119. An act "changing the days of holding Superior Courts of Law in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, and for other purposes."

120. An act "to amend the Act, entitled, "An act concerning the Town of Beverley in the County of Randolph."

121. An act "concerning Samuel Dryden Clerk of Kanawha County."

122. An act "authorizing Thruston I. Dickerson to hold a certain slave in this Commonwealth."

123. An act "forming the Militia of the town of Petersburg into a regiment."

124. An act "for arranging the Counties into Districts for the Election of Senators, and for equalizing the Land-Tax."

Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That for the election of Senators to the General Assembly, the Commonwealth shall be laid off into districts as followeth, to wit, the counties of Amelia, Nottoway, Cumberland, Powhatan, and Chesterfield, and the town of Petersburg, shall be one district; the counties of Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg and Mecklenburg, shall compose another district; the city of Williamsburg, with the counties of James City, Charles City, New Kent, Elizabeth City, York, Warwick and Henrico, and the city of Richmond, one other district; the counties of Shenandoah and Rockingham, one other district; the counties of Augusta, Rockbridge, and Pendleton, one other district; the counties of Monroe, Greenbrier, Bath and Botetourt, one other district; which said districts shall form the first class; *Provided, however*, That, in the ensuing election to supply the vacancy occasioned by the expiration of the term, for which the Senators of the first class have been elected to serve, the county of Greensville shall be considered and taken as part of the district composed of Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Lunenburg and Mecklenburg, and shall vote for a Senator to be elected from that district. The counties of Sussex, Surry, Southampton, Isle of Wight, Prince George, and Greensville, shall be one district; the counties of Charlotte, Halifax, and Prince Edward, one other district; the counties of Spottsylvania, Louisa, Orange and Madison, one other district; the counties of Loudoun and Fairfax, one other district; the counties of Frederick & Jefferson one other district; & the counties of Hampshire, Berkeley & Hardy one other district, which said districts shall form the second class; *Provided, however*, that in the ensuing election, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the expiration of the term for which the Senators of the second class shall have been elected to serve, the county of Culpeper shall be considered and taken as part of the district composed of Spottsylvania, Louisa, Orange & Madison, & shall vote for a Senator, then to be chosen from that district, and in like manner the county of Fauquier shall be considered and taken as part of the district composed of Loudoun and Fairfax, and shall vote for a Senator then to be chosen from that district; the counties of Washington, Lee, Scott, Russel & Tazewell, shall be one district; the counties of King William, King & Queen, Essex, Caroline & Hanover, one other district; the counties of Wythe, Montgomery, Grayson and Giles, one other district; the counties of Kanawha, Mason, Cabell, Randolph, Harrison, Lewis & Wood, one other district; the counties of Ohio, Tyler, Brooke and Monongalia, one other district; and the counties of Fauquier and Culpeper, one other district, which said districts shall form the third class. The borough of Norfolk, together with the counties of Norfolk, Princess Anne and Nansemond, shall be one district; the counties of Campbell, Buckingham and Bedford, one other district; the counties of Franklin, Patrick, Henry and Pittsylvania, one other district; the counties of Albemarle, Amherst, Nelson, Fluvanna and Goochland, one other district; the counties of King George, Westmoreland, Northumberland, Richmond, Lancaster, Stafford and Prince William, one other district; and the counties of Matthews, Middlesex, Accomac, Northampton and Gloucester, one other district, which said districts shall form the fourth class; *Provided, however*, That, in the ensuing election to supply the vacancy occasioned by the expiration of the term for which the Senators of the fourth class have been elected to serve, the counties of Elizabeth City, Warwick and York shall be considered and taken as part of the district composed of Norfolk borough and the counties of Norfolk, Princess Anne and Nansemond, and shall vote for a Senator then to be chosen from that district, and the county of Louisa shall, in like manner, be considered and taken as part of the district composed of the counties of Albemarle, Amherst, Nelson, Fluvanna and Goochland, and shall vote for a Senator then to be elected from that district.

Be it further enacted, That whensoever the term for which any class of Senators, now elected, shall have expired, or the whole class become vacant, by the death or disqualification of all the Senators composing such class, elections shall be held in the corresponding class, according to the arrangement of districts formed by this act: but if any partial vacancy shall occur, by the death or disqualification of one, or more Senators, before the time shall have expired for which the whole class was elected to serve, such vacancy shall be filled by an election to be held in such district, or districts, as such Senator or Senators, respectively represented before such vacancy occurred.

