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Democratic Flagellation!

On the very bottom of our hearts we pity the majority men in Congress. Whenever they are convinced by the arguments of the Democratic Editorial Bull Dogs are let loose on them in such a manner, that they are turned back. Being naturally weak and timid for the stations they fill, their weathercock policy not only invites from their tyrannical party masters, but attended with the unhappy consequence of the people to despise their representatives. If the majority men in Congress could be men of all parties, speak of them, wish to adjourn take off the Non-Intercourse trifle with the people any longer, they will be appalled. But the fact is so; and the Aurora may feel ashamed to tell it, we will do our duty. They have spun out of considerable length without doing anything to relieve the people from the intolerable imposition on them by democratic misrule. They have tantalized them for months, and no longer their patience is exhausted. But we do not blame the representatives so much as those who elected them. So long as men are elected for party motives, and not from a conviction of superior talents, and integrity, so long the country be nerveless and inefficient and the people oppressed.

Mosaic law allowed only thirty and nine to be inflicted on offenders, but Baptists the Democratic Whig of Baltimore, seems to inflict at least one hundred more on Democratic friends in Congress. While we disapprove of the indecent manner in which the Democratic Representatives, we wish to shew the world what opinion that entertain of the men to whom they gave votes. Talk not of democratic virtue after N. Journal.

[From the Baltimore Whig.]

STRANGE THINGS.

We have seen strange things to day."

LUKE, v. 26.

(FIRST LESSON.)

It is strange that the majority in Congress, lost their character, should display no degree of their incapacity to govern, they are not so anxious to convince the public to stray.

It is strange that nominal republicans forsake liberal professions, and fall in love with Hamiltonian schemes of banking and finance.—merely Gallatin proposes them anew.

It is strange, that the representatives of free states, to the contrary notwithstanding, should be inclined to submit.—(their resolutions, which they have passed, are not only in each other for three or four months, but they pick the people's pockets, and do so—all without blushing for their degeneracy.)

It is strange, that we have a non-intercourse law, and yet four American vessels at Liverpool per day!

It is strange, that though some of our members are of opinion that the non-intercourse law is not in force, yet nothing is done or attempted, to remedy the evil.

It is strange, that one man can dictate to 72, and them whithersoever he will.

It is strange, that a majority of congress seem to adopt in their convey bill, the substance proposed by Gallatin to Mr. Er-

It will be stranger than all these things, if this infamous junta do not overturn the republican government.

It is most strange, that any of the submission expect an honest citizen can have the foolhardiness to defend them, when the question comes about.

(SECOND LESSON.)

It is strange, that John Randolph should move for nothing to something less than nothing; and a negative quantity—that he should reduce an army already reduced sufficiently. [But Congress has submitted, perhaps, he is right; it is more ridiculous when it swaggers sword by its side, and a nodding crest upon its head.]

As for the contemptible navy, it is a thing to rely on. It ought either to be burnt, or employed on our coasts to pre-empting—and even for that purpose light cutters or gun boats would be preferable to a fleet of ships that ought never to dream of a navy; it will destroy the republic.]

It is strange, that the people should elect representatives not much wiser than oysters, to represent them.

It is not strange that such creatures yield to the will of almost every thing. The federal congress generally force the republicans to their purpose. Dana and others laughing at them a couple of hours, were to produce the Gothic resolution relative to Fulgins proposition to lecture in their country. Thus a blot is fixed (even in that little matter) on the character of the nation.

Our method has been found successful in our democratic dupes and passing our resolutions. By inducing ignoramuses to get up on all occasions; when an excellent

in a democratic newspaper, the federalists ask their stupid antagonists, if they are to be dictated to by newspapers; and the ignoramuses, to show their extreme elevation, superiority, and independence, mount stilts; twenty feet high, and stalk along like overgrown boys, disregarding the lessons of wisdom, and wondering that other humble mortals are content to walk upon their own legs, on the bare ground! So that, if a patriot wishes a certain measure to succeed, he must propose a contrary plan in the newspapers: This is the most fruitful source of our danger.—the false pride and obstinacy of the ignorant. About thirty members of the house of Representatives are an exception to the still-men.

