

CONGRESS.

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. February 12, 1806.

Mr. SMITH of Maryland, submitted the following resolution, which was read, and ordered to lie for consideration.

Resolved, that from and after the day of next, it shall not be lawful to import into the United States, on board any foreign ship, any goods, wares, or merchandise, other than such as are of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the nation to which such foreign ship shall belong, except on board the ships of such foreign nations who admit the importation into their ports of goods, although they are not the growth, produce, or manufacture of the United States, in the ships or vessels of the United States.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Mr. Sloan.—Mr. Speaker, I trust I am correct first in saying, that the representatives of the people in Congress assembled, are the only tribunals to whom they can look for redress of national grievances and protection in their national rights—and secondly, that every member as a component part of the national legislature, has a right to introduce resolutions in such form, as he may think best calculated to redress existing grievances; or secure them from future insult and injury.

Notwithstanding several resolutions have been laid on the table respecting the impressment of our seamen by the commanders of British armed vessels, and their depredations on our commerce; I have seen none which I consider fully adequate to the purpose proposed; or couched in that firm, and decisive language, that I conceive the nature of the case requires. Under this impression I beg leave to offer a resolution; and previous thereto, ask the indulgence of the House to offer a few reasons.

Are not the people calling on us from almost every part of the union? Previous to my leaving home to attend this session I expected the impressment of our seamen by British armed vessels, and their depredations on our commerce would have been the first business taken up; but, to my astonishment more than ten weeks have elapsed, and we are only preparing to discuss this important subject. Is this giving immediate attention to the sufferings of our constituents? But, what astonishes me still more is, that by conversation I have had with some members, they appear yet unprepared to do any thing decisive.

One member (Mr. Nicholson) who offered a resolution two days past, objected to a former resolution offered by a member from Pennsylvania (Mr. Gregg) from an apprehension that it would injure our revenue, 5,000,000 of dollars (Here Mr. Nicholson explained, stating that he had only said that it would affect it to that amount.) Another member from Massachusetts, (Mr. Crowninshield) well acquainted with mercantile business, supposed it would not injure it more than 1,000,000.

But I hope Mr. Speaker, that however pleasing it may be to see our debt diminishing, and our revenue increasing; the fear of diminution of revenue, will never deter the Congress of the United States, from supporting their national rights. I hope we shall not shrink from a temporary evil, to procure a great and permanent benefit.

In hearing the conversation of some members out of doors, and observing the delay that has taken place in the House, this query is extorted from me; where is the spirit that actuated the noble patriots of seventy-six, at the risk of life to oppose the unjust aggressions of Great-Britain? Has it fled from our land, or is it only sleeping? I hope the latter; and, that it may speedily awake, refreshed, and invigorated by its long nap.

But perhaps some may conclude, that I wish to involve the United States in war—God forbid—I want to prevent war with those horrid engines made to destroy the human species. I want to prevent it by doing to all nations, as we would they should do unto us; are we so doing whilst we permit one of the belligerent powers, to impress, and keep on board her vessels of war, three thousand of our seamen, to assist in fighting her battles with other belligerent powers in amity and peace with us? I want the United States to treat Great-Britain as they would treat an individual, who in his dealings had evidently been unjust; break off all intercourse, until reparation is made for past injuries; and security given that they shall not be repeated in future. This line of conduct, I conceive, instead of producing war, would be the most certain means of securing a permanent, and lasting peace. In the present State of Europe, can Great-Britain do without our trade? Certainly she cannot—it is probable that Buonaparte has ere this time prohibited her trade with a considerable part of Europe.—Thus circumstanced, trembling for her very existence, if we make a firm determined demand for reparation of damages,

my opinion is, that she dare not, that she cannot, nor will not refuse.—

I will not detain the House at this time, with a more detailed investigation of the subject; but knowing it to be the desire of many of my constituents, and hoping that upon a full investigation, it will be the determination of this House, to adopt firm and decisive measures, for the purpose of obtaining redress for injuries sustained, and to prevent the like in future, I offer the following resolution, hoping the House will commit it to a committee of the whole, on the state of the union.

Whereas the commanders of British armed vessels have impressed many American seamen, and compelled them to bear arms on board said vessels, and assist in fighting their battles with nations in amity and peace with the United States, and also brought into British ports for adjudication, many merchant vessels, sailing under the flag, and owned by citizens of the said United States, where some have been a long time unjustly detained, and others condemned, contrary to justice and the law of nations.

For remedy whereof,

Resolved, That in case the government of Great-Britain shall neglect, or refuse for months to restore all American seamen impressed, and detained as aforesaid, and also discharge all American vessels detained contrary to the law of nations, making compensation for the loss sustained by such detention, and also for those condemned as prizes; all trade and intercourse shall thenceforth cease, and be prohibited between the United States and Great-Britain and its dependencies, until equitable arrangements shall be made between the two governments, that shall insure a return, or compensation for the property unjustly seized and condemned; and also the restoration of American seamen to liberty and their country. Provided also, that upon such arrangements being made the President of the U. States shall have power, by proclamation, to open trade and commerce, upon the principle of such equitable arrangements between the said United States and Great-Britain, and her dependencies.

