

The Queen Charlotte and 3 others of the enemy's vessels came down to Fort Erie on the 28th inst. but as soon as they heard of the capture of Fort George and its dependencies, they proceeded up the Lake, I presume for Malden.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,
ISAAC CHAUNCEY.
Hon. Wm. Jones,
Secretary of the Navy,
Washington.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, June 1.

Mr. Fisk from the committee of elections made a report on the petition of Wm. Kelly, contesting the election of Thomas K. Harris, which concluded with the following resolution:

Resolved, That until the be allowed to Thomas K. Harris, a member of this House to procure testimony relative to his election.

Referred to a committee of the whole for this day.

On motion of Mr. Fisk, the petitioner was admitted to a seat on the floor of the house during the pendency of the contest.

Mr. Sharp offered the following: Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire what provisions ought to be made for the payment of the mounted riflemen, who were called into the service of the U. States from the State of Kentucky in the year 1812, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Grundy the resolution was amended, so as to refer it to the committee on military affairs.

Mr. Goldsborough moved further to amend the resolution by adding after the words 1812, "and also for the payment of the expenses of the militia called out under the authority of the State governments, for the defence of the country against the incursions of the enemy." He thought it was proper the whole subject should be brought before the committee at the same time.

Mr. McKee opposed the amendment. He thought the two subjects had no affinity and therefore should be taken up separate and distinct from each other. In the one case, the men were engaged in defending a place remote from their residence, in the other they were defending their own homes and fire sides.

Mr. Wright advocated the amendment.

Mr. Goldsborough replied to the observations of Mr. McKee.

The amendment was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Jennings the resolution was further amended so as to include the "territorial authority."

The resolution as amended was adopted.

Contested Election.

The house in committee of the whole, Mr. Lewis in the chair, on the report of the committee of elections on the contested election between Wm. Kelly and Thomas K. Harris.

Mr. Fisk moved to fill the blank in the resolution with the "the first Monday in the next session of congress" which will make the resolution read thus: "Resolved, that until the first Monday in the next session of congress be allowed to Thos. K. Harris, a member of this house, to procure testimony relative to his election."

After some conversation on the proper time for limiting the taking of testimony, Mr. Fisk withdrew his motion and moved to fill the blank with the words "the tenth day of Sept. next."

Mr. Kelly the petitioner made some observations in opposition to allowing Mr. Harris any time to procure testimony.

Mr. Fisk withdrew his second motion and Mr. Grundy moved to amend the resolution by inserting "that three months be allowed to the parties to take testimony relative to the event of said election." Carried.

The question then was on agreeing to the resolution as amended.

Mr. Kelly stated his reasons at length why in his opinion time should not be given.

Mr. Harris replied and contended that time ought to be given.

After considerable debate, which lasted till near three o'clock, the committee rose, reported progress and had leave to sit again.

On motion it was ordered, that when the house adjourn it adjourn to meet on Monday. Adjourned.

Monday, June 7.

The house in committee of the whole again resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of elections, in the case of William Kelly and Thos. K. Harris.

The committee of elections reported in favour of granting time to Thos. K. Harris, the sitting member, to procure testimony relative to his election. To this report the petitioner Wm. Kelly objected, and the question was on agreeing to the report.

A debate ensued, which lasted till past 2 o'clock, when the committee rose, reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

A communication from the Secretary of War, laying before congress a code for the government of the army of the U. States was laid before the house by the speaker. Referred to the committee on military affairs.

Adjourned.

Tuesday, June 8.

Mr. Fisk offered the following: Resolved, That the committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making further provision by law for prohibiting trade and intercourse between citizens of the United States and the enemies thereof, and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise. Adopted.

A bill from the Senate on the subject of an uniform rule of naturalization, was read a first and second time and committed to a committee of the whole house for to-morrow.

CONTESTED ELECTION.

The House in committee of the whole, again resumed the consideration of the report of the committee of elections in the case of Wm. Kelly and Thomas K. Harris.

The report of the committee gave Mr. Harris three months to procure testimony relative to his election. It was agreed to, and the committee rose, reported the resolution and the house concurred by ayes and noes. Yeas 102, Nays 55.

Wednesday, June 9.

Mr. McLean offered the following resolutions for consideration:

Resolved, that the committee on military affairs be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making some provision for the widows and orphans of the militia slain by the enemy, or who may hereafter be slain by them during the present war while in the actual service of the United States, and for whose families no provision exists by law; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Resolved, That the committee of claims be instructed to enquire whether any provision ought to be made for the indemnification of those persons who had property taken into the service of the North Western Army under the command of general Hull, and which in consequence of his surrender to the garrison at Detroit, fell into the hands of the enemy; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. McLean explained at some length the nature of the object he had in view in introducing the resolutions.

