Massachusetts Legislature REMONSFR INCE.

## Thadoctrine of naturat aflegianceis too we

 Poonded, has beeh toolong established $\& \&$ is too con soindint wish the permanent interest, the peace andindependence of all nations, to be disturbed for independence of all nations, to be disturbed the parpose of sabstituting in is place, certain vigave birth, and which, though long since exploc
oul there, seem still to have an unhappy influenc gu there, seem
in our country.
Having thus found the ayowed causes of th War, and especially the mbtives for a perseve ance in it, so wholly inadequaie, to justifythe
dopion of that policy, we have been obliged is tssort to other and more concealed motives
WVe cannot, bowever without, the most craclusive Ve cannot, however without the most criclusiv
evidnce, believe, although the measures antlan zuage of some high publick functionaries indica
the lact, that ambition, and not justice, a lust the lact, that amotion, and nor, justice, a lust on are among the real causes of perseverance in our present hostilities.
Must we then add
logue of Repablicks, which lave been ruined py a spirit of Gareign conquest? - Have we no egard to the solemn propessiole, noase to the pre cept of Wasiogton? Is it possible, either to ac
quire, cr to maintain, extensive foreign conquests, quire, or to maintain, extensive foreign conquests
without powerful standing armies? And did uch armies ever long permit the people, who o enjoy therr liberties
Instances of military oppression have already otccurred among us; and a watchful people,
jealous of their rights, must have observed some attempts to control their elections, and to prostrate the civil, before the mili ary authority. If the lablishment of a chain of military posts, in the interior of our country-if the extensive prepa. rations which are made in quarters, where nua-
sion cannot be feared, and the total abandonment nid neglect of that part of our country where a lone it can be apprehended; have excited our anxle1s, these emotions have not been diminished, by ihe receot invasion, seizure and occupation of the serritory of a peaceable unofending neighbor.
If war must have been the portion of these $U$. nits Si S:ates mif they were destined by Providence, foreina conquest and military usurpaiion, your Temonstrants regret, that such a moment, \& such
ato occasion should have been chosen, for the ex periment-that while the oppressed nations of Eu rope are making so magnanimous and glothous efforis alone the descendonts of the pilgrims, solan: arily co.operate with the oppressor, to bind other nations in his chains s shat while diverting
the forces of ane of his enemies fr:m the mighty
conflict, we should endanger the defenceless ter conflict, we should endanger the delenceless ter
pitoriss of another, in whose ports the flag of opr struge ing for existence, iveneatb his iron grasp. Permin the legislature of this commonwealth,
Whise citizens have been ever zealous, in the ctuse of feedom, and who contributed their ut-
Host effrts, for the adoption of that constitution under wnich, in former times, we enjoyed so
stueh prosperity, most respectfully, but earnestly, to entreat ald conjure, the constituted authorities of the fation, by the regard due to our liberiies, to
our Union, to our civil compact, already infring our Union, to our civil compact, already infring
top-to pause before it be too late. presentatives of our sister States, in which differ presen councils preyail, ask themselves
Sufficientiy extensive, bofore the United States Lousianna, the projected reduction of annexation of izure of West Florida 1
Had we not millions upon millions of acres of lized man
Could these acquisitions be held, as conquered provincet, without powerful standing armies ? and
Would they not like other infant colonies, serve Hould they not like other infant colonies, serve
as perpetual drains, of the blood and treasure of
These United States? Or is it seriously intended to adopt the dangerous project of forming them
into new statest and admitiog them into the Unian, without the express consent of every membet
of the original confederacy. Would not such a of the original confederacy. Would not such o jigainons of that compact, by which alone ou: $\mathbb{U}$. Alrady have ve witnessed the formation and adrrissibh of one state, beyond the territorial lim-
its of the $U$. States, and this too, in opposition to the wishes and efioris, as wesl as in vioparties that compact-and the determination 10 continne that practice, and theteby to extend our republick,
to regions hitherto unesplored, or peopled by in fabitants, whose habits, fanguage, religionjand laws are repugnant
is openily avowed
Against a practice, so hostile to the rights, the
intervsis, he safect bf this state, and so destrucfive to her political pother; so subversive of the apit $t$ of the constitution, and the very prineiples
Npon which it is founded; your remonstrants, in
Nhe mante and behalf of the commonwe lh of Mascbusets, feel it their duty to enter their most diberate and solemn procest.
If an extensive, confederated republick is ti be maintaiaed, and we most fervently pray that it
may, it can only be, by a free communication of may, it can oniy be, ay a
the seievances feth, and the appreheuded, by ine of its members o and by a prompt and liber-
i remedy. The sume spirit of concession which
diceted the formation and adoption of the constithe formation and adoption of the consti-
should be kept in a permanept and perUlessings of government, its vigilance, its and taikly imposed. No portion of the Un
ifgaite be specilieed to the kocal interest
siond, or asgrandizemente of olited. It citariot, how
ever, be benied, that eaves have oecurred to dis. ever, be benved, thageavses have pecurred to dis
rorb the balance, whici wherraidjusted, was intend compact. But tive rumedy is in the power of con
con gress, and we look to their wi
cious and speedy application.
