

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
WILLIAM PECHIN
(PRINTER OF THE LAWS OF THE UNION.)
31, SOUTH GAY-STREET,
NEAR THE CUSTOM HOUSE, BALTIMORE.

Daily paper \$7 and Country paper 5 per ann.
All advertisements appear in both papers.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1806

Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MESSAGE from the President of the U. States, communicating a report of the surveyor of the public buildings at the city of Washington, on the subject of the said buildings, and the application of the monies appropriated for them.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I lay before congress a report of the surveyor of the public buildings, stating the progress made on them during the last season, and what may be expected to be accomplished in the ensuing one.

TH: JEFFERSON.

Dec. 27, 1805.

To the President of the United States of America.

The report of the surveyor of the public buildings of the U. States, at Washington.

Washington, Dec. 22d, 1805.

SIR,

In applying the appropriations of the last session of congress, 110,000 dollars, to the prosecution of the work on the south wing of the capitol, and of 20,000 dollars to the service of the other public buildings, I have endeavored so to comply with your directions, as to forward the progress of the works to the utmost extent of the limited resources of this city. The mass of building which has been erected, is the best evidence of the industry and fidelity of the workmen who have been employed; but the hopes which were entertained that it might be possible to complete the hall of representatives in time for their occupancy during the present session, have been disappointed. The interference and competition of several large public and private buildings, which have been carried on in the district and at Baltimore, rendered it difficult to procure any considerable body of workmen; and the quarries of freestone at Acquia, have proved more than usually precarious, in the supply of the larger and finer blocks required for the interior of the capitol.

At the commencement of the season, the external walls of the south wing of the capitol were carried up above the windows of the principal floor, but of the interior, no part, except one half of the cellar, was constructed. The cellar story, and the whole of the ground story, are now completely built and vaulted, and all the exterior and interior walls of the upper stories are carried up. The colonnades, which is to support the roof, is not yet erected, but all the bases are wrought, two-thirds of the shaft block are at the work, and half of these are wrought. A great part of the entablature is also delineated, and of the remainder, a large portion is quarried and ready to be brought up to the city. There are also on hand, materials sufficient to commence the work of the next season with vigor, and early, without waiting for the tardy supplies of the spring.

The whole of the ground story being vaulted, the carpenter's work is required than in ordinary buildings. The doors, sashes and frames, with their dressings, are now in hand. A considerable supply of excellent boards, plank and timber is procured. The roof is also in progress, and will be in great forwardness before next spring; nor will such part of the work in freestone, as can be executed under cover, be interrupted by the winter.

I herewith submit a plan and description of the ground story of the south wing of the capitol, as the uses of the several apartments cannot be understood in their present state without it.

I. A survey of the north wing of the capitol, and especially its roof, was made early in the season, with a view to such repairs and improvements as could be effected with advantage. This survey was made with great care, and was the more necessary, as several very alarming failures appeared in the floors and timber work of the building. It was discovered that these failures arose, not only from the extremely injudicious construction of the framings, but that the rot had attacked

The freestone of Acquia, used in the public buildings, is a calcareous sand stone, of very excellent quality, and the quarries are, in appearance, inexhaustible; it is, however, subject to clay holes, to nodules of iron ore (pyrites) and to masses of flat; and the hardness and durability of the rock is often very various in the same stratum, it also suffers expansion and contraction, from moisture and dryness, to a greater degree than any stone with which I am acquainted: even after a block is taken out of the quarry and delivered in the city, and in some cases, after it has been wrought, it is liable to swell, and, if rapidly dried by violent heat or wind, but if it once become dry, and remains so, it has never been known afterwards to fail.

timbers of principal importance. Such ceilings, therefore, or parts of them, as appeared to cover defects, were stripped. The ceiling of the library, now occupied by the house of representatives, though cracked, was found to be perfectly safe. But it was absolutely necessary to support the floor of the room in a substantial manner. This was performed by dividing the office of the Secretary of the Senate into two committee rooms, by strong partitions. Such other defects as were discovered in the Senate chamber, and in other apartments, were also corrected in such a manner as to render every part of the wing secure from danger for some time to come.

