

Mr. Burgess, of Rhode Island, in his reply to Mr. Clayton's speech, made the following remarks :

“ What State in this Union had received more benefits at the hand of this Government than Georgia?—When she had but a handful of inhabitants—not more than twenty thousand at the time of the Revolutionary War, and though she had never sent more than three or four hundred soldiers to the Army of the Revolution—and for three years none at all—still she was protected by the arm of the Union from the power of these red men whom she then dreaded, though now she despises them. Since he had been a member of that House, Georgia had been paid large sums merely for having defended herself against these Indians. When the country came triumphant out of the Revolution, at the time when Virginia with a liberality not to be paralleled, surrendered up her immense Western territories for the public good, and when New York with a liberality scarcely inferior, gave up an empire to pay the debts of the War, Georgia refused to follow the example. She was entreated to relinquish the land which had been won not by the sword of Georgia, but by the valor and the blood of other States. She refused to do it. The State retained the territory within her grasp, and when the pre-emption right was at length yielded, it was at the expense to the Union of many millions of dollars ! As the law and the Constitution obliged them to do, they sold the pre-emption on condition of the payment of a million and a quarter of dollars, the discharge of the claims which previous purchasers had upon them for monies advanced, and the extinguishment of the Indian title. They had since received the whole equivalent in money land and to an amount in all of twenty-five millions of dollars ; they now had it in possession under a contract made but twenty-four days after what was called the intercourse law.”