For the purpose of reforming the taxes upon lands and lots within the Commonwealth;

Be it further enacted, That there shall be appointed by the Executive a board of Principal Assessors, consisting of four members, for each of the four following districts, that is to say: one board for the district composed of the counties of Princess Anne, Norfolk, Nansemond, Isle of Wight, Surry, Sussex, Southampton, Greensville, Prince George, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Chesterfield, Henrico, Hanover, New Kent, Charles City, James City, York, Warwick, Elizabeth City, Gloucester, Mathews, Middlesex, Essex, King and Queen, King William, Caroline, Spottsylvania, Stafford, King George, Westmoreland, Lancaster, Richmond, Northumberland, Accomack and Northampton; one for the district composed of all the other counties east of the Blue Bridge; one for the district composed of the counties between the Blue Ridge & Alleghany, embracing the counties of Pendleton and Bath, which lie on each side of the Alleghany; and one for the district composed of all the other counties of the Commonwealth, including Montgomery & Monroe, which also lie on both sides of the Alleghany. Each board shall be composed of one member from each of the districts aforesaid, and a majority of each shall be necessary to form a quorum for the transaction of business.

It shall also be the duty of the Executive, to appoint one or more assistant assessors in every county of the Commonwealth, not exceeding one for each commissioner's district within the county; and the better to enable the Executive to make fit appointments to the office of assistant assessor, each county court, at the March or April term next, shall recommend to the Executive, not less than two discreet and reputable men, in their opinions suitable for the office aforesaid; the Executive, however, shall not be confined in their appointments to the persons so recommended by the Court.

Each assistant assessor, so appointed, as soon as the commissioner's land book for the present year is corrected and completed according to law, shall copy therefrom, in one table, all that is contained in relation to the several tracts of land in the columns under the following heads, viz: "Name of owner."—"Residence."—"Number of acres of land."—"Description of the land,"—"Distance and bearing from the court house,"—"Rate of land per acre"—and in another table, he shall copy all that is contained in relation to the several town lots, in the columns under the following heads, viz: "Name of owner,"—"Residence,"—"Number of town lots,"—"Name of the town."—To each of these tables, the said assistant shall add another column, headed as follows, viz: in the table of tracts of land, the column shall be headed, "Present value of land per acre,"—and in the table of town lots, it shall be headed, "Present value of lots."

With the tables so made out, it shall be the duty of each assistant assessor, forthwith to proceed within the limit assigned to him by his appointment, to ascertain the value per acre of each tract of land, and the entire value of each town lot within his precinct, and to set down such value in the column provided as aforesaid, opposite to the tract of land or lot to which it pertains. Such value shall be assessed as follows: the market price of the land or lot, upon the terms of sale usual in that part of the country in which it may lie, shall be first ascertained, and the price so ascertained shall be reduced to its cash value, by making a just and proper discount therefrom.

their duties, the Executive shall cause to be procured and furnished to them, copies of the assessment of the lands and lots in their counties respectively, which were lately made under the law of the United States. The said assistants shall have power, and it shall be their duty in all cases when it is practicable, to call upon the owner of any land or lot, for such information as he may be able to give in relation to it. If the assistant shall think proper, he may require such information on oath—and if the person of whom it is so required, shall fail or refuse to give it without lawful cause, he shall forfeit and pay to the Commonwealth, for the use of the Literary Fund, a fine of one hundred dollars. It shall moreover be the duty of each assistant assessor to obtain such other information of the value of the land or lot as he conveniently can, and in all cases in which his information is not otherwise satisfactory, he shall himself view it, if it can be found by him. In assessing the value of any land or lot, all buildings and other improvements thereon, shall be taken into the estimate; and it shall be the duty of the assistant assessor, to note in a separate column to be added to each table for that purpose, the sum which he has added to the value of the land or lot, on account of the buildings thereupon.

When the assistant assessor shall have finished his assessment within his precinct, he shall verify the same by an oath or affirmation to be certified at the foot of each table aforesaid, and to be in substance as followeth:

I, A. B, assistant assessor of the lands and lots in the county of do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have impartially, and to the best of my judgment and ability, discharged my duty under the Act of the General Assembly, entitled, "An act, for arranging the counties into districts for the election of Senators and equalizing the land tax"—and that, according to the best information that I have been able to procure, the value assessed upon each tract of land (or lot) as above, I verily believe to be correct.—So help me God!

