

It is even wise to obtain from laws, which, however wise and good in themselves, have the semblance of inequality which find no response in the heart of the citizen, and which will be evaded with little remorse. The wisdom of legislation is specially seen in granting laws on conscience.

SALISBURY, ROWAN COUNTY, N. C. MONDAY, OCT. 10, 1831.

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An ACT to incorporate a Fire Insurance Company in Georgetown in the District of Columbia. Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the subscribers to this Company, their successors and assigns, shall be, and they are hereby, created a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of the "Potomac Fire Insurance Company of Georgetown," and shall be able to sue and be sued, plead and be pleaded, in all courts of law in the United States, and to make such one common seal, and the same to alter and amend at their pleasure.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the subscriptions be opened in Georgetown in the District aforesaid, under the direction of Francis Dodge, Nathaniel Semmes, Walter Smith, John Kirtz, William S. Nichols, L. G. Davidson, John Marbury, Joel Crutchen, O. M. Litchman, James Dunalop, William G. Kidgeley, Samuel Humphreys, and William Hayman, as Commissioners, or a majority of them, for raising a capital stock of two hundred thousand dollars, divided into eight thousand shares of twenty-five dollars each.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said Commissioners after given ten days previous notice of the time and place for receiving subscriptions of the said stock shall proceed to receive the same; and should the number of shares subscribed exceed the number of which the capital stock consists, then, and in such case, the said Commissioners are hereby authorized and directed so to apportion the shares subscribed among the several subscribers, by proportional reduction, as may reduce the whole to the aforesaid number of eight thousand shares.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one dollar on each share shall be paid to the Commissioners at the time of subscribing, and a further sum of four dollars on each share of stock by instalments, after giving thirty days previous notice to the stockholders. In one or more newspapers printed in the District of Columbia, not exceeding two dollars on each share; and that the remainder of the said twenty-five dollars shall be secured by notes payable on demand, signed and endorsed to the satisfaction of the President and Directors. The said notes shall be renewed whenever the directors may consider it proper; but the directors are hereby required to cause the same to be renewed at least once in every twelve months; and every stockholder neglecting or refusing to renew his note, or neglecting or refusing to pay any instalment, when required by the President and directors so to do, shall forfeit all his interest in this company, and be held liable for his proportion of any loss which may have occurred previous to such neglect or refusal.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That should any force be incurred by any member of this institution, the same may be annulled, remitted, and made void by a majority of the whole board of directors present at the meeting at which the motion for such remission shall be made. Provided That no remission shall be made under this act shall take place without the payment of the principal of said instalment, and interest thereon, or the renewal of his note, as required by the directors, as also the payment of his proportion of such loss as may have occurred previous to such forfeiture.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That, as soon as two thousand shares shall be subscribed for, the Commissioners hereby authorized to receive subscriptions shall call a meeting of the subscribers, after giving ten days notice in one or more of the newspapers printed in the District of Columbia, and the subscribers who shall assemble in consequence of such notice, or appear by proxy, shall choose by ballot from among the stockholders, by a majority of votes, twelve directors, who shall continue until the first Monday in August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one; on which Monday in August, in every succeeding year thereafter, an election shall be held for twelve directors as aforesaid, who shall continue in office for one year from the time of their election, and until others be chosen in their stead; and the said directors, at their first meeting, shall choose from among themselves, or from the stockholders at large, a president, and allow him a reasonable compensation for his services; and, in case of death, removal, resignation, or other disqualification of the president or any of the directors, the remaining directors may elect others to supply their places during the remainder of the term for which they were chosen.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That every subscriber shall be entitled to vote by himself, his agent or proxy, appointed under his hand and seal, attested by two witnesses, at all elections made by virtue of this act; and shall have as many votes as the holds shares, as far as ten shares; one vote for every five shares which he may hold over ten shares as far as fifty shares; and one vote for every twenty shares which he may hold over sixty shares.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That the affairs of this institution shall be conducted by the president and directors elected as aforesaid; that the president shall preside at all meetings of the directors, and, in case of absence, his place may be supplied by one of the directors, appointed by the board; that the president and directors shall have power and authority to make all kinds of insurance against loss or damage by fire, and insurances on inland transportation of goods, wares, merchandise, and country produce, not exceeding ten thousand dollars in any one policy, and to invest the funds of the institution in stock, or to dispose of the same in such manner as in their judgment may be most advantageous to the said institution; that they shall have full power and authority, to appoint a secretary, and such other clerks and servants under them as shall be necessary for transacting the business of the said institution, and may allow them such salary as they shall judge reasonable; to ordain and establish such by-laws, ordinances, and regulations, as shall appear to them necessary for regulating and conducting the concerns of the said institution, not being contrary to, or inconsistent with, this act, or the laws and constitution of the United States; that the said president and directors shall conduct business in Georgetown, that they shall keep full, fair, and correct entries of their transactions, which shall be at all times open to the inspection of the stockholders; they shall also have power to hire or purchase a suitable building or buildings in Georgetown, for the purpose of transacting the affairs of the institution; that the president, or such other person as may be appointed in his place, and four directors, shall form a quorum for transacting business, and all questions which may come before them shall be decided by a plurality of votes.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That all policies of insurance made by this corporation shall be signed by the President, attested by the Secretary, and sealed with the common seal thereof; and all losses on any such policy or policies shall be adjusted by the president and board of directors, and paid, agreeably to the terms of the policy, out of the funds of the company.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That dividends of the net profits arising on the capital stock, or so much thereof as to them may appear advisable, after reserving one-third of the net profits as a surplus fund, which shall amount to the sum of twenty thousand dollars, shall be made at such periods as the president and directors may judge proper, not oftener than once in six months, and shall be paid to the stockholders or their legal representatives; but if a dividend shall at any time be declared of a greater amount than the net profits of the said company at the time of making the same, each and every director that consented thereto, shall, and is hereby declared to be liable for, in his individual capacity, and bound to contribute to make good the deficiency in the capital stock occasioned by such improper dividend.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That no stockholder shall be answerable, in his person or individual property, for any contract or agreement of said company, or for any losses, deficiencies, or failures, of the capital stock of said institution, except in the case of a director declaring an improper dividend, as before provided for in the tenth section of this act; but the whole of the said capital stock, together with all property, rights, and credits, belonging thereto, and nothing more, shall at any time be answerable for the demands against the said company.

