for Jamaica, and Lord Castlereagh, minister for the colonies:

Copy of a letter from Mr. Lyon to Lord Castlereagh, dated

"*London, 26th August, 1805.*

"My Lord,

"I am informed that the lieutenant governor of Jamaica has been induced, by the advice of his counsel, to issue a proclamation, permitting the free importation in neutral vessels of flour, corn, meat, bread, rice, pease, beans and lumber of every description, for six months, in consequence of addresses from a considerable number of parishes of that island, stating the great scarcity which prevailed there of American provisions and lumber. I am instructed by my constituents, that this proclamation does not embrace many articles which are essentially necessary for the support of the inhabitants of Jamaica. They have desired me to apply to your Lordship for instructions to his majesty's representative in that colony directing him to permit the importation of fish, beef, pork, butter and all other sorts of provisions, in neutral vessels, in the same manner as was the case previous to the receipt of Lord Camden's letter of the 5th Sept. 1804.

"The indispensible necessity which exists for the permanent establishment of an intercourse between the United States of America and the island of Jamaica, upon a liberal footing, and not to be rendered liable to the recurrence of an interruption similar to that which has recently been experienced, is established by referring to the authentic document which I had the honor to lay before Lord Camden and which I placed in the hands of Mr. Cooke. The papers to which I have called your Lordship's attention, contain amongst other matters an official account of the provisions imported from the United States of America into Jamaica, from the 30th September, 1801, to the 30th September, 1804. These accounts will shew your Lordship, that very considerable quantities of provisions are required in the course of each year, for the use of this island; and I beg leave to mention, that I am given to understand that the orders sent this year for herrings could not be complied with, owing to the great scarcity of that article, which prevailed in Scotland and Ireland. I have to submit to your Lordship, that it is very desirable the instructions sent by his majesty's ministers to the king's representatives, on the subject of the intercourse between the United States of America and Jamaica should be as precise and distinct as possible, as it would appear that the orders restraining this intercourse, unless in cases of real and urgent necessity, have received an interpretation different from that which they were intended to bear.

"My constituents alledge, that the disinclination manifested by the lieutenant governor of Jamaica, to exercise the discretionary power vested in him, until some case of necessity was proved to exist, more urgent than the ordinary necessity which at all times exists, and the very narrow limits to which the proclamation is confined, clearly demonstrate that he has considered his Majesty's orders as imperative, and that the discretion left in him extended only to cases in actual want. If the occurrence of that actual want must be felt, or if the evils arising from scarcity be endured before the intercourse shall be authorised, very injurious consequences will ensue.

"The importance of the subject leads me to request your Lordship's early attention to this communication; and I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed)

"EDMUND P. LYON.

Copy of a letter from Viscount Castlereagh to Mr. Lyon.

Downing street, 7th Sept. 1805.

"Sir,

"I have received a letter of the 26th ultimo, upon the subject of the intercourse between Jamaica and the United States of North America.

"The first object which you state is, that the inhabitants of Jamaica request permission to import fish, beef, pork, butter, and all other sorts of provisions, in neutral vessels, in the same manner as previous to the receipt of Lord Camden's letter of the 5th Sept 1804.

"The second object is, that the intercourse between the United States and the island of Jamaica may be placed upon a permanent and liberal footing, and not liable, as at present, to interruption.

"In answer to the first head, I have to observe, that no ground appears to me to be laid, nor do I believe, of a general proposition, that any can be laid, to prove that a full supply of the articles above mentioned, cannot be procured upon very reasonable terms from our own territories and fisheries, if the orders are forwarded in due time to the proper markets; which precaution, however, there is great reason to believe the inhabitants of Jamaica have been wholly unmindful of, while they could hope to avail themselves of the competition produced in the market of the island, by the unrestrained introduction of these articles by neutrals. Under this persuasion, it appears to me that the lieutenant governor has judiciously drawn the line, in his proclamation of the 20th of May, between such articles of provisions and lumber as may require the aid of neutrals and a foreign market (more especially in time of war) to furnish an adequate supply to our colonies in the West Indies, and those which can easily be procured in abundance, and on reasonable terms, from the mother country or other British colonies, if proper measures are adopted in due time by the planters, or by the merchants, importing on their account. I do not therefore, feel myself warranted, under the present circumstances, in recommending to his majesty any alteration in the instructions which have been given to the lieutenant governor of Jamaica.

