of public
ere not xe-
d the furnish-
library. But
fon nomina-
. He would
taste and in-
ouse did not
w what would
ere not yet no-
nefs to carry into
ntlemen opposed.
not an office, nor
He could not see
nal objection could
ould prevail. He was
the responsibility which would
e men who would fill the executive office.
id not consider it in the light of an executive

Mr. Harper did not consider it in the nature of an office but it certainly was an executive act. He entered pretty largely into the objections he had stated, declaring at the same time that his respect for the qualifications of the gentlemen named were such as he hoped would remove any idea that he wanted confidence in their talents or integrity.

Mr. Gallatin supported the same principles. He believed the gentlemen named were as fit as any who could be named; but that would not satisfy the constitutional objections. What he asked, would be said with respect to that part wherein it was said that "no senator or representative, shall, during the time for which he is elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States." &c. Here no office is to be erected during the legislative powers of any persons who shall be appointed to hold such office; but according to the opinion of some gentlemen, any members of either house might fill the office now in question, and elect themselves to office. As to the purchase of a library which was mentioned, it was a thing especially for the use of the two houses, and therefore the officers of the two houses could as properly execute it as any other of their duties. It was not a national concern, otherwise it would have been precisely in the same situation with the present.

He wished the gentleman from South-Carolina to modify his motion so that it may be such persons as shall be appointed by the president, and then every objection will be removed, although the very same persons should be named.

Mr. Harper consented, & the motion was carried.

The question for concuring in the amendment of the senate as amended was then before the house, against which Mr Harper again spoke, hoping that the national gratitude and acknowledgment of the unparalleled services of a Washington, and the national thanks to Providence for having given such a patriot, would not be evinced by this parsimonious mode. He wished something to be done in some measure proportionate with the character of the man and the nation whom he was born to serve.

The question to concur, in the amendment of the senate as amended by the house, was taken and carried—yeas 45, nays 35.

The senate informed the house that they had resolved that the president of the United States be qualified in the senate chamber, where there would be provided seats for the accommodation of the members who chose to attend and for the officers of the government.

On motion of Mr. Harper, the unfinished business; the bill respecting slaves escaped from the service of their masters, and those who knowingly harbored or employed them, was postponed for the present session. Adjourned.

STATE PAPERS

Respecting the Confederacy against England.

HAMBURG Jan. 20

I inclose you a copy of the Note of the British Minister to the Danish Court, and of the answer. The subject is of the utmost importance, in a commercial as well as in a political point of view. Notwithstanding the apparent warmth of language, it is known that both Denmark and Sweden wish to avoid a rupture

Note transmitted by Mr. DRUMMOND to the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dated 27th December, 1801.

The Court of London, informed that Denmark is carrying on with activity negociations very hostile to the interests of the British Empire, thinks that it cannot better fulfil the duties which such a circumstance prescribes, than by addressing itself directly to the Minister of his Danish Majesty to demand from him a frank and satisfactory explanation.

In all the Courts of Europe they speak openly of a confederacy between Denmark and some other powers, to oppose by force the exercise of those principles of maritime law on which the naval power of the British Empire in a great manner rests, and which in all wars have been followed by the maritime states, and acknowledged by their tribunals.

His Britannic Majesty, relying with confidence upon the loyalty of his Danish Majesty, and upon the faith of the engagements recently contracted between the two Courts, has not demanded from him any explanation on this head. It was his wish to wait for the moment when the Court of Denmark should think it its duty to contradict those reports so injurious to its good faith, and so little compatible with the maintenance of the good understanding which had been re-established between the two countries.

At present the conduct and the public declaration of one of the Powers, which it is intended have entered into this confederacy, not permit his Majesty to preserve any longer towards the rest, the same silence which has hitherto observed

The undersigned therefore, finds himself to demand from his Excellency Count Bernstorff, a plain, open, and satisfactory the nature, object, and extent of which his Danish Majesty may d, or the negociations which he with respect to a matter which concerns the dignity of his Britannic and the interests of his people.