Sec. 12. And be it further enacted, That the stock of this institution is hereby declared personal and not real estate, and may be assigned and transferred on the books of the company, in person or by power of attorney only; but no stockholder indebted to the company shall be permitted to make a transfer, or receive a dividend, until such debt is paid or secured to the satisfaction of the president and board of directors.

Sec. 13. And be it further enacted, That this act shall be and continue in force until the first day of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and until the end of the next session of Congress which shall happen thereafter; and on the dissolution or expiration of this charter, the president and directors for the time being shall take prompt and effectual measures for closing all its concerns; but no such dissolution or expiration shall operate so as to prevent any suits to be brought or continued by or against the said corporation, for any debt or claim due by or to the same, and which arose previously to said dissolution or expiration; but for the purpose of closing its concerns, its corporate powers shall remain unimpaired.

A. STEPHENSON, Speaker of the House of Representatives. J. C. CALHOUN, Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate. Approved March 2, 1831. ANDREW JACKSON.

PUBLIC—NO. 66. AN ACT to regulate the foreign and coasting trade on the Northern, Northeastern and Western frontiers of the United States, and for other purposes.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the first day of April next, no custom house fees shall be levied or collected on any raft, flat, boat, or vessel, of the United States, entering otherwise than by sea, at any port of the United States on the rivers and lakes on our Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern frontiers.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That from and after the first day of April next, the same and no higher tonnage duties and customs charges of any kind shall be levied and collected on any British colonial raft, flat, boat, or vessel, entering otherwise than by sea at any port of the United States on the rivers and lakes on our Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern frontiers, than may be levied and collected on any raft, flat boat or vessel, entering

otherwise than by sea at any of the ports of the British possessions on our Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern frontiers; and that from and after the first day of April next, no higher tonnage duties shall be levied or collected on merchandise imported into the United States in the ports aforesaid, and otherwise than by sea, than may be levied and collected on merchandise when imported in like manner otherwise than by sea, into the British possessions on our Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern frontiers from the United States.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the passage of this act, any boat, sloop, or other vessel, of the United States, navigating the waters on our Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern frontiers, otherwise than by sea, shall be enrolled and licensed in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury; which enrollment and license shall authorize any such boat, sloop, or other vessel, to be employed either in the coasting or foreign trade; and no certificate of registry shall be required for vessels so employed on said frontiers: Provided, That such boat, sloop, or vessel, shall be, in every other respect liable to the rules, regulations, and penalties, now in force, relating to registered vessels on our Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern frontiers.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That in lieu of the fees, emoluments, salary, and commissions, now allowed by law to any collector or surveyor of any district on our Northern, Northeastern and Northwestern lakes and rivers, such collector or surveyor, as aforesaid, shall receive, annually, in full compensation for these services, an amount equal to the entire compensation received by such officer during the past year. Approved March 2, 1831.