"Upon the second head, I am sure the inhabitants of Jamaica are too strongly impressed with the value and importance of the navigation laws to the general interests of the empire, and of its colonies in particular, to desire not merely a suspension of the principles upon which the laws are founded, and by which the intercourse between the mother country and its colonies, is regulated under peculiar and urgent circumstances, but to solicit their permanent abrogation in order to substitute some other system in their room.

"As, however, inconvenience may occur to the inhabitants of Jamaica, if the time of the licence for importing articles enumerated in the lieutenant governor's proclamation in neutral vessels, shall be upon the point of expiring before the determination of the government has been declared, so as o enable the merchants and planters, by sending their orders to the United States and elsewhere, to make provision in due time under the indulgence so to be extended, the lieutenant governor will be authorised and directed to renew his proclamation, for the admission of such articles as he may think fit from time to time to enumerate, six weeks previous to the determination of the proclamation then in force, provided he shall be of opinion that there is reasonable ground to suppose that the circumstances of the colony are likely to be such, at the period of its expiration, as to justify a further extension of the indulgence.

I am, &c.

CASTLEREAGH."

WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24.

House of Representatives.

TUESDAY, Jan. 21.

On motion of *Mr. Nelson,*

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary in the criminal, civil or equitable jurisdiction of the circuit court of the district of Columbia, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Referred to a committee of five members.

Mr. Gregg, from the committee on public lands, made a report on the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Randolph and St. Clair in Indiana territory. The report states that the petitioners pray for a grant of lands on which they are settled, and for a different mode of survey from that applied to the other public lands, and considers the request as inadmissible. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

Mr. Early said he held in his hand a resolution instructing the committee of ways and means to enquire into the expediency of requiring the secretaries of state, treasury, war, and navy to lay before Congress at the opening of every session a detailed statement of the expenditure of the monies appropriated to the contingent expences of their departments. He would briefly state his reasons for offering this motion. The monies for the contingent purposes of the government were the only description of expenditures which were not controlled by the House. Over every other branch of expenditure the House exercised a control by specifying with definite clearness the respective objects of expenditure when an appropriation was made. But the monies appropriated for contingent purposes, were left exclusively to the discretion of the different officers presiding over the several apartments, in which they were alone governed by their own will and judgement. The only check which could be exercised over this description of expenditures was to require a detailed statement of disbursements. It would be recollected that a committee had been appointed some time since to investigate the accounts of several officers of the government, and that they made a detailed report to the house. About that time, it had been contemplated to take the step which he now suggested, but for some reasons it had never been taken. Mr. Early said he by no means wished to be understood as entertaining the idea that the discretion with which the heads of department were clothed had been abused. He knew of no facts to justify such an opinion. It was on the ground of principle, and of principle only that he offered this resolution. Through the four great departments which he had mentioned, passed 9 10ths of the whole money appropriated by Congress; and on looking at the statement contained in the estimates of the secretary of the treasury, he found that more than one fourth of the whole amount of money estimated as necessary for the several departments, was for contingent purposes. By that statement it appeared that the whole expences of the department of state were 27,900 dollars, of which 14,400 dolls. were for contingent purposes. Under the head of foreign intercourse, 182,500 dolls. were estimated as necessary; of which 76,900 dolls. were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the treasury department were 72,100 dolls. of which 12,100 were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the war department were 29,400, of which 2,000 were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the military establishment were 909,500 dolls. of which 18,000 were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the navy department were 21,100 dolls. of which 2,700 were for contingent purposes. The estimate for the naval establishment were 867,900 dolls. of which 411,900 dolls. were for contingent purposes. Mr. Early said, he presumed this view of the subject would justify him in the eyes of the members of the House in offering the resolution. The resolution, as follows, was agreed to.