His Britannic Majesty, always ready to return all the marks of friendship which he may receive on the part of his Danish Majesty, hopes to find, in the answer of the Court of Copenhagen to this request, only a new occasion of manifesting these dispositions.

In transmitting this Note to M. the Secretary of state, the undersigned avails himself, with pleasure, of this opportunity, to assure him of the high consideration with which he has the honour to be

His very humble and very obedient serv't.

W. DRUMMOND.

To His Excellency the Count de Bernstorf, Secretary of state of his Danish Majesty, &c. &c.

NOTE IN ANSWER.

The undersigned Secretary of state for Foreign Affairs, having given an account to the King his master, of the contents of the Note which Mr. Drummond has done him the honor to transmit to him on the 27th instant, is authorised to return the answer which follows:

The Court of London must have received very incorrect information, to have been able for a moment to presume that Denmark had conceived projects hostile against it, or incompatible with the maintenance of the good understanding which subsists between the two Crowns; and the King is very much obliged to his Britannic Majesty for having furnished him with the opportunity of contradicting in the most positive manner, reports as ill founded, as contrary to his most decided sentiments.

The negociation which is carrying on at St. Petersburgh between Russia, Prussia, Sweden, and Denmark has no other object than the renewal of the engagements, which in the years 1780 and 1781, were contracted by the same powers for the safety of their navigation, and of which a communication was at that time made to all the Courts of Europe.

His Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, having proposed to the powers of the North to re-establish these engagements in their original form, Denmark has so much the less hesitated to consent to it, as, far from having ever abandoned the principles professed in 1780, she has thought it her duty to maintain them, and claim them upon all occasions, and not allow herself to admit in respect of them any other modifications than those which result from her treaties with the Belligerent Powers

Very far from wishing to interrupt those Powers in the exercise of rights which the war gives them, Denmark introduces into the negociations with her allies none but views absolutely defensive, pacific and incapable of giving offence or provocation to any one. The engagements she will make will be found upon the strictest fulfilment of the duties of neutrality, and of the obligations which her treaties impose upon her; and if she wishes to shelter her innocent navigation from the manifest abuses and violence, which the maritime war produces but too easily, she thinks she pays respect to belligerent powers by supposing, that, far from wishing to authorise or tolerate those abuses, they would, on their side, adopt measures best calculated to prevent or repress them.

Denmark has not made a mystery to any one of the object of her negociation, upon the nature of which some suspicion has been infused in the Court of London; but she has not thought that she departed from the usual forms in wishing to wait the definitive result of it, in order to communicate an official account of it to the powers at war.

The undersigned, not knowing that any of the powers engaged in this negociation has made a declaration, or adopted measures relative to its object, at which Great-Britain might take offence or umbrage, cannot without ulterior explanation reply to this point of Mr. Drummond's note.

Much less does he conceive in what respect the engagements taken by the previous convention of the 29th of August last can be considered as contrary to those which Denmark is about to enter into with the neutral and united powers of the North; and in all cases in which he shall find himself called upon to combat or remove the doubts that shall have been conceived with respect to the good faith of the King, he shall consider his task to be very easy, as long as this good faith shall be introduced into the reproaches or the suspicions advanced against his Majesty. He flatters himself that the English Government, after having received the required explanation, will have the frankness to allow that the provisional and momentary abandonment, not of a principle, the question with respect to which remained undecided, but of a measure, whose right has never been, nor never can be contested cannot be found at all in opposition to the general and permanent principles, relative to which the powers of the North are upon the point of establishing co-operation, which, so far from being calculated to compromise their neutrality, is destined only to strengthen it.

The undersigned would fain believe that these explanations will appear satisfactory to the Court of London; and that the latter will do justice to the intentions and sentiments of the King, and particularly to his Majesty's invariable desire to maintain and cement, by all the means in his power, the friendship and good understanding which subsist between Denmark and Great Britain.

