mitting them into the union, and though gentlemen might have objections to the one object, they ought not, on the same ground, to object to the other.

The question was taken on the proposed amendment, and passed in the negative—Ayes 32.

Mr. Sloan moved an amendment inhibiting the admission of slaves into Louisiana as well from the United States, as from foreign places.

Mr. Sloan concisely stated his reasons in favor of this provision, when the question was taken, and the amendment agreed to—Ayes 40—Noes 35.

Mr. G. W. Campbell proposed an amendment, withholding from the parties to a civil suit the right of waving a jury trial. The bill provides a jury trial in all cases in which *either party* shall require it.

This amendment after being supported by Mr. G. W. Campbell; and opposed by Messrs. Holland, Southard, and Dana; was negatived—Ayes 12.

Mr. G. W. Campbell moved to strike out that part of the bill which renders every person settling on lands of the United States liable to a fine of 1,000 dollars, and to one year's imprisonment.

This produced a debate of some length, and more animation; (which shall be hereafter given) in which the motion to strike out was urged by Messrs. G. W. Campbell, Lyon, and Claiborne; and opposed by Messrs. Gregg, Nicholson, Boyd, Smilie, Macon, Sloan and Holland.

The question being taken, the amendment was negatived—Ayes 23.

Mr. Rhea (of Tennessee) offered a new section, declaring all grants of lands in Louisiana made subsequent to the treaty of St. Ildafonso void.

Mr. Early said he hoped this resolution would not be adopted. He was opposed to it for special as well as general reasons. It declared null and void not only all grants or titles obtained since the period of cession, but likewise all grants or titles acquired subsequently to the treaty of St. Ildefonso, or, in other words, during the time the territory belonged to France. He believed it was well understood that after France obtained the country a number of grants had been made. It was certain, that the French government was invested with authority to make grants, and I think, said Mr. E. a legislative declaration that such grants are void, extremely improper. This is the particular reason for which I am opposed to the amendment. I have also a general reason against it. I consider a legislative body undertaking to declare a grant null and void an assumption of power. If a grant, whether it be of land, or to any corporate body, be null and void, it is so without any legislative provision. It may be said, however, that such a provision is innocent. I do not think so; because it involves an assumption of power, which is in its nature judicial, exclusively judicial. For these reasons I am opposed to the resolution.

Mr. Rhea, (of Tennessee) said in reply to the gentleman from Georgia, he would only read the first article of the treaty of cession. [Here Mr. Rhea read the first article.] This, said he, is a sufficient answer to the first argument of the gentleman. As to the second part of his reason it is only necessary to say, that in order to enable courts of justice to decide properly, laws must be passed, fixing the principles on which courts are to decide.

Mr. Nicholson said he thought this was a subject on which the House ought not to act at present. It seemed to imply an unwarrantable suspicion of the government of Spain. It would be sufficient time to act, when they obtained correct information.

Mr. Gregg said there was one reason which would induce him to vote for the resolution. Certain fraudulent grants appear to have been made. Without some notice of them now, second purchasers will be hereafter coming forward to Congress, and say that they had no knowledge of the fraud. He should, therefore, vote for the resolution.

Mr. Holland expressed the same ideas with Mr. Gregg.

Mr. Nicholson observed, that as he was persuaded the amendment would have the effect stated by the gentlemen from Pennsylvania and North-Carolina, he had no objection to it.

The amendment was then agreed to—Ayes 54.

A section appropriating 15,000 dollars was introduced to enable the President to transfer tribes of Indians, east of the Mississippi, with their consent, to the western banks.

Mr. Early moved to insert a new section in the room of the 4th section.

[This section provides for the choice of a legislative body by the people of Louisiana.]

The committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Mr. Nicholson said it had been for some time in contemplation to establish a branch bank at New-Orleans. The business had been before the President and Directors of the bank of the United States, who were of opinion that they were not authorised to establish the branch. He therefore moved that the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to prepare and report a bill authorising the President and Directors of the bank of the United States to establish offices of discount and deposit in any of the territories and dependencies of the United States.

The motion was immediately agreed to; and Mr. Nicholson reported a bill for that purpose.

The bill making provision for disposing of the public lands in the Indiana Territory, and for other purposes, was read the third time and passed, Ayes 58.

THURSDAY, March 15.

The bill appropriating 50,000 dollars for progressing with the public buildings in the city of Washington, after having passed through a committee of the whole, was ordered to a third reading to-morrow.

The House went into committee of the whole on the bill providing rules for the government of the army.

