

is really the case, it cannot be doubted that the United States, which have the greatest surplus of grain of any country upon earth, which are rapidly increasing it, which are farther from their consumers than any nation exporting grain, which have the lumber to make the casks for it, and the shipping to transport it, and are themselves great consumers of malt liquors and distilled spirits, it cannot be doubted that a nation thus circumstanced, must be able to manufacture those articles with facility and advantage to any extent of the demand. The benefits to foreign trade from the manufacture of ships, cordage, sail cloth, and anchors, as necessary instruments, and from those articles and potash, soap, candles, steel, carriages and other articles, for sale to foreigners here, or as payments or remittances to them abroad are already too obvious to need more than to be enumerated: but too much attention cannot be given to our situation, qualifications, and prospects in regard to the home manufacture of liquors, considering the disturbed state of the sugar islands, the increased consumption and prices of all the productions of the cane, the impediments to the ordinary importation of slaves, the objections to the slave trade which are appearing in different quarters, the immense population of the manufacturing countries of Europe, and their consequent necessity to employ in the culture of grain the lands they recently appropriated to the vine, as well as the impossibility of their sparing for the making of liquor all the barley, rye, and oats, which were formerly consumed in that manufacture.

There is also a considerable portion of foreign trade created by the importation of raw materials and other necessaries for the employment and consumption of the manufacturers. Cotton, hemp, bar iron, sheet iron, copper and brass in pigs and sheets, lapis calaminaris, lead, pewter, wire of every metal, woolen, cotton, and linen yarns, hempen yarns, hides, skins, and furs, wool, paper for books and hangings, dyers colours, and some others, varnish, printing types, bullion for gold and silver smiths, gold and silver leaf, glue, mahogany, and other cabinet woods, molasses, and crude sugars for distillers and refiners, manufacturers tools and implements, such as vices, screwplates, anvils, hammers, axes, hatchets, knives, awls, pliers, grindstones, hatters bowstrings, &c. glass plates for looking glass makers and coach makers, calicoes and linen for printing, morocco skins, and many other commodities which are expended in the workshops or families of our manufacturers, including foreign articles of apparel, furniture, food, and drink.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THAT the cause of truth will not suffer from a free discussion, is an useful and important maxim. But, like maxims in general, it must be understood only in a limited sense. Its first establishment seems to have arisen from a laudable design of discouraging the interposition of civil and ecclesiastic power in matters of opinion. Such interposition no doubt tends to retard the progress of knowledge, and exclude improvement from the world. But supposing full liberty to speak and write on every subject, it appears obvious from the situation in which mankind must forever exist, and from the immutable and various structure of their minds, and the principles of their hearts, that this liberty may be used in a way unfavorable, at least for a time, to the cause of truth—and that a discussion in this sense free, may take place, by which error shall be propagated. Were all men endued with the penetrating understandings, and did all possess the acquired knowledge of the Newtons and Lockes of our species, and were all equally capable as they of separating error from truth—were we especially all free from the bias and impetuosity of passion, the preceding maxim would be more strictly true. But while mankind in general are far inferior to individuals in mental faculties and treasures; a few of the latter may, and the more artful and active they are, the more successfully, abuse their superiority to the delusion of multitudes. While the passions have so much power in the human breast, those opinions which flatter the indulgence of them, will be propagated with peculiar facility. Besides, from a variety of circumstances, as the inattention and silence of her friends, in some instances from their inferior abilities, and frequently from their inferior wealth, rank, power or fame, &c. TRUTH may remain unsupported on the field of battle; all her forces may not be brought forward, or the contest be decided more from some accidental circumstances, than the real strength of the parties.

These reflections are general, and will apply to any time and any subject. There is, however, a particular propriety, in bringing them forward to public attention at present, when errors and vices are rapidly imported from Europe, or spring forth like noxious weeds from the luxuriance of our native soil. To speak plainly, some of our publications begin to insinuate, or assert, tenets equally inimical to truth, religion, and the essential interests of man.—If the preceding observations are just, these tenets, notwithstanding their absurdity and dangerous tendency, might probably find a welcome reception from some of our citizens, even after a free and open discussion. Yet, so vastly superior is the evidence in favor of the venerable and important truths of religion to the subtleties of scepticism, that it must, if fully heard, overcome the power of ignorance and of passion. But when arts which the friends of truth disdain; and *ridicules*, which tho' no test of truth, may destroy its influence, are employed in the cause of error—this is not fair discussion.—When histories, travels, and all the variety of periodical publications, even down to newspapers, are stuffed with insinuations and assertions, with fly hints, and warm invectives against religion and its ministers, under the titles of enthusiasm, superstition and priests—this is no discussion at all. For it is ranking pretended,

