awakening up from the momentary trance into which they have been thrown, to vindicate their principles and to evince to her sister States that North Carolina will be as true to the principles of liberty in the approaching contest, as she was on the 20th of May, 1775.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect,
Your friend and fellow-citizen,
GEO. McDUFFIE.

SENATE CHAMBER, 10th May, 1842.

Gentlemen: I feel greatly honored by your kind invitation to be present at the adjourned meeting of your Democratic State Convention, to be held at Salisbury on the 20th inst. To say merely that it would afford me great pleasure to attend, would but inadequately express my feelings. I can scarcely imagine any circumstance which could afford me more gratification or which I should esteem a greater privilege than to grasp by the hand my Democratic fellow-citizens of N. Carolina who will be there assembled, and to cheer them on in the great and glorious cause in which they have enlisted. May success crown their effort! That such will be the result, I feel an abiding confidence. One year of Whig rule has opened the eyes of thousands, and has convinced the country that the principles of the Democratic party are those alone on which the Government can be safely and successfully administered. Within this brief period, more acts of Congress have passed, and are in progress invading State sovereignty, and tending directly towards a consolidation of all power in the Federal Government, than have ever been crowded into the same space of time since the adoption of the Constitution. The people are every where coming to the rescue, and the descendants of those stern patriots who, the first upon this Continent, proclaimed independence, will never disgrace their glorious ancestors when the rights of the States and of the people are to be vindicated.

I must, therefore, express my sincere regret, that without violating important duties here, I cannot meet you on this most interesting occasion.

With sentiments of the highest respect,
I remain yours,
JAMES BUCHANAN.

Messrs. JOHN L. HENDERSON, J. C. McCONNAUGHEY, and others.

COLUMBIA, Tenn., May 4, 1842.

Gentlemen: I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 18th ult., inviting me in behalf of the Democratic Convention of citizens of North Carolina which assembled at Raleigh on the 10th January last, and adjourned to meet at Salisbury on the 20th inst., to be present on the occasion.

As a native of North Carolina I cannot be otherwise than highly gratified at so distinguished a mark of your regard; and equally gratifying is the assurance which you give that "the Republicans of North Carolina are rising in their strength," and that "they will shew to their brethren of other States that the fire of liberty which glowed in the bosoms of their ancestors, who on the 20th of May, 1775, were the first to proclaim independence, is not extinguished, but still animates their descendants." Tennessee is the descendant of North Carolina. A large portion of her people are bound to the parent State by the strongest ties of affection.—They are "bone of your bone, and flesh of your flesh." There is now, and ever has been, a community of principle and of interest between us. With *you*, in the political struggle of 1840, (a struggle which was unprecedented, as regards the means employed by our opponents to effect their triumph,) we were defeated, but I may confidently assure you our defeat was but temporary. We too are rising in our strength, and I do not doubt, will at the appointed time, give high and conclusive evidence, that we are still animated by the cherished principles which we inherited from our Republican ancestors.

The recent development of the real principles and policy of the ruling party in the country, must satisfy all Republicans, who from wrong information or mistaken impressions, were induced to give them their support, that they have been deceived and betrayed.—The extravagant promises of reform, and of relief to the people which were every where made, are unredeemed. Constitutional restrictions and limitations upon the action of the Federal Government have been weakened, and broken down, and none can mistake the fact, that the tendencies under their rule, are to a consolidation of power in the Federal head—at the expense of the States and of the people. The corrective however is in safe hands. The "sober second thought of the people" will apply it.

Nothing, I assure you, gentlemen, could afford me more sincere pleasure, than to be present with you at your meeting, and to mingle with you in your consultations "in the present gloomy crisis of the country." My great distance from you precludes the idea that I can do so. But though absent, I will be with you in feeling and in sentiment, and be ever ready to contribute my humble aid in advancing our common principles.

With the tender of my thanks for the honor you have done me,

I am with high regard,
Your obedient servant,
JAMES K. POLK.

To Messrs. John L. Henderson, James C. McConnaughey and others.

["The Western Carolinian" says there were more than 400 *Delegates* of the counties present, who, in addition to the Visitors, "would swell the Convention to considerably over 2,000 men."]

FOREIGN.

[*By the Great Western.*]

The London Herald says:

"Some of the Paris journals comment, but in a slight manner, on the letter of General Cass, (which will be found on our last page.) The opposition ones are, of course, united in praising the arguments of the American Minister.

"In the Chamber of Peers, several questions were put to the Government, relative to the ratification of the treaty for the suppression of the slave trade, by M. Boissy, who said that the right of search was supported by a coalition of the ministerial press in France and England, and designated M. Guizot as the organ of English interests.

"Rumors are afloat in well informed circles that the French Cabinet has at length received proofs that General Cass, the American Minister in Paris, in protesting against the ratification of the slave trade treaty, was only an instrument in the hands of M. Theirs and the opposition. The evidence is said to be so irresistible as to have induced the French Government to forward a statement thereof to the Washington Cabinet. The greatest indignation, it is added, has been expressed at the circumstance in the highest quarters.