The 5th article is in the words following:

Art. 5. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall presume to use traitorous or disrespectful words, against the President of the United States, against the Vice-President thereof, against the Congress of the United States, or against the chief magistrate or legislature of any of the United States in which he may be quartered, if a commissioned officer, he shall be cashiered, or otherwise punished as a court-martial shall direct. if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, he shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him by the sentence of a court-martial.

Mr. Nicholson moved to strike out this article.

Mr. Varnum, desired before the question was put, to be indulged with an opportunity of reading the article at present in force, which would shew that in principle it was the same with that in the bill.

Mr. V. read the old article, which was found to correspond in principle with the article under consideration, the only variation arising from the old provision applying to the "Congress of the United States and the state legislatures."

Why gentlemen should now be inclined to leaving the army loose to calumniate the government, he could not say.

Mr. Nicholson. It is not my wish to fence round the President, Vice President and Congress, with a second sedition law. If the officers of the army conduct themselves improperly it is in the power of the executive to punish them—They can be removed at the will of the President, or by a court martial. Besides, I do not understand the section. I ask, what is the meaning of traitorous words used against the President, Vice-President, and Congress. I know of no traitorous words that can be so used. There are none such to be found in the constitution; and I am decidedly opposed to any such mode of establishing, by side-way means, so dangerous a construction.

The question was then taken on Mr. Nicholson's motion, and carried—Ayes 53.

After some further consideration of the bill, the committee rose and the House, by a great majority, refused them leave to sit again. This is probably a virtual rejection of the bill for the present session.

The House went into a committee of the whole on the bill for the government of Louisiana—Mr. Dawson in the chair.

The substitute of Mr. Early for the 4th section of the bill was, with some verbal amendments, agreed to—Ayes 51.

The bill was reported to the House, who concurred with the committee in striking out the 4th section of the bill (giving the President the power of appointing the legislative Council) Yeas 74—Nays 23—and in their agreement to Mr. Earley's substitute—Yeas 58—Nays 42.

After considerable discussion of various features of the bill, the House adjourned, without closing its consideration.

We shall in our next give a more particular sketch of this day's proceedings.

The following ADDRESS *has been presented to the governor of New-Orleans in behalf of the free people of colour of New-Orleans, by whom it was signed.*

To his Excellency, *William C. C. Claiborne*, Governor General and Intendant of Louisiana.

We, the subscribers, free citizens of Louisiana, beg leave to approach your Excellency with sentiments of respect and esteem, and sincere attachment to the government of the United States.

We are natives of this province, and our dearest interests are connected with its welfare. We therefore feel a lively joy that the sovereignty of the country is at length united with that of the American Republic. We are duly sensible that our personal and political freedom is thereby assured to us forever, and are also impressed with the fullest confidence in the justice and liberality of the government towards every class of citizens which they have here taken under their protection.

We were employed in the military service of the late governor, and we hope we may be permitted to say, that our conduct in that service has ever been distinguished by a ready attention to the duties required of us. Should we be in like manner honored by the American government, to which every principle of interest as well as affection attaches us, permit us to assure your excellency that we shall serve with fidelity and zeal. We therefore respectfully offer our services to the government as a corps of volunteers, agreeable to any arrangement which may be thought expedient.

We request your excellency to accept our congratulations on the happy event which has placed you at the head of this government, and promises so much real prosperity to the country.

To which his Excellency immediately made a verbal Response, to the following effect.

He thanked them for their respectful address, and observed that their rights would be protected, and that their confidence in the government of the United States would increase as they became acquainted with its principles, and the wisdom and justice with which it was administered.

With respect to the tender of their military services, the governor remarked that he should not direct a general re-organization of the militia until he had received instructions upon the subject from the President of the United States. In the mean time, the free people of colour would consider themselves attached to the same corps in which the former government had placed them. He concluded by assuring them of his confidence in their military zeal, and the sincerity of their professions of attachment to the United States.

REPORT.

Report of the committee of Commerce and Manufactures, on the resolves of the House of Representatives, directing them to enquire into the expediency of authorising the President of the United States to cause certain remote and unknown parts of Louisiana to be explored.

BY a series of memorable events the United States have lately acquired a large addition of soil and jurisdiction. This is believed, besides the tracts on the east side of the Mississippi, to include all the country which lies to the westward between that river and the great chain of mountains that stretch from North to South, and divide the waters running into the Atlantic from those which empty into the Pacific Ocean; and beyond that chain between the territories claimed by Great Britain on the one side, and by Spain on the other quite to the South Sea.

