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CONGRESS.

MOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

thued.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16. Débate en Mr. Randelph's Resolution-con-

Mr. Holland. This appears to me to be a very improper course. The President ter intends to take, to suppress this conspiracy. This seems to me extremely excep ionable, and play go to defeat the very end intended to be answered by obtain nie Lite information des red. Wittere is there any necessity at all for this measure at this time? Is it not the due of the President to give us such information at all times as the exigencies of the country tion, i believe the energy of the people any man, or set of men whatever. would be sufficient to resist it, would be implicit dependence on the opinions and that the safety of the country does Pre it nt super in h apinion to sompripriety of asking it.

as of some importance and worthy of consideration before it was adopted. He therefore moved its postponement till Michday.

mark to make in reply to the gentleman | decided stand, or, by retreating, screen that he was acquainted with no eircumstaucceother than those which he had obtained thro' the newspapers or from

official communications. Mr. Lloyd. When this resolution was laid on the table it appeared to me so simple that nubody could doubt its propriety. For my part I shall not enter juto accomideration of then easures of the sast session; the propriety or impropriear of which are pot now at usue. The country is threatened with an insurrection or an invasion, when there is reason thin! linminent danger exists, to request the necessary information, to prewent the lutirious consequences that may ensue, without the application of proper will consider it his duty to communi- ligthe inference? That the Presidento of such information as the President may I done his duty. Such considerations seaf any policie pe may have localowill pelote me pean each objectly on an fillien, he has received any informati- branch of the government, and more

very resolution to withhold it. I should date very little confidence either in the tion ability or integrity of the executive, if in contravention of this House, and in direct host lity to the objects intended to be answered by this request, he should communicate information which ought to be withheld. The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. Alston) who has spoken of the resolution as compelling the executive to communicate informstion in his possession, must surely hive overlooked its discretionary language.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania has observed, hat the resolution appears to him as expressive of a want. of confideuce in the executive. If the doctrine of confidence is to be carried to this length, that you who are the guardians of the people, shall set idle spectators of every impending stam, I shall never subscribe to it. However I may confide in the integrity and wisdom of the Presiis required to tell us what measures he dont, I owe something to involf; nor has taken, and what measures he hereaf. can I sit here nierely to legi-late under executive patronage. I want facts on which to act. If the resolution shall be adopted, it will betray no went of coniidence in the executive; it will only manifest the zeal of the House, to possess information, which it is necessary for them to have before they can be prepared

