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nations, and the municipal law of this or any other country. It was that excellent principle of common sense, that did, or should govern all mankind, that ought to decide the present case. Old books in Greek, Latin, and English; taken from the dusty shelves on which they had reposed for centuries, had been pressed into the service of this cause; nay, Pagan, Mahometan, Jewish, Dutch, and almost every other writer in the world, had been quoted; but their speculations applied just as much to one side of the question as the other. Sir James, with admirable wit, exposed to ridicule the abstruse speculations of these ancient writers, and pointed out their inapplicability to the present cause.

Some of them, he said, put him in mind of the 39 articles, which had been made to apply to a great variety of different doctrines. Grotius had been introduced, and often quoted as the Bible of the Civilians; but it was high time to have done with him. A great deal had been said respecting the law of nations, but after all it was floating law. It would have been a desirable circumstance, if it had occurred to the British Ministers, or to our Allies, to have provided for the case of a recapture, like the present; but no such provision had been as yet made. Perhaps, before the present cause reached its last tribunal, some new act or regulation might take place. In the present case, the King of Spain, as the claimant, comes and prays that the ship might be restored, and submits to salvage, and to the decree of the English Court of Admiralty; he had pledged his Royal honor to abide by the decision;—this was very flattering to the Judge, and ought to be considered as a good security.

A decree therefore ought to be made that was consonant with good sense, with politeness, and might tend to cement the harmony subsisting between the courts of England and Spain. It had been said by the Counsel that the law knew of no politeness, but looked only at justice. Lawyers, it was true, were not polite, but politeness in this case was good sense. Law had been called the perfection of reason; but the perfection of reason was what the law ought to be. The learned Judge, after many observations upon the law of nations, municipal laws, the nature of treaties, and policy of states, said he should pronounce a provisional decree, which he trusted would give satisfaction to both parties. He therefore decreed, that the ship and cargo should be restored to his Catholic Majesty and his subjects the claimants, agreeable to their prayer, and that one eighth of the value (after deducting the expences on both sides) be paid for salvage; provided that, within six months, it shall be declared by his Catholic Majesty, by some public act, that all ships and cargoes that are, or shall be captured by the King of Spain, together with private ships to be fitted out, belonging to the King of England, be restored upon the same terms to his Britannic Majesty; otherwise the said ship *St. Jago* is to be considered as good and lawful prize to the captors.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

March 3.

St. Just, in the name of the Committee of Public Safety moved, and the Convention adopted the subsequent decree.

Art. 1. All the Communes of the Republic shall make out an account of the patriots contained in each commune, together with their names, places of abode, their situation, and the losses which they have sustained.

2. The directors of each district shall send these accounts to the committee of Public Safety, who shall make a report in which shall be pointed out the means of indemnifying the unfortunate patriots out of the property of persons detained as suspected.

Danton wished that the division of the little country property should be added to this measure; and that the patriots who have sustained losses should be allowed to cultivate it, even to the walls of Paris. He moved that the Committee of Public Safety, should take this suggestion into consideration. Agreed to.

A letter from Florent Goyot, informed the Convention, that Francis d'Ecoffe, 80 years of age, had been kept in the prison of Lille, in irons, for forty-five years.

His family, who resided at Stockholm, had formerly allowed him an annual sum

of 300 livres, which had been withdrawn for three years.

This unhappy man had been taken by a Lettre de Cachet after having served with credit in the French army.

The Convention decreed, that a pension of 2000 livres should be granted to him, and that enquiry should be instituted into the reason of this man's imprisonment having been kept from the knowledge of the government since the revolution.

Congress of the United States.

IN SENATE,

Saturday, April 19, 1794.

Mr. Folter reported from the committee for enrolled bills that they did yesterday lay before the President of the United States, the enrolled "Resolution, to continue the present embargo on ships or vessels in the ports of the United States, bound to any foreign port or place."

On motion,

That the petition of Ebenezer Parsons and others, praying for an exemption from the embargo, be referred to a special committee,

It passed in the negative.

On motion,

Ordered, That Ebenezer Parsons and others, have leave to withdraw their petition.

After the consideration of the executive business, The Senate adjourned until 11 o'clock on Monday morning.

Monday, April 21, 1794.

The bill, sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence entitled "An act to establish the Post-office and post-roads within the United States, was read the third time, and further amendments being agreed to,

Resolved, That this bill pass as amended.

