

contracts which have been entered into in violation of the said act, in which monies may not yet have been advanced.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Putkin in the chair, on the bill making a partial appropriation for the military establishment, &c. which was reported to the house without amendment, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

FOREIGN MERCHANT SEAMEN.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Nelson in the chair, on the bill to authorise the apprehension of foreign seamen deserting from merchant vessels in the ports of the United States.

A debate arose on this bill, which occupied about an hour, in the course of which Messrs. Smith of Md. N. W. Clay and Whitman addressed the house.

The debate resulted in a virtual postponement of the question, by the committee's rising, reporting progress, and obtaining leave to sit again.

When the house adjourned.

Tuesday, Dec. 8.

The speaker laid before the house a report from the Secretary of War, of a system providing for the abolition of the existing Indian trading establishments of the U. States, and providing for the opening of the trade with the Indians, to individuals, under suitable regulations, made in obedience to a resolution of this house of the 4th of April last; which was referred to the committee on Indian affairs.

The speaker also laid before the house a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, containing a plan for the final adjustment of claims to land in the state of Louisiana, and territory of Missouri, accompanied by the draft of a bill providing for that purpose, prepared in obedience to a resolution of this house of the 16th of April last; which was read and committed to a committee of the whole.

To the same committee of the whole were also referred two bills relating to this subject, reported at the last session.

Mr. Harrison then moved to add the word "execution," that the reference might embrace both the trial and execution, which was agreed to.

Mr. Cobb moved to amend the resolution, by adding the following: "With instructions to enquire whether in said trials the constitution and laws of the United States or the law of nations, have been violated."

This motion was agreed to. Mr. Barbour concerning the subject one in which it was important to decide rightly, thought it had better lie on the table one day, and moved that disposition of it.

After some conversation on the postponement, in which Mr. Holmes opposed it, the motion prevailed, and the resolution was laid on the table.

The engrossed bill making a partial appropriation for the support of the military establishment for the year 1819; read the third time and passed.

Mr. Holmes, chairman of the committee of foreign relations, rose to submit to the H. use a difficulty which embarrassed the proceedings of the committee of which he was chairman. In the investigation of some of the subjects referred to that committee, it found those subjects so intimately connected with some confided to another committee, that it was difficult to proceed, without infringing on matters not referred to its consideration. He alluded to the subject of the Seminole war. That war involved our relations with a foreign power, which were committed to the committee of foreign relations; but an important incident in that war was the execution of Arbuthnot and Ambrister, was confided to the military committee, and, in proceeding on one subject, they could not well avoid the other. The committee on foreign relations, did not, therefore, know well how to proceed, unless they had the whole matter before them; and, in offering the following motion, it was not done without an understanding to that effect with the committee on military affairs. Mr. H. then submitted the following:

Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be discharged from the further consideration of so much of the President's message as relates to the execution of Arbuthnot and Ambrister, and the conduct

of the war with the Seminole Indians; and that the same be referred to the committee of foreign relations.

Mr. Poindexter moved to amend the resolution by changing the word "execution" for the word "trial," as it was the word in the original reference of the subject to the military committee.

The amendment was agreed to—yeas 66—noes 44.

The house then, on motion of Mr. Harrison, resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Wilkin in the chair, on the bill concerning invalids, (conferring on the Secretary of War, the power of placing invalids of the revolution on the pension roll, in the same manner that he is now authorised to place on the pension list invalids of subsequent wars.)

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—and the House adjourned.

Wednesday, Dec. 9.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury transmitting a report of the Director of the Mint, giving the result of sundry assays of foreign coins, which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The house having proceeded to the consideration of the resolution yesterday moved by Mr. Holmes, as amended on motion of Mr. Cobb, in the following words:

Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be discharged from the further consideration of so much of the President's message as relates to the trial of Arbuthnot and Ambrister, and the conduct of the war with the Seminole Indians; and that the same be referred to the committee of foreign relations, with instruction to inquire whether, in said trials the constitution and laws of the U. S. or the law of nations, have been violated.

Mr. Poindexter moved to postpone the further consideration of the resolution until Monday.

Mr. Hopkinson, as a member of the committee of foreign relations, hoped the motion might be indefinitely postponed, that the house might afterwards dispose of the subject as they chose. As a member of the committee which had unfortunately fallen under the reprehension of the gentleman from New York, for what it had done and what it had omitted, Mr. H. said he took upon himself his share or it with a full submission due to the censorial power vested in that honorable gentleman.

