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NEW FRENCH DECREE.

Yesterday received from France, by a vessel which, for reasons that have been more than once stated in this paper, shall not be named, a copy of another decree, dated the 23d November, imposing still more severe restrictions on the trade of neutrals, and more severe penalties on all who may attempt to evade the operation of the former.

We shall offer no analysis of this document, but being of great importance to the public part of the community, and especially those interested in neutral bottoms, we give a faithful translation of it.

Extract from the minutes of the office of the Secretary of State.

Palace of Milan, 23d November, 1807.

Napoleon, emperor of the French, king of Italy, and protector of the confederation of the Rhine:

Upon the report of our minister of the finances, we have decreed as follows:

Art. 1. All vessels which, after having touched at England, from any motive whatever, shall enter the ports of France, shall be seized and confiscated as well as their cargoes, without exception or distinction of commodities or merchandise.

Art. 2. The captains of vessels who shall enter the ports of France, shall, on the day of their arrival, proceed to the office of the Imperial Customs, and there make a declaration of the place from which they sailed, of the ports they have put into, and exhibit their manifests, bills of lading, sea papers and log books.

When the captain shall have signed and delivered his declaration, and communicated his papers, the head officer of the customs shall interrogate the sailors separately, in the presence of two overseers. If it results from his examination that the vessel has touched England, independently of the seizure and confiscation of the said ship and cargo, the captain, as well as those sailors, who, upon their examinations, shall have made a false declaration, shall be deemed prisoners, and shall not be set at liberty until after having paid the sum of 6,000 francs, as a personal penalty for the captain, and 500 francs for each of the sailors so arrested, over and above the pains incurred by those who falsify their papers and log books.

Art. 3. If advices or information communicated to the directors of our customs give rise to any suspicions as to the origine of the cargoes, they shall be previously warehoused until it is ascertained and decided that they do not come from England or her colonies.

Art. 4. Our commissaries of commercial relations, who deliver certificates of origine for merchandise laden in the ports of their residence destined for that of France, shall not confine themselves to an attestation that the merchandise or commodities do not come from England or her colonies or commerce; they shall indicate the place of origine, the documents which have been laid before them in support of the declaration which has been made to them, and the name of the ship on board of which they have been primarily transported from the place of origine into that of their residence.

They shall address a duplicate of their certificate to our counsellor of state, director general of our customs.

Art. 5. Our ministers for external relations, war, and finances, are charged, each, so far as concerns himself, with the execution of the present decree.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.

By the Emperor.

The Secretary of State.

(Signed) HUGUES B. MARAT.

Conform to the original.

The minister of the Finances.

(Signed) GAUDIN.

Conform to the original.

The counsellor of state, commandant of the legion of honor, director general of the customs of the empire.

(Signed) COLLIN.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

Rejoinder to his Britannick majesty's order of council, of the 11th of November, 1807.

At our Royal Palace, at Milan,

December 17, 1807.

Napoleon, emperor of the French, king of Italy, and protector of the Rhinish confederation:

Observing the measures adopted by the British government, on the 11th of November last, by which vessels belonging to neutral,

friendly, or even powers the allies of England, are made liable not only to be searched by English cruisers, but to be compulsorily detained in England, and to have a tax laid on them of so much per cent on the cargo, to be regulated by the British Legislature.

Observing that by these acts the British government denationalizes ships of every nation in Europe, that it is not competent for any government to detract from its own independence, and rights, all the sovereignties of Europe having in trust the sovereignties and independence of the flag; that if by an unpardonable weakness, and which, in the eyes of posterity, would be an indelible stain, such a tyranny was allowed to be established into principles, and consecrated by usage, the English would avail themselves of it to assert it as a right, as they have availed themselves of the tolerance of governments to establish the infamous principle, that the flag of a nation does not cover goods; and to give to their right of blockade an arbitrary extension, and which infringes on the sovereignty of every state; we have decreed, and do decree, as follows:

Art. 1. Every ship, to whatever nation it may belong, that shall have submitted to be searched by an English ship, or to a voyage to England, or that shall have paid any tax whatsoever to the English government, is thereby, and for that alone, declared to be denationalized, to have forfeited the protection of its king, and to have become English property.

Art. 2. Whether the ships thus denationalized by the arbitrary measures of the English government enter into our ports, or those of our allies, or whether they fall into the hands of our ships of war, or of our privateers, they are declared to be good and lawful prizes.