[This as a matter of course is all nonsense. Gen. Cass's views on this question will be supported and approved by the United States Government and people.—*Phil. Gazette.*]

CHAMBER OF PEERS—SITTING OF MAY 18.—The President took the chair at two o'clock.

The Chamber proceeded to the order of the day, which was the adjourned discussion on the supplementary and extraordinary credit of the estimation of 1841 and 1842.

The Marquis de Boissy repeated his arguments of the preceding day against the right of search. He maintained that the case of the Marabout was by no means the only one of which France had to complain, and expressed his opinion that when the Minister of Marine had received all the documents referring to the vessels searched, it would be found that many cases of ill usage would be discovered to have occurred. He wished to ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs if he had received any fresh intelligence on this head, and whether the French sailors, who had been unnationalised and made to serve in foreign vessels, had yet received permission to return to their country?

The Minister of Foreign Affairs (from his place.)—There has not been a single one treated as the noble peer asserts.

The Marquis de Boissy. The right of search was compromising for the country, and dangerous for its commercial interests. He did not certainly desire a war declared unnecessarily, but he thought the Government ought to decide on energetic measures respecting the matter under discussion. Above all, that part of the treaty of 1833, which regarded the number of cruisers, ought to be strictly insisted on.

Viscount Dubouchage considered that discussion had called forth one important declaration from the Minister for Foreign Affairs—that the extension which the treaty of December, 1841, was intended to give to the treaties of 1831 and 1833, should not receive the ratification of the French Government, unless some new facts should come to light to authorize it. The noble peer declared that England was actuated in seeking this treaty by a desire to assume the sovereignty of the seas; that she had always tried to shut out neutral flags from any power on the sea, and had seized on every opportunity of maintaining her right to search, even when she went as far back as blockading neutral ports, under the pretext of preventing them from aiding parties engaged in war. When these pretences were no longer to be invented, she came forward with certain principles of philanthropy, and under cover of them endeavored to continue the same proceedings.—The noble peer, in conclusion said that the use of machinery having altogether done away with the necessity of the slave trade in the French colonies, there was no longer any necessity for the right of search, and that therefore France ought to withdraw from any longer executing a treaty of which the character was evidently temporary, and fitted to the circumstances which had now ceased.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs thought it necessary to make but one remark. No French sailors had ever been unnationalized, and obliged to serve in English vessels. No such fact had ever occurred.

Baron Dupin—Were the sailors who had been arrested restore to France?

The Minister of Foreign Affairs—Every one.

The Marquis de Gabriac considered that the part of the treaties of 1831 and 1833, which gave French judges to French traders, were sufficient guarantees against vexations which might be exercised against them. All the facts alluded to, respecting the right of search, might be answered by this single one, viz: that their maritime commerce had evidently prospered since the treaties were in force, and hence he concluded that the opinion which had represented them as injurious to their interests was altogether ill-founded.

Baron Dupin could not consider the explanations which had been given as satisfactory. If there was no other fact but that of the Senegambie to be adduced, it would make the matter exceedingly serious. In the course of the next week other facts would be known, and then he should address the chamber to ascertain their veritable character.

The general discussion being closed, the Chamber proceeded to the discussion of the articles.

The Chamber adjourned at a quarter past five.

The Paris journals, without exception, anticipate war between England and America, unless that one or the other give way, and our private letters mention facts which would appear confirmatory of that anticipation. These facts are the definitive resolve of the French Government not to ratify the treaty of the 20th December, 1842, for the suppression of the slave trade, and President Tyler's approbation of all that the American Minister in Paris, (General Cass,) has written on the subject. Our correspondent, nevertheless, writes under a belief, that no danger of war between the two countries exists, and, in the postscript of his letter, assures us, that the despatches of the French Minister at Washington, (M. Bacourt,) received by the Great Western, expressed an expectation that the question would be amicably arranged before the month of July next. "So confident is M. Bacourt of that result," says our correspondent, "that he has applied to his Court for leave of absence."

The Count de las Casas, who accompanied Napoleon to St. Helena, died at Passy on Monday last.

On the 17th, M. Guizot had declared that the treaty would *not be ratified*. He repelled the idea, that the Government would be more ready to ratify after the dissolution of the Chambers, and concluded with these words:

"The line of conduct which I adopted two months ago in refusing to ratify the treaty I will equally pursue when the doors of this building are closed, and, in the actual state of things, I conceive that I should fail in my duty were I to recommend the ratification."

The following remarks on the refusal of France to ratify the treaty are from the London Sun:

"So far then, as regards France, there is an end of the controversy. During the life of the present generation France will not ratify the treaty, nor will the U. States adopt it.

