

Gazette of the United States.

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS BY JOHN FENNO, No. 69, HIGH STREET, BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD STREETS, PHILADELPHIA.

[No. 95, of Vol. II.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1791.

[Whole No. 199.]

Discourses on Davila.—No. 28.

THE siege and defence of Orleans, may be a good lecture on the military art, but is not directly to our purpose which at present is only to relate the fortunes and catastrophes of the great actors in those scenes of emulation, which have been before described. There was in the party of the Hugonots a gentleman, named Poltrot, of an active mind and a designing character. He had lived some years in Spain; and having afterwards embraced Calvinism, and resided some time at Geneva, he discovered so much zeal for his new faith, and entered with so much zeal into all the intrigues of the party, that the Calvinists in general considered him, as a personage capable of attempting in their favor the most hazardous enterprizes. It is not one of the least evils of a civil war, that no man's character is secure against suspicions and imputations of the most enormous crimes. It is almost the universal practice for each party to charge the leaders of the other, with every base action, every sinister event, and every high handed wickedness, without much consideration or enquiry, whether there is truth or evidence or even colour to support the accusation. The Catholics pretended that the Admiral and Theodore Beza, engaged Poltrot to assassinate the Duke of Guise, by promises of great rewards, and by persuading him that he could do nothing more acceptable to God, than to deliver his people from their most cruel persecutor. Poltrot yielding to their instigations, pretended to have abandoned the Calvinist party, and threw himself into the royal army, where having insinuated himself into the house of the Duke of Guise, he watched for a favorable moment to execute his design. The 24th of February, 1563, the Duke after having given his orders for an assault which he intended to make the next day, at the bridge of Orleans, returned at night to his quarters about a league distant from the trenches; Poltrot, mounted on a Spanish horse, very fleet, waited for him, on his passage, and seeing him accompanied, only by a gentleman of the Queen, with whom he was closely engaged in conversation, he shot him in the back, with an arquebuse, loaded with three balls. The Duke was without arms, the three balls struck him under the right shoulder and pierced him through the body; He fell from his horse for dead. His gentlemen, who marched before, that they might not interrupt his conversation, returned, at this accident, and carried him to his lodgings where as soon as they had examined his wound, his life was despaired of. The King, the Queen Mother and all the Lords in the army, at the news of so fatal a disaster, hastened to the Duke's lodgings; but all their cares and remedies were useless; he died in three days, with great sentiments says Davila, of piety and religion, discovering in his discourses a greatness of soul and a moderation most admirable. This Prince, united with the highest valour and singular abilities, a consummate prudence. As profound in council, as active in execution, he always saw his designs crowned with the happiest success. These qualities had procured him the reputation of the first Captain of his age, and his exploits merited the title of the defender and protector of the Catholic religion. He left a name glorious and celebrated to posterity, *tarnished however to endless ages with the just imputation of intolerance.*

Poltrot had escaped into a neighboring forest; but tortured by the remorse of his conscience, and by the terror of being pursued on all sides, he wandered all night in the woods, without being able to find the road to Orleans. The next morning exhausted by fatigue, he was arrested by some Swiss guards and led to the Queen and the principal officers of the army. He alternately accused and acquitted both on the rack and at his execution the Admiral and Theodore Beza, who published declarations throughout all Europe, denying in the most solemn manner their knowledge of the design of Poltrot. The court hastened the execution of this monster, before an opportunity had been given to confront and examine him, as the Admiral requested by quartering him between four horses. The consequence was that the suspicion was fastened, on these two austere and excellent characters, in the minds of the Catholic party, though they have been uniformly acquitted by the whole im-

partial world. In consequence of the prejudices of the Catholics, the children of the Duke of Guise preserved a cruel resentment, and took an horrible revenge.

NEW REVENUE LAW.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

AT THE THIRD SESSION,

Begun and held at the City of Philadelphia, on Monday the sixth of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

AN ACT repealing, after the last day of June next, the duties heretofore laid upon Distilled Spirits imported from abroad, and laying others in their stead; and also upon Spirits Distilled within the United States, and for appropriating the same.

(CONCLUDED.)

