

CONGRESS,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Suspension of Intercourse with France. (Continued.)

Friday January 25.

In committee of the whole, on the bill further to suspend our commercial intercourse with France, the motion of Mr. Gallatin to strike out the remainder of the fifth section being under consideration.

Mr. Sewall said he had heard no reason given for the striking out of this section which had any weight upon his mind. It is no more than the exercise of a right which every commercial country possesses of regulating its commerce in such a manner as appears to be for their interest. It is an internal, and not an external regulation, which does not affect any other country, except incidentally. The countries alluded to have regulated their commerce in the most arbitrary manner with respect to us; when they chuse to receive our flour or salt provisions, they say so, but this is only when it suits their convenience. Nor is this ever considered by us as a cause of offence; on the contrary, we have always considered ourselves as bound to submit to them. This is the only sufficient argument against all that had been said as to this regulation being a cause of offence.

Mr. S. would, however, if he were not prevented by the present motion, move to exclude the cases of building, repairing or equipping of vessels in the ports described in this section. These, he thought, ought not to be considered as causes of offence. Besides, in such cases it would be found impossible to execute the law, as it would be impossible to ascertain for what purpose vessels are building. The law would, therefore, be constantly evaded; but there is a case which ought to be considered as offensive to us, and which ought to be prevented. He meant the refitting of vessels captured by French privateers, in Spanish and Dutch ports, which is not allowed by the law of nations; and if such practices are sanctioned by treaty, it is a treaty injurious to us; and the party having made it, must take their choice, whether they will abide by such stipulations, and lose our commerce, or give up their treaty, and accept of our trade.

Mr. S. believed, if practices of the kind he had mentioned were prevented, the others would also cease, as if the French were not allowed to refit their prizes, they would not carry them into those islands.

Mr. S. Smith said he meant to have risen for the purpose of proposing an amendment of the kind which the gentleman from Massachusetts had mentioned; and he trusted the gentleman from Pennsylvania would have the candor to withdraw his motion for the purpose of admitting this amendment, as he might afterwards move to strike out the section, if he did not like it. That gentleman seemed to find his principal objection to the section on its possibly affecting New-Orleans; but when he recollected that that port could never become a resort for privateers, as they could not, with any sort of convenience, get up to it, he hoped his objection to the section on this account would be done away. This law would principally apply to the ports of the Havana, which are easy of access, and which are constantly used as harbors for privateers on our commerce. Boats, said he, lie under the Moro Cattle, and when our vessels pass by, they row out and carry them in, and frequently proceed to sell them without trial, since issue of a trial under the government of Hedouville was not quite so certain, as it was under Santhouax. Mr. S. said he had himself suffered in this way, one of his vessels having been carried in and sold without trial.

The question for striking out the section was put and negatived 49 to 23.

Mr. Sewall then proposed his amendment for confining the operation of the bill to places to which our vessels captured by French privateers shall be allowed to be sent or carried in, and there condemned or sold.—Carried.

On suggestion of Mr. Eggleston, Mr. Sewall introduced an amendment, providing due notice to be given in cases of proclamations for the suspension of intercourse.

The bill having been gone through, Mr. Eggleston renewed the motion which he yesterday moved at a time when it could not be admitted, proposing that neutral vessels might be hired for the purpose of carrying our commerce. It was negatived, 21 votes only being for it.

On motion of Mr. S. Smith, the limitation clause was amended, so as to confine the operation of this law to the 3d of March, 1800.

The committee then rose, and the house took up the amendments which had been agreed to.

Mr. Nicholas renewed his motion to strike out the whole of the fifth section, and called the yeas and nays upon it.

Mr. S. Smith complained of this motion as placing members in an awkward situation. He was against the section as it originally stood, but in favor of it as amended.

Mr. Gallatin said, there could be no kind of inconvenience in taking the question in this way. If the gentleman from Maryland is satisfied with the section as proposed to be amended, he will, of course, vote against the motion to strike it out. Mr. G. said he meant to vote in favor of striking out the section, because he did not approve of it as amended. In the first place, it is no breach of the law of nations to allow the sale of prizes within neutral ports. Gentlemen have said, we may limit our commercial intercourse as we please. This, he allowed, might be done, where treaties are not in the way; but in relation to Holland, we are bound by treaties to receive them upon the same terms with the most favored nation, we have therefore no right to interdict our commerce with that nation, except they commit some act either contrary to the stipulations

