

in order to put an end to its cause; and he seizes with eagerness this occasion of renewing to the secretary of state, the assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed) TURREAU.
FAITHFULLY TRANSLATED,
J. WAGNER, Chief Clerk,
Department State.

General Turreau, minister plenipotentiary of his imperial and royal majesty, to Mr. Madison, secretary of state.

Washington, 3d, January, 1806.

SIR.

Formal orders of my government oblige me to insist upon the contents of my official note, of the 14th October last, relative to the commerce, which some inhabitants of the United States, maintain with the rebels of St. Domingo.

Not receiving any answer to that note, I had room to hope, that the government of the Union would take prompt and effectual measures to put an end to the causes which produced it; but your silence towards me; especially in relation to St. Domingo, and that of your government towards congress, impose upon me the duty of recalling to your recollection the said official note, and of renewing to you my complaints upon the tolerance given to an abuse, as shocking, as contrary to the law of nations, as it is to the treaties of peace and friendship existing between France and the United States.

I will not recur, sir to the different circumstances which have attended the commerce with the revolted part of St. Domingo; to the scandalous publicity given to its shameful success; to the rewards and encomiums prostituted upon the crews of armed vessels, whose destination is to protect the voyages, to carry munitions of every kind to the rebels, and thus to nourish rebellion and robbery.

You ought not to be surprised, sir, that I call anew the attention of the American government to this subject. His excellency Mr. Talleyrand has already testified his discontent to general Armstrong, your minister plenipotentiary at Paris; and you will be of opinion that it is at length time to pursue formal measures against every adventure to the ports of St. Domingo occupied by the rebels. The system of tolerance which produces this commerce, which suffers it being armed, which encourages by impunity its extension and its excess, cannot longer remain; and the emperor and king my master, expects from the dignity and the candor of the government of the Union, that an end be put to it promptly.

Faith to this dispatch a copy of the official note, which has already been transmitted to you. I earnestly request, sir, that you acknowledge the receipt of both, and receive a new assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed) TURREAU.
FAITHFULLY TRANSLATED,
J. WAGNER, Chief Clerk,
Department State.

From Mr. Talleyrand to Gen. Armstrong.

[Without date, but received in general Armstrong's letter to the Secretary of State, of the 10th August, 1805.]

SIR,

I have several times had the honor to call your attention to the commerce carried on from the ports of the United States to those of St. Domingo occupied by the rebels.—These commercial communications would appear to be almost daily increased. In order to cover their true destination, the vessels are cleared for the West-Indies, without a more particular designation of the place, and with the aid of these commissions, provisions, arms, and other objects of supply, of which they stand in need, are carried to the rebels of St. Domingo.

Although these adventures may be no more than the result of private speculations, the government of the United States is not the less engaged to put an end to them, by a consequence of the obligations which bind together all the civilized powers, all those who are in a state of peace. No government can second the spirit of revolt of the subjects of another power; and, as in this state of things, it cannot maintain communications with them, it ought not to favor those which its own subjects maintain.

It is impossible that the government of the United States, should longer shut their eyes upon the communications of their commerce with St. Domingo. The adventures for that island, are making with a scandalous publicity. They are supported by armed vessels—at their return, boasts are given, in order to vaunt the success of their speculations; and the acknowledgment, even the eulogies of the government are so much relied upon, that it is at these feasts, and in the midst of an immense concourse, where are found the first authorities of the country, that the principles of the government of Haiti are celebrated, and, vows are made for its duration.

I have the honor, sir, to transmit to your excellency, an extract of an American journal, in which are contained sundry details of a feast, given in the port of New-York, on board of a convoy which had arrived from St. Domingo.

The ninth toast, given to the government of Haiti, cannot fail, sir, to excite your indignation. It is not, after having covered every thing with blood and with ruins, that the rebels of St. Domingo, ought to have found apologies in a nation, the friend of France.

But they do not stop at their first speculations. The company of merchants, which gave a feast on the return of their adventure, is preparing a second convoy and proposes,

to place it under the escort of several armed vessels.

