

SENATE.]

Proceedings.

[JULY, 1797.]

the proper talks, to keep up my consequence with the Creeks and Cherokees. Can't Rogers contrive to get the Creeks to desire the President to take Hawkins out of the nation? for, if he stays in the Creek nation and gets the good will of the nation, he can and will do great injury to our plan. When you have read this letter over three times, then burn it. I shall be at Knoxville in July or August, when I will send for Watts, and give him the whiskey I promised him.

'I am, &c., WILLIAM BLOUNT.'

"Two Senators, now present in the Senate, have declared to the committee that they are well acquainted with the handwriting of Mr. Blount, and have no doubt that this letter was written by him. Your committee have examined many letters from Mr. Blount to the Secretary of War, a number of which are herewith submitted, as well as the letter addressed by Mr. Blount to Mr. Cook, his colleague in the Senate, and to this committee, respecting the business now under consideration; and find them all to be of the same handwriting with the letter in question. Mr. Blount has never denied this letter, but, on the other hand, when the copy transmitted to the Senate was read in his presence, on the 3d instant, he acknowledged in his place that he had written a letter to Carey, of which he had preserved a copy, but could not then decide whether the copy read was a true one. Your committee are therefore fully persuaded that the original letter now produced was written and sent to Carey by Mr. Blount. They also find that this man, Carey, to whom it was addressed, is, to the knowledge of Mr. Blount, in the pay and employment of the United States, as their interpreter to the Cherokee nation of Indians, and an assistant in the public factory at Tellico Blockhouse. That Hawkins, who is so often mentioned in this letter as a person who must be brought into suspicion among the Creeks, and if possible driven from his station, is the superintendent of Indian affairs for the United States among the Southern Indians; Dinmore is agent for the United States in the Cherokee nation; and Byers, one of the agents in the public factory at Tellico Blockhouse.

"The plan hinted at in this extraordinary letter, to be executed under the auspices of the British, is so capable of different constructions and conjectures, that your committee at present forbear giving any decided opinion respecting it; except that to Mr. Blount's own mind, it appeared to be inconsistent with the interests of the United States and of Spain, and he was therefore anxious to conceal it from both. But, when they consider his attempts to seduce Carey from his duty, as a faithful interpreter, and to employ him as an engine to alienate the affections and confidence of the Indians, from the public officers of the United States residing among them; the measures he has proposed to excite a temper which must produce the recall or expulsion of our superintendent from the Creek nation; his insidious advice tending to the advancement of his own popularity and consequence, at the expense and hazard of the good opinion which the Indians entertain of this Government, and of the treaties subsisting between us and them, your committee have no doubt that Mr. Blount's conduct has been inconsistent with his public duty, renders him unworthy of a further continuance of his present public trust in this body, and amounts to a high misdemeanor. They, therefore, unanimously recommend to the Senate an adoption of the following resolution.

"Resolved, That William Blount, Esq., one of the Senators of the United States, having been guilty of a

high misdemeanor, entirely inconsistent with his public trust and duty as a Senator, be, and he hereby is, expelled from the Senate of the United States."

The report was adopted—yeas 25, nay 1; as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Bingham, Bloodworth, Bradford, Brown, Cocke, Foster, Goodhue, Gunn, Henry, Hillhouse, Howard, Hunter, Latimer, Laurance, Livermore, Martin, Marshall, Read, Ross, Rutherford, Sedgwick, Tattnell, Tichenor, Tracy, and Vining.

Mr. Tazewell voted in the negative.

So it was Resolved, That William Blount, Esq., one of the Senators of the United States, having been guilty of a high misdemeanor, entirely inconsistent with his public trust and duty as a Senator, be, and he hereby is, expelled from the Senate of the United States.

On this, Mr. BUTLER, in behalf of himself and Mr. THOMAS BLOUNT, the other surety, surrendered the person of WILLIAM BLOUNT, the principal, to the Senate, and requested to be discharged from their recognizance. Whereupon, it was

Ordered, That they be discharged from their recognizance, and that the Secretary enter an endorsement on the back of the bond as follows:

"And now, to wit, on this eighth day of July, 1797, the Honorable Thomas Blount and Pierce Butler, Esq's., came into the Senate and surrendered William Blount, Esq., for whom they became bound yesterday."

On motion,

Resolved, That WILLIAM BLOUNT be taken into the custody of the Messenger of this House, until he shall enter into recognizance, himself, in the sum of one thousand dollars, with two sufficient sureties, in the sum of five hundred dollars each; to appear and answer such articles of impeachment as may be exhibited against him by the House of Representatives, on Monday next.

The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 7th instant, proposing an adjournment of the two Houses, on Monday the 10th instant; and concurred therein.

MONDAY, July 10.

The bill, sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence, entitled "An act for the relief of Thomas Lewis," was read the second time, and on motion that the bill be now read the third time, it was objected to. So the bill was lost.

Mr. BINGHAM laid before the Senate the petition of William Montgomery, and others, remonstrating on the hardship of the "act laying duties on stamped vellum, parchment, and paper," which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Messenger of the Senate made the following return, on their order of the 8th instant:

"Agreeably to the order of the Senate, the within mentioned WILLIAM BLOUNT having entered into recognizance, I have returned the same into the office of the Secretary of the Senate."

Ordered, That the Secretary transmit to the Executive of the State of Tennessee an attested