He has the honor to offer to Mr. Drummond the assurance of his most distinguished consideration. (Signed)

BERNSTORFF.

Copenhagen, Dec. 15, 1800.

COPY OF THE MARITIME TREATY,

Between the Empress of Russia, and the King of Denmark.

Acceded to by the King of Sweden, and the States General of the United Provinces.

[As the Court of Denmark says that the Northern Powers have no other object than the renewal of the engagements contracted by the same Powers in the year 1780 and 1781, we have thought it necessary to insert a copy of the Maritime Treaty concluded at that period.]

Article I. Their respective Majesties are fully and sincerely determined to keep upon the most friendly terms with the present belligerent powers, and preserve the most exact neutrality; they solemnly declare their firm intention to be, that their respective subjects shall strictly observe the laws forbidding all contraband trade with the powers now being or that may hereafter be, concerned in the present disputes.

II. To prevent all equivocation or misunderstanding of the word contraband. Their Imperial and Royal Majesties declare that, the meaning of the said word is solely restrained to such goods and commodities as are mentioned under the denomination in the Treaties subsisting between their said Majesties and either of the belligerent powers.

Her Imperial Majesty, abiding principally by the 10th and 11th articles of the Treaty of commerce with Great Britain; the conditions therein mentioned, which are founded on the right of nations, being understood to extend to the Kings of France and Spain, as there is at present no special treaty of commerce between the two latter and the former.

His Danish Majesty, on his part, regulates his conduct in this particular by the first article of this Treaty with England, and the 26th and 27th of that subsisting between his said Majesty and the King of France, extending the provisions made in the latter to the Catholic King, there having no treaty ad hoc between Denmark and Spain.

III And whereas by this means the word contraband, conformable to the Treaties now extant, and the stipulations made between the contracting powers, and those that are now at war, is fully explained, especially by the Treaty between Russia and England of the 20th June, 1766; between the latter and Denmark of the 11th July, 1670; and between their Danish and most Christian Majesties of August 23, 1742; the will and opinion of the high contracting powers are, that all other trade whatsoever shall be deemed and remain free and unrestrained.

By the declaration delivered to the belligerent Powers, their contracting Majesties have already challenged the privileges founded on natural right, whence spring the freedom of trade and navigation, as well as the right of neutral Powers, and being fully determined not to depend in future merely on an arbitrary interpretation, devised to answer some private advantages or concerns, they mutually covenanted as followeth:—

1. That it will be lawful for any ship whatever to sail freely from one port to another, or along the coast of the Powers now at war.

2. That all merchandize and effects belonging to the subjects of the said Belligerent Powers, and shipped in neutral bottoms, shall be entirely free, except contraband goods.

3. In order to ascertain what constitutes the blockade of any place or port, it is to be understood to be in such predicament, where the assailing Power has taken such a station as to expose to imminent danger any ship or ships that would attempt to sail in or out of the said ports.

4. No neutral ships shall be stopped without a material and well-grounded cause; and in such case justice shall be done to them without loss of time; and besides indemnifying each and every time the party aggrieved and thus stopped without sufficient cause, full satisfaction shall be given to the high contracting Powers for the insult offered to their flag.

5. In order to protect officially the general trade of their respective subjects on the fundamental principles aforesaid, her Imperial and his Royal Majesty have thought proper for effecting such purpose, each respectively to fit out a proportionate rate of ships of war and frigates The squadron of each of the contracting powers shall be stationed in a proper latitude, and shall be employed in escorting convoys according to the particular circumstances of the navigators and traders of each nation.

6. Should any of the merchantmen belonging to the subjects of the Contracting Powers fail in the latitude where shall be no ships of war of their own nation, and thus be deprived of the protection, in such case, the commander of the squadron belonging to the other friendly Powers shall, at the request of such merchantmen, grant them sincerely and bonafide, all necessary assistance. The ships of war and frigates of either of the Contracting Powers, shall thus protect and assist the merchantmen of each other: Provided nevertheless, that under the sanction of such required assistance and protection, no contraband be carried on, nor any prohibited trade contrary to the laws of the neutrality.

