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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1792.

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If the duty is too high for your ability to pay it, it might be a reason for an application to Congress to lower it, but it can be none for an opposition to the whole.

But is there seriously any reason to believe, that the fact alleged is well founded? Is not the duty payable half yearly? Does not the government of the United States continually find a much larger sum among you, towards the support of the troops on the frontiers, and for the payment of such of yourselves as are called into service, for your own immediate defence, than you will require for the half yearly payment of the duty?

I have no doubt myself, that a fair trial of the thing will convince you of the contrary of what is asserted. Let the experiment be made, and if the payment of the duty is found to produce any real difficulty or distress, then may your representation, being founded on experience, be expected to have weight with the national councils, and to lead to a diminution of the rate of the duty.

I have now, fellow-citizens, gone through those objections of the committee, which appear to have been intended as arguments, and I flatter myself you will agree with me, that I have fully answered them. There are, however, some observations and suggestions in one of the addresses of the committee, which ought not to be passed over in silence.

It is said, that the tax carries with it a great insult in the collection: because a freeman is treated like a knave, and an oath exacted as of one who may defraud, a mark set upon his door and upon all casks and vessels, and his buildings invaded and searched by officers CALLOUS TO HUMANITY.

Judge, fellow-citizens, for yourselves of the candor and weight of these insinuations.

I have already observed to you that oaths are constantly required of masters and owners of vessels, in order to the collection of the duties on imported articles generally, that this is the common practice in like cases, and that it was the practice under the STATE laws. I have added that it is submitted to without a murmur as an indispensable requisite.

Are masters of vessels, the merchants of your country, and the numerous importers of goods for their own use of all professions, less FREEMEN than you are? Can a requisition which they acquiesce in as proper and unavoidable be deemed an INSULT to you?

Are the inhabitants of free countries exempted from the ordinary vices and frailties of human nature? Are there no felons, no cheats, no fraudulent individuals among them? Is every FREEMAN of course an HONEST MAN?

Why, then, all the laws for the punishment of crimes and for the suppression of vice and immorality? Do not these suppose equally with the regulations complained of that there are knaves among freemen as well as among other men?

Would to heaven it were not so! But you would laugh at the person who should tell you it was not. And yet this is the substance of what the committee say.

As well might it be said, the law prescribing oaths to witnesses and jurymen in courts of justice carries with it a great insult. A free man is treated as a LIAR, and an oath exacted as from one who may LIE.

What would you say to such an observation? Or what ought you to say to one which amounts exactly to the same thing? What is the true view of the matter?

It is this. There are knaves among all societies, among freemen as well as among the subjects of despots. The laws must suppose the fact, because IT IS A FACT; and they must make provision accordingly, not only for the security of the public, but for the security of HONEST MEN against KNAVES, and as the legislature have NO MARK by which to distinguish the honest man from the knave, its precautions must of necessity apply to all. If there were no oaths nor penalties in revenue laws, honest men would bear the whole burthen and knaves would go free.

Hence the oaths which are required; hence the registers granted to ships, and the other numerous documents they are obliged to provide; hence the marks set upon them, designating their names and the places to which they belong, which you will find to be required by the laws; hence the marks upon buildings, casks and other vessels containing spirits, hence, in fine, all the precaution of all the revenue laws of all the countries in the world.

The marking of buildings, however, has evidently another object, favorable to an exemption of the persons concerned, from improper intrusions and searches. It designates to the officers the buildings and even the particular apartments, to which ALONE they can have access, and warns them not to intrude upon any other. It is therefore, one of the means, by which the power of inspecting and searching is confined within reasonable limits.

I need not, I am sure, trouble you longer on this point.

The committee, after treating the tax in question with every species of opprobrium, and reprobation, go on to assign a reason for its having been laid. They tell us in substance, that it was to conceal from the people the amount of the money raised upon them, lest they should enquire into the appropriations of it.

Judge again for yourselves of the fairness of this suggestion.

The provisions of the constitution, and the practice of the government, will afford the best answer to it.

First. It is an express article of the constitution of the federal government, "That NO MONEY shall be DRAWN FROM THE TREASURY, but in consequence of APPROPRIATIONS made by law, and that a regular STATEMENT and accounts of the receipts and EXPENDITURES of all public money shall be published from time to time."

