

Mr Rogers
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WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 1793:

[Whole No. 422.]



LAWS OF THE UNION.

SECOND CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, AT THE SECOND SESSION, Begun and held at the City of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, on Monday the fifth of November, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

AN ACT for repealing the several Impost Laws of the United States, so far as they may be deemed to impose a Duty on useful Beasts imported for Breed.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the several laws of the United States, imposing duties on goods, wares and merchandize imported into the United States, so far as they may be deemed to impose a duty on horses, cattle, sheep, swine or other useful beasts, imported into the United States, for breed, shall be repealed.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate.
APPROVED FEBRUARY 27, 1793.
GEO. WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

AN ACT making provision for the persons therein mentioned.

WHEREAS Colonel John Harding, and Major Alexander Trueman, while employed in carrying messages of peace to the hostile Indians, were killed by the said Indians:

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That four hundred and fifty dollars per annum for seven years, be allowed to the widow and orphan-children of the said Colonel John Harding, and the sum of three hundred dollars per annum, for the same term of seven years, to the orphan children of the said Major Alexander Trueman, to commence on the first day of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, and to be paid half yearly, at the Treasury, to the said widow, and to the guardians of the said orphan-children, or to their legal attorneys.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN ADAMS, Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate.
APPROVED FEBRUARY 27, 1793.
GEO. WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

AN ACT making an appropriation to defray the expense of a treaty with the Indians north west of the Ohio.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, arising from the surplus of former appropriations unexpended, shall be and the same is hereby appropriated to defraying the expense of negotiating and treating with the hostile Indian tribes northwest of the river Ohio.

And be it further enacted, That each of the commissioners, who may be appointed for managing such negotiations and treaties, shall be entitled to an allowance, exclusive of his necessary expenses, of eight dollars per day, during his actual service, to be paid out the monies so appropriated.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN LANGDON, President pro tempore of the Senate.
APPROVED MARCH 2, 1793.
GEO. WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

AN ACT providing for the payment of the First Instalment due on a Loan made of the Bank of the United States.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is authorized and empowered to apply two hundred thousand dollars, of the mo-

nies which may have been borrowed, in pursuance of the fourth section of the act, intitled "An act making provision for the reduction of the public debt," in payment of the first instalment, due to the bank of the United States, upon a loan made of the said bank, in pursuance of the eleventh section of the act for incorporating the subscribers to the said bank.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN LANGDON, President pro tempore of the Senate.
APPROVED, MARCH 2, 1793.
GEO. WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

AN ACT for the relief of Elijah Bolkwick.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That as an indemnification, and to reimburse Elijah Bolkwick, for certain costs and expenditures, he was put to, in defending a prosecution against him, on contracts which he made, as an agent of the deputy commissary general of purchases in the northern department, in the purchase of cattle for the use of the continental army, at a time, during the late war, when they were in great want of provision, there be granted to him one hundred and forty five dollars and forty two cent, payable out of any unappropriated money in the treasury of the United States.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN LANGDON, President pro tempore of the Senate.
APPROVED MARCH 2, 1793.
GEO. WASHINGTON, President of the United States.

FROM THE COLUMBIAN CENTINEL.

[It is from the judicious OBSERVATIONS and perspicuous ARGUMENTS of writers like MARCELLUS, and not from the rapid rhapsodies of modern State Emperors, that AMERICANS are to form just conceptions of the measures necessary to be pursued, at the present eventful period, to SECURE their HONOUR, FELICITY and NATIONAL PROSPERITY.]

"NON NOSTRUM, TANTAS COMPONERE LITES."

