Mr. Quincy moved to strike out the proviso at the end of the first section excepting from the general restriction contracts in which immediate delivery is had and immediate payment made, &c.

A wide debate took place on this motion in which Messrs. Rowan and Quincy opposed the bill generally and Messrs. J. Clay, Fisk & Basset supported it.

On motion of *Mr. Blackledge*, the committee rose, Ayes 59, & obtained leave to sit again.

FRIDAY, FEB. 26.

A message was received from the President of the U. S. by Mr. Coles his Secretary.

[For message see Washington head.]

Which being read,

Mr. Dawson moved that the committee of the whole be discharged from the further consideration of the bill for raising an additional army.—Agreed.

Mr. Dawson then moved that the bill with the document respecting the regular army, be referred to the committee on our military and naval establishments.—Agreed.

Mr. Dawson then moved that the documents and so much of the message of the President as relates to a volunteer corps and the authorizing a new detachment of the militia, should be referred to the committee appointed on the 18th inst. to enquire into the propriety of organizing a volunteer corps of 24,000 men.—Agreed.

Mr. Dana presented the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the borough of Stonington, (Conn.) stating the unprotected situation of the port, & praying that its defence may be provided for. This memorial, as the subject of fortification has been already considered, was ordered to be transmitted to the President of the U. S.

Mr. Newton said he was instructed by the committee of Commerce and Manufactures to ask to be discharged from the consideration of the several petitions of journeymen hatters, praying the prohibition of or impost on importation of hats, because the non-importation act being now in force, the object of their prayer is fully accomplished.—Agreed.

Mr. Garnett moved a resolution for printing the rescinding act of the state of Georgia, on the Yazoo grant. His reason for this, was that this act contained a condensed view of material facts relative to that subject, and after looking among the documents in the House he could not find it.

Mr. Rhea moved to amend the resolution by adding "also a copy of the act rescinded."

Mr. Stanford thought if this was printed, a document which had been before the House stating the share which each member of the Legislature who passed it received with their names, should be added to it.

Mr. Bacon announced his intention of moving the printing of the report of the commissioners.

Some desultory conversation took place on the resolution, in the course of which,

Mr. Troup, in remarking upon the act rescinded, said that no such act existed; it had been honorably consigned to oblivion. The House had it not in their power to draw it from the grave. The gentleman might produce a paper which he might call an act of Georgia, but this House could not order it to be printed as an act of the state of Georgia.

Mr. Stanford moved to insert the word "authenticated" before the word "copy."

Mr. Rhea at the suggestion of some gentlemen having withdrawn his amendment,

Mr. Bacon moved an amendment for the purpose of introducing into this resolution the articles of cession to the U. S. and the report of the commissioners of the U. States on the Yazoo claim.

After some conversation *Mr. Bacon's* amendment having been agreed to—49 to 42.

Mr. Goldsborough moved to amend the resolution by adding "and all other documents in the possession of this House relative to the Yazoo claim."

After some observations on the subject,

Mr. Goldsborough withdrew his amendment.

Mr. D. R. Williams, as there appeared to be some difference of opinion on the subject, and to give time to prepare a resolution to meet the wishes of all, moved a postponement of the resolution.

After some further conservation,

Mr. *D. R. Williams*, as by making the motion time had been gained to to prepare a resolution that would obviate all objection, withdrew his motion; and

Mr. Garnett wishing to withdraw the resolution to replace it by another,

The *Speaker* declared that a motion after amendment could not be withdrawn.

Mr. Masters renewed the motion for postponement. Carried, 53 to 39.

Mr. Stedman moved that when the House adjourned, it adjourn till Monday—Negatived 49 to 46.

An engrossed bill for procuring an additional number of arms was read the third time and passed without a division.

The engrossed bill for remitting duties payable on the importation of a monument, &c. was read the third time and passed, Ayes 73.

