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[Whole No. 215.]

From the (Hartford) AMERICAN MERCURY.

THE PATRIOT.

MY last concluded with reciting the inducements proper to be held out to *head trades men*, concerned in certain manufactures, to enable them to take the children of such poor families, as apprentices, as were unable to furnish their children in the manner now practised. This speculation shall be devoted to the consideration of such further inducements to setting up and prosecuting the manufactures of linen, cotton, and woollen, as may be necessary for fully introducing and effectually establishing those manufactures. Flax is amongst the productions of almost every farm; yet we have it not in sufficient plenty and perfection for the purpose of carrying on extensive manufactures. It is however reasonably to be expected, that every year will add to the quantity brought to market—and that the quality will be proportionably improved. Nothing will expedite this desirable end so much as the establishment of a linen and cotton manufacture. Fine bearded flax is not necessary either for rigging or duck—neither will the price given for flax in those manufactures enable the farmers to prepare their flax properly for market. When ever there is a demand for flax to make fine cloth, then the farmers will raise better flax, and dress it in another manner. The more certain and constant the demand for any articles, and the higher the price, the more will there be of that article at market. Let Congress compel the owners of every ship or vessel to make the first suit of sails of American duck—and let this state in the mean time give a moderate bounty on every piece of duck manufactured in the state—This would effectually answer the purpose. Let them give a premium or bounty of two shillings on every piece of linen, or linen and cotton cloth, not less than 24 yards long, and 1/2 yards wide, of the value of 1s. 6d. per yard—For every piece of such cloth not less than 24 yards long and a yard wide, of the value of two shillings per yard, a bounty of 2s. 6d.—For every such piece of the value of 2s. 6d. per yard, a bounty of 4s.—And for every such piece of the value of 3s. per yard, a bounty of 6s.—In every case the cloth for which the bounty is claimed, must have previously been sold to some merchant residing in the state, at the above prices, or higher.

Similar and indeed greater bounties should be given on all woollen goods manufactured in this state, and sold by the piece to the merchants for retailing—The reason is obvious—The price of flax and cotton in this country is as low, or even lower than in Europe; But their manufactories have the advantage of machinery to expedite labor which we lack. But as to wool, the case is materially different; that article is at least double the price here that it is in England—and their workmen have the same advantage over ours in respect of machinery, as in the other branches—and also in respect of dye stuffs. It is absolutely necessary that we overcome all these obstacles. Patience, patriotism and perseverance, with the aid of government, will soon effect what we wish. Let the monied man assist the artisan—Let the wealthy farmer give the manufacturer a reasonable credit for his wool, that the manufacturer, in turn, may give a reasonable credit to the merchant on his cloths—Let our legislators, our judges, our councillors our attorneys, and clergy (who should set a good example in this as in every other respect) be clothed in the manufactures of the state—we need not fear that others will follow so laudable an example—we then shall see our villages well inhabited, and growing to the size of our largest towns—our towns into cities, instead of their dwindling into solitary places, and deserted villages.

I am well aware that British merchants, British agents, and all those Anglofied Americans who turn up their noses at every thing which is not British, will effect to turn my projects into ridicule, and treat the PATRIOT as a lunatic, or at best, as a well meaning, but weak, visionary projector. Yet setting aside their interested views—why should they treat my projects with contempt? No doubt the first attempts to establish the woollen manufacture in England was as much derided. Their attempt to establish the Cotton and Silk manufactures was more objectionable than an attempt of the same kind would

be in this country, They have surmounted all the obstacles that opposed or impeded those establishments in that country; and I have no doubt we shall finally surmount every obstacle here. The more public or private encouragement is given our artisans and manufactures, the sooner this great national object will be effected. Massachusetts has set us a good example in this respect—they have given a bounty of 8s. for every piece of duck manufactured in the state—this has induced monied men to become concerned in that business, and there is the best ground for believing the business will succeed; and be continued after the bounty shall cease. They have lately made a very large donation to the owners of the cotton manufactory, which will probably induce them to pursue the undertaking with vigor. As our manufactures increase, heavy imposts will doubtless be laid by the general government on the importation of foreign manufactures, which will operate as a bounty on our own; and will accelerate their final establishment, and bring them to that state of perfection as shall render all importations needless.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

O D E T O B I R T H A.