The chicf motive which influenced the easter ender a greater share of their own sovereign paw $\mathrm{sr}_{\text {, as }}$ appears by the recent history of those times was the expectation that their commerce would be better protected by the national governmeis.
The hardy people of the North stood in The hardy people of the North stood in. n need of the did of the South to protect the
their fiberties. For this they coold safely r as they always had done, on their own valoun But it was an important object with them, that very aid, facility, and encouragement should be given to that commerce upon which. their prospe rity almost exclusively depended.
To ensure this great object, a very unequal prosouthern stafes. The representation of slaves was the price paid by the nortbern states for the
stipulated protection and encouragement of their stipulated protection and encouragement of their
trade, and for an agreement of the southern mem
bers of the union, wat the publick burthens should bers of the union, chartle publick burthens should perience, howiverer, has provec, thast, althover the
contract on our part has been faithfully fultilied contract on our part has been faithfully fulfili
both these considerations have utterly failed. Indications of a spirit hostile to commerce we early visible, areong some of those who now con
trol the destinies of our repubtick. But the father of his country then presided in our councils, and this spirit was vanquished. Uader the influ-.
ence of the wise and liberal, and magnanimous system adopted and pursued by his administra. and protected; was the stipulations of the con. Since that furiol, in somever, the gaod faith.
spe spitit has arisen, and has exhibited an unrelenting se-
verity in the exercise of its sway, until at length, by a series of restrictions, utterl/ destructive of he calculations of the merchant, by prohibitions
and double duties, by embargoes and non inter: course, and las:ly by war, the poor remains of that sails, have been nearly ansihilated.
Nor has the other part of the consideration been
better fulfilled. Taxation has never, except in a ingle instance, and that to one hundred h part onseen spportioned according to represtentation;
and with what reluctance it was then submitted o by the, southern states, and with what tardiness it was even partially collected, publick re Of the two hundred and fifteen millions of do:-
ars, derived by the United Fiates, under the op: larg, derived by the United $8: a t e s, ~ u n d e r ~ t h e ~ o p-~$
kration of the Federal government, Massaclusetts has paid upwards of foriy millions-an amount,
beyoud all proportion to her political weight in the
If therefore, the revenues, derived from this sury, had been preserved in her own, she would have been fully competent to her own defence,
and would not have been obliged to solicit, nor xperience the injustice of a refusal, of the arms,
Cor which she has long since paid, and which or which she has long since pain, and which
were her due, from the general government. sal, your Remonstrants are wholly unable to de ermine. No discletion is, by law, vested in any officer of the government, in relation to this sui
ject. Its provisions are simple, plain, and per ect. Its
emptory. Your Remonstrants the serefore, cannot hat express their astonishment, that the Stute
of Massachusette, possessing a sea-coast more extensive and populous, than that of any othe
State in the Union, and a defenceless froatier by land, should not only be entirely abaridoned by the government whose duty it is to protect her
but should also be refused the arms, for her own defence, to which she is by law entided. They
cannot however, permit themselves to doubt, tha iongress will as will render to this Commonwealh, that justic
which the executive departmedt has refused. Which the executive departmett has refused.
If the war, in which we have betn rashly plung or was undertaken to appease the resentment
or secure the favour of $F$ rance, deep and humili ating must be our disapp;oint ment. For although he emperour is lavish in his professions of " love or the American people,"" applauds our ready and our prosperity are witnin the scope of his po. for the many outrages, indignities and insults he has inflicted on our government, nor for the un.
numbered millions, of which he has plundered numbered millions, of which he has plundered
our citizens-And when we consider the course our citizens-And when we consider the course
of policy pursued by our rulers, in their external
relations, and commercial restrictions, from the prokibition of our trade to St. Domingo, to the declaration of *war against Great Britain-tha his course often received his open approbation
and was not unfrequently, conformable to the sys. and was not unirequently, conformable to the sys. tem which he himself had adopted-when, we
consider also; the mysterious secrecy which has
veiled the correspondence of the two eiled the correspondence of the two governments
rom our view, when above all, when wider hat in many instances, the most important mea sures of our goverimment have been anticipated, in
Paxis, long before they werg known to the Ame. rican people, we cannot conceal our anxiety and alarm, for the honour and independence of ou country.- And we most fervently pray, that the the sacrifices we have already made like the earl concessions of Spain and Portugal, of Prussia
and Sweden, may not be the preludes, to new and Sweden, may not be the preludes, to new
lemands and new coacessions ; and that wo may be prese, ved, from all political conn
with the common enemy of civil liberty.
To the constituted authorities of our countr
ve have now stated our opinions and made know our complatints, - Opinions the result of deliber ate reflection, and complaints ' wrung from us by
by the tortures of that cruel policy' which ba by the tortures of that cruel policy ${ }^{2}$ which ha
orought the good people of this commonwealth
the verge of ruie. the verge of ruio. 2A policy which has annihilat
a hate commerec, so essential to their prosperiy
-increased their burdens while it has diminished

