

This day the following communication was transmitted by the Governor to the Senate.

To the Honorable Senate:

In complying with your resolution of the 6th instant, calling on me for the facts and information upon which I recommended a loan of money, equal to the value of the lands owned by the State, for constructing or commencing the Michigan and Illinois Canal:

I beg leave to state, that my conviction of the propriety of such a measure has been formed from a knowledge that a similar policy had been adopted by several of our sister States with eminent success. New York and Ohio, have finished their principal works of this kind, which leaves no doubt on the minds of the most sceptical of the grand results they have produced, not only upon the value of their agricultural productions and improvement of the country, but upon the wealth and resources of those two states. I have no statistical account before me of the revenue derived by Ohio from her canal; but have seen it stated in some of the public prints to be very considerable, after paying the interest on the money borrowed by the state for its construction.

I perceive that in 1833, the state of New York received one million three hundred and seventeen thousand four hundred dollars, for tolls on the Erie canal, after deducting the expense of collecting; or, nine hundred and sixty thousand six hundred and six dollars, after paying the interest on the money borrowed to construct the canal. I have not the account of the last year before me, but I have seen it stated, that the clear profits of the canal, after paying the interest on the sum expended in making it, was approaching fourteen hundred thousand dollars. Pennsylvania has adopted the same policy, and although she unwisely (as it is generally believed,) commenced most of her canals at the same time, which retards the completion of any of them, there cannot be a doubt of her ultimate success also. Indiana too, has borrowed money, and is progressing rapidly with the canal from Lake Erie to the Wabash, and will doubtless succeed.

The reasons which influenced me to advise the loan of no larger sum at present than can be borrowed on a pledge of the canal lands, and then to apply to Congress for another grant, may be found in the fact, that this is a great national work, and that Congress believed, when these lands were granted, they were sufficient to make the canal, as will appear by reference to the proceedings and debates which took place when the appropriation was made. That this canal is regarded by Congress as a national work of the highest importance, is well known to myself, and to all who have taken the least interest in it; and that Congress will make further appropriations when the state shall have expended the value of the canal lands, is strongly manifested by the following extract from a report made by the committee on roads and canals, at the last session of Congress, on a proposition I submitted for additional aid to make a steam boat canal:

"Further aid from the United States towards the construction of this interesting communication, should be deferred till such an examination and estimate be made; and a plan adopted by the state of Illinois for the construction of its necessary works. When this plan shall have been fixed, and presented to the consideration of Congress, there can be no doubt that, if approved by them, additional aid will be afforded, to an enterprise of such national importance."

I think this may be considered a pledge to some extent, that further aid, at a proper time, will be afforded. When we look at the direct interest which every state in the Union has in this canal, as a means in case of maritime war, of keeping open the extensive and almost indispensable commerce now carried on between the northern and southern sections of our Union, we have no reason to believe that the nation will allow this improvement to form an exception to all others, and after making a partial appropriation, permit the work to stop.

As this will be the shortest, safest, and most certain communication between the Lakes and the Mississippi, through it a large portion of the commerce of most of the states must pass; and it will doubtless be an object with Congress to construct it at the national expense, so as to relieve the state from the necessity of imposing a heavy tax on commerce to pay for the improvement. The state should prefer such a course, as it will also relieve our citizens from a tax on our own productions.

Another reason for believing that Congress will make further appropriations may be found in the fact, that most of our sister states feel a lively interest in the speedy accomplishment of this work; and at the last session of Congress, petitions from a large portion of Pennsylvania were received urging Congress, to make appropriations to open this channel: from one of which petitions I make the following extracts:

"The petition urges Congress to appropriate the surplus revenue to open a steam boat or ship channel from the Chesapeake Bay to the Lakes, and between Michigan Lake and the Illinois river. They represent that the construction of these improvements would effect a circle of inland navigation of several thousand miles in extent. They would be highly beneficial to many of the states, and of immense national importance. The extent of country interested in these two improvements embraces probably more than one half of the Union. No other improvements within our country can be projected, which will be so extensively useful. As a bond of union between the east and the west, the north and the south, they will be of the utmost importance. The extensive internal trade which will float upon them, will tend to bind together the remote sections of our country by the tie of common interest. In the time of war they will afford the opportunity of concentrating the national force whenever required, &c."

