

garbled statement in a federal paper, which I could cover with my thumb, and that will be sent to G. Britain. Through this corrupted source their information is derived, and they know nothing of the real situation of American feeling or of the American character. And is the government to blame, when I declare to God that I have seen speeches attributed to me which I have never made—the most shameful misrepresentations made by men brought here not for the purpose of reporting our proceedings to the nation, but for supporting party purposes. Gentlemen tell us we cannot stand a permanent embargo. We never intended it. Gentlemen well know that the rights of the nation cannot be abandoned without a struggle. The only question is when to commence it. Our resources will soon be at our command. Means of resistance are provided, and the period must soon arrive when nothing will be wanting but spirit on the part of the representatives to use them. The people are with you—you have their support. Nothing can forfeit it but abandoning their rights. If by war only they can be maintained, the people will meet it with firmness. I never had any other feeling, but that these decrees must be withdrawn, or we must resort to war. I said so last year. I took it openly. My sentiments are known to the people I represent. They unite in that sentiment. It is the undivided sentiment of the state in which I live.

It has been said that the southern people wish to destroy commerce. I will ask gentlemen what but commerce has produced our present difficulties? If I had consulted my interest only, of what importance to me was the carrying trade? None, sir; but it ever was, and ever will be, of infinite importance to me to support the principles of our constitution.—What are these principles? Equal and exact justice to every class of our citizens. United for common protection, and for the general safety, the rights of no one class can be abandoned. The merchant has as good a right to protection in the use of his ship, as the farmer in the use of his plough. I said so in 1805, and I say so still. Our situation, however, is now changed; it is no longer a commercial question; the late decrees and orders make a direct attack on the sovereignty of the nation; it is no longer a question whether we will trade, but whether we will maintain or surrender our independence. The embargo at the time it was adopted, was I believe, the best measure which could have been resorted to. Its operation was defeated partly by the misrepresentations of which I have spoken. While on this subject, I will ask attention to another point, which I had nearly omitted. I have said something about *tories*. I wish it to be understood, that I mean no gentleman in this House. I meant to state that the tory principle had manifested itself in a portion of this country, and that it was that principle, in union with the agents and acts of the British government, which produced the evasion of our law. Your fawns swarm with these British agents, who send to their friends, what is essential to their prosperity, in violation of your law. Nay, sir, toryism in this country, has in one case assumed a sort of official form. I refer to the proceedings of the Essex Junto. I hold them in my hand, and I will read a resolution from them.

These Patriots say,
"As to the orders of council. It will be recollected, that these orders, bearing date 11th Nov. 1807, were occasioned by the decree of the French Emperor, dated Nov. 1806, declaring all the British dominions in a state of blockade. Great-Britain may think these orders completely justified by the *Lex Talionis* (law of retaliation.) There is no reason to consider them as originating from a disposition hostile to this country, and they ought not to be so considered: It is notorious that she could, according to known law and usage, plead the actual blockade, by her navy, of all the principal ports under the power of France."

Now, sir, this I say is a rank tory principle; and it is immaterial what may be the professions of men. The man who can say in the present situation of our country, that the conduct of G. Britain towards us is justified by the *lex talionis*, or any other law, is a tory. It is in vain for people in any portion of the union to make professions of patriotism, when they come forward, and by a public act say, that we have no cause of complaint against Great-Britain! I wish gentlemen correctly to understand me. If the British nation would come forward and make reparation for the insults offered in our ports and waters, she will stand with me on equal ground with France. But when I recollect that instead of tendering reparation for the most humiliating insults and injuries, she sent here a legitized spy to insult us with insolent demands, I cannot consider in point of injury done this country, these two foreign nations as equal in the honourable career of injustice and violence towards us. Let Great-Britain redress these injuries, and I would as soon tender the hand of reconciliation to her as to France.

I believe the principles of both are infamous. That in a contest for the empire of the world, they regard only their own aggrandisement. It is the duty of the United States to take a firm and manly attitude, and oppose both; to maintain the independence of the nation and spurn a foreign yoke. You must assert your rights; they cannot be maintained without men. The independence of our country is an object before which all differences as to the in-

ternal administration of our affairs, should sink. This is a period when all honest men have a common interest. It is a period when all party feelings should be sacrificed to the shrine of our country's good. It is a period when federalists ought to forget that they have lost the helm of state, when the old stories, dispersed through our country, should forget that we have acquired independence, and when all honest men should unite to maintain those rights, which are the birth-right of an American.

Tuesday, January 3.

Mr. Macon, from the committee to whom was referred so much of the message of the President of the United States as relates to the expediency of altering the militia system of the United States, made a report. The report states, that in the opinion of the committee, no amendment would be expedient at this time.

