

amending this clause. He was wholly in favor of the cutters, as they would not only serve as a defence for our coast, but as tenders to the frigates. Nine vessels of 20 guns, he said, would require 674 seamen to man them, and the frigates would require 432 able and 300 ordinary seamen, which he did not believe would be very readily raised. Besides vessels which would be purchased for this purpose, would not be calculated for the service, not being sufficiently swift sailers, whilst these cutters would out-fail most privateers, and half the seamen would be sufficient. They might be ready in a fortnight, whilst the others could not be fit for sea for three months.

Mr. PARKER had thought of amending the bill in the way proposed; but he found some objections to that mode. It would be necessary that the cutters should be employed in the protection of our revenue, as well as to guard our coast; and, on that account he believed it would be better not to include them under the naval establishment, as they would not, in that case, be so much at the command of the secretary of the treasury. The question was carried without a division; the clause following, which respected the officers and crew to be employed, fell of course.

Mr. GILES moved to strike out the following clause, for the purpose of inserting a similar one to that agreed to in the bill for the galleys, viz. to confine their use within the jurisdiction of the United States:

"That the President of the United States may employ the said frigates and the said vessels, to protect the ships and cargoes belonging solely to citizens of the United States, and also the harbors and sea-coast of the United States, in such manner and under such regulations as shall in no wise contravene either the laws of nations, or any existing treaties between the United States and foreign nations."

Mr. W. SMITH hoped this amendment would not be agreed to. He believed it was never intended to confine the frigates within so narrow a sphere. He believed the latter part of the clause proposed to be struck out would prevent any mischief. The Commanders of these vessels, he said, would be men of abilities and Character, well instructed as to their duty with respect to the Law of Nations. If the frigates were to be thus confined in their operations, they would be of no real use.

Mr. GILES wished to know to what other purpose, besides the protection of our coast, the gentlemen wished to employ these vessels. It seemed to be that the frigates could be of no use, except as convoys; but he denied that they were equal to that object if it were agreed that they should be so employed. It was said the cutters to be employed were to act as Tenders to the frigates; yet they were to be kept at home; it would therefore be curious to send the frigates abroad, and keep the tenders at home. To employ the frigates in any other way than for the protection of our coast, would, in his opinion, hazard the Peace of the country, without producing any good; for if he was a merchant (and he believed the merchants were generally of that opinion), he would sooner send his vessel unprotected, than with the proposed convoy.

Mr. STURGEON argued against the absurdity of confining the operations of our maritime force to the narrow limits proposed by the amendment—it was the object of the bill to defend our commerce from the unjust attacks of the belligerent powers, and it surely would not be pretended that these attacks were confined to our coast—to render the protection efficient, it should be co-extensive with the danger—and should the frigates not be permitted to operate beyond the imaginary line which limits our maritime jurisdiction on the sea coast, it would frequently happen that they would be obliged to submit to the capture of their convoys within the reach of their guns—it would be infinitely preferable to dismantle our ships of war, and save the expense of their equipment than to hold out to our trade an illusive protection, which would only lead them into danger—the pirates which infest the American seas would sufficiently understand the restriction which it proposed, and would be rather incited by it than discouraged—He was therefore decidedly against the amendment, but neither did he like the clause as it stood in the bill—He did not comprehend the propriety of limiting the protection of the frigates to the case of "vessels and cargoes owned solely by American citizens"—In force instances it ought not to be extended so far, in others it ought to go farther—Vessels and cargoes owned entirely by our own citizens might be employed in a contraband trade and ought not to be protected; although this construction perhaps was corrected by the latter part of the clause, yet there was an opposite evil which would necessarily arise from it in its present form—Ships owned by American citizens were entitled to the protection of the government against French cruisers, while engaged in a lawful trade, let their cargoes belong to whom they might—it is one stipulation of our commercial treaty with France that free ships make free goods—and whatever might be the opinion of this house as to the expediency of relinquishing this stipulation by a new compact, yet until this could be effected in a course of negotiations, we cannot abandon the advantages it gives to our citizens—The rights growing out of treaty are as much objects of protection as those arising from the law of nations—and he could never consent to such an abandonment of them, until the relations of the two countries in this respect should be legitimately changed—if the present amendment therefore should not prevail, it was his intention to move to substitute for the words "ships and cargoes belonging solely to citizens of the United States" the expression "the lawful commerce of the citizens of the United States."