Mr. Bassett having called for the order of the day on the bill concerning public contracts,

Mr. Nicholas moved that the business be postponed to make way for the bill amendatory of the embargo law.

After some observations from *Mr. Bassett*, declaring that if the gentleman persisted in his motion he should call for the yeas and nays on the motion,

Mr. Nicholas withdrew his motion, and the House refused to take up the contract bill, ayes 23.

The House then took up the bill amendatory of the embargo law; which being under consideration, a message in writing was received from the President of the U. States, which the Speaker declared it to be of a confidential nature.

The galleries were accordingly cleared, and the doors remained shut till about half past 3 o'clock, when the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, FEB. 27.

The House met with closed doors and so continued till near two o'clock; when the doors were opened.

The bill for extinguishing debts due from the United States was postponed till the next Monday week, 46 to 38.

The House then took up for consideration the law amendatory of the embargo law, as reported by the committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

Several amendments having been made and negatived to render less burthensome the restrictions on fishermen, a motion to adjourn (4 o'clock) was negatived, Ayes 16.

Mr. Newton moved to add to the bill an amendment vesting in the President of the United States a power to grant leave to citizens having property in a foreign port, to dispatch vessels in ballast to convey the same to this country, Provided sufficient bond, &c. be given.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lyon* to adjourn, and negatived, Ayes 28, Noes 47.

Amendment carried without a division; and

The bill ordered to a third reading on Monday, nem. con.

A Supplemental Journal of such proceedings as during the time they were depending, were ordered to be kept secret, and respecting which the injunction of secrecy was afterwards removed.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

A confidential message in writing was received from the President of the U. States by Mr. COLES, his Secretary, as followeth:

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

I enclose for the information of Congress, letters recently received from our ministers at Paris and London, communicating their representations against the late decrees and orders of France and G. Britain, heretofore transmitted to Congress. These documents will contribute to the information of Congress, as to the dispositions of these powers, and the probable course of their proceedings towards neutrals; and will doubtless have their due influence in adapting the measures of the Legislature to the actual crisis.

Although nothing forbids the general matter of these letters from being spoken of without reserve; yet as the publication of papers of this description would restrain injuriously the freedom of our foreign correspondence, they are communicated, so far confidentially, and with a request that after being read to the satisfaction of both Houses, they may be returned.

TH: JEFFERSON.

February 26th, 1808.

The said message and papers accompanying the same being read,

A motion was made by *Mr. Quincy* and seconded that the House do come to the following resolution:

Resolved, That previous to a return of the papers accompanying the message of the President of the U. States, this day communicated, the Clerk of this House take and retain copies thereof.

And on the question that the House do now proceed to take the said proposed resolution into consideration,

It passed in the negative.

Another motion was made by *Mr. Quincy* & seconded, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the U. States be requested to lay before this House such letters recently received from the American minister at Paris as accompanied the said minister's representations against the late decrees and orders of France, communicated to Congress in his message of this day, under such restrictions as in his opinion the public interest may require.

And on the question that the House do now proceed to take the said motion into consideration,

It passed in the negative, yeas 60, nays 62.

The yeas and nays being demanded by one fifth of the members present,

Those who voted in the affirmative are,

YEAS—Messrs. Bacon, Boyle, Burwell, J. Campbell, Champion, Chittenden, J. Clay, Clinton, Cook, Culpeper, Dana, Davenport, Desha, Durell, Elliot, Ely, Fisk, Gardenier, Gardner, Goldsborough, Gray, Harris, Helms, Hoge, Howard, Humphreys, Jenkins, Johnson, Kelly, Kenan, Key, Kirkpatrick, Lewis, Livermore, Lyon, Macon, Marion, Masters, D. Montgomery, T. Moore, Mosely, Mumford, Newbold, Pitken, Quincy, Rea of Pen. Rowan, Russel, S. Smith, Stedman, Storer, Sturges, Swart, Taggart, Tallmadge, Upham, Van Dyke, Van Horne, Van Rensselaer, D. R. Williams—60.