of our treaty, or in breach of the law of nations. But, for permitting American vessels to be sold in their ports, we have not a right to break our treaty with them; and though the Spanish and Dutch islands in the West-Indies, do receive or restrain our commerce at their will, they only act towards us as they act towards other nations. But this bill does not apply to the West-Indies alone; it will apply to Amsterdam as well as Guayana; and if any vessel of ours shall be sold as a prize at Amsterdam, the President will be authorized to interdict our commerce to Amsterdam. If, said Mr. G. we are to go to war with France, he saw no reason why we should break our treaty with Holland, because they do not act which is not a breach of the law of nations. Till the British treaty, we had permitted British prizes to be sold in our ports, and we had, by the law of nations, a right to do it or not; and Holland has the same right with respect to French prizes. Mr. G. agreed it would be for our interest that our vessels should not be sold as prizes in the ports of Holland; but it cannot be allowable to say, because this is the case, we will break our treaty with that nation. No nation ever yet complained of a practice of this kind. If this bill had only relation to those Dutch and Spanish ports in the West-Indies, which receive or refuse to receive our commerce, at their pleasure, he would not have objected to it.

The port of New-Orleans, Mr. G. said, would be included within the operation of this bill. That port is in a peculiar situation, as by our treaty with Spain, it is in fact rendered an American port, to which we cannot be admitted or expelled at pleasure. The Spaniards have agreed to give it to us for a number of years; and if, at the end of that period they do not chuse to continue to us that port, they engage to give us another, equally well suited for our purpose; and to give the President the power to suspend the intercourse of the western country with New Orleans, would be much the same thing as to give him a power to suspend the intercourse between Albany and New-York; because New-Orleans is to Pittsburgh what New-York is to Albany.

Mr. G. would be glad if the operation of the bill could be confined to ports in the West-Indies; because, since they only receive our vessels when they please, there would be some justice, and we have a right to do it, in making this regulation with respect to them.—But he did not wish the provision to extend to Europe, since it is well known that the governments of Spain and Holland are well disposed towards this country.

Mr. S. Smith said it was perfectly absurd to suppose that New Orleans could ever be affected by this clause, since it never could become a place for the resort of privateers.—Privateers, he said, might as well be carried up to Pittsburgh, as New-Orleans.

Mr. W. Claiborne said, he did not believe that the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Smith) was accurately informed as to the situation of New Orleans. Mr. C. had no personal knowledge of that port, but a reputable character had told him, that it was accessible to privateers, and that several prizes had been brought there, during the last summer, but he did not suppose, that the practice would be pursued.

Mr. C. said, he was in favour of striking out the section; he saw no necessity for confining to the President such general powers.—on the contrary, the section appeared to him highly improper. If the clause was retained the President might by a single dash of his pen, destroy the commerce of the western country, and this interest, Mr. C. said he was too tenacious of, to consent to transfer a power of this kind, to any Executive. The river Mississippi, was the only commercial river now open to Tennessee and Kentucky, and thro' the dominions of Spain, their exports were necessitated to pass. If the President then should forbid an intercourse with the Spanish ports on the Mississippi the surplus produce of the western farmers would remain on their hands, and the rising prosperity of the western states greatly checked. Mr. C. said he might be told, that from the great discernment, prudence and patriotism of the President, an improper use of power need not be apprehended; but he was of opinion, that a power improper to be exercised, ought not to be conceded; and surely no gentleman will contend, that an intercourse with Spain, should at this time be suspended. How far this clause may affect the commerce of the Atlantic States, he was not sufficiently informed on the subject, to hazard an opinion.

It appeared to him, however, that the American trade was already sufficiently shackled. Mr. C. could not approve the practice of conceding so much to Executive discretion; of the motives of the President, he had no doubt; he believed them to be strictly virtuous; but the President, from the nature of things, must frequently act upon the information of others, which in misdirecting his judgment, might injure the public interest. If there are any neutral ports, to which our commerce should be prohibited, let gentlemen name the places, and if their reasons for a suspension of our intercourse with such places, were good, no doubt but their wish would be obtained. But Mr. C. was unwilling to throw all the responsibility upon this head, upon the President, where duty and responsibility are already sufficiently various and great. The yeas and nays were then taken, and the motion negatived 53 to 36.

The question was then taken upon the amendments to the 5th section, on which Mr. S. Smith called the yeas and nays. The question was carried, Mr. Dent only being in the negative.