On motion,

To reconsider the resolution that this bill pass, for the purpose of further amendment—

It passed in the negative.

Ordered, That the Secretary communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives, and request their concurrence in the amendments.

A message from the House of Representatives by Mr. Beckley their clerk:

"Mr. President—The President of the United States hath notified the House of Representatives, that he did on the 18th instant, approve and sign "The resolution continuing the present embargo, until the twenty fifth day of May next;" and that he this day, approved and signed the act, entitled, "An act limiting the time for presenting claims for destroyed certificates of certain descriptions:" And he withdrew.

The petition of Messrs. Stewart and Plunket was presented and read, praying reimbursement of the duties on a quantity of coffee, said to be destroyed by fire—

Ordered, That this petition be referred to Mr. Potts, Mr. Cabot and Mr. Edwards, to consider and report thereon.

The petition of Henry Merchant district judge for Rhode Island, praying an augmentation of his salary, was presented and read.

Ordered, That this petition lie on the table.

A motion was made as follows:

"That the Journals of the Senate, and reports from the heads of departments printed by the order of the Senate shall be in octavo.

"That if the House of Representatives concur, three hundred copies of the journals of both Houses since the commencement of the present government be printed for the use of Congress."

Ordered That this motion lie for consideration.

After the consideration of the executive business.

The Senate adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday April 22d. 1794.

The Vice President laid before the Senate a letter from Monfr. Olive with the plan of a forty gun ship.

Ordered, that they lie on the table.

Mr. Taylor from the committee to whom was referred the bill entitled, "An act allowing Lieutenant Colonel Toussard an equivalent for his pension for life"—reported an amendment.

Ordered, That this report lie until to-morrow for consideration.

The petition of Stephen Parsons in behalf of William Parsons, was presented

and read, praying compensation for military services to the said William, who has been hitherto prevented from applying, by his absence from the country.

Ordered, That this petition lie on the table.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the motion made yesterday, relative to the mode of printing the journals, bills and reports from the heads of departments, and having amended the same,

Resolved, That after the present session, the bills, the journals, and all reports from the heads of departments, and all official communications which may be printed by order of the Senate, shall be in octavo."

The Senate adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, April 23.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the report of the committee on the bill, entitled, "an act allowing Lieutenant Colonel Toussard an equivalent for his pension for life," and having adopted the same, and amended the bill accordingly.

Resolved, That the rule be dispensed with, and that this bill be now read the third time.

Resolved, That this bill pass with an amendment.

Ordered, That the Secretary desire the concurrence of the House of Representatives in the amendment to this bill.

The petition of James Shaw was presented and read, praying compensation for military services and supplies.

On motion,

That the petition be referred to a special committee—

It passed in the negative.

On motion,

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw his petition.

A message from the house of Representatives by Mr. Beckley their clerk:

Mr. President—The house of Representatives disagree to some and agree to other amendments of the Senate to the bill, entitled, "An act to establish the post-office and post-roads within the United States."

"The House of Representatives have passed the bill, entitled, "an act directing a detachment from the militia of the United States," and the bill, entitled, "an act providing for raising and organizing a corps of artillery and engineers," in which several bills they desire the concurrence of the Senate." And he withdrew.

The Vice-President laid before the Senate a letter from the Secretary for the Department of State, enclosing the translation of a letter from the members of the committee of public safety in France, the original of which was addressed to Congress.

On motion,

That it be referred to a committee to take the same into consideration and report the draught of an answer.

It was agreed that the consideration thereof be postponed until to-morrow.

The Senate proceeded to consider the resolution of the House of Representatives, disagreeing to sundry amendments of the Senate to the bill, entitled, "an act to establish the post-office and post-roads within the United States"—

On motion,

Resolved, That they insist on their tenth amendment to the first section, and to their amendment for adding a new section to follow the twenty-seventh section; and that a conference with the House of Representatives be requested on the subject of disagreement, and that Mr. King, Mr. Burr, and Mr. Jackson, be managers at the same on the part of the Senate.

On the question, that the Senate recede from their amendment for striking out the twenty-first section—as follows:

Sec. 21. *And be it further enacted*, That every printer of newspapers may send one paper to each, and every other printer of newspapers within the United States, free of postage, under such regulations, as the Post-master-General shall provide.