Art. 3. The British Islands are declared to be in a state of blockade, both by land and sea.—Every ship, of whatever nation, or whatsoever the nature of its cargo may be, that sails from the ports of England, or those of the English colonies, and of the countries occupied by English troops, and proceeding to England, or to the English colonies, or to countries occupied by English troops, is good and lawful prize, as contrary to the present decree; and may be captured by our ships of war or our privateers, and adjudged to the captor.

Art. 4. These measures, which are resorted to only in just retaliation of the barbarous system adopted in England, which assimilates its legislation to that of Algiers, shall cease to have any effect with respect to all nations who shall have the firmness to compel the English government to respect their flag. They shall continue to be rigorously in force as long as that government does not return to the principle of the law of nations, which regulates the relations of civilized states in a state of war. The provisions of the present Decree shall be abrogated and null, in fact, as soon as the English abide again by the principles of the law of nations, which are also the principles of justice and of honor.

All our ministers are charged with the execution of the present Decree, which shall be inserted in the bulletin of the laws.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.

By order of the Emperor.

By the secretary of state.

(Signed) H. B. MARAT.

As a supplement to this decree, there is in the official journal the following circular letter, addressed by the minister of the interior to the chamber of commerce:—

"You are not unacquainted, gentlemen, with the late acts of the British government, that last stage of the oppression of the commerce of the world; you know that it has resolved to destroy the feeble remains of the independence of the seas. It now thinks proper, that henceforth no ship shall navigate the seas, without touching at its ports, without a tribute to its pretended sovereignty, and without receiving from it an ignominious license."

"Thus the ocean is henceforward only the field of slavery; the usurpation of the most sacred of the rights of nations is consummated, and this tyrannic yoke is to press upon them until the day of vengeance, or until brought to a due sense of moderation, the English government will itself calm its rage, and break that sceptre to which the nations of the continent will never consent to submit."

"I am calling your common attention to the important circumstances which must powerfully induce us to awaken your patriotism and your wisdom. One would have imagined that every obstruction and restraint that clogged the course of the commerce on the continent, had been exhausted; still, however, they

are going to be aggravated by the measures lately adopted by England; but they will find our minds made up to struggle against, and to overcome this new mode of oppression.

"We must not shut our eyes to the consequences. Importation and exportation, already so much restricted, will soon be much more so. Every thing connected with maritime commerce; every thing that depends upon it, will now be liable to more difficulties, to more uncertainty. There are, however, two channels that still remain open."

"The power of attacking every ship that renounces the independence of its national flag, by a shameful submission to the British sovereignty, and by navigating under a British licence, will open a wide field to the hopes of our commanders. Such a resource will not prove ineffectual, and French commerce will not devote itself uselessly to that sort of warfare which never lets courage, dexterity and decision, go unrewarded."

"We have moreover to hope that neutral ships will elude the vigilance of the English cruisers; the immense extent of the coasts of the empire will favor and protect their enterprises."

"These resources ought not to be undervalued, nor counted for nothing. France will submit to a temporary situation, which can only change with time, and with new exertions; but her enemy shall not deprive her of the main basis of her prosperity, her internal communication, her relations with the continent, where she no longer sees any but friends or allies; her soil will not be less fertile, her industry will not maintain itself the less, tho' deprived of some materials which it is not impossible to replace."

"To this last proposition I am rather anxious, gentlemen, to direct your attention. You have advice to give, and examples to hold out to commerce. You must already foresee the effect of the privation of certain materials, more especially of cotton, and of ingredients for dyeing cotton, of which a quantity has been stored up in France; that which we shall derive from the Levant, and that which, at a more distant period, we shall reap from our indigenous culture, not unsuccessfully essayed, will suffice to support, in a great measure, our manufactures; but in the expectation that some of them may experience privations, we must have recourse, as far as possible, to hemp and flax, in order to provide occupation for those manufacturers who would no longer be employed with articles of cotton. It were desirable that we should circumscribe our consumption within the products of the materials the growth of our soil, and restrain the unhappy effects of habits and taste contracted for manufactures, that would render us dependent upon foreign countries."

"The materials for dyeing may become scarce—but many of them may be replaced by the productions of our soil. We will dispense with the rest by a slight sacrifice of some colours, which may please from their apparent greater beauty, without adding any thing to the intrinsic goodness of the article. Besides, no small reliance is to be placed on the genius of our manufacturers; it will triumph over those difficulties."

"The channels, which in spite of these usurpations, will remain open to importation, may not suffice for the consumption of sugar and coffee; these objects of a secondary utility may become scarce; but the great mass of the nation will not suffer from this temporary privation: habits of indulgence too widely indulged will be counteracted and restrained by the rise in the price."