Mr. Alston. The gentleman from require? And have we not reason to re- Maryland says this call on the executive pose confidence in the executive? If we is necessary. But what is the state of have, this resolution is altogether useless. The case at present? Is it not the duty We have been told by the gentleman of the president, under the constitution, from Virginia, that if the measures re- at all times to give such information to commended at the last session had been the legislature, as he may deem necesadopted he thinks it would have been sary and proper for them to act upon? much better for the country, and that all And what is the language of the resokind of danger would have been removed. Intion ?- To have such, information as I, however, am one of those who do not in his judgment shall not be improper? pessèss that confidence in a regular es On this ground, then, it is not necessary tablishment, which the gentleman from to adopt it. But take the subject in the Virginia possesses. Nor have I any up- view in which I before presented it. prehension for the peace and safety of the we call on the executive in this way, he country. I have reason to believe that will deem it his duty to give the inforthere are some desperate characters en- mation called for. I have not partieugaged in disturbing the peace of society; larly attended to the phraseology of the but I confide in the interrity of the resolution, but I question very much p. ople; and I believe the strength of the whether the qualification in the forepart militia will always be found competent to of it applies to the latter part, which refers the exigency. It I have any fears, they to the measures taken, or intended to be do not arise from this quarter; they do taken by the executive. It is clear that not arise from the want of a regular es- some parts of this information may be tablishment. The larger that establish- improper to be communicated. For my ment the greater the fears. If any fears | part, I believe that such a communicaare to be entertained, in my opinion they | tion on this subject, as is proper, will be oueht to be f. ars of the disaffection of the lai before us as soon as practicable. On army. I hope, however, that we have no the point of confidence in the executive grounds for fears at present on this head. | magistrate, I will say, that I am not in the But if there should be any such disaliec- habit of subscribing to the opinions of summent to rever any dancer from with- others is altogether contrary to my has in or from without. Thinkin diece- bits; but can any man doubt that if there ently from the get leman from Virginia, is any thing in the possession of the not consist in the extent of our miliary communicated, he would have come ied establishment, I am for taking different | himself bound to have communicated it measures. I am against x ending the before this day? As I said before, two - army, but in lavor of organising the mili | or three days may bring us a western tia, in such a way as to render it efficient. mail, and news of the extent and state probability of its being effected is destroyed. I am, however, hostile to the adoption of of the conspiracy. Let us wait till this this proposition. The gentleman from time; the state of things may then induce Virginia, (Mr. Burwell) has remarked us to call on the president for informathat the time has come when we may tion. It is but a few days since we have safely adopt the proposition. That gen- heard from Orleans : there appears to al man may have information which we exist there the greatest confidence in the To not possess, that may induce him to executive, and force sufficient to meet form this opinion. Bu from the informa- any force that may be brought from the tion I possess. I think differently. I be- upper country. Do we weknow the ex-Leve the President will communicate to us tent of this combination, or all the charall the information that is necessary and acters implicated in it, and where they proper for us to possess, and his not have now are? If the President were to make ing communicated it in this instance, is a communication on the subject, is it not conclusive evidence to my mind of the probable, that if there are any among us concerned in it, we should disclose it to Mr. Findley considered the resolution | those interested in making their escape even were it communicated in cuubdence? May not the safety of the union depend on deseating it before a disclosure be made? If such a disclosure be made Mr. Burwell said he had a single re- will not the conspirators either make from North Carolina, who had intimated | Themselves from punishment? We have that he might be acquainted with some ha., however, I believe, enough of confivizcumstances not in possession of the | dential communications; and I hope we Mouse. He begged leave to inform him shall not soon have any more. I for one and the other members of the House, am ready to wait till the persident shall deem it adviseable to make a communication to this House.

Mr. Holland. If we were called upon by the executive to act in this case, it might be proper to ask for information. As, however, we have not been so called upon, and as the executive is the proper organ for taking the necessary measure on this subject the adoption of this resolution on our part would evince a desire eall question before the House is this to intermeddle with his duties. As the Is it proper for this House, when the constitution enjoins it upon him as his duty, to give information to the legisla. ture from time to time. I can only consider the request made, under the impression that we have not confidence in him. It is true the resolution is couched in very curious language-it requests in STOLID STICKE SDISTICH STREET HERE THE STREET jections made to this resolution; neither I public welfare requires not to be disclosof waith seems to me entitled to the led. But what is the balance of the inleast surve. The first is, that if the re- I formation? Exactly what the constiansution he carried to the President, he I tution enjoins upon him to give. What cate all the information in his possession. I the U. S. has not discharged the duties But gentlemen who make this objection I of his office; that he has not done what surely have not attended to the language it was his duty to do; that he has been efthe resolution. Dock it hot expressly, guilty of delay; and that Congress has Leanune the enjoyest to the communication | been compelled to tell him he has bot tions proper and such as may not de-liought to induce us at least to bestlate an which he may deem it improper to respecially upon the President, as the communicate, he is authorized by this confidence we now ask for him is merely that reposed in him by the consuits

Af the instance of Mr. Dana, the clerk read the following extracts from the Journals of the House:

Monday, 3d Jan. 1797. " Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this House, information what measures have been for carrying into effect, the treaty tween the United States and the Dey and Regency of Algiers; and also, whether one, and what further legislative aid may be necessary for that pur-

" Friday 30th March, 1798.