A fair copy of each table thus verified, shall, without delay, be fixed up at the door of the court house of the county, and shall be kept there by the assistant assessor on the first day at least of two successive courts, with a note written thereon in some conspicuous place, to the following effect:

"All persons interested in the assessment, are hereby informed, that appeals therefrom will be heard and decided by the board of Principal Assessors, who will sit in this county, that notice of any appeal intended, should be given to me; and that any evidence which any one may desire to lay before that board, must be taken in the form of affidavits, and delivered to me to be exhibited to the board.

"A. B. Assistant Assessor."

Be it further enacted, That, so soon as the said assistant assessors shall have finished their assessments respectively, they shall communicate the fact to the Executive of this Commonwealth; and the Executive shall thereupon issue a proclamation, requiring the several boards of Principal Assessors to assemble together at some convenient time to be designated in the proclamation at some proper place within their district respectively, to be also in like manner designated, and to proceed in the execution of their duties.

The said Boards of Principal Assessors shall assemble accordingly at the times and places so designated, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, and having first taken an oath or affirmation as herein prescribed, shall enter upon the duties of their office; such oath or affirmation shall be to the following effect: "I, A. B. do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully and impartially to the best of my skill and judgment, discharge the duties of my office of Principal Assessor, under the act of the General Assembly, entitled "An act for arranging the counties into districts for the election of Senators, and for equalizing the land tax; so help me God."

It shall be taken before some justice of the peace, and duly certified by him; and the production thereof, to the Auditor of public accounts so certified, shall be necessary to entitle such Principal Assessor to a warrant for the pay allowed him by this Act.

The board of Principal Assessors so assembled, and qualified, shall attend successively at the courthouse of every county in the district, and revise, and correct, modify or affirm the assessments made by the assistant assessors, in such manner, as shall seem to them right.

The board of Principal Assessors shall be attended in each county by the assistant or assistants in that county. The said assistants shall return to the board their original tables of assessments, verified as above required, together with the United States' assessments with which they shall have been furnished. They shall give the board all the information in their power which shall be required of them, whether on oath or otherwise. They shall report faithfully all appeals of which they have received notice, and lay before the board all affidavits and other evidences entrusted to their care in relation to such appeals; and if required to do so, they shall act as clerks to the board, whilst in session in their counties respectively.

The Board of Principal Assessors may call upon the commissioner or commissioners of the revenue in the respective counties, if they think fit, to give them such information as the said commissioner or commissioners may possess; and it shall be the duty of any commissioner, so called on, to attend, and give information accordingly.

Be it further enacted, That as soon as the said board of Principal Assessors shall have finished their duties in their districts respectively, they shall communicate the fact to the Executive; and when the Executive shall be informed that all of them have so finished their duties in their districts, they shall issue a proclamation, requiring all the said Principal Assessors to assemble in the City of Richmond, on a convenient day to be designated in the proclamation.

The said Principal Assessors shall assemble accordingly, and form a general board for the purpose of revising and correcting, what each particular board shall have done. The general board shall be constituted by not less than a majority of the whole number of Principal Assessors, of whom two at least shall be from each district. The general board so organized shall compare the various assessments, made by each particular board; the members shall communicate freely and fully to each other the principles on which each particular board has acted, and the manner, in which the value of the land and lots has been ascertained, in each county; and the said general board shall have full power, and it shall be their duty to correct all errors, which they may detect in any of the assessments; and so to reform them all, as to make them correspond with each other in the principles on which they shall be made.

Be it further enacted, That when the assessments aforesaid shall thus have been revised and reformed by the General Board of Assessors, a fair copy of those made for each county, shall be delivered to the Auditor, certified and signed as followeth, to wit:

"We the Principal Assessors of the lands and lots, in Virginia, assembled, in general meeting, in the city of Richmond, do hereby certify, that we have revised the above table of lands (or lots) and the above assessment thereof; that we have corrected all errors which we discovered therein, and that we believe it is now made in conformity with the provisions of the act of the General Assembly, entitled "An act for arranging the counties into districts for the election of Senators, and for equalizing the land tax." Given under our hands, this day of ."

It shall be the duty of the Auditor forthwith to cause a fair copy of the tables of assessment, so returned, for each county, to be forwarded to the commissioners of the revenue in the counties respectively.

