

Lord Spencer observed, however, that he might have concealed himself to prevent being arrested for his debts, but he was not listened to.

2d. The woman confessed that a great many people frequented the tavern, which sufficiently evinced, that there resorted a club of blood-thirsty Jacobins.

Lord Spencer asked whether those men were not the customers of the house. The woman was forbidden to answer.

Such is the plot, which will be soon announced to be as frightful as the gun-powder conjuration.

October 19.

The guillotine has just been committed to the flames of the Glare market. Mr. Reeves and other tycophants in solemn mourning, were present at the auto de fe; they were undoubtedly lamenting that the machine could do no more the hatred of the people against the French.

As it is conveyed to Whitehall, the people are so gathered, it was intended for Mr. Pitt and Loughborough, Mr. Dundas, or Mr. Windham. A very satisfactory answer was returned, that it was for all the ministers.

BALTIMORE, January 27. Extra. of a letter from captain Edward O'Brien, who has been in captivity in Algiers, above 12 years—to a friend in Baltimore, dated

Lis on, 19th Nov. 1795.

"I have the pleasure of informing you, and all friends, that on the 5th of September, Joseph Donaldson Esq. agent of the United States, concluded a peace with the Dey and Regency of Algiers, to the surprise and sorrow of our political enemies.

"On the 11th of September I sailed from Algiers, arrived at Malaga on the 19th, and came by land to Lisbon, charged with the dispatches of Mr. Donaldson, to our esteemed countryman Col. Humphreys, who I am sorry was absent, having gone to Paris to solicit the influence of the convention towards obtaining a peace with the Algerines, not expecting Mr. Donaldson would succeed. But as Colonel Humphreys has heard of the peace taking place, he will shortly be at Lisbon.

"The most of the christian nation at peace with Algiers, gave the United States great opposition, and if Mr. Donaldson had not obtained peace in the manner he did, be assured that the United States would not for many years have an opportunity to have effected it—and the longer the affair was prolonged, the more difficult and exorbitant their demands. The Dey and Regency would not admit the captives to be redeemed under the enormous sum of four hundred thousand Mexican dollars.

"We are at peace with Morocco, and the Dey and Regency of Algiers, but we have to obtain a peace with Tunis, Tripoli and the Ottoman empire; with the latter the French influence to the United States. The Tuneseans have many corsairs—I believe 12 sail; they are often as far as Barcelona, Alicante, Cartagena, Port Mahon, and Yvica;—therefore the commerce of the United States should be properly guarded, for if any American be taken by the Tuneseans, it will occasion their terms to be made exorbitant; and I think the United States will have to encounter more difficulties than are generally considered of.

"On Colonel Humphrey's arrival in this city, we are certain that nothing on his part will be wanting towards facilitating a peace with the other Barbary states, and freeing our colours in the Mediterranean.—When the United States are at peace with all the Barbary states, and our colours free, we must have from three to five hundred sail of merchantmen in those seas. In case of any sudden disturbance with any one, what security has this extended and important commerce? therefore, this is no alternative—but policy and necessity must oblige the United States to have built, and have ready to act on any emergency, 15 or 20 sail of good ships of war, viz. 6 frigates of 44 guns—6 ships of 24 guns—4 brigs, of 18 guns, and 4 schooners of 16 guns each:—This fleet is cer-

tainly requisite for the United States to keep up in times of peace and will cause our flag to be respected; otherwise, as I observed above, there is no security for our extended commerce. It would be necessary that of the above fleet two frigates, two brigs and two schooners, be at times at Gibraltar, Cadiz, Port Mahon, Genoa, &c. The exploring the Mediterranean, and doing all in their power to contribute to the honor and interests of the United States. All much prevent the insinuations; bribes and intrigues of our commercial enemies from having the desired object, and our extended commerce will make ample amends for the expence of keeping this fleet; and depend on it, without them we can have no real security.

"Mr. Donaldson had it not in his power to redeem the captives immediately, on obtaining the peace; but as soon as Colonel Humphreys arrived at Lisbon, he will facilitate their ransom, and they will return to their friends, families and connections.

"Considering the Mediterranean to be equal to one third of Europe, our opening this advantageous and extensive commerce, will very soon reimburse the United States for the money expended on this business. The vessels of the United States are free in the Mediterranean, at present, with the Algerines, and will not require passports until the expiration of one lunar year; then the passports should be completely done and cut—trophies of the marine arms of the United States. You may depend, that had not Mr. Donaldson succeeded as he did, I had my fears that the Portuguese would have been admitted on favorable terms, in order to surprise the neglected Americans. The United States should put no dependance on Portugal, who through policy and necessity, must be subservient to the views and intrigues of the British and Spanish courts.

"Colonel Humphreys has been and is the life and soul of this business, which opens the Mediterranean and extricates from slavery the citizens of the United States.