MR. RUSSELL,
HAVING attempted, in a late paper, to show that a rigid adherence to the system of Neutrality between the European nations now at war, is equally the dictate of justice and of policy, to the individual citizens of the United States, while the nation remains neutral, the question recurs, what is the line of conduct prescribed to the nation itself, at this delicate juncture, by those immutable laws of justice and equity, which are equally obligatory to foreigners and to subjects, to republics and to kings. I shall not make any consideration of general policy a separate subject of enquiry, because I hold it to be one of the most undeniable principles of government, that the truest policy of a nation consists in the performance of its duties. The rights of nations are nothing more than an extension of the rights of individuals to the great societies, into which the different portions of mankind have been combined; and they are all mediately or immediately derived from the fundamental position which the author of christianity has taught us as an article of religion, and which the revised declaration of rights of the National Convention in France have declared, to contain the essence of liberty: "Liberty," says the new Declaration of Rights, "consists in the power of doing whatever is not contrary to the rights of others." "Whatever," says the Saviour of mankind, "you would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." Let us therefore be cautious to do nothing contrary to the rights of others, and we shall continue to enjoy and to deserve the blessings of freedom. Let us do as we should chuse others might do to us, and we shall deserve the favors of Heaven.

If these are the principles upon which our national conduct is to be grounded, it will follow, that an impartial and unequivocal neutrality between the contending parties is prescribed to us as a duty, unless we are bound by some existing contract or stipulation, to make a common cause with one of them.

I have already said it: The natural state of all nations, with respect to one another, is a state of peace—"damus petimusque vicissim." It is what we have a right to expect from them, and for the same reason it is our duty to observe it towards them. In addition to this natural obligation, we are bound by express treaties with France, England, Holland and Prussia, to observe the laws of peace with the subjects of their different governments, and we have no right to interfere in their contentions. Whatever may be the current of our sentiments, or of our opinions—what-

ever may be the language suggested by our passions, or the wishes inspired by our affections, we are not constituted judges of the respective merits of their cause. From a feeling of gratitude towards a nation which assisted us in the days of our own calamity, we may be disposed to throw a veil over their own errors and crimes, and wish them that success which their frantic enthusiasm has rendered so improbable. As the descendants of Englishmen, we may be willing to lose the memory of all the miseries they inflicted upon us in our just struggle against them, and even the relics of their resentment, which still refuse the complete fulfilment of the treaty of peace, and we may wish them still to retain their reputation for successful courage and conduct in war—as men, we must undoubtedly lament the effusion of human blood, and the mass of misery and distress which is preparing for the great part of the civilized world; but as the citizens of a nation at a vast distance from the continent of Europe—of a nation whose happiness consists in a real independence, disconnected from all European interests and European politics, it is our duty to remain, the peaceable and silent, though sorrowful spectators of the sanguinary scene.

With the reasons for neutrality suggested by these considerations of natural duty and of positive stipulation, a forcible argument concurs, derived from our interest. In the general conflict of all the commercial European Nations, the advantages which will be thrown into our hands, and the activity and vigour which will be given to every branch of our commerce, are too obvious to need any discussion. As the natural consequence of War, the necessities of all the belligerent powers must increase in proportion as their means of supply will diminish, and the profits, which must infallibly flow to us from their wants, can have no other limitation than the extent of our capacity to provide for them.

With all these inducements to a decided neutrality, let us look at the other side of the medal, and see what would be the consequence of our making ourselves partizans in the contest.—First, we should be engaged in a quarrel, with the laws of nations against us. It would be a violation of our political duties; a departure from the principles of national justice, and an express breach of the positive stipulations of peace and friendship with the several belligerent powers, contained in the treaties which I have already mentioned. An act of partiality in favor of either party would be an act of perfidy to the other.

I have so full a confidence in the equity and virtue of my countrymen, that I should rest the argument on this point alone, if I had not perceived that a contrary system of policy, is avowed by men of some influence among us, and openly recommended in some of the public prints of the day. A system, which professing to arise from an extraordinary attachment to the cause of Liberty and Equality, may in reality be traced to the common sources of private avarice, and private ambition, perhaps at once the cause and effect of an implicit devotion to France, and an antipathy to England, exceeding the limits of a national resentment.

