ble, he should vote for the amendment of his colleague (Mr. Dawson.) To attempt to legislate for the district was, in effect, to constitute the chairman of the committee, or at any rate the committee itself on the affairs of the territory, the Solon or Lycurgus of the place. It was well known that the indolence of the other members, or their indifference, inseparable from the situation in which they were placed, would prevent congress from legislating with a full understanding of the objects before them. He, therefore, thought it expedient to recede all the territory, excepting the city of Washington. This disposition of the territory would leave entirely untouched the question which arose from the interest of individuals who had made purchases of property under the faith of congress retaining the jurisdiction. It was probable that in such event a corporation might be established in the city, that would answer the ends of government, without two thirds of the time of the national legislature being consumed.

Mr. S. Smith said he had listened with great attention to the arguments of different gentlemen during the debate. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Randolph) had told the house in that debate that congress were not competent to legislate for the territory, and yet he is now about to legislate for them in a concern of the utmost importance by giving them away, without their consent, to the states.

Mr. Holland spoke in favor of a recession.

Mr. Randolph in reply to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. S. Smith) would ask whether the people of the territory were ceded by Maryland and Virginia with their consent?

Mr. Bayard asked what the gentleman from Virginia meant by consent? The people had been ceded with the consent of their representatives in the legislatures of Maryland and Virginia. He was opposed to the proposition of the gentleman as it could not relieve congress from any of their present difficulties. But to relieve congress from the trouble they experienced he had drawn a resolution, which, at a convenient time he would propose—to authorise the President to appoint three persons learned in the law to report to congress an uniform system of legislation for the territory.

Mr. S. Smith! The gentleman from Virginia says if the people of the territory were ceded without their consent, they may be receded without their consent. I do not know that the gentleman can carry his recollection back to the period of the cession. But other gentlemen would recollect that the people of Alexandria were very anxious to be admitted into the ten miles square; and they were admitted. If he recollected right, there had been many petitions to that effect from different portions of the district. He believed, therefore, that the people had been ceded with their consent. Before he could vote for the proposed measure, he must be first certain that the people wish to be ceded; when, if the states likewise agreed, he would not withhold his consent to a recession with the reservation of the city. But he would object to any such measure until these things were shewn.

Mr. Randolph. We are told the people of this territory were ceded with their consent; and wherefore? Because the government, of which they formed a part, agreed to the cession.—And what follows? That we, who represent the whole people of the United States in their confederate capacity, and the states who represent them in their individual capacity, have an equal right to recede. With respect to the remark of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. S. Smith) I reply that I consult the interests of the people of the whole United States; and I believe also that I consult the true interests of the people residing here.

Mr. Bayard. The gentleman from Virginia first told us the people of this territory were slaves. Now it seems we are their representatives. If so they are not slaves. The people in the act of cession were represented in the only way that they can be represented in this country.

The question was then taken by Yeas and Nays, on concurring with the committee of the whole in their disagreement to the first resolution, and carried—Yeas 66—Nays 26—as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Baily, Bayard, Bonde, Brent, Brown, Campbell, Clopton, Condit, Cutler, Dana, Davenport, Davis, Dickson, Early, Eustis, Foster, Goddard, Gray, Gregg, Griswold, Grove, Hanna, Heister, Helms, Hemphill, Henderson, Hill, Holmes, Huger, Hunt, Jackson, Jones, Mattoon, Meriwether, Mitchell, Moore, R. Morris, T. Morris, New, Newton, Nicholson, Perkins, Plater, Read, Rutledge, Shepard, I. Smith, J. C. Smith, J. Smith, (of Virginia) S. Smith, Southard, Stanley, Stewart, Taliaferro, Tenney, Thatcher, Tillinghast, Thompson, A. Trigg, J. Trigg, Upham, Van Rensselaer, Wadsworth, L. Williams, Winns—66.

NAYS—Messrs. Alston, Archer, Bacon, Bishop, Butler, Cabell, Claiborne, Clay, Cutts, Dawson, Elmendorf, Elmer, Fowler Hoge, Holland, Leib, Mott, Randolph, Smilie, J. Smith, (of N. York) Josiah Smith, Stanford, Thomas, Varnum, Horne, R. Williams—26.

The house then agreed, without a division, with the committee of the whole in their disagreement to the second resolution.

—

TUESDAY, February 15, 1803.

An engrossed bill to make provision for persons that have been disabled by known wounds received in the actual service of the United States during the revolutionary war, was read the third time and passed.