"What, then, remains for Great Britain to do? Enforce the Treaty alone, and, if resisted, declare war against France and the United States? Heaven forbid that we should be guilty of such madness!

"We have already expended more blood and treasure, for the suppression of slavery, than sound policy and the happiness of the African race would warrant. Sir Fowell Buxton, in his recent clever book on the subject, distinctly states that we have given an impetus to the slave trade, by our expensive, but blundering, ill-directed efforts to suppress it.

"It may be asked, what we would recommend the British Government to do in the present emergency. We answer distinctly, abandon the treaty altogether."

FIRE IN HAMBURG.

The details are most distressing—the loss tremendous. The fire broke out soon after midnight on Wednesday, May 4th, at a house in the Deichstrase, one of the narrowest streets in the old part of the town, built as much of wood as other materials; and it passed from house to house until it entered a square court, surrounded by large warehouses, and unapproachable by the street. A warehouse of spirits caught fire, and now the flames began to threaten every thing far and near. It was nearly four o'clock, the Senate was called together, and to arrest the spread of the fire, it was proposed to pull down houses; but that was refused as a needless sacrifice of property. The Burgher Guard was called out; but the services of a body twenty thousand strong were useless in the management of a few bad fire engines; and, when it was too late, a few houses were ordered to be pulled down.

The flames no longer dealt with a few houses: they were arrested for a short time by reaching the wider space of Hopfenmarkt; when suddenly in the afternoon smoke burst from the steeple of the Nicolai church.—Accumulated in the large body of the church, the heat set fire to a new quarter, and the warehouses on the Catharinen canal were soon blazing for a quarter of a mile. Mr. Lindley, an English gentleman, who was engaged by the town in the construction of a railroad, suggested that a large line of building already given up, should be razed; and the attempt was begun at six o'clock on Thursday evening; but it was inefficiently carried on. The quarter to be saved was overtaken by the tide of fire, which shifted hither and thither with the wind; and for the next three days it ebbed and flowed in uncontrolled fury. The Town-house, the Borsenhalle, the Post-office, the Senate-house, and other public buildings, were successively destroyed; the masses of buildings in the intervals being swept away.

In the mean time, the town was like one in a state of siege; as each quarter took fire, the inhabitants hastily abandoned it. Some hurried away to the country; others brought their property into the streets, and there, in the panic, left it; and it served as fuel to the flames, which thus found a readier passage across the crowded streets. The poor, driven from house and home, and destitute of means, assembled in the streets which were yet free from the flames; and many more of all classes poured out into the fields, where they collected their furniture and household ware. One of the sufferers, writing on Sunday, thus describes the scene; speaking, apparently of Friday or Saturday:

"After taking a few short hours of rest and some little refreshment, I left my friend's house in the country, about one English mile from the Damthor Gate, and proceeded in his company to have a minute inspection of the whole scene of destruction before us, and which presented a most awful spectacle. About half-past 3 o'clock, P. M., on arriving in the immediate vicinity of the Damthor, we observed some hundreds of families encamped and engaged in the same operation, and surrounded by their weeping families and relations. Some portion of their furniture accompanied a few, and others again were seen lamenting their fate in being deprived, by so sudden and unexpected a calamity, in so short a space of time, of all they probably possessed in the world. Myself and friend, a gentleman long resident in Hamburg, and to whom I am in a great measure not only indebted for my present home, but for the assistance he rendered me in making good my retreat from the city before my house was completely burnt down, after taking a hasty survey of all we could outside the city, entered the Damthor Gate, and proceeded along the Damthor Strasse and the Esplanade, as far as the Jungfernsteig. Wherever we passed nothing was to be seen but loaded wagons and carriages with furniture, and families, busily employed in packing and handing out their property, amidst the most fearful solicitude and anxiety for their safety. The streets were literally crammed with them; and it took us considerable time and great caution to make good our passage through the mass of unfortunate beings, presenting the picture of despair and a fearful certainty that the worst was to come."

At length, energetic measures were taken—the troops were called out—others, Prussians, were summoned from Magdeburg—artillery was sent for from Harburg, in Hanover, and gunpowder from Gluckstadt and the Stade—and cannon were brought to bear in cutting off the path of the flames—by which means, on Sunday night the conflagration was brought under command, and by Tuesday it was entirely extinguished. But a quarter of the great and wealthy city is gone—one who went to look for the safety of the Senate house, could not find the spot! Little reliance can as yet be placed on the statistics of the calamity; but it helps to shape the idea of it when it is told that nearly the whole of the public buildings and churches are destroyed, with two or three thousand houses, and the number of the streets entirely destroyed is computed at forty-six! The new exchange escaped unhurt, through the exertions of a Mr. Smith.