For the purpose of making the copies to be returned to the Auditor as aforesaid, & those to be forwarded by him to the commissioners, the Executive may authorize the employment of as many clerks as may be necessary; to be paid such reasonable compensation as they may deem proper.

Be it further enacted, That the aforesaid Principal Assessors shall each receive as a compensation for his services the sum of five dollars a day for every day that he shall be actually engaged in the discharge of his duties, or in travelling to, or from the places, at which his duty requires him. His account, stating the number of days for which he is entitled to pay, made out on oath, and certified to be correct, by the particular board, of which he is a

treasury for the same, to be paid out of any money, not otherwise appropriated.

The Assistant Assessors shall receive as a compensation for their services, each the sum of two dollars a day, for every day he shall have been actually engaged in his duties, including the time of travelling as aforesaid. His account, stating also the number of days for which he is entitled to pay, shall be verified by his own oath, and being certified to be correct, in the opinion of the board of assessors for the district in which he shall have acted, shall entitle him to a warrant, for the amount due him to be paid in like manner.

The commissioners of the revenue, shall receive as a compensation for such services, as they shall render to the board at their request, a compensation of one dollar per day, to be certified by the board, and paid in like manner.

Be it further enacted, That, after the assessment for the whole State, shall have been completed as aforesaid, and copies of the tables of assessment for the several counties, shall have been furnished to the respective commissioners, it shall be the duty of those commissioners to correct their land-books accordingly; and whenever thereafter any part of a tract of land, or lot, shall be transferred, from one person to another upon the commissioners' books, it shall be the duty of the commissioner to ascertain the relative value of the parts so transferred, when compared with the whole tract, to charge the part so transferred, at such relative value, to deduct the value, so charged to the transferree, from the amount of value of the whole tract or lot, and charge the balance upon the residue of the tract or lot. If any person, interested in such apportionment, shall be dissatisfied therewith, he may apply to the court of the county or corporation in which the land or lot lies, and upon reasonable notice given to the other party interested therein, or if the other party cannot be found, in the county, then, upon reasonable notice given to the commissioner, the court shall have full power to correct any error that may have been committed, and shall thereupon order the commissioner's book to be reformed accordingly.

It shall moreover be the duty of the commissioners annually to assess the value of any new building which may have been erected, or any tract of land, or lot, and which shall not have been heretofore assessed, and to add the amount thereof, to the value at which such land or lot was before charged: *Provided, however*, That they shall not assess any such new building, which is under the value of one hundred dollars. In making the assessment of new buildings as aforesaid, they shall be valued as nearly as may be, at the same rate, at which other buildings in the same neighborhood shall have been valued by the assessors, under this act.—Neither the commissioners, however, nor the assessors, shall value any building until the same shall have been so far finished, as so be fit for use; and they shall then assess it, whether entirely finished or not, at the same value as if it were finished on the plan on which it is designed.

Whenever any building assessed as aforesaid, shall be destroyed by any cause whatever, it shall be the duty of the commissioner, at the next periodical correction of his land book, so to correct the same, as to deduct from the value of buildings charged to the owner thereof, as nearly as may be, the value at which the buildings so destroyed, shall have been assessed.

Be it further enacted. That the 1st and 2d sections of the Act, entitled "An Act, for equalizing the land tax," which passed at a General Assembly, begun and held on the 21st day of October, in the year 1782, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed from & after the 31st day of December next.

Be it further enacted, That if any principal assessor, shall refuse, or fail to perform any of the duties of his office, he shall forfeit and pay to the Commonwealth, for the benefit of the Literary Fund, a fine not less than one hundred, nor more than five hundred dollars; and if any person required by this law to verify any fact upon oath, shall falsely, wilfully, and corruptly depose to such fact, he shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and be punished in the same manner as if he had falsely, wilfully, and corruptly deposed to any fact as a witness in a court of justice.

Be it further enacted, That the Executive shall, from time to time, as occasion may require, supply all vacancies which may happen in the office of any principal or assistant assessor.

All Ordinances of Convention, and Acts of Assembly coming within the purview of this Act, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

This act shall commence and be in force from and after the passage thereof.

125. An act "appropriating a sum of money for the purchase of furniture for the governor's house."

126. An act "vesting in the trustees of the Male Charity School of Fredericksburg, the title to certain property therein mentioned."

127. An act "concerning Robert Crutchfield."

128. An act "to revive and amend an act, entitled 'An act incorporating a company to establish a turnpike from Snicker's ferry, in the county of Frederick, to Winchester—passed Feb. 10th. 1812."

