

Sugar and rum for the use of the negroes: now, either the eastern and middle States will supply us with all these articles or they will receive the benefit of the import on them if they were imported from foreign countries. Without the rice swamps of Carolina, Charleston would decay, so would the commerce of that city: this would injure the back country. If you injure the Southern States, the injury would reach our Northern and Eastern brethren; for the States are links of one chain: if we break one the whole must fall to pieces. Thus it is manifest that in proportion to the increase of our agriculture will our wealth be increased; the increase of which will augment that of our sister States, which will either supply us with their commodities, or raise a large revenue upon us, or be the carriers of our produce to foreign markets.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7.

Several petitions were read.

In committee of the whole on the bill providing for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States.—Mr. LIVERMORE in the chair.

Several sections of the bill were discussed.

The clause which enacts that counterfeiting the securities of the United States, or uttering counterfeit notes knowingly, shall be punished with death, by being hanged, it was moved, should be amended by striking out the words "punished with death by being hanged," to admit a less punishment for uttering or passing, than for counterfeiting.—The degrees of criminality in the two cases were accurately defined by Mr. SHERMAN.

Mr. SEDGWICK observed, that he thought the degrees of punishment ought to be proportioned to the malignity of the offence.

He enlarged on the pernicious consequences of counterfeiting: He considered it as a crime against the most important interests of society—and of a peculiarly malignant tendency in the present and probable situation of the United States. Persons addicted to forgery, are seldom, if ever, reclaimed—the security of the society therefore appears to depend, on a capital punishment.—The idea is strengthened when we reflect on the mischief and ruin which have already ensued from forgery.

Mr. SEDGWICK afterwards conceded to the clause as it stood.

Mr. FITZSIMONS was opposed to the motion—He adverted to the practice and experience of Great Britain—the injurious and fatal consequences to credit which result from forgery, are considered in England in so serious a point of light, that the Bank pays notes which they know to be counterfeit. Hence the inexorable rigor of the laws of that country in cases of forgery. He could not see so clearly, as some gentlemen appear to, the difference between forging, and simply uttering what is known to be counterfeit—the mischief is not completed till the forgery is uttered.

He enlarged on the idea of guarding public paper by every possible expedient.

Mr. WHITE observed, that he was opposed in general to inflicting death, except for murder, or crimes which might terminate in murder; but in the present case, he thought there were degrees of guilt, and the punishment ought to be proportioned. He was moreover opposed to a capital punishment in this case, as he conceived it would tend to prevent convictions.

Mr. SHERMAN said he had known persons who had been convicted of this crime, that had afterwards reformed.

Mr. SMITH and Mr. BURKE were opposed to the motion. They severally dilated on the injuries which society was liable to, from the ingenuity of these unprincipled persons—the extreme difficulty of guarding against their depredations rendered it highly expedient they should be cut off.

The vote being taken on the motion, it was negatived—and the clause retained.

Further progress was made in the discussion—but the committee rose without going thro' the bill. Adjourned.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8.

Sundry petitions were read and referred.

In committee of the whole.—The bill on crimes and punishments was further discussed—but not finished at 3 o'clock—when the committee rose—and the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9.

Mr. GILMAN of the committee of enrolment, informed the House, that the Act for the encouragement of useful arts was laid before The President for his assent, the 8th inst.

Mr. GOODHUE presented a memorial from the merchants and traders of the district of Newburyport, respecting the duties on tonnage—which was read and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury. Also a petition from the Proprietors of the Cotton Manufactory, in Beverly—praying a reduction of the Impost on Cotton—which was referred to a committee of Five Members, viz. Mr. Goodhue, Mr. Wadsworth, Mr. Sylvester, Mr. Clymer, and Mr. Gale.

The committee, to whom was referred the accounts of the Printers, for newspapers, reported, That those accounts be paid out of the appropriation for contingent expenses—and that in future no more newspapers be supplied the House on the public account.

