

William Carlton

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PHILADELPHIA, June 8.

Extract of a letter received by a merchant in this city, dated at Tortola, 16th of May.
"All American vessels met with going from an enemy's port to any other neutral port than that to which they belong, will be condemned if brought in here, and there are now five British cruisers in those seas; the judge strictly adheres to his Britannic Majesty's order in Council of the 24th of June, 1803."

ORDER ALLUDED TO.

Additional instructions to commanders of our ships of war, &c. &c.
In consideration of the present state of commerce, we are pleased hereby to direct the commanders of our ships of war and privateers, not to seize any neutral vessels which shall be carrying on trade directly between the colony of the enemy and the neutral country to which the vessel belongs, and laden with the property of such neutral country, provided that such neutral vessel shall not be supplying, nor on the outward voyage supplied the enemy with any article contraband of war, and shall not be trading with any blockaded ports.
By his majesty's command.

(CIRCULAR.)

To the members of the Philadelphia Medical Society, throughout the United States.
SIR,

At a meeting of the Philadelphia Medical Society, held on the 2d of February, 1805, it was unanimously resolved—

"That a committee consisting of three honorary members, be invested with full powers to solicit and receive donations, for the purpose of enabling the society to purchase a convenient situation for their future meetings in the city of Philadelphia."

The undersigned were elected members of the committee, and will continue to receive such donations as their fellow members in different parts of the United States may be disposed to forward.

JOHN SYNG DORSEY, M. D.
JAMES HUTCHINSON, M. D.
JOHN REDMAN COXE, M. D.
Philadelphia, May 1st, 1805.

IMPERIAL COMPLIMENT.

We are informed that the Emperor Napoleon has presented to Mr. Robert Livingston late American minister at the Court of France an elegant snuff box, on the cover of which is a portrait of his Imperial Majesty, set with diamonds. The value of it is estimated at above 8,000 dollars. It was accompanied by a complimentary letter from the Emperor, Mr. Livingston, since the close of his ministerial functions, has made with his family the tour of Italy; and on his return to Paris, received the above elegant present. His arrival here is daily expected.

[N. York M. Chr.]

The Printers throughout the United States are requested to publish, for the information of merchants and others concerned, the following extracts and translations of official letters received from the Royal College of Commerce at Stockholm, by

RICHARD STODERSTROM,

His Swedish Majesty's Commercial Agent, near the United States.

No. I.—Letter to commercial agents residing in the United States of North America.

Although from official reports respecting the contagious disease which raised last autumn in Malaga, occasioning so much devastation, the royal college has likewise been informed that the said contagion had ceased in the month of December next following, so as to leave no apprehension of its spreading any further, and that consequently all measures of precaution hitherto enforced, had been discontinued in Spain, since the month of March last; yet, as this epidemic, which in all probability was a species of yellow fever, has already, within a few years, repeatedly renewed its symptoms in the said kingdom; and whereas, on account of its mercantile relations with America, it is ever to be feared that the contagion may be again communicated, especially because the measure of guarding against it may be less generally known, or not strictly enforced; now therefore, the royal college thinks fit hereby to apprise you of the necessity of taking particular notice, that upon every occasion of Swedish vessels bound to or from your district, or foreign vessels being bound for Sweden, a correct knowledge may be obtained respecting the state of health and soundness of the crew, and whenever there is any ground for apprehending contagion, then to certify the same on the pass, and immediately to report the same to the royal college, &c. &c.

Stockholm, July 16, 1804.