129. An act "allowing further time to the Potomac Company to complete the navigation of the river Potomac."

130. An act "concerning Peter Eppes."

131. An act "to amend an act, entitled 'An act incorporating companies to open the navigation of Buffaloe and Tye rivers, within certain distances therein prescribed, and declaring the same public highways."

132. An act "concerning Peter Anderson."

133. An act "authorizing the sale of a tract of land belonging to the orphans of Andrew Baimain, dec'd."

134. An act "providing for the payment of certain fines accruing to the Literary Fund."

135. An act "authorizing Horsey Somers & Charles Rice to retain certain slaves within this Commonwealth."

136. An act "for the relief of the heirs of Edward Carter, dec'd."

137. An act "providing for the distribution of the printed edition of the Journals of the Conventions of 1775 and 1776." One copy is to be sent by the Executive to the Clerk of each county, to be preserved in his office; one copy to the Librarian of the Public Library at Washington; and one copy to Thomas Jefferson late President of the United States, as a testimony of the high esteem which is felt for his character by the General Assembly of this Commonwealth; one copy is to be retained in the Council Chamber; one copy in the office of the clerk of the House of Delegates, and one other copy in the office of the clerk of the Senate: the remaining copies are to be sold by the Public Printer, on a commission of ten per cent. and the proceeds of the sale are by him to be paid into the treasury.

138. An act "to amend and reduce into one the several acts against malicious shooting, stabbing, and disfiguring, and for other purposes." Besides reducing into one the several acts now in force on these subjects, this act provides, that if any free person shall, at any time, consult, advise, or conspire with any other free person, or with any negro, or other slave, to induce, entice, or excite any slave or slaves to rebel or make insurrection, or in any wise aid, assist, or abet any slave or slaves to rebel or make insurrection, every such person so consulting advising, plotting, or conspiring, or so aiding, assisting, or abetting, on conviction thereof, shall suffer death by hanging by the neck.—This act takes effect from the first of April next.

139. An act "authorizing a sale of certain real estate, whereof Simkin Bryan died seized."

140. An act "to amend the several laws concerning the arrearages of taxes upon lands, houses and lots."

[*To be continued.*]

CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.

Monday, February 17.

Several motions were submitted, and bills passed through various stages—

Among the motions was one by Mr. *Mason*, of N. H. to instruct the military committee to bring in a bill to reduce the army to the number of five thousand men—which proposition will come up to-morrow.

finance from the consideration of the petitions of the unchartered banks of this city and Georgetown, and refer the same to a select committee—

Mr. *Mason*, of N. H. submitted the following resolution for consideration, which lies on the table:

Resolved, That the committee of finance be instructed to report to the Senate a bill providing for the establishment of a bank within the city of Washington, with a capital equal to the sums, which, by a certain time to be specified, shall be subscribed and actually paid. To be not less than one million, nor more than three millions of dollars. Two-thirds of which may be paid in the funded debt of the U. States, and the other third in specie. And giving to the several banking associations now existing within the D. of Columbia, the prior right of subscribing for so much of said capital as shall be equal to the joint stock of such associations respectively.

Resolved further, That the said committee report a bill prohibiting after a certain time to be therein named, under suitable penalties, the making and issuing, by any unauthorised association or individual, within said district, notes or bills with intent to cause the same to be circulated and received in payment in like manner as the notes and bills of incorporated banks usually are circulated and received in payment.

Mr. *Duggett*, from the committee on the subject, reported amendments, as instructed by the Senate, to the Claims' Law.

Mr. *Mason*, of N. Hampshire, submitted for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of finance be instructed to enquire into the expediency of authorising the Secretary of the Treasury, in behalf and for the use of the United States, to purchase or cause to be erected suitable buildings for custom-houses and public ware-houses in such principal district in each State, where the said Secretary shall deem the same necessary, for the safe and convenient collection of the revenue of the United States.

Mr. *Mason*, of N. H. submitted the following:

Resolved, That the committee on military affairs be instructed to report to the Senate a bill to reduce the Military Peace Establishment of the United States to the number of 5,000 men, to consist of such proportions of artillery, infantry and riflemen, as the President of the United States shall deem proper, retaining the corps of engineers as at present established.

The report of the committee of claims, unfavourable to the Petition of Dennis de la Ronde, was taken up and concurred in.