It became however, evident, in consequence of this minute examination of the state of the building, that nothing but the safety of the floors and ceilings, and the tightness of the roof, ought at present to become the objects of attention. For it is very certain, that had such operations been undertaken, as would have rendered the Senate chamber more commodious and warm, and have procured for that branch of the legislature the offices and committee rooms which are so much wanted, or if any attempt had been made to accommodate the supreme court of the United States in such manner as to prevent the disturbance of legislative proceedings, by the crowd of citizens that sometimes attend the court, and necessarily fill the passages and vestibules, so much time would have been occupied, and such a general derangement of the building occasioned, as to have made it doubtful, whether either house would have had their chamber finished for use in sufficient time for the session. The improvements, therefore, which must ultimately be made for the better accommodation of the national legislature in this wing, have been postponed until after the completion of the south wing.

II. At the President's house two small buildings have been erected, containing some of those domestic offices without which that building could not conveniently be inhabited. They contain a meat house, cellars for liquors, coals and wood, and privies, and are intended to be faced to the south by a covered passage, or colonnade. Further menial offices, and some of them of the first necessity, are still wanted, before the dwelling of the president of the United States will be provided with all those domestic accommodations which are required by most private citizens.

III. As none of the works on the public buildings are suspended, or completed, it is not possible now to give an exact statement of the claims to which the several appropriations are liable, together with the money already paid. On application, however, to the superintendent of the city he has obligingly furnished me with the present state of his account of monies paid, from which results the following statement, which cannot materially differ from the truth.

	Dollars.
1. Appropriation for the south wing of the capitol, Dec. 20th, 1805.	110,000
Monies actually paid for labor and materials,	67,894 15
Estimated outstanding claims,	5,500
Balance unexpended,	34,605 85
	Dollars 110,000
2. Appropriations for the other public buildings,	20,000
Dec. 20th, 1805.	
Monies actually paid, 1.	
North wing capitol,	282 34
2. President's house,	11,961 74
Estimated outstanding claims,	1,500
Balance unexpended,	6,255 92
	Dollars 20,000

Whether the balance of dollars, 34,605 85 cents will be sufficient to complete the south wing of the capitol, cannot in the present mixed state of the work be accurately calculated. The course of disappointments, accidents, and fluctuations in the prices of materials and labor, which always attend the execution of so complicated a work, and have especially occurred in this city, naturally tend rather to increase than diminish the expense relatively to the estimate. And in some instances this has actually taken place. Should then the balance now unexpended be exhausted before the building be entirely ready for the reception of the house, the work must inevitably stop, even if it were in such a state that a small comparative sum would complete it, and thus one year be lost. And it must also be taken into view, that this fund is liable to a deduction for a portion of salaries which formed a part of the estimate of the building, they being chargeable to the public work generally; and that it ought also to cover the making up of the house which though indispensably necessary is not chargeable to the building account, nor is included in the estimate.

I therefore respectfully submit to you the apparent necessity of a further appropriation to meet any eventual deficiency, and to provide for fitting up the house when finished.

It is also my duty to state to you another point which appears to be of considerable importance.

As the whole south wing of the capitol, in all these offices the house was wholly deficient.

is occupied by the house of representatives in one great apartment, there could be no approach or entrance into the hall but from the center of the capitol, that is, through the center of the north wall of the wing, which is indeed, both as to beauty and convenience, the only proper point of entrance.

Now, as the ground story is occupied by the offices, there can be no communication between the house and the offices but by the stairs which are intended to be carried up close to the north wall, in that part of the building which corresponds to the south end of the north wing, in which is placed the door of entrance, and the vestibule of the senate chamber. In the estimate, submitted to the committee of the house of representatives, there was an item for the erection of this part of the wing; but as it was not afterwards included in the appropriation, the work itself was necessarily omitted, much to the disadvantage of the building, which, both in expense and solidity, loses by the partial erection of its detached parts, at different periods of time.