NEWBERN, FEBRUARY 13. Congress of the United States. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, January 26th. A memorial from the inhabitants of Lan-Tinburg, and some other towns in the state of New-York, was read and referred to the committee of commerce and manufactures.

Mr. Samuel Smith read a resolution for directing the committee last named, to report whether any, and if any, what alterations are necessary in the navigation laws.

Mr. Smith next addressed the Speaker as follows: When the proper time shall arrive it will be prudent, 1st. To make it the interest of all nations to meliorate their department towards the United States. 2d. To induce well disposed nations to act favourable towards us in their commercial regulations, and 3. To correct positive evils by indirect means, where prudence restrains us from direct measures. The present time when the inhabitants of Europe, with whom we have the greatest relation, are on the eve of a peace, appears to me proper to consider these subjects, and I have therefore thought it my duty to lay before the house the resolution just read, that gentlemen may direct their attention to the propriety of repealing that part of the laws, which pays an extra duty of 44 cents on foreign tonnage, and of one tenth additional duty on goods imported in foreign ships. Such duties are in fact commercial war; and will be submitted to by nations in competition no longer than your commerce is insignificant. France resented it in 1791, at which time she employed but 8941 tons of shipping to the United States, and she passed a law, laying seven livres per cwt. extra duty, on tobacco imported in American ships. This was equal to 40/6. sterling per hoghead, when the whole freight was but 32/6. per cwt. Thus she secured the carriage of 40,000 hogheads of tobacco to her own ships. The stroke was immediately felt. Our ships were thrown out of the trade, and in 1792 there entered into our ports, 24,017 tons of French shipping, an increase of 15,076 tons in one year. Circumstances have compelled France to suspend that law, but will

she not renew it, if we continue ours? Can we complain if she should? And is there not good ground to fear that she will extend her extra duties to rice, fish, lumber, and other objects of exportation, and thus secure to her ships the carrying of all the products of the United States, that she may have occasion for? It will be remarked that the French goods imported to the United States are fine, and would employ but few ships. But those from America to France are bulky, and would employ a great number. Mr. Jefferson says, that in 1792, we employed 116,410 tons of shipping to France, almost the whole of which advantage will be lost in case she should countervail our productive duties.

In 1791 the merchants of Liverpool complained that our protecting duties, had enabled us to monopolize the whole carrying trade between Great Britain and the United States, and prayed the king to take measures of retaliation. The subject was submitted to some merchants of London and Bristol who acquiesced in the fact, but gave their advice against violent measures, expressing their hope that the evil might be removed by a treaty of commerce. In the late treaty with Great Britain, she has reserved to herself the right countervail, and bound us from laying any new duties on her shipping. Mr. Speaker, I fear this countervail. It will be made at her discretion, and may or may not be just. If unjust, it will be an endless scene of negotiation and misunderstanding. But suppose that Great Britain in our own words, lay an extra duty of one tenth on goods imported in foreign vessels, what will be the consequence? Why effectually to secure to herself the exclusive carrying of all our products to her markets. For instance, the duty on tobacco in Great Britain is about fifteen pence sterling per lb. One tenth additional to be paid by our ships at three halfpence per lb. The hoghead on an average contains 952 lb. which will make the extra duty amount to 5l 18s 9d sterling per hhd. Rice pays a duty of seventeen shillings and four pence per cwt. in Britain. Suppose the tierce of rice to weigh 672 lb. the duty will then be 2l 7s 8d sterling. One tenth added will be 4s 9d sterling per tierce, if the rice is imported in an American vessel, when the freight of the tierce of rice in times of peace is only from 10 to 12 shillings sterling per tierce. On every other article of our commerce, Britain having the right, will make their countervail such as to secure the carrying thereof to their own shipping. Having once tasted its sweets, they will not relinquish the advantages. Portugal also complains. All nations that can, will resent those protecting duties, and having it in their power, will countervail. I therefore submit to the serious consideration of the house, whether produce does not dictate a repeal of those duties.

The motion was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Tracy gave in two resolutions.

The first for privilege of franking to the accountant of the war department; the second to augment his salary. The resolutions lie on the table.

Mr. Harper moved that a committee be appointed to enquire what proceedings have been had on the act for the more general promulgation of the laws of the United States. He also laid on the table a resolution that the number of copies to be printed should be augmented.

The memorial of John Holker was read and referred to the secretary of the treasury.

Mr. Smith from the land office committee reported a bill for establishing land offices for the sale of lands in the north western territory. The bill was read a first and second time, and referred to a committee of the whole house on Tuesday next, and ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

The petition of Joseph Bailey was read, and referred to the committee of claims.

The house then went into a committee of the whole on the petition of Renten Colburn. Mr. Mublenburg in the chair. It was moved, that the house should postpone this affair which was agreed to. The committee rose, and the house, at half past two o'clock adjourned.