Mr. NICHOLAS concluded the gentleman was not in the House when this subject was formerly under discussion, as he seemed to have stumbled upon all the objections, which were then abandoned. Those gentlemen who had advocated convoys completely gave them up. [Mr. Smith denied that he had ever given them up.] Mr. N. believed he never did, on any other account than because every body about him gave them up, and a clause directly the reverse of his was agreed to. Mr. N. then went over the arguments which were gone into on a former occasion. He shewed that this force was inadequate to the protection of our commerce, and that the natural consequence of refusing a search

or being taken into a foreign port, for trial, on the ground of a cargo being bona fide neutral, would produce war. And should we, he asked, while a negotiation was pending, run the risk of again involving ourselves in difficulties? He trusted we should not. He denied that the effect of the amendment could be to confine the frigates within the jurisdiction of the United States, as the commerce within the jurisdiction might be defended by their going without it. He trusted the amendment would be agreed to.

Mr. DAYTON (the speaker) wished to strike out the section, and insert nothing. He was not prepared to say the frigates should or should not be employed as convoys; nor was he ready to say they should be confined within the jurisdiction of the United States. He was willing to leave this business to the President of the United States, as commander in chief. He was sure that confidence would not be abused; and he believed he would have better opportunities than they had, of determining the best manner of employing them.

Mr. PARKER seconded the motion. He thought it would be highly improper in them to dictate to the President how he should use these vessels. He wished that to rest on the broad basis of the President's responsibility.

Mr. W. SMITH had no objection to the business taking this course. As Commander in Chief, there was no doubt the President would employ this naval force in a manner which, in his opinion, would be most conducive to the public good. If the negotiation failed, and there should be a necessity for employing it in a manner differently from what they at present contemplated, he would of course do so. Mr. S. took notice of what had fallen from Mr. Nicholas; he denied that what had been determined relative to the galleys, had any connection with the frigates. He said, in our treaty with Holland and Sweden, convoys for our trade in time of peace were positively stipulated for, and the word of the commander of our convoys was always to be taken, as to the description of our cargoes; therefore the arguments of that gentleman fell to the ground, when he said our vessels could not go out to sea without endangering our peace. It was true there was no such article in our treaty with France, but it was stipulated in what manner search should be made. The Swedish treaty, he said, was made by Dr. Franklin, at Versailles, under the eye of the French Government. It was to be supposed, therefore, it met with their full approbation, especially as it had never been complained against.

Mr. NICHOLAS said, that there being stipulations of the kind mentioned by the gentleman last up, provided that no such right existed without a treaty; and as to the manner in which a search should be made being laid down, it was no security against the evil he dreaded. He denied the right of the President to apply the naval force of the United States to any object he pleased. When a force was raised for a particular object, he agreed that it was his business to direct the manner in which this force should be used; but to say that he had a right to apply it at his discretion was to make him master of the United States, if that were the case, he said, the powers of that House were gone. When they raised men for the protection of the frontier, would the President, he asked, send them to any other place? He insisted upon it that they had a right to say the vessels should be kept in the river Delaware, if they pleased—the President might afterwards direct their conduct. If a contrary doctrine were to prevail, if they did not give up the right of declaring war, they gave up a power which would inevitably lead to war.

Mr. BROOKES did not apprehend any danger from leaving it in the power of the President to make use of the frigates as he pleased.