AND does disease thy bosom grieve?
O had I known it at an earlier hour,
I would have strove thy sorrows to relieve,
Have torn thee from the tyrant Sickness' power,
And bade thy aching breast delight receive.
I would have sat the lingering, painful, eve,
With various talk the lonely moments cheer'd;
Have, with unwearied hand, thy head sustain'd
Whole nights; and soothed thee as thou had'st complain'd;
And heal'd thee with affection long endear'd.
For I have known the hand of hard disease;
Have felt oppressive sickness at my soul;
Seen death-like paleness o'er my features spread;
And mark'd the life-supporting current freeze,
From hollow eyes, of blue despair, the big tears roll:
And join'd, in anguish'd fancy, with the dead.
Yet then, even then, I cast a lingering look
On all the business of beloved mankind;
While each adieu, each fond farewell, I took,
Still left a wish, for one more view, behind.
'Twas then new pleasures burst upon my mind,
New wishes agitated all my breast;
And hope, and passion, and affection, join'd,
With life-reviving health again my bosom blest'd.
Such are the joys I offer to thy view.
For what a greater transport can afford
Than to behold affection, virtue new,
And lovely goodness, o'er creation pour'd?
To see refinement new-born raptures shew?
And happiness, by you, to earth restored?
To see the enchanting smile
Of sweet benevolence expand,
And o'er the human face diffuse new light;
What hath such power affliction to beguile,
And soothe the woe-worn heart with comfort bland?
What greater pleasure can the soul delight?
To let imagination stray,
And wanton in celestial day;
To see Creation's second birth,
And Heaven, descending, bless the Earth;
To view new beauty clothe the plain,
And rapture hail Messiah's reign;
To mark death, anguish, and disease,
And vice, no more pollute the breeze;
To see perfection's glorious heirs,
Triumphant o'er life's little cares,
To new attainments daily grow;
With nobler virtue hourly glow;
And, bosom'd in immortal peace,
In God's felicity increase;
To love with fresher truth inclined;
And gaining on the eternal Mind:
What nobler transports can the soul possess?
What richer joy the sympathetic bosom blest?
E L L A.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, On the Subject of the COD AND WHALE FISHERIES, [CONTINUED.]

ENGLAND is the market for the greater part of our spermaceti oil. They impose on all our oils, a duty of eighteen pounds five shillings sterling the ton, which, as to the common kind, is a prohibition, as has been before observed, and as to that of the spermaceti, gives a preference of theirs over ours to that amount, so as to leave in the end, but a scanty benefit to the fisherman; and not long since, by a change of construction, without any change of the law, it was made to exclude our oils from their ports, when carried in our own vessels. On some change of circumstance, it was construed back again to the reception of our oils; on paying always, however, the same duty of eighteen pounds five shillings. This serves to shew that the tenure by which we hold the admission of this commodity in their markets, is as precarious as it is hard. Nor can it be announced that there is any disposition on

their part, to arrange this, or any other commercial matter, to mutual convenience. The ex parte regulations which they have begun for mounting their navigation on the ruins of ours, can only be opposed by counter regulations on our part. And the loss of sealmen, the natural consequence of lost and obstructed markets for our fish and oil, calls in the first place, for serious and timely attention. It will be too late when the seaman shall have changed his vocation, or gone over to another interest. If we cannot recover and secure for him these important branches of employment, it behoves us to replace them by others equivalent. We have three nurseries for forming sealmen;—

1. Our coasting trade, already on a safe footing.
2. Our fisheries, which in spite of natural advantages, give just cause of anxiety.
3. Our carrying trade, the only resource of indemnification for what we lose in the other. The produce of the United States, which is carried to foreign markets, is extremely bulky. That part of it now in the hands of foreigners, and which we may resume into our own, without touching the rights of those nations who have met us in fair arrangements by treaty, or the interests of those, who, by their voluntary regulations, have paid so just and liberal a respect to our interests, as being measured back to them again, places both parties on as good ground, perhaps, as treaties could place them: the proportion, I say, of our carrying trade, which may be resumed without affecting either of these descriptions of nations, will find constant employment for ten thousand sealmen, be worth two millions of dollars annually, will go on augmenting with the population of the United States, secure to us a full indemnification for the sealmen we lose, and be taken wholly from those who force us to this act of self-protection, in navigation.