AND be it further enacted, That in order to entitle the said exporter or exporters to the benefit of the said allowances, he, she or they, shall previous to putting or lading any of the said spirits on board of any ship or vessel for exportation, give twenty-four hours notice at the least, to the proper officer of inspection of the port from which the said spirits shall be intended to be exported, of his, her or their intention to export the same, and of the number of casks, vessels and cases, or either of them, containing the said spirits to be intended to be exported, and of the respective marks thereof, and of the place or places where the said spirits shall be then deposited, and of the place to which, and ship or vessel in which they shall be so intended to be exported. Whereupon it shall be the duty of the said officer to inspect, by himself or deputy, the casks, vessels and cases so noticed for exportation, and the quantities, kinds and proofs of the spirits therein, together with the certificates which ought to accompany the same according to the directions of this act, which shall be produced to him for that purpose; and if he shall find that the said casks, vessels and cases have the proper marks according to the directions of this act, and that the spirits therein correspond with the said certificates, he shall thereupon brand each cask, vessel or case with the word "Exportation;" and the said spirits shall, after such inspection, be laden on board the same ship or vessel, of which notice shall have been given, and in the presence of the same officer who shall have examined the same, and whose duty it shall be to attend for that purpose. And after the said spirits shall be laden on board such ship or vessel, the certificates aforesaid shall be delivered to the said officer, who shall certify to the collector of the said district, the amount and particulars of the spirits so exported, and shall also deliver the said certificates which shall have been by him received, to the said collector, which shall be a voucher to him, for payment of the said allowance.

Provided nevertheless, and be it further enacted, That the said allowance shall not be made, unless the said exporter or exporters shall make oath, or affirmation, that the said spirits so noticed for exportation, and laden on board such ship or vessel, are truly intended to be exported to the place whereof notice shall have been given, and are not intended to be reloaded within the United States; and that he or she doth verily believe that the duties thereupon charged by this act, have been duly paid, or secured to be paid; and shall also give bond to the collector, with two sureties, one of whom shall be the master, or other person having the command or charge of the ship or vessel in which the said spirits shall be intended to be exported; the other, such sufficient person as shall be approved by the said collector, in the full value in the judgment of the said collector, of the said spirits so intended to be exported, with condition that the said spirits (the dangers of the seas and enemies excepted) shall be really and truly exported to, and landed in some port or place without the limits of the United States, and that the said spirits shall not be unshipped from on board of the said ship or vessel, whereupon the same shall have been laden for exportation, within the said limits, or any ports or harbors of the United States, or reloaded in any other part of the same; shipwreck or any other unavoidable accident excepted.

Provided also, and be it further enacted, That the said allowance shall not be paid until six months after the said spirits shall have been so exported: And provided also, That whenever the owner of any ship or vessel, on board of which any such spirits are laden for exportation, shall make known to the collector, previous to the departure of such ship or vessel from the port where such spirits are laden, that such ship or vessel is not going to proceed on the voyage intended, or the voyage is altered: It shall be lawful for the collector to grant a permit for the reloading of the same.

And be it further enacted, That if any of the said spirits, after the same shall have been shipped for exportation, shall be unshipped for any purpose whatever, either within the limits of any part of the United States, or within four leagues of the coast thereof, or shall be reloaded within the United States, from on board the ship or vessel wherein the same shall have been laden for exportation, unless the voyage shall not be proceeded on, or shall be altered as aforesaid, or unless in case of necessity or distress to save the ship and goods from perishing, which shall immediately be made known to the principal officer of the customs, residing at the ports nearest to which such ship or vessel shall be at the time such necessity or distress shall arise, then not only the spirits so unshipped, together with the casks, vessels and cases containing the same, but also the ship or vessel in or on board which the same shall have been so shipped or laden, together with her guns, furniture, ammunition, tackle and apparel; and also the ship, vessel or boat into which the said spirits shall be unshipped or put, after the unshipping thereof, together with her guns, furniture, ammunition, tackle and apparel, shall be forfeited, and may be seized by any officer of the customs, or of inspection.

And be it further enacted, That the said allowance shall not be made when the said spirits shall be exported into any other than a ship or vessel of the burthen of thirty tons and upwards, to be ascertained to the satisfaction of the collector of the district from which the same shall be intended to be exported.