Second. By the law of Congress establishing the Treasury department, it is made the duty of the officer at the head of that department, who is called the Secretary of the Treasury, among other things "to prepare and report to Congress estimates of the public revenue and the public expenditure," and it is made the duty of another officer called the Treasurer, to receive and pay the monies of the United States, upon warrants drawn by the Secretary, counter-signed by the COMPTROLLER, and recorded by the REGISTER of the Treasury. The comptroller is the officer, who, after they have passed under the examination of the AUDITOR, finally settles all public accounts. The register is the officer

who keeps the public books and records. It is further made the duty of the Treasurer to render his accounts to the comptroller quarterly or oftener if required, for settlement, and when settled, he is to send a copy to the Secretary of the Treasury, and on the third day of every session of Congress, he is to lay before the two Houses, fair and exact copies of all the accounts by him rendered and settled, together with a true and perfect account of the State of the Treasury; he is obliged at all times to submit to the Secretary of the Treasury and the comptroller or either of them the inspection of the monies in his hands, and for the faithful performance of all this he is obliged to give security in the considerable sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. So far you will see that the greatest care has been taken to secure a due administration of the public monies, and an exact knowledge of the course of the receipts and expenditures.

Thirdly. The Secretary of the Treasury, in pursuance of the provision which has been mentioned, yearly lays before Congress a particular statement of all the monies which are required for the service of the year, particularly specifying before hand every object for which it is wanted. This estimate is committed for examination to a special committee, who report a bill comprehending an appropriation or grant for all such objects specified in the estimates as appear to be conformable to law and right, and directing or pointing out the funds out of which the money is to be paid.

Both the previous estimate and the law are afterwards inserted in the public newspapers, so that every citizen who would give himself the trouble, may inform himself of the sums appropriated, and the purposes for which they are appropriated.

The Secretary of the Treasury also lays before Congress statements of the amount of the public debt, and of the interest upon it, and estimates of the probable amount of the taxes proposed to be laid by Congress, which are likewise published in the newspapers for the information of the people.

The same officer, likewise, makes returns to Congress of the yearly product of all the taxes which they lay, specifying the articles on which they are laid, the expences of the collection, and the nett residue, which comes into the Treasury. These returns too, as well as all the other documents are published in the newspapers for the information of the people.

By the instructions which have issued from the Treasury pursuant to the law in question, each collector of the revenue is to make a weekly return of the produce of all distilleries which are rated per gallon of the spirits distilled to the inspector within whose survey he is, who is to make a like weekly return to the supervisor of the district. Each collector is also to render to his inspector a quarterly account of all monies collected by him; and each inspector is to render to his supervisor a like quarterly account of all the monies collected within his survey, and each supervisor is to render a like quarterly account of all the monies collected within his district to the Treasury, where the duties are charged on the stills, these being payable half yearly, the accounts from the respective officers are rendered half yearly instead of quarterly as in the other case; and from the whole of these returns, a general statement will be made up at the Treasury, which, as in preceding cases, will, of course be reported to Congress, and by them communicated through the newspapers to the public.

Hence, therefore, you perceive, that the constitution, laws and practice of Congress are all united in the point of giving the people the most full and complete previous information, of the money raised upon them in every way, of the expence of raising it, of what comes into the Treasury, and the manner in which it is disposed of. Here is more communication than has an example under any other government; more even than has been experienced under any of the State governments. Here is no mystery, no concealment. Here is evidence of the direct contrary of what the committee suggest to have been the probable motive with Congress for selecting the duty on spirits as a resource of revenue.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

FROM THE FARMER'S JOURNAL.

THE METABASIST.

