

WILMINGTON GAZETTE.

THREE DOLLS. PER ANN.]

PUBLISHED (WEEKLY) BY A. HALL & S. W. CLARK.—TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1854.

[Vol. VIII. No. 368.]

From a London Paper.

COMMERCIAL STATE OF FRANCE.

(Extract of a letter from Paris.)

"YOU can form no idea of the distress of the mercantile part of this nation; all confidence is at an end, and all speculations are at a stand; no man gives another credit for a week, and no capitalist dares to trust his money out of his hands. Here, and at Bourdeaux, Bayonne, Marseilles, Lyons, Nantes, L'Orient, Havre, St. Malo, and Rouen, no less than nine hundred and sixty-five bankrupts, or stoppage of payments have taken place within these last five months; and of fifty-two banking-houses in this city, only five continue to do honour to their affairs. The cause to this ruin of our trade and of our merchants, is the peace which the deceitful policy of Buonaparte concluded, and the war which his treacherous ambition provoked.—During the former part of the Revolution, many of our rich merchants had emigrated, or saved their fortunes in foreign funds.—The peace recalled the fugitives, and with them their capitals. The latter were immediately employed in distant speculations, particularly to St. Domingo, and the other West-India islands.—But before any returns could be received, by Le Clerc's tyranny, St. Domingo was lost; and what had escaped the plunder of the negroes, and the requisition and pillage of the Consular Generals and Commissaries, has been captured by English cruisers. Coffee, sugar, and other colonial productions, of which we stand in so great need, we obtain from Trieste, on the Adriatic sea, and from Lubeck, on the Baltic, whence they are brought in British vessels. Judge therefore, what the dearth must be here; when what we pay for the freight, land carriage, &c. often amounts to seven eighths of the original price in England; and of the unjust and impolitic conduct of our government which, contrary to treaties, and to what it has done during former wars, prevents all direct intercourse with England, by ours and other neutral ships.

"Money is so scarce that upon patrimonial estates, the interest is two and a half per cent. in the month, and upon national property, four and upwards; and no money is lent for longer than three months, when new sacrifices must be made to have the loan continued. Except bills, accepted by five of four banking-houses, there is no possibility to get any discounted; and for those of short dates two per cent. is paid in three decades. You may perhaps think I exaggerate our situation because our funds are kept up; but the military despotism rules as much our exchange, and our mercantile transactions as those of the Cabinet, of the forum and of the field. You have heard that many persons by intrigues, plunder and crimes, have made immense fortunes since the Revolution as national deputies, army commissaries, contractors, &c. &c. When the war began they were ordered under pain of having their former conduct and accounts revised, to lay out their capitals in our funds, and to receive their fixed interests, as long as the government judges proper, and not to sell out before the Government permits; and such is the severe inspection over the Stock transactions, that when lately the famous Navy Contractor, Oudouard, who has 18 millions of livres in the five per cents. lately sold out 600,000 livres, he was immediately sent to the temple; and only escaped transportation to Cayenne, by dividing some of his millions, with Lucien, and some other members of the Consular family.

"The commercial chambers which the vanity of the Consul lately established in our principal cities, have presented upwards of 1500 memorials to the Minister of the Interior, with complaints and demands of succours; but when he laid some of them before the First Consul, he met with such rebuke, that he demanded to resign his place. Amongst other severe things, Buonaparte said, that if the merchants did not cease to torment him with their representations, he would be forced to regulate a maximum; or by the bayonet silence la canaille marchande.

"Upwards of 600 merchants' clerks here are without bread, *sur le pavé*; who from necessity will join our armies as volunteers, in the manner as several hundreds of them at Bourdeaux, Marseilles, Nantes, and other places, have already entered on board privateers or gun-boats. When such is our situation after a war of only five months. I tremble to think how great our wretchedness must be, should hostilities continue twelve months longer.

"The merchants in Italy, Holland, and Switzerland think themselves worse off than we are here; because requisition and contribution increase and are augmented, in proportion as their trade or industry is harassed proscribed, or annihilated.

"AS rude health partakes too much of the country, and of course is not very pleasing to the people of taste, a dashing young fellow acquires by his midnight vigils a pallid meagre visage, which generally denotes an intimate knowledge of the town. (Port-Folio.

CONGRESS.

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

On the 30th ult. Mr. Breckenridge reported from the committee appointed on the subject, the following

BILL,

Erecting Louisiana into two territories, & providing for the temporary government thereof, which was read and passed to the second reading.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That all that portion of country ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies south of the Mississippi territory, and of an east and west line passing from the Mississippi river, ten miles north of the town of Natchitoches, to the western boundary of the said cession, shall constitute a territory of the United States, under the name of the territory of Orleans; the government whereof shall be organized and administered as follows:

Sec. 2. The executive power shall be vested in a governor, who shall reside in the said territory, and hold his office during the term of three years, unless sooner removed by the President of the United States. He shall be commander in chief of the militia of the said territory; shall have power to grant pardons for offences against the said territory, and reprieves for those against the United States, until the decision of the President of the United States thereon, shall be made known; & to appoint and commission all officers, civil & of the militia, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

Sec. 3. A secretary of the territory shall also be appointed, who shall hold his office during the term of four years, unless sooner removed by the President of the U. States, whose duty it shall be under the direction of the governor, to record and preserve all the papers and proceedings of the executive, and all the acts of the governor and legislative council, and transmit authentic copies of the proceedings of the governor in his executive department, every six months to the President of the United States. In case of the vacancy of the office of governor, the government of the said territory shall devolve on the secretary.

