

Thursday, April 17.
On motion of Mr. Ely, the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That the President of the U.S. be requested to take effectual measures to cause the south wing of the Capitol to be prepared for the accommodation of the House of Representatives by the commencement of the next session of Congress.

Mr. Varnum offered a resolution, for making provision by law for allowing the military commandants in the territory of Louisiana three months pay, from the period of the expiration of their appointments, to enable them to return to their homes, except in cases where such commandants shall have been appointed to some other office in the territory of Louisiana under the government of the United States.

This resolution was opposed by Mr. R. Nelson, and disagreed to, Ayes 15.

Mr. Dana offered the following resolutions which he said it was not his purpose to press on the consideration of the House this session, if they should be found to interfere with other important business.

Resolved, That provision ought to be made for the better protection of the commerce and seamen of the United States against aggressors and outrages in the seas of the West Indies.

Resolved, That it is expedient to provide for regulating the conduct of such merchant vessels as, by agreement of the respective owners, may sail in concert for mutual assistance and defense in any lawful commerce and also a setting, according to the course of proceeding in courts of admiralty, the respective rates of contribution to be made between them on account of any loss or damage which may be thereby incurred.

Resolved, That for the encouragement and security of seamen of the United States, it is expedient to make provision that registered ships or vessels, which may be employed in voyages to foreign ports after the 1st day of

next, shall not continue to enjoy the benefits and privileges appertaining to ships or vessels of the United States unless some proportion of the mariners on board the same shall be citizens of the United States.

Mr. J. Randolph from the committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for carrying into effect the treaty with the Cherokee tribe of Indians, by striking out those clauses which authorize a resort to military force to expel persons attempting to settle in certain lands in the Mississippi valley, without having received titles to them from the U.S.—and having disagreed to the amendments passed by the Senate—Ayes 53—Nays 35—resolved to adhere to their disagreement.

A short time after a message was received from the senate stating that they had resolved to adhere to their amendment, the bill is consequently lost.

The House went into a committee of the whole on the bill authorizing the settlement of the accounts of William Eaton.

This bill provides for the settlement of these accounts, by the accounting officers of the treasury, under the direction of the secretary of state.

After much discussion the committee rose, and the bill was ordered to a third reading on Monday.

honorable sacrifice to the freedom of our institutions.

That a hasty and premature result is less to be desired on the part of an officer supported by a consciousness of the integrity of his conduct, than the suspension of an inquiry that may terminate in a satisfactory refutation of charges, which, in the part of the accused, are affirmed to be without foundation, the committee have no hesitation in believing.

Justice to the public as well as to the individual requires a thorough investigation, which is found to be impossible before the final adjournment.

The committee, therefore, recommend a postponement of the further inquiry until the next session of congress.

Ordered to lie on the table.

ed States for each year, is	770,000
Freight to Europe average	22
East Indies, do	50
West Indies, do	15
	—
Deduct wages, provisions, commission, insurance, &c.	45
	—
Average per ton	14

Calculating 13 years of neutrality, from February 17th to February 1860, on \$30,000,000, the average, as above stated, makes \$14,445,000 dollars per annum, paid in the carrying trade. It must be understood that the freight is calculated on the produce of our own soil, as well as the foreign produce carried in our vessels. No reference to profit is made; it is uncertain, but may be presumed to be at least as much as the freight.

Add to this, about the actual capital of all the banks in the United States,

35,000,000

To this must be added \$1 per cent as most of the Banks divide from 8 to 9 per cent per annum; and as they are only allowed 6 per cent per annum on the capital, they must of course loan out this amount to the merchants and others, which answers all the purposes of money.

17,000,000

Total 13,000,000

Is not this sufficient to cover the produce of our own soil, and import that of other nations, at least so far as our own foreign extends? There may be some inaccuracy in the above statements, but I believe they are substantially correct.

That oracle of some gentlemen, the celebrated book, "War in Disgrace," asserts that we do not use Sugar in this country. How far that is true I will leave the committee to decide. I believe when the premises are fully proved, we may conclude that very little reliance can be placed on the other two rooms. I believe, sir, this book was designed to operate a double purpose: first, attack your commerce with one hand, and with the other throw the fire-brand between your agricultural and commercial interests.