It is manifest, I think, from the foregoing, and every other evidence before us, that it is only necessary to give this great work a start, and the whole nation will unite in forcing its completion. Under this impression, I recommend that, at least for the present, we rely exclusively on the nation to furnish the means to make this canal, which, when made, like other national highways within any of the states, shall belong to the state, with power to regulate the tolls and keep it in repair; and as it would be inexpedient at present to sell the lands, I recommend that a loan be effected on the pledge of them and the canal, and that provision be made to pay the interest on the loan out of the sale of town lots at Chicago and other places on the route.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant.

JOSEPH DUNCAN.

THE JUDICIARY.

In a former number of the Spectator is noticed the passage of a law creating five Circuit Judges. By recent information from Vandalia, we learn that the election to fill those offices has taken place, and that Stephen T. Logan was elected judge of the 1st circuit, Sidney Breese of the 2d, Henry Eddy of the 3d, Justin Harlin of the 4th, and Thomas Ford of the 6th.

So as we are acquainted with the gentlemen selected to fill those important stations, we are highly gratified with the selections that have been made. Mr. Logan is a gentleman of fine legal attainments, and of persevering and industrious habits. To our citizens of the 2d circuit, to whom Mr. Breese has long been generally and favorably known, nothing need be said by us to elicit that cordial approbation of the appointment which we have no doubt will be manifested throughout the circuit. Mr. B. possesses a clear and discriminating understanding, studious habits and much legal research, and in short we find noticed in him the scholar, the lawyer, and the frank and generous gentleman.—*Alton Spectator.*

CLERGY OF THE UNITED STATES.—According to an enumeration of the several denominations of Christians in the United States, in the American Quarterly Register for February, there are upwards of fourteen thousand clergymen in this country. Allowing that there are fourteen millions of inhabitants, there is at least one minister for every thousand of the population, including both minors and adults.

An act to change part of the state road leading from Hillsboro' to Shelbyville. Sec. 1st. Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, That so much of the state road leading from Hillsboro' to Shelbyville, as lies between the long branch near Isaiah Grantham's, and the school house near Mark J. Rutledge, in the county of Montgomery, be so changed, as to run on the line dividing section thirty two, east and west, and from the east side of said section to run a straight course to the ford of the long branch near said Grantham's, and from the west side of said section, a straight course to the said school house; and said road, when so changed, to be worked, and kept in repair, as other state roads are. This act to take effect, and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved Jan. 27th, 1835.

An act to amend "An act, to establish a state road from Hillsboro' to Alton." Sec. 1st. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, That so much of the act, approved Jan. 7, 1833, to establish a state road from Hillsboro' in Montgomery county, to Alton in Madison county, as authorized David Roach and Thomas G. Hawley, of Madison county, to view and locate said road above named, be and the same is hereby repealed. Sec. 2d. Be it further enacted, That Samuel Voiles and Nimrod Dorsey, of Madison county, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners, to act in conjunction with David Star of Montgomery

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, Jan. 26, 1835.

Mr. MANLY, from the select committee, to whom was referred the bill for an act, to remove the seat of justice for Clark county, together with the Petitions, Remonstrances and statements of sundry citizens of said county, upon that subject, submitted the following

REPORT.