Mr. W. Claiborne moved a proviso to prevent this law operating to suspend the commerce of the western country by the Mississippi, the yeas and nays were taken, and the motion was carried 55 to 34.

Mr. S. Smith said, in order to meet the

wishes of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, he would move the following words, viz: "On the continent of America;" so as to exclude the operation of this act from European ports.

The motion was negatived 45 to 41, and then the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 2.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name and Price. Includes Six Per Cent., Three Per Cent., Deferred 6 Per Cent., BANK United States, Pennsylvania, North America, Insurance comp N. A. shares, and COURSE OF EXCHANGE for Hamburg, London, and Amsterdam.

The virulent and billingsgate abuse of young Mr. Gallagher, by Collet d'Herbets, has already excited the indignation of every man in the community, who possesses one spark of decency. It remains for them to know, (what they will find little difficulty in believing) that the same bully who could from an eminence, so bravely flatter his fith upon a gentleman, had the meaness and cowardice to make to his friend, when called out, a most humiliating apology and confession.

A gentleman, with a horse-whip in his hand, observed, the other day, a filthy, squalid and villainous looking wretch, muffled up in a great cloak, fleeing before him, like a thief from the hands of justice: from the description, it was very probably Dwight, one of the editors of the Lucifer. Confession frequently knocks thus at the hearts of villains, and even visits them inwardly with those terrors, which a sense of guilt infallibly produces.

An idea has gone forth, amongst a certain class of men, who are always for making every thing yield to the expediency of the moment, that the new embassy to France is founded, less on the calculation of any honorable result, than on the idea of turning the tables upon her; of giving the lie to her pacific professions; and that this issue, which they think of sufficient importance to justify the measure, will produce unanimity in the war which must at last succeed. Amazing folly! astonishing obliquity and blindness! Has not experience, in two full instances, foreclosed every hope of the kind? Can the villains who reign in France, heap keener insults upon us than they have done? Or, if they can, are not our democrats stupid enough and base enough to justify them all? When we foolishly expected from them a confession of the base part they had acted, and an acknowledgment that the demand by France of a tribute from their own country had awakened their indignation, did they not say, "You ought to have paid the tribute"? If the raggamuffins of the fauxbourg St. Antoine could be transported into America, it would be just as rational to expect to infuse an honorable sentiment on the wrongs of the country, into them, as it is to entertain hopes of the democrats. Absolutely as such a calculation strikes us, prima facie, the deeper reflection we bestow on it, the more it swells before us the inflation of empty delusion and folly. And yet its authors pretend to respect for the President! If the President had no truer friends, no able supporters, no wiser counsellors than they, he would indeed be a solitary man.

This tame and time-serving temper, which so dearly loves to hope against hope, and to murder the precious hours for action, (which are so rapidly hastening from us, never to be recalled) in heaping proof upon proof, where every thing is already proved to redundancy, dissimulates our character to that of a doating Torquato, who fears to believe what he hears and what he knows.

The coalition has already commenced its revolutionary career, and the once imperial mistress of the world, a noble prize! has already bowed before its first essay. The "crimined monsters," the "scattered bullies" of the earth, advance in marche victorieuse to retrieve mankind from the iron-handed oppression of Republicanism; and those very potentates, whom every wind maligns, are looked up to as the sole rectifiers of wrongs, and the avengers of the injuries and miseries of mankind.

I heard two Democratic Jack Asses braying yesterday against the French—one of them had left an adventure, and the other a polley of insurance.

The joy of old Autun (who, I believe, rests just now some where about the borders of Plegyethen) at finding us thrown off our natural and only strong ground, must be equal to that of a miser on discovering a hidden treasure.

"There are ticks" says Shakespeare, "in the affairs of men." So, also, it appears, are there flaws and gusts. Nothing is less difficult than to find when the wind blows the right way, and to fill all sail to it; but a sudden squall may overtake the ship before any body knows any thing about it.

Le temps present est gros de Provenir. Some enterprise of this and moment against America even now proceeds; and with propriety may we say, "watch! watch! for we know not the hour when the friend of de-

function cometh." The French having made considerable advancement in their preparations for invading England, sent over an invitation to that government to treat, hoping thereby to occasion some relaxation in their, or of their resistance. During the whole time, that the negotiation was so fruitfully prosecuted, they bent their exertions wholly to maturing the invasion. Of the government which could be guilty of such baseness as this, ought we not to entertain the most watchful apprehensions?