Gentlemen may talk about a foreign government fighting for its very existence. I believe it is but, sir, for them to look at home. See what this look and the emissaries of that nation are accomplish. Beware of them. I believe it is a deadly blow aimed at our existence, to prevent the purchase of Louisiana. Some doubtless caused by a man more inclined to be friendly to the purchase, were ignorant that it was not necessary to keep the possessions any longer from the public eye. Others thought that the situation would, by some means, or in already been avoided, and therefore it could not be formally published. And perhaps, a wish to cover up the nationalized suggestion to the public mind were afraid, and ashamed to have the people to know what they said. This is a secret, but not without its consequences. Acting late a sum of number of millions of dollars, or more, joined in a compact to give away property. And the journal is now but the palladium. What effects this publication will have upon the measure, must be left to be seen by the event. In the meantime, let us, as we believed, an intelligent and disinterested party, to make the best of the situation. As long as a sum of number of millions of dollars, or more, joined in a compact to give away property. And the journal is now but the palladium. What effects this publication will have upon the measure, must be left to be seen by the event. In the meantime, let us, as we believed, an intelligent and disinterested party, to make the best of the situation.

We have heard a great deal about neutral rights among nations. There is no such thing as *neutral rights*. The following will show it.

The ship Little Cormorant, belonging to the district I have the honor to represent, was taken and carried into Great Britain.

The captain informed his owner she was likely to be condemned. The news of the capture of Cuba arrived; the decree of the court of Admiralty is suspended. A few days afterwards Lord Nelson's victory is announced, and when the court met she was condemned, vessel and cargo. You can no more depend upon the doctrines of her courts of admiralty than you can upon her ministry. Witness the case upon her late minister Mr. Keppel, and Lord Canning. Sir, there is a kind of legalism in all this business, which you are out of your property. Sir William Scott, whose private carrier (out of order) is very much respected, is, if I am correctly informed, a member of the privy council; and it is there, sir, your neutral rights are arbitrated according to the favourable or adverse news they may have received.

Sir I will not pledge myself for this gentleman's resolution, or that gentleman's resolution; but sir, I do pledge to adopt such measures as will completely subdue such lawless aggressions. No, sir, I will not. We are not so here to legislate for any particular section of our country; we are sent to promote the general welfare. I hope, and do repose that confidence in this honorable body, that we shall unite in one common cause and rally round our constitution; give protection to the north, to the south, to the east, and to the west; and, as the storm threatens, place full powers in the hands of our political captain to guide the ship, weather out the storm, and conduct the barque to her destination.

From the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

COMMUNICATION.

THE SECRET PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

The House of Representatives having now taken off the injunction of secrecy from their late confidential proceedings, it appears that they related to the Spanish territories.

With Spain we have two important points of difference, resulting from our relations with France. One is the question respecting the extent and limits of Louisiana, which was ceded to us from France by a description referring to a prior cession, or recession from Spain to France, and also to the ancient French possession of the province. From a want of geographical certainty, a dispute has arisen, with respect to the south-western boundary; and, from a similar cause, together with the relative terms of the description, there has been a difference of opinion and claim, as to the eastern extent of the cession. While the territorial limits were thus unsettled, our government has abstained from taking possession of the disputed tract of country, or changing the existing state of things. The other subject of controversy is the claim we make on Spain, for French spoliations committed within Spanish jurisdiction previous to our treaty of settlement with France. If Spain is liable to us, France must be equally responsible to Spain. So far at least France is concerned in the dispute; and, being in alliance offensive and defensive with Spain, it is supposed, must, upon the principles of that alliance, in case of a rupture between us and Spain, take part in the war against us.

The territorial controversy not being settled, our vessels have been subjected to duties on their passage down the Mobile, and certain persons under the Spanish jurisdiction crossed the line of our acknowledged territory in a riotous pursuit of a family of the name of Kemper.