The committee to whom the accounts of the Treasurer of the United States were referred,

brought in a report, which is, that the accounts are properly stated, and the expenditures agreeable to appropriations made by law.

In committee of the whole.—The bill on crimes and punishments under consideration. The discussion was finished this day.—The committee rose and reported the bill with sundry amendments. It was then moved that the bill with the amendments be referred to a select committee. This motion was lost. The amendments were taken up by the House, and some of them agreed to—others rejected—and to-morrow assigned for the third reading of the bill.

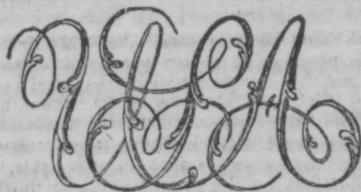
A message was received from the Senate with the bill for further suspending part of the Collection Law, passed with amendments, in which they request the concurrence of the House.

Mr. SMITH, (S. C.) moved, that a joint committee be appointed to consider and determine at what time the commissions of the Members of the two Houses shall expire—motion laid on the table.

Mr. AMES of the committee of conference, on the disagreement between the two Houses, respecting a clause in the bill for the mitigation or remissions of fines, penalties and forfeitures in certain cases, reported that the committee had attended that service—but had come to no agreement.

The amendments of the Senate to the bill for further suspending part of the Collection Law were read, and agreed to by the House.

Adjourned till Monday next.



BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS a Convention for defining and establishing the functions and privileges of the respective Consuls and vice-Consuls of his most Christian Majesty and of the said United States, was concluded and signed by the Plenipotentiaries of his said Most Christian Majesty and of the said United States, duly and respectively authorized for that purpose, which Convention is in the form following, viz.

Convention,

Between HIS MOST CHRISTIAN MAJESTY and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the purpose of defining and establishing the functions and privileges of their respective Consuls and vice-Consuls.

HIS Majesty the Most Christian King and the United States of America, having by the 29th art. of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce concluded between them, mutually granted the liberty of having, in their respective States and Ports, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Agents and Commissaries, and being willing, in consequence thereof, to define and establish in a reciprocal and permanent manner the functions and privileges of Consuls and Vice-Consuls, which they have judged it convenient to establish of preference, His M. C. Majesty has nominated the Sieur Count of Montmorin of St. Herent, Marechal of his Camps and Armies, Knight of his Orders and of the Golden Fleece, his Counsellor in all his Councils, Minister and Secretary of State and of his Commandments and Finances, having the Department of foreign Affairs, and the United States have nominated the Sieur Thomas Jefferson, Citizen of the United States of America and their Minister Plenipotentiary near the King, who after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, have agreed on what follows:

ART. I. The Consuls and vice-Consuls named by the M. C. K. and the U. S. shall be bound to present their commissions according to the forms which shall be established respectively by the M. C. K. within his dominions, and by the Congress within the U. S. there shall be delivered to them, without any charges, the Exequatur necessary for the exercise of their functions; and on exhibiting the said Exequatur, the Governors, Commanders, Heads of justice, bodies corporate, Tribunals and other Officers having authority in the ports and places of their consulates, shall cause them to enjoy immediately, and without difficulty, the pre-eminences, authority and privileges, reciprocally granted, without exacting from the said Consuls and vice-Consuls any fee, under any pretext whatever.

ART. II. The Consuls and vice-Consuls and persons attached to their functions that is to say, their Chancellors and Secretaries, shall enjoy a full and entire immunity for their Chancery and the papers which shall be therein contained: they shall be exempt from all personal service, from soldiers billets, militia, watch, guard, guardianship, trustee-ship, as well as from all duties, taxes, impositions, and charges whatsoever, except on the estate real and personal of which they may be the proprietors or possessors, which shall be subject to the taxes imposed on the estates of all other individuals: and in all other instances they shall be subject to the laws of the land as the natives are. Those of the said Consuls and vice-Consuls who shall exercise commerce shall be respectively subject to all taxes, charges and impositions established on other merchants. They shall place over the outward door of their house the arms of their Sovereign: but this mark of indication shall not give to the said house any privilege of asylum for any person or property whatsoever.