An engrossed bill entitled an Act in addition to an Act, intitled an Act more effectually to provide for the national defence by establishing an uniform militia throughout the United States, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Helms made a report from the committee appointed to enquire whether any and what provision ought to be made by law for allowing pensions to persons who do, at this time, labour under disabilities in consequence of known wounds received in the actual service of the U. States, and who have not heretofore been provided for; and who were also instructed to enquire into the expediency of extending the time for the settlement of claims for services rendered, and supplies furnished during the revolutionary war.—

The report was referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Mr. Randolph from the committee of Ways and Means, presented a bill making an appropriation for the support of the Navy of the U. States for the year 1803.

Referred to a committee of the whole on Friday next.

Mr. Davis reported a bill for continuing in force a law, entitled an Act for establishing trading Houses with the Indian tribes.

Referred to a committee of the whole on Thursday next.

Mr. S. Smith, from the committee of Commerce and Manufactures, to whom was referred a petition of Hezekiah Prince and others, owners and masters of vessels within the United States, reported a bill for erecting a light house, at the entrance of Penobscot Bay, or any other place, in its vicinity, that may be deemed preferable by the secretary of the Treasury.

Referred to a committee of the whole on Thursday next.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the report of a select committee respecting claims against the United States, for the services of the militia of the state of Georgia.

Mr. John C. Smith in the Chair.

The report is as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Secretary of War, together with sundry documents respecting claims against the United States, to compensation for services performed by certain militia within the state of Georgia, during the years 1793 and 1794,

RESPECTFULLY REPORT—

THAT it appears to your committee, that the said services were performed under circumstances which render them a just claim to compensation from the government of the United States, and that said government hath already gone far in recognizing their validity, by settling with and making payment to the contractor who furnished supplies to the said militia, whilst engaged in performing the same services for which they now claim compensation.

Your committee therefore beg leave to submit the following resolution—

Resolved, That provision ought to be made by law, for the payment of certain militia employed within the state of Georgia, during the years 1793 and 1794, for the defence of said state.

After debate the committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again, which was granted by the House.

The House went into a committee of the whole—*Mr. Varnum* in the Chair—on the report of the committee of claims on the petition of the Mayor and Commonalty of Alexandria, and reported their agreement to the same, in which report the House concurred as follow.

Resolved that provision ought to be made by law, for the regulation of quarantine within the district of Columbia.

Resolved that so much of the memorial of the Mayor and Commonalty of the town of Alexandria, as prays for a reimbursement of money by them expended in executing the quarantine law of Virginia, is unreasonable and ought not to be granted.

Ordered that Messrs. Mitchill, Eustis and Elmer, be a committee to bring in a bill or bills pursuant to the first resolution.

—

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 15.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole—Mr. Varnum in the chair—on the bill to prevent the importation of certain persons into certain states where by the laws thereof their admission is prohibited.

Mr. Hastings moved to amend the bill so as to prohibit the importation only of *French* negroes and persons of color.

This motion was opposed by Messrs. Hill and Bacon, and lost without a division.

Mr. S. Smith moved to except from the operation of the bill *seamen natives of countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope.*

The motion was supported by Mr. Hill, and opposed by Messrs. Newton, Lowndes and Mott, and lost.

Mr. Hastings moved to strike out the sum of *one thousand dollars,* the penalty annexed to the importation of each person, and to insert ten dollars.

Lost without a division.

The bill, after undergoing some slight amendments, was reported to the House, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The House went into a Committee of the whole,—Mr. John C. Smith in the chair—on the bill to amend an act entitled an act to amend the Judicial System of the United States.

The bill is as follows:

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Circuit court of the second circuit shall consist of the justice of the supreme court, residing within the third circuit, and the district within which such court shall be holden.

In the third circuit, the said circuit court shall consist of the justice of the supreme court, residing within the fourth circuit, and the district judge of the district where such court shall be holden.

In the fourth circuit, the said circuit court shall consist of the senior associate justice of the supreme court, residing within the fifth circuit, and the district judge of the district where such court shall be holden.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the senior associate justice, resident in the fifth circuit, shall attend at the city of Washington, on the first Monday of August, in each and every year, who shall possess the same powers, and is required to perform the same duties, as are prescribed in the second section of the act, intitled, "An Act to amend the judicial system of the United States."

Mr. Elmer moved to strike out the first section.

This motion was supported by Messrs. Leib, Smilie, and Mott; and opposed by Mr. Bayard.

Carried Ayes 42—Noes 36.

The second section was agreed to, when the Committee rose and reported.

The House immediately took up the report, when on motion of Mr. Mott, the Yeas and Nays were taken on concurring with the committee of the whole in their disagreement to the 1st Section of the bill, and carried Yeas 48—Nays 40.

On motion of Mr. Bayard the further consideration of the bill was postponed till Saturday.

Mr. Leib presented a number of memorials from certain Aliens in Pennsylvania, which were referred.

Mr. Randolph, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the support of government for the year 1803.