Wiohight of in inmentritanding why, dangand
 f suffing, and which furnished the only means great nursery of thous sands of pur cilizens-th which cau never be abandoned by N . England. Under such circumstances silence towards $t$ government woult be treachery to the people. In
making this solemn representation of our suffer. ings and our dangers we have been influenced only, by the duty which we owe to our constitu ents and our country, to our consciences, and the
memory of our fathers. And to the Searcher of all heatiswe our fathers. And to the Searcher of all hearts we appeal, for the purity of our motive
and the siñerity of our declarations. Far from wishing to emharrass the adminis andion, in any ortheir negociations for peace, we
canrot but express nur regret, thal they should not have evinced a/sincere desire, for this greal object. by accepting some of the repeated ovey
ures made by the enemy for the suspension o rres made by the enemy for the suspension of
hostilities-And permit us, in conclusion, most carnestly to r quest, that measures may imme.
diately be adopled, to stay the sword of the des troyer, sudi to preven t the further effusion of human blood; that ur invading armies may be forth very recalied within ourown territories; ; and thit
of our rulers may be speedily direct d, to t ine attainment of a just and honorabl eace, that mutual confidence, and commercial
prosperity may be again restored, to our distract
ed and suffering country $i$ and that by an up ght and faithful administration of our goyern ment, in the true spirit of the constitution, it ion of the Union. $\qquad$
Read and accepted. Sent up for concur
TIMOTHY BIGELOW, sheaker. In Senate, June 15, 1813. Read and concurre

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| Jone 25, 1813. |

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