The number of those who lost their lives is estimated at 150 to 250; but the real number will probably never be known. Surveyors have already been engaged in the hopeless task of estimating the destruction of property. The local fire offices are understood to be quite unequal to meet the burden thrown upon them. The London offices, it has been said, will all suffer severely; and it was supposed that the Sun, the Royal Exchange, and the Phœnix fire offices were, in the aggregate, liable to the amount of £1,000,000; but a paragraph in the daily papers denies that the London offices had insured any "building." The estimate of the loss has varied greatly, the latest and highest being £7,000,000. Although the Bank of Hamburg was destroyed, it has been officially announced that its treasures and books are safe.

The three prisons—the Zuchthaus, the Spinnhaus, and the Detentenshaus, have been completely destroyed.

The conflagration has destroyed rather more than a fourth part of the city, as far as extent is concerned, but viewing the relative importance of the different quarters of the town, the portion that has been burned must far exceed in value that which has been preserved.

A letter dated "Hamburg, May 14th," says: All around the neighborhood, for four or five miles, tents have been pitched, and temporary roofs and coverings have been patched up for their shelter, and provisions are supplied them from the Stadt House and other depots that have been opened. It is but an act of justice to say, that those who have preserved their property, and have plenty, with the most generous feelings, are sharing what they have with their less fortunate countrymen. About 70 families are billeted in the English Church, subsisting entirely on contributions.

The number of houses totally destroyed was 1500, and 720 more were so injured as to be uninhabitable.

A meeting was held in London on the 20th for the relief of Hamburg, the Lord Mayor presiding. A large committee was appointed to receive donations.

The British Government had sent over a large supply of tents and blankets, and £10,000, already subscribed, had been sent over.

The following donations are also announced:

"The King of Prussia has given $50,000, and has ordered a general collection to be made throughout the kingdom.

The city of Berlin has given $10,000.

The King of Denmark 100,000 florins.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin, 30,000 florins.

The Estates of Hanover have granted 100,000 dollars.

The city of Frankfort 100,000 florins.

The city of Bremen 30,000 florins.

LIVERPOOL, May 20.

TOBACCO.—There has been rather more demand this week, and the sales amount to 170 hhds., of which about 80 were for Ireland, at rather lower prices.

LIVERPOOL CORN EXCHANGE.

Friday, May 20.—The duty is reduced on foreign Wheat to 12s. per quarter, on Flour to 7s. 2½d per barrel, and on colonial Beans to 2s. per quarter, that on all other produce remaining unvaried until this day week.

With regard to the loss by the fire, we are glad to see by a letter to a gentleman in Baltimore, published in the Patriot, that a greater part of it is insured, and that the companies on whom it will fall "*are able to pay.*" The writer significantly inquires, "What would, in a similar case, be the result in America?" and adds, "business in Hamburg will, apparently, suffer but little interruption." The same letter estimates the loss at $35,000,000. Only four hotels remain in the city, the rest are burnt; also, 15 printing offices. The loss of life has been estimated from 200 to 300 souls.

[The Germans in the United States are beginning to move for the benefit of their distressed countrymen. Meetings are called in New York, &c.]

TWENTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS--2d Session.

Monday, June 6, 1842.

IN SENATE.

The following memorials and petitions were presented and appropriately referred:

By Mr. BATES: A remonstrance from sundry inhabitants of the town of New Bedford, in Massachusetts, against a reduction of the appropriation as reported in the House bill for the support of the navy.—He stated that the town of New Bedford owns more than two hundred vessels, ranging from three to six hundred tons. Some of them were round Cape Horn, some in the Austral Atlantic, some in the Indian Ocean, the North of Europe, indeed every where; and the people feel a deep interest in the subject of their memorial.—As the bill is upon the table, he moved that the remonstrance be laid upon the table.

By Mr. EVANS: From citizens of Portland, (Me.) remonstrating against reducing the appropriations of the navy below the estimates of the Department.

By Mr. BUCHANAN: From citizens of Delaware county, (Penn.) asking full and ample protection for all the domestic industry of the country.

By Mr. PHELPS: From wool-growers of Chittenden county, New York, praying an increase of the duties on imported wool.

By Mr. CONRAD: From importers of jewelry in the city of New Orleans, praying such a reduction of the duties on these articles as will prevent smuggling

Mr. WOODBURY moved to proceed to the consideration of the resolution submitted by him some days since relating to meeting at 11 o'clock. This motion having been agreed to, the resolution was taken up and adopted; and the Senate meets to morrow at 11 o'clock.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the Apportionment Bill, when

Mr. WHITE rose and concluded his remarks commenced on Saturday.

Mr. BATES followed, and was followed in turn, by Messrs SMITH of Conn., and KERR; when

On motion of Mr. SEVIER, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Pursuant to its order heretofore made, the House met this day at 10 o'clock.

FLYING, DIVING, AND EXPLODING.

