

gainst these vessels? were they not that they had colonial produce, that is, produce of British islands, and that they had been spoken by British vessels? Are these crimes except by the Berlin and Milan decrees? We know they are not. They did not violate the municipal part of the decrees, because they were taken on the high seas.

But perhaps it may be said that the courts of Paris, even in September, 1811, did not know that the emperor had repealed his decrees. We shall gentlemen cut up this argument by the roots.—By our agent's letter of the 26th of October, he tells us, that on the 14th September, his majesty, by a special decree, confirmed the decision of the council of prizes. In my former numbers I supposed the emperor interposed with a special decree. I was mistaken—his courts condemned under the Berlin and Milan decrees, and he confirmed their sentences.

PACIFICUS.

Mr. Gallatin and his Whiskey Tax.—Mr. Gallatin in recommending his whiskey tax, has attempted to reconcile his Western brethren to it, by laying a higher tax on spirits distilled from foreign materials. Whether the people of the Eastern States will submit to have their spirits taxed higher than those distilled from the produce of our own country, after paying a duty on the importation of the molasses they use, is not for us to determine. Our business at this time is to show what was Mr. Gallatin's opinion of internal taxes generally, at the time of the famous Pennsylvania insurrection. For that purpose we have published at length, the resolutions of one of the meetings of the fermenters of rebellion, at which Mr. Gallatin officiated as secretary.—*New York Evening Post.*

At a meeting of sundry inhabitants of the western counties of Pennsylvania held at Pittsburg, on the 21st of August, 1793.

Present, John Canon, William Wallace, Shez-bazer Bentley, Bazel Bowl, Benjamin Parkinson, John Hucy, John Badollet, John Hamilton, John McClean, Neal Gillespie, David Bradford, Thomas Giddis, David Phillips, Albert Gallatin, Matthew Jameson, James Marshal, James Stewart, John Smith, Robert McClure, Peter Lisle, Alexander Long, Samuel Wilson, and Edward Cook.

Colonel John Canon was placed in the chair; and Albert Gallatin appointed clerk.

The excise law of congress being taken under consideration, and freely debated, a committee of five members was appointed to prepare a draught of resolutions, expressing the sense of the meeting on the subject of said law.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

August 22d. 1792.

The members of the meeting having met according to adjournment, the committee appointed yesterday made report, which being twice read and debated by paragraphs, was unanimously adopted, as followeth, to wit:

Strongly impressed with a sense of the fatal consequences that must attend an excise—convinced that a tax upon liquors, which are the common drink of a nation, operates in proportion to the number and not to the wealth of the people, and of course is unjust in itself, and oppressive from its very nature, never can effectually be carried into operation, without vesting the officers appointed to collect them with powers most dangerous to the civil rights of freemen, and must in the end destroy the liberties of every country in which they are introduced—feeling that the late excise law of congress, from the present circumstances of our agriculture, our want of markets, and the scarcity of circulating medium, will bring immediate distress and ruin on the western country—we think it our duty to persist in our remonstrances to Congress, and in every other legal measures that may obstruct the operation of the law, until we are able to obtain its total repeal.

Therefore, resolved, That David Bradford, James Marshal, Albert Gallatin, Peter Lisle, and David Phillips, be appointed for the purpose of drawing a remonstrance to Congress, stating our objections against the law that imposes a duty upon spirituous liquors distilled within the United States, and praying for a repeal of the same; and that the chairman of this meeting be directed to sign the same, in the name of the meeting, and to take proper measures to have it presented to Congress at their next session.

Resolved, That in order that our measures may be carried on with regularity and concert, that William Wallace, John Hamilton, Shez-bazer Bentley, Isaac Weaver, Benjamin Parkinson, David Redick, Thomas Stokely, Stephen Gayen, Joseph Venetree, Andrew Rabb, Thomas Giddis, Alexander Long, William Whitesides, John Oliphant, Robert McClure, James Lang, Thomas Benjamin Patterson, James Stewart, Samuel Johnson, William Plumer, and Matthew Jameson, be respectively appointed, committees of correspondence for the counties of Washington, Fayette and Alleghany; and that it shall be their duty to correspond together and with such committee as shall be appointed for the same purpose in the county of Westmoreland, or with any committees of a similar nature that may be appointed in other parts of the United States; and also, if found necessary, to call together either general meetings of the people in their respective counties, or conferences of the several committees.