with the real abuses of religion, imputing to it those errors which in its own nature it tends to prevent; and doing it too in such a way, that all that is said must pass in general unanswered and uncontradicted. Religion, morality, and the welfare of society, may be deeply wounded by these unheeded but poisonous arrows. These methods, united to the licentiousness of courts, and some other causes, have been more or less successful through Europe. The friends of their country, reason, and christianity, ought, by discouraging or answering, as far as their nature will admit, such publications, to stop in America the most gloomy and debasing, absurd and pernicious of all tenets, from being diffused. Many of the advocates for this fashionable scepticism call themselves philosophers, and profess the warmest benevolence to mankind. But is it possible, (I ask not those whom the pride of learning and opinion, a rage to distinguish themselves from the vulgar, the selfishness of bold impiety or licentious lives have rendered deaf, but those who calmly think for themselves) is it possible that the happiness of the human race can be increased by subverting their belief of those opinions which comfort and support them in every calamity and distress—by destroying those views and hopes which give prosperity its value, and life its most rational and exalted joys? Will the interests of society be promoted?—will the rights of individuals be more regarded, when the strongest barriers against the violence of the passions are thrown down—when the tribunal within our breasts, and the venerable sanctions of religion, are disregarded—when the existence of the Author of the Universe is denied?—It cannot be. When a man renounces christianity, if he has feeling and cool reflection, he must become a prey to doubt and gloomy anxiety. Not one in a thousand however stops, I believe, at such renunciation. And when he denies the immortality of the soul, and abandons the universe to an inexplicable chance, he is degraded in his own eyes, and in those of every one who embraces his creed—right and wrong cease to exist.

Were it possible that a whole nation should become so credulous and corrupt as to believe with some celebrated philosophers, we should thus exclaim—Every restraint, adieu! Unbounded ambition, avarice and sensuality, advance and enter! Here is your kingdom! Cunning and power, here you may triumph without a rival!—The reign and triumph would indeed be short—all the fierce and ravenous monsters of the desarts would be collected in a single den.



CONGRESS.

PHILADELPHIA.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1792.

On the motion to enhance the duty on imported hemp and cordage, and to strike out imported cotton from articles exempted from duty.

MR. BOURNE said he hoped this increase would not be agreed to—the navigation of the United States would suffer by it—as the supply furnished by the cultivation of that article, was not competent to the demand.

Mr. White said that on the principle of uniformity, he thought this duty ought to be raised; but when it is considered that many of the duties are designed to encourage the manufactures of the United States, he thought that equal attention should be paid to the agricultural interest, an interest as important as any other at least.

Mr. Williamson supported the amendment—he said the independence of the United States, in respect to its navigation, was so important an object, that he conceived every thing ought to be done to effect it. Among others, proper encouragement should be given to the raising of hemp, especially when it is considered that we have a greater proportion of land than any other country—that experiments have proved that it can be raised to advantage; that it will, if duly encouraged, conduce to rooting out the cultivation of tobacco, which impoverishes the soil, and is a mere article of luxury. He was at a loss to account for the omission of this duty in the first instance.

Mr. Parker supported the amendment—he enlarged on the good policy of affording this encouragement—he said if the gentleman who moves to disagree to the amendment, had proposed to reduce the duty on canvas, he thought it would be more consistent; and in this case he should be willing to relinquish this enhanced duty on hemp.

Mr. Goodhue said he should agree to the enhanced duty.

Mr. Lawrance opposed it, principally on account of its being a tax on a raw material, and a very essential one too to the navigation and commerce of the United States.

Mr. Madison offered some remarks in favor of the enhanced duty.

The amendment was agreed to.—Foreign cotton being inserted among the articles to be exempted from duty.

Mr. Macon moved that it should be struck out—he thought it best that the duty should be continued. Great quantities, he said, were raised in the southern states, for which they could not find a market.

Mr. Ames opposed the motion—he said there were manufactures carried on in the United States which required foreign cotton—some things could not be manufactured without cotton of a particular staple. He further remarked, that the encouragement to the raising of cotton depends on the manufactures formed from it—hence he inferred that this very encouragement is suspended on a due attention to the manufactures.

Mr. Steele stated sundry particulars to shew that the cotton raised in the southern states was adapted to every species of manufactures; and depending on encouragement from government, the farmers of North Carolina had gone largely into the cultivation of that article. It is well known, said he, that the situation of the three southern states is favorable to the raising of hemp and cotton—and on the principles of reciprocity, he thought it but just and equal to extend encouragement to the agricultural interest of those states.

Mr. Baldwin observed that he could have wished the gentleman had mentioned the particular species of cotton which was so necessary in the manufactures, that could not be procured from the southern states. He said that there were two sorts of cotton raised there; one of a short, the other of a long staple; and under due encouragement, they would in a few years raise every description of that article.