Resolved, That the committee of ways and means be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making provision by law, for requiring the secretary of state, the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of war, and the secretary of the navy to lay before Congress annually a detailed account of the expenditure of the fund appropriated for the contingent expences of their several departments, respectively.

Mr. Crowninshield, from the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures, made a report on the petition of Nathaniel Goodall, praying that an additional duty may be laid on iron hollow ware, adverse to the same, in which the House immediately concurred. The report details the grounds on which it is made, which, as we purpose publishing from its connexion with an interesting topic, we omit further noticing at present.

Mr. P. R. Thompson, from the committee appointed on sundry memorials relative to a bridge over the Potomac, made a report. After a very detailed report, the committee conclude by declaring their opinion that the public interest would be greatly promoted by a bridge from or near the Maryland avenue to the opposite shore, and submit a resolution that the prayer of the memorials soliciting leave to erect a bridge is reasonable and ought to be granted.

Mr. Thomson moved that the report be made the order for Thursday.

Another member moved that it should be the order for the 1st of May.

The question was first taken on the last day, and passed in the negative—Ayes 9.

When the report was made the order for Thursday.

The bill for the relief of the governor, secretary and judges of the late territory of the U. S. north west of the Ohio, was read the third time & passed.

The bill extending the powers of the surveyor general to the territory of Louisiana and for other purposes, was read the third time and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, stating that they had passed the bill making an additional appropriation to supply the deficiency in the appropriation for the support of the navy during the year 1805.

Wednesday, January 22.

Mr. P. R. Thompson presented a memorial from sundry inhabitants of Alexandria, in the district of Columbia, representing that the fees paid to the officers of the courts are exorbitant and oppressive, and praying that the fees may be reduced to the same amount chargeable in the courts of Virginia.

Referred to the committee appointed yesterday on the resolution offered by Mr. Nelson.

After a few explanatory remarks, the object of which was to shew the necessity of uniformity in certain judicial proceedings of the states, Mr. *Bidwell* offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to consider whether any, and if any, what further provision ought to be made by law for prescribing the manner in which the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of the respective states shall be proved, and the effect thereof; and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Agreed to, and referred to a committee of five members.

Mr. Quincy presented a petition from the inspecting officers of the customs for Boston and Charles town, praying an augmentation of their compensations.

Referred to the committee of Ways and Means.

The House again went into committee of the whole—Mr. DAWSON in the chair—on the resolution of Mr. Sloan, for imposing a tax of ten dollars on every slave imported into the United States.

When, after a long debate (which shall be hereafter given unless excluded by more important matter) the resolution was agreed to—Ayes 79.

The committee rose and reported their agreement to the resolution.

The House immediately took it into consideration; and after some further debate, concurred in the report—Yeas 90—Nays 25—when the resolution thus agreed to was referred to a committee of three members to bring in a bill.

On motion of *Mr. Smilie,* the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole—Mr. VARNUM in the chair—on the bill to extend the jurisdiction in certain cases to the state judges and state courts. After a short discussion of the provisions of the bill, the committee rose and reported it with an amendment, which was ordered to lie for consideration.

Thursday, January 23.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. J. C. SMITH in the chair, on the bill *authorising a detachment of the militia of the U. States.* Several blanks in the bill were filled up, one authorising the President of the U. S. to accept as part of the detachment any corps of volunteers who shall engage to continue in service *six months* after arriving at the place of rendevous, and another appropriating *two millions of dollars* for the pay and subsistence of such part of the detachment as may be called into service. When the committee rose, and reported the bill with these amendments, in which the House concurred.

