions or colonies of either.

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorize by law, the detention of all ships, vessels, with their cargoes, the property of the subjects of the king of G. Britain, brought within the ports of the U. States, to abide the final decision or order of the government.

Resolved, That an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent be levied and collected on all wares and merchandize, of British production or manufacture.

Resolved, That it is expedient to authorize the president, on payment of the duties authorized to be levied and collected on goods laden on board the vessels, the property of the subjects of the king of G. Britain, forthwith to grant license to such vessels to depart, and to proceed to their original ports of destination, without further hindrance or molestation.

The resolutions were permitted to lie on the table for consideration, and ordered to be printed.

TUESDAY, DEC. 5.

MR. M'KIM, after observing that nothing more impudently demanded our attention than the pretensions of Great-Britain to regulate the trade of the world, in granting licenses &c. submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting by law, vessels owned by citizens of the U. States from trading under the licenses or commissions of any foreign prince or State, to any port or place not under the dominion of such foreign prince or State, and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

THURSDAY, DEC. 7.

MR. BACON offered three resolutions for the regulation of the house. The first was, for the suppression of all reproachful language from one member towards another, and to prohibit all disrespectful language towards the executive. The second, that the sending a challenge to any member of the house during the session, be deemed a breach of privilege, and all concerned to be liable to punishment. The 3d, That any assault on a member during his attendance at the seat of government be considered a breach of privilege, and all concerned to be punishable. Laid on the table to be called up to-morrow.

Mr. Van-Horn offered several resolutions for the regulation of navigation. The first to prohibit the exportation of any goods except in vessels owned and navigated by Americans. The second to prohibit the re-shipment of any goods imported from foreign ports or places. The third, to lay discriminating duties on goods imported in ships of vessels not owned in the U. States. The fourth, to prohibit American vessels from trading from one foreign port to another. The fifth to repeal the laws of the U. States respecting drawbacks. Laid on the table.

IN SENATE, DEC. 4, 1809.

MR. HOPE submitted the following resolution for consideration:—

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 resolution be submitted to the legislatures of the several States, which when ratified and confirmed by the legislatures of three-fourths of