The committee find 494 names on the petitions, about 110 of which, they believe, are the names of persons who are not voters in said county, some residing out of this state, and some out of the United States. Some of the names are found three times on the petitions, and once on the remonstrance. Deduct from the petitions 110 who are not voters, 60 who have signed the remonstrance, and 23 whose names are found twice on the petitions, and it leaves a balance of 291 names, being less than "a majority of the qualified voters of said county," as required by the law regulating petitions, approved December 26th, 1826—the Sheriff and Treasurer of said county, having certified that there are 600 voters in said county. The committee think the above calculation correct—but owing to the very confused situation of the memorials, they may have erred. But excluding the above view of the subject, your committee are of opinion, that improper means have been used to induce persons to sign the petitions—that many have signed it under the impression that commissioners would be appointed to re-locate the seat of justice at some point on the National road.

The remonstrance seems to be signed by 295 persons, many of whom are not voters in said county. Your committee fully recognize the doctrine that the majority should govern. But (and it is very difficult in this case to determine who has a majority,) in cases like the present, where the interests of a large number of persons are to be affected, many of whom have purchased property from the county at the county seat, it is thought by the committee that the county seat should not be removed at this time, unless it be done upon a clear majority, and a full, fair and unequivocal expression of the wishes of the people. It is believed that there are in said county, many persons who bona fide wish the county seat nearer to them, but it is also believed, that although Darwin is not in the geographical centre of the county, it is in the centre of the population, and that it is as convenient to a large majority of the citizens of said county, as it would be if located at any other point.

The committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

FRANCE.

The extract given below is a literal translation of a paragraph of a letter from a gentleman who is well informed, through a direct source, of the state of things which led to the late dissolution of the French cabinet. The facts given may, therefore, be implicitly relied on. The letter is from Paris, under date 15th Nov. "In consequence of intestine discussions, the old Ministry was dismembered, and after ten days' useless efforts, could not recompose themselves. The King decided, at last, to take an entirely new Ministry, the chief of which was the Duke de Bassano, formerly Imperial Minister. There were very honorable men in this Ministry; but they had not come to an understanding on the most important questions. In consequence, there was disagreement amongst them at the first debate. The first question brought up, was the American debt; and it so happened there were three of the new Ministers who had voted against the law last year. They consequently declared, that even if they were convinced that they had been misled, they would not pledge themselves to present the project of a law. The King insisted, and declared it was a necessity, under pain of a war, in which he would not involve himself. They all resigned at the end of three days. So, at this hour we are without a Ministry. But what is certain, is that the old cabinet will come back with some modifications. It is the only combination possible, and is a fortunate one for the indemnity of 25,000,000."

It will be gratifying to the American people to perceive, that the French King regards a willingness to fulfil his treaty stipulations as an essential requisite in the members of his cabinet, and that he declares the fulfilment "a necessity under pain of a war, in which he would not involve himself." This proves that the king has acted in good faith—that the delays have not arisen from a disposition on his part, to defeat by indirection, what he has directly recognised to be right—that he has taken a stand in his executive councils to satisfy the world, that he is neither so reckless of his character as a man, as to countenance the opinion that he would perfidiously sacrifice the solemn obligation into which he has entered, to considerations of convenience—not so feeble as a monarch—so wanting in influence with his people, as to be incapable of insisting on the performance of a duty which his station imposes.

But what will the press of the opposition, which has so generally condemned the views of the message upon the subject of our French difficulty, say, when it is perceived that the King of France has anticipated still stronger recommendations? That in his inferences as to the redress to which appeal would be made on our part, to vindicate the national rights and honor on a failure to comply with the treaty, he

amendment, making the bill general in its operations. Said amendment was concurred in, and the bill ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Webb offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of affording further relief to debtors of the State Bank; adopted.

Mr. Dunn, from the Committee on the Judiciary to whom was referred the petition of Willard Twist, reported a bill for the relief of said Twist; ordered to a second reading.

Mr. Outhouse presented the petition of \_\_\_\_\_, which was referred to a select committee.

On motion of Mr. Rowan, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the bill for the distribution and application of the several school funds; Mr. Webb in the Chair. After some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Webb (the Chairman) reported progress, and asked leave for the committee to sit again. Leave was granted.