[Mr. CARY presented the memorial of James C. Patton, a highly respectable citizen of Petersburg, (Va.) praying Congress to assist him in constructing two machines invented by him, one for passing through the air with immense velocity, by which he proposes to reach London or Liverpool from this country in sixty hours; the other machine is so constructed as to generate enough air for respiration, and with which, he thinks, he can pass through water at any depth it will allow, and under ships or vessels of any size, and with such apparatus as he is in possession of explode or blow up, in 6 or 8 hours, fifteen or twenty ships of the line.—Mr. Patton estimates the expense of constructing these machines at $5,000 each.]

Mr. CARY asked its reference to the Committee on Naval Affairs. Ordered accordingly.

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

On motion of Mr. FILLMORE, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Briggs, of Massachusetts, in the Chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the support of the Army and of the Military Academy, for the year 1842.

When the Committee rose on Saturday evening, the state of the question was as follows;

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON had moved the following modified amendment, to come in at the end of line eighth:

Provided, That the recruiting service shall cease until the number of non-commissioned officers and privates in the various companies of the several artillery and infantry regiments shall be reduced by death, expiration of term of service, and such discharges as the President may from time to time direct, to the number fixed by the act entitled "An act to reduce and fix the military establishment of the U. S.," approved March 2, 1821: *And provided further*, That no part of the appropriation shall be applied after 30th September next to the payment of the regiment of dragoons established and authorised by the act of 23d May, 1836.

Mr. Roosevelt (by way of compromise, and with a view as he explained, of keeping the army at its present actual force) had offered the following as a substitute for that amendment:

Provided, That no part of this amount shall be applied to the payment of any officers or privates hereafter to be appointed or enlisted beyond the number now actually in the service of the U. S.

And the pending question was on the motion of Mr. Roosevelt.

Mr. LEVY continued and concluded his remarks from Saturday, mainly in relation to the origin, causes, and history of the Florida war, and in reply to remarks of Mr. Giddings. Mr. L. (of whose remarks a report will appear hereafter) also indicated his intention, when in order, to offer an amendment, (which is hereinafter more particularly referred to.)

Mr. L having concluded, the Chair (now occupied by Mr. Underwood, of Kentucky) gave the floor to

Mr. FILLMORE, but some struggle taking place in relation to it, Mr. F., though desirous, he said, to make some explanations upon other items of the bill, yielded it.

Some conversation followed, in which Mr. EVERETT and Mr. ADAMS participated—the former gentleman expressing the opinion that the bill had not been sufficiently discussed, and the hope that when it should come into the House the previous question would not be moved.

Mr. EVERETT (who was the successful competitor for the floor) addressed the committee very briefly.

Mr. E. was followed by Messrs. ADAMS and STANLY, a report of whose remarks is unavoidably deferred.

The hour of one having arrived, the committee, in pursuance of the order heretofore adopted, proceeded to vote on amendments pending or to be offered.

After a brief conversation between Mr. ROOSEVELT and the CHAIRMAN, on a point of order—

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON modified his amendment by adding after the words "term of service," the words "or other causes."

And the question being, first, on the substitute amendment of Mr. ROOSEVELT—

Tellers were appointed, and the vote stood: Ayes 69, noes 102.

So the substitute amendment was rejected.

And the question recurring on the amendment of Mr. CAVE JOHNSON—

Mr. MERIWETHER offered the substitute amendment heretofore indicated by him; but, a question of order being raised by Mr. FILLMORE, Mr. M. withdrew it.

The question again recurring on the amendment of Mr. Cave Johnson—

Mr. MOORE, of Louisiana, asked a division of the question, (so as that a separate question be taken on each proviso;) and it was ordered.

And the question was taken, first, on the following part of the proposed amendment:

Provided, That the recruiting service shall cease until the number of non-commissioned officers and privates in the various companies of the several artillery and infantry regiments shall be reduced by death, expiration of term of service, and such discharges as the President may from time to time direct, to the number fixed by the act entitled "An act to reduce and fix the military establishment of the United States," approved March 2, 1821.

And the vote stood—Ayes 102, noes 64.

So the first branch of the amendment was agreed to.

And the question recurring on the second part of the amendment, to wit:

And provided further, That no part of this appropriation shall be applied after the 30th of September next, to the payment of the regiment of dragoons established and authorized by the act of the 23d of May, 1836.

Mr. MERIWETHER moved to amend the amendment by striking out the words "30th of September next," and inserting "1st of January, 1843;" which amendment was rejected.

And the vote on the second proviso being taken, stood ayes 90, noes 70.

So the second branch of the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON moved to amend the amendment by adding another proviso limiting the amounts of money to be paid to officers in the different branches of the service for pay or emoluments to the sums now paid to officers of the same grade in the infantry and artillery service.

Mr. CUSHING submitted to the Chairman whether this amendment was in order.

The CHAIRMAN decided that it was.

And the question being taken, the amendment, by ayes 91, noes 62, was agreed to.