The bill authorising vessels departing from the town of Bayou St. John and basin of the Canal de Carondelet for foreign ports, to clear out at the custom-house in the city of N. Orleans, was read a second time.

The amendments of the House of Representatives to the bill authorising the sale of a reserved square in the city of Washington, were taken up and agreed to.

The bill making appropriations for the support of government for 1817, and the bill relating to the ransom of American captives of the late war, were received from the H. of Representatives, and read a first time.

The Senate resumed the bill respecting the transportation of persons of color, for sale or to be held to labor, and the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a 3d time.

The Senate resumed, as in committee of the whole, the consideration of the bill respecting persons escaping from the service of their masters; and a motion was made by Mr. *Smith*, to postpone the same indefinitely—which motion was decided as follows:

YEAS—Messieurs Barbour, Brown, Campbell, Condit, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, Hardin, Macon, Mason of Va. Smith, Talbot, Tait, Troup, Williams.—15.

NAYS—Messieurs Ashmun, Daggett, Goldsborough, Hanson, Horsey, Howell, Hunter, Mason of N. H. Morrow, Noble, Roberts, Ruggles, Sanford, Taylor, Thompson, Tichenor, Varnum, Wells, Wilson.—19.

The bill, having been amended, was reported to the Senate.

On the question to amend the bill, by adding thereto the following as a new section:

And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for any constable, or any public officer, or any resident private citizen, and they, or either of them, are hereby authorised and empowered to seize or arrest any such negro or negroes, mulatto or mulattoes, or other person or persons of colour, and take him, her, or them, before any one of the judges or magistrates aforesaid, and upon oath being made by such constable, officer, or resident private citizen, that he hath just and reasonable grounds to believe that such negro, &c. as the case may be, hath escaped from his, her, or their owner or owners in some other of the United States or Territories, it shall then be the duty of the judge or magistrate aforesaid, and they and each of them are hereby required to commit such negro or negroes, mulatto, or other persons of color, to the public jail of the district or county where he, she, or they shall be found and apprehended, for the space of months, unless the owner or owners shall in a shorter time prove a right of property thereto; and it shall be the duty of the keeper of any jail, to which such fugitive or fugitives shall be committed, to give public notice thereof in some public newspaper for the space of blank weeks, describing particularly the fugitive or fugitives so committed—

The vote was as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Fromentin, Gaillard, Goldsborough, Hardin, Macon, Mason of Va. Ruggles, Smith, Stokes, Talbot, Tait, Taylor, Troup, Williams.—15.

NAYS—Messrs. Ashmun, Brown, Daggett, Horsey, Howell, Hunter, King, Lacock, Mason of N. H. Morrow, Noble, Roberts, Sanford, Thompson, Tichenor, Varnum, Wells, Wilson.—18.

And the question having been put on ordering the bill to be engrossed for a 3rd reading—the Senate, on motion of Mr. *Smith*, adjourned without deciding thereon.

Tuesday, February 18.

Mr. *Fromentin* submitted the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Rep-

duty of the commissioner of public buildings, to cause to be fitted up for the reception of the Library of Congress a suitable building, upon a plan to be approved by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the H. of Representatives, to be situated on Delaware Avenue, North of the Capitol.

Resolved, That when the said building shall be ready for the reception of the said Library, it shall be the duty of the Librarian to remove the same, & arrange the books therein.

The bill authorising the appointment of a reporter of the decisions of the supreme court, with a salary of 1000 dollars per annum, on condition of supplying a certain number of copies to the government within a limited time, was taken up, discussed and ordered to a third reading by a large majority.

The Senate then went into the consideration of Executive business; and the doors remained closed until the usual hour of adjournment.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, February 17.

Mr. *Lowndes*, from the committee of ways & means, reported a bill supplementary to an act, entitled "An act further to amend the several acts for the establishment and regulation of the Treasury, War and Navy Departments," which was twice read and committed.

Mr. *Pleasants*, from the committee on naval affairs, to whom was referred the Petition of Captain Teakle Savage, reported a bill authorising the payment of a sum of money to Teakle Savage and others; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. *M'Kee*, from the committee appointed on the 24th ult. reported, by leave, a bill repealing the act passed on the 22nd day of April, 1800, and fixing the command of the marine corps; and also a bill repealing an act, entitled "An act for the safe keeping and accommodation of Prisoners of War," passed on the 6th of July, 1812. The first of these bills was twice read and committed, and the second once read, and ordered to be read a second time.