Counsellor Fidget thinks Talleyrand will at last make peace. So do I; and his masters will keep it, too.—until they are ready for us. Circumstances enough have occurred, to indicate an intention on the part of France, to pass our grist through her revolutionary mill, as a reparation for her long and grievous distresses. She views us as a sponge, which she only presses lightly for the present, reserving us for some future and more exigent emergency. If her present pressure, is light what must be that which is to come? And what has occurred to alter her views towards this country? She has declined elsewhere; therefore we become more decidedly an object of prey.

Doctor Log it appears did not go to France for nothing.—Brute as he is, he seems to have understood the art of peace-making; we never doubted what he went to do; but never till now has it fully appeared what he did do.

If the President of the Directory should not think it worth his while to send any assurances of his wish to make peace with us, (and have we any grounds to expect that he will) in how dignified a posture shall we then stand!

"I hope we shall remember that the Tyger chroues before he leaps upon his prey." We remembered it three weeks or more.

The author of the apostrophe to Talleyrand, is requested to come and take it away: It is not very decent to abuse the good man when he's busied in pacifying us; besides there's a very deep bathos in the four first lines, as witness,

"Ruin seize thee! ruthless fiend!  
"Contusion on the falshous wait  
"Thou'fend'st by Betty's downy wing,  
"They knock to vain, at wisdom's gate."

The President this day communicated to Congress, a report on the naval concerns of the United States; from which it appears that, since the 9th July, 1798, the following private armed Merchantships have been fitted out from the different ports of the Union; viz.

365 vessels carrying 66,691 60-95 tons, mounting 2,723 guns, and the crews amounting to 6,847 men.

To the Members of the Synod of Philadelphia.

BRETHREN,  
THE Synod of Philadelphia, at their annual meeting in May last, adjourned to meet in the city of Philadelphia in May 1799, in the full expectation and belief that the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church would be convened in said city, at the same time. But after the Synod had broken up, it was determined that the next meeting of the Assembly should be at the town of Winchester, in the state of Virginia. From this circumstance, the duty of attending on the highest judicature of our Church, has become incompatible with an attendance on Synod, at the time to which it stands adjourned; so that, if a meeting of the Synod should then take place, the delegates to the Assembly would be deprived of the privilege of being present at it. In consideration of these circumstances, and of the opinion and advice of many members of the Synod explicitly signified to me, on this subject, I do hereby give notice that the Synod of Philadelphia will not meet in May next; but that it is further adjourned till the third Tuesday of May, which will be in the year of our Lord 1800, then to meet in the second Presbyterian church in this city of Philadelphia, at eleven o'clock, A. M.

JOHN DAVENPORT,  
Mod'r of Sy. of Philad'a.

March 1st, 1799.  
The Printers of Newspapers in the States of Pennsylvania and Maryland will highly oblige the Synod of Philadelphia by inserting the above in their papers.

NEW-YORK, MARCH 1.

From the Merchant Daily Advertiser.

A circumstance occurred yesterday, which has highly excited the attention of the public.

Conformably to our duty, we have taken considerable pains to procure as correct information on the subject, as could be obtained. We believe the following outlines are pretty correct.

A person in this city had a small demand against one of the hands (we believe the steward) of the British Packet Chesfield; and as the latter refused payment, alleged of its not being justly owing, the creditor procured a capias from the court, which one of the marthals was directed to execute. Capt. Jones refused to suffer the execution of the arrest, and threatened the marthall in case he should persist.

The officer came ashore, and lodged th is complaint with the proper authority, who ordered capt. Jones to be arrested for his interference to prevent the execution of the laws.

Upon his arrest, he ordered the colours of his ship to be struck, and the mail to be sent, which were done. The packet was just preparing for her departure.

Capt. Jones left this city yesterday afternoon for Philadelphia.

MAYOR'S OFFICE  
REMOVED to 127 South Second Street.

Our administration ought never to have lost sight of that deep observation of the celebrated Mallet du Pan:

"However variable may be the French fyfle, in its metamorphoses or modifications, its principle is fixed and immutable. It is in that principle alone that it seeks revolution. The effeuce of that revolution is inconsistent with every thing that does exist, has existed, or ever shall exist. Hence this great object shall fall all jealousy, emulation, hatred; in a word, all those wretched complaints, which fix years of common misery have not been sufficient to remove."