"SHE MUST DIE"—said the Doctor—"She must die—She has a *spasm of juices*."—The mother wept aloud—"Is there no help Doctor?" said she, "Must I then lose my only child?"—"I have tried every remedy," said the Doctor, setting his hand upon his hip, "which is known to the healing art—and there is no man, I'll assure you better acquainted with medicine than myself; for I travelled three years with the great Indian-Doctor *Mohohonock*."—The scene was truly affecting.—While the Doctor without any emotion of pity, boasted of his skill:—The mother was affectionately taking leave of her daughter—"Adieu," "adieu, gentle spirit; fondly did I hope thou wouldst live to be the supporter of my age."—I was too much affected with pity for the mother, and indignation against the Doctor to be a farther witness:—I stole silently from the room.—

—Of all quacks, quacks in physic are most pernicious to the common people.—Can a man of feeling be a witness of the daily havoc, made by these officers of death, among his fellow creatures, without a sigh?—Indeed I could hardly refrain from tears, while my uncle, the other evening, told how his father was physicked out of the world by one of these Doctors, because he had a red spot upon his nose, which the quack declared to be a cancer.—But said my uncle, "my father had as found a nose the day he died as the Doctor himself."

—Perhaps, reader, you are learned, may be, member of the State legislature; you say, "I detest a quack, I would never employ him"—but your neighbour is an illiterate man, who cannot determine whether a physician be a man of learning and skill or not.—But, reader, if you do not

in reality belong to the legislative body, yet for this once *imagine* you do.—Imagine that twice a year you assemble yourself with the wife men of the State to enact laws for the good of the people—Imagine that you have kindly provided against quacks in law, by empowering our County Courts to inquire into the learning and abilities of those who design themselves for the profession of the law, and to give licence if their knowledge is sufficient—Imagine that you have by a statute restrained swine—And then imagine (but blush while you even *imagine* it) that these quack physicians are permitted to depopulate your dominions.—

By an English statute, 5 Eliz. chap. 4. no person is allowed to execute any trade of skill, unless he has first served a regular apprenticeship of seven years.—Surely as much care ought to be taken that men should not be deprived of their health and lives, as that a clock should keep time regularly.—By a statute of this state, a tanner is not allowed to sell leather, unless he has first manifested his skill to the County Court, and from them obtained licence; nor then until the leather has been approved of, and sealed by a sworn sealer: But physicians are allowed to make and vend medicine, and are not even themselves required to know what they are, or what will be their effect.—It is a serious consideration.—Is it not high time there should be some regulations concerning physicians.

FROM THE COLUMBIAN CENTINEL.

MR. RUSSELL,

WITH a singular species of zeal and philanthropy, the cause of the hostile Indians, against whom the army under Gen. ST. CLAIR, was directed, is advocated—their sufferings delineated—and their distresses depicted. But to impute any of these, if they exist—to a want of humanity in government, is unjust.—The desire to establish permanent and honorable peace between the United States and all the tribes of Indians, has been zealously exhibited both by the former and present governments. In some instances they have been attended with success—as the treaties between us and the *Greeks, Choc-taws, Cherokees*, and others. But all endeavors to effect Peace with the Indians in the regions North-West of the River *Ohio*, have proved abortive.

—The General Government took early measures for this purpose.—Treaties had been formed, under the old Government, with the Six Nations, the *Wyandots* and *Delawares*, and some more of the Western Indians; but the *Wabash* Indians always declined to attend at the negotiations of those treaties, notwithstanding they were invited thereto.

—In order, if possible to bring those deluded people to a just sense of their situation, the President of the United States, directed that they should be invited a-new, to treat of peace, and that the consequences of their refusal, and persisting in hostilities, should be fully placed before them—and at the same time, the people of *Kentucky* were prohibited from making any further incursions into the Indian Country.

—This invitation was executed early last year, to all the Tribes inhabiting the River *Wabash*, from Post *Vincennes* up to *Miami* village. The invitation was not only refused by the Indians, but their hostilities were renewed with greater violence than ever.

—The campaign, therefore, of the last and this year, were measures of necessity.—The Indians had been invading our frontiers, and had killed many hundred innocent men, women and children.

—It became just and highly proper, that the power of the United States should be put in motion against these blood-thirsty tribes—and that it should be ineffectual is to be deplored—and attributed to the smallness of our numbers.

—Notwithstanding the provocations of these Indians, it is said, measures will be taken to open their eyes to their true interest: But if the measures taken for this purpose should be in vain, the meekness of christianity will justify the government, in taking effectual measures to prevent the murder of its peaceable citizens; and the arrangements to be made, it is hoped will be entirely adequate to the full conviction of the hostile Indians, that they have abundantly more to hope, from the mercy, than to expect from the weakness of the United States.