The resolution was immediately considered, and referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the union.

Mr. Smith submitted two resolutions for receding the district of Columbia, similar to those heretofore offered, with this difference that the present resolutions include a recession of the city of Washington.

Mr. Smith said he had two objects in view in offering these resolutions. The first was that Congress might be divested of that multiplicity of business which arose from the situation of the territory, which would increase with the growth of population and the progress of society.—The other reason was still more important. He wished to see the people of the district restored to their political rights, the deprivation of which was to him a matter of great regret, and which could not be remedied until there was a decided change in their situation. Alluding to the recession of the inhabitants that this measure was connected with a removal of the seat of government, he declared that this was not his object; he, on the contrary, believed the measure would be highly beneficial to the city of Washington.

On considering the resolutions the House divided—Ayes 48—Noes 36.

Mr. Smith moved a reference of them to a committee of the whole on the 1st day of March.

Mr. Lewis moved their postponement indefinitely.

Mr. Lynn hoped an immediate decision would be had upon them.

Mr. Sloan hoped some time would be allowed previous to their decision.

The House determined to refer them to a committee of the whole—Ayes 46.

Mr. Conrad moved their being made the order for the 1st Monday in August.

Motion disagreed to—Ayes 44—Noes 36.

On the 1st Monday of May—lost—Mr. Nicholson moved Monday next.—He said that there was much important business relative to the territory before the House, and if the propositions of recession were permitted to remain unacted on, they would supersede all attention to the other objects.

Mr. Smith, acquiescing in making the resolutions the order for Monday next, the House determined without a division.

WASHINGTON, February 20.

On Wednesday, the Senate took up the report of the committee to whom was referred that part of the President's message that relates to the aggressions of Britain.

The first resolution, which is as follows, was adopted nemine contradicente.

Resolved, That the capture and condemnation, under the orders of the British government, and adjudication of their courts of admiralty, of American vessels and their cargoes, on the pretext of their being employed in a trade with the enemies of Great-Britain, prohibited in time of peace, is an unprovoked aggression upon the property of the citizens of these United States, a violation of their neutral rights, and an encroachment upon their national independence.

On the second resolution some conversation arose, relative to the details. To the principle, contained in the resolution, no opposition was made. The Senate adjourned at the usual hour without coming to any decision.

YESTERDAY, after some debate on several amendments offered, none of which were agreed to, a debate commenced on the resolution generally—Messrs. Israel Smith, S. Smith, Anderson, Mitchell, Bayard, and Worthington spoke; when the senate adjourned without coming to a decision.

On Friday the Senate resumed the consideration of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to demand and insist upon the restoration of the property of their citizens, captured and condemned on the pretext of its being employed in a trade with the enemies of Great-Britain, prohibited in time of peace: and upon the indemnification of such American citizens, for their losses and damages sustained by these captures and condemnations: and to enter into such arrangements with the British government, on this and all other differences subsisting between the two nations, (and particularly respecting the impressment of American seamen,) as may be consistent with the honor and interests of the United States, and manifest their earnest desire to obtain for themselves and their citizens by amicable negotiation, that justice to which they are entitled.

Messrs. Worthington, Adams, S. Smith, Adair, Pickering, Bayard, Tracy, Anderson, and Maclay delivered their sentiments.

When a motion to recommit the resolution for the purpose of amending it, was lost—Ayes 15—Noes 16.

Mr. Worthington then moved to strike out the words in Italics from the 2nd to the 11th line.

Messrs. S. Smith and White opposed the motion, which was disagreed to—Yeas 13—Nays 16.

Mr. Thurston moved to postpone the resolution for the purpose of previously taking up and acting upon the third, which prohibits the importation into the United States of a variety of articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of G. B. after the day of next, unless equitable arrangements shall be made between the U. States & Great-Britain.

This motion was lost—Ayes 13.

Messrs. Israel Smith and Bradley then spoke against agreeing to the resolution.—The principle ground taken by them was that it became the Senate to take stronger ground, and to adopt vigorous measures, before they requested the executive to resume negotiation.

Mr. Tracy advocated the resolution. He did not think negotiation exhausted. He thought it became the Senate to make one further attempt towards negotiating our differences, before a resort was had to warlike measures. The president would be enabled to take this step, by the Senate, who were a branch of the war declaring power, expressing their support of the measures he had taken, at the same time that they requested a renewal of the negotiation.

Mr. Moore, moved to strike out the words "and insist:" which motion prevailed.

Mr. Worthington said that, so modified, he should vote for the resolution.

Messrs. Logan, Kitchell and Pickering spoke in favor of the resolution, and Mr. Israel Smith, against it; when after some verbal amendments, the question was taken upon it, by Yeas and Nays, and the resolution carried—Yeas 23—Nays 7.