Mr. Dana moved to amend the first section by striking out the following words, in italic, relative to the proportions of the detachment to be called from the respective states; "to be apportioned by the President of the U. S. *by the militia returns of the last year, in cases where such returns were made, and in cases where such returns were not made the last year, by such other data as he shall judge equitable,* and by substituting in lieu thereof the words, "according to the last census."

Mr. Varnum stated several reasons against this amendment.

Mr. Dana withdrew his amendment, and moved a modification of it; which he also withdrew on an explanation made by Mr. Varnum. When the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on Monday.

A message was received from the President of the United States, stating that he had approved and signed an act making an additional appropriation to supply the deficiency in the appropriation for the support of the navy during the year 1805—and that he had likewise approved and signed an act providing for light houses on Long Island Sound, and declaring Roxbury, in Massachusetts, a port of delivery.

On motion of Mr. *Dawson,* the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the union—Mr. GREGG in the chair—on the report of a select committee on that part of the message of the President that relates to defending our ports and harbors, &c.

The report was read by the Chairman.

On the first resolution, appropriating 150,000 dollars for the better protection of our ports and harbors, a long and interesting debate ensued.

The debate was opened by *Mr. Dawson,* who explained at some length the grounds on which the report was founded.

Mr. Dawson was followed by Mr. Clinton, who represented the trifling amount of the sum proposed to be appropriated.

Mr. Thomas said a few words to the same effect, and moved to strike out the words "one hundred and fifty thousand," with the view of trying the sense of the House as to the appropriation of a larger sum.

Mr. N. Williams seconded the motion.

Mr. Ely detailed the information on which the report had been made.

Mr. Dawson replied.

Mr. Early moved that the committee should rise, in order that more full and satisfactory information should be obtained relative to the sum required, and the practicability of protecting by land batteries our ports and harbors.

This motion superceding the other, the subsequent part of the debate was shaped by it.

It was supported by Messrs. Early, Nelson, Smilie, Macon, N. Williams, G. W. Campbell, Cook and Fisk—and opposed by Messrs. Jackson, Dawson, Dana, and Elmer.

When the question was put, and the rising of the committee carried—Ayes 86.

Mr. Early gave notice that he should to-morrow move for the communication of information calculated to elucidate the subject.

On motion of *Mr. Stanford,*

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of changing the time of meeting of the circuit court for North Carolina.

In our last paper there was a slight incorrectness in stating a resolution offered by *Mr. Jackson* by an omision of the compositor. The resolution ought to read as follows:

Resolved, That the committee on the public lands be instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law for the legal adjudication of claims set up by persons in virtue of purchases or transfers from purchasers of lands of the U. States previous to the emanation of grants under their authority.

Appointment by the Governor and Council of Maryland.

GABRIEL DUVALL, Chancellor, vice Alexander C. Hanson, deceased.

Departed this life on Sunday the 12th January, 1806, in the 73d year of his age, Colonel Jeremiah Jordan, the register of wills for St. Mary's county.

Charleston, Jan. 10.

Charles Pinckney, Esq. late minister plenipotentiary from the United States to the court of Madrid, came passenger in the Henricus IV, from Lisbon.

The reports, by the arrival of the Henricus IV, from Lisbon, are, that the court of Spain is more favourably disposed towards the United States; that they had agreed to make compensation for spoliations committed by their own subjects; but would not consent to pay for those made by French citizens in Spanish ports—Admiral Gravina was only slightly wounded in the late action, and is not dead.—The king of Prussia had joined the coalition.—The French troops, were reported to have made 12,000 prisoners shortly after the fall of Ulm.

From the Norfolk public Ledger of Jan. 15.

The following extract of a letter was put into our hands by a mercantile friend of this place, the writer is a captain of an American vessel, well known to the editor of this paper, for his candor and veracity, and one who would not complain without cause, or exaggerate British depredations.

The letter is dated Antigua, 28th December.