This part of the work, I respectfully presume it is now necessary to erect. Otherwise a very expensive, though only temporary building of wood, must be constructed, containing the stair cases and communications of the houses with its committee rooms and offices.

Under all these considerations, I beg to submit the following estimate of sums required to proceed to the completion of the work next season, independently of the sums now in hand.

1. To meet any eventual deficiency in the appropriation for the south wing, &c. 25,000
2. To erect that part of the building which is to contain the communication of the offices with the house of representatives, &c. 13,000
3. To render the building accessible by removing earth and rubbish to fill up, on the south front, the gallery doors, and to restore the communication with the north wing. 2,000

Total—Dollars. 40,000

In the above estimate, I have confined myself to the works on the south wing of the capitol. The unexpended balance, applicable to the other public buildings, and to the north wing for repairs, and their progressive improvement and completion, is 6,255 dollars and 92 cents. I submit to your consideration, in how far this sum may be sufficient for the probable expenditure of next season.

I am, with true respect,
Yours, faithfully,
B HENRY LATROBE,
Surveyor of the public buildings,
United States, Washington.

Plan of the office story of the south Wing of the capitol.

In viewing the arrangement of the office story of the south wing of the capitol, it must be remembered, that the places and number of the windows is essentially fixed by those of the north wing, and that nothing can be procured for the numerous apartments from the north side of the south wing. It must also be considered, that the hall of representatives, which occupies the whole of the principal floor, above in one great apartment, cuts off all possibility of carrying the lines of the fire places through the interior part of the building, and also determines the place of the walls and piers below, by the place of the colonnade that will surround the area of the house, and which approaches in the centre of each front to the external walls.

Many difficulties have arisen from these two sources, and objections have been made to the narrowness of a few of the rooms which acknowledge of these facts may remove. Every room however has been so contrived that there will be no deficiency of light and space, when the windows, many of which are blocked up by the workmen, shall be opened, and the materials which fill the apartments shall be removed.

The entrance to the office story will be in the recessed part of the building, proposed to be added the next season. Beyond the vestibule are the stairs which lead to the hall of representatives, the stairs will be lighted by a lantern light in the roof, and give light both to the vestibule and to the passage leading to the offices. Beyond the stairs is a small octagon lobby, which to the right opens towards the north wing, and to the left leads to the offices. From this lobby a passage leads towards the south, the opposite door is that of the clerks' office, within this apartment are two small offices for the engraving clerks, and very spacious depositories of the public records. A passage or corridor also extends from east to west; at each end it opens into a waiting room or antichamber to three committee rooms on each front, two smaller and one large. Each of these rooms are separately accessible.

On each side of the corridor by which you enter, is a large vault to contain fuel and coal, and also a stove or furnace, by which the hall above will be heated, whenever its fire places are not sufficient for that purpose. These vaults communicate with the very capacious cellar below.

On the east side and separated from this passage, are the privies, which are so constructed as to prevent their being a nuisance, and on the west is a separate entrance to the large north west committee room.

The access to the galleries is by external doors, near the angles of the south front, by which the citizens may enter without passing through any part of the building or crowding the passages of the house or offices.

FROM THE AURORA.

BRITISH FREEDOM.

We extract the following from a London paper of Nov. 2.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

Yesterday John Barrow was indicted, for that he being an artificer in iron, steel, &c. was preparing to emigrate to a foreign country to work at his trade, contrary to the statute.

Mr. Gurney, for the prosecution, stated to the jury, that this was a case of different complexion to what they were accustomed to decide upon. It however was not a cause that imputed to the defendant a moral crime, but it was such as the legislature had taken into consideration, to secure the commercial interests of the country, by keeping our artificers

at home, and preventing foreigners from the benefit of their mechanical labours. The 5th of Geo. I. chap. 27, was the act which provided against the present offence, and which subjected those who should have emigrated to a heavy fine, and those who were about to do so to be held in sureties, to prevent such taking place.