On motion of Mr. *Mills*, the committee on the judiciary were instructed to enquire into the expediency of making further provision by law for regulating the fees of District Attorneys of the U. States.

The engrossed bill making appropriations for the support of the military establishment for the year 1817; the engrossed bill making additional appropriations to defray the expences of the army and militia during the late war with G. Britain; the engrossed bill making appropriations for the support of the navy of the U. S. for the year 1817, were severally read the third time and passed.

The House then proceeded to consider the proposition submitted by Mr. *Williams* a few days ago, that it is expedient to repeal the internal duties.

This subject occupied the remainder of the day, in the manner stated below—

Mr. *Johnson*, of Virginia, commenced the debate by an animated argument in support of the proposition, on the ground of the entire adequacy of the revenue, from the indirect taxes and other sources, to defray the expenses of the government, without the aid of the internal taxes, which, therefore, and for their own objectionable character, ought to be repealed.

Mr. *Smith*, of Md. entered into an examination of the fiscal part of this question, with a view to shew that, if the report of the committee of finance on the sinking fund should receive the sanction of the House, these taxes could not be dispensed with.

Mr. *Cannon*, of Ten. followed on the same side of the question, and advocated, as connected with the repeal of the internal taxes, the reduction of the army, which he considered desirable, independently of the question of reducing the taxes necessary to support it.

Mr. *Williams*, of N. C. spoke at large in support of his proposition on its own merits, and on the demerits of some of the national expenditures, particularly those on account of the army, which he wished to see reduced, as well because of its unnecessary extent, as because standing armies are obnoxious to our free institutions. Mr. W. replied with some point to the observations made by Mr. Calhoun, on his motion the other day.

Mr. *Calhoun*, of S. C. spoke in reply to the gentlemen from Virginia, Tennessee, and N. Carolina, particularly condemning the unseasonableness of the hour, at which this question had been introduced into discussion, and shewing the improbability of acting conclusively on the subject at the present session.

This motion was opposed by Mr. Cannon, Mr. Sharp and Mr. Hardin and supported by Mr. Robertson, Mr. Sheffey, Mr. Smith (of Maryland,) and Mr. Lowndes, on various grounds, and at some length.

The question was at length decided by yeas and nays against postponement, by a majority of about 20 votes.

Mr. *Lowndes*, of S. C. replied very fully to the arguments of gentlemen who supported this resolution, in principle as well as in detail; vindicated the reports of the committee of ways and means; and shewed how inconvenient a moment this was to agitate this question, &c.

Mr. *Webster*, of N. H. was also opposed to what he termed a wholesale repeal of the internal taxes. He was willing to reduce the expenditures of the government in any practical way; which was a question, however, that ought to have been settled before the present question was agitated.

Mr. *Johnson*, of Va. spoke in reply to Mr. Lowndes and others, taking occasion to express his regret that the question of a reduction of the army had been connected in the debate with this proposition, with which, in his view, it was wholly unconnected in fact, &c.

Mr. *Ross*, of Pa. spoke at considerable length, and with much earnestness, in opposition to the passage of the resolution, on various grounds.

The question was loudly called for, it being about 4 o'clock, and the House refused a motion to adjourn.

Mr. *Ingham*, of Pa. moved to amend the resolution, in order to save future trouble, and make it more specific, so as to specify the repeal of each of the internal taxes distinctly. (This will bring before the H. separately the question of repealing each tax.)

After some conversation, arising from

small majority.

And the House adjourned.

Tuesday, Feb. 18.

Mr. H. Nelson from the committee on the judiciary, to whom the enquiry on the subject had been referred, reported that it is inexpedient to multiply the newspapers in which the acts of Congress are published. This report was agreed to.

Mr. Nelson from the same committee, reported a bill providing an additional compensation to the Circuit Judge of the sixth circuit, which was twice read and committed for to-morrow.

Mr. Nelson, from the same committee, made unfavorable reports on the petition of Andrew Moore, Marshal of Virginia, and on the petition of the Cryer and Bailiffs of the Supreme Court; which were affirmed by the House.

Mr. Condict, from the committee on the expenditures for the public buildings, made a report containing estimates of expences to be incurred in finishing the public buildings, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ingham, from the committee on the Post-Roads, reported a bill allowing the privilege of franking to James Madison during the remainder of his life, which was twice read and ordered to a 3d reading to-morrow.

