

Fayetteville Gazette.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1792.

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An ABSTRACT

Of the principal alterations in regard to the Revenue from distilled spirits, made by the Act of Congress, of the 8th day of May, 1792, "Concerning the DUTIES on SPIRITS distilled within the United States"

Section 1.—Declaratory.

THAT the present duties on spirits of native or domestic materials shall be reduced on and after the first day of July next. The duties on the first class of proof (that is on spirits of the strength of common proof Whiskey) are to be lowered two cents per gallon, from the former duty of nine cents per gallon, to seven cents. The stronger spirits of native materials are to be lowered in due proportion. But to accommodate those who have had the right to pay according to the capacity of the still (that is the country distillers) and distilleries of the customary extent in the inland towns, &c. the following arrangements and reductions have been made by Congress, to take place after entering as directed in the second section. Distilleries in cities, towns and villages (the whole capacity of the stills in which do not amount to four hundred gallons) may pay fifty four cents, instead of the former duty of sixty cents for each gallon, that the still will hold or measure, for a whole year's distilling therein. All distilleries in the country may pay the same reduced duty of fifty four cents—that is, a still of one hundred gallons in the country, or in a city, town or village (if there be not in such town distillery stills altogether equal to four hundred gallons) will pay 540 cents or 54 dollars for the whole year. Or the distiller may, if he chuses, take out a license, to be applied for at the Collector's office, for one month, at ten cents on every gallon the still will measure for hold, or for more than one month at the same rate of ten cents per month for every gallon the still will hold: or the distiller may pay for the spirits he shall actually distil through the year, at the rate of seven cents for each gallon of common Whiskey proof, or first proof liquor distilled; and so in proportion for what shall be stronger than common. The law gives these elections or choices to the distiller, and requires of him to make known his choice in one or the other way in writing, a form for which the Collector will furnish. The distiller will then receive a license, signed by the Supervisor, if he intends to pay by the capacity of the still, and not by the gallon distilled. If he does not make his choice, or acts contrary to it after chusing, then he is to pay fifty four cents per annum on every gallon the still will measure or hold. No fee is to be charged for the license, nor for any other papers which may be furnished to the distillers or others, or which shall be required of them. The license will mention the day when he is to begin, and the day when he is to end his distilling. It is to be signed by the Supervisor, and countersigned by the Collector. If the distiller elects to pay the monthly rate of ten cents, he must not distil before, nor after, the limited time for which the license is, without getting a new license, under the penalty of two hundred dollars.

Section 2.—Directs

At least one office of Inspection in every county in each district or state. Every possessor of a still, of whatever size, whether it be employed in distilling or not, is to enter his still in the course of the month of June in each year; Stills bought or in any way procured by a resident in any county, or brought into a county by a person moving into such county, are to be entered at the same office, within thirty days of their procuring or removing them and before distilling with them. The entry is to describe the still, and to mention its capacity, the place where it lies, and in whose possession it is, and whether it is intended for distilling or for sale, and if it shall have been removed in-

to the county, from whence it was so removed. The penalty for omitting to enter a still as above required, is, (Sec. 13) two hundred and fifty dollars on the owner or possessor.

Section 3.

The owners and possessors of stills are jointly and separately liable for the duty, as is the still itself, and the owner of the land upon which a still shall be worked, unless the person be a tenant on lease for a year or more, or unless the owner of the land can prove the distiller to have been a trespasser or an intruder on the land during the whole time of working the still.

Section 5.—Provides,

That casks, &c. which have been legally marked, and afterwards emptied, may have the marks taken off, by an officer, and may be again used for spirits, and again legally marked by an officer.

Section 7.—Declaratory,

That two gallons in every hundred gallons of spirits which shall be entered for the payment of duty according to law shall be allowed for leakage at the distillery.

Section 8.—Provides,

That all stills, on which the duty is to be paid on their capacity (that is on the number of gallons, which they can hold) shall be identified: To which end they will be marked and numbered, which will be done with impressive punches, provided for the purpose, by the officers.

Section 9.

All spirits in the hands of distillers or dealers, are to be entered at the office of Inspection for the division, on or before the twenty ninth day of September next, and they will then be certified as old stock. On and after the thirtieth day of September, spirits, in casks and vessels unmarked and uncertified of twenty gallons or more, in possession of a dealer or distiller (except at the distillery where the same were made) will be liable to seizure; and spirits in casks or vessels of twenty gallons or more unmarked or uncertified, going from one place to another, will also be liable to seizure on and after the said thirtieth day of September. The officers of inspection are to take measures for marking all such casks, which were not required by law to be marked before, and are to give certificates for the same, at the request of any distiller or dealer, in order to protect the casks and their contents from the above mentioned consequences.

WILLIAM POLK, Supervisor,
District of North-Carolina.

NOTE.

The following encouragements are also given by Congress, to the distillers from NATIVE or DOMESTIC materials, viz. The importation of Gin in casks, jugs, bottles, and small casks, and Brandy and other spirits in the same, is prohibited after April, 1793. Spirits distilled in the United States from molasses and other foreign materials, are to pay from ten cents to twenty-five cents, according to their proof or strength: Imported spirits made from GRAIN, are to pay from twenty-eight to fifty cents; and all other imported spirits from twenty-five to forty-six cents.

MISCELLANY.

BY THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES.