No. II.—His majesty, for the purpose of securing the kingdom against the raging epidemic which has again broke out in Malaga, has, by royal letter of the 16th inst. been

pleased graciously to ordain, that all vessels from the said city, or other suspected places, arriving into any port of the kingdom situated out of the Sound or Baltic Sea, shall be ordered for the island of Kansa, situated one Swedish mile from the fortress of Ellsberg, for the purpose of undergoing a quarantine, a provisional establishment of this kind being immediately to take place there by his majesty's command: And moreover his majesty, desirous of enforcing such regulations as have been adopted in Denmark, has been pleased to ordain that no vessel, coming from Malaga (or other suspected places) and bound for any Swedish port or place in the Baltic, shall be allowed to pass in the Sound, unless it can prove, by a bill of health in due form, granted by the commissioners (or Board) of Health established at Christiansand, in Norway, that it has undergone the quarantine in said place, or been freed by the said commissioners to be free of all suspected contagious disease; otherwise such vessel or vessels shall be ordered back again to Christiansand. The royal college hereby apprizes you of this royal order, enjoining you to communicate the same not only to all masters of Swedish vessels which may arrive within your district, but also to all foreign vessels arriving from Malaga, or other suspected places, which may be bound for this kingdom. Given at Stockholm, October 23d, 1804.

No. III.—Since erecting and establishing a quarantine ground on the Island of Kansa on the coast of Gottenburg, his majesty has graciously been pleased to command by letter of the 27th November, last past, addressed to the royal college of trade and commerce. That during the continuance of such quarantine, the said port shall be shut against all vessels arriving from places free from contagion; of which the commercial agents are hereby enjoined to communicate information in foreign newspapers, at the same time his majesty has judged it to be necessary, that all masters of vessels from Sweden and its dependencies, who may be in foreign ports shall receive order through the commercial agents abroad, to provide themselves with a black flag, and hoist the same on approaching the Swedish coast, whenever they may be coming from infected or suspected places; this flag being intended as a warning to pilots and others concerned, &c. &c.
Stockholm, December 10, 1804.

No. IV.—Whereas his majesty has graciously ordained, under date the 21st inst. That it shall henceforward be the duty of all Swedish commercial agents and commissioners residing abroad, whenever a contagious disease breaks out in or near their places of residence, immediately to report the same, not only to the royal college of trade and commerce, but also direct to the quarantine commissioners, (or board of health) at Gottenburg; and moreover, to transmit a list of such vessels as may then lie in port and be loading for Sweden and ports in the Baltic: Now, therefore, the royal college does hereby make known to you his majesty's gracious command for your faithful observance, &c. &c.
Stockholm, December 27, 1804.

A conspiracy, says a London paper, has been discovered in the electorate of Wittenberg. The number of persons arrested are considerable. The object of the conspiracy was to carry off the electress, princess royal of England, and a number of other persons in high credit with the court. A special commission is appointed to examine the prisoners. Most of them have been confined in a citadel.

The following account of the loss of the ship Sally, of Hampton, captain Bigby, is taken from a protest, made at Salem on the 20th ult. by capt. Bigby, his 2d mate, and John Bradley, a seaman, who arrived there after being fortunately picked up at sea— "Well known, &c. that on the 10th of April, 1805, they sailed in said ship Sally, from Charleston, S. C. bound for Greenock, loaded principally with cotton, that the ship was then staunch and sound, and that nothing remarkably happened on the voyage until the 25th April, being then in lat. 42, 30, long. 52, the weather foggy and a fresh breeze from the N. W. when about 10 o'clock, in the evening the captain being then on deck, called to the watch to keep a good look-out—the watchmen answered—and in about two minutes after the ship struck an island of ice, and we put her before the wind—the pumps were then rigged, and in about 10 minutes after she struck, were set to work—there were then 3 or 4 feet water in her hold. The captain immediately gave orders to clear the bales of cotton, to discover the leak—they soon found the ship's bows were beat in, the stem and several of the timbers started; they however endeavoured to check the leak by stuffing in cotton; but after two hours ineffectual labour, were driven away by the quantity of water which entered, and finding all means to save the ship were fruitless, they prepared for the preservation of their lives, and accordingly about 1 o'clock in the morning they cut away their mizen mast, and got