The first proposition was agreed to.

Mr. Seybert suggested the propriety of making the inquiry proposed in the second resolution more general; and

Mr. Grosvenor moved to strike out the latter part of the resolution & in lieu of it insert, "those persons whose property has been captured or destroyed by the enemy during the present war." He did not propose a general provision for the relief of all who should come under this description; but there were an hundred cases, perhaps, to which relief ought to be extended, as well as to the sufferers at Detroit. The committee would, by having the whole subject before them, report generally, and save the house the trouble of distinct references.

Mr. Findley said that in all the revolutionary war, no provision had been made to compensate persons for property destroyed by the enemy. A distinction had always been taken in favor of property destroyed in the public service. The principle proposed in the amendment, which would include every vessel captured at sea, was not lightly to be gone into. He wished the resolution to lie for further consideration. He was of opinion that some further legal provision was necessary, but how far he was not prepared to say.

The resolution was ordered to lie on the table.

NATURALIZATION LAWS.

On motion of Mr. Fisk of N. Y. the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole. Mr. Desha in the chair, on the following bill.

A bill supplementary to the acts heretofore passed on the subject of a uniform rule of naturalization.

Be it enacted, &c. That all alien enemies resident in the U. S. or the territories thereof, on the eighteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, may be admitted citizens of the United States, at the times, and in the manner prescribed by the laws heretofore passed on that subject, any thing in any former law to the contrary notwithstanding: Provided, that no Alien Enemies shall be admitted citizens, who shall not, within nine months after the passage of this act, make such declaration of their intention as is required by law: And provided also, that nothing herein contained shall be taken or construed to interfere or prevent the apprehension and removal, agreeably to law, of any alien enemy, at any time previous to the actual naturalization of such alien.

The bill was read through and no opposition being made to it, it was reported to the house.

Mr. Burwell stated that he was not perfectly prepared to act on this bill, and was desirous to offer amendments, one of which he wished to propose for the purpose, if acceptable to the house, of confining the privilege of naturalized citizens to residents within the U. States. He therefore moved that the bill lie on the table for the present.

After a few words from Mr. Benson, who appeared to think that such a provision, if necessary, need not be incorporated in this bill; the bill was ordered to lie on the table.

Thursday, June 10.

Mr. Eppes, from the committee of ways and means made the following Report.

The committee of ways and means, to whom was referred so much of the message of the President of the United States as relates to the establishment of a well digested system of internal revenue, have had the same under consideration. They deem it unnecessary to say any thing as to the necessity of providing additional revenue at a time when the general rate of expenditure has been so much increased by measures necessarily connected with a state of war. A reference to the reports from the treasury department and from the committee of ways and means, during the last and preceding years, will show that a provision for additional revenue can no longer be delayed, without a violation of all those principles held sacred in every country where the value and importance of national credit have been justly estimated. They have reviewed the system heretofore presented, and taking into consideration its having been sanctioned in its principles by a vote of the house of representatives, have determined to recommend its adoption with some modifications, in preference to commencing a new system at a period when neither the principles or details could receive that mature consideration on which alone they could venture to recommend its adoption. The bills heretofore reported were founded on estimates which assumed for a basis the providing a revenue sufficient to meet the expenses of the peace establishment, the interest on the old debt, and on such new loans as have been or may be hereafter authorized. These several items for the year 1814, are estimated as follows:

The expenses of the peace establishment at	7,000,000
The interest on the public debt	
On the old funded 2,100,000	
On 6 per cent stock 1812, including temporary loans received in part of the loan of 11,000,000, which will remain unpaid in 1814,	500,000
On 6 per cent stock of 1813	1,000,000
On treasury notes which will be reimbursable in 1814, say on 5,000,000 at 5 2-5 per cent	270,000
	—3,960,000
On the loan for 1814—interest payable in that year	440,000
	11,400,000
The revenue now established being estimated to produce	5,800,000
Leaves to be provided for	5,600,000
To meet which sum the committee propose	
1. A direct tax of 3,000,000	

Internal Duties, viz.

Duties on stills, say	765,000
On refined sugars,	200,000
On retailers licences	500,000
On sales at auction	50,000
On carriages	150,000
On bank notes and negotiable paper	400,000
On salt at 20 cents	400,000
Additional duty on foreign tonnage	900,000
	—6,365,000
Deduct for expenses of collection, assessment, and losses	750,000
	5,615,000
Leaves	5,615,000

The committee therefore ask leave to report the following bills:

1. A bill for the assessment and collection of direct taxes.
2. A bill to lay and collect a direct tax within the U. S.
3. A bill laying a duty on imported salt.
4. A bill establishing the office of commissioner of the revenue.
5. A bill laying duties on licences to retailers of wines, spirituous liquors, and foreign merchandise.
6. A bill laying duties on carriages for the conveyance of persons.
7. A bill laying duties on licences to distillers of spirituous liquors.
8. A bill laying duties on sales at auction of foreign merchandize and of ships and vessels.
9. A bill laying duties on sugars refined within the U. States.
10. A bill laying duties on bank notes and on notes of hand and foreign bills of exchange of certain descriptions.
11. A bill making further provision for the collection of internal duties.
12. A bill laying an additional duty on foreign tonnage.

