

the United States to take a part in the war either wholly or partially. Much less have they by any act authorised any hostilities whatever. On the contrary, they have passed laws more strictly to enforce those duties of neutrality, which, upon general principles, it is conceived were incumbent upon all before, tho' certainly it was a desirable thing on so important an occasion to obviate all possible doubts by express provisions of the legislature itself, which none could mistake, and accompanied with sanctions less indefinite than those which existed before.

Independently of what I have already said, the subject under discussion, if fully investigated, would naturally lead me to a consideration, under many aspects, of the nature and effect of treaties, those solemn national compacts in which the peace and happiness of mankind are so deeply interested, and which acquire a peculiar sanctity from the good faith they indispensably demand. But though no topic can be more interesting to us as individuals, especially at the present momentous crisis, yet as I know no case likely to arise upon which a judicial consideration of it will be requisite, for any official business before you, I forbear any particular observations upon it.

I shall now, gentlemen, only add, that the government we enjoy can alone be supported by a due mixture of vigilance and moderation; by inviolably adhering to the principles of the constitution but at the same time making reasonable allowances for real differences of opinion, whenever they occur, and the various difficulties to which the affairs of a great country will always be subjected; by paying proper obedience to the constituted authorities of our country, relying upon those guards against abuse which the constitution has not only carefully, but I am persuaded efficaciously provided; and by constantly bearing in mind, that that law which protects others protects ourselves, and therefore that we shall arrogate what no true friend to liberty can consistently claim, if we fail in that measure of obedience to the government of our country in cases that are not perfectly agreeable to us, which we expect from all others in those that are.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, April 18.

Mr. New, from the committee of enrolments reported an act for placing certain persons on the pension list, as duly enrolled, which received the signature of the speaker accordingly.

Mr. Baldwin presented a bill for fixing the military establishment of the United States, which was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole on Tuesday.

Mr. Hillhouse presented bills for carrying into effect the Treaties with Spain and with certain Indian tribes, which were twice read and committed to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Mr. Gregg presented two petitions against the British Treaty, (and mentioned his having mislaid two others) which were referred as usual.

A petition from sundry inhabitants of Taunton, (Mass.) praying to have that port made a port of delivery, was read and referred to the committee of the whole to whom was referred the report of the committee on the petition of the Boston Humane Society and others.

Mr. Gallatin said the member from the state of Delaware being so much indisposed as not to be able to attend the house, had requested him to represent that the legislature of that state had taken measures to prevent the future kidnapping of negroes and mulattoes, and that they wished Congress to make provision on the subject. He believed it would be best to bring the business before the house by way of resolution. He, therefore proposed one to the following effect:

"Resolved, That the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures be instructed to enquire into the propriety of making effectual provision for preventing the kidnapping of negroes and mulattoes and of carrying them from the respective states, contrary to the laws of the said states."

Mr. W. Smith presented a petition from sundry merchants of Charleston, praying for such assistance on account of the spoliations committed upon their property by the British in the West Indies, by loan or otherwise, as Congress shall judge proper. Referred to the Committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union; when the resolution for carrying the British Treaty into effect being under consideration, Mr. Giles delivered a speech against, and Mr. Goodhue one in favor of the resolution. The Committee then rose and had leave to sit again.

Mr. W. Smith proposed that the galleries should be cleared that the select committee to whom certain confidential papers relative to the treaty with Algiers was referred, might make their report; they were cleared accordingly.

Adjourned.

Urbanna Mill Seats,

SITUATE in Cecil county, Maryland, on a branch of the river Susquehanna, about one mile above tide water, and commanding the water of that important river, the channel conducting the trade of which comes so near the Mill Seats as to make it convenient to speak the boats; and Mills may be situated so as to receive them along their walls, and by water lifts take in their cargoes.

There is a power sufficient for many and any kind of useful Water Works, and so much may be justly said in commendation of this Scite as would be inconvenient to insert in a newspaper publication.

Those who may desire to be concerned, will probably find themselves well pleased on viewing the situation.

Leaves for any term of years may be obtained on application to the subscriber, living on the premises.

CLEMENT HOLLYDAY.

April 19.

Raw 3m

WANTED,

And suitable wages will be given To a white Woman COOK, in a family without young Children, and where several other Servants are kept. Apply to the Printer.

April 18.

[Written by a veteran of the late American army.]

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE DUTY OF AN AMERICAN HERO.

ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT.