PUBLIC—NO. 67. AN ACT declaratory of the law concerning contempt of court.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the power of the several Courts of the United States to issue attachments and inflict summary punishments for contempt of court, shall not be construed to extend to any cases except the misbehavior of any person or persons in the presence of the said courts, or so near thereto as to obstruct the administration of justice, the misbehavior of any of the officers of the said courts in their official transactions, and the disobedience or resistance by any officer of the said courts, party, juror, witness, or any other person or persons, to any lawful writ, process, order, rule, decree, or command of the said courts.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That if any person or persons shall, corruptly, or by threats or force, endeavor to influence, intimidate, or impede any juror, witness, or officer, in any court of the United States, in the discharge of his duty, or shall, corruptly, or by threats or force, obstruct, or impede, or endeavor to obstruct or impede, the due administration of justice therein, every person or persons so offending, shall be liable to prosecution therefor, by indictment, and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished, by fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment, not exceeding three months, or both, according to the nature and aggravation of the offence. Approved, March 2, 1831.

VARIETY.

Deaconing.—In the olden times, when it was a custom in many parts of New England to sing the psalms and hymns by "deaconing" them, as it was called, that was, by the deacon's reading each line previous to its being sung, one of those church dignitaries rose, and after looking at his book some time, and making several attempts to spell the words, apologized for the difficulty he experienced in reading, by observing,

"My eyes indeed are very blind." The choir, who had been impatiently waiting for a whole line, thinking this to be the first of a common metre hymn, immediately sang it. The good deacon exclaimed, with emphasis,

"I cannot see at all! This, of course, they also sang, when the astonished pillar of the church, cried out,

"I really believe you are bewitched!" Response by the choir, "I really believe you are bewitched."—Deacon: "The deuce is in you all."

The choir finished the verse by echoing the last line, and the deacon sat down in despair. Boston Trans.

In the economy of nature, birds are important creatures:— They destroy innumerable insects, and the thoughtless extirpation of some birds, supposed to be noxious, as sparrows, crows, &c. in many districts, has generally given rise to an infinitely more prejudicial multiplication of vermin. Other birds destroy larger animals, as field mice, snakes, frogs, lizards, or consume carrion. Many extirpate weeds. On the other hand, they assist the increase and propagation of animals as well as plants. For instance, it is known that

wild ducks, in their emigrations, carry impregnated spawn into remote ponds, &c., and thus stock them with fish. Many birds swallow seeds, which are subsequently expelled whole, and thus extensively dispersed, as the doves of banda with the nutmeg. The excrement of seabirds manures bare cliffs and coasts, so as to render them capable of producing useful plants. Many species of falcons may be taught for the chase, as well as the raptorial for taking fish. Many birds, together with their eggs, fat, &c., serve for food; the entire skins of sea-birds for the clothing of many northern nations; the feathers for stuffing beds, for writing, for various and often costly ornaments, in which respect also they form an important article of trade among many savage people, particularly the Islanders of the Pacific Ocean.

A Canine Artillerist.—Mustapha, a strong and active dog, belonged to an artillerist of Dublin, raised from its birth in the midst of camps, always accompanied its master, and exhibited no alarm in the midst of battle. In the hottest engagements it remained near the cannon, and carried the match in its mouth. At the memorable battle of Fontenoy, when he broke the square battalions of the Hanoverians, the master of Mustapha, received a mortal wound. At the moment when about to fire upon the enemy, he and several of his corpse were struck to the earth by the discharge of artillery.—Seeing his master extended lifeless and bleeding, the dog became desperate, and howled piteously. Just at that time, a body of French soldiers were advancing rapidly to gain possession of the piece which was aimed at them from the top of rising ground. Who would believe it, if the fact were not attested by several witnesses worthy of credit? Doubtless with a view to avenge his master's death, Mustapha seized the lighted match with his paws, and set fire to the cannon loaded with case shot; 70 men fell on the spot, and the remainder took to flight. After this bold stroke, the dog laid itself down near the dead body of his master, licked his wounds, and remained there 24 hours without sustenance. He was at length with difficulty taken away by the comrades of the deceased. The courageous animal was carried to London, and presented to George II, who had him taken care of as a brave servant.—Historie des Chiens Celebres.