The President, after strengthening the adjacent posts, by a judicious arrangement of our troops, laid the subject before Congress for legislative consideration. Two leading measures appear to have been proposed. One was to raise such an additional standing army, as the

President might deem necessary, "to sweep the frontier of the United States, to protect our road and coast, and to chastise the Spaniards." The object of this was a military expedition, offensive as well as defensive, against the Spanish. To me, in principle, it seems to be similar to the proposition of Mr. Ross in the case of the validation of our right of deposit at New Orleans. It was opposed as an unnecessary and dangerous venture to a war with Spain, and with Great Britain. A majority of the House rejected it, as did also the members of the Administration, which was proposed and finally adopted, as it was rejected on the point, "to procure a cession of the Spanish territories eastward of the river Mississippi, by purchase," a day by an appropriation of two millions of dollars, "to enable the President, in affecting such purchase, to send to the United States, the most advantageous terms." It was similar to the act, which paved the way for the acquisition of Louisiana. Indeed the policy is the same, and the main object to have been taken from that case. In opposing this, the Federalists acted consistently with their opposition to that measure. The principal objection against the proposed purchase, seems to have arisen from another quarter, that France has an influence over Spain, and by her mediation will coerce Spain to make the cession, in order that the purchased territories may be eventually secured to France. This has been represented to the administration, and by the aid of strong prejudices and a headlong inclination has been wrought to a total disregard of the interests of the United States. It was, however, a bribing of France to bully Spain. We, on the simple truth, that Spain being an independent power, it is, as far as both are concerned, in a moral and political point of view, perfectly immaterial, in case of a cessation, who may think proper to dispose of her colony.

In specifying the proportion of the property to be removed, there appears to have been a variance of judgment. The constitution and the rules of the two houses have provided for equalized representation, we never it may be necessary, as in case of a forced cession. These rules are very obvious. It is not to consider the interests of Congress, or the people of the United States, but from the negotiator, with whom we have occasion to negotiate. In the present case, the proportion varies, and the proportion due for purchasing the territories. Some doubtless caused by a man more inclined to prevent the purchase, were ignorant that it was not necessary to keep the possessions any longer from the public eye. Others thought that the situation was, by some means, or in already been avoided, and therefore it could not be formally published. And perhaps, a wish to cover up the nationalized suggestion to the public mind were afraid, and ashamed to have the people to know what they said. This is a secret, but not without its consequences. Acting late a sum of number of millions of dollars, or more, joined in a compact to give away property. And the journal is now but the palladium. What effects this publication will have upon the measure, must be left to be seen by the event. In the meantime, let us, as we believed, an intelligent and disinterested party, to make the best of the situation.

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This letter, tho' pithy, is uncommonly pregnant with information, and speaking as it does from official documents, it is entitled to the most respectful consideration. It contains some facts which are not yet generally known.

That this negotiation had already been tried by our government:

That this negotiation had disgracefully failed:

That it had embraced different propositions for accommodation:

The committee, who were appointed on the 21st of March, 1806, to inquire into the conduct of Gideon Granger, Post Master General of the U. S., and report whether, in their opinion, the said Gideon Granger hath so acted, in his capacity as Post Master General, as to require the interposition of the constitutional powers of this house, submit the following

REPORT.

That the committee, without loss of time, engaged in the duties assigned them, and have made some progress therein. It was the sincere desire of the committee that the enquiry should be concluded during the present session, as well as the wish of the post master general; but from the distant and dispersed situation of the witnesses, whose testimony was deemed necessary, and the approaching close of the session, it is found impracticable. While the committee regret the situation of a post master laboring under the suspicious appearance of a constitutional scrutiny into his conduct, yet, in a government like ours, where watchfulness of men in office is the surest guarantee of the preservation of the liberty of the people, the public functionaries must yield their feelings to the general benefit, and endure a temporary inconvenience, as an

average with the tonnage of the last 15 years of neutrality,

105,000

Deduct this amount, to make it average with the tonnage of the last

745,000

550,000 tons of American shipping have been employed in foreign commerce, per treasury reports, will average for the last 12 years neutrality, calculating at the low estimation of one voyage per annum (some vessels make two voyages, and others are lost) it will leave an average of 14 dollars per ton net again to the Unit-