I have the honor, sir, to give you this information, in order that you may be pleased to call the most serious attention of your government towards a series of facts, which it becomes its dignity and candor, no longer to permit. The federal government, cannot so far separate itself from the inhabitants of the United States, as to permit to them, acts and communications, which it thinks itself bound to interdict to itself; or, as to think that it can distinguish its own responsibility from that of its subjects, when there is in question an unparalleled revolt, whose circumstances, and whose horrible consequences, must alarm all nations, and who are all equally interested in seeing it cease.

France ought to expect from the amity of the United States, and his majesty charges me, sir, to request in his name, that they interdict every private adventure, which, under any pretext of designation whatsoever, may be destined to the ports of St. Domingo, occupied by the rebels.

Receive, general, the assurances of my high consideration.

(Signed) CH. M. TALLEYRAND.
To his excellency general Armstrong,
Minister plenipotentiary of the U. States.
Faithfully translated,
J. WAGNER,
Chief Clerk, department State.

From Mr. Talleyrand to gen. Armstrong.
Paris, 29th Thermidor, 13th year.
(16th August, 1805.)

SIR.

Since the letter, I had the honor to write to you on the second Thermidor, concerning the armaments which were making in the ports of the United States for the western part of St. Domingo, fresh information upon this point, confirms every thing which had been received. The adventures for St. Domingo, are publicly made; vessels are armed for war, to protect the convoys; and it is in virtue of contracts, entered into between Dessalines and American merchants, that the latter send him supplies and munitions of war.

I add, sir, to the letter, which I have the honor to write to you, a copy of a sentence given at Halifax, in the matter of a merchant of New-York, who had conveyed into the revolted part of St. Domingo, three cargoes of gun-powder, and who was taken on his return by an English frigate.

Even in the English tribunal where this prize was condemned, the whole island of St. Domingo was considered as a French colony, how can the federal government tolerate that the rebels of this colony, should continue to receive from America, succours against the parent country? It is impossible that that government should be ignorant of the armaments making in its ports. Too much publicity is given to them, not to render it responsible, and it ought to perceive that it is contrary to every system of peace and good friendship, to suffer longer in its ports, armaments evidently directed against France.

Without doubt the federal government would wish, in order to favor certain private speculations to give new facilities to rebellion and robbery (brigandage); the tolerance of a commerce so scandalous would be unworthy of it. Neither your government nor his majesty can be any longer indifferent to it; and as the seriousness of the facts which occasion this complaint, obliges his majesty to consider as good prize every thing which shall enter the ports of St. Domingo, occupied by the rebels, and every thing coming out, he persuades himself, that the government of the United States will take, on its part, against this commerce, at once illicit and contrary to all the principles of the law of nations, all the repressive and authoritative measures proper to put an end to it. This system of impunity and tolerance can no longer continue; and his majesty is convinced, that your government will, think it due from its frankness promptly to put an end to it.

Receive, sir, the assurances of my high consideration.

(Signed) CH. M. TALLEYRAND.
To his excellency, gen. Armstrong.
Faithfully translated,
J. WAGNER,
Chief Clerk, Department State.
* Ne purroit durer d'avantage.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

January 17.

As soon as the journal of yesterday was read Mr. J. Randolph said he had motion to make which required the galleries previously to be cleared. The galleries were accordingly cleared, and continued so for about two hours; when the doors were opened, and a message from the President of the U. States was presented by his secretary. This message being partly of a public, and partly of a confidential nature, the galleries were cleared for a short time, while the latter part was read. The doors being again opened, the clerk read the former part of the message.

After several propositions for reference had been made, the house agreed to refer so much of the message as relates to spoiliations, to the committee of ways and means; and so much of it as relates to the impressment of seamen to a select committee.

Mr. Gregg said that he had early in the session offered a resolution, which he thought had been at the time referred to a committee of the whole House. Finding that

this was not the case, he rose to move that it should be so referred. This resolution, as follows, was taken into consideration—Ayes 58—Noes 21—and referred to a committee of the whole House on the first Monday in February.