The following item being under consideration:

For commutation of officers' subsistence, $527,264—

Mr. McKAY moved to amend it by adding thereto a provision that hereafter no additional rations should be allowed to commanding officers of separate posts: which amendment, by ayes 87, noes 55 was agreed to

Mr. FILLMORE corrected a clerical error in item No. 4 of the bill, but what it was the Reporter could not hear.

The following item being under consideration:

For expenses of recruiting, $30,709 36—

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON moved that it be stricken out.

Mr. ADAMS moved to amend that amendment by reducing the appropriation to $15,000.

Mr CAVE JOHNSON accepted this as a modification of his proposition.

After a brief conversation, the question was taken on Mr. Adams's amendment, and it was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. ADAMS, item No. 10 was amended by striking out "necessary expenditures for two regiments of dragoons," and insert necessary expenditures for *the* regiment of dragoons." Agreed to.

Mr. GILMER moved to amend the following item, by striking out the words in brackets:

For armament of fortifications [including compensation of a special agent to attend to the foundries employed in making cannon] $150,000

Which amendment, by ayes 70, noes 53, was agreed to.

Mr. DEBERRY moved to amend the bill by increasing the item for arsenals from $120,000 to $150,000.—Rejected.

Mr. RODNEY offered an amendment in the form of a proviso: That no ordnance storekeeper shall receive for his services a greater compensation than is allowed by act of April, 1832. *And provided further*, That the duties of paymaster of armories and arsenals be hereafter discharged by the regimental paymaster.

After a few moments' conversation on a point of order—

Mr. CALHOUN called for a division on each proviso; which was ordered.

And the question being taken, the first proviso, by ayes 83, noes not counted, was agreed to.

The second proviso was withdrawn.

Mr. CALHOUN moved to strike out the following item:

For expense of preparing drawings of uniform system of artillery $350.

Agreed to.

The item appropriating $950,000 for the Florida war being under consideration—

Mr. HUNT proposed the following amendment (to the first section:)

And that the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be appropriated for continuing the improvement of the navigation of the Hudson river above or below Albany, to be expended, as heretofore, under the direction of the Secretary of War.

The CHAIRMAN ruled the amendment to be out of order.

Mr. HUNT said he should not appeal from the decision, but hoped the Committee of Ways and Means would yet report a bill embracing his proposed amendment; or, if not so, a bill admitting him, *in order*, to propose the appropriation, and gave his reasons in favor of it.

Mr. FILLMORE had expected, he said, some information from the War Department in relation to the item for the Florida war; but, not having received the information, he would, on his responsibility, move to reduce the amount from $950,000 to $500,000.

Mr. GREEN offered an amendment appropriating (so far as, amidst great uproar, the Reporter could hear) $15,000 for the repairs of the two snag-boats on the Western waters.

Mr. G. asked for the reading of a letter showing the condition of property there.

The CHAIRMAN decided the amendment to be out of order, on the ground that it was totally foreign to the subject-matter of the bill.

Mr. GREEN appealed from the decision, and, after some conversation, the question on the appeal was taken, and the decision of the Chair was sustained.

So the amendment was declared to be out of order.

Mr. GAMBLE offered an amendment providing for the payment of the Georgia militia mustered into the service of the U. S. for the Florida war in 1840 and 1841.

Mr. G. asked that a letter from the Secretary of War might be read. Objected to.

The question was then taken, and the amendment was rejected.

Mr. LEVY moved to amend the last mentioned item by inserting, after the words "contingent items," the words "and for arrearages;" and also by adding a proviso that no arrearages for supplies of any description furnished to the militia not heretofore mustered into the service of the U. S. shall be paid for out of this appropriation, and that no supplies shall be paid for which are not authorized by existing laws."

Mr. STANLY said the Committee on Military Affairs had this subject under consideration.

Mr. LEVY was understood to express dissent, (though the Reporter, amidst the confusion, cannot speak positively.)

The question was taken, and the amendment was rejected.

Mr. FILLMORE offered certain amendments, which the CHAIR decided to be out of order.

Mr. M. A. COOPER moved an additional section, providing (as the Reporter understood, for he could scarcely hear,) for the reduction of the force at the armories. Rejected.

Mr. CHITTENDEN moved the following amendment:

Strike out after the enacting clause and insert the following:

That the present army of the U. S. shall be disbanded on the 4th day of July next; and on that day it shall be the duty of the President of the U. S. to commission ex-Governor Dorr, late of Rhode Island, as Major-General of the United States, with authority to enlist as large a body of able-bodied soldiers who shall be opposed to all civil authority and in favor of the largest liberty, as he shall be enabled to do, with the aid of his friends in Tammany Hall, before the 30th day of December next; and the sum of one thousand dollars is appropriated to defray the expenses thereof, and of the late expedition against the State of Rhode Island and its legal authority.

Some confusion, partly of a serious and partly of a comical character, followed.

The CHAIRMAN decided the amendment to be out of order.