Mr. GALLATIN said, that after having determined that the three frigates should be got ready for sea, it became necessary to say upon what business they should be employed. There might be different opinions on the subject, but it was necessary to define the object. If not, they had reason to apprehend, from his speech, that the President would employ them as convoys. The difficulties attending such an employ, had been shewn when the subject of galleys were under consideration; they were so many that the peace of the country would be greatly endangered by such an employment of the frigates. The danger was greatly increased by the disputed articles of our treaty with France, which the President would be under the necessity of enforcing. In ordinary times, he said, the principle of the gentlemen from New-Jersey was a good one. If we had frigates in service, they were not from day to day to say how they should be employed; but, under our present circumstances, he thought the object ought to be defined, and that they ought to depart from the maxim laid down by that gentleman.

Mr. SEWALL was in favor of striking out the clause if the President were to be limited at all he should have no objection to limit him with respect to convoys, from the incompetency of three vessels to that end; but these frigates were to be considered as the public force, as the navy of the United States. It was true it was a small one, but it was such as congress had thought proper to raise, and put in the power of the President. And why should this power be limited? It seemed as if they supposed, from his natural disposition, or from some other cause, he would abuse it, by employing the vessels contrary to law, and thereby involve the country in a war.

The constitution, Mr. S. said, had defined him to be commander in chief of the navy, and having a navy, the command of course devolved upon him. If those vessels were built for a particular purpose, they might designate their object, but they were begun in 1794, and the act gave the President authority to "equip and employ these vessels." If, at that period, when, in the opinion of many gentlemen, there was a greater prospect of war than at present, no objection was pointed out for the vessels, he did not see why any should now be pointed out. With respect to the disputed articles in the French treaty, they had already expressed an opinion

to the President, which he doubted not would have its effect.

Mr. WILLIAMS thought that having given the President a discretionary power in the best manner of the bill they ought not now to take it from him; because, if he did not see occasion to man the frigates, he would never do it; but if he did see occasion for manning them, they ought not to take from him the power of employing them as he pleased. He was therefore in favor of the motion of the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. GILES asked, whether to ascertain the object upon which these vessels should be employed, was a legislative or an executive act? It was certainly a legislative. They ought to say to the President, "Here is the force, and there is the object." It was said they had already given an opinion to the President, with respect to the disputed articles in the French treaty; he now wished a law to be passed in conformity to that opinion.

They were often charged, Mr. Giles said, with a want of confidence in the President. He was free to own he had not much confidence in the present President. His speech, at the opening of the session, had destroyed all his confidence; but, however high their opinion might be of the Executive, they ought not to lodge improper powers in his hands.

Mr. HARPER was in favor of the motion. He wished to provide force, and not to direct the use of it, he believed this was the object for which they were called together. He was willing to leave the use of this force to the President—because he could employ it in a manner wholly applicable to peace; to employ it otherwise would be a breach of his power. He therefore could not repel any violation of our rights by force, except previously authorized by Congress.

The gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Harper, said, need not have told them he had no confidence in the present Executive. He might have said in no Executive; for it was well known he never missed going out of the way to say rude things of the late president; but he did not believe this was the best way of discharging their duty. He believed the public cared little what his opinion of the President was; he thought they ought to do their duty, and leave the president to his. Mr. Harper denied that they had the right to direct the public force. If we were at war with Great-Britain, they should have no right to say to the president attack Canada or the Islands. The use of this force must be left with the president; if he abuses it, upon his own head would lie the responsibility, and not upon them.

Mr. S. SMITH had not made up his mind on the subject. If the power of employing the frigates was wholly left with the President, though he had not the power of declaring war, yet he might so employ them as to lead to war, particularly with respect to the French treaty articles. On the other hand, it seemed to be a poor employment for these frigates, after all the expense which they had cost, to keep them within the jurisdiction of the United States. They could not cruise there, indeed, without danger of running on the shoals. Understanding, as he did, that by voting for the striking out of this clause, he should not be precluded from voting for the amendment of the gentleman from Virginia, if he should conclude to do so, he should vote for striking out the section in question.