It is highly desireable that this extensive region should be visited, in some parts at least, by intelligent men. Important additions might thereby be made to the science of Geography. Various materials might thence be derived to augment our knowledge of natural history. The government would thence acquire correct information of the situation, extent and worth of its own dominions, and individuals of research and curiosity would receive ample gratification as to the works of art and productions of nature which exist in those boundless tracts.

There is no need of informing the House that already an expedition authorised by Congress at the second session of the seventh congress, has been actually undertaken and is going on under the President's direction, up the Missouri. The two enterprising conductors of this adventure, captains Lewis and Clark, have been directed to attempt a passage to the western shore of the South Sea: from them on their return in 1805, a narrative full of instruction may be expected. It is also understood that a survey has been ordered to be made of the Mississippi, from the mouth of the Ohio, to the falls of Saint Anthony. Of this a correct map may be expected within a reasonable time. The like also is hoped, in the course of a moderate period, from the latter place to the source of the Mississippi, and thence to the Lake of the Woods.

Men of political research have, in like manner, long known that the course of the Mississippi downwards to the Gulf of Mexico, has been well delineated by captain Hutchings; and that more recently, by the assiduous observations of Mr. Ellicott, the turnings and windings of that river, southward of its junction with the Ohio, and the territorial line on the 31st degree of North latitude, to the north western angle of Florida, have been exhibited in a perspicuous and scientific manner. Along the coast of the ocean too, from Perdido bay to the bay of St. Bernard, navigators have viewed the shores and coast so often, that there is little left to explore.

But although there is so much really known, or in a train of investigation, concerning Louisiana, there are still some part upon which it would be desirable to possess additional information. The tracts alluded to are those which remain principally in their original obscurity, and strongly attract the eye of the adventurer. Their pathless forests may be advantageously penetrated along the channels of the *Arkansas* and the *Red River*, two of those large and long water courses which intersect them. An expedition of discovery up these prodigious streams and their branches, might redound as much to the honor, and more to the interest of our government, than the voyages by sea round the terraqueous globe have done for the polished nations of Europe who authorised them. Such liberal enterprises will befit the present season of prosperity, and may be expected to succeed best during the reign of peace.

The Red River was visited many years ago, and even settled as high as Natchitoches. This old establishment is laid down in some of the maps, as being only seven leagues distant from the station of Adais, the capital of the province of Tecas, and situated on the river Mexicano. Red River is described as difficult to ascend when the waters are low; but when high, a traveller may, by means of them, penetrate where he pleases. More than half a century ago, it was said, that along its banks were many inferior lakes, and drowned lands, that abounded with alligators and fishes; that its shores were inhabited by plenty of bisons, bears, tigers, wolves, deer, and several other species of untamed beasts; as well as by turkies, geese, swans, ducks, and other kinds of wild fowl and that all manner of indigenous fruit trees and grape-vines sprout up luxuriantly from the soil.—To these accounts, which are common to most other parts of the American wilderness when first visited by civilized men, other facts and considerations are now to be added—the nation has been lately told, on respectable authority, that the Red River is navigable by boats one thousand miles beyond Natchitoches. It is reported to run through a country abounding in rich prairies, where neat cattle and horses range in innumerable herds as independent as the natural inhabitants. There is reason to presume the head of this stream lies concealed in the south western corner of the newly ceded territory. The limits of Louisiana, in that quarter, are obscure and undefined. And it is worthy of legislative consideration, whether the latitude and longitude of the Red River source ought not to be ascertained under the authority of the nation. It may be expected that individuals will venture upon such undertakings for the gratification of their own speculative curiosity, and by discreet management, the journies of such persons to minister to the national wants, and to general instruction, with but a trifling appropriation from the treasury.

The Arkansas which has been already traced above one thousand miles, also seems worthy of being explored with more care and to a greater extent than has hitherto been done. A spacious plain and valley incrusted annually, (like the soil in some spots about the Persian Gulf,) with native salt, in quantity sufficient to impregnate a branch of the Arkansas, and occasionally the river into which it falls, with its briny quality, and to make it a SALT RIVER down to the settlement of Ouisarque, for considerably more than six hundred miles of its course, might be mentioned as no ordinary occurrences. The masses of VIRGIN SILVER and gold that glitter in the veins of the rocks which [illegible] the Arkansas itself, and mingle with the minerals near certain other of its streams, and offer themselves to the hand of him who will gather, refine and convert them to use, are no less uncommon and wonderful. These extraordinary productions might be dwelt upon to considerable length, in this report; but credible as both the relations are, the committee forbears to offer any thing more than that the existence of a *salt river*, precious mines and ores, and of some other remarkable objects, are fixed upon solid and credible testimony. Omitting these things as not necessary to be urged to Congress, the committee considers that the latitude, longitude and relative situation of the source of the Arkansas, are themselves of sufficient moment to render their attainment very desirable.