out the long boat into which was put a barrel of bread and half barrel of pork, the water being stowed between decks, could get none. The ship continued gradually to settle, from about 1 o'clock till 3, when she sunk and totally disappeared." The crew consisted of the captain, two men, eight seamen, steward, and cook; there was also one passenger on board. Their names as follows: Samuel Bigby, captain; Isaac Snow, 1st mate; David Riddle, 2d do. John Bradley, Samuel Pierce, of Beverly; John Peterson, a German; Antoine Nelson, a Dane; Jacob Johnson, a Swede; Samuel Webber, of do. James Lewis, of New-York; Robert Hibbert of do. John Daviniss, a black man, seaman; and a Mr. Williams, merchant, of Nova Scotia, passenger. Of the above, the captain, 2d mate, J. Bradley, J. Gardner, J. Lewis, and S. Webber, were the only persons who were saved; the remainder, not having embarked in the boat from a persuasion that the ship would not immediately sink, unfortunately went down with her. Gardner, Lewis and Webber were put on board the sch'r James, of Marblehead, which has not yet arrived.

On the third day of May last, all foreign coins, excepting Spanish dollars, and parts of dollars, ceased to be a legal tender for the payment of debts in the United States. As the act of congress making French Spanish and Portuguese gold coins and French crowns a tender, expired on the said third day of May.

PROCLAMATION.

By Brig. Gen. William Carlyon Hughes, commanding his majesty's land forces in the colony of Surinam, and lieutenant governor of the same, &c. &c. &c.

Whereas the time limited in the proclamation of his excellency, major general sir Charles Green, dated the 7th day of December last, for regulating the trade to and from this colony in neutral vessels, will expire on the 29th of this present month of April, and his majesty's further pleasure having been since signified upon that head, whereby I am instructed not to open the ports of the settlement over which I preside for the admission of articles from the American states which are not allowed by law, except in cases of real and very great necessity:

And whereas, it appearing to me that there does at present exist a real and very great necessity for the admission, during a limited period, of the articles hereinafter enumerated; I do by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, publish this my proclamation, hereby declaring that it shall and may be lawful from and after the 29th of this present month of April, and during the term of four months, to import into this settlement in American or other neutral bottoms belonging to the subjects of any power in amity with his majesty, tobacco, pitch, tar, turpentine, staves, heading, boards, timber, shingles and lumber of any sort, mules, cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and live stock of any sort, bread, biscuit, flour, peas, beans, potatoes, wheat, rice, oats, barley, and grain of any sort, from the American dominions of such neutral powers aforesaid; and it is hereby declared that it shall and may be lawful to permit the exportation of rum and molasses in such American or other neutral vessels to the full value of their imported cargoes, and that a duty of four per cent. upon exports, as well upon the commodities herein before specified as upon such as shall hereafter be found necessary to allow to be imported or exported in neutral bottoms upon emergency or otherwise, shall be levied and collected according to the regulations now existing on that head. Furthermore, that if any other articles than those before enumerated and specified are attempted to be introduced from the United States of America in American or other neutral bottoms, measures will be taken for the forfeiture of the ship or vessel importing the same and of the goods so imported in contravention of the laws of navigation.

Done at Paramaribo in the colony of Surinam, this 24th day April, 1805, and in the 45th year of his majesty's reign.

WM. CARLYON HUGHES,

Brig. Gen. and Lieut. Gov.

By the Lieut. Governor's Command,

R. ROSS, Secretary.

BRITISH TAX ON SALT.

We make the following extract from the debate in the British House of Commons on the 4th March, relative to the proposed tax on Salt. Subsequent accounts state that this tax has passed by a large majority.

"The Chancellor of the Exchequer [Mr. Pitt] having moved that the additional Salt duty bill be now read a second time,

"Lord W. Russell expressed his opinion that this tax would materially affect the laboring classes of the community, the protection of whom he was sorry to say the right hon. gentleman seemed to have abandoned. He had been in hopes that the report of the committee on this subject would have sufficiently shewn the inconvenience and oppression of the tax. He now hoped that those who urged the institution of the committee, and

who had approved of their resolution, would come forward. The immediate effect of this bill would be to raise the assize of bread the price of all kinds of butchers' meat would necessarily be increased; and salt fish, which was the chief diet of many of the poor, would likewise become more expensive. His lordship concluded by moving as an amendment, that for the word "now" be substituted the words "this day six months."