Mr. MASON proposed a clause similar in effect to that proposed by the gentleman from Virginia, to be inserted in place of the one struck out—but the chairman declared it not in order.

Mr. DAYTON said, that those gentlemen who were not prepared to vote for retaining the 11th section, must be prepared to say these frigates shall be employed as convoys. It was to avoid this, that he had moved to strike it out. He again expressed his wish that the direction of this force might be left with the President.

Mr. GILES declared his intention of voting for striking out the section, and to risk the insertion of another afterwards.

The question for striking out was carried without a division.

Mr. GILES then moved to insert the section before proposed by Mr. Mason, to confine the use of our frigates to the protection of our coasts, and commerce within the jurisdiction of the United States.

[To be concluded to-morrow.]

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,
FRIDAY EVENING, June 23.

The Senate of the U. S. have concurred in the nomination of Mr. GERRY as Envoy Extraordinary to the French Republic.

The Kentucky Gazette says, That a large body of French troops are on the island of Cuba supposed to be destined for the Mississippi—that the Governor of the Natchez sent men to way-lay the persons and intercept the dispatches sent by Mr. Ellicot to our government, but having previous information thereof, they avoided them by travelling through the woods.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

6 per Cent. 16/10
Deferred 6 per Cent. 13/13
5 1/2 per Cent.
4 per Cent.
3 per Cent. 10/3

BANK SHARES.

Bank United States, 17 per cent. advance.
Pennsylvania, 27
North America, 50
INSURANCE COMPANY SHARES.
I. C. of N. A. 30 per cent. advance.
Pennsylvania, 30

GAZETTE MARINE LIST. PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

ARRIVED. DATES.
Sloop Eliza, Nicholson St. Bartholomews 23
Schooner Mary, Poulke Bermuda 23
Harmony, Coffin Boston 20

CLEARED.
Brig Adamant, Whirling Shelburn, N. S.
Abigail, Babcock Belfast
Betsey, Harris Port au Prince
Schooner Rising Polly, Jones N. Carolina
Ranger, Friar Jacquemel
Sloop Friendship, Brockway N. York

The brig Virginia, Carr, for Alexandria, sailed from St. Kitts in company with the Fair American, arrived here on Wednesday last.

POST-OFFICE, Philadelphia, June 21 1797.
Letters for the British Packet, Cartier, will be received at this office until Saturday the 24th inst. at 12 o'clock, noon.

By this day's Mail.

NEW-YORK, June 21.

REPORTS.

Those who are delighted with reports, must have been highly gratified for two days past; for it was reported, and by many believed, that TOM PAINE had arrived in the ship Steady, from Bordeaux; who, it was said, had come ashore in disguise, to prevent his being known. This detects itself. No one who knows TOM PAINE, would believe, were he to arrive in America, that he would appear in any other character than that of a man of Common Sense; notwithstanding the influence which the Age of Reason might have over his enemies.

Another report was, that an augmentation of the pay of the land forces of England and Ireland was demanded. This, it was said, a paper of a late date brought by the Orion, from Cork contained. As we received the latest paper by this arrival, without this news, it is highly probable that it is unfounded; though such an event may be said to be a natural consequence of the seamen's late successful demand.

And a third was, that Mr. Pitt was succeeded in office by the marquis of Landowne.—This is much the mere report.

By the next arrivals, the public will, in all probability, be furnished with much information of a piece with the above; as there is doubtless materials now in store—but they must come out in season.

BOSTON, June 19.

IMPORTANT!

Yesterday arrived here, Capt. Henshaw, 44 days from London, left the Down the 9th May; we have not been able to procure the papers for this day—but are informed, he has brought London papers that contain the articles of PEACE between FRANCE and the EMPEROR—that the people of England are in the greatest agitation possible—and if immediate Peace does not take place, a Revolution must follow, as Johnny Bull is now left alone to combat the invincible, and all conquering Republic of France.—CA IRA. (Chronicle.)

