

CONGRESS.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Saturday, July 3.

Mr. Benson laid upon the table a resolution to the following effect, with an intimation that he should call for its consideration on Monday:

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this house, jointly with a committee to be appointed by the senate, to consider what business is necessary to be done before the adjournment of Congress, and to report at what time the two houses may adjourn."

Mr. Ingersoll, after a number of pertinent remarks on the present defects of the law providing for the punishment of piracy, and on the jarring decisions made by the judiciary officers thereon, and also on the present vexatious and difficult mode of taking depositions to be read in the courts of the U. S. offered two resolutions for inquiry into the propriety of amending the laws in these respects. These resolutions he proposed to lay on the table, to be called up at the next session of congress. On the suggestion of the speaker that this course was contrary to the rules, according to which a postponement beyond the session is tantamount to a general or indefinite postponement, the house refused to consider the resolutions, which now, of course lie on the table.

THE WAYS & MEANS.

On motion of Mr. Bibb, the unfinished business (the report on Mr. Hungerford's contested election) was postponed; and the house proceeded to the consideration of the tax bills.

The bill to impose a duty on licences to distillers of spirits, was first taken up, and the amendments made in committee of the whole were severally agreed to.

Mr. Taylor moved to amend the bill by striking out the second section thereof, imposing a duty on the capacity of the still, & in lieu thereof inserting a section imposing specific duties on the quantity distilled, at the rate of ten cents for every gallon of spirits from foreign materials of first proof, and so upwards to 25 cents for the highest proof, and every gallon distilled from domestic materials 7 cents for the lowest, and so up to 18 cents per gallon on the highest proof.

After some conversation, the question on the amendment was taken, and the result proved to be as follows:

For the amendment, 62
Against it, 82

There being an equality of votes on this amendment, the Speaker decided the motion in the negative.

Mr. Grundy moved to amend the bill by adding thereto a clause limiting the duration of this act to the end of the present war.

Mr. Fisk moved to amend this amendment so as to limit the duration of the law to one year, and to the end of the next session of congress thereafter. This motion was negatived, yeas 54.

After some objections to the motion of Mr. Grundy by Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Fisk, and in reply thereto by Mr. Bibb, the question thereon was decided in the affirmative.

For the motion 85
Against it 43

Several attempts were made by Mr. King of Massachusetts & others further to amend the bill so as to render its provisions more favorable to spirits distilled from the foreign materials; but were unsuccessful.

On motion of Mr. Bradley, the following proviso was attached to the bill:

"Provided, That there be paid upon each still employed wholly in the distillation of roots but one half of the rates of duties above mentioned, according to the capacity of such still."

The bill was then, on motion of Mr. Bibb, ordered to lie on the table.

The bill from the Senate, to relinquish the claims of the United States to certain goods, wares and merchandise, captured by private armed vessels, was twice read, and referred to the committee of ways and means.

The house spent some time in committee of the whole, on the bill for laying a direct tax, and having risen at the usual hour, the committee obtained leave to sit again.

Adjourned.

Monday July 5.

Mr. Benson called for the consideration of the resolution offered by

him on Saturday last, for appointing a committee of the Senate to enquire what business it will be necessary to transact during the present session of Congress, and when it may be brought to a close. It was adopted and a committee of five ordered.

The house proceeded to the consideration of the bill laying a duty on licences to distillers of spirituous liquors.

After some debate on a proposition made by Mr. King, of Mass. to amend the bill, it was withdrawn, and Mr. Pitkin moved to refer the bill to the committee of ways and means for the purpose of reporting a section, allowing a drawback on spirits distilled from molasses when exported, equal to the duty paid on molasses on importation.

A debate took place and the question on recommitment was taken by ayes and noes, and were yeas 42—noes 108.

Mr. King of Mass. moved to recommit the bill for the purpose of equalizing the duties on stills. Negatived.

The question on engrossing the bill for a third reading was decided by ayes and noes as follows—yeas 99, noes 51.

It was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

The house in committee of the whole, Mr. Nelson in the chair, on a bill for laying and collecting a direct tax.

A variety of amendments were proposed, some of which were adopted, and others rejected, and the committee rose and reported the bill.

Adjourned.

Tuesday, July 6.

Mr. Troup from the committee on military affairs reported a bill for the relief of the superannuated officers and soldiers of the late and present army of the U. S. which was twice read and referred to the committee of the whole house.

An engrossed bill laying a duty on licences to distillers of spirituous liquors was read a third time and passed by ayes and noes—yeas 84, noes 49.

The house took up for consideration the bill with the amendments reported by the committee of the whole house, for laying and collecting a direct tax.