Those who voted in the negative are,

NAYS—Messrs. Alexander, L. J. Alston, W. Alston, Bard, Barker, Bassett, Bibb, Blackledge, Blake, Blount, Brown, Butler, Calhoun, G. W. Campbell, M. Clay, Clopton, Cobb, Cutts, Dawson, Deane, Eppes, Findley, Franklin, Goodwyn, Green, Heister, Holland, Holmes, Isley, Jackson, Jones, Lambert, M'Creery, J. Montgomery, N. R. Moore, Jno. Morrow, Nelson, Newton, Nicholas, Pugh, Rhea of Ten. J. Richards, M. Richards, Riker, Seaver, Sloan, Smelt, Smilie, J. K. Smith, J. Smith, Southard, Stanford, Taylor, Troup, Van Allen, Verplank, Wharton, Whitehill, M. Williams, Wilson, Winn, Witherell.—62.

Another motion was then made by *Mr. Quincy* and seconded, that the injunction of secrecy, so far as relates to the proceedings of the House upon the foregoing message of the President of the U. S. be removed, and that the same be published.

And debate arising thereon.

An adjournment was called for: on which the several orders of the day were farther postponed untill to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned untill to-morrow morning eleven o'clock.

Saturday, Feb. 27.

The House proceeded to take into consideration the motion depending on yesterday at the time of adjournment. Whereupon the question being put, it passed in the affirmative.

New York, February 25.

LATEST FROM HOLLAND.

Capt. Matlack, of the ship Cincinnati, informs us that about the 4th day of January an Embargo was laid at Antwerp and in all the ports of France, & was momently expected at Amsterdam. Mr. Bourne, the American consul there, had recommended to all vessels bound to the U. States to hasten their departure. Fourteen American vessels, bound to and from England, had been captured by French cruisers, and carried into Dunkirk. Markets very high.

Febuary 27, 1808.

At a meeting of a number of the inhabitants of George-town, held at Mr. Semmes's tavern on Thurday the 25th inst the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That the following notice be inserted in the Washington Federalist and National Intelligencer, viz. "A meeting of the inhabitants of the county of Washington is requested at the Union tavern in George-town, on Wednesday, the 2nd. of March, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, to take into consideration a memorial, which will then be submitted, requesting Congress to pass a law for laying a tax on the real and personal property in said county, for the purpose of erecting bridges over Rock Creek."

By order of the meeting,
ROBERT GETTY,
Secretary.

NOTICE.

THE Citizens of Washington are respectfully requested to attend the delivery of on ORATION by one of the members of the *Washington Debating Society*, at their Hall in the house occupied by Mr. Carbery near the Marine Garrison, on Tuesday 1st. day of March at 11 o'clock A. M.

Feb. 29—1t.

BANK OF COLUMBIA,
25th February, 1808.

In conformity to the charter of this institution an Election will be holden at Semmes' Tavern, in George-Town, on Monday 21st March next, for twelve Directors, to serve for one year from that day.

By order of the President & Directors.

WM. WHANN, Cash'r.

ept21st Mar.

PUBLIC SALE.

BY virtue of a decree of the honorable the circuit court of the district of Columbia, sitting as a court of chancery for the county of Washington, in the suit of

John Roberts and Samuel G. Griffith complainants.

Against Benjamin Bryan Defendant.

WILL be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, on Tuesday the 29th day of March next, at Stelle's Hotel, in the city of Washington, at the hour of 12 o'clock, M. a lot of ground in said city, in that square designated on the plan of said city by square north of square numbered seven hundred and forty-three, the said lot being bounded as follows to wit: Beginning at a point in the line of the west side of New Jersey Avenue, at the distance of one hundred and fifty one feet ten inches from the stone planted at the north east corner of said square, and running thence with the line of the said Avenue twenty-five feet, thence leaving the said Avenue, and with a line at right angles with the line thereof running one hundred feet, then turning in a direction parallel to the line of the said Avenue, and running thence twenty five feet, thence an hundred feet to the point of beginning, containing about two thousand five hundred square feet of ground, together with the improvements thereon erected, and all the advantages thereunto belonging or appertaining.