And be it further enacted, That the bonds to be given as aforesaid, shall and may be discharged by producing within one year from the respective dates thereof (if the same be shipped to any part of Europe or America, and within two years if shipped to

any part of Asia or Africa, and if the delivery of the spirits in respect to which the same shall have been given, be at any place where a consul, or other agent of the United States resides) a certificate of such consul or agent, or if there be no such consul or agent, then a certificate of any two known and reputable American merchants residing at the said place; and if there be not two such merchants residing at the said place, then a certificate of any other two reputable merchants, testifying the delivery of the said spirits at the said place. Which certificate shall in each case be confirmed by the oath or affirmation of the master and mate, or other like officer of the vessel in which the said spirits shall have been exported; and when such certificate shall be from any other than a consul or agent, or merchants of the United States, it shall be a part of the said oath or affirmation, that there were not upon diligent enquiry, to be found two merchants of the United States at the said place: Provided always, That in the case of death, the oath or affirmation of the party dying, shall not be deemed necessary: And provided further, That the said oath or affirmation, taken before the chief civil magistrate of the place of the said delivery, and certified under his hand and seal, shall be of the same validity as if taken before a person qualified to administer oaths within the United States; or such bonds shall and may be discharged upon proof that the spirits so exported, were taken by enemies or perished in the sea, or destroyed by fire; the examination and proof of the same being left to the judgment of the collector of the customs, naval officer, and chief officer of inspection, or any two of them, of the place from which such spirits shall have been exported. And in cases where the certificates herein directed cannot be obtained, the exporter or exporters of such spirits, shall nevertheless be permitted to offer such other proof as to the delivery of the said spirits, without the limits of the United States, as he or they may have; and if the same shall be deemed sufficient by the said collector, he shall allow the same, except when the drawback to be allowed shall amount to one hundred dollars or upwards; in all which cases the proofs aforesaid shall be referred to the comptroller of the treasury, whose decision thereon shall be final.

And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the President of the United States, from time to time, to make such allowances to the said supervisors, inspectors, and to the deputies and officers by them to be appointed and employed for their respective services in the execution of this act, to be paid out of the product of the said duties, as he shall deem reasonable and proper: Provided always, That the aggregate amount of the allowances to all the said supervisors, inspectors and other officers, shall not exceed seven per cent. of the whole product of the duties arising from the spirits distilled within the United States: And provided also, That such allowance shall not exceed the annual amount of forty-five thousand dollars, until the same shall be further ascertained by law.

And be it further enacted, That this act shall commence and take effect as to all matters therein contained, in respect to which no special commencement is hereby provided (except as to the appointment of officers and regulation of the districts and surveys) from and immediately after the last day of June next.

And be it further enacted, That the net product of the duties herein before specified, which shall be raised, levied and collected by virtue of this act, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be, and is hereby pledged and appropriated for the payment of the interest of the federal and respective loans which have been made in foreign countries, prior to the fourth day of August last; and also upon all and every the loan and loans which have been and shall be made and obtained pursuant to the act, entitled, "An act making provision for the debt of the United States;" and according to the true intent and meaning of the said act, and of the several provisions and engagements therein contained and expressed, and subject to the like priorities and reservations as are made and contained in and by the said act, in respect to the monies therein appropriated, and subject to this farther reservation, that is to say—of the net amount or product during the present year, of the duties laid by this act, in addition to those heretofore laid upon spirits imported into the United States, from any foreign port or place, and of the duties laid by this act on spirits distilled within the United States, and on stills; to be disposed of towards such purposes for which appropriations shall be made during the present session. And to the end that the said monies may be inviolably applied in conformity to the appropriation hereby made, and may never be diverted to any other purpose until the final redemption, or reimbursement of the loans or sums for the payment of the interest whereof they are appropriated, an account shall be kept of the receipts and disposition thereof, separate and distinct from the product of any other duties, impost, excise, and taxes whatsoever, except those heretofore laid and appropriated to the same purposes.

And be it further enacted, That the unappropriated surplus, if any there shall be, of the revenue arising under this act, at the end of this and every succeeding year, shall be applied to the reduction of the public debt, in like manner as is directed by the act, intitled, "An act making provision for the reduction of the public debt;" and provided by the act, entitled, "An act making provision for the debt of the United States;" unless the said surplus, or any part thereof, shall be required for the public exigencies of the United States, and shall, by special acts of Congress, be appropriated thereto.

And be it further enacted, That the several duties imposed by this act, shall continue to be collected and paid, until the debts and purposes for which they are pledged and appropriated, shall be fully discharged and satisfied, and no longer. Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent the legislature of the United States from substituting other duties or taxes of equal value to all or any of the said duties and imposts.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN ADAMS, *Vice-President of the United States,*
and *President of the Senate.*

APPROVED, MARCH THIRD, 1791.
GEORGE WASHINGTON, *President of the United States.*
Deposited among the Rolls in the Office of the Secretary of State.
THOMAS JEFFERSON, *Secretary of State.*

ENIGMA.

FORM'D long ago—yet made to-day,
I'm most in use while others sleep—
What few would wish to give away,
And fewer still would wish to keep.