Captain Henshaw arrived here yesterday, in 46 days from London—by him we have received English prints to May 4, only—the report that he brought the articles of the separate treaty of Peace between his Imperial Majesty and the French nation, is consequently a mistake—indeed, we have seen Capt. H. and find he brings no later news of any kind, than was received by the Telemachus. (Boston Price Current.)

Legislature of New-Hampshire.

The Governor's speech being committed, the committee reported the following ANSWER; which was cavilled by Messrs. Langdon and Goddard, of Portsmouth; and advocated by Messrs. Sprague, Whipple, and others. The debates were cool and decorous, and the report passed without amendment, 104 for it, 28 against it. We have only time to congratulate our country on the best federalism of our sister State of New-Hampshire. (Continued.)

THE ANSWER.

MAY I PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,
WITH much pleasure, we congratulate you on your re-appointment to the Chief Magistracy of this State. The great unanimity of the people, so repeatedly manifested in this transaction, we consider as the highest token of their approbation, and the best comment on your former services.

The general health and prosperity, the civil and religious liberty, we now possess; is matter of abundant joy, and ought to excite in us the liveliest emotions of gratitude and praise to the Supreme Ruler of nations and men.

As a member of that extensive republic, which has lately arisen in America, we know it to be our duty, we feel it to be our interest, "to preserve and strengthen" that connection, by which we are united under one Federal head.

The President of the United States, having convened Congress upon a weighty and urgent occasion, we feel deeply interested in the debates and resolutions of that assembly in their present session.

We consider it as a first principle in the Constitution of this and of the U. States, that officers of the respective governments have no separate and independent interest from that of the citizens in general; and we sincerely trust that any foreign nation should imbibe a contrary opinion. Any attempts, either at home or abroad, to introduce or diffuse such a false and dangerous sentiment, will meet our direct censure and disapprobation.

However critical and alarming the state of our national affairs may now be, yet we possess a hope and confidence, that the councils of the Federal Government will be guided by wisdom, moderation, and firmness; and we are especially encouraged in this hope and confidence, from the illustrious character of the first Magistrate of the U. States. His eminent services at home, his amicable and successful negotiations abroad, leave no ground of doubt, that his abilities and influence will be further exerted for the good of his country.

Whatever constitutional measures the general government may adopt, for our common safety and defence, shall receive our prompt and effective aid.

We wish to live in peace, upon equal and honorable terms, with all the nations of the earth; We would be just to all—but will be dictated by none; and we reject, with indignation, the idea of our ever becoming so depraved and corrupt a people, as to be subject to any foreign influence or control in the choice of our public officers, or in the direction of our public councils. In such a case, we prefer contention to peace, and the consequence of war, to such degradation and abasement.

LEXINGTON, (Kentucky,) May 20.

A gentleman who left Port William (at the mouth of Kentucky) on Sunday last, informs, that all the Indians that have been encamped in the neighbourhood of that place, and who have traded there for nine months past, left their camps last week, and returned to their nation, having been sent for to go to war, but would not inform the inhabitants against whom.

The information received from different parts of the country, respecting the damage done by the Pigeons, on the fields of Corn, Hemp, &c. is truly alarming—we do not learn that it is in the recollection of any man, that ever Pigeons were known to take up Corn, &c. by the roots, in the manner they are doing at present; many extensive fields have been entirely destroyed; nor is it probable their ravages will shortly cease, as an infinite number of young ones are hatched and reared in different parts of this State, of which two broods have already been brought to perfection.

May 24.

Capt. Guion with two companies of infantry and one of artillery, failed some time ago to take command of the garrison at Natchez; but if the report be true, and we have very little reason to doubt it, that the Spaniards are strengthening their garrison there, some apprehensions may be entertained of hostilities commencing, if they refuse to give the garrison up.

LONDON, April 24.

From the LIVING to the DEAD.