A Proclamation

(U. S.) WHEREAS certain violent and unwarrantable proceedings have lately taken place tending to obstruct the operation of the laws of the United States for raising a revenue upon spirits distilled within the same, enacted pursuant to express authority delegated in the constitution of the United States; which proceedings are subversive of good order, contrary to the duty that every citizen owes to his country and to the laws, and of a nature dangerous to the

very being of government:

And whereas such proceedings are the more unwarrantable, by reason of the moderation which has been heretofore shown on the part of the government, and of the disposition which has been manifested by the legislature (who alone have authority to suspend the operation of laws) to obviate causes of objection, and to render the laws as acceptable as possible: And whereas it is the particular duty of the Executive "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed;" and not only that duty, but the permanent interest and happiness of the people require, that every legal and necessary step should be pursued, as well to prevent such violent and unwarrantable proceedings, as to bring to justice the infractors of the laws and secure obedience thereto.

Now therefore I, GEORGE WASHINGTON, President of the United States, do by these presents most earnestly admonish and exhort all persons whom it may concern, to refrain and desist from all unlawful combinations and proceedings whatsoever having for object or tending to obstruct the operation of the laws aforesaid; inasmuch as all lawful ways and means will be strictly put in execution for bringing to justice the infractors thereof and securing obedience thereto.

And I do moreover charge and require all courts, magistrates and officers whom it may concern, according to the duties of their several offices, to exert the powers in them respectively vested by law for the purposes aforesaid, hereby also enjoining and requiring all persons whomsoever, as they tender the welfare of their country, the just and due authority of government and the preservation of the public peace. In testimony whereof, I have caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand. Done this fifteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, and of the Independence of the United States the seventh.

GO. WASHINGTON.

By the President.

TH. JEFFERSON.

FOR THE FAYETTEVILLE GAZETTE.

MR. PRINTER,

ARDENT spirits of all kinds are deemed luxuries of life, but from their common use they are esteemed a necessary by many—the use of them to a moderate degree, in our climate, may have good effects; then, Mr. Printer, since we find it useful or pleasant to take a certain quantity of the liquid stimulus, how mult it please every citizen of America who studies the true interest of his country, to find our farmers offering large quantities of that article in the markets, of their own make, and the product of their own farms, selling it at a price fully to their own satisfaction, even to the very merchants from whom they formerly purchased large quantities of imported rum, brandy, &c.

The advantages resulting to the country from the use of American, in preference to imported spirits, must be obvious to the most superficial observer for several reasons—in the first case we drink a liquor equal in strength and flavor to the latter, at a much smaller price—thus the consumer saves considerably—add to this the importance of paying our own farmers and distillers in the price of the spirits, by this the individual is enriched, and the community benefited; whereas the price of every gallon of rum that has, or may be consumed in this country, goes to the rum-distiller and cane-planter in the West-Indies, and tends to augment their wealth. To give American made spirits the advantage in our markets, and to bring them into more general use, the General Government has imposed pretty high duties on imported spirits, though not so high as

in any other commercial country. The small duty laid on domestic spirits should rarely be mentioned when we consider the real advantage our brandy and whiskey have of foreign spirits, owing to the operations of the laws of Congress on that subject.

It is wonderful indeed how it happens, that among the principal opponents to these laws are landed men—when upon a fair examination, they really increase the value of the lands and the produce of their farms, and is a saving to the great body of the people; it is surely then for want of a cool and deliberate investigation by those well meaning men into the effects and operations of these laws which creates their disapprobation. I apprehend many objections are offered against the execution of the law commonly called the Excise Law, by persons who have not reflected on the policy, and good effects that law is likely to produce. Let such however, who have reasons to offer against the law act with propriety and decency; let them state their objections in memorials, or remonstrances addressed to the legislature of their country, composed of the representatives of the people—that is the true and rational mode for Americans to obtain a redress of grievances. Let not the laws of our country, which among freemen is the sacred majesty of the people, be violated, or opposed.

If any remarks I have made shall tend to accomplish that end, it will fulfil one of my principal motives for making these observations.

A FRIEND TO GOOD LAWS.

Bladen County Oct 28.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

To the Officers of the late Continental Line of the State of North-Carolina,

GENTLEMEN,

I CONCEIVE it my duty, through the channel of this Gazette, to advise you that there is in my possession a circular letter from a committee of the late Continental line of the state of Massachusetts, and other papers, of an important nature, to the interests of the old continental army; one of the principal objects of which is to solicit our concurrence with the measures they, as well as the officers of the other states, have thought advisable to pursue, to obtain a discharge of a just debt yet due the Continental army, and unprovided for by government, to which no other persons can have any pretence, founded in reason and justice, but the late soldiery of the same.—In pursuit of this object, I can imagine no other method so likely to answer this end, as the calling a convention of the officers, to whose consideration the papers aforesaid may be fully submitted.—You are therefore requested to convene at Wake Court House, on the 8th day of November next, when I propose the honour of laying before you those interesting communications.

Give me leave to observe, that those papers came to me on a supposition that I was the next senior officer of the line to Gen. Clark, to whom they were first presented, and who directed that they should be transmitted to me, as the misfortune of his blindness deterred him from using those exertions that his disposition prompted.—Hearing that General Armstrong is dead, I concluded the urgency of the occasion required dispatch, and therefore have adopted this method.

I am, Gentlemen, with sentiments of utmost respect,
Your most humble servant,
H. MURFREE.

WHEREAS I am lawfully and rightfully possessed of certain negroes, viz. *Rose, Emilia, Sam, Hannah, Ned and Rhody*, bequeathed to BECKY, the daughter of LEVI GLASS late of Bladen County, deceased, by virtue of my intermarriage with the said Becky,—Now these are to forewarn all persons, not to have any dealings, or other else to do with the said negroes, or any of them. Given under my hand, this 23d OCTOBER, 1792.

JOHN EAGAN.