It is strange, that the committee of ways and means should apply to Gallatin for instructions on all occasions; it would be more reasonable that the clerk should ask advice and direction of the merchant, than that the merchant should be directed in every thing by his clerk.—But, since the learned committee did implore his aid (on the belief that "every one who asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth.")

It is strange, that when they asked for bread, he gave them a stone; for a fish, a serpent; and for an egg, a scorpion.

It is strange, the people do not perceive, that the extraordinary conduct of congress is produced by extraordinary causes—too bad and disgraceful to be mentioned. Let the democrats, at next election, change the whole representation, excepting, as above, thirty or forty members of the house of representatives.—Nothing else can save the country, than the election of men of talents by the democratic party.

Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, March 30.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.

Mr. W. Alston, from the joint committee, made the same report as to unfinished business as was yesterday made to the Senate.

Mr. W. Alston moved the following resolution, which he wished to lie on the table till Monday: Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives be and they are hereby authorized to adjourn their respective houses on Monday the 23d of April next.

Mr. Love moved to postpone the further consideration of the resolution till Monday next.

This motion was objected to by Messrs. Quincy, Livermore, Tallmadge and Smilie, and supported by Messrs. Love, Fisk, Marion, W. Alston, Rhea, Stanford and Macop. The reasons urged for postponing were that time ought to be allowed for the consideration of the report of the committee, that so much business was before the house that it would be impossible now properly to fix the time of adjournment; and that news might be daily expected from Europe which would one way or other affect the duration of the session. It was said in reply that every one knew without consulting the report of the committee, what business was before the house, that when the time of adjournment was fixed, the house would do as much in one day as it now did in three; and that if an expectation of news from Europe was a reason for protracting the session, Congress would never adjourn.

The postponement to Monday was carried, Yeas 61, Nays 58.

REDUCTION OF THE ARMY.

Mr. Randolph said he had some time ago submitted to the house a motion proposing a reduction of the military and naval establishments of the United States, which was referred to a committee of the whole house to whom was referred the bill imposing additional duties. He said he had been given to understand by the chairman of the committee of ways and means that it was his intention to call up the bill and consequently his (Mr. R's.) motion along with it on Saturday last. But he perceived that gentleman (Mr. Eppes) had not since attended in his place—his absence he presumed, resulted from indisposition. Mr. R. said he thought it his duty to give notice to the house that if it was not called up sooner, he should move the house to go into committee on his proposition on Monday next. He mentioned that day, because he said he did trust that in the interim the house would decide finally on the bill, the title of which he could not recollect, but which, if not out of order, he would call Macop's BILL.

COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE.

Mr. Macon called for the consideration of the commercial intercourse bill; but, this being a day set apart for private business, it could not be taken up.

Saturday, March 31.

On motion of Mr. Macon. Resolved, That the secretary of the treasury be directed to lay before this house a statement of the gross annual amount of expenditure, in relation to the military and naval establishments since the year 1789 to the end of the year 1809.

The bill from the Senate authorising the sale and grant of a certain quantity of land to Chesapeake and Delaware canal companies; the bill authorising a subscription on the part of the U. S. to the stock of the Ohio canal company; and the bill extending the time for making payment for the public lands of the U. S. in certain cases were severally read a first and second time, and com-

mitted, the two first to the same committee of the whole, and the latter to the committee of public lands.

Mr. Johnson made sundry reports from the committee of claims. One of these was on the petition of Edward Holland. The petitioner states that he was with a vessel improperly detained at a fort of the U. S. a night; during which detention the river froze up, and his vessel was subsequently cut up by the ice, which he alleges would not have occurred but for his detention. The committee of claims reported against him. On motion of Mr. Goldsborough, after debate, the report was ordered to lie on the table—51 to 23.

BATTURE.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill providing the means to ascertain the title to the Batture.

The motion pending when the house yesterday adjourned having been withdrawn—

The question recurred on the amendment as agreed to in committee, viz to insert a section authorising the President to make a compromise with any claimant to the Batture at any time within a year.