"Art thou a Spirit of Evil, or Gaiety damn'd?"
In the Sun of the 18th inst. we have seen your address, and which greatly surprised us, wherein we are accused of those crimes which disgrace the name of a British Seaman, and which may prejudice the minds of our countrymen against us; as we are called upon to make known our wants and wishes in an official and respectful manner.

Therefore we, his Majesty's most loyal subjects, wish to make known to the world that we have done so.

We, as the subjects of a loyal country, presented our petition to that Hon. Earl who wore the laurels of the glorious first of June, and who was in the hearts of British seamen represented as their friend; but sorry are we to say, that we found to the contrary, in his not representing our petitions to the lords commissioners of the admiralty.

But to conceive our country at large, that there is not in any way the least spark of republican spirit we have equaled to be inserted the most private of our concerns; forty also we are to mark the words (French Agents) as our country may think, by that assertion we now take into our arms the people that a British seaman detests the name of.

But to the contrary we have our country's good as much at heart as any other description of men whatever, and that our request is no ways injurious to our country.

We ask for that comfortable subsistence which our country can easily bestow, and that those barbarities which are practised by some (sorry indeed we should be to say the whole, as there are among us men of every description, both good and evil) be erased out of this well-inhabited France.

We the subjects of your address, coolly as the representatives of that body which has so long lain under the well known buoy, wish you to come forward in a fair and manly way, in your real corporate name, and try for one week if the scanty allowance on which we are obliged to subsist, will keep you in the spirited state which men of our description require, but are at this moment without the assistance of at least two thirds of their pay and our wives and families languishing in want, whilst this country, that abounds with plenty, ought to be named at the word want.

To the brave Adm. Kempenfelt's GHOST,
Booby of the Royal George, Spitehead.

P. S. If the clamors of justice, daily echoing from the mouths of the loyal tars, should again awake the spirit of Kempenfelt, let not his eternal but his corporeal part make itself known, and we will convince him, that those who have made Rivin's Rule the Main, know a fo their duty to their sovereign.

Spithead, April 20, 1797.

Bush Hill.

THE Public are respectfully informed that the Evenings Amusement of the Gardens for this week are arranged as follows.

THIS PRESENT EVENING, FRIDAY,

June 23d,
N. B. They are also requested to take notice that the Tavern and Gardens will be publicly open for general admission on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
Sundays admittance, one quarter of a dollar, which entitles the person to its value in wines, liquors or refreshments.
Dinner's dress'd for parties at a day's notice
d5t

To be Sold by Auction,

At the Coffee House on Thursday Evening, June 24th, at 8 o'clock, the following Lots of ground, situate on Sixth Street, opposite to the State House Garden: viz.

Lot 1. Beginning at the South East corner of George and Sixth Streets, 21 feet deep and 130 wide.
2, adjoining lot 1, 20 feet wide, 130 deep.
3, adjoining lot 2, 20 feet wide, 130 feet deep.
4, adjoining lot 3, 19 feet wide, 130 feet deep.
5, adjoining the fourth side of the loganian library, 23 feet wide, 130 feet deep.

These lots are bounded on the westward by the 30 feet alley that runs from George to Walnut Street, of which alley they have the privilege.

Conditions of sale, one fourth cash, the remainder in approved notes at 2 and 6 months.
Footman & Co. Auctioneers.
June 23. d129th

Best English Crown Window Glass.

A well assorted lot of the best English Crown Window Glass, of the following sizes:
10 by 8
11 by 9
12 by 10
14 by 10
16 by 12
19 by 14
212 BOXES.
L. B. West's fine Rice, high proof Brandy, best molasses, in half barrels.
Sail Cloth, No. 4 to 8.
Sherry Wine.
A few hundred weights of excellent Dutch Fish and Rifle Gun Powder—nd.
Thirty Boxes Chocolate.
For Sale by,
Samuel Brock, Jun.
No. 89, South Third Street.
June 21. d112th.

St. Ubes Salt.

3000 bushels St. Ubes SALT, for sale by
Philips, Cramond, & Co.
June 12.