The question was then taken on indefinite postponement of the resolution, and decided in the affirmative by a large majority.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill allowing half-pay pensions of five years to the widows and orphans of those soldiers enlisted for 12 months, for 18 months, and of the militia, who died within four months after their return home, of sickness contracted while in the service.

On the question of ordering the bill to be engrossed for a third reading, a debate of considerable length took place.

The bill was earnestly opposed by Messrs. Smith of Md. Taylor, Terrell, Simkins, and Livermore, on different grounds; but principally for the reasons that the government had already gone far enough.

The question on engrossing the bill and ordering it to a third reading, was at length decided in the affirmative—yeas 87—noes 63. And the house adjourned.

ADVERTISEMENT.

By virtue of a decree from the court of Worcester county, at November term 1818 sitting as a court of Equity, the subscriber will expose to public sale, on Monday the first day of March next, if fair, if not the next fair day, on the premises, a Lot of Ground in Newtown, with a good dwelling, and other houses, formerly occupied as a Tavern, together with a lot of woodland, containing about six acres, being long to the heirs of Josiah Long, late of Worcester county, deceased. The creditors of the said Josiah Long are hereby warned to exhibit their claims, with the vouchers thereof, to the court of Worcester county, within six months from the day of sale.

The above property will be sold on a credit of twelve months, the purchaser giving bond, with approved security, on interest from the day of sale, on payment of the purchase money, and satisfaction of the sale, the subscriber will execute a deed, sale to commence at 10 o'clock P. M.

JOHN STEVENSON, Trustee
Dec. 17, 1818

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Annapolis, Thursday, Dec. 11.

As we deem it essential to the interest of the state, that the public attention should be directed to the legislature, we shall devote the greater part of our columns to its proceedings. We shall labour to unfold the principles and motives of laws on which may govern the two parties. We invite the correspondents of our political friends, and will thank those of them in office for any communication connected with public affairs. The delegates owe it to their reputation, to the cause they advocate, to furnish their constituents with the ground of their actions, for while they will form the best refutation of the falsehoods which shall spring from the electioneering contests of the ensuing year, they will enable the people to form a true estimate of the value of their services, and will warn them of the insidious and well digested plans of the democratic party, to chain the state to the interest and views of Baltimore, by destroying the political influence of the counties, as secured by the constitution. The Patriot, the Censor, the American, and every paper devoted to their triumph, and seeking to place all political power in Baltimore, modestly call this distribution of power a rotten borough system—and ask the counties to adopt a plan of reform, which is to save them all the trouble of thinking and acting on public matters, as the patriotic citizens of that enlightened city are willing (surely from the most disinterested motives) to take upon themselves all the care of the state.

Ordered, That the following committee be appointed, viz: a committee of claims, to consist of seven members, of elections, and privileges, to consist of five members, of grievances and courts of justice, to consist of five members, and of ways and means, to consist of five members; and that the members of the said committee be named by the speaker.

A message was sent to the senate informing that body that a quorum being formed and the house organized, they are prepared to proceed with the business of the session.

Ordered, That Messrs. Kennedy, Brackenridge and E. S. Thomas be appointed a committee to consider the justice and expediency of extending to those persons professing the Jewish religion the same privileges that are enjoyed by Christians.

PETITIONS.
From the grand and petit jurors of Charles county for March term 1818, for a levy to build a courthouse. From Richard M. Anson, to import slaves. From a master mechanic of the city of Baltimore, for a law for the better regulation of apprentices. From sundry inhabitants of the fifth election district in A. A. county, for an alteration in the place of holding said election. From sundry inhabitants of Somerset, to prevent the hauling of spars in the Tangier Sounds. From sundry inhabitants of Baltimore, to prevent the erection of booths at camp meetings. A memorial from Thomas Fairfax of Virginia that a sum of money paid to the treasurer of the W. S. by him for the right of the state to subscribe for shares in the Union Bank of Maryland, be refunded to him, with interest, the bank having refused to submit the said subscription. Severally read and referred.

Thursday, Dec. 10.
Samuel Claggett, a delegate from Prince-George's, appeared, qualified and took his seat.