Mr. Post moved to recommit it to the committee of ways and means for the purpose of equalizing the apportionment among the different counties of New-York. After some debate this motion was negatived.

The bill had not been gone thro' with when the house adjourned.

Wednesday, July 7.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill for laying and collecting a direct tax.

Mr. Harris moved an amendment to the bill which had for its object a different mode of apportioning the taxes in the state of Ohio. After debate the amendment was adopted.

Propositions was then made to amend the amendment by including almost all the other states.

In the course of the proceedings on this amendment, Mr. Bibb called for the previous question. The house refused to second the call.

After some further proceedings Mr. Cheves again called for the previous question. A majority of the house refused to second the call.

Mr. Gholson again called for the previous question; a majority seconded the call.

The question then stated by the chairman, "shall the main question be now put?" It was decided by ayes and noes as follows—yeas 83, noes 78.

The Speaker announced that the question now before the house was "shall the bill be engrossed for a third reading?"

Mr. Pitkin conceived that the question was on the amendment that was under consideration when the previous question was called and not on engrossing the bill.

The Speaker adhered to his decision. From this decision Mr. Pitkin appealed.

A debate ensued and the question on confirming the decision of the chair was decided by ayes and noes, as follows—Yeas 98, Nays 68, and the decision of the chair affirmed.

Mr. Wright moved that the bill lie on the table. Negatived.

The question on engrossing the bill for a third reading was then determined in the affirmative—yeas 96, noes 73, and it was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

The House in committee of the whole, Mr. Nelson in the chair, on a bill for establishing the office of commissioner of the revenue.

The bill was gone through, and the bill laying a duty on refined sugar, was read through, and amended; as also was the bill for taxing sales at auction, &c. And the committee rose and reported their agreement to the bills they had gone through, and their progress in the remainder, and had leave to sit again. And the house adjourned.

Thursday, July 8.

Mr. Wood presented the petition of Joshua Walker and others, members of a volunteer company, stating that they have been kept out of their pay owing to their captain having received the money due them and lost it, and praying relief from congress. Referred to the secretary of war.

Mr. Troup from the committee on military affairs to whom was referred a resolution of the house of the 15th of June, instructing them to enquire whether any and if any what alterations are necessary to be made in the act entitled "an act making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States," and particularly whether any and if any what alterations are necessary as to the time when the arms procured by virtue of said act shall be distributed to each state and territory, made a report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Fisk, of Vermont, after some preliminary observations, called for the consideration of the remonstrance of the Legislature of Massachusetts. The question on considering was taken by ayes and noes, and was yeas 97, noes 58. Mr. Fisk then moved that it be referred to a select committee. At the suggestion of Mr. Robertson, the motion was varied so as to refer all the remonstrance except that part which relates to Louisiana, and also to include a reference of the remonstrance of the minority.

Mr. Webster was opposed to a partial reference—he was not anxious it should be acted on at all this session—but he did not know how a selection could well be made. It had been said it was intended the committee should give an answer to this remonstrance; if so, he believed it necessary the whole subject should go to them.

Mr. Robertson supported the partial reference—he did not believe the committee or any body else had a right to question the right of Louisiana to be admitted into the union.

Mr. King of N. C. moved that the further consideration of this subject be postponed till the first Monday of December next.

Mr. Calhoun was in favor of postponement. He considered it unnecessary and impolitic to act on this subject at this time—if an answer was given the very next Legislature of that state would reply, and thus this business might go on ad infinitum.

Mr. Hanson, advocated a postponement; but if it was referred he hoped it would be referred entire, as he conceived that part which relates to Louisiana one of the most important features in it.

Mr. Robertson replied.

Mr. Murfree moved that it lie on the table. Negatived.

Mr. King's motion to postpone it till the first Monday in Dec. next was adopted.

An engrossed bill to lay and collect a direct tax within the U. States was read a third time.

Mr. Post moved to recommit the bill to the committee of Ways and Means with instructions to apportion the quota of the state of N. York, according to a statement which he presented.

On this question the ayes and noes were called, and were yeas 54, noes 100.

Mr. Wheaton moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until the first Monday in December and made some observations in support of it.—Negatived.

Messrs. Brigham and Culpeper assigned their reason for voting against the bill.

Mr. Nelson moved to recommit the bill to a committee of the whole house. Negatived.

The bill was then passed by ayes and noes as follows—yeas 97, noes 70.

Adjourned.

Friday July 9.

Mr. Bradley after some introductory observations, offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the causes

which have led to the multiplied failures of the arms of the U. S. on our western and northwestern frontiers, and that the committee have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Hopkins of Kentucky advocated the passage of the resolution, but thought it would be proper that time should be given the committee to make their report till the next session of congress.