To men of this description, arguments derived from the obligations of natural justice, or of written contract will be perfectly nugatory. "The Rights of Man," will be their answer to the one, and "Liberty and Equality," to the other. I apply therefore to a principle of more efficacious operation in their minds, if their own interest is in any degree connected with that of their country, and ask them what would be the inevitable consequence of a war, with all Europe, excepting only the present prevailing power in France? The experience of the late war, would perhaps, discourage an attempt on the part of Great-Britain to conquer this continent, but we have a sea-coast of twelve hundred miles every where open to invasion—and where is the power to protect it? We have a flourishing commerce, expanding to every part of the Globe, and where will it turn when excluded from every market of the Earth? We depend upon the returns of that commerce for many necessaries of life, and when those returns shall be cut off, where shall we look for the supply? We are in a great measure destitute of the defensive apparatus of War, and who will provide us with the arms and ammunition that will be indispensable? We feel severely at this moment, the burden of our public debt, and where are the funds to support us in the dreadful extremity to which our own madness and iniquity would reduce us?—Not to mention the infallible destruction of our Finances, and the national bankruptcy, which the friends of the system I am combating, would perhaps welcome as a blessing.—Are these, Sir, imaginary apprehensions, or are they objects of trivial moment? Our national existence may depend upon the event of our Councils in the present crisis, and to advise us to engage voluntarily in the War, is to aim a dagger at the heart of the country.

MARCELLUS.

The following is the first Speech ever made by LOUIS XVI.

SEATED on the Throne to which it has pleased God to raise us, we hope his bounty will support our youth, and guide us in the means to make our people happy—this is our first desire. We know this felicity principally depends on a wise administration of our finances, for it is that which has a chief relation between a sovereign and his subjects; and it is towards this point that our first care and sollicitude shall be directed.—We have had rendered us an account of our receipts and expences, and have seen with pleasure there were sufficient funds for the exact payment of all arrears and interests, as well as of a reimbursement of all charges, as we consider these engagements as debts of the state, and as a property in common with all other we are bound to protect, therefore entitled to our first care. After having thus provided for the public creditor, and assured these principles of justice which shall form the basis of our reign, we shall occupy ourselves with relieving our people from the weight of their present burthens. We cannot arrive at this desirable end but by order and economy. The fruits which shall result from them are not the work of a moment; and we prefer enjoying this ease of our subjects a little later, than to dazzle them by a relief the stability of which is not yet assured.

There are expences indispensably necessary with the safety of our realm. These are others, which, depending on our liberality, may be susceptible of some moderation, but which, having acquired certain rights by long possession, can be economized but gradually. There are, finally, expences which hold with our persons, and with the splendor of our court; on these we can follow our inclinations more promptly; and we have already taken steps to reduce them to certain bounds.—Such sacrifices as these will cost us nothing, whilst they can relieve our people; their happiness shall be our glory; and the good we can do them will be the sweetest recompence of our labors.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

ADDRESS of the National Convention to the Dutch.

YOUR Republic, Batavians, having lost her titles, the French found them at Breda, and are now proceeding to restore them to you. France when enslaved, suffered you to be oppressed by the Prussians who always thirst after blood and gold—France emancipated, comes to deliver you from those oppressors by her armies that pant for liberty and glory. It is for Republics to efface the arms of Despotism. History bears witness to the unceasing efforts which you once made to obtain your freedom; but she records also your imprudence, founded, perhaps, on gratitude, by which your fetters have been riveted. It is not enough that you have wrested from the ravages of the sea, immense advantages that have been devoured by English ambition—you must also rid yourselves of domestic tyrannies. Your ancestors struggled for eighty years against the united forces of superstition and despotism. Liberty requires of you only a single day to establish completely your liberty and independence.—Governed for ages by foreign powers, you ought to be weary of being transmitted, like live stock, in succession, from the House of Hainault to that of Bavaria; and from thence to the house