After some observations from Mr. Macon, in which he stated his dissent to the report, and his wish that the system should be so modified, as that the militia might be classed according to age, in order that the young men should be first called upon, he offered a resolution to re-commit the report to the select committee with instructions to report a bill classing the militia, and to furnish those persons who might hereafter be placed upon the list, with arms at the public expense.

Mr. D. R. Williams supported the motion for re-commitment.

Mr. Sturges moved that the report and resolution should lie upon the table, as a vote upon it would commit the House in some degree, he wished to allow time for consideration.

On the motion of Mr. Lyon, the report and resolution were referred to a committee of the whole tomorrow.

On motion of Mr. J. G. Jackson the House went into committee of the whole on the bill from the Senate to enforce the embargo laws. Mr. Bassett in the chair.

After the bill had been read and the several amendments proposed by the select committee agreed to, Mr. Van Cortlandt offered an amendatory clause to it in the following words:

"And be it further enacted, That the act laying an embargo and the several acts supplementary thereto, shall be repealed, and shall cease to be in force from and after the fourth day of March next."

Mr. Van Cortlandt made a few observations in support of his amendment.

Mr. Lyon wished the time to be left blank at which the embargo laws were to be repealed. He was willing to fill it up with any period, so that the people might know that the measure was not to be an overlasting one. If the time specified in the amendment were omitted, it might prevent the object which was so much desired from being defeated.—He would be willing to insert a period eighteen months hence, so that he might be sure of having the law repealed at all. Mr. L. moved that the period assigned for the repeal should be left blank.

Mr. Bacon asked if the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York was in order, as the subject was before another committee, on the resolution offered by Mr. Chittenden for the repeal of the embargo.

The chairman decided that it was not in order. Mr. Gardner appealed from the decision of the chair.

Some conversation ensued upon the question of order, when the decision of the chair was confirmed. Thus the amendment of the gentleman from New-York was thrown out.

Mr. Gardner then offered the following amendment.

"And be it further enacted, That this act shall continue and be in force until the day of "

Mr. J. G. Jackson said the amendment was at variance with the provisions of the fourteenth section of the bill.

Mr. Gardner moved to strike out that section of the bill.

Mr. Lyon made several motions to fill up the blanks with different periods, which were not seconded.

Mr. Gardner modified his resolution so as to read "shall continue and be in force until the first day of April next."

The question on striking out the fourteenth section was taken and lost. The amendment proposed fell of course.

A motion of Mr. Elliott "that the committee should rise and report progress, was negatived."

On the motion that the committee rise and report the bill, Mr. Elliot resumed his objections to the bill, which indisposition had prevented him from concluding at a former period.

After Mr. Elliott had spoken a few minutes it appeared there was not a quorum within the bar.

Mr. Dana then suggested the propriety of the committee rising and reporting that there was no quorum.

This was objected to by Mr. J. G. Jackson, on the ground that there was no House to report to.

Mr. Macon said he had no wish to sit there while gentlemen should go home to their dinners.

Mr. Mosely said it was an old maxim that *disce et decorum est pro patria mori*, but he had no notion of starving to death for it! If he must die, he should at least hope for the privilege of a more dignified mode.

A quorum having appeared, on motion of Mr. Macon the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

A message was received from the Senate that they had receded from their amendments to the bill authorising the President to employ twelve additional revenue cutters. So the bill passed.

Wednesday, Jan. 4.

Mr. Boyle presented the following resolution: Resolved, that the committee on public funds be instructed to enquire into the expediency of reducing the price of said lands, and of abolishing the credit upon the sale thereof; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Story submitted the following resolution: Resolved, that the committee to whom was referred so much of the President's message as relates to the military and naval establishments, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of increasing the naval establishment of the United States; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.—Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Venable called for the order of the day on the resolution for the repeal of the embargo laws. Carried—Ayes 63, Nays 49.

In committee of the whole, Mr. Bassett in the chair, Mr. Livermore proceeded to advocate the repeal of the embargo. After he had spoken a few minutes, a motion was made that the committee rise and report progress, and lost.

Mr. Livermore resumed his remarks, when it appeared that there was not a quorum within the walls. On motion of Mr. Quincy the committee rose and reported that there was not a quorum.

An adjournment was then called for, and the question taken by ayes and noes and carried—ayes 40, noes 34.

Thursday, Jan. 5.

On motion of Mr. Nicholas the House went into committee of the whole on the bill from the Senate, to enforce and make more effectual the embargo laws. Mr. Bassett in the chair.

Mr. Elliot again resumed his objections to the bill. After he had concluded, the committee rose and reported their agreement to all the amendments.