Resolved, That so much of an act entitled "An Act regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States, south of the state of Tennessee," as appropriates any portion of said lands for the purpose of satisfying, quieting, or compensating any claims of the said lands, derived from any act, or pretended act of the state of Georgia, and neither recognized by the articles of agreement and cession between the United States and the state of Georgia, nor embraced by the two first sections of the above mentioned act, be repealed.

January 20.

Mr. Olin laid before the house sundry resolutions relative to the amendment to the constitution of the U. States, proposed by the State of N. Carolina, for prohibiting the importation of Slaves into the U. States. The resolutions direct the senators and request the representatives of Vermont to aid the proposition and adoption of such amendment to the constitution as shall tend effectually to prohibit the further importation of Slaves.—Laid on the table.

Mr. Stanton laid a resolution before the house, requesting the President to cause to be laid before the house, a list of all the warlike stores the property of the U. States, comprehending ordnance for garrison and for floating batteries, of iron and brass, from a 42 pounder to canister, grape, &c. with carriages and implements, describing the condition of the same, whether fit or unfit for service, noting the place of deposit and under whose direction; mortars, howitzers, beds and travelling carriages, ammunition wagons with harness, shot, shells, &c.—Laid on the table.

The house went into a committee on the bill making a further appropriation to supply a deficiency in the appropriation for the naval service during the year 1805. The bill being filled with 350,000 dollars, which, with the sum already appropriated, amounted to 600,000 dollars, which constituted the entire deficiency for the last year. Agreed to. The bill was engrossed and passed during the sitting.

On motion of Mr. Sloan, the house went into a committee on his resolution proposing a tax of ten dollars on every slave imported into the U. States.

Mr. Dana moved to amend the resolution, by substituting persons in the room of slaves.

After some debate on the proposed amendment, the committee rose and had leave to sit again.

January 21.

The house again went into a committee on Mr. Sloan's resolution respecting the importation of negroes; when, after considerable debate, the question was taken on Mr. Dana's amendment, and negatively, 32 votes only being in favor of it.

A debate then took place on the resolution. The committee rose about 4 o'clock without taking the question, and had leave to sit again.

Mr. Farly said he had in his hand a resolution instructing the committee of Ways and Means to enquire into the expediency of requiring the Secretaries of State, Treasury, War, and Navy, to lay before Congress at the opening of every session, a detailed statement of the expenditure of the monies appropriated to the contingent expenses of their departments. He would briefly state his reasons for offering this motion. The monies for the contingent purposes of the government were the only description of expenditures which were not controlled by the House. Over every other branch of expenditure the House exercised a control by specifying with definite clearness the respective objects of expenditure when an appropriation was made. But the monies appropriated for contingent purposes, were left exclusively to the discretion of the different officers presiding over the several departments, in which they were alone governed by their own will and judgment. The only check which could be exercised over this description of expenditures was to require a detailed statement of disbursements. It would be recollected that a committee had been appointed some time since to investigate the accounts of several officers of the government, and that they made a detailed report to the house. About that time, it had been contemplated to take the step which he now suggested, but for some reasons it had never been taken. Mr. Early said he by no means wished to be understood as entertaining the idea that the discretion with which the heads of department were clothed had been abused. He knew of no facts to justify such an opinion. It was on the ground of principle, and of principle only that he offered this resolution. Thro' the four great departments which he had mentioned, passed 9 tenths of the whole money appropriated by Congress; and on looking at the statement contained in the estimates of the secretary of the treasury, he found that more than one fourth of the whole amount of money estimated as necessary for the several departments, was for contingent purposes. By that statement it appeared that the whole expenses of the department of state were 27,000 dollars, of which 14,600 dollars were for contingent purposes. Under the head of foreign intercourse, 182,300 dollars were estimated as necessary; of which 76,900 dollars were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the treasury department were 72,100 dollars, of which

12,100 were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the war department were 29,500 dollars, of which 18,000 were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the navy department were 21,100 dollars, of which 2700 were for contingent purposes. The estimates for the naval establishment were 867,800 dollars, of which 411,900 were for contingent purposes. Mr. Early said, he presumed this view of the subject would justify him in the eyes of the members of the House in offering the resolution. The resolution, as follows, was agreed to.