And whereas some men may be found among us so far lost to every sense of virtue and feeling for the distresses of this country as to accept offices for the collection of duty:

Resolved, therefore, that in future we will consider such persons as unworthy of our friendship; have no intercourse or dealings with them; withdraw from them every assistance; and withhold all the comforts of life which depend upon those duties, and as men and fellow citizens treat them with that contempt they deserve; and that it be and it is hereby most earnestly recommended to the people at large, to follow the same line of conduct towards them.

From the Aurora.

It was not a little daring in Mr. Gallatin to propose a whiskey tax!—he must have conceiv-

ed the effect it was calculated to produce, by his feelings on a former occasion, and that the detestation of excise would induce the public to submit to British outrage as the lesser evil.

The sentiment of execration against the stamp act, and the excise, is to be heard from every quarter of the union—Mr. Gallatin calculates that the principles of the people hang as loosely about them as his own—or that they may be changed like a hat or a great coat.

There are many who think Mr. Gallatin is in earnest about the whisky and stamp taxes—but there are many who think it was only making a jest of them.

It was a sly trick put upon the war minister—by the financier, to place him in a situation as ridiculous as he was placed by the blanket message—Sancho's blanket never exhibited so useful a trick.

The secretary of the treasury has been frequently compared with the celebrated *Neckar*; casting a glance of thought over the subject, in consequence of seeing such a comparison in the *Baltimore Sun*, we were struck with the remarkable variety of circumstances which go to make up the resemblance. Will any one undertake to draw the comparison, and give it to us. If no one will, why then we must even do it ourselves—the first half hour we can find ourselves—in a mood to draw comparisons.

It is remotely hinted in a paper, which appears occasionally in the *secret*, that something is very soon to take place in congress of a *decisive character*—nothing is more rare or more wanted.

The measure of a *decisive character* we presume must be a question of war or no war; perhaps that was what the committee of foreign relations had before them as their *unanimity* has been alluded to.

When the question of a *decisive character* comes forth—it will be worth while to examine the arguments, and to notice the bearing of the votes—or as a sailor would say, who puts the stopper on the cable.

Proposals are about to be issued for an edition of the speeches of Mr. Gallatin—on the subject of the direct taxes—in the present dearth of news they must be very amusing or amazing.

One half the public believe the late report of secretary of the treasury is all a sham—that the good understanding which he maintains with Mr. Foster, as before with Mr. Eiskane, and Mr. [the writer inserted a name here and blotted it out again] indicates the course he adopts; and this report is held to be one of the moles in which the wheels of the government are to be stopped.

Another class, and not the least intelligent, thinks the secretary has actually come his very best, that his talents as a financier are better adapted for speculating in lands and banks, than in the concerns of a free people.

On all hands then the secretary's report is execrated, either on the score of *depravity, duplicity or injustice.*

COGITATIONS OF TIM TWIST.

"Humorous—Grave and Queer Withal!"

I have heard of a man who undertakes to conduct the military affairs of a country, and who knows himself such an adept in military science, that there is nothing in books he can learn; for once I went astray in my calculations; for I thought, in common with the multitude, that he must be a very wise man who can learn nothing from books; but it never till lately entered my head; that he hates books because (and a very natural because it is)—he cannot understand them!—O the times! [Etc.]

But strange as all these things are—I have heard (and know some folks who have seen) a man enter a at the head of a foreign army, his brows bound with victorious wreaths" (not of laurel and ivy, but of simple oak leaves)—foaming at the mouth like a madman, and viewing with pleasure and delight the smoking ruins and the prostrate temples of his native city—I have seen this man, by dextrously wielding, like another Sampson, only the jaw bone of ass; manage matters so cleverly, as that whoever beat; he was sure to be "first among the victors." Now Mr. Editor, I leave it to you, to say whether this is isn't the queerest fellow of all. "Moore anon." [Tench Cox.]

Foreign and Domestic Intelligence.

NORFOLK, February 21.

We are indebted to Captain Drake of the ship John and Adam, from Liverpool, for London papers to the 26th of December. They are without much interest.

Arrived in the bay on Wednesday, and at her moorings at Craney Island last night, the frigate Constitution captain Hull, from Cherbourg, which place she left on the 9th of January. Dispatches by this ship for the secretary of state, were landed on Wednesday, and forwarded immediately by a special messenger to Washington. Of the nature of these dispatches, it would be idle in us to offer a conjecture. We have been favored with a file of Paris papers to the 5th of January, of which we have only had a slight view; we do not perceive anything of importance in them, nor any thing relative to American affairs. We understand that there has been no public or official act done in relation to our affairs. If matters are no better, they are no worse. Upon this subject we must wait with patience for the official promulgation which must be in a few days.