It passed in the affirmative—Yeas 17—Nays 9.

The yeas and nays being required by one-fifth of the Senators present—

Those who voted in the affirmative, are Messrs. Bradford, Bradley, Brown, Burr, Butler, Edwards, Folter, Frelinghuysen, Gunn, Henry, Jackson, Langdon, Livermore, Martin, Monroe, Robinson and Taylor.

Those who voted in the negative, are, Messrs. Cabot, Ellsworth, Hawkins, Izard, King, Morris, Potts, Rutherford, and Strong.

Ordered, That the Secretary commu-

nicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

The bill, sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence, entitled, "an act directing a detachment from the militia of the United States," was read the first time.

Ordered, That this bill pass to a second reading.

The bill, sent from the House of Representatives for concurrence, entitled, "an act providing for raising and organizing a corps of artillery and engineers," was read the first time.

Ordered, That this bill pass to the second reading.

The Senate adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The TIMES, No. X.

TAKE heed to yourselves, Tories, or you may soon suffer a general sweep, the measure has been proposed already more than once, says the General Advertiser in Philadelphia. If I understand this threat, it means, that there may be soon a general Massacre. One would think by reading the language of the incendiaries of America, that we lived under the dominion of a pope, a Spanish inquisition, or the dey of Algiers. The attempts made to frighten their opposers, and controul their opinions, rank the Democrats of the southern states among the most sanguinary persecutors, the popes and the Neroes of ancient times. It is strange, but true, that men are always the same proud, blood-thirsty, persecuting tyrants. In all countries, in all governments, give men power, and they become tyrants. Opinions are never dangerous, to persecute them is always despotism. The constitution and laws of America, have no where said a man shall not believe in the Pope, the Turkish Sultan, in Mahomet or George III. There is no law in America to punish a man for thinking a monarchy the best form of government. So long as opinions do not produce overt-acts against the government, the opinions are legal, they are not crimes, they are not punishable. A man is under no legal or moral obligation to think our republican government a better form, than the government of the Six Nations or the Chinese.—Crimes consist only in overt acts: and when crimes are committed, the laws will punish them, not men. A man has the same right to be a tory, an aristocrat or a monarchy man, in the United States, as he has to be an antifederal or opposer of the existing government.—The opinions of each of these descriptions of men are equally opposed to the general sense of America, and equally hostile to our republican constitution. It is no more a crime to believe monarchy a good government, than it is to believe our federal constitution a bad one. So far as criminality is concerned, the tories and aristocrats, if there are any who wish our government changed to monarchy or aristocracy, and the antifederals, who wish to render it more democratical, are precisely on the same footing. Their opinions differ from the general will. But the truth is, there is no crimes in either case, while opinions rest in theory and argument.—Our government guarantees to every man a full right to speak his mind freely on all subjects; and to be in heart a tory, an aristocrat, a Mahometan, a Jew, a Pagan, a Jacobin or an antifederal. Our government is a government of universal toleration. The freedom of America, its greatest blessing, secures to every citizen the right of thinking, of speaking, of worshipping and acting as he pleases, provided he does not violate the laws. The only people in America who have dared to violate this freedom, are the democratical incendiaries, who have proceeded to threaten violence to tories, and aristocrats and federal republicans; that is, to people not of their party. Every threat of this kind is an act of tyranny; an attempt to abridge the rights of a fellow citizen. If a man is persecuted for his opinions, it is wholly immaterial whether the persecution springs from one man or from a society of the people. When men are disposed to persecute, power is always right: weakness always wrong. Power is always insolent and despotic; whether exercised in throwing its opposers into a bastille; burning them at the stake; torturing them on a rack; beheading them with a guillotine; or taking them off, as at the massacre of St. Bartholomew, at a general sweep. Power is the same in Turkey as in America. When the will of men is raised above laws, it is always tyranny, and despotism, whether it is the will of a bashaw or of bastard patriots.

Amer. Miner.

PHILADELPHIA,

MAY 6.

The faction that used to clamour for unfunded paper money now see a legion of devils in a system of funded paper. The problem may be easily solved. Paper to cheat with is a glorious machine. It is a sort of hocus pocus that makes the lender the servant of the borrower. The debtor chafes his creditor, crying, I tender you this gold and silver, the printed coin. If you refuse it, you are an enemy of your country.—This honest paper influence seems to be tolera-