

Friday, May 11.

In the Senate, the bill to give effect to the commercial arrangement concluded with the government of Colombia, was ordered to a third reading. Much private business was disposed of. The Post Office bill was taken up, the question being on ordering the bill to be read a third time. Mr. BIBB renewed his motion to amend the bill by adding a clause, abolishing postage on newspapers from and after the 31st day of July next. The question being taken, it was decided in the negative, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Bell, Bibb, Clay, Ewing, Foot, Frelinghuysen, Hayne, Holmes, Johnston, Knight, Miller, Moore, Naudain, Poindexter, Prentiss, Robbins, Ruggles, Seymour, Silsbee, Sprague, Tomlinson, Waggaman—22.

Nays—Messrs. Benton, Brown, Buckner, Dallas, Dickerson, Dudley, Ellis, Forsyth, Grundy, Hendricks, Hill, Kane, King, Mangum, Marcy, Robinson, Smith, Tazewell, Tipton, Troup, Tyler, White, Wilkins.—23.

The bill was then ordered to a third reading. The pension bill was taken up, the question being on the motion to recommit the bill with instructions to amend it so as to provide for those officers and soldiers who fought in the Indian wars prior to the year 1795. Messrs. FOOT, HOLMES and CLAY spoke against the motion and in favor of the bill, and Mr. BROWN spoke briefly in opposition to the bill. The Senate, on motion of Mr. HOLMES, adjourned to Monday, by a vote of 22 to 16.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. DODDRIDGE moved the further postponement of the motion to reconsider the vote upon the bill in favor of taking a part of the stock of the Alexandria Canal company until Tuesday next, which was agreed to.

BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. McDUFFIE, in behalf of the minority of the committee upon the United States Bank, offered a counter report, which he moved might be laid on the table and printed.

Mr. CAMBRELENG hoped the gentleman from South Carolina, [Mr. McDuffie], would withdraw his motion to lay the report on the table—which being done, Mr. C. inquired whether the answers of the president of the bank to the questions submitted by him were appended to the report?

Mr. McDUFFIE replied, they were.

Mr. CAMBRELENG said he would submit a remark in relation to these answers. In consequence of their character, he should be obliged to submit other questions to the president of the bank. He had hoped that these examinations would have been made in Philadelphia, when he could have examined the president orally, and prevented the necessity of any further inquiries. He had, however, waived the advantage of a personal examination and left the questions with the president of the bank, to be answered at his leisure. In taking such a course he had not supposed that any advantage would be taken by the president of the Bank of the United States—that he would deny, without explanation, many of the statements founded on the monthly returns annually transmitted to the treasury—and that by putting his own construction upon questions, or by misapprehending them, he would answer inquiries which had never been submitted, apparently for the purpose of making them appear ridiculous. He only rose for the purpose of stating his intention to submit other questions to the president of the bank, growing out of his answers, which he should hereafter present to the house.

Mr. McDUFFIE said he had attentively read the answers, and they appeared to be full replies to the questions propounded. If any mistake or misapprehension had occurred, it was most probably on the part of the gentleman from New-York.

Mr. CAMBRELENG said in reply, that, if the gentleman from South Carolina would take the trouble to examine the questions and answers with him, he thought he could satisfy him that many of the questions had not been answered—that statements were denied which were founded on documents received from the Bank annually—and that the President of the Bank had, whether from misconstruction or not, answered questions which it certainly never was his intention to submit to him or to any one else. In answering the questions too, a spirit somewhat tart had been displayed, which he had not anticipated, on such an occasion, and particularly from the President of the Bank of the U. States, on subjects so seriously affecting the public interest.

Mr. McDUFFIE said, as the interrogatories and their replies would be printed at length, the members of the House would be able to judge for themselves whether the answers were fairly given. He would move to refer the papers to the committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, to which the subject was referred—which was agreed to.

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Mr. ADAMS said, in consequence of his peculiar situation upon the committee, he had found himself obliged to draw up his own views of the investigation—which he hoped to be able to present to the House on Monday.

Mr. CLAYTON enquired whether it would be now in order to move the printing of an extra number of both reports?

The SPEAKER suggested that, as the report of the gentleman from Massachusetts would probably be presented on Monday, the motion had better be deferred—to which Mr. CLAYTON assented.