"On a motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to this House, the dispatches from the Envoys Extraordinary from the United States to the French Republic, mentioned in his message of the nineteenth instant; or such parts thereol, as considerations of public safety and interest, in his opinion, may per-

" Ordered, That the consideration of the said motion be postponed until Monday next."

" Monday 2d April, 1798.

"The house proceeded to consider the motion of the thirtieth ult. relative to the dispatches of the Envoys Extraordinary, from the United States to the French Republic: Whereupon,

"The said motion being amended at the Clerk's table, to read as follow-

" Revolved, That the president of the United States be requeited to communicate to this House the inftructions to, and dispatches from the envoys extraordinary from the U States to the French republic, mentioned in his message of the 19th uitims.

"The question was taken, that the House do agree to the same, as amended, and resolved in the affirmative - Yeas 65-Nays 27."

Mr. Allen, from the committee appointed to present to the president of the United States, the relolution of this house relative to the inflructions to, and dispatches from the envoys extraordinary to the French republic, reported that the committee had, according to order, performed that service; and that the president signified to them, that he would take the subject into his contideration, and do thereon, what it should appear to him, the public safety required."

Mr. G. W. Campbell-I understand the question to be on possponing the consideration of the resolution till Monday. I have never opposed a resolution calling for information in any case i where I believed the information could be of any possible use; nor am I disposed to say that it is at present necessary to negative this resolution, but I do not fee any nse in a 'opring it at this time. I ask what use is to be made of the information the refolution proposes to obtain? In introducing it, we are told that the country was threatened with a conspiracy. Will gent'emen fay their object is to raife a flanding arme to quell it ! Are we to do nothing until we get a war ellablishment! If so, the conspiraters will have lime to accomplish their object. or to fly from justice, before they are over aken. Whatever may have been the object of the con spirace, it is at this time either consumnated or exploded. It is either carried into effect, or me It has been said, if the meatures proposed at the last session had been adopted the country would not now be menaced from abroad, or conspiracies be engendered within. I cannot conceive | Port. the use of increducing, on this occasion, such o"servations. The object recommended at the last fellion was to raife a war cilablishme t, not merely to encrease the exiting peace establishment. This was declared the last year, and it has been diel red this year. Gentleme hav said, they will not increase the peace establish. ment, but vill crease a war establishment. What were he apprehensions enterrained the last year, on which the proposition of these. measures was founded? has the danger from Spein, then intitled apon, been reulifed? No. fir, official documents tell us the courrary. If the reations brought forward last year did not Will the gentleman, who says if we had

adopted the measures recommended the lati fe fich, they would have avened the dangers which now threver us, whether there was then any reston for apprehending them.; will he fay that he then extended this man would at a this time have been carrying on this conspiracy! If so, he surel ought to have told us of it. am disposed to believe, that so far as relates to this, or any other combination within our limits, no standing army is necessary. If we milt have a flanding army, to put down our own citizens, whenever there is any ferious violation of the laws, it is high time to lay down our li erties If the militia are incompetent to maintain the peace, it is full time to acknowledge the futility of our political prineiples. On this ground never will I agree to raile a regular army, to meet our own citizens. As far as it depends upon me, it never shall be faid, that we have raised a regular army to turn their bayonets against our citizens. If a majority of the people small be embarked in an infurrection they ought, not to be controlled; and if the majority shall be on the other side, they will have power to crash it. It has been flated, on the introduction of this resolution, Orne, has cut off two English ships in brought in the bill, authoriting the President to raise volunteers, proposed an increase of the regular army, fimilar it is added to the increase proposed during the last selion. The fact, however, is this. The gentleman alluded to offered two propositions to one to add to the present peace establishment, which was rejected by all the members of the committee but himlelf. Even the gentleman who introduced the resolution under confideration gave his vote against this proposed increase of the peace establish-