Messrs. Nelson, Smilie, Holland and Bibb opposed the amendment, and messrs. Sheffield, Key and Lyon supported it.

On the question, it was negatived—62 to 65.

The bill as amended (containing merely Mr. Gholson's proposition) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to day.

COMMERCIAL BILL.

On motion of Mr. Macon, the house resumed the consideration of the amendments of the Senate to the commercial bill.

And the question on adherence was taken without debate, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. W. Alston, Anderson, Bard, Bassett, Boyd, J. Brown, R. Brown, Butler, Calhoun, Clay, Clopton, Cobb, Cochran, Cox, Crawford, Dawson, Desha, Findley, Fisk, Franklin, Gannett, Gardner, Gholson, Goodwynn, Helms, Holland, Howard, Huff, Johnson's Jones, Love, Lyle, Macon, M'Kee, M'Kim, Miller, Montgomery, N. R. Moore, Morrow, Mumford, Nelson, Newbold, Newton, Nicholson, J. Porter, P. B. Porter, Rea of Pen Rhea of Ten. Richards, Roane, Root, Sage, Sammons, Seaver, Seybert, Shaw, Smilie, G. Smith, S. Smith, Southard, Stanford, Tracy, Turner, Whitehill, Winn, Witherspoon—66.

NAYS—Messrs. L. J. Alston, Bibb, Blisdel, Breckenridge, W. Chamberlin, Chittenden, Cook, Dana, Davenport, Ely, Emmott, Garland, Goldsborough, Gold, Gray, Hale, Haven, Heister, Hubbard, R. Jackson, Jenkins, Kennedy, Key, Knickerbacker, Lewis, Livermore, Livingston, Lyon, Marion, Matthews, M'Bryde, Minor, T. Moore, Moseley, Fearson, Pickman, Pitkin, Potter, Quincy, Randolph, Sheffield, Smelt, Stanly, Stephenson, Sturges, Swoope, Taggart, Talmadge, Taylor, Troup, Upham, Van Dyke, Van Horne, Van Rensselaer, Weakly, Wheaton, Whitman, Wilson—58.

So the House determined to adhere; and this warmly contested bill is finally rejected.

NON INTERCOURSE.

Immediately after the decision of this question—

Mr. Randolph rose. He said that seldom had a question excited so much sensation which was of intrinsically less importance than that just now decided—and perhaps it might be deemed that the proposition which he was now about to offer was not of itself deserving of higher consideration. He said he would state his ideas as succinctly as possible, because his present object was dispatch. We have (said he) an act subsisting which for brevity's sake I will call the non-intercourse law. This act has been reprobated and reviled by every man of every political description in this House and out of it, from one end of the continent to the other—and yet, sir, strange as it may appear, Congress has been in session near five months, and this law in relation to which every one seems to concur (indeed vie with each other) in its reprobation, still remains upon our statute books. To answer what end, I beseech you, sir? Is it a sort of scare crow set up to frighten the great belligerents of Europe—or is it a toy, a rattle, a bare play thing to amuse the great children in our political world? On whatsoever measures the nation may ultimately resolve, be it peace, be it war, be it (if there be such a thing) an intermediate state between these two, there is no difference of opinion as to the deplorable operation of this unfortunate law—I ought perhaps to call it fortunate; for, although it was introduced into the house without a single friend, although no man was found to lift up his voice in its defence, it actually passed by a majority of two to one, and is found nearly as difficult to repeal as the old sedition law of the former majority, even after all its abettors have become convinced of its mischievous tendency. I hope, sir, that we shall profit of former experience, and not pertinaciously adhere to a measure which is daily diminishing the resources of the nation, and very justly impairing the public confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of the Legislature—but I beg pardon—I am entering into a discussion, when my sole object is to submit a naked proposition to the house, and if possible to get the most speedy decision on it. I do not mean to reiterate—because they must present themselves to every man of common observation and common sense—the arguments by which the propriety of a speedy decision of this question is enforced. If any member of the house will figure to himself the fair and

bona fide American merchant, whose ship has been lying at the wharf the greater part of the winter laden with a cargo perishable in its nature, say flax-seed, which if not exported now becomes utterly worthless, he will conceive the situation of those whom I wish to relieve. How our resources are to be enlarged, or the belligerents to be acted on by our produce perishing here I cannot conceive—I mean the produce of the fair and bona fide trader—for the other description of men we know all send their produce when and where they please. We have had official information near five months ago that the law is wholly inoperative, except as to men of high character for probity and honor, who cannot gain their own consent to violate the law. I therefore move