The several bills above recited were read a first and second time, referred to a committee of the whole, and made the order of the day for Monday.

Mr. Burwell from the committee of elections, made a detailed report on the petition of John Taliaferro, contesting the election of John Hungerford, a sitting member from Virginia, which concludes with the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That the said election held in April last was illegal and ought to be set aside.

"Resolved, That John P. Hungerford is not entitled to a seat in this house."

The report was referred to a committee of the whole.

FRENCH DECREES.

Mr. Webster rose, as he said, to call the attention of the house to a subject of considerable importance—a task which he had hoped would have fallen into the hands of some other gentleman better qualified than himself to undertake it. He then read the resolutions which will be found below. In offering these resolutions it was not his intention he said, to enter into any discussion or argument, or to advance any proposition whatever, on which gentlemen could adopt different views or take different sides. He would merely remark, by way of explanation, what would be remembered by all, that the subjects to which these resolutions referred, were intimately connected with the cause of the present war. The revocation of the orders in council of G. Britain, was the main point on which the war turned, and it had been demanded for the reason that the French decrees had ceased to exist. This then was the point at issue. Mr. Webster remarked on what he termed the contradictory evidence on this head, the letter of Mr. Champagny on one hand asserting the revocation, the speech of the Emperor to the free cities on the other denying it—the decisions of the French admiralty courts on one hand and opposite decisions of the same courts on the other. The whole matter, in short, involved in doubt. But on the declaration of war, and not until then, a decree appeared repealing the French decrees; a decree which if issued, had lain dormant, mere *brutum fulmen*, until after the war commenced and then only made its appearance. In March last, it would also be recollected, the President had communicated to Congress, immediately before its adjournment, certain correspondence between our government and its minister in France, the prominent feature of which correspondence was, that, in an interview between our minister and the French secretary for foreign affairs, which took place about the 1st of May 1812, it was stated by the latter that the decree in question had been put into the hands of our minister in France, and transmitted to the French minister in the U. S. at the time it bore date. To shed light

on this transaction Mr. W. said, was that he moved these resolutions, in the discharge of what he deemed a duty to his constituents and his country. The declarations of the French minister had a great bearing on the reputation of the country—the reputation of these persons who in their official characters represented the dignity of the nation. To place their conduct in its proper light, he presented to the consideration of the House the following resolutions—

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform this house, unless the public interest should, in his opinion, forbid such communication, "when, by whom, and in what manner the first intelligence was given to this government of the decree of the government of France, bearing date on the 29th of April, 1811, and purporting to be a definitive repeal of the decrees of Berlin and Milan."

Resolved, That the president of the United States be requested to inform this house, whether Mr. Russell, late charge d'affaires of the United States at the court of France, hath ever admitted or denied to his government the correctness of the declaration of the duke of Bassano to Mr. Barlow, the late minister of the United States at that court, as stated in Mr. Barlow's letter of the 12th of May, 1812, to the secretary of state, "that the said decrees of April twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and eleven, had been communicated to his (Mr. Barlow's) predecessor there;" and to lay before this house any correspondence with Mr. Russell relative to that subject, which it may not be improper to communicate; and also, any correspondence with Mr. Russell relative to that subject, which may be in possession of the department of state.

Resolved, That the president of the U. States be requested to inform this House, whether the minister of France near the United States ever informed this government of the existence of the said decree of the 28th of April, 1811, and to lay before the house any correspondence that may have taken place with the said minister relative thereto, which the president may not think improper to be communicated.

Resolved, That the President of the U. States be requested to communicate to this house any other information which may be in his possession and which he may not deem injurious to the public interest to disclose relative to the said decree of the 28th of April, 1811, and tending to show at what time, by whom, and in what manner the said decree was first made known to this government or to any of its representatives or agents.

Resolved, That the president be requested, in case the fact be, that the first information of the existence of said decree of the 28th of April, 1811, ever received by this government of any of its ministers or agents, was communicated in May, 1812, by the duke of Bassano to Mr. Barlow, and by him to his government, mentioned in his letter to the secretary of state, of May 12, 1812, the accompanying papers, to inform this house whether the government of the United States, hath ever received from that of France any explanation of the reasons of that decree being concealed from this government and its minister for so long a time after its date; and if such explanation has been asked by this government, and has been omitted to be given by that of France, whether this government has made any remonstrance, and expressed any affection, to the government of France, at such concealment.