"DEAR is that man, to virtue's cause is dear,
Who for his suffering country drops a tear;"
But dearer he, whom patriot duty warms,
To rise her champion in the strife of arms;
To guard her safety from impious force;
To guide her armies and direct her course;
Compel her vanquish'd enemies to yield,
And rear her arches on the bloody field.

Such have we seen thee in Columbia's cause,
When injured freedom mourn'd her slighted laws.—
Such have we seen thee rise in scenes of death,
And blotted legions tremble at thy breath:
War's dreadful clarion, drop her murderous sound,
And Peace, delightful seraph! smile around!

What deep-felt raptures did this hour impart;
What strong emotions burst from every heart;
When first we saw the bloody contest end,
And hail'd our country's favour and its friend!

Yet soon that country felt a new alarm,
And call'd its hero to dispel the storm;
To check the causes of domestic strife,
And mould the expiring fabric into life.

With generous warmth you heard a nation's pray'r,
Left Vernon's reefs for a life of care;
With parent hand our shattered state renew'd,
With wisdom temper'd and with strength endu'd;

And in declining years, fresh toils have brav'd,
To guard that Empire which your arms had sav'd.

But few new spires lift their horrid shapes!

Now civil contests rise, and discord gapes!

Contention fiercely swells its jarring notes,

And faction hisses through her hundred throats—

Intent our infant vessel to o'erwhelm;

Or chase the long-tried Pilot from the helm!

Yet let not frowns like these thy hopes impair,

Nor drive thy steady patience to despair;

But let thy country, at this moment, prove,

The manly efforts of thy generous love.

Defend their heav'n-born rights, defend thine own;

Let charter'd powers from lawless claims be known,

Like some tall cliff, which winds and waves assail,

Stand thou the bulwark of the trembling vale—

And while such threat'ning ills around are hurl'd,

O risque thy glory to preferve a world!

For the GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

No. X.

SHOULD the house of representatives of the United States escape degradation and abhorrence among their constituents, it would be injustice in the extreme to charge their good fortune to the want of industry and pain on the part of their enemies. To the merit of unceasing exertions to disgrace that branch they are unquestionably entitled. Would to heaven their regard to veracity were equally clear.

In New-England, the negro representation has been a favorite topic of abuse. That the "negro representatives of Virginia," should stand upon equal ground with the representatives from New-England, has afforded ample matter for appeals to the passions. Those who used this argument did not perceive (or at least did not allow the perception to influence their conduct) that as the present system of representation is a component part of the federal constitution, it is a strong trait of anti-federalism to excite the dissatisfaction of the people towards it—and that therefore they ought, for lack of consistency, to relinquish their cherished title of *federalists*—unless, indeed, this title confers a privilege of attacking with impunity that very constitution, of which it implies a reverence.

While these writers skirmished in the open plains of declamation and general censure, they were perfectly safe: but when they ventured into the details of figures and calculations, they have afforded their antagonists an easy victory.

A writer in the Columbian Centinel, published at Boston, in considering the contradictory constructions of the Constitution, with respect to Treaties, makes the following remarks: "The boasted " majorities in the House, so often vaunted in the " anarchical newspapers, have, IN NO ONE CASE, " exceeded the overplus number of NEGRO REPRESENTATIVES. Such, however, are exhibited " as the only safe keepers of the rights—the interpreters of the will of the people:—and on this power of numbers, matter not of what colour or description, in the Representative body, the truly *insurgent doctrine* is avowed, that Treaties are not binding on the House of Representatives—that assembly being free to carry them into effect or not, at its own discretion ***** What becomes of the power of the Senate, and of the equal vote of the small states, if the Negro Representatives of Virginia are allowed to annul the most solemn constitutional acts?"

I shall not detain the reader by any comment on the decency and decorum of this philippic against the House of Representatives. Of that he will judge for himself. I shall merely trespass on his time to expose the fallacy of the assertion, on which the whole is grounded, "that the majority has in no case exceeded the overplus number of Negro Representatives."

The census taken in the year 1791, on which the present ratio of representation has been fixed, lies before me;—from it I shall make a short extract, and "mark, reader, how a plain tale shall put him down." By this census it appears that the Southern States have negro slaves as follow:

Maryland,	- - -	103,036.
Virginia,	- - -	292,627.
Kentucky,	- - -	12,430.
North Carolina,	- - -	100,571.
South Carolina,	- - -	107,994.
Georgia,	- - -	29,264.
		645,022.