Sec. 4. The legislative powers shall be vested in the governor, and in twenty-four of the most fit and discreet persons of the territory, to be called the legislative council, who shall be selected annually by the governor, from among those holding real estate therein, and who shall have resided one year, at least, in the said territory, and hold no office of profit under the territory, or the United States. The governor, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council, or of a majority of them, shall have power to alter, modify or repeal the laws which may be in force at the commencement of this act. Their legislative powers shall also extend to all the rightful subjects of legislation; but no law shall be valid which is inconsistent with the constitution of the United States, with the laws of congress, or which shall lay any person under restraint, burthen, or disability, on account of his religious opinions, declarations, or worship; in all which he shall be free to maintain his own, and not be burthened for those of another. The governor shall publish throughout the said territory, all the laws which shall be made, and shall from time to time report the same to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress; which if disapproved of by congress, shall thenceforth be of no force.—The governor or legislative council shall have no power over the primary disposal of the soil, nor tax the lands of the United States, nor to interfere with the claims to land within the said territory. The governor shall convene, prorogue, and dissolve the legislative council, whenever he may deem it expedient. It shall be his duty to obtain all the information in his power, in relation to the customs, habits, and dispositions of the inhabitants of the said territory, and communicate the same from time to time to the President of the United States.

Sec. 5. The judicial power shall be vested in a superior court, and in such inferior courts, and justices of the peace, as the legislature of the territory may from time to time establish. The judges of the superior court and the justices of the peace, shall hold their offices for the term of years. The superior court shall consist of three judges, any one of whom shall constitute a court; they shall have jurisdiction in all criminal cases, and exclusive jurisdiction in all those which are capital; and original and appellate jurisdiction in all civil cases of the value of one hundred dollars. Its sessions shall commence on the first Monday of every month, and continue till all the business depending before them shall be disposed of. They shall appoint their own clerk. In all criminal prosecutions which are capital, the trial shall be by a jury of twelve good and lawful men of the vicinage; and all cases criminal and civil,

in the superior court, the trial shall be by a jury, if either of the parties require it. The inhabitants of the said territory shall be entitled to the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus; they shall be bailable, unless for capital offences where the proof shall be evident, or the presumption great; and no cruel and unusual punishments shall be inflicted.

Sec. 6. The laws in force at the commencement of this act, and not inconsistent with the preceding restrictions, shall continue in force, until altered, modified, or repealed by the legislature.

Sec. 7. The governor, secretary, judges, and all general officers of the militia, shall be appointed by the President of the United States, in the recess of the senate, but shall be nominated at their next meeting for their advice and consent. The governor, secretary, judges, members of the legislative council, justices of the peace, and all other officers civil, and of the militia, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, shall take an oath or affirmation, to support the constitution of the United States, and for the faithful discharge of the duties of their office; the governor before the President of the United States, or before a judge of the supreme or district court of the United States; the secretary, judges, and members of the legislative council, before the governor; and all other officers, before such persons as the governor shall direct. The governor shall receive an annual salary of \$3,000; the secretary of \$1,000; the judges of \$2,000 each; and the justices of the peace of \$500 each; to be paid quarterly yearly out of the revenues of impost and tonnage, accruing within the said territory. The members of the legislative council shall receive no compensation.

Sec. 8. The residue of the province of Louisiana, ceded to the United States, shall remain under the same name and form of government as heretofore; save only, that the paramount powers exercised by the former governors of the province, shall now be transferred to a governor to be appointed by the President of the United States; and that the powers exercised by the commandant of a post or district, shall be hereafter vested in a civil officer, to be appointed by the President in the recess of the senate, but to be nominated at the next meeting thereof, for their advice and consent; under the orders of which commandant, the officers, troops, and militia of his station shall be; who, in cases where the military have been used, under the laws heretofore existing, shall act by written orders, and not in person; and who shall receive as a full compensation, the pay, rations, and emoluments, allowed to a colonel in the army of the United States, acting at a separate station. The President of the United States, however, may unite the districts of two or more commandants of posts into one, where their proximity, or ease of intercourse, will permit, without injury to the inhabitants thereof. The governor shall receive an annual salary of \$2,000, payable quarterly yearly at the treasury of the U. States.