A poor Irishman, who was on his death-bed, and who did not seem quite reconciled to the long journey he was going to take, was kindly consoled by a good natured friend, with the common-place reflection, that we must all die once. "Why, my dear, now," answered the sick man, "that is the very thing that vexes me so much; if I could die half a dozen times, I should not mind it."

Anecdote of a poor Man.—The following lines are occasioned by the circumstance of a person going lately into the house of a poor pious old man, with a large family, and saying, "My friend, you seem to be very poor." To which the man replied, "How can you call me poor, when through the grace of Christ, all things are mine?"

How can you call me poor? All things are mine— What'er I ask, my God replies, 'tis thine; The world, life, death, things present, things to come." Such is my store in Christ; a countless sum! The world may think me poor; so I think them; They treasure I, my riches they contemn. They have their good things now; for mine I wait; How worthless theirs at best; the least of mine, how great.

SPANISH COMPLIMENTS Matilda's eyes so brilliant are and black; One glance subdues you at the first attack; 'Twas of her eyes a dying victim spoke, They are in mourning for the hearts she broke.

The Bunker Hill Aurora says—A Mr. Sheldon lately drew across Warren bridge, with one yoke of oxen on two wagons, chained together, forty-three bales of cotton weighing 350 lbs. each, making a total of 15,050 lbs. The carriage way of this bridge is one of the best macadamized roads in the United States.

A Scottish nobleman one day visited a lawyer at his office, in which at the time there was a blazing fire, which led him to exclaim, "Mr., your office is as hot as an oven." So it should be, my Lord, replied the lawyer, "as it is here that I make my bread."

Peach Trees.—Now is the time to search Peach trees for young worms, while they are in the outer bark. Attend to it—Conn. Paper.

The following question is respectfully submitted to the community, for its deliberation:

Suppose a written contract to subsist between three co-partners—A, B and C—in which it is stipulated that certain things may be lawfully done by the joint concern, and that no other things shall be lawfully done, than those for which power has been expressly conferred. And suppose A and B combine together to waste the joint property or to distribute the revenue derived from it in an unequal manner, to the manifest injury of C—who by the articles of co-partnership, is entitled to an equal share. And suppose A and B, by a subtle contrivance, have it in their power to prevent C from bringing his complaint before a judicial tribunal for a hearing, and that they do actually exercise this power. The question is, Does such a proceeding differ in any respects from an act of down-right plunder?

If there is a difference, we should be pleased to see it pointed out; and, if there is none, we would then submit this further question—

Would such a proceeding be less an act of plunder if practised by two communities against a third, or by seven-teen States against seven?

And if not, we would then again inquire—

Whether the conduct of a majority of Congress, in placing a fraudulent title to a law—by calling that a revenue act which is in fact an act for the protection of one branch of industry, at the expense of all others—for the evident purpose of keeping the question without the cognizance of the courts of law, is at all different from an act of plunder?

The following is the view taken by O. P. Q. of the state of National feeling in France:

A new ministry is for the present postponed. M. Perier is prepared to change or modify his system, if he should be allowed to remain. He has now no objection to pledge himself.— 1st, That the independence of Belgium shall be assured. 2d, That by peace or war Poland shall be guaranteed her nationality. 3d, That the troubles in La Vendee shall be no longer trifled with but shall be put down by force. And 4th, That the thousands of Royalists who continue to occupy posts under Government shall be changed for men who will vote for and support the Revolution of July. But this is not sufficient. M. Casimir Perier cannot possibly satisfy the millions. His system is not national.

A gentleman once apologizing to a company for not joining in conversation, said he was afflicted with a cold in his head, and when that was the case he was always heavy, dull, and stupid. "Upon my soul then," replied John Wilkes, "you are very much to be pitied, for you must have been afflicted with that same cold in your head ever since I knew you, which is more than twenty years."

Judges of A' Size.—Mr. Baron V—and Mr. Justice G—the one very tall, the other a short man, once going the same circuit, an ignorant rustic at a country town, hearing them styled 'Judges, of Assize,' boldly demurred to the appellation, declaring as his reason, that he never saw two men less of a size in his life.

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