This property is eligibly situated between the Capital hill and sugar house, and may be inspected at any time prior to the day of sale.

The terms of sale are cash or money to be paid immediately on the ratification thereof by the court.

JOHN G. M'DONALD, Trustee.

26th February, 1808.—tp4w

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29.

THE PRESIDENT ON FRIDAY COMMUNICATED THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT MESSAGE *TO CONGRESS.*

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

The dangers to our country arising from the contests of other nations, and the urgency of making preparation for whatever events might affect our relations with them have been intimated in preceding messages to Congress. To secure ourselves by due precautions, an augmentation of our military force, as well regular as of volunteer militia, seems to be expedient. The precise extent of that augmentation cannot as yet be satisfactorily suggested; but that no time may be lost, and especially at a season deemed favorable to the object, I submit to the wisdom of the Legislature whether they will authorize a commencement of this precautionary work, by a present provision for raising and organizing some additional force, reserving themselves to decide its ultimate extent on such views of our situation as I may be enabled to present at a future day of the session.

If an increase of force be now approved, I submit to their consideration the outlines of a plan proposed in the enclosed letter from the Secretary at War.

I recommend also to the attention of Congress the term at which the act of April 18, 1806, concerning the militia will expire, and the effect of that expiration.

TH: JEFFERSON.

Feb. 25, 1808.

War Department, Feb. 24th, 1808.

To the President of the United States.

Sir—I take the liberty of suggesting, whether under existing circumstances, it would not be advisable, to propose to Congress an augmentation of our regular troops, as soon as practicable; and also the engaging and organizing of twenty-four thousand volunteers, on the principles I have had the honor of proposing for your consideration, the general outlines of which are contained in the paper marked No. 1.

The number of regular troops I would propose being raised immediately, is six thousand, to be composed of suitable proportions of infantry, artillery, cavalry and riflemen, and organized as stated in the enclosed paper marked No. 2.

It may be presumed that previous to the close of the present session, Congress will be possessed of such farther information in regard to our foreign relations as will be necessary for forming an ultimate opinion on the expediency or inexpediency of a greater augmentation of our army than is now proposed; and in the mean time measures may be taken for the recruiting service in different parts of the United States.

In the event of war, it will I presume be considered necessary to arrange our military force into separate departments, and to have a commander to each department, and of course, to have no such officer as a commander in chief; and until a larger army shall be raised than is now proposed, it may not be advisable to have any officers above the rank of Brigadier Generals;—of that grade it may be proper to have four or five, as soon as a suitable proportion of the troops is raised.

With sentiments of the highest Respect, I am, sir, your humble serv't,

H. DEARBORN.

NO. 1.

IT is proposed to have engaged in the several states and territories, 24,000 volunteers, to be enlisted to serve 12 months, in any 24 months, within the term of 5 years, at such times and places as the President of the U. S. shall direct, to be armed and equipped by the U. S. and to be regularly encamped in their respective states and territories from 2 to 3 months in each year; and be exercised under the direction of inspectors to be appointed by the President of the U. S. to receive pay and rations and be furnished with camp equipage and one suit of uniform clothing once in three or four years, the officers except the inspectors and paymasters to be appointed by the respective states, the pay annually to commence the day they march for the respective encampments, and to continue until their return home, allowing one day for each 20 miles march to and from the encampments; no corporal punishments to be inflicted, but all offences to be punished by close confinement and short allowance or fines, or both, the commissioned officers to be governed by the rules and articles of war established for the regular army; the 24,000 to be apportioned on the states and territories, in such proportion as circumstances may require, and in such proportions of infantry, artillery, cavalry and riflemen as the President of the United States shall direct, and organized into companies, battalions, regiments and brigades, or other corps, as shall be found expedient according to the numbers in each state respectively, and to be encamped in the respective states and territories at such times and place or places as the President of the U. S. shall from time to time direct.