Mr. Fitzsimons, Mr. Murray and Mr. Kittera, supported the motion for striking out the article.

Mr. Page, in favor of the duty, observed, that the gentleman (Mr. Ames) who had expressed his fears that American cotton would not suit the manufacturers, might lay aside his fears; for he knew from experience the contrary—that even if what had been said of the cotton of the United States were true, he knew that there was reason to believe that the cotton of the West and East-Indies would grow even in Virginia—that both had been lately introduced into that state. Such fears, he said, might upon examination perhaps be traced to the same origin with some formerly introduced into Virginia—that the sheep of America were only useful as food, their wool being unfit for the woollen manufacture. He added that he well remembered it was with difficulty some people were convinced that the salt water of America would yield salt. He said, for his part, he should as easily be persuaded that the fish of the United States were unfit for food, and as incapable of being cured so as to be merchantable, as that the cotton of America was unfit for the cotton manufactories; he therefore advised the worthy member to be upon his guard against such insinuations. As to himself, Mr. Page declared he had no idea that any member of either House could wish to injure the interests of any of the states; but he said he was authorized to suppose that as the manufacturers in general were foreigners, they had their prepossessions and prejudices, which might give rise to the opinions entertained by some gentlemen respecting the unsuitness of our cotton for manufacture; but he averred that whatever gave rise to them, they were ill founded, as he had often seen and worn in the late war, cotton cloth and stockings, as good and fine as ever had been imported. As to encouraging the manufactures, however, said he, I have ever thought it foreign to the business of Congress, and if not so, a mere taking from one hand and giving to another—a delicate affair, which might be misunderstood and misapplied—however, as it

is thrown in before us, I take my share for my constituents.

As to the fears of the member from Pennsylvania (Mr. Kittera) that the culture of cotton may injure the farmer, Mr. Page said he could assure him that he had found cotton a good preparative for wheat, and that lands where he lived, which had been worn out in tobacco, yielded excellent cotton, and left the ground in fine order for wheat, and that cotton, if properly encouraged, would be a good substitute for tobacco.

STOCKHOLM, April 3.

SOME of the persons taken into custody resolutely declared that the King had merited his fate, and that there were an hundred persons eager to contend for the honor of giving him the mortal blow, for the welfare of mankind.

This action certainly cannot be justified, but it is at the same time, a striking and dreadful lesson to Sovereigns, who think to sanction tyranny by law, and regard the rest of men as a vile herd, whom they may dispose of at their pleasure.

LONDON, March 1.

GERMANY.

The Elector of Mentz, as Great Chancellor of the Empire, will issue summonses to the Electors, within a month, and the day fixed for the election of an Emperor, must be within three months of that time. The circumstance of the late Emperor's son not being elected King of the Romans during his father's life time will not obstruct his election as has been supposed. The case has happened frequently.

When the throne becomes vacant by the death of the reigning Emperor, and no King of the Romans has been previously chosen, the Elector Palatine, and Elector of Saxony, have the title of Vicars of the Empire, in right of their respective offices; the one of Count Palatine, the other of Arch-Marshal of the Empire. The Emperor, in his capitulation, constantly engages to ratify and confirm, in the fullest manner possible all acts performed by the Vicars General, during the time of the interregnum.

Though the Empire be elective, yet it is so rather in words than in fact. From the time that Albert II. of the House of Austria, was chosen Emperor in 1438, the Imperial dignity has continued in the House of Austria, in which the order of primogeniture has always determined the Electors.

With regard to the King of the Romans (which, by the bye, is a mere title) if he is chosen before the demise of the Emperor, he succeeds to the Empire without any other election; if not he has all the forms to go through, and though requiring time, yet they are founded upon rules from which there is seldom any variation.

It is a mistake to suppose that strings for the shoes are a modern invention. The Beau of St. Bartholomew's and Bridewell hospitals have worn them time out of mind; and that they were fashionable when Butler wrote his Hudibras, is proved by the following dithich in his address to the widow;

Madam, I do as is my duty,

Honor the shadow of your shoe tie.

There never was an instance where public curiosity was so universally excited, as by the expectation of hearing Mrs. Siddons recite Collins's beautiful Ode to the Passions, at her Benefit, on Monday evening. This admirable composition allows our favourite an opportunity of crowding the varieties of her expression into a space, where all the merits of her countenance and action may at once be comprehended at a single view.

Great Britain is now flourishing in arts and commerce, and reaping the fruits both of her own industry and the destruction of her neighbours.—In this elevation of fortune, and external security, it will be political wisdom to guard against these internal passions, which excess of prosperity is wont to generate. It will be wisdom to anticipate, by partial and gradual reformation, those evils which might otherwise arise from a general convulsion. The most brilliant ge-