Mr. Seybert opposed the passage. Mr. Jackson, of Virginia, also opposed it. He thought it was the most impolitic resolution ever offered to Congress. It was particularly improper at this time. He would most heartily concur in an enquiry after the campaign was ended.

Mr. Taylor moved that it lie on the table, and be printed. Mr. Findley advocated its lying on the table. It was ordered to lie on the table—76 to 67.

A bill from the senate, providing for the further defence of the ports and harbours of the U. S. was read twice and referred to the committee on military affairs.

Mr. Jackson of Virginia had leave of absence.

The house in committee of the whole, Mr. Breckenridge in the chair, on the amendments of the senate to the bill for the relief of Capt. Lawrence, his officers and crew. The amendments were concurred in, and the committee rose, reported the bill, and the house concurred in the report.

An engrossed bill laying a duty on sugar refined within the U. S. was read a third time and passed. Yeas 94, noes 53.

An engrossed bill for establishing the office of Commissioner of Revenue, was read a third time and passed.

An engrossed bill laying duties on sales at auction of foreign merchandise and ships and vessels, was read a third time and passed—Yeas 102, noes 51.

The house in committee of the whole Mr. Nelson in the chair, on a bill laying a duty on carriages for the conveyance of persons.

The committee went through the bill and made sundry amendments which were reported to the house.

Mr. Clopton spoke against the passage of the bill, on the ground of its being unconstitutional. After considerable debate the bill was reported to the house with amendments, and having been further amended the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. Adjourned.

From the Spirit of '76.

HAMPTON.

It affords us the greatest pleasure to state upon respectable authority, that the monstrous representations which have been circulating for several days, concerning the conduct of the English in quitting Hampton, are entirely without foundation.—The reports were so shocking to humanity, that we hesitated to believe it possible they could be true. Hampton has not been given up to be plundered, and we hope and believe that the whole is a fabrication. We believe the native modesty and virtue of our fair countrywomen, will always shield them against savage ruthless violence.

From the (Virginia) Herald, a Democratic paper.

"GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE."

Adage.

Capt. Hancock Lee, a gentleman of respectability well known in this town and vicinity, arrived here on Saturday last from Hampton. He was taken prisoner by the British in their late attack on that place, and carried on board Admiral Cockburn's ship, where he was detained 2 days and released. He was very well treated while on board—was closely questioned by the Admiral respecting the force which was stationed at Hampton, the military resources of the state, &c. The enemy acknowledged a loss of 180 killed and wounded, and very shrewdly estimate the American loss at 1500!!

Capt. Lee visited almost every house in Hampton on his return. To our utter astonishment, he states, that the accounts we have received of the conduct of the enemy, the abuse of females, &c. are utterly unfounded.

We beseech those who have the means of ascertaining the facts to give them publicity properly attest-

ed. If one half the reported enormities have been committed by the British, it is but sacred duty to meet them as we would bests of pity; to whom the least degree of mercy would be criminal. But if this terrible duty is imposed on our gallant soldiers by misrepresentation; the blood of every enemy unnecessarily slain, and every American sacrificed, is a man taken duty will rest on the heads of those by whom sensibility and ardent patriotism are misled.

From the Spirit of '76 of July 9.
CRUEL SLANDER.