In the course of the remarks offered by different gentlemen, the principle source of difference appeared to be, whether it was proper under existing circumstances to request the Executive again to resort to negotiation. Those gentlemen who opposed the resolution thought it became the government to take higher ground; to arm the President with the means of enforcing a compliance with our just demands, and to leave every thing else to his discretion. On the other hand, it was thought by the friends of the resolution most eligible, that the President, supported by the legislature, with whom resides the constitutional right of declaring war, should make one more solemn appeal to the justice of Britain.

The third resolution remains yet to be acted upon.

FOR SALE

THE Plantation whereon Michael Sampson, Esq. formerly lived, on Morgan's Creek in New-Harover County, containing near two hundred acres.—There are on said Plantation about 36 acres tide Swamp under bank and ditch and divided into two fields, quarter drained, now fit for the cultivation of Rice. The upland is well calculated for a stock quarter, having a good range for Hogs and Cattle. On the land are Pear Trees very valuable for the Wilmington market.—One, two and three years credit will be given. Application to be made to the Printer of this Gazette, or Samuel R. Jocelyn, Esq. Attorney at law. December 3, 1805.

FOR SALE, 130 Tierces of Rice, which can be delivered at a moment's notice. Apply to A. J. DE ROSSET.

Feb. 18. NOTICE

THAT on the first day of April next, will be sold in the town of Pittborough in Chatham county, all the Shares of Stock in the Cape-Fear and Deep and Haw River Navigation, belonging to such subscribers as have not paid the full sum of Twenty-Five Dollars on each Share by them respectively claimed. Those who suffer their Stock to be sold will forfeit all the monies that have heretofore been paid by them to the Corporation. The sale will continue from day to day, until the whole is sold.

HENRY BRANSON, President. Feb. 24, 1806. 3wp.

District of the United States, } HEREAS Owen Jones, master of the Schooner Ailcy Ann, on behalf of himself, the owners and mariners of said schooner, hath filed a Libel in this Court setting forth that in the month of January last past on the high seas, fell in with the Schooner Frederick, William Appleton master, dismasted and in great distress, and that he the said Owen Jones towed the said schooner into Cape-Fear river. And whereas the said Owen Jones hath by his said Libel prayed an allowance for such services, by way of salvage—and the Judge of said Court having appointed the first Tuesday in April next, to hear the said Libel, and the matters and things therein set forth—Therefore the said William Appleton, and all others interested in the said Schooner Frederick, her cargo, &c. are hereby notified to be and appear before the Judge of said Court, at the court-house in Wilmington, on the first Tuesday in April next, then and there to shew cause, if any they can, why the prayer of the libellant should not be granted; and why the said schooner Frederick, her cargo, &c. should not be sold to satisfy such decree as the Court aforesaid shall make in the premises, in favor of the said libellant.—Herein fail not.

Witness Henry Potter, Judge of said Court, at Wilmington this 15th day of February, 1806, and in the 30th year of Independence. Test, CARLETON WALKER, Clerk and Register of said Court.

Wilmington, Feb. 25, 1806.

INFORMATION WANTED.

IF PETER M'CALLUM from the Neighborhood of Tarbart in Arguile shire North Britain, who in the spring of the year 1804, embarked at Greenock, as a Seaman on board the Ship Mary, Captain Bruce, bound to Norfolk in Virginia, and by subsequent accounts went from thence to Wilmington, North-Carolina, will apply to the Printer of this Paper, he will hear of his Family who have lately arrived in America; or any information concerning him will be very thankfully received.

FOR SALE, A VALUABLE Tract of Land in the county of Bladen, containing 640 acres, on the north-east side of the North-west of Cape-Fear, twenty miles below Fayetteville and eighteen above Elizabeth, on which is a new dwelling House nearly finished, 30 by 38 feet including Shed and Piazza, a story and an half high; a Kitchen, smoke House, &c. &c. It is well situated and equal in fertility to any Tract on the River.

ALSO, Four hundred acres back Land nearly joining the above described Tract, which abounds with Lightwood for Tar and Pines for Turpentine. Range for cattle and hogs at this place, is nearly if not quite as good as any in the state.

A further description is unnecessary, as any person inclined to purchase would previously wish to see it. The price may be known by applying to the subscriber on the premises. Cash or Negroes will be taken in payment, and possession given any time previous to the first day of April ensuing.

M. MOLTON. January 17, 1806.

TAKEN up and committed to jail in this Town, on the 20th inst. a Mulatto fellow about 5 feet 6 inches high, tolerably well set, has a scar over his right eye, appears to be between 18 and 19 years of age and calls himself John. He says he belongs to John Garman in Charleston, and that he has been runaway about six weeks; very little dependence however, can be placed in what he says. The right owner is requested to come and prove his property, pay charges and take him away. BENJAMIN SHEPARD. Wilmington Feb. 20th 1806.