Resolved, That the committee of Ways and Means be instructed to enquire into the expediency of making provision by law, for requiring the secretary of state, the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of war, and the secretary of the navy to lay before Congress annually, a detailed account of the expenditure of the fund appropriated for the contingent expenses of their several departments, respectively.

WASHINGTON CITY, January 30.

Extract of a letter from Lisbon, to a gentleman now in this city.

Lisbon, 5 o'clock, 6th Dec.

"An hour since the mail arrived. Unofficial advice says to me that Vienna is taken, and a contribution of a million Sterling levied. Venice and Tyrol, and twelve strong holds given to the French as security for an armistice whilst a peace is negotiated."

PETERSBURGH, February 3.

A letter from a member of congress, to a member of the general assembly, contains the following information:

"Nothing has happened here that I am at liberty to communicate, worth your attention, except the conduct of the Spanish minister. The marquis, you know, has his residence generally at Philadelphia. His conduct has been so disobliging to the government, that his recall has been requested. This requisition met with due attention at the court of his catholic majesty; but as he himself had signified a desire to return home, his government wished, if it was agreeable to ours, that it might assume the shape of a voluntary act; to this there could be no reasonable objection, and it was consented to. Hearing he was about leaving Philadelphia for this place, it was hinted to him that it would not be agreeable. Disregarding this intimation, he came, and upon his arrival, an official note was addressed to him desiring his departure. To this he wrote an answer full of insolence and abuse, and continues here; his party declaring that he is vested with full powers to adjust all differences, with us, and complaining of the conduct of the executive in not seeing him. This course he has undoubtedly adopted to render the government unpopular; for I cannot believe it is a fact, that his master would trust to his care such important negotiations after the application for a recall—even if true, the dignity and honor of the government forbid his reception after what has passed. I believe it has been seriously deliberated whether it would be proper, under his present conduct, to seize and ship him."

WILMINGTON,

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1806.

Wilmington again in Ashes.

On Tuesday last this truly unfortunate town was once more visited by that worst of all calamities fire, which has laid in ruins its most valuable and beautiful parts—about two o'clock in the morning of that day, the bake-house occupied by John B. Gamache, on the north side of Market-Street, immediately opposite the printing office, was discovered to be enveloped in flames, and before the alarm became general and the citizens could assemble, communicated to an adjoining two story wooden building, which was so far consumed as to defy all exertion to check the progress of the devouring element to the elegant new brick house of John Lord on the east, and Dr. N. Hill's on the west; from thence it extended northwardly through that whole square, down Market-Street to the river, up Front-Street on both sides to Princess-Street, and thence up that Street on both sides to Second-Street; and in this extensive range the only buildings which escaped are Mr. John Martin's, corner of Front and Princess-Streets, a small wooden building of Major Walker, corner of Princess and Second-streets, two fire proof ware houses back of Market-Street near the wharf, owned by Messrs. Richard Bradley and Alexander Hostler, & a ware house on Princess-Street, belonging to the estate of Peter Mallet. The unfortunate situation of the Court-House (in the centre of the small square formed by the intersection of Market and Front-Streets, with a wooden roof, exactly calculated to convey the flames to the four quarters of the town) required every exertion at that point, to prevent the fire from crossing Market-Street—We rejoice and are grateful for the success of that exertion, by which alone what remains of the town to the southward was saved.

The amount of loss sustained cannot be computed at less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The number of Dwelling Houses, Ware Houses and Stores destroyed, is about 70, and the loss in goods no doubt very great. There were upwards of 70 bales of cotton, (purchased on account of a house in New-York) and a number of other valuable articles, consumed in the new brick store of Wilkings Scott & Co.

The friendly and prompt assistance rendered at this distressing time, by the strangers,