Mr. Cook, an eminent iron-founder and machine maker, stated that the defendant was one of the most ingenious men in the country at his trade. In consequence of some information he had received, he thought proper, for the public good, to have the defendant taken before a magistrate, he being about to leave this country for Russia. On being interrogated, the defendant informed him, that he had received a letter from his brother at Moscow, inviting him to superintend his business as an agricultural machine-maker, &c. He was willing to accept the offer, and he had received the necessary supplies for emigrating, viz. 30l. from a Russian gentleman of distinction in this country, and after visiting Manchester and other populous towns, he was about to leave England.—These facts were proved in evidence, and the defendant was found guilty. The chairman remarked that the counsel for the prosecution had correctly stated the nature of the act of parliament, which had in view the commercial interests of the country. The

legislature had in their wisdom found it necessary to hold persons in sureties who were preparing to emigrate, which was the case with this defendant. The court had a discretionary power to hold the offender in sureties, as they may judge proper, and, in an instance of this kind, they would only require such in proportion to the defendant's situation in life, and which he could procure. He was ordered to enter into recognizance to remain in this country, himself in 50l. and two sureties in 12l. 10s. each."

After reading the above statement we would ask any American, if the representation we have always given of the situation of the mechanic and laborer in Britain is not correct? Here we cannot but wish for Mr. Joseph Samson's original letters from Brit. in.—Will any Anglo-American now assert that England is a free country—Where is the boasted independence of the poor?—Do we see in this trial and indictment, a specimen of equal justice? But comment is unnecessary, the poor laborer and mechanic is as free in England, as captives in Barbary. Well may the monarch, the nobility and rich aristocracy, praise, the constitution of Britain. The deys of Tripoli and Algiers, with their nobility and priests no doubt do the same. Behold, you mechanics, husbandmen and laborers of every description, the blessings of British liberty!! A mechanic indicted, and tried at the bar of a court called justice, like the vilest criminal, and for what? Why, for preparing to emigrate to a foreign country.—Merchants, and the rich, may emigrate; but the mechanic is viewed as a felon if he attempts it.—This is the country which boasts a slave cannot breathe on its soil!—It may be true in respect to black slaves. This trial, however, is a proof that white slavery can even exist in Britain.

From the Norfolk Public Ledger.

LATE GRAND-NAVAL ACTION.

A correspondent has favored us with some very judicious remarks upon this last work of the great Nelson, accompanied with an exact view of the position of the two fleets during the action. For want of a plate, we cannot present our readers with this view, we must, therefore, endeavor to describe it as accurately as we can, in order to introduce our correspondent's remarks. The view shews the combined fleet drawn up in a crescent of two lines, convex to the leeward. The leeward, or outer column, composed of 23 sail, and the weather or inner column of ten ships. The ships in the second crescent are placed alternately against the ships of the first curved line, except the centre, where two are placed against one English. The combined fleets with their heads to the northward, the wind west. We now proceed in the words of our correspondent.

A view of the battle off Cape Trafalgar, between Lord Nelson, commander in chief of a British squadron of twenty-seven sail of the line, and the combined fleet, under the orders of Admirals Villeneuve and Gravina, composed of thirty-three sail of the line fought on the 21st of October, 1805. Wind at west and moderate.

On the appearance of Nelson, the combined fleet formed in the order of battle they had adopted, which was two curved lines, according to the plan annexed, having the convex part to the leeward, forming a kind of double crescent. The weathermost line consists of every alternate ship, being placed about a cable's length to windward of her second ahead and a-stern. Ad. Villeneuve was in the centre, and Ad. Gravina in the rear, but the French and Spanish ships were intermixed without any regard to order of national squadron. Lord Nelson made the signal to bear up on the combined fleet in two columns, leading the weather column himself, and Admiral Collingwood the second in command, leading the lee column. The commander in chief of the British fleet, was about the tenth ship from the van in the action, and the second in command the twelfth from the rear, leaving the van of the combined fleet unoccupied, and the

succeeding ships breaking through the van of their leaders, and engaging their opponents at the muzzles of the guns.