Referred to a Committee of the whole House on Saturday.

The House went into a Committee of the whole, Mr. John C. Smith in the chair, on the bill for the relief of Samuel Corp.

The Committee agreed to the bill, and reported it to the House who concurred in the report of the Committee and ordered the bill to a third reading to morrow.

The House went into a Committee of the whole—Mr. Nicholson in the chair—on a bill in addition to an act respecting the registering of vessels, &c. &c.

The bill, after some slight amendments, was reported, and ordered by the House to a third reading to-morrow.

Mr. Newton called for the order of day on the report of a select committee respecting the repeal of the Bankrupt Law.

Mr. S. Smith moved to postpone the subject to the 1st Monday in November.

This motion was supported by Messrs. S. Smith, Mitchill, Bayard, Goddard, Griswold and Thatcher; and opposed by Messrs. Eustis, Newton, Varnum, and Hastings.

The Yeas and Nays were taken on the postponement, and were Yeas 39—Nays 39—The Speaker declaring himself in the negative the question of postponement was lost.

The Speaker laid before the House a report of the Commissioners appointed in pursuance of the act intituled an act for an amicable settlement of limits with the state of Georgia, and authorising the establishment of a government in the Mississippi Territory on the claims made by settlers, &c.

Referred to Messrs. Nicholson, Tenney, Gregg, Van Renssalaer, and R. Williams.

When the House adjourned—

—

THURSDAY, Feb. 17, 1803.

—

Mr. Leib from the committee appointed on the petitions of sundry aliens, reported a bill in addition to an act to establish an uniform system of naturalization; which was read twice and referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Mr. S. Smith presented a memorial from sundry aliens in Baltimore. Referred.

A bill for the relief of Samuel Corp was read the third time and passed—the Yeas and Nays being called, were Yeas 42—Nays 38.

Mr. S. Smith supported, and Messrs. Elmendorf and Nicholson opposed the bill.

An engrossed bill to prevent the importation of certain persons into certain states into which their admission is prohibited by the laws of said states, was read a third time and passed—the Yeas and Nays, being called, were Yeas 48—Nays 15.

An engrossed bill in addition to the act concerning the registering and recording ships and vessels of the United States, and to the act entitled an act to regulate the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. John C. Smith, from the Committee of Claims, made a report on the petition of Charles L'Enfant, authorising the Superintendant of the City of Washington to settle the claim of C. L'Enfant on the terms settled by the late board of Commissioners.

Referred to a Committee of the whole to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. S. Smith, the House went into Committee of the whole on the bill to continue in force a law for establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes.

The bill continues the old law for two years.

The Committee rose, and reported the bill with an amendment.

The House concurred in the report, and ordered the bill to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

On motion of John C. Smith, the Committee of claims were discharged from the further consideration of sundry petitions praying for invalid pensions.

The House went into Committee of the whole—Mr. John C. Smith in the chair—on the bill to revive and continue in force an act in addition to an act, entituled an act in addition to an act regulating the grants of lands appropriated for military services, &c.

The committee reported the bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Early the House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the report of a select committee, in favour of allowing the claims for the performance of militia service in the state of Georgia.

Mr. John C. Smith in the chair.

On agreeing to the report a debate arose which continued during the sitting.

Messrs. Early, Nicholson, Gregg, Meriwether, S. Smith, Macon & Varnum, supported; and Messrs. Elmer, Elmendorf, Thatcher, Eustis, Randolph, Morris, Holland, and Hastings, opposed the report.

When the report was disagreed to—Ayes 31—Noes 36.

The house immediately took up the report of the committee.

Mr. Nicholson said as the house was thin, and as the subject was important both to the United States and to the state of Georgia, he would move an adjournment.

Motion lost—Ayes 34—Noes 36.

Mr. Randolph observed that he had no disposition to press a final decision when the house was thin; but as he did not wish a question of so much importance to be decided at so late a period of the session, when many of the members were absent, he would move a postponement of the subject to the first Monday of November.

Carried—Ayes 33—Noes 31.

SLAVES FOR SALE.

THE subscriber will on Wednesday the 16th of February next, if fair, if not the next fair day, at the house of ANTHONY ADDISON, in Prince George's county, expose to public sale, and sell for ready money to the highest bidder, Negro Peter, a young man with his wife Nell, and their four children. Negro George, with Rose his wife, and their five children. Negro Jack a blacksmith, Negro Sam, a shoemaker, and Farester, Jem, Daniel, Jem St. Clair, Isaac, Dennis, Jack and Bob, eight likely young lads. At the sale, families will not be divided, but sold together. These slaves are sold in virtue of a deed of trust, bearing date the 26th day of August, 1802, from Anthony Addison, to me the subscriber authorizing and directing the sale of the said slaves, to raise a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned. The sale will commence at 12 o'clock in the forenoon of the day above mentioned. And so many of the said slaves will be sold, as will raise the sum of three thousand and fifty dollars, with interest on 3000 dollars, on the 26th day of August, 1802, until the day of sale aforesaid.