NO. 2.

The six thousand regular troops may consist of five regiments of infantry, one regiment of riflemen, one regiment of light artillery, and one regiment of light cavalry. The regiments of infantry, riflemen, and artillery to consist of ten companies each, and the regiment of cavalry of eight companies. The field and staff of each regiment to consist of one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major, one adjutant, one quarter master, one pay master, one surgeon, one surgeon's mate, one sergeant major, one quarter master sergeant, and two principal musicians, and the regiment of cavalry one riding master.

Each company of infantry and riflemen to consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one ensign, four sergeants, four corporals, four musicians, and sixty eight privates.

Each company of artillery to consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, two cadets, four sergeants, four corporals, four musicians, eight artificers, and fifty eight privates.

Each company of cavalry to consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one cornet, four sergeants, four corporals, two musicians, one sadler, one farrier, and thirty-eight privates.

The great length of Congressional proceedings has obliged us to exclude several articles of considerable interest, particularly a very able vindication of the conduct of the American government contained in the London Morning Chronicle of January 14, which shall appear in our next.

In addition to the *communications* from the President under the Washington head, our readers will see his *confidential* message in the Supplemental Journal of Friday.

We understand that the papers communicated by the President in his message consist of a correspondence between Mr. Armstrong and the Secretary of State, and Mr. Pinckney and the Secretary of State.

The letters of Mr. Armstrong are not very recent, and altogether relate to the condemnation of the ship Horizon, whose case was lately given at length in this paper. They are consequently anterior to the date of the Milan decree. The ground, taken by the Grand Judge, in justification of the condemnation is, that the vessel being under the French decrees, a good prize at sea, was not less so when driven on land.

The letters from Mr. Pinckney to Mr. Madison are dated November 23d, December 14th, December 29th, and January 2d.

The first letter is of considerable length, and details several conversations with Mr. Canning relative to the late British orders; to which the subsequent letters are merely appendages.—In these communications Mr. Pinckney takes a wide and forcible view of the injustice of these orders; states an opinion that though popular, they will not be of long continuance—and intimates that from his conversations with Mr. Canning, there is no hope of their relaxation. Mr. Rose is said not to have been acquainted with them on his departure; having been sent on a *special* mission, and it being intended that Mr. Erskine should be continued as minister resident. The merchants had desired an explanation whether American produce might not pass unmolested, the answer given to which was in the negative. Mr. P in his discussions with Mr. Canning contends that the French decree of November 21st is no justification of the British orders, the former involving only the exercise of *municipal* powers.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

The brig Clinton, capt. Breath, arrived at N. York, in 40 days from London, brings London dates down to the 8th of January, two days later than by the Romp.

A proposal has been made by general Miranda to the British ministry to assist him in revolutionizing South America. The force asked for is four ships of the line and 7000 men. The government to be a confederated republic with Miranda at its head, under the protection of England. It is also reported that the British cabinet are inclined to assist in its execution.

On the 9th of January an order of council was to be issued, declaring certain ports of Spain and Portugal in a state of blockade, until which licences to merchants to trade to those countries have been withheld. By the granting of licences it would appear that a smuggling trade is carried on with the continent under the sanction of the British government.

Bonaparte arrived at Paris on the 25th of December. Previous to his departure from Milan he is said to have issued a decree uniting Etruria to the kingdom of Italy, and declaring Eugene Beauharnois his successor.

The French emperor has succeeded in effecting an alliance of the strictest kind with the Khan of Persia, and the English missionary on the same errand has had to make the best of his way home.

By a circular letter of the chancellor of the Exchequer of the 19th of Dec. it appears that a meeting of the British parliament will positively take place on the 21st of Jan. about the time that the news of the embargo in America will have reached London.