
OCTOBER 27th, 1803.

Read the first and second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

A B I L L

Making provision for the payment of claims of citizens of the United States on the government of France, the payment of which has been assumed by the United States, by virtue of the convention of the thirtieth April, one thousand eight hundred and three, between the United States and the French Republic.

1 **Be it enacted**, by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,
3 That a sum, not exceeding three millions seven hundred and
4 fifty thousand dollars, (inclusive of a sum of two millions of dol-
5 lars, appropriated by the act of the twenty-sixth day of Febru-
6 ary, one thousand eight hundred and three, entitled, "An act
7 making farther provision for the expenses attending the inter-
8 course between the United States and foreign nations,") to be
9 paid out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropri-
10 ated, be, and the same hereby is, appropriated, for the purpose

11 of discharging the claims of citizens of the United States against
 12 the government of France, the payment of which has been af-
 13 firmed by the government of the United States, by virtue of a
 14 convention made the thirtieth day of April, one thousand eight
 15 hundred and three, between the United States of America, and
 16 the French Republic, respecting the said claims.

1 SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the secretary of the
 2 treasury shall cause to be paid, at the treasury of the United
 3 States, in conformity to the convention aforesaid, the amount of
 4 such claims, above mentioned, as, under the provisions of the said
 5 convention, shall be awarded to the respective claimants: which
 6 payments shall be made on the orders of the minister plenipoten-
 7 tiary of the United States for the time being, to the French Re-
 8 public, in conformity with the convention aforesaid; and the said
 9 minister shall be charged on the treasury books with the whole
 10 amount of such payments, until he shall have exhibited satisfac-
 11 tory proof to the accounting officers of the treasury, that his
 12 orders, thus paid, have been issued in conformity with the provi-
 13 sions of the said convention.

1 SECT. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the
 2 United States be, and he hereby is, authorized to borrow, on the
 3 credit of the United States, to be applied to the purposes autho-
 4 rized by this act, a sum, not exceeding one million seven hun-
 5 dred and fifty thousand dollars, at a rate of interest, not exceeding
 6 six per centum per annum, reimbursable out of the appropriation

7 made by virtue of the first section of this act, at the pleasure of
8 the United States, or at such period, not exceeding five years from
9 the time of obtaining the loan, as may be stipulated by contract,
10 and it shall be lawful for the bank of the United States to lend
11 the same.

1 SECT. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That so much of the duties
2 on merchandize and tonnage, as may be necessary, be, and the
3 same hereby is appropriated, for the purpose of paying the inter-
4 est which shall accrue on the said loan.