It is said and believed in France, that a rupture between that nation and Russia will shortly take place; but upon what grounds we have not been able to perceive in the French papers. We however observe that efficient means had been taken to recruit the French armies. The conservative senate, at the instance of the emperor, passed a decree on the 20th of December, putting one hundred and twenty thousand men of the conscription of 1812, at the disposition of the minister of war, and measures were taken for their junction with the armies.

The frigates Medusa and La Nymph, from Java, had arrived at Brest.

The U. States' brig Hornet arrived in France

on the 40th of December, and sailed the next day for England.

A most dreadful gale of wind happened about the last of December, which is thus noticed under the Amsterdam head of the 28th.

A convoy of 230 sail, escorted by two ships of the line and three English frigates, has encountered a dreadful storm upon our coast. The *Hero*, 74, with a complement of 680, is entirely lost.—Two other 74's have appeared off Egmont-op-Zee; they appeared to be in a dangerous situation.

"A brig is lost upon the coast of the Texel; there were but 19 of her men saved. Another brig has been more fortunate; she entered the great road of the Texel, and was taken. She is a very fine brig, armed with twenty 32 pound carronades, and 120 men.

"A vessel loaded with cannon has been shipwrecked. She could not be saved.

"Our coast is covered with wrecks. Nothing is to be seen but casks of powder, cases of muskets, and a thousand objects of every kind. It appears that many of these vessels were loaded with munitions of war.

"The loss of the English is estimated at more than three thousand men. The greatest part of the convoy of 230 vessels may be considered as lost."

From the London Gazette.

ADMIRALTY OFFICE, December 24.

This day, in pursuance of the pleasure of his royal highness the prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of his majesty, his royal highness William Henry, duke of Clarence, admiral of the red, was promoted to the rank of admiral of the fleet in the room of admiral sir Peter Parker, baronet, deceased.

Died, on Saturday last, admiral sir Peter Parker, baronet, at the advanced age of 95, near 80 years of which he had been in the navy.

LONDON, December 10.

Government have received intelligence from France, from which it appears to be one of Bonaparte's principal objects, at this moment, to get a squadron of French ships into an American port, as an inducement for the United States to declare war against England. He has five ships of the line equipped and manned at L Orient supposed to be destined immediately for this important service; he has also fifteen of the line, in the same condition, at Toulon, while our blockading squadron off that port consists only of eleven; a reinforcement of it however, we understand may be expected.

From the River La Plata.

We have been favored with the Gazette of Buenos Ayres of the 27th October last.—The most important article it contains is a treaty of peace between the Most Excellent Junta of Buenos Ayres, and the Viceroy Elio Giv. of Montevideo, which was approved and ratified the 21st of October. The two following articles, concerning foreign vessels, are all we have room for at present:—

Art. 15th. Provides that the communication, correspondence and commerce, by land and by sea, respective dependencies, shall be entirely re-established as it was before the existing differences.

Art. 16th. In consequence of the foregoing article, every national or foreign vessel may freely enter the ports of their respective territories, by paying the regular royal duties, in conformity to a particular regulation, to be agreed upon between the said governments.—*Boston Chronicle.*

Staleigh:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1812.

Negro Brister, who last summer murdered Whitmel Robinson, son of Mr. Christopher Robinson, of Wake county, was tried at the county court held in this place last week, and found guilty. He was sentenced to be hung and the body to be burnt; but the latter part of the sentence has been remitted by his excellency Gov. Hawkins. Brister is to be executed this day.

WASHINGTON.

The sketch of Mr. Giles' speech, which appeared last week in the *Minerva*, must have afforded real pleasure to every patriot by whom it was perused. A tribute so justly due to the memory of the wonderful leader in the American revolution, extorted as it were from the bosom of an enemy by the irresistible force of conviction, yet indeed so handsomely paid, wins its way at once to the heart. Mr. Giles, in acknowledging the extraordinary merits of Washington, not only as a shining warrior, but as an exalted statesman, has done himself much honor.

The mere pride is felt on this occasion, from a knowledge of the industrious zeal which a portion of bad men have manifested in throwing contempt on the political character of our hero, and of the malignant pleasure evinced at the partial success of their efforts. Mr. Giles' testimony should forever close their lips. 'When,' says he, 'I felt a want of confidence in this great man as a politician, I had little experience. I was surrounded by visionary theories.' The declaration is candid and noble.