"That the act interdicting commercial intercourse, &c. &c. ought to be immediately repealed."

The House agreed to consider the resolution—Yeas 69, Nays 53.

Mr. Montgomery said he had just now voted for adherence to the disagreement of the house to the Senate's amendments, because he did conceive that a repeal of the non-intercourse without something being substituted was positive unequivocal submission to the edicts of France and G. Britain. He had been gratified at the result of that vote as it had still kept open the question for a repeal of the non-intercourse. He was one of those opposed to a repeal of the non-intercourse without a substitute. He said he thought Congress could not separate at the present session without repealing the non-intercourse and doing something to maintain, support and defend the rights of our country. At a former session the house had resolved that they could not submit to the British or French decrees without a surrender of the rights, honor and independence of the nation.—Nothing had occurred to change the relative situation of the U. States as to those decrees. Holding these opinions, Mr. M. said he considered it his duty to move the following amendment to which he said he had no hesitation in saying as his belief that no gentleman who regarded the rights or honor of his country could object:

"And that provision ought to be made by law to maintain & defend the rights, honor and independence of the United States against the edicts of France and G. Britain"

On motion of Mr. Smilie, the house now adjourned, 65 to 53.

Monday, April 2.

NATIONAL BANK.

Mr. Love, from the committee to whom was referred a proposition on the subject of a National Bank, reported a bill for the establishment of a National Bank. [The Bank to be established at the City of Washington, with branches in each territory and state, provided the consent of the state legislatures shall be obtained thereto.] The bill was twice read and committed.

BATTURE.

The engrossed bill providing the means to ascertain the title to the Batture in front of the suburb St. Mary's in the city of New Orleans, was read a third time and passed—Yeas 69; Nays 16.

NON INTERCOURSE.

The order of the day was called for on the resolution, submitted on Saturday last by Mr. Randolph.

Mr. Rhea moved to postpone the further consideration of the subject till to-morrow, with a view to take up the bill for establishing Post Roads.

Mr. Livermore objected to the motion; he could not see what possible benefit would be derived from postponement.

Mr. Randolph spoke against postponement as it would go to defeat his principal object, dispatch.

Mr. Montgomery was also against postponement. Since the commercial bill had been lost between the two houses, he thought some other measure should be immediately originated, for he believed that to repeal the non-intercourse law, without a substitute, would be submission.

Mr. Dana spoke against postponement. If the subject was not postponed, he wished to see some modification of the amendment of Mr. Montgomery, which only pledged the house to maintain the independence of the nation against G. Britain and France. He feared lest mentioning those two should imply an unwillingness to defend our rights against the encroachments of other nations.

Mr. Randolph again spoke against the postponement. He said it was not at all surprising to him that those who could bring themselves to believe that the present non-intercourse, as practised upon was resistance to the belligerents, should also believe that to repeal it was submission—both of which he denied.

Mr. Johnson made some observations in favor of postponement. He contended that the proposition submitted on Saturday last by Mr. Randolph, and now moved to be postponed, was the same in substance with that which the house had decided but a few minutes before.

Mr. Taylor spoke against postponement. He thought it the duty of the house immediately to repeal a measure whose operation was confessedly injurious to ourselves.

Mr. Key also spoke against any postponement. No good purpose, he contended, would be answered by such a course.

Mr. W. Alston spoke in favor of postponement. He preferred to see the law die of its own accord unless the house should re-enact it.

The question on postponement till to-morrow was taken by Yeas and Nays, and negatived, 55 to 67.