PETITIONS.
From the trustees of the poor of Queen-Anne's, for a levy to discharge the debts due by them. From Catherine Moran, of Charles, for a support for herself and children. From Levin Pirsonett and wife, for a divorce. From Jacob Brozeman, of Frederick, for a divorce. From Lydia True, Theophilus Davis and Eleanor Long, of St. Mary's, to be supported. From sundry citizens of Maryland and Virginia, for a bridge over the Potomac at Shepherdstown, also from John Blackford and Thomas Van Swearingen, relative thereto. From Paul Mintree, a revolutionary soldier. From Priscilla Nichols of Montgomery, that the time limited for her application relative to a negro, may be extended. From sundry inhabitants of Harford, for a review of the road from Belle Air to the Roman Catholic Church. From Wm. Merryman of Baltimore, to be reinstated in Baltimore county court at the suits of Wm. Gibson. From Christian Orndorff, a revolutionary officer. From Martha Gavan, of Worcester, for a support for herself and children. From Wm. Comeys, of Caroline, for the support of himself and family. From James Andrew of Caroline, that some person may be appointed to convey to him the property purchased by him from Henry Turner. From Mary Blades, of Caroline, for a divorce. From Nehemiah Saulsbury, of Caroline, for the support of his two sisters. From Jacob Holland, of Virginia, a revolutionary soldier. From sundry inhabitants of Maryland, that the practice of fishing in the Potomac with gill nets may be prohibited. From sundry inhabitants of Washington, relative to the use of gill nets in Potomac. A memorial from Philmon Griffith, of Frederick, a revolutionary officer. From the Washington turnpike company, to be authorised to commence said road at any point of the district line, which may appear most advisable. Severally read and referred.

The speaker laid before the house reports from the Washington Academy, in Somerset, and Rockville Academy, in Montgomery, severally read.

Ordered, That a standing committee of pensions and revolutionary claims be appointed, to consist of five members, and that they be named by the speaker.

AN ABSTRACT
Of the Proceedings of the Legislature of Maryland.
HOUSE OF DELEGATES,
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The Rev. Mr. Geat was appointed Chaplain.

The Speaker laid before the house communications from Benjamin Harwood Esq. as Treasurer of the Western Shore, and as trustee of the state which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

Messrs. Samuel S. Thomas and Harrison were appointed a committee to wait on the Governor, and

to inform him that a quorum of the house being formed, and the house organized, they are prepared to proceed with the business of the session.

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Friday, Dec. 11.
James Tidwell, a delegate from Allegany, appeared, qualified and took his seat.

PETITIONS.
From sundry inhabitants of Washington county, to prevent a grange from going at large in Sharpburg. From sundry inhabitants of Harford, that the Hager's town Company may be authorised to appropriate certain funds. From sundry inhabitants of Hager's town, that the commissioners may be appointed to fix on a site to build a market house. From sundry inhabitants of Boonsborough, for a turnpike to intersect the Cumberland turnpike at or near the Stone Quarry Ridge. From Edmund Perkins, for a divorce. From George Kent, for a divorce. From George Cato and Aaron Simms, revolutionary soldiers. From John K. Edwards and Elizabeth Botkin, of St. Mary's, for a support. From the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, to confirm the devise made by the last will of Col. John Post from Josias Sunderland, of Calverton, for her time to complete his collections. From Michael C. Spring, of All-gany, to remove slaves in this state. From John Smith, a John Lomax, revolutionary soldier. From Stephen Lewis, of Worcester, for a divorce. Severally read and referred.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, leave to bring in a bill to facilitate the recovery of debts due from the several banks in this state, and to compel the said banks to pay specie for their notes, or forfeit their charters.

On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, leave to bring in a bill providing that the monies heretofore paid into the treasury of the city of Baltimore for the exclusive use of the corporation thereof, for licenses granted to auctioneers, and for duties levied on sales at auction, shall be paid into the treasury of the state for the general benefit of the people thereof, and also providing for the increase of the revenue of this state by imposing a tax on brokers, and keepers, of the lottery offices therein.

On motion of Mr. C. Dorsey, leave to bring in a bill to repeal all such parts of the laws of this state as authorise and empower the courts of law to sentence slaves to confinement in the penitentiary, to provide for the punishment of the same.

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