

of William and James Crooks; which was twice read by unanimous consent. (This report is not found in the documents.)

"This report was called up on the 17th of the same month, in Committee of the Whole; and, on motion of Mr. Goldsborough, referred to the Committee on Finance, to consider and report thereon.

"It appears that the next step of the Senate in the business was in the shape of an amendment reported by the Committee on Finance, and engrafted upon the general appropriation bill for the support of the Government, making provision for the relief of the claimants. This amendment, with others, was adopted on the 23d of February; and, on the following day, the bill so amended, was returned to the House

"On the 25th February, the amendments were, by the House, referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, who, on the 27th, reported their agreement to all the amendments. These were, on the same day, committed to a Committee of the Whole, who reported their agreement to all those amendments *except one* to which they disagreed.

"The bill was on the same day (27th February) returned to the Senate, with the agreement of the House to all its amendments, except that which proposed an "appropriation of \$4,243, to pay William and James Crooks the amount of the sales of the schooner Lord Nelson, to which they disagreed.

"On the 1st March, the Senate considered the amendment disagreed to by the House of Representatives, and receded from the same.

"On the 22d November, 1819, Mr. Antrobus, charge d'affaires of Great Britain, again called the attention of the department to the claim of Messrs Crooks; referred to the former communications of the legation on the subject; to the message of the President, which he states, owing to the pressure of business at the close of the session of Congress, had not been fully acted on; and asked the interposition of the Secretary to obtain for the claimants the benefit of the decree of the district court in their favor.

"To this note, Mr Adams answered, on the 7th December, that, since the subject had been before Congress, the Government had received information that the ship Lydia, belonging to citizens of the United States, captured during the war, and condemned at Bermuda, had been ordered, in London, to be restored to the owners; that, since the sentence of restitution, the proceeds, which had been paid into the Bermuda court, were, through the default of the officers of the court, found missing, whence the claimants were likely to sustain a total loss. In assuming the payment of moneys lost by the malversations of an officer, the President could not doubt that, under similar circumstances, the British Government would apply the same principle to citizens of the United States; still, before again submitting the case to Congress, it would be advisable to ascertain the disposition of his Majesty's Government on the subject; and Mr. Antrobus was invited to make the case of the Lydia known to his Government, and to solicit its determination concerning it, presuming that it would be had in time to enable Congress to decide understandingly upon the claim of Messrs Crooks.

"The information to which reference is made in the foregoing note, is derived from Mr. Rush's despatch, No. 93, September 29, 1819. Mr. Rush states that he had received from W. & E. Lawrence of London, a representation respecting the ship Lydia, of New York, belonging to Stephen and George Hathaway and Isaac Waite, captured and condemned as stated, and a request for his interposition. Mr. Rush, who does not think it necessary to trouble the department with his correspondence with Messrs Lawrence, deems it sufficient to state that the vessel, when captured, was sailing under a British licence; and that, therefore, he had declined interfering; "the licence which she had on board