There is a bill now before me from the Senage, the object of which is to encrease the peace establishment i and this the gentieman fays is one of the measures proposed at the Jast femon. I have, however, already observed. that that gen:leman oppoled the proposition for increasing our peace effablishment, and yet he informs us that this measure is the fame with that propoled the last le Son for the creation o war establishment. I have confidered it m buty to make these observations, because at the Laft leffion, I was oppoled to railing an army and I am fill oppoied to it unless the public extrencies require it. . I do not, hewever, conader this the proper time to medigate this

points as if i be intended to trak the conspira-Cys the measure will be too late.

It may be proper to observe that in my opinion this conspiracy has been paided in Stronger colours than there is feason to think it deserves. It has been flated as dangerous to the union. On what grounds? There is no evidence that there is in any part of the U.S. two hundred persons collected for the purpose of carrying it into effect. We have not even evidence of this. We have indeed newspaper evidence, that it was reported that the author of it was to march at the head of soos men, and that 4000 Kentuckians were to follow. At the same time, however, we learn that Kentucky is mking the most effectual measures to crush it. So far from there being 4000 Kentuckians enlisted, I do not believe there are ten, unless, in-

deed, the Braggiers palling through that flate are so denominated.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania has observed that the members from the Western of this plot I cannot suppose the gentleman alluded to any member of this House. There is one circumstance on this head worthy of notice—the greater part of the men associated came from the Eastern country, and from the state of the gentleman from Pennsylvania. With regard to the sentiments of the Western country, I believe they are as well affected towards the quion as those of any other part of the confederacy. I do not conceive there is ground for the alarm that has gone forch. am however, willing to take any proper meafures to aid the Executive in crashing the plot.

It has also been observed by the introducer of this motion that the expences attending the military expedition on the Sabine will be equal to the expences that would have attended the proposed augmentation of the army. But it seems to me that this must be altogether a mistake. This expedition was emp sed of the regular forces and about five hundred militia, who were engaged but for a few weeks. The expences of the former may have been somewhat. increased by their movement, and the price of provisions; but no additional expence has been incurred for their pay. The only important item of expence must arise from the militiathis cannot be considerable; it will not be pretended that it can stear any comparison with the expences of raising an army of five or ten thousand men. I am not-disposed to say any thing of the expences incurred by the commander of the army at New-Orleans, as I am unacquainted with the subject; but I presume it cannot be cortiderable.

But, to return to the only question before us, the President has informed us that there is a combination, the object of which is to conduct a military expedition against the territories of Spain What is the information which we have since received! Does it not go to the same object? If the President is convinced from information lince received, that the object is a disserent one, is it not most probable that he would have so advised us? If the secret information respecting those implicated be divulged, will it not put many concerned in it on their guard, and induce them to escape? This is the evil I apprehend from agreeing to this resolution, and none other. Believing, therefore, that the information we may receive will not enable us to firengthen the hands of the executive, I shall vote for postponing the further confideration of this resolution until Monday. The President has already advised us that he has tak-

en such measures as are calc lated to check the expedition, and bring it and on punithment. He possesses the power of calling ou the sormerly been an officer in the revolutimilitia if he thinks 1 e case requires it ; and I know of no acts which we can pals, which can strengthen the hands of the executive more than the exitting laws.

[Want of rom compels us to reserve the remainder of the debate for our next paper] -r. J. Rand Iph Spoke again in Support of the resolution, and 'r. Smilie against it. Mr. Eppes speke in favor of it.

When the question to postpone its further consideration was ditagreed to -, yes 33. ir. J. Randolph again spoke in its sup-

Mr. Thomas requested a division of the res-.lation at the words " United States," and observed that he should vote in savor of the first but against the second member.

Mr. Early moved to adjourn, which motion was loft-Ayes 47-Nies 68. Mr. Elmer spoke against agreeing to either

member of the resolution Mr. Jackson declared himself in favor of the first member of the resolution, but a ainst the fecond.