Mr. Grosvenor having required the yeas and nays on the question proceeding now to consider the resolution they were found to be as follows:

For consideration 138
Against it 28

The resolve was ordered to lie on the table accordingly.

NOTICE.

The Chancery Office is again open and business will be transacted with delay. All persons who may have papers belonging to said office will return them as soon as possible. A subscriber is under the necessity of informing the Gentlemen of the Bar, papers must not be taken from the office without an order from the Chancellor.

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JAS. P. HEATH

Reg. Cur. of the Fed. Gazette, American, Frederick-Town Herald, and Hager's Town Gazette. Great difficulties seem to exist in the cabinet at this time in consequence of the bold and dignified stand the senate has taken against them. Rather than recall Gallatin from Russia, he will, without question, be removed from the treasury; and this will create a schism

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

BALTIMORE, THURSDAY, JUNE 17.

Nothing of importance has yet been done in either house of congress, or any great degree of interest. The business of the lower house has been principally occupied on contested elections, but it is very well known that the question relative to stenography—much warm and animated debate has taken place in the Senate on executive business, although they have been in session every day since the session commenced. The subject discussed are not generally known, yet sufficient has been made public to warrant the belief that their business has been of a very important nature. The mission of Gallatin has excited a degree of warmth that body seldom or never before witnessed; and it is pretty well ascertained, that his appointment will not be confirmed, unless he be first removed from the president from the treasury. In the event of his removal, it is believed that Mr. Speaker Clay will be placed at the head of that department. If Gallatin had not been hurried from the country just at the moment he was there is no probability that he would have gone to Russia, if we may judge from the disapprobation that has marked the conduct of the senate as to his appointment. What may be his destination is not known; but from the information that has been made available, making so important an office as that of Secretary of the Treasury a sinecure, it is believed, and with good reason, that Gallatin's removal would be made a preliminary to a confirmation of his embassy. Those who formerly were the friends of administration, and seemed ready to appropriate their policy to the utmost extent, are now the most violent against that system of destructive measures pursued by them, and which has so often been held out against the distressed situation of our country. The conduct of Mr. Madison in relation to Gallatin, seems like dictating to the senate what was to be done without even consulting them on the propriety of any particular feature in his policy. He may create offices, and fill them, and because the appointments were made during a recess of the national legislature, he would seem to insinuate that what he had done, must of course be sanctioned at their next meeting. It is to be hoped however, that he will find his calculations have been made with too great rapidity, and that the senate will exercise their prerogative to the fullest extent. To see Mr. Gallatin sent from the country on a foreign mission, but two weeks previous to a meeting of congress, evidently shows that some doubt was entertained by the president whether his nomination would be confirmed by the senate. It is believed by many who are noticed with attention the signs of the times, that this mission is a kind of political pantomime, got up by the cabinet to amuse the people of this country, and gull them into a belief that nothing is more anxiously desired by our chief magistrate than peace. But fortunately it has been so badly played off that the effect which was intended has not been produced, and instead of blinding, has opened the eyes of many. It is quite unnecessary to remark farther on the deliberations of the senate, for a short time only necessary to disclose events, which will excite interest in every American bosom. What will be the fate of the long catalogue of tax bills reported by the committee of ways and means, is very uncertain; but it is thought by many who have had an opportunity of mixing with members of different parties, that they will not be carried into operation. The resolutions of Mr. Webster, calling on the president for certain information relative to a repeal of the French decrees, will doubtless produce much animated debate when they are called up to be discussed. As yet the attention of the house has been confined to business, which is of little or no importance to the public.

Much anxiety yet prevails respecting the fate of the Chesapeake. Whether she has been captured or not, has never yet been ascertained, but there is too much reason to apprehend that this has been the case. A variety of reports of a very contradictory nature have been in circulation, respecting the engagement, and but very few of them are entitled to the least degree of credit. Some have gone so far as to say that she is certainly captured, and that it was effected by very dishonorable means; but as no official account has yet appeared, it is unnecessary to indulge in idle conjectures respecting it. Considering, however, the brilliant victory achieved by our arms on a recent occasion, we do not deem it presumption to say, that he has not disgraced himself or country on the present. If the loss has been occasioned, as mentioned, it was by an accident wholly unforeseen, and consequently unavoidable.

Great difficulties seem to exist in the cabinet at this time in consequence of the bold and dignified stand the senate has taken against them. Rather than recall Gallatin from Russia, he will, without question, be removed from the treasury; and this will create a schism