7. The present Convention cannot be supposed to have any relative effect that is to extend to the differences that may have arisen since its being concluded, unless the controversy should spring from continual vexations, which might tend to aggrieve and oppress all the European Nations.

8. If, notwithstanding the cautious and friendly care of the Contracting Powers, and their steady adherence to an exact neutrality, the Russian and Danish merchantmen should happen to be insulted, plundered or captured by any of the Belligerent Powers, in such case the Ambassador or Envoy of the aggrieved party, to the offending Court, shall claim such ship or ships, insisting on a proper satisfaction, and never neglect to obtain a reparation for the insult offered to the flag of his Court. The Minister of the other Contracting Power shall, at the same time, in the most efficatious and vigorous manner, defend such requisition, which shall be supported by both parties with unanimity. But in case of any refusal, or even delay in redressing the grievances complained of, then their Majesties will retaliate against the Power that shall thus refuse to do them justice, and immediately agree together on the most proper means of making well-founded reprisals.

9. In case that either of the Contracting Powers, or both at the same time, should be in any manner aggrieved or attacked in consequence of the present Convention, or for any reason relating thereto, it is agreed that both Powers will join, and act in concert, for their mutual defence, and unite their forces, in order to procure to themselves an adequate and perfect satisfaction, both in regard to the insult put upon their respective flags and the losses suffered by their subjects.

10. This Convention shall remain in force for and during the continuance of the present war; and the obligation enforced thereby will serve as the ground work of all treaties that may be set on foot hereafter, according to future occurrences and on the breaking out of any fresh maritime wars which might unluckily disturb the tranquility of Europe. Meanwhile all that is hereby agreed upon shall be deemed as binding and permanent in regard to both merchantile and naval affairs, and shall have the force of law, in determining the rights of neutral nations.

11. The chief aim and principle of the present convention being to secure the freedom of trade and navigation, the High Contracting Powers have antecedently agreed, and do engage to give to all other Neutral Powers, free leave to accede to the present treaty, and, after a thorough knowledge of the principles on which it rests, share equally in the obligations and advantages thereof.

12. In order that the Powers, now at war, may not be ignorant of the strength and nature of the engagement entered into by the two Courts aforesaid; the High Contracting parties shall give notice, in the most friendly manner to the Belligerent Powers, of the measures by them taken; by which, far from meaning any manner of hostility, or caution any loss or injury to other Powers, their only intention is to protect the trade and navigation of their respective subjects.

13. This Convention shall be ratified by the Contracting Powers, and the ratifications interchanged between the parties in due form within the space of six weeks, from the day of its being signed, or even sooner, if possible.

In witness whereof, and by virtue of the full powers granted us for the purpose, we have put our hands and seals to the present Treaty.

Given at Copenhagen, July 19, 1780.

(Signed)

CHARLES D'OSTEN, called SOKEN.
J. SCHACK RATLAU,
A. P. COMPTE BERNSTORFF.
O. THOFT.
H. EIKSTEDT.

Acceded to, and signed by the Plenipotentiaries of the Court of Sweden, at Petersburgh, July 21, 1780, and by the States General accepted Nov. 20, 1780, and signed at Petersburg, Jan. 5, 1781, with the addition only of article

14. If the respective squadrons or ships of war should meet or unite, to act in conjunction, the Commander in Chief will be regulated according to what is commonly practised between the Crown Heads and the Republic.

ENGLAND.

London, Jan. 22.

The state of affairs on the Continent; and our relations with neutral powers, are now so uncertain, that the Merchants know not how to act—Yesterday, we were informed, an application was made to Government, to ascertain what flags were to be considered as neutral; but we have not heard what answer was received