"It was fortunate that I had not sold, and purchased a return cargo, at Martinique, as much loss to you, and anxiety to me have been avoided. It would have been impossible for me to have eluded the vigilance of the British cruizers in these seas. A system has been adopted here, the most iniquitous in itself, and ruinous to our trade that can be imagined. Every American vessel coming from a French Island, with cargo, is certain to be carried in, because the courts in every case, make us pay all expenses. I have informed myself fully on the subject, and know that the privateers out of this island are ordered to bring every vessel from a French port, with cargo, in for trial, stating that matters are settled between the court and them, that the expenses shall be paid in all cases by the Americans.

"The abuses to which we are subjected are intolerable; a junto consisting of the judge, the lawyers, the owners of privateers, and those who become our friends, when we are brought in, have laid their heads together to fleece us—we are sure to be put to great expence, the amount of which the gentlemen share between. They appear to us to be opposed to each other, but they I know divide the spoil. I got my information from one of the party, and what I see every day confirms the information I have received. It is a fact that several American vessels have been sent in here whose papers were never looked at, by those who sent them in.—They were ordered to send them in, without regard to papers or documents, for the reasons before stated."

NOTICE.

I forewarn all persons persons from taking a Note of Hand from me to Zechariah Hoxie of Prince George's county for Forty Dollars payable on the 21st of January 1806, as the note was fraudulently obtained, as I am determined not to pay it unless compelled by law.

BARTON CARICO.

January 24 3t

D. PETER

Notifies to such gentlemen as have heretofore made consignment to Mr. William Murdoch, London, or may in future be disposed so to do, that he is duly authorised to conduct his business at this place, and make such advances upon shipments as the prices in Europe will justify.

George Town, Jan. 24—2t

LAND FOR SALE.

Desirous of removing to Kentucky the Subscriber will sell his estate at the Falls of Rappahannock, on which he resides containing 1051 acres—being within one mile of the two improving towns of Fredericksburg and Falmouth and several manufacturing mills, independent of which it is believed that few tracts of land in Virginia embrace within their their boundaries as many real advantages.

FRANCIS HORTON,
near Fredericksburg.

January 24—2 w3w

Valuable Property For Sale.

The Subscriber offers for sale a number of valuable heights convenient to the city of Washington about 2 1 2 miles from the President's House and near the same distance from the Capitol, and command a handsome view of the City, river Potomac, and Alexandria. Lot No. 1. contains 60 acres, No. 2 contains 42 acres. No. 3 contains 101 acres. No. 4 contains 19 acres; Likewise a lot lying between John Taylor and Dr. Worthington, containing from 80 to 100 acres. Those lots will be sold together or apart as may suit purchasers.

Terms may be known by applying to James White or Rev. John Breckenridge near the property. Jan 24 wtf

Forty Dollars Reward.

RAN away from the Subscriber living three miles below Montgomery court house, Maryland, on Thursday the 26th of December last, a likely black fellow named BEN, about 38 years of age, straight and well made, six feet and upwards high, has a small scar in his forehead above the right eye, has remarkable long hair and in plats, if not cut off, had on when he went away a black fur hat, a brown cloth coat, black cassimere jacket, with black buttons, white cloth overalls, lined with country crocus, white country yarn stockings, and a tolerable good pair of short boots, he is an artful fellow, and has several other suits of cloaths, and I make no doubt he will change his cloathing and name, and perhaps he may have got a pass. And on the same day ran away from George town, a likely negro woman named Letty, the property of Mrs. Charity Willson, Montgomery county, about thirty years of age, 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, straight and well made, she has a scar above one of her elbows. She took with her a new blue cloth habit, tinged round the neck, skirts and sleeves with red flannel with sundry other cloathing unknown to me. She was brought up a house servant, and hired as a cook to Mr. John Cox of George town. Those negroes were seen together on the evening they made their elopement and it is supposed that they have gone together. Whoever takes up and secures the said negroes in any jail, so that we get them again, shall receive the above reward, or twenty dollars for either, and all reasonable expenses paid if brough home.

THOMAS CLAGETT.

January 24—3tw.