This sketch is drawn from Admiral Collingwood's official letter to the Admiralty. The action, it is well known, concluded with nineteen of the combined fleet having struck their colours, and lasted from meridian to 3 P. M. with great gallantry on both sides.

The five ships, however, in the van of the combined fleet, (whether French or Spanish, or both, I do not know) from some cause unknown, did not perform what was their in power, perhaps the proper signals were not made, or if made, not seen and obeyed.

Admiral Collingwood says, that the order in which the combined fleet was formed, was new; it is not so in theory, though not many instances have occurred of its being put into practice. One great object, however, of the commander of the combined fleet, in forming a double crescent, was to rake his enemy from all points, as bearing up to attack him, as well as to preserve his order of defence from being broken. And by having a double crescent or two curved lines, the leewardmost of which being more than double the strength of the weathermost, and both closely and correctly formed. The plan of defence was extremely judicious, for the commander of the combined fleet must have known that Nelson's system was always to cut the line of his enemy, and that he would attempt it at all hazards, and at many points. Hence the commander of the combined fleet must have intended that his unoccupied van should have acted as a corps de reserve, and to have afforded succour to that part of his line which should be hardest pressed in the action. The five disengaged ships were ought to have backed and doubled on the British to windward, as soon as the action became general, which from their position, it was easy to have done. And by that have cut the line of the weather division of the English, otherwise have commanded and taken advantage according to circumstances, which a situation to windward, and a surplus force so formidable presents to our view. Had the force engaged been reversed, and thirty-three English ships formed in a similar manner as the combined fleet were, and twenty-seven French and Spanish ships in the situation of the English, not one of the two latter would have escaped from capturing, or destruction.—Not from superior sea-generalship, for the English are not superior in the science of naval tactics, but they are more dexterous in handling their ships, and more obedient to signals and orders, and five of their ships would never have remained idle spectators on such a momentous occasion.

Admiral Collingwood gives us no particular description of the frigates which attended, nor of the manner in which the three-deckers were posted, or other particular ships, except those of the chief commanders on each side. It will be taken for granted, that the heaviest ships were placed in and near the center. It will be noticed, that as five of the combined fleet were unoccupied, there were only twenty-eight of them opposed to twenty-seven English. And as the center ought, in a plan of defence, to be made strong, it is more than probable that the commander of the combined fleet, in forming his double curved line had two of his heaviest ships in the center. And the British it is presumed, for the most powerful reason, laid their ships abreast of the weather combined line, while they broke and confused them in their strongest line to leeward.

In giving this sketch, it must be acknowledged that we are in want of many particulars to form a correct view of the conduct observed on both sides, and such particulars would be a benefit to the science of naval war. The most powerful reasons that can be adduced to lead us into a supposition that the British attacked the second line of the combined fleet, a-breast, while they broke that of the first by cutting it, are as follows:— The weather curved line of the combined fleet was placed alternately as described, about a cable's length to windward of their leeward line. And if the English had broke and cut this line as they did the other, the distance between the two lines being so small, and the wind blowing from the westward, the ships as soon as disabled, would have dropped near the first line, and run the hazard of falling on board of their friends. Whereas this hazard is obviated by placing them abreast of their opponents, while at the same time being disengaged from the leeward ships they would, in case of need, have left the ships to their friends which were hardest pressed, and this choice was one of the advantages the attacking fleet had over the one attacked, by placing their ships in the most eligible position.

DANCING.

P. L. DUPONT respectfully informs his friends and the public, that his Dancing School is now open, on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, at half past 2 o'clock, P. M. and at half past 6 o'clock in the evening for Gentlemen, at Mr. Bryden's NEW ASSEMBLY ROOMS, which he has engaged for the season—for particulars please to apply at No. 104, Market-street, where he has for sale, Boxes of CORIOLANS, and counter dances, with figures and accompaniment for the Piano Forte, of his own composition.

N. B. A subscription is now opened for six preparatory assemblies.