Mr. Dunn, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill for holding a special term of the Circuit Court of the county of Fayette; read, and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. Blackwell moved to dispense with the rules, and read said bill a second time by its title; agreed to, and the bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, the rules of the House were dispensed with, and said bill was read a third time by its title, and then passed.

Adjourned.

2 o'clock, P. M.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Ross, from the select committee to whom was referred a bill from the Senate to locate a road from Pittsfield to Quincy, reported the same back without amendment. The committee recommended the rejection of said bill, and it was then rejected.

Mr. Webb, from the Committee on Finance to whom was referred a bill for an act in relation to Bank Directors, reported the same back with an amendment, which was concurred in; and the bill was then ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Harris, from the Select Committee to whom was referred a bill to change part of the State Road from Springfield to Alton, reported the same back with an amendment, which was concurred in. Said bill was then ordered to a third reading.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Bill to authorize James Kinsey to alter the plat, &c., of the town of Waponee—passed.

Bill from the Senate entitled an act concerning a State Road therein named; passed.

Bill to extend the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in certain cases therein named; passed.

Bill to amend an act "granting pre-emption rights." On motion of Mr. Whiteside, referred to a select committee.

Bill to amend an act regulating mills and millers.

Mr. Carpenter of H., moved to amend said bill by striking out the second section thereof.

Mr. Rowan moved to amend said bill by striking out the word "failing," and insert "refusing;" not agreed to.

Mr. Dawson moved to refer said bill and proposed amendment to the Select Committee; not agreed to.

Mr. Thomas moved to amend the amendment so as to strike out all of the second section, except that which gives jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace in certain cases.

Mr. Moore moved to lay said resolution on the table.

The proposed amendment having been withdrawn,

On motion of Mr. Webb, the previous question was put, and then the bill passed.

Bill to amend an act supplementary to an act for incorporating the Wabash Navigation Company.

On motion of Mr. Wyatt, the rules of the House were dispensed with, and said bill was read a second time by its title.

On motion of Mr. Gregory, said bill was then referred to a select committee.

Bill for the relief of persons therein named.

Mr. Rowan moved to refer said bill to the Committee on the Judiciary; not agreed to. Said bill was then ordered to a third reading.

Bill for the relief of Willard Twist.

Mr. Manly moved to refer said bill to a select committee; not agreed to.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Bill to authorize a special term of the Circuit Court of Fayette county, as amended by the Senate.

The vote was then taken on concurring in the amendment offered by the Senate to said bill, and decided in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Dunn, the bill concerning marks and brands, was taken up.

Mr. Dunn moved to amend the proviso to said Bill; which was agreed to.

Mr. Webb moved further to amend said bill by striking out the whole proviso; not agreed to.

The vote was then taken on concurring in the amendments offered by the Select Committee, and decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Henry moved further to amend said bill by striking out the word "horse" wherever it occurs.

On motion of Mr. Blockberger, said bill, &c., were referred to a select committee. Resolution on the United States' Bank.

Mr. Cloud moved that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on said subject; agreed to. Mr. Hughes in the Chair.

After some time spent in Committee of the Whole, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Hughes reported the resolution back to the House with sundry amendments, which were concurred in.

Mr. Wyatt moved to lay said resolution on the table until the 4th day of July next. A call of the House was then ordered, and the votes being taken on laying the resolution on the table until the 4th day of July next, it was decided in the negative. Ayes 23, Nays 30. The resolution was adopted. Ayes 31, Nays 22.

Adjourned.

After some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ficklin reported that the committee of the whole house had, according to order, had said bill under consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, in which they ask the concurrence of the house.

On motion of Mr. Gregory, said bill and proposed amendments were referred to a committee of seven.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, January 21.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Hamlin presented the petition of sundry citizens of Putnam county; referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Mr. Ross presented the joint petition of sundry citizens of Adams and Pike counties; referred to a select committee.