Mr. Sloan spoke against the whole resoluti-

Mr. Gregg declared himself in favor of the justife it, nothing has fince intervened to sanction first member, but against the second, as it

Mr. J. Randolph gave notice that in case he first member of the resolution should be a greed to, he means to m dify the fecond. Mr. Alston again spoke against the resoluti-

on, and moved to pottone it tili to morrow which motion was loft-Ayes 48-Noes 63. The Yeas and Nays were then taken on the first member of the resolution, which was a g eed to-Year 109 -- Noes 14.

Mr. J. Randolph then moved to firike out of the second member of the resolution the words, and proposes to take;" which was agreed to without a division.

When the question was taken on the second member, which was agreed to-Year 67-Nays 52 ; and Messrs. J. Randolph and Lloyd named a committee to carry the resolution to the Presi-

SALEM, (Mass.) January, 16.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of this town dated at Calcutta, September 1, 1805.

"The Arab who destroyed Captain the Red Sea; in consequence of which the government of Bombay have dispatch ed a frigate to bring him thither, that he may receive the just punishment due to a pirate."

EOSTON, January 19. FIRE !-- It is with peculiar regret we record, morning, the new and elegant Building of the Columbian Museum, owned by Mellis Bowen and Doyle, was discovered to be on fire, and which, with a pure of the valuable Collettions, was foon deftroyed. The fire is supposed to have taken, by fome accident, in the flory in which Mr. Martin exhibited his experiments. Phaseasmagoria, as advertised in the papers Some time before the flames were seen, a loud teport was heard, supposed to be the explanou of Jome chymical preparation, and which was the cause of the disalter. "We are consident not the imalica blame ean attach to biears. Bewen and Doyle, for want of care and vigilance; and at half par ra o'clock on Thursday night. Ma Doyle was in the muleum to fee if all the fires and Ismpe were extinguible. It is ropost table that The poor was the tastiveties of this wilding of importance. The following

the destruction of the maferon in 1873. At that time, Kr., Bowen, then fole Preprietor, did not seel it in unbent on him to soliti the public aid in the re-establ. shment of his institution: But this second calamity has so impaired the means of the Proprietors, that an appeal to the public benevolen e, we understand is an indispensable duty. We hope the appeal will not be made in vain; and that a liberal fubscription will enable them to re-crest their building, and re-estab ish an institution which has done credit to the town ; afforded an innocent amusement to bur citizens and strangers : and been a magnet which has attracted wealth from the interior. The lof's is estimatedat 20,000 dollars.

After the fire had subsided, a very melancholy catastrophe occurred .- A preat part of the fouth wall of the Muleum sell in the Chapel burying ground, and killed six young men, and wounded several others. Those killed, are Wilthat the House do come to the following | country are either ignorant, or presend tabe fo, | promising youth .- John, fon of Mr. Philip liam, fon of Capt. Michael Homer, aged it, a Conton, (one of the pr Aman employed in the Centinel Office) aged 14 .- Henry Fullerton, aged 20, an apprentice of Mr. Richard Thaver, housewright-Isac Peabody, of Shirley, an apprentice of Mr. John Leman, blacksmith, aged 15 .- Joshua Urann, an apprentice of Mr. Aves, cooper, aged 17 .- And James D. Btale, an apprentice of Mr. Jennings, wheelfight, aged 13. We do not understand that any of the wounds are mortal.

NEW-YORK. January 23.

Citizens be on your guard-On Wednelday night an at empt was made to let fire to the flore ad, 29. Beekman-flip, occupied by D. Hulet & Co. A combroom with a lighted candle tied together with rope yarn, was thrust into a cat-hole of the store, and before it was discovered, had burned the hoops off of a flaxfeed cask; and in a very short time would have enveloped the whole building, and probably others, in flames. On this occasion it becomes proper to mention, that the watchmen are not sufficiently attentive to their duty; for within one hundred yards of the spot where this incendiary attempt was made, stands a watch-bax, and we are informed that no watchman was to be found at the time of the alarm.