Mr. BOWNE inquired of the Chairman if the amendment offered by the gentleman from N. York would go upon the journal?

The CHAIR replied in the negative.

Mr. BOWNE said he regretted it, as he wished to have the infamous act on record.

(Some cries to order, and some laughter.)

Mr. M. A. COOPER moved to amend the bill by inserting an appropriation for the payment of Georgia volunteers called out to protect the citzens of Georgia against Seminole incursions; which was declared to be out of order.

Mr. CALHOUN moved an amendment, confirming the laws heretofore passed against extra allowances for the disbursement of public moneys, or any other service or duty, unless the pay be authorized and the appropriation therefor explicitly set forth.

Which was agreed to.

Mr. REYNOLDS then moved to strike out the second section of the bill, or that appropriating money for the Academy at West Point; which motion, by ayes 27, noes 105, was rejected.

Whereupon the committee rose and reported the bill and amendments to the House.

And, on motion of Mr. SPRIGG, after some conversation, the further consideration of the bill was postponed until to-morrow, and the bill and amendments were ordered to be printed.

Mr. GOODE, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, made a report.

NAVY PENSIONS.

On motion of Mr. FILLMORE, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Boardman, of Connecticut, in the chair,) and took up the bill to supply a deficiency in the Navy pension fund.

Mr. GOGGIN moved the following amendment as an additional section:

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of an act entitled "An act directing the transfer of money remaining unclaimed by certain pensioners and authorizing the payment of the same at the Treasury of the U. S.," approved April 6, 1838, as requires pensions that may have remained unclaimed in the hands of pension agents for eight months to be returned to the Treasury, be and the same is hereby repealed, and that the time within which such pensions shall be returned to the Treasury be and the same is extended to twelve months, subject to all the other restrictions and provisions contained in the said act.

Mr. FILLMORE suggested to Mr. G. to modify his amendment by extending the time to fourteen months.

Mr. G. consented. And after a few remarks from that gentleman, the question was taken, the amendment was agreed to, and the bill was laid aside to be reported to the House.

MAINE MILITIA.

On motion of Mr. FESSENDEN, the Committee took up the bill to provide for the settlement of claims of the State of Maine for the services of her militia.

The question being on the following amendment of the Senate, which was understood to be agreed to:

"*Provided*, The compensation paid by the State aforesaid shall not exceed that paid by the U. S. for similar services."

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON moved an amendment providing for the payment of the value of certain horses belonging to the Tennessee volunteers, (an amendment which Mr. Fillmore said had the unanimous approval of the Committee of Ways and Means.)

Mr. WARREN moved an amendment to the amendment, so as to include horses belonging to the Georgia volunteers.

A debate arose, in which Messrs. CAVE JOHNSON, CLIFFORD, FESSENDEN, WARREN, ROOSEVELT, UNDERWOOD, McKAY, M. A. COOPER, GAMBLE, and ALLEN, of Maine, participated.

When the question was taken on Mr. Warren's amendment, (modified,) and it was rejected.

Mr. Cave Johnson's amendment was then rejected.

After one or two ineffectual motions to amend, the Committee rose, and the two bills and amendments were reported to the House.

The amendment to the naval pension bill was concurred in and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The amendment to the Maine militia bill was concurred in and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned.

Tuesday, June 7, 1842.

IN SENATE.

Mr. CHOATE presented a remonstrance, from Boston, against a reduction of the appropriation for the Navy; also a memorial from the same city, praying that the present system of importations on credit may be continued and the warehousing system established.

Mr. BUCHANAN presented a memorial from cigar manufacturers of Philadelphia, complaining that the bill reported in the House of Representatives by Mr. Saltonstall fixes the duty on the raw material at fifteen per cent. with an *ad valorem* only of thirty per cent. on imported cigars, and asking that such a duty may be imposed as will protect their manufacture.

Mr. WOODBRIDGE presented certain resolutions passed by the city authorities of Monroe, in Michigan, setting forth that, some eight or ten years ago, the General Government made an appropriation for the improvement of the harbor at that place, and that appropriations were made from year to year until $90,000 were expended. Without completing the work, although the period for its completion had nearly arrived, all appropriations for that object suddenly ceased; and the memorialists solicit an appropriation by Congress to save what has been done from destruction.

Mr. WOODBRIDGE gave notice that he would, tomorrow, or on some other day, ask leave to introduce a bill to apply certain alternative sections of the public lands to works of internal improvement.

Mr. STURGEON presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, passed at its last session, expressing its wish that a sum of money be appropriated by Congress to render the Ohio river navigable for keel boats at all times.

Mr. PRESTON presented the memorial of two mechanics of the city of Washington, stating that they recently received some injury while in the public employ, by falling from a scaffold, and appealing to the generosity of Congress for compensation or a gratuity in consequence of the great calamity which has befallen them.

Mr. BAGBY, on leave, introduced a bill to regulate fees and writs of error in the District Court of the U. S. for the Northern district of Alabama. Which was read a first and a second time.