WILLIAM LYLES.

Jan. 19.

N. B. The sale of the above Negroes is postponed until the 1st of March

Feb. 18. 1w1stM.

WANTS EMPLOYMENT.

AN ENGLISHMAN just arrived (with a Wife and one Child) wants employment.

HE understands farming and butchering, and his wife understands the management of a dairy—they have no objection to go to any part of America that is healthy.—Apply to JOHN GARDINER.

Feb. 24. 3t.

FISHERIES.

The committee to whom was referred "so much of the President's Message as relates to the fostering of the fisheries of the United States."

REPORT—

THAT, by an act of the 16th Feb. 1792, entitled, "An Act concerning certain fisheries of the United States, and for the regulation of the government of the fishermen employed therein,"—it is enacted, That there shall be annually paid to every vessel carrying on the bank or cod fishery, actually employed at sea, for four months at least, of the fishing season, for each and every ton of such vessel's burthen, if of twenty, and not exceeding thirty tons, the sum of one and half dollars; and if above thirty tons, the sum of two dollars: Provided, that the allowance aforesaid on any one vessel, for one season, shall not exceed one hundred and seventy dollars. And it is further enacted, that an annual allowance of one dollar upon every ton shall be paid to every fishing boat or vessel of more than five, and less than twenty tons; Provided, That such boat or vessel shall have been actually employed at sea, in the cod fishery, for the term of four months at the least, of the preceding season, and shall have landed in the course of said preceding season, a quantity of fish, not less than twelve quintals, for every ton of her admeasurement.

By the 6th section of an act of the 2d May, 1792, entitled, "An Act for raising a farther sum of money for the protection of the frontiers, and for other purposes therein mentioned," it is enacted, that there should be paid on pickled fish, of the fisheries of the United States, exported therefrom, at the rate of eight cents per barrel; and there shall be an addition of twenty per cent to the allowances, respectively granted to ships or vessels employed in the bank or cod fisheries, and in the terms provided by the act of the 16th Feb. of the same year.

By an act of the 8th July, 1797, "laying an additional duty on salt," it is enacted, that there shall be allowed and paid, a bounty of twelve cents per barrel on pickled fish of the fisheries of the United States, exported therefrom, and that there shall be an addition of thirty-three and a third per cent to the allowances already respectively granted to ships or vessels, employed in the bank and cod fisheries, and in the terms of the act of the 16th Feb. 1792.

By an act of March 2d, 1799, "to regulate the duties on impost and tonnage," it is enacted, that on all pickled fish, of the fisheries of the United States, exported therefrom, there be allowed and paid a bounty of thirty cents per barrel.

By an act of the 12th April 1800, it is enacted, that the act of the 16th February, 1792, shall continue in force for the term of ten years, from the 3d March, 1800, and until the end of the session of Congress, next ensuing the expiration of that term. And it is further enacted, that the additional allowances, which were by the 6th section of the act intituled, "An act for raising a further sum of money for the protection of the frontiers, & for other purposes therein mentioned," and by the second section of an act, intituled "An act laying an additional duty on salt, and for other purposes," respectively granted to ships and vessels employed in the bank and other cod fisheries, shall be continued to the ships and vessels, respectively, which shall be so employed, in the terms, and according to the intent of the said first mentioned act, for and during the further continuance thereof, as aforesaid; Provided, that the said allowances shall not be understood to be continued for a longer time than the correspondent duties respectively, for which the said additional allowances were granted, shall be paid.

The above extracts from the laws of the United States, are believed to contain all the most important existing provisions in favor of the American fisheries; and it would appear from them, that, with the exception of a very small bounty, allowed on the tonnage of vessels employed in the cod fisheries, the national legislature have not heretofore found it convenient to extend their aid and patronage further towards the fisheries, than merely to obviate the prejudicial and ruinous effects, which must otherwise have been the necessary consequence of the additional duties from time to time, laid on salt, by granting on each increase of the duty on salt, a proportionate increase in the allowance on fish, exported from the United States. It has been very justly observed, however, "That the cod and whale fisheries, carried on by different persons, from different ports, in different vessels, in different seas, and seeking different markets, agree in one circumstance, in being as unprofitable to the adventurer, as important to the public." The different nations of Europe, fully sensible of this fact, have for upwards of a century, been vieing with each other, and endeavoring to draw to themselves a greater or less proportion of these fisheries, by prohibiting in their respective mar-