No one will suppose for one moment that we could in any degree excuse or extenuate any act of the enemy, which shall be marked by any circumstance of barbarity. The destruction of the inconsiderable defenceless villages and towns on the shores of the Chesapeake, adds no lustre to the martial fame of any individual concerned in those transactions. There is a meanness in the perpetration of such acts, as to warrant us in affirming, that the officer who would in person superintend and direct them can never be a respected and beloved hero, and is never destined to cover himself with glory. The man who directed the conflagration of Havre de Grace, will never sleep in Westminster Abbey. Having said this much as regards the conduct of the enemy, we turn with indignation to reflect upon the tendency of the disposition of some persons among us to magnify and misrepresent the conduct of the enemy. Lying in such cases is as odious and sinful as any other—and particularly cruel, when it can do the enemy no injury, but may inflict a wound upon the character of a whole neighbourhood. It is now satisfactorily ascertained that the enemy in quitting Hampton, did not offer violence to the females of that place, as has been reported.—On the contrary, they were treated in a manner so respectful by the officers, that even those who had fled to the woods, returned and enjoyed the promised protection and security, which was faithfully extended to all that put themselves within its range. In Hampton, as in all other places, there are certain female characters, whose own conduct invites contumelious and brutal treatment, & it is possible that among the various description of men that landed there were some whose habits inclined them to an association with these wretched and miserable women.—Irregularities, excesses, and scenes too shocking to be described, or meet by a delicate eye, were probably the consequence of this association.—But in the name of humanity, shall the reputation of every respectable lady in Hampton be consigned to lasting suspicion, merely to gratify a propensity to abuse and reproach our enemies? Is it not competent to resist them, without resorting to wilful misrepresentation of facts to inflame and infatuate the public mind and public feeling? Are Americans so destitute of the proper incentives to action, as to make a resort to such extraneous excitement necessary to stimulate them to the performance of their duty? If the report of which we speak, be unfounded, and that it is we have the least doubt, we hold its authors guilty of an offence upon the sensibility and reputation of the females of Hampton, little short of the heinousness of the actual perpetration of the crimes imputed to the enemy. When the stranger shall hereafter visit the once hospitable and pleasant village of Hampton, in spite of his charity, he cannot but get this calumnation. And as he will not be able to designate the individuals, who shall be the alleged subjects of the reputed atrocity, the very woman in the place will present a suspicion to his mind, that she is cruel and ungenerous. Mothers, daughters, wives and maidens, all be doomed to sustain an injury aggravated by its falsehood—extinguished alone by pity. If we could believe that one virtuous female, however low in estate, or humble in family, had suffered by a wanton ruthless violence, and that we were the permission of the officers who commanded the expedition against Hampton, we should not hesitate to say that the government ought to revenge the wrong by a full measure of punishment. And there is no American, who would refuse to encounter the most dreadful of alternatives, viz. only to chastise the wretch who would offer an act of violence upon the person of one of the beloved sisters, but also to give a look that threatened him injury.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.
ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1813.

BALTIMORE RIOTS.

It is with pleasure we inform the public, that the Report of the Committee of Grievances and Courts of Justice, together with all the Depositions taken before them, relative to the Mobs and Riots which destroyed the quiet of Baltimore during last summer, have been published, and are now for sale at Mr. G. Shaw's Book Store in this place. It contains a more full account than any that has yet appeared, and is a faithful narrative of all those violations of law and order which distracted that city from the demolition of the Federal Republican office in Gay-street to the catastrophe at the Gaol, and subsequent attempts to destroy the Post-Office. This book ought to occupy a place in every man's library, that he may be able at any time to recur to a period in the history of Baltimore for scenes which have no parallel, but in the sanguinary revolution of France, when the lives and property of individuals lay at the mercy of an infuriate banditti, who were allowed to perpetrate, in the face of day, the blackest atrocities, by the imbecility of a police, and that without fear of punishment. No other recommendation is necessary than to mention the subject; and as the trial of Mr. Hanson, and his brave associates, has not been published, it has claims on the public attention superior to what it might otherwise have had. Those who felt an interest in that little band, who braved the storms of outrageous violence to defend the liberty of speech and the press; rights purchased by the blood of patriots, and guaranteed to every citizen by our constitution, will doubtless wish for a record of those scenes which then harrowed up their feelings. In this book may be found that record, and as it is given under the imposing solemnity of an oath, before the highest tribunal in the state, no room is left to doubt its correctness. It makes a volume of 350 octavo pages, and is sold at \$1 50 cents in boards.

The Hon. Rufus King.

All who have had an opportunity of witnessing any important discussion in the senate, in which Mr. King has taken a part, have almost universally assigned him the palm. His talents are spoken of in more exalted terms, even by his political opponents, than any other member of that body, and we do not think it would be too much to say, that he is superior at this time to any other man of which the United States can boast. Bred up in the service of his country, and guided by the strictest integrity, he has justly acquired a reputation which entitles him to the confidence of his fellow-citizens. With such a man at the head of our government, we might soon expect to witness a change in the gloomy aspect of our affairs, and that scene of prosperity again restored which formerly spread its blessings around us. For many years he has lived in the retirement of private life, and his talents when greatly required, have been lost to his country; but since all parties now unite in speaking his praise, it is sincerely to be wished that his councils may produce that effect which they so eminently deserve. If ever there is a time when our best men come again into fashion, it should be the pride of our nation to have a statesman like him to direct its affairs.—But as long as the people are controlled by those wild opinions which now to actuate them, they never will be able to distinguish between their real and pretended friends. The only way that can be entertained at present, is that those sufferings, which they have already experienced, and those which yet await them, will learn them to discriminate between those who look to their best interests, and those who pursue the idle phantoms of a distempered imagination.

Suppose an enquiry to be made into the causes of our disasters along the coast, agreeable to a proposition of Mr. Bradley, and what is it probable