The House immediately took up the bill with the amendments.

The amendments to the second section of the bill which go to allow evidence of accident to be received in cases of violations of the embargo, was spoken against by Mr. Love. He thought it would create great room for evasions of the laws by designing men. He preferred the section as it originally stood, although it sounded somewhat harshly.

This section prevented any evidence of accident from being received. Mr. Love thought that it would be easy to restore the property if it should appear that stress of weather or any other unavoidable circumstance had intervened to prevent the master of the vessel from conforming to the law.

Mr. Story ably supported the amendments to the second section. He considered it in its original form not only a harsh but an arbitrary provision, and utterly subversive of a principle of law which had prevailed since the earliest periods of civil jurisprudence—"that the act of God should injure no man."

Mr. Taylor also spoke in favour of the section as amended.

All the amendments reported by the committee of the whole were agreed to by the house. Some additional amendments of an unimportant nature were also proposed and adopted.

Mr. Pitkin moved to amend the ninth section by striking out that part of it which authorises collectors to take into their custody any specie or articles of domestic produce which may be found in carts waggons, sleighs or any other carriage, or in any manner apparently on their way towards the territories of a foreign nation, or the vicinity thereof, or towards a place whence such articles are intended to be exported; and not to permit such articles to be removed until bond with sufficient sureties shall have been given for the landing or delivery of the same in some place of the United States, whence in the opinion of the collector there shall not be any danger of such articles being exported.

Mr. Pitkins supported his amendment in a concise and able speech; maintaining that the section as it stood was arbitrary and unconstitutional, and that a power so despotic was not even put into the hands of English excise officers.

He was followed by Messrs. Livermore and Dana in favor, and Messrs. Bassett and Epes against striking out. The question was then taken by ayes and noes, and the amendment lost, yeas 41—nays 51.

Mr. Sturges moved to amend the thirteenth section so that instead of continuing the act in force until the repeal of the embargo laws, it should cease on the first day of June next. The ayes and noes were taken on the amendment and it was rejected, yeas 27—noes 75.

Mr. Sturges then moved to amend the bill by adding a new section in the following words:—"And be it further enacted, That this act, with the act laying an embargo on all ships and vessels in the ports and harbours of the United States, and the several acts supplementary thereto, be and they hereby are repealed from and after the first day of March next."

Mr. Blount moved to amend the proposed amendment by adding thereto the words "and that from and after the said first day of March next it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to issue letters of marque and reprisal to such citizens of the United States as may apply for the same, against the ships vessels and property of such of the belligerents having in force orders and decrees infringing the lawful commerce and neutral rights of the United States."

Mr. Blount said that he would vote these words to the proposed section; but he would also vote to reject the new section as amended. His object in doing this was to shew that whenever the embargo was removed he would be for availing, yet at the same time that he was averse to removing it at so early a period as the first of March.

Mr. D. R. Williams had thought the gentleman too well versed in the wile of legislative manoeuvre to be so taken in. He might perceive that the object of these various motions was merely to gain time and prevent the taking of the final question on the bill. He hoped the gentleman would withdraw his amendment.

Mr. Blount withdrew his amendment, giving notice at the same time that he should renew his motion if that of the gentleman from Connecticut Mr. Sturges prevailed.

A spirited debate ensued in which the amendment of Mr. Sturges was advocated by Mr. Dana in an ingenious speech of about half an hour, and by Messrs. Quincy, Masters, Livermore and Lyon. Messrs. J. G. Jackson, Macon, G. W. Campbell, & Smilie opposed it.

Mr. Elliot then spoke at length in support of the amendment, taking a wide view of the subject of the embargo in connection with our foreign relations. After he had spoken about four hours the question on the amendment was taken by ayes & noes, & it was lost, yeas 35, nays 51.

The question then was "shall the bill be engrossed for a third reading." The principles of the bill were ably combated by Mr. Sturges, in a speech about three quarters of an hour. He was followed by Mr. Gardner, of N. Hampshire, on the same side.

Mr. Livermore next spoke. He took a comprehensive view of our foreign relations, and of the embargo policy. He occupied more than an hour. He was followed by Mr. Mosely, who made a short, but very animated speech against the bill.

Mr. Dana moved to strike out the section which gives the power to enquire into the expediency of reducing the price of said lands, and to abolish the credit upon the sale thereof. The question on striking out was taken by ayes and noes, and lost, yeas 61 nays 70.

At 4 o'clock, Friday morning, Mr. Quincy moved that no motion had been made since the adjournment. Through the house he adjourned at 4 o'clock, and did not follow of course they would do so this morning. He suggested for an adjournment—Lost, only 28 yeas, 69 noes.

