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CIRCULAR

From JOHN STANLY, Esq. Member of Congress from this District, to his Constituents.

CONCLUDED.

The Revenue which the United States derived from duties on imports and tonnage in the year 1808, amounted to sixteen millions, three hundred and sixty three thousand dollars

This revenue was reduced in the year 1809, to seven millions, seven hundred and seventy three thousand dollars

and subject to debentures issued on re-exportations is estimated by the secretary of the treasury at a net sum of about half millions only. The cash in the treasury which on the 1st Oct. 1808, amounted to thirteen millions, eight hundred and forty six thousand dollars, \$13,846,777, was reduced on the 1st January 1810, to three millions, eight hundred and seventeen thousand dollars \$3,817,978. The expenses of the government, (exclusive of the payments on account of the principal of the public debt) in the year 1809, exceeded the actual receipts into the treasury in that year, thirteen hundred thousand dollars, and including the payments on account of the principal of the debt, the disbursements from the treasury in that year, exceeded the receipts by a sum of eight millions of dollars.

These statements of loss of revenue, and diminution of cash, exhibit in the most authentic shape, the effect of our commercial restrictive system for that year.

From a view of the probable receipts and expenditures of the year 1810, even upon a peace establishment, a loan for the support of government was found necessary, and an act passed authorizing the President to borrow a sum equal to the principal of the debt to be reimbursed in the year 1810, to be applied to the discharge of any expenses of the government; the sum thus authorized to be borrowed, is estimated at about five millions one hundred thousand dollars.

The Army of the United States consists of two descriptions of troops. Those forming the "Military peace establishment" amounting to 2763

And those called "The additional military force," 4189

Total 6954

of the old troops 730 were stationed on the Mississippi, for the protection of New Orleans. In Dec. 1808, 3772 of the additional military force were ordered to the Mississippi, for the same purpose.

The unprecedented mortality in this last detachment has been made public notice, an enquiry was directed into the causes of this mortality.

From the report of the war department it appeared, that the troops of the "additional military force," ordered for the protection of New Orleans, encamped under the command of Gen. Wilkinson at Terre au Beauf, on the Mississippi, 15 miles below New Orleans on the 24th June, where they remained until Sept. when they moved up the river.

The return of this corps on the 31st Oct. 1809, represents, that in this short period,

16 Officers and 800 Privates had died—That 745 Officers and privates were then sick—That 51 Officers had resigned, and of the whole detachment only 276 Privates were fit for duty.

Disease so general, and mortality so great, while they could not fail to awaken sympathy for the unfortunate victims, required an investigation of the causes. The committee appointed to examine into this subject, collected with great care, evidence illustrative of the case. Their report displays a scene of suffering and wretchedness among the troops, before unheard of in this country. They ascribe their sufferings to the following causes:

The detachment consisting of new levies, The unhealthiness of the climate, The lowness of the ground on which they were encamped, The want of sound provisions, and hospitals and hospital stores,

Fatigue of the men in clearing and ditching land for a camp, Want of repose during the night, for want of nets to protect from the annoyance of mosquitoes,

Want of cleanliness, impracticable from their position and The confinement of the sick and well to the same tents, which were not sufficient to protect them from the heat of the sun, nor from the dews and rain.

It appeared also that the troops were kept in this situation during the summer season, contrary to the instructions of the Secretary at war.

This report leaves no doubt that this great calamity is ascribable to the improper conduct and neglect of duty in the officers of government. What were the inducements of Gen. Wilkinson to keep these unfortunate men, thus employed in ditching and clearing a swamp, contrary to his instructions, we are yet at a loss to discover.

The man whose sympathies are not carterized by familiarity with wretchedness, nor his spirit subdued by devotion to a despot, will feel a thrill of horror at this scene of misery, and express his indignation and detestation of the merciless apathy which could sentence so many brave men to protracted sufferings and an inglorious grave.

The Navy of the U. S. at this time consists of 3 Frigates of 44 guns, 3 of 36, and 3 of 32—2 Ships of 20 and 18 guns, 6 Brigs of 18, 16, and 14 guns, 2 Schooners of 12, 1 Cutter of 10 guns, 4 Bombs and 170 Gun-Boats.

Of which there are in commission and ready for service, 4 Frigates, 2 Ships, 5 Brigs, 2 Schooners, 1 Cutter, 3 Bombs and 22 Gun-Boats. Of the Gun-Boats, six are deemed unfit for service from decay.