Of this number, three fifths amounting to 387,012 are entitled to representatives, at the rate of one member for every 33,000 slaves. Thus it appears that were the whole number collected together, so as to avoid losses in each state by fractional remainders, the negro representation in Congress would only amount to eleven members—probably those remainders may reduce the number to ten or even nine.

Now, reader, what idea shall we entertain of such dogmatic assertions, founded on error,? The majority has fluctuated from fifteen to twenty-seven

—yet this writer asserts, they have "in no case exceeded the number of negro representatives," who, we find, cannot exceed eleven!—It is not worth mentioning that on every late division, four Southern members, two from Maryland and two from South Carolina, have uniformly been in the minority.

The writer whose irritating observations have been quoted, either did or did not examine the census. If he did, the reader will affix what epithet he pleases to his conduct: if he did not, and be a man of candour, he will unquestionably blush for his rashness and want of examination. In either case, this instance, with some I have already given, ought to inspire with caution the readers of newspapers, so that they may not be disposed to receive or trust the *ipse dixit* of any man, whether "a negro representative from Virginia" or a "federal" writer in the Columbian Centinel.

HARRINGTON.

P. S. Virginia, which is extremely obnoxious on the subject of "Negro representatives," has above 70,000 more white inhabitants than Massachusetts, and 20,000 more than Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia,
TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 19, 1796.

Notifications for meetings of the Insurance Companies in New-York, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of continuing the business of Insurance at this alarming crisis, are published in the papers of that city.

The rapid fall in the prices of our produce, the total stagnation in the stock market—the hauling up of the shipping, the melancholy gloom on every face, excepting those who have nothing to lose, afford convincing proof "that there is something rotten in the state of Denmark."

Our readers will observe, that the profits of the entertainments this evening at Ricketts' amphitheatre are to be applied to the fund already established for providing wood for the poor: it is therefore hoped that the generous and humane will be particularly in their attendance at the circus.

So far as the returns have been made it appears that Sam. Adams, Esq. has a majority of votes as governor of Massachusetts, and that he will be re-elected by a large majority.

COMMUNICATIONS.

By the antifederal prints, any endeavours to countenance a supreme law of the land, in favor of peace and prosperity, is an attempt to bully Congress—while indecent remonstrances, in opposition to all law, are denominated the glorious spirit of 1776.

It is said in the Aurora of this morning, that "all who do not sign the petition in this city in favor of the treaty, must be considered as opposed to it." Mr. Bache must then admit, that all who have not signed the petitions against the treaty are in favor of it: it is a bad rule which will not work both ways.

Mr. Goodhue, in his speech yesterday, asserted, that the treaty with Great-Britain contained concessions in favor of the United States which she had never made to any other country—advantages which she had not conferred even on her own citizens, and for which the United States had not given up one iota.

In the Aurora of yesterday, Mr. Gallatin states the excess of expences beyond our income. Query, whose fault is it? The expences of the *Western Insurrection* are said to exceed 1,200,000 dollars, that sum might have been usefully applied to the purchase of the public debt. Who is to blame, those who impose taxes to pay off the public debt, or those who by their "political sins" promote an insurrection which cost upwards of a million? whose who endeavor to raise revenues adequate to current expences, or those who by hunting down the officers of the revenue, make the revenues unproductive?

Citizen Lenier, a French writer on the new constitution, when tracing the character which he should wish the man to possess who is to be charged with the executive functions, and painting as perhaps he thought, a mere ideal character, has drawn that of the President with such truth and accuracy that all who read must own it so.

(Charleston Paper.)

To a great firmness of character, to a fund of wisdom acquired by long experience from business and men, he should join that conciliatory spirit which tempers the passions, stifles contentions, and rallies all private interests, round the common interest of liberty, justice and order. His name must never have been attached to any of those parties which have rent the republic, and left in many hearts, fears and resentment. He must have passed the revolution without having dishonoured himself by its errors, or given occasion for suspicion of ambition or interested intrigue. He must have rendered such essential service to the republic, as to merit great esteem without having created in the minds of his countrymen, any inquietudes or jealousies. He must be no stranger to the exterior relations, the science of which tends to maintain the peace of the state abroad, nor to the knowledge of interior administration, which secures tranquillity at home. In a word, to principles of integrity which are proof against any attack, he should add good and sound principles of liberty and a pure, an enlightened patriotism."

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

ARRIVED.

DAYS.

Ship Columbia, Maley Amsterdam 96

Good Friends, Smith Hamburg 56

Brig Dolphin, Galloway Liverpool 50

Sehr. Isabella, Driscoll Jeremie