Mr. BENTON suggested that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the bill providing for an armed occupation of Florida.

Mr. SEVIER hoped that the Senate would take up a bill which had passed the House seven times and the Senate five times. It was for the relief of an old man about to die, and he trusted that it would be passed before that event occurred.

The bill was then read; it authorizes the Secretary of War to adjust the claim of Benjamin Murphy, of Arkansas, and allow him payment in full for the loss of cattle and horses taken from him by Indians; and it was engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. WRIGHT remarked that there was a bill on the table, reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, and which had passed the Senate three successive sessions, to enable the sureties of Samuel Swartwout, late Collector of the port of New York, to compromise their liabilities with the Government. He hoped that the Senate would consent to consider the bill this morning, as it would not take five minutes to dispose of it.

Mr. SMITH, of Indiana, said that he yesterday voted for changing the hour of meeting of the Senate to eleven o'clock, because he thought that one hour could be profitably devoted to the private calendar; but he must object to the consideration of any bill out of its order.

Mr. LINN proposed, by way of compromise, that the bills on the calendar be taken up from eleven to one o'clock each day. Then Senators could debate general questions until eight or ten o'clock, if they desired to do so. He thought that this would be the proper course, and no gentleman would have an excuse for calling up a bill out of order; but he could not vote against proceeding to the consideration of the bill designated by the Senator from New York out of order, because, by taking it up, they might do some business.

The question was taken on the motion of Mr. WRIGHT, and it was disagreed to.

On the motion of Mr. BAYARD, the bill from the House proposing to establish a system of police for the protection of public and private property, in the city of Washington, was referred back to the Committee on the District of Columbia. Mr. B. stated that, from several communications from the Departments, it appeared that the provisions of the bill would not answer the purposes for which it was designed.

The act to amend an act to carry into effect with the States of Alabama and Mississippi the existing compacts with those States with regard to the five per cent. fund and school reservations, was read a third time and passed.

The Senate then proceeded to the orders of the day, being the bill for the Apportionment of Representatives among the several States according to the sixth census.

The question pending, when the Senate adjourned, on Saturday, was on motion of Mr. Wright to amend the following section of the bill:

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That in every case where a State is entitled to more than one Representative—the number to which each State shall be entitled under the apportionment, shall be elected by districts, composed of contiguous territory, equal in number to the number of Representatives to which said State may be entitled—no one district electing more than one Representative.

Mr. Wright had moved to strike from the above section the words, "no one district electing more than one representative," and to insert the words, "as far as that can be done in conformity with the established election systems of the States; but no State shall, by virtue of the provisions of this section, consider itself called upon to divide counties, or other election districts, for the purpose of furnishing single districts."

Mr. WRIGHT said that, if the section was to be adopted, he hoped that it would be amended in the manner proposed by him. He, however, would vote against it in any form, for never had he met with so unwise a step, for it was calculated to bring on a collision between the States and the General Government, which would shake the latter to its very foundation.

Mr. TALLMADGE replied to Mr. Wright, his remarks being principally confined to the State of New York; and he addressed the Senate in support of the section as it came from the House of Representatives.

Mr. WALKER opposed the section, and was followed by

Mr. CUTHBERT, whose remarks took the same direction. He proposed that the State Legislatures should first take action upon the subject before a bill in relation to the manner of electing Representatives in the States should be presented to Congress for consideration.

Mr. LINN acquiesced in the remark of the Senator, and observed that before the question should be taken he would move to except Missouri from the operation of the bill.

Mr. BERRIEN opposed the section, and said that although the two political parties in Georgia differed widely on other subjects, upon that of electing by general ticket they agreed with unanimity; and he would endeavor to give effect to their wish in this particular.

Mr. BAYARD thought that there was no necessity for the adoption of the amendment proposed to the section, as it supposed a state of things (which he explained) which did not exist.

Mr. WRIGHT rejoined, and, in conclusion, said that, if they were to have a bill of this kind, he desired that Congress would carry it into operation, and not leave it to the States.

Mr. SMITH, of Conn., replied to a portion of the remarks of Mr. Berrien.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. Wright, and it was decided in the negative—yeas 19, nays 29, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Bagby, Benton, Buchanan, Calhoun, Cuthbert, Fulton, King, Linn, McRoberts, Sevier, Sturgeon, Tappan, Walker, Wilcox, Williams, Woodbury, Wright and Young—19.

Nays—Messrs. Archer, Barrow, Bates, Bayard, Berrien, Clayton, Choate, Conrad, Crafts, Evans, Graham, Henderson, Huntington, Kerr, Mangum, Merrick, Miller, Morehead, Phelps, Porter, Preston, Rives, Simmons, Smith of Conn, Smith of Indiana, Sprague, Tallmadge, White and Woodbridge—29.

Mr. WALKER proposed an amendment