A proposition was made and agreed to, for reducing the army and navy, and separate Bills introduced for that purpose.

The Bill for reducing the navy underwent some discussion, but was not finally acted upon. The Bill for reducing the army was not taken up.

A military force, sufficient to garrison our forts, and preserve the arms, and munitions of war, seems to be all the

United States now require. For while the enormous expence of the establishment, \$3,346,772, the last year, renders its reduction an object with a view to saving expence; there does not appear any ground to apprehend an occasion for the employment of such a force. An invasion of the neighbouring territories of England or France, is hardly contemplated except by a few of our energy men, whose war-fever will doubtless dissipate itself in idle vapouring—and for defence, were an invasion of our territory to be attempted, the people themselves as militia present at every point a much more formidable, and more efficient, and more trust worthy resistance than this remnant of an army—were it even less suspected than it is of Burrism, and less tainted with the infection of Spanish influence.

Of the navy, the only practicable use in the present state of things seems to be the protection of our harbors. Some reduction of the expence not authorized might have taken place and still have left its effective force the same. The Gun-Boats which form a numberless monument of the whims of the late President might have been sold and a portion of their cost brought back into the treasury. As it is, they are fast rotting and in a few months will relieve us from all anxiety as to their employment or preservation.

The Secretary of the Treasury by direction of the House of Representatives, transmitted a statement of the annual amount of expenditures in relation to the military and naval establishments from the 4th March 1789, to the end of the year 1809.

The information received by this statement is of the first importance to the people; it exhibits the application of by far the greatest portion of the public money not paid in discharge of the debt; it shows the comparative extravagance or economy of the different administrations of the government and affords a criterion by which to test the professions with the performances of the public agents.

By this document it appears, That the MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT cost under the administration of Washington, from the 4th March 1789, to 31st Dec. 1797, (the expences of this last year being authorized by laws passed under his administration) \$10,128,396.

Under the administration of Mr. Adams, from the 1st January 1798, to the 31st December 1801, (the expences of this last year being authorized by laws passed under his administration) \$6,468,715.

Under the administration of Mr. Jefferson, from the 1st of January 1802, to the 31st December 1809, (the expenditure of this last year being authorized by laws passed under his administration)

Total expence of the Military establishment, \$30,941,638.

The expenditures of the years 1799 and 1800, the two greatest under Mr. Adams, amounted to four millions, nine hundred and twenty three thousand and seventy nine dollars \$4,923,079.

The expenditures of the years 1808 and 1809, under Mr. Jefferson, amount to six millions, two hundred and forty six thousand, six hundred and six dollars. \$6,246,806.

And consequently two years of the republican cheap administration cost the United States one million, three hundred and twenty three thousand dollars, more than the two most extravagant years of the most extravagant John Adams!

The NAVAL ESTABLISHMENT of the United States, commenced in the year 1794, and cost to 31st December 1797, under the administration of Washington, the sum of \$1,129,386.

Under the administration of Mr. Adams, from the 1st of January 1798, to 31st December 1801, (the expences of this last year being incurred under laws passed by his administration) \$9,799,569.

Under the administration of Mr. Jefferson, from the 1st of January 1802, to the 31st December 1809, (charging him with the expenditures of the last year, as before) \$12,717,022.

Total expence of the naval establishment, \$23,643,977.

These statements shew incontrovertibly, that the military force raised by Mr. Adams and which then received from his opponents the terrible name of a standing army, has continued under his successors, even to the present moment. That Mr. Adams' army in his two most expensive years, actually cost one million three hundred thousand dollars less than the force kept up by Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison, in the two last years.

The contrast in the naval department is more striking. Mr. Adams had a naval force of upwards of forty ships of war, in entirely building and equipping these ships (except the small sum expended under Washington) and keeping the whole in active and honorable service, four years, with a body of eight thousand seamen and marines, he expended \$9,799,569.

his most expensive year, 1800, when the officers and men, in actual service, amounted to 8,632—was \$3,448,716, which makes each fighting man allot cost \$400 per ann.

Mr. Jefferson sold sixteen of the vessels of war.—He added not a single ship to the navy. Of those built by Mr. Adams and retained by Mr. Jefferson, one (the Philadelphia) was lost in the Mediterranean—another (the General Greene) was spoiled in the attempt to repair and is now a hulk in the Chesapeake. Yet with this small establishment, thus reduced, the expence has annually increased from less than one million of dollars in the year 1802, to two millions, four hundred twenty seven thousand, seven hundred and fifty eight dollars (\$2,427,758,) the expence of the year 1809.—In this his greatest year of expence the fighting men afloat, officers included amount to 3,818, and cost per man (\$630) six hundred and thirty dollars, per year! more than 50 per cent. above the cost of each man under Mr. Adams.