"The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed that the committee, in the report which they gave in some years ago, and which had been alluded to by the noble lord, proceeded on the ground of rendering salt applicable to many general purposes, among which was even that of manure. It was certainly their object to give facility to the circulation of that article; but the chief hinderance to a free circulation was the regulation which the duty necessarily demanded and these regulations would equally effect the circulation, whether the duty amounted to 5, or 10, or 15 shillings a bushel, so that the noble lord ought not to be satisfied with advising a rejection of a revenue of £ 500,000 which the proposed additional duty would produce, but should advise the taking off the duty now existing, which produced a revenue amounting to double that sum. The report had slept for three years, and the consideration of it was now urged, at a time, than which none could be more unfit. The noble lord had asserted, that this tax pressed heavily on the poor. It was the most unpleasant thing for him to be under the necessity of imposing taxes which in any degree effected the lower classes, but he had a sacred duty to perform. We were engaged in a contest for the defence both of rich and poor; supplies must be found, and no mode of raising them seemed to him so little liable to objection as the present.

"Mr. Fox declared, that so far from thinking this an objectionable tax, he never knew one more objectionable in every point of view. He perfectly assented to the report of the committee in 1801. If, instead of the situation in which we now are, we were at peace, he should certainly move for the total annihilation of the salt duty.— "But," says the right hon. gentleman by a singular mode of argument, similar to one that was used the other evening on the slave trade, "if you do not repeal the old tax, it is of no use to reject the new one." What, is the magnitude of the tax then of no consequence? We may hesitate to relinquish a large revenue, although but imperfectly satisfied with the means by which it is obtained, but to say that we should therefore increase it by an extension of those means, was more than absurd. An evil might exist which in certain circumstances we might not be able to remove, but we should at least not render it more difficult to abolish it, and it was well known that the increase of produce must be accomplished by an increase of difficulty.— It had been said that the fisheries would not suffer by this additional duty, as the salt used in them was exempt from it, but it was objectionable to have a very large tax on which very large drawbacks must be made.—The calculations which the right hon. gentleman had entered into were materially erroneous. It was a principle in taxation to abstain from laying any impost on those articles that principally formed the food of man, such as wheat, bread, and butchers' meat; and yet the right hon. gentleman proposed to lay on the last a most oppressive tho' an indirect tax. He supposed that it will fall lightly on the poor, when they were able to procure any animal food, which was generally salted meat; it was evident that this was a tax on the peculiar food of the poor, and not on that of the rich. The amount would, indeed, to a poor man, be enormous. He had made enquiry, and he found that for salting a hog of twenty score, a bushel and a half of salt was required, and when the animal was smaller, the salt used was more than the due proportion. The retailers, on the presumption of this bill being passed, had already advanced salt six shillings a bushel, so that for a hog of twenty score, the poor cottager would have to pay nine shillings for salt, and for one little more than a hundred weight, four shillings and six pence, making an increase in the price of meat, of one half penny in the pound. It was true, that were this bill rejected, it would require a tax producing a very considerable sum to replace it, but he could not conceive any possible one more oppressive and more objectionable than the present, and he should therefore give his more hearty concurrence to the amendment proposed by his noble friend.

"Sir William Pulteney, in a concise speech strongly reprobated the tax.

"Mr. Johnstone vindicated the statements of Sir William Pulteney. He argued that the smallness of the revenue produced by the tax in Scotland, was only a proof of the great quantities smuggled in that country; which the present addition to the tax would again tend to increase.

"The house divided—Against the motion of Lord W. Russell, 93—For it 60—Majority for the second reading 33."