ART. III. The respective Consuls and vice-Consuls may establish Agents in the different ports and places of their departments where necessity shall require. These Agents may be chosen among the merchants either national or foreign, and furnished with a commission from one of the said Consuls: They shall confine themselves respectively to the rendering to their respective merchants, navigators, and vessels all possible service, and to inform the nearest Consul of the wants of the said merchants, navigators and vessels, without the said Agents otherwise participating in the immunities, rights and privileges attributed to Consuls and vice-Consuls, and without power under any pretext whatever to exact from the said merchants any duty or emolument whatsoever.

ART. IV. The Consuls and vice-Consuls respectively may establish a chancery, where shall be deposited the Consular determinations, acts and proceedings as also testaments, obligations, contracts, and other acts done by, or between persons of their nation,

and effects left by deceased persons, or saved from shipwreck. They may consequently appoint fit persons to act in the said chancery, receive and swear them in, commit to them the custody of the seal, and authority to seal commissions, sentences and other consular acts, and also to discharge the functions of notary and registrar of the Consulate.

ART. V. The Consuls and vice-Consuls respectively shall have the exclusive right of receiving in their chancery, or on board of vessels, the declarations and all other acts, which the captains, masters, crews, passengers, and merchants of their nation may choose to make there, even their testaments and other disposals by last will: and the copies of the said acts, duly authenticated by the said Consuls or vice-Consuls, under the seal of their consulate shall receive faith in law, equally as their originals would, in all the tribunals of the dominions of the M. C. King and of the United States. They shall also have, and exclusively, in case of the absence of the testamentary executor, administrator or legal heir, the right to inventory, liquidate and proceed to the sale of the personal estate left by subjects or citizens of their nation, who shall die within the extent of their consulate: they shall proceed therein with the assistance of two merchants of their said nation, or, for want of them, of any other at their choice, and shall cause to be deposited in their chancery, the effects and papers of the said estates; and no officer military, judiciary, or of the police of the country shall disturb them or interfere therein, in any manner whatsoever: but the said Consuls and vice-Consuls shall not deliver up the said effects, nor the proceeds thereof to the *lawful heirs* or to their order, till they shall have caused to be paid all debts which the deceased shall have contracted in the country; for which purpose the creditors shall have a right to attach the said effects in their hands as they might in those of any other individual whatever, and proceed to obtain sale of them till payment of what shall be lawfully due to them. When the debts shall not have been contracted by judgment, deed or note, the signature whereof shall be known, payment shall not be ordered but on the creditor's giving sufficient surety resident in the country, to refund the sums he shall have unduly received, principal, interest and costs: which surety nevertheless shall stand duly discharged after the term of one year in time of peace, and of two in time of war, if the demand in discharge cannot be formed before the end of this term against the heirs who shall present themselves. And in order that the heirs may not be unjustly kept out of the effects of the deceased the Consuls and vice-Consuls shall notify his death in some one of the gazettes published within their consulate, and that they shall retain the said effects in their hands four months to answer all demands which shall be presented: and they shall be bound after this delay to deliver to the persons succeeding thereto what shall be more than sufficient for the demands which shall have been formed.

ART. VI. The Consuls and vice-Consuls respectively shall receive the declarations, protests and reports of all captains and masters of their respective nation on account of average losses sustained at sea; and these captains and masters shall lodge in the chancery of the said Consuls and vice-Consuls, the acts which they may have made in other ports on account of the accidents which may have happened to them on their voyage. If a subject of the M. C. K. and a citizen of the U. S. or a foreigner are interested in the said cargo, the average shall be settled by the tribunals of the country and not by the Consuls or vice-Consuls; but when only the subjects or citizens of their own nation shall be interested, the respective Consuls or vice-Consuls shall appoint skilful persons to settle the damages and average.