These facts are supported by public, official documents

they afford conclusive proof of a prodigality, and lavish waste of public treasure, in the military and naval departments under Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison, unprecedented in this country.

Let every man who remembers the promises of reform and economy on the faith of which Mr. Jefferson came into power, examine these statements; let him that trusted in them, be sensible of the imposition practised upon him; let those who sang hosannas to this golden era of reform, blush at the discovery, how little of what was promised has been performed.

These establishments of an army and navy are no longer such terrible anti-republican bug-bears, they afford jobs to reward dependents, contracts for humble friends; and the great apostles of republicanism, indulge a comfortable patronage in providing at nearly double the expence of federal times, for friends and relations who have no other employment.

Even to those who were formerly most clamorous against these establishments, "We have seen the question put to the slave in Algiers, Will you put on the turban and share the plunder of the day, or will you stick to that religion which you received from your parents and from heaven?" And like the apostate wretch, we have seen them forfakc their former principles, partake of the plunder and quietly seat themselves in the comfortable births afforded by a "standing army" an "aristocratic navy."

In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Treasury transmitted a statement of the annual receipts into the Treasury from the 4th of March 1789, to 31st Dec. 1809, and a statement of the amount of debt annually incurred and re-imbursed during the same period.

By this Statement it appears, That the Receipts into the Treasury, from the 4th March, 1789, to 31st Dec. 1800, during the administration of Washington and Adams, including all the loans, amounted to, eighty nine millions, five hundred eighty eight thousand, six hundred and 83 dollars, \$89,588,683.

That during the same period there was paid on account of the principal of the debt, the sum of Twenty two millions, four hundred and sixty five thousand, nine hundred and six dollars, \$22,464,906.

That the receipts from the 1st Jan. 1801, to Jan. 1, 1810, during the Administration of Jefferson and Madison, amounted to one hundred & twenty one millions, two hundred and thirty nine thousand, 253 dollars, \$121,239,253.

And the payments on account of the principal of the debt in the same period, to forty four millions, eight hundred, and sixty five thousand, seven hundred and forty eight dollars, \$44,853,748.

It is already given, enable me to place the management of our money matters, before you in another important point of view.

The Federal Administration received in 12 years, including all loans, \$29,308,033.

They paid on account of the principal of the debt, \$22,464,907.

The Army, \$16,392,113

The Navy, \$10,928,396

And left in cash in the Treasury, April 1st, 1801, \$1,794,052

Balance expended in 12 years on other objects, viz. Salaries to officers of government, foreign ministers, interest on the debt incurred in their own time, and generally such expenditures, which with appointments in the Army & Navy, form the patronage of the Administration—thirty five millions, eight hundred and seven thousand, six hundred and fifty six dollars—at the rate of two millions, nine hundred and eighty three thousand dollars per year, \$35,807,659.

Jefferson and Madison have received, Cash in the Treasury, April 1, 1801, \$1,794,052

Receipts into the Treasury, from Jan. 1, 1801, to Jan. 1, 1810.—\$ years—One hundred and twenty one millions, two hundred and thirty nine thousand, two hundred and 53 dollars, \$121,239,253

They have paid in the same period, For the principal of the debt \$22,464,907

For the Army \$16,392,113

For the Navy, \$10,928,396

They have cash in the treasury 1st Jan. 1810 \$3,817,977

Balance, expended in nine years upon other objects, such as salaries to officers at home, ministers abroad, &c. &c. as above, including the monies disposed of by the patronage of government beyond appointments in the army and navy, forty nine millions, two hundred and eighty three thousand dollars, \$49,283,008.

—at the rate of five millions four hundred and seventy five thousand, eight hundred & eighty nine dollars, in each year.

Here is a result that the dullest may understand and most obtuse must feel. Jefferson and Madison have received of the people's money in nine years, thirty three millions four hundred and forty four thousand dollars, (\$33,444,000) more than was received by Washington and Adams in twelve years. And giving Mr. Adams, Jefferson and Madison full credit for all payments on account of the principal of the public debt, the army and navy, and for the money on hand, they have expended in nine years, forty nine millions, two hundred & eighty three thousand dollars (\$49,283,000)