Mr. Van Drice made a speech against the principles of the bill. The question was then taken by ayes and noes, and carried—Ayes 29, Noes 29.

An immediate third reading of the bill was ordered; and Saturday was also named for the same. Messrs. Quincy, Upham, Lyon, Gardner, Bassett, and Dana, spoke in favour of, and Messrs. Story, Taylor, Macon, and Nicholas against the bill. Messrs. Quincy and Gardner declared their firm belief that the bill contained principles in direct conflict with the liberty of the citizen; they were anxious for an opportunity to discuss the principles; but that the late hour of the meeting, and the exhaustion produced by an eighteen hours sitting totally disqualified them for discussing their duty at that time which they owed to the country and their constituents. They therefore opposed not only to the justice, but the liberality of the majority to allow a postponement of one day, before the question was taken on the passage of the bill. This was, however, refused them. The question was taken by ayes and noes on Saturday, and lost—yeas 68. It was ordered to be read on Friday.

A question arose whether Friday was to day or tomorrow (it was now Friday—half past 5 o'clock A. M.) It was determined that it is now Friday, and the bill was read a third time.

After a few observations from Mr. Masters the question was taken by ayes and noes, "shall the bill pass," and carried, yeas 61, noes 22.



The following delicately tender effusion is from the pen of Mr. CLIFTON, an American poet.

The morn was fresh, and pure the gale,
When Mary, from her cot a rover,
Pluck'd many a wild rose from the vale,
To guild the temples of her lover.

As near her little farm she stray'd,
Where birds of love were ever piping,
She saw her William in the shade,
The arms of ruthless war preparing.

She seiz'd his hand, and ah! she cried,
Wilt thou, to camps and wars a stranger,
Desert thy Mary's faithful side,
And bare thy life to every danger!

Yet go, brave youth! to arms a way!
My maiden hands for fight shall dress thee;
And when the drum beats far away,
I'll drop a silent tear, and bless thee!

The bugles through the forest wind,
The woodland soldier's call to battle;
Be some protecting angel kind,
And guide thy life when cannon's rattle.

She said—and as the rose appears
In sun shine when the storm is over,
A smile beam'd sweetly through her tears,
The blush of promise to her lover.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

A new pamphlet has recently made its appearance among us, being the trial of Major Henry A. Campbell in England, for killing his friend Capt. Boyd in a duel.—A succinct view of the trial is given; but the largest part of the work is occupied by three interesting letters, and a memorial by Mrs. C. to his Majesty petitioning the life of her condemned husband.—The whole composition characterizes the writers to possess both genius and sensibility; but the style of Mrs. C. is peculiarly fascinating, and must interest the feelings of every one who has a heart to feel for the distresses of others.—I give the following short quotations as a little specimen of this interesting lady's composition.—In the letter to her imprisoned husband (see page 20) after depicting her forlorn and unhappy situation she suddenly changes from despondence to some degree of vigour, and even animation, and says,

"To gain thy liberty, and restore my own happiness, I will write a memorial to our sovereign—Inspire me, O ye Muses, with more than mortal eloquence.—Teach me with resistless energy, and persuasive pathos to depict the widow's sighs the orphan's tears!—Lend me to modulate my expressions in all the chromatick witchery of harmony; and like the dulcet spell of an Eolian harp, let them wind around my sovereign's heart, and gently attune it with pity's softest plaint, to feel and mitigate my woes!—Let me impart by words only the half of my sufferings to the royal e, and success must crown my efforts.

"Farewell, my dearest husband; soon shall my fond arms encircle thee.—I'll then adieu.—In the interim, let the light visions of heaven-born hope, play around thy heart, and disperse aught that multiplies against thy happiness."

Mrs. C. begins her memorial to the king thus: "Most Gracious Sovereign!

"May the blessings of thy God ever wait on thee; may the sun of glory shine around thy head, and may the gates of plenty, honour and happiness be always open unto thee and thine; may the ravages of war be averted from thy happy realms, and may peace spread her mantle of prosperity o'er thy glad isles; may no sorrow distress thy days, may no grief canker thy nights; may all the calamities incident to human nature, shrink back, appalled at the circle of thy virtues; may the pillow of peace kiss thy cheek, & the pleasures of imagination attend thy dreams; may thy days be merry and happy, and when the curtain of death gently closes around the last sleep of human existence, may the Angels of thy God attend thy bed, and take care that the expiring lamp of life, shall not receive one rude blast to hasten its extinction."

She closes the memorial with this pathetic remonstrance.

"And when my infant children hang around me, crying that wicked men have lock'd you up; (6)