Mr. Hamlin presented the petition of sundry citizens of the town of Ottawa; referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Mr. Brown presented the petition of sundry citizens of Fayette county; referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Mr. Frazer presented the petition of sundry citizens of Clay county, praying the establishment of a mail route from Mt. Carmel via Maysville, Sutton's Point to Vandalia; referred to the Committee on Petitions.

Mr. Stuart, from the Select Committee to whom was referred a Bill for an Act to incorporate the Jacksonville and Mercedia Rail Road Company, reported the same back to the House without amendment. Said bill was then ordered to a second reading.

Mr. Cunningham, from the Select Committee to whom was referred a bill for an act to extend the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in certain cases, reported the same back with an amendment thereto. Said amendment was concurred in, and the bill was ordered to a third reading.

Communication from the Treasurer.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, said communication was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Thomas offered a preamble and resolution, requiring the appointment of a joint select committee to report a bill fixing the ratio for an apportionment of representation for this State, adapted to the census to be taken in the present year.

Mr. Thomas said, the apportionment could be fixed before the census were taken, by saying what number of inhabitants should have a Representative or Senator; and it would save the State the great expense of having a called session of the Legislature; or many counties the inconvenience of having no representation for four years. The only difficulty which suggested itself to his mind, was that of fixing the Senatorial districts. But this, he thought, could be regulated so as to answer all necessary purposes; and if there should be some defects as regards the inequality of representation in the Senate, they can be remedied at the next session.

Mr. Vandevender moved to lay said resolution on the table until the 4th day of July next.

Mr. LINCOLN said, the reasons offered by the gentleman from Madison would certainly induce him to go against the resolution. The gentleman had said that there would be a difficulty in fixing the Senatorial districts; and, sir, in my humble opinion, there would be an insurmountable difficulty. The districts cannot be arranged, and with a full knowledge of this fact, I have no doubt the House will lay the resolution on the table until the 4th day of July—at least I will vote in that way.

The vote was then taken on laying the resolution on the table until the 4th day of July next, and decided in the affirmative. Ayes 35, Nays 16.

Mr. Dubois, from the Select Committee to whom was referred a bill concerning "marks and brands," reported the same back to the House with sundry amendments thereto.

On motion of Mr. Dunn, said bill and proposed amendments were laid on the table.

Mr. Murphy offered a resolution instructing the committee on propositions and grievances, to inquire into the expediency of reducing the fees of Clerks of the Circuit and County Commissioners' Courts, of Sheriffs, Judges of Probate, County Surveyors, Justices of the Peace, Recorders, &c. &c.

Mr. Manly moved to lay said resolution on the table; not agreed to.

Mr. Cloud moved to amend said resolution by extending the inquiry to the expediency of reducing the compensation of members of the Legislature.

Mr. Webb moved to amend the amendment by striking out all after the word "and," and inserting a provision fixing the compensation of members of the Legislature at \$2 per day, and of reducing the salaries of other officers in the same ratio; not agreed to.

Mr. Stuart then moved to amend the amendment by instructing the said committee to report a bill for an act compensating members of the Legislature in any amount they may wish to receive not exceeding \$3.

On motion of Mr. Hughes, said resolution and proposed amendments were laid on the table.

(On this resolution and the amendments proposed, considerable discussion arose.—The speeches will hereafter be given.)

Adjourned till 2 o'clock.

2 o'clock, P. M.

House met pursuant to adjournment. Resolution from the Senate requiring both Houses of the General Assembly to adjourn, sine die, on the 7th day of February next, and prohibiting the introduction of any new business after the 29th inst.—Said resolution was adopted.

Mr. Stuart from the select committee to whom was referred a bill for an act to amend an act relative to pre-emption rights, &c., reported the same back with an amendment thereto. Said amendment was concurred in, and the bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Moore, from the select committee to whom was referred a bill for an act to amend an act "concerning mills and millers," reported the same back with an

amendment, making the bill general in its operations. Said amendment was concurred in, and the bill ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Webb offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of affording further relief to debtors of the State Bank; adopted.

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Adjourned.