An Eulogium on the late Dr. Samuel Cooper, will be delivered before the Philadelphia Medical Society, on Monday next, at 12 o'clock, in the Hall of the University, by Dr. Charles Caldwell; at which the public are invited to attend.  
GEORGE LEE, secretary.

Wanted to Charter,  
For the WEST INDIES,

A VESSEL  
Of 300 tons burthen,

AND A VESSEL  
Of 100 or 180 tons  
burthen—apply to  
Philips, Crumond & Co.

At 3 o'clock THIS AFTERNOON,  
At No 34 Dock-Street,  
WILL BE SOLD,  
A valuable Collection of English & French  
BOOKS,

COMPUTING among others Dr. Robert's Historical Works; Veltair's Works 92 vols.—Rouffault's works, 34 vols.—Analyse de Boile, 8 vols.—Mira's works, 28 vols.—Table de Paris, 12 vol.—bibliothèque de l'Honorable Patrie, by Condorcet—science de la Legislation, by Filangieri; and many other valuable publications on political economy; its History & Travels.  
EDWARD POLE & Co.  
Auctioneers.

Canal Lottery No. 11.

Which will be finished in the course of the present month. The wheel is upwards of 30,000 dollars richer in proportion than the commencement of the drawing, and only 370 tickets remain undrawn.—Tickets 12 dollars each, to be had at William Blackwell's Lottery and Bookers office, No 68, South Second Street, until Saturday the 9th instant, after which day's drawing they will be 10 dollars and will rise considerably at the close of every future day's drawing.

Red Clover,  
Timothy,  
Blue Grass  
Herds Grass and  
White Clover  
SEEDS;  
All warranted f. s. and free from all  
foul seed,  
FOR SALE  
BY C. ROBERTS,  
No. 97, Market, between Third and  
Fourth Street.

Who has also on hand, a general assortment of  
Ironmongery, fadlery, cutlery and  
brass wares; i. Grawley—Lumpion, best pig-lead, block-tin, red lead, Spanish Brown, Vanicron red, Vermillion, &c. &c.

Wholesale & Retail.

This day is published,  
By B. DAVIES, at No 68, High Street,  
The Philadelphia Magazine & Review,  
OR,  
Monthly Repository of Information  
and Amusement.

For February 1799, being the second number of the Series.  
Note. This number has no copper plate, but it contains eight pages of cloze letter press, more than the preceding—so soon as our subscription list has become productive enough, to enable us to furnish a print with each number, we shall do it with pleasure, but until then, we cannot engage more than a frontispiece to each volume, which shall comprise six numbers. "Non datur volare aliquid penam." Our subscription papers are still open; and from the specimens already published, the public may judge how far our Miscellany deserves its future more extensive patronage.

WANTED.

A YOUNG MAN, who understands the German language, writes a good German hand, and knows how to call accounts, to be brought up to business in a Counting-house of this city.—For particulars, inquire at No. 100, Spruce-Street.

Wholesale & Retail. The subscriber gave my frontispiece note dated on or about the 26th of February, 1799, for 12 dollars and 80 cents, payable on demand to Francis Biddle, witness hereto are Robert and James Wheeler. This is to caution all persons from receiving any assignment of it, as I am determined not to pay the same, the said Biddle being on the balance of accounts indebted to me, and the note being obtained by said suggestions and misrepresentations of him.  
JONATHAN PHIPPS.

Building and Garden Lots,

CONFIGUOUS to, and at a small distance from the city, to be sold at the office, house in Second Street, on Wednesday the 20th of March, at 6 o'clock in the evening, containing from about 1-4 to 2 acres each. The small lots fronting on Vine and Calow hills streets, on the west side of Schuylkill Second Street, and the large lots containing whole or half or quarter quarters, some of them bounded on the west by Schuylkill and the upper ferry road including some fine quarry lots on Schuylkill: the whole containing about 140 acres, and formerly known by the name of Springbury; bounded on the north by Francis Street, extending from the Ridge road to Schuylkill, crossing the canal, by which several of the lots will give fronts.

The situation of many of the large lots is on high ground, commanding beautiful views of the Schuylkill, supposed to be sufficiently detached to escape any unfortunate disorder which may prevail in the city.—The terms will be made known at the time of the Sale.

N. B. Maps of the lots are fixed up at the middle and upper terraces on Schuylkill, at the sign of the President, in Second Street, Northern Liberties; at Odens tavern in Chestnut Street, and at the office here.

The convenience of those sincere purchasers will prove very advantageous to purchasers.  
CONNELLY & Co. 226/74.