Without writing a sentence on the advantages of tracing the streams of the Black River, the White River, the Mexicano, and of other rivers to their sources, the committee submits the following opinion:

That it will be honorable and useful to make some public provision for further exploring the extent, and ascertaining the boundaries of Louisiana—and

That a sum not exceeding dollars be appropriated for enabling the President of the United States, to cause surveys and observations to be made on the Red River and the Arkansas, or either of them, or elsewhere in Louisiana, as he shall think proper, for these purposes.

COLUMBIAN LIBRARY.

AN Election for six Directors will be held at the Library Room in the Columbian Academy, on Wednesday the 23d inst at 5 o'clock P. M.

DAVID WILEY, Sec.

George Town, March 14

N. B. New shares may be had by application at the Library Room.

To the merchants of the United States in general,

GENTLEMEN,

The subscriber solicits your patronage of a work he is about to publish (the title whereof is annexed) and which he flatters himself will be found of great public utility. The intrinsic merit he leaves to the event of public investigation; the test whereof he presumes to hope it will fully bear.

He does not pretend to the least innovation of that principle which has proved itself infallible in its operation, when conducted with method and terminated according to the rules prescribed therein; but his object has been to render the process perfectly easy to be understood and practised by youth; and that from prescribed, unerring, systematic rules, so defined and explained, as to admit of no difficulty in the commencement, no error in the process, and no embarrassment in the closure of books.

Although the title designates the work for the use of senior school boys, and youth intended for the mercantile line, yet the same is equally calculated for the instruction of adults not proficient in the system; and equally applicable to books of the first magnitude.

I am gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

THOMAS TURNER.

SUBSCRIPTION,

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The most easy, concise and safe way of calculating any rate of per centum, and especially that of interest at six per centum per annum, exhibited by comparison.

The above system and prescribed rules have been examined and highly approved by the most judicious merchants; and above all, have been proved to be perfectly adequate to the professed object specified in the title, by the numerous trials that have been made. The author is no theorist—what he offers on the above subject is the result of thirty years actual experience as an accountant.

The price to subscribers will be Fifty Cents for half bound, and Seventy five Cents for whole bound books, payable on delivery.

To non-subscribers, the advance will be twenty-five per cent.

The utmost attention will be had to the goodness of the paper, type and binding.

The work will be put to press so soon as subscribers are obtained sufficient to defray the expences.

☞Persons holding subscription papers, are requested to forward them to Mr. Thomas Clark, Bookseller, Portland, within sixty days. March 16 3t

Subscriptions for the above work will be received at Mr. Duane's book store in Washington and Philadelphia.

A HOUSE FOR SALE.

FOR SALE a neat two story Frame House situate on New Jersey Avenue near the Capitol, it is suitable for a taylor, or shoemaker being established and occupied by both; it contains six rooms (including a front shop with a large bow window) and two closets; it is as good a stand for either of the above named, or any kind of business as there is in the city. For terms apply on the premises to

JOHN MINCHIN.

March [illegible]

CLOVER SEED, &c.

BERNARD M'MAHON—SEEDSMAN,

No. 129. Chesnut Street....Philadelphia, has now for sale.

Red Clover	*English Field Turnip,*
White Dutch Clover	*English Field Peas,*
Yellow Clover or Trefoil.	*Durham Flour of Mustard.*
Timothy	
Tares or Vetches	

Early peas, beans and cabbage seeds with all kinds of garden and flour seeds, suitable for the American gardens, or the West-Indies, Hemp, rape, canary, maw and millet seeds; all new and of very superior quality.

He has also for sale garden tools of every kind; the most approved agricultural, botanical and gardening books. Forest and fruit trees, flowering shrubs and green-house plants, vine plants and cuttings, hot bed-glass, mats and lights, &c. &c.

By the first arrival from London, either in this city or New-York, he expects a large supply of Lucerne, saintfoin, ray grass and burnet seeds.

*** *Gardeners to be heard of as above.* March 16 taw—3w.

S. JONES.

MILLINERY and fancy dress maker from Philadelphia, respectfully informs the ladies of George Town and Washington City, that she will open on Saturday the 17th inst. a variety of the most fashionable millinery fancy dresses &c. &c. at the house formerly occupied by Mr. Lee, opposite to the Union Tavern in George Town.

March 16. 3t.