And who are they that persist in the ridicule of Washington's administration? In the course of our lives we have never met with any denying Washington's eminence as a statesman, but those who, either wilfully or ignorantly, were the devoted disciples of despotism. They who love to recount the achievements of Alexander; to whom the exploits of Cæsar are objects of delight; who behold in the usurpations of Cromwell every thing

worthy of admiration, or who regard the ravages of Bonaparte as the highest soarings of human genius and greatness: such men can never dwell with respect or complacency on what Cincinnatus performed or what Washington has done. Cincinnatus was not a politician; for, had he been so, when triumph placed power in his hands, instead of his wanted plough handle he would have grasped a sceptre. Nor can Washington have been a statesman, since with a knowledge of how much more he might have done, he was contented to seek the happiness of his country alone, and to prefer its prosperity to his own exaltation.

A very heedless remark is made by Benjamin Franklin in the sentence bequeathing a gold-headed cane to the American hero. 'Were it,' says he, 'a sceptre, Washington has deserved it.' Washington might doubtless have grasped a sceptre, but no mortal can deserve one. All-virtuous as he was he could acquire no title to an elevation above the law, nor to any greatness involving the sacrifice of a people's liberty.

The Honorable David R. Williams, of South-Carolina, has made a great figure upon the floor of Congress during the present session. In noticing this gentleman's speech on the new army bill, the reporter for the Baltimore democratic American has loaded the orator with such superabundant praise, so dished him up to the public with savoury commendations, that he perfectly resembles a goose smothered in onions! In the conclusion of the hyperbolic panegyric, the Reporter observes of the speech:

"No man can conceive the impressive manner with which it was delivered, nor the Roman energy and overwhelming vehemence of the speaker's elocution. You have seen and heard Cooper. The voice of Mr. Williams, is more vigorous, more powerful, more commanding, than that of this celebrated Tragedian."

So was the voice of Stentor more vigorous, more powerful and more commanding than that of Clydeses; but alas, Stentor was no orator. Mere noise is not elocution. So is the speaking trumpet more sonorous than the flute; and the bellowing of the bull louder than the tones of the French horn. Big simple sound is not music. Frogs croak with more energy than the Canary chirps or the Mocking-bird sings, but whose ear is delighted by the inhabitants of the muddy pool? Mr. Williams may roar louder than Cooper, but can he, like this great master, awake the passions of men or lull them to sleep at his pleasure? Can he, like him, thrill the bosom with rapture, or read the breast with unutterable anguish? No! he can awake but one passion—that of anger at his violence. And the on-

It is difficult for us to conceive how any rational man could mistake David R. Williams for an orator. What qualifications of an orator does he possess, but

"A throat of brass and adamantine lungs?"

His energy is that of a boisterous boatswain. His overwhelming vehemence the rapid jargon of the town-crier. And as for his impressive manner, any one may imagine it who has seen a man mauling rails.—Nothing can be more hideous, more impulsive and undignified than the gentleman's gestures, action and attitude. All is grimace, an ungracefulness. He that has seen Mendoza in his favorite position, the body thrown forward, the left hand guarding the breast and the right threatening his adversary's nose, will have an exact picture of D. R. Williams in the height of his declamation. Conceive the north west wind during a November day; a muddy stream at the breaking up of the ice; or a beer barrel, disgorging itself at the bung-hole, gurgling, frothing and foaming; fill it be emptied, and you have no need to visit the capitol to behold this transcendent orator!

The National Intelligencer loudly complains of the insulting and braggadocio language towards this country held in the Canadian gazettes. He will not, the editor says, disgust his readers, by placing the nauous articles before them.

Of all men in the world surely the supporters of the present administration ought to be the least offended at the bullying or bravado style of foreign journals. For certainly in this respect, if they be equalled, they can never be surpassed. If such sort of language could have mastered Great Britain, long ago would she have been blown up to the moon or sunk down to the bottomless pit. But we suppose the Intelligencer is offended at beholding its own party's weapons of warfare snatched from their hands and welded with windy execution in those of their enemy. Or perhaps the old adage may account for his wrath—

"two of a trade" you know.

In a war of words it would be unfair not to let the Canadians have some little part in the fighting. With so numerous a corps of republican 'slang-whangers' as government can muster, under the command of Marshal Duane, what is to be feared from two or three poor Canadian drivelers, who have scarce mastered the a, b, c of Billingsgate. It must be confessed that these men are fast improving, and if our 'republicans' con-