PHILADELPHIA, January 22.

On Saturday last, a son of Mr. Lex, in. Market-street, was run over by a loaded cart near his father's house and killed on the spot.

As Mr. Thomas, of Abington, was returning home from the city, on Saturday. last, he was stopped by two foot pads, who robbed him of between 2 and 300 dollars in bank notes.

We are told another robbery was committed a few dayssince, on the Germanat town road; in this instance the thieves missed their aim, and only got five or alx

-We understand that on Monday evening last, a most inhuman mutder was committed in north 8th near Vine--street, on the body of Alexander Drain. by a family in whose house he lodged, named Marshall. The father, mother, and s n have been committed to j il.

Alexander Drain was an old-many had nary war, and being reduced to poverty, followed the humble employment of making mats and rending them through the streets. The old man's body was mutilated in a most sho king manner by his murdelers.

American,

Commercial Daily Advertiser. MONDAY, FANUARY 26, 1807.

We have received a Charleston paper of the 12th inftant, containing the 16th and 17th bulletins of the French army. The first of which is filled with anecdotal matter of Bonaparie's r ply to the duke of Brunswick's application to him to respect his states-and is without date. The 17th is dated at " Po; sdam, 25 h Oftober, 1806," where Bompare arrived the day he fore. He visite! the palece Sans-Scuci, and remained some time in the champer of the great Frederick. The corps of Marshal Lasies arrived a: Potsdam on the 24th October. Marshal Davoust, with his corps, entered Berlin at 10 o'clock the same morning. General Hulin has been named cammandant of the Prussan capital by Bonaparte. The corps of the marshal prince of Ponte-Corvo (Bernadotte) was at Frandenbutgh. Marshal Augereau's corps was to onter Berlin on the 26th of Odeber. Bonaparte exam ned all the politions which environ Porfilame on his first arrival. He remained at that place all the day of the 25th October Prince Ferdinanci brother of Frederick t a great, remained at Berlin. The arsend there contained 500 pieces of cannon, many millions of pounds of pourder, and an immense quantity of small arms. which fell into the hands of the French. Gen. Bertrand, one of Bonaparte's aid-de-camps, has invested Spandau (which is defended by a Prussian garrison) with Dupont's division of desgoons. The grand duke of Berg (Murat) has. repaired to Spandan, te put himself in pursuis of a column which defiles from Spandau for Stettin, (on the Oder,) and which they hope to cut off. Marshal Lesebvre, commanding the imperial fool guards, and Marshal Bestieres, commandant of the imperial horse guards, arrived at Potstlam, October 24th. The foot guarde made 14 leagues in a day. Magdeburgh is blockaded by Marshal Ney. Marshal Bouts has passed the Elbe, about a day's journey from Magdeburgh, leaving that place to the right, and purfues the Prussans towards Stettin. The weather, it is flated, was fine-it was the mos favorable autumn that had been known The remainder of the 17th bulletin is filled with an anecdore of Bonaparte and an Egyptian weman; a remark on the lingular coincidence of time when Bonaparte arrived at Potfdam, and a ludicrous facire on the queen of Prails, who that about half past one o'clock, on Friday I leens to be a theme for the exercise of French wit If this day's mail preduces nothing of importance, we may to-morrow, pertups, and room for the anecdotal part of the buileting,

> The editor of the Aprors announces that Daniel Clarke, Elq. delegate to Congres from the Orleans Territory, has brought his adion-erespare on the case - against him.

> The editor of the Norfolk Ledger fare, the letters published under the figurature of Admiral Willstows, whether true or falle, were pur ou board a vellel at Havanna.

We were referring favored by a friend with a New-Orleans paper of the 25th alt. It com