Hence too would follow that their Newfoundland ships, not receiving provisions from us in their bottoms, nor permitted (by a law of their own) to receive in ours, must draw their subsistence from Europe, which would increase that part of their expenses in the proportion of four to seven, and so far operate as a duty towards restoring the level between them and us. The tables No. 2 and 12, will shew the quantity of tonnage, and consequently the mass of sealmen whose interests are in distress; and No. 17, the materials for indemnification.

If regulations, exactly the counterpart of those established against us, would be ineffectual from a difference of circumstances, other regulations equivalent can give no reasonable ground of complaint to any nation. Admitting their right of keeping their markets to themselves, ours cannot be denied of keeping our carrying trade to ourselves. And if there be any thing unfriendly in this, it was in the first example.

The loss of sealmen unnoticed, would be followed by other losses in a long train. If we have no sealmen, our ships will be useless, consequently our ship timber, iron and hemp; our ship-building will be at an end, ship-carpenters go over to other nations, our young men have no call to the sea, our produce carried in foreign bottoms, be saddled with warfreight and insurance in times of war; and the history of the last one hundred years, shews that the nation which is our carrier has three years of war for every four years of peace. (No. 18) We lose, during the same periods, the carriage for belligerent powers, which the neutrality of our flag would render an incalculable source of profit; we lose at this moment the carriage of our own produce to the annual amount of two millions of dollars, which in the possible progress of the encroachment, may extend to five or six millions, the worth of the whole, with an increase in the proportion of the increase of our numbers. It is easier as well as better, to stop this train at its entrance, than when it shall have ruined or banished whole classes of useful and industrious citizens.

It will doubtless be thought expedient that the resumption suggested should take effect so gradually as not to endanger the loss of produce for the want of transportation; but that, in order to create transportation, the whole plan should be developed, and made known at once, that the individuals who may be disposed to lay themselves out for the carrying business may make their calculations on a full view of all circumstances.

On the whole, the historical view we have taken of these fisheries proves they are so poor in themselves as to come to nothing with distant nations, who do not support them from their treasuries. We have seen that the advantages of our position place our fisheries on a ground somewhat higher, such as to relieve our treasury from the necessity of giving them support, but not to permit it to draw support from them, nor to dispense the government from the obligation of effectuating free markets for them, that for the great proportion of our salted fish, for our common oil, and a part of our spermaceti oil, markets may perhaps, be preserved by friendly arrangements towards those nations whose arrangements are friendly to us, and the residue be compensated by giving to the sealmen thrown out of business the certainty of employment in another branch of which we have the sole disposal.

THOMAS JEFFERSON,
Secretary of State.

February 1st, 1791. (To be continued.)

NEW-YORK, April 30.

The present Empress of Russia, born in the year 1729, was a German Princess, daughter of Christian Augustus, Prince of Anhalt Zerbst, and in 1745, married Peter the III. a Sovereign distinguished for his folly and vices, who after his ascending the throne was weak enough to wear the Prussian Uniform, profess himself a soldier of Frederick (the public enemy of his country) attempted to cut the beards of his Clergy, and was the avowed foe of literary improvement. After a turbulent reign of about six months, he was deposed by the united concurrence of his subjects—who, in July, 1762, bestowed the Diadem upon his wife, the present Empress, who then changed her name of Sophia Augusta for that of Catharine Alegriewna the second. She is, undoubtedly, very ambitious; but excepting the great Leopold, is the first Legislator of the present age; the protector of her people, in relieving the miseries of her peasants; and has by a series of most brilliant achievements and astonishing successes, raised the Russian Empire to a height of glory, which now threatens to overturn the balance of Europe.