Sec. 9. The President of the United States is hereby authorized to stipulate with any Indian tribes, owning lands on the east side of the Mississippi, and residing thereon, for an exchange of lands, the property of the United States, on the west side of the Mississippi, in case the said tribes shall remove and settle thereon; but in such stipulation, the said tribes shall acknowledge themselves to be under the protection of the United States, and shall agree, that they will not hold any treaty with any foreign power, individual state, or with the individuals of any state or power; and that they will not sell or dispose of the said lands, or any part thereof to any foreign power, except the United States, nor to the subjects or citizens of any other sovereign power, nor to the citizens of the United States. And in order to maintain peace and tranquility with the Indian tribes who reside within the limits of Louisiana, as ceded by France to the United States, the act of Congress passed on the 30th of March, 1802, entitled "An act to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the frontiers," is hereby extended to the territories erected and established by this act.

Sec. 10. This act shall be in force from the end of the present session of congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, Dec. 26.

The House went into a committee of the whole—Mr. Varnum in the chair—on the report of a select committee, respecting the expediency of reprinting the laws, journals, and other documents.

The report enters much into detail, and enforces the expediency of reprinting the laws, journals and other documents; but in consideration of the existing claims on the Treasury, recommends that at present an edition of the laws only should be re-printed, submitting a resolution that 10,000 copies should be printed, under the direction of the Secretary of State. The report was agreed to.

The House immediately took up the report, agreed to it, and appointed a committee to bring in a bill.

Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Mr. Nicholson, from the committee appointed to prepare articles of Impeachment against John Pickering, Judge of the District Court of the District of New-Hampshire, made a report of Articles of Impeachment. The articles were read, and referred to a committee of the whole on Thursday next.

Thursday, Dec. 29.

The House went into committee of the whole—Mr. Varnum in the chair—on the bill, received from the Senate, to sell the General Greene, and to make an addition to the Navy.

Dr. Eustis moved an additional section, allowing rations to half pay officers, subject to Navy orders, provided they are not employed on board of merchant vessels, or otherwise engaged in transacting their personal affairs.

This motion was supported by Messrs. Eustis, Nicholson, and Clay; and opposed by Messrs. Macon, Smilie, Gregg, and Claiborne; and on the question being taken, was agreed to—Ayes 52—Noes 44.

Mr. Macon moved to strike out the 2d section of the bill which authorizes the President, in case the public exigency shall require it, to cause to be built or purchased two small vessels of war, appropriating therefor 50,000 dollars.

This motion was supported by Messrs. Macon, Smilie, and Holland; and opposed by Messrs. S. L. Mitchell, Nicholson, and Eustis.

Mr. Gregg moved that the committee should rise in order that leave should be refused them to sit again, and that the bill should be committed to a committee appointed on naval affairs, for the purpose of obtaining information.

The motion for the rising of the committee was carried.—Ayes 52—Noes 42.—The House then gave the committee leave to sit again—Ayes 48—Noes 45.

During the debate on the above subject, a message was received from the Senate stating their final adherence to their amendments to the salary bill.

Mr. Randolph, from the Committee of Conference, on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the salary bill, made a report concluding with a resolution "that this house adhere to their disagreement to the amendments of the Senate."

The House immediately took up the report.

Mr. Nicholson moved to adjourn—Motion lost.

Mr. Smilie moved to postpone the report till to-morrow—Motion lost—Ayes 17.

The question was then taken by yeas and nays on the report of the committee, and carried in the affirmative—Yeas 71—Nays 22.

The SALARY BILL is therefore lost.

Monday, Jan. 2.

The enrolled articles of IMPEACHMENT against JOHN PICKERING, were read and signed by the Speaker.

The House proceeded to elect by ballot eleven Managers—Mr. Nicholson and Mr. R. Griswold tellers.

After several ballotings the following gentlemen were declared to be elected.

Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Early,
Mr. Rodney,
Mr. J. Randolph,
Mr. Eustis,
Dr. Mitchell,
Mr. G. W. Campbell,
Mr. Blackledge,
Mr. Boyle,
Mr. J. Clay,
Mr. Newton.

Tuesday, Jan. 3.

The House went into committee of the whole—Mr. J. C. Smith in the Chair—on the bill making appropriation for the military service for the year 1854.

The bill, being reported, was immediately taken up by the House, and after being amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

Dr. Mitchell, after taking an interesting view of the heavy impositions laid on American vessels entering British ports, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of Commerce and Manufactures be directed to enquire into the expediency of laying and collecting a tonnage duty on foreign ships and vessels entering the ports and harbours of the United States, as an equivalent for the advantages such ships or vessels derive from the light-houses they pass inwards and outwards, and to report their opinion thereon by bill or otherwise.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Leib offered the following resolutions. Resolved that the Secretary of the Navy do report to this House, a statement of all the monies advanced for the pay, clothing, subsistence, and contingencies of the corps of Marines, from the time of the organization and establishment of that corps to the close of the last year, exhibiting the dates of the advances and to whom made; also an account standing generally under each head of