"And, besides, it is to be supposed that the Great Nation will not allow itself to be intimidated by the privation of some futile enjoyments? Her armies have endured, without a murmur, the most pinching wants; that great example will not have been held out in vain; and when we have in view to re-conquer the independence of the seas; when we have in view to rescue and redeem commerce from the ruinous acts of piracy that are juridically exercised against it; when we have in view the vindication of the national honor, and the breaking down of those *furca claudine*, which England is attempting to erect upon our coasts, the French people will support with the dignity and courage that belongs to their great character, the momentary sacrifices that are imposed upon their taste, their habits, and their industry. The commerce of Europe will soon no doubt be rescued from oppression. The interest of nations; the honour of sovereigns; the magnanimous resolutions of the most powerful of the allies of France; the power and wish of the hero who rules

over us; the justice of a cause to which heaven will grant its protection; every motive concurs to decide the contest; nor can its issue remain uncertain. Accept, gentlemen, the assurance of my sincere esteem.

(Signed) CRETET."

RANAWAY.

ON Saturday night last, from the subscriber, two mulatto fellows ANTHONY and DAN. It is supposed they took with them a likely dark brown gelding, nearly black, about 6 or 7 years old, with a white spot in his forehead, and his near hind foot white, and an iron-grey likely mare, about 9 years old, and 15 hands high. The tallest of the mulattoes has a scar on one of his fists, and another on the cap of his knee. The other is low and thickset, and has a scar rather over his left eye, both young, little more than 20. Their working dress is negro cotton, but they have with them two good swansdown waistcoats, one a deep orange colour, a blue second cloth coat, and various mixed homespun pantaloons and coats. The smallest had two & an half yards of woollen cloth, delivered him just before he went away, and a blanket. They took an old saddle with large plated bosses, iron stirrups and red padding, the leather torn, and a country twilled meal-bag, an old plated bit bridle, and some leading lines. It is supposed they are making for Tennessee or the Miamia. They have money, and it is said one has a rifle and the other a musket. Any person who will bring the mulattoes and horses to the subscriber, shall receive 100 dollars reward, and his reasonable expenses paid him by JOHN WILLIAMS. Chatham, Nov. 30, 1807.

FOR SALE,

The Land and Plantation

WHEREON I live, in the county of Grauville, containing 1500 acres. The Plantation is in fine order and sufficient to work fifteen hands to advantage. The dwelling house being burnt, renders the buildings not so good as they otherwise would have been—yet they are tolerable.—It is a very high, healthy, beautiful place, with fine orchards of apple, pear, peach and cherry, and a number of never failing springs, of excellent water. A large portion of the land is yet to clear, which is very good for the culture of tobacco, wheat and corn; fine lots and meadows of timothy and clover, and the best wood and range for cattle, hogs and horses within my knowledge on the east side of the Blue Ridge. This place is 9 miles west of Grauville courthouse, 100 from Petersburg, 32 from Hillsborough, 75 from Halifax, and 45 from Raleigh. The purchaser may have on the place on moderate terms, a fine stock of cattle, hogs and sheep.

Also, one other Plantation, 12 miles north of the above, lying in the counties of Mecklenburg and Halifax, Virginia, containing 900 acres.

A Plantation in good order, sufficient to work five hands to advantage—good houses for a small family—a large part of fine tobacco land yet to clear, adjoining the North Carolina line, and lying on the great road leading from Richmond and Petersburg, and crossing Roanoke at Sir Peyton Skipwith's ferry, to the Red House, Guilford courthouse, the Moravian Towns, Salisbury, &c.—being an excellent stand for a grist and saw mill, store and tavern. This place is well known by the name of Gill's Old Mill. Possession will be given on the 25th of December next, and payments made agreeable to the purchasers, on receiving part down. Negroes will be received in part.

Letters (postage paid) addressed to me at Merifville, will be attended to.

Wm. GILL.

April 20, 1807.

NOTICE,

IS hereby given, that the Subscribers qualified as Executors to the last will and testament of Doc. Thomas Johnson, dec. at the last county court of Montgomery, held on the first Monday of January last: All persons having any lawful demands against the said Estate, are hereby notified to present them well authenticated as the law directs in such case, within the time limited by law, otherwise they will be barred of a recovery: And those indebted to the said Estate, are requested to make immediate payment.

RUFUS JOHNSON, Executor.
JAMES JOHNSON, Executor.

January 28th, 1808.