ART. VII. In cases where by tempest, or other accident, French ships or vessels shall be stranded on the coasts of the U. S. and ships or vessels of the U. S. shall be stranded on the coasts of the dominions of the M. C. K. the Consul or vice-Consul nearest to the place of shipwreck shall do whatever he may judge proper, as well for the purpose of saving the said ship or vessel, its cargo and appurtenances, as for the storing and the security of the effects and merchandize saved. He may take an inventory of them, without the intermeddling of any officers of the military, of the customs, of justice, or of the police of the country, otherwise than to give to the Consuls, vice-Consuls, captain and crew of the vessel shipwrecked or stranded all the succor and favor which they shall ask of them, either for the expedition and security of the saving and of the effects saved, as to prevent all disturbance. And in order to prevent all kind of dispute and discussion in the said cases of shipwreck, it is agreed that when there shall be no Consul, or vice-Consul to attend to the saving of the wreck, or that the residence of the said Consul or vice-Consul (he not being at the place of the wreck) shall be more distant from the said place than that of the competent Judge of the Country, the latter shall immediately proceed therein with all the dispatch, certainty, and precautions prescribed by the respective laws; but the said territorial jurisdiction shall retire, on the arrival of the Consul or vice-Consul, and shall deliver over to him the report of his proceedings, the expenses of which the Consul or vice-Consul shall cause to be reimbursed to him, as well as those of saving the wreck. The merchandize and effects saved shall be deposited in the nearest custom house, or other place of safety, with the inventory thereof which shall have been made by the Consul or vice-Consul, or by the Judge who shall have proceeded in their absence, that the said effects and merchandize may be afterwards delivered (after levying therefrom the costs) and without form of process, to the owners, who being furnished with an order for their delivery from the nearest Consul or vice-Consul, shall reclaim them by themselves, or by their order, either for the purpose of re-exporting such merchandize, in which case they shall pay no kind of duty of exportation, or for that of selling them in the country, if they be not prohibited there, and in this last case, the said merchandize, if they be damaged, shall be allowed an abatement of entrance duties proportioned to the damage they have sustained, which shall be ascertained by the affidavits taken at the time the vessel was wrecked or struck.

ART. VIII. The Consuls or vice-Consuls shall exercise Police over all the vessels of their respective Nations, and shall have on board the said vessels all power and jurisdiction in Civil Matters, in all the disputes which may there arise, they shall have an entire jurisdiction over the said vessels, their crew and the changes and substitutions there to be made. For which purpose they may go on board the said vessels whenever they may judge it necessary. Well understood that the functions hereby allowed shall be confined to the interior of the vessels, and that they shall not take place in any case which shall have any interference with the Police of the ports wherethe said vessels shall be.

ART. IX. The Consuls and vice-Consuls may cause to be arrested the Captains, Officers, Mariners, Sailors, and all other persons being part of the crews of the vessels of their respective Nation who shall have deserted from the said vessels in order to send them back and transport them out of the country. For which purpose the said Consuls and vice-Consuls shall address themselves to the Courts, Judges, and Officers competent, and shall demand the said deserters in writing, proving by an exhibition of the registers of the vessel or ship's roll that those men were part of the said crews: and on this demand so proved (saving however where the contrary is proved) the delivery shall not be refused; and there shall be given all aid and assistance to the said Consuls and vice-Consuls for the search, seizure and arrest of the said deserters, who shall even be detained and kept in the prisons of the Country, at their request and expence until they shall have found an opportunity of sending them back. But if they be not sent back within three months, to be counted from the day of their arrest, they shall be set at liberty, and shall be no more arrested for the same cause.

ART. X. In cases where the respective subjects or citizens shall have committed any crime, or breach of the peace, they shall be amenable to the Judges of the Country.

ART. XI. When the said offenders shall be a part of the crew of a vessel of their nation, and shall have withdrawn themselves on board the said vessel they may be there seized and arrested by order of the Judges of the Country: these shall give notice thereof