The Speaker laid before the House the report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the petition of the merchants and vessel owners in Richmond District. The report was directed to lie on the table.

The Speaker also communicated a report of the Post Master General of the names and salaries of his clerks in the year 1816. Ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker also laid before the House a letter from Gov. Plumer, transmitting a map of New-Hampshire, for the use of the House of Representatives.

On motion of Mr. King of Mass. the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to report to the House such measures as they may judge necessary to regulate the importation of Plaister of Paris, and to countervail the regulations of any other nation, injurious to our own, relating to that trade.

INTERNAL DUTIES.

The House then resumed the consideration of the resolution moved by Mr. Williams, to repeal the Internal Duties; when the question recurred on Mr. Ingham's proposed amendment, noticed in the proceedings of yesterday.

Mr. Root moved to amend the amendment so as to confine the repeal of the duty on carriages, to those "not exceeding one hundred dollars in value," and spoke at some length in support of his proposition.

Mr. Bateman spoke against the repeal of the duties, and concluded his speech by a motion to postpone indefinitely the resolution & proposed amendments.

Mr. Harrison also insisted on the propriety of postponement, chiefly on the ground of the impolicy of reducing the Army, which proposition had been considered as connected with that now under consideration.

Mr. Hardin spoke against the postponement, endeavoring to convince the House that these taxes might be repealed without a reduction of the Army, but in favor of reducing the army it necessary to authorise a repeal of the Internal Taxes.

Mr. Wilde spoke at considerable length in opposition to the proposed repeal, argumentatively, and on various grounds.

Mr. Root and Mr. Robertson next spoke in favour of a repeal of the taxes; the former in favour of the immediate repeal, and the latter in favour of a repeal prospectively.

Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Lowndes, in short speeches, supported the motion to postpone the subject indefinitely.

Mr. Kilbourn spoke twice against the postponement: and Mr. Smith of Md. in favor of it.

Mr. Johnson of Va. and Mr. Randolph also spoke in favor of the repeal of the taxes; and Mr. Smith of Md. again spoke in favor of the postponement.

The question was at length taken on indefinite postponement, and decided in the negative—

For the postponement	59
Against it	94

The question then recurred on Mr. Root's proposed amendment, which he then withdrew.

The question was then taken on Mr. Ingham's motion, and decided in the negative.

The question having been stated on the original resolution, proposed by Mr. Williams, a division of the question was called for—

And before taking the question thereon, the House adjourned at a late hour.

Washington, Feb. 18.

THE SENATE.

According to the theory of our government and the general impressions on that subject, the Senate of the United States, whose members are chosen for six years, should be the most permanent and least changeable of the branches of the government. On this ground, hostility has been entertained by many good men, as possessing greater power and being more permanent in its character than is consistent with the democratic principles of our government. A few facts on this subject will shew what, in practice, is the character of this branch of the government.

It is well known, that the Senators are arranged into three classes; one of which goes out of office at the end of each Congress. Of the class, whose term of service expires on the 3d of March next, *but one* will take a seat in the Senate on the 4th March next, (Mr. Williams, of Tennessee,) and that one temporarily appointed by the Executive of the State which he represents.

Of those who composed the Senate on the 4th day of March, 1813, four years ago, *but five* will take their seats, as Senators, on the fourth day of next month.

From the 4th day of March, 1813, to the 4th March, 1817, inclusive, there will have been the number of persons which follow in the office of Senator, from the respective States, each State being entitled to two Representatives in the Senate.—There will have been, for example:—

From			
New-Hampshire	4	Maryland	5
Vermont	4	Virginia	5
Massachusetts	4	N. Carolina	4
Rhode-Island	3	S. Carolina	3
Connecticut	3	Georgia	4
N. York	4	Tennessee	5
N. Jersey	4	Kentucky	7
Pennsylvania	4	Ohio	5
Delaware	4	Louisiana	5

It is presumed, our readers will find in these facts the evidence of a more frequent renovation of the Senate, of a more continued rotation in office in that body, than any of them without inquiring would have supposed. [*Nat. Int.*

DARTMOUTH UNIVERSITY.

The new Board of Trustees, says the Boston Daily Advertiser, met last week at Concord.—They have made specific charges against President BROWN, Professors SHURTLELL and ADAMS, and all the old Trustees, except Gov. GILMAN, of a violation of the laws of the state, and acts, hostile to the interest of the institution. They are cited to appear before the board on the 22d instant, to show cause why they should not be removed from office.