

TUESDAY, April 12.

Mr. Randolph rose to give notice that he meant to bring forward a motion on a subject of considerable public interest, and in which in his opinion the honor of the government of the United States was materially concerned. He held in his hand an application from a veteran soldier on the subject of his country land, and who had sent him a power of attorney to act for him—a man of unimpeachable character, and who had not been at the seat of government since it was established. I found, said Mr. R. that his warrant, No. 9, his name Wm. Bryan, has been drawn and fraudulently located; I say fraudulently, because I am well assured that the party has not received any advantage from the warrant, and there is the strongest evidence of fraud. His warrant has been drawn and located, by whom I cannot discover; my researches were completely baffled by the memorable fire, which it is presumable owed its origin to a desire to cover frauds of this nature. I was referred from the war office to the Treasury office; for the only chance of finding out who had acted as attorney in fact for this old man, was that the warrant ought to have been returned and on file there. On going there I found that the space on the record which the warrant ought to have occupied, was blank; and that no such warrant exists on the Treasury files. I believe this is far from being a solitary case, but that the cases are numerous, and many of those who have honestly earned a title to public land, have been in this way defrauded, and the land sold to speculators who have reaped the benefit of it. I therefore give notice that I shall at a future day move for an enquiry into this subject.

Mr. Poindexter presented a memorial from the Legislature of the Mississippi territory, praying a modification of the ordinance for the government of the territories. Referred to a committee of the whole to whom a bill on the same subject, was referred.

The bill for altering and establishing certain post roads having been read, and the question put "Shall this bill pass?"

Messrs. Taylor, Smith, Allen, B. R. Williams, Bacon and Tallmadge opposed the bill; and Messrs. Randolph, Bibb, Blackledge, Stanford, Troup and Lloyd supported it.

After some debate, the bill was passed by Yeas and Nays, 71 to 31.

WEDNESDAY, April 13.

Mr. Randolph called for the order of the day on the bill for arming the whole body of the militia of the U. States.

The speaker declared that the unfinished business (resolution respecting the embargo) had precedence in the orders of the day.

Mr. Randolph moved to postpone that subject although he had no wish to delay it, till the bill for arming the militia should be taken up.

On the suggestion of Mr. Rhea (T) Mr. Randolph modified his motion so that the resolution relative to the embargo should be referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the union—Negatived, 49 to 29.

The house then went into a committee of the whole, Mr. DESHA in the chair, on the resolution declaring that the President ought, under certain contingencies, to be authorized to suspend the embargo.

Messrs. Love, Fisk, Masters, and Sloan supported the resolution, and Messrs. Key and Randolph opposed it.

About 5 o'clock a motion was made that the committee rise, Mr. Randolph having ceased speaking for that purpose, and carried.

FRIDAY, April 15.

As soon as the Journal was read, Mr. Bacon said, I rise with feelings of the deepest sensibility to perform a solemn and painful duty. It is to announce to the House the death of my friend and colleague, Mr. CROWNSHIELD, who expired this morning at 6 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Fisk, Resolved unanimously, That a committee be appointed to take order to superintend the funeral of Jacob Crownshield, Esq. late a representative from the state of Massachusetts.

On motion of D. R. Williams, Resolved unanimously, That the members of this House will testify their respect for the memory of Jacob Crownshield, Esq. late a member of this body, by wearing crape on the left arm for one month.

SATURDAY, April 16.

Mr. Quincy presented petitions respecting the operation of the embargo in relation to fish—Referred to the committee of the whole to whom the subject had been referred.

A bill from the Senate, to continue in force for a further time an act for the more effectual preservation of peace in the ports and harbors of the United States and the waters under their jurisdiction, was read three times and passed without a division.

The bill to continue in force an act to extend jurisdiction in certain cases to state judges and to state courts, went through a committee of the whole, and was ordered to a third reading.

The House took up the amendment of the Senate to the bill concerning public contracts, 41 to 37.

Mr. Bassett congratulated the friends of the

that the buyers knew, or had good reason to believe, or suspect that they had been piratically taken.

ARTICLE XV.

It is likewise agreed, that the subjects and citizens of the two nations shall not do any acts of hostility or violence against each other, nor accept commissions or instructions so to act from any foreign prince or state, enemies to the other party, nor shall the enemies of one of the parties be permitted to invite, or endeavor to enlist in the military service any of the subjects or citizens of the other party. And the laws against all such offences and aggressions shall be punctually executed; and if any subject or citizen of the said parties respectively shall accept any foreign commission or letters of marque for arming any vessel to act as a privateer against the other party, it is hereby declared to be lawful for the said party to treat and punish the said subject or citizen, having such commission or letters of marque, as a pirate.

ARTICLE XVI.

It is expressly stipulated that neither of the said contracting parties will order or authorize any acts of reprisal against the other on complaints of injuries and damages until the said party shall first have presented to the other a statement thereof, ratified by competent proof and evidence; and demanded justice and satisfaction, and the same shall either have been refused or unreasonably delayed.

ARTICLE XVII.

The ships of war of each of the contracting parties shall at all times be hospitably received in the ports of the other, their officers and crews paying due respect to the laws and government of the country. The officers shall be treated with that respect which is due to the commissions which they bear; and if any insult should be offered to them by any one of the inhabitants, all offenders in this respect shall be punished as disturbers of the peace and amity between the two countries. And both contracting parties agree that in case any vessel of the one should by stress of weather, danger from enemies or other misfortunes, be reduced to the necessity of seeking shelter in any of the ports of the other, into which such vessel could not in ordinary cases claim to be admitted, she shall, on manifesting that necessity to the satisfaction of the government of the place, be hospitably received and permitted to refit, and to purchase at the market price such necessaries as she may stand in need of, conformably to such orders and regulations as the government of the place having respect to the circumstances of each case shall prescribe. She shall not be allowed to break bulk or unload her cargo, unless the same shall be *bona fide* necessary to her being refitted: Nor shall she be obliged to pay any duties whatever, except only on such articles as she *foresees*.

ARTICLE XVIII.

It shall not be lawful for any foreign privateers, (not being subjects or citizens of either of the said parties) who have commissions from any power or state in enmity with either nation, to arm their ships in the ports of either of the said parties, nor to sell what they have taken, or in any other manner to exchange the same, nor shall they be allowed to purchase more provisions than shall be necessary for their going to the nearest port of that prince or state from whom they obtained their commissions.

ARTICLE XIX.

It shall be lawful for the ships of war and privateers, belonging to the said parties respectively, to carry whithersoever they please the ships and goods taken from their enemies, without being obliged to pay any fees to the officers of the admiralty, or to any judges whatever, nor shall the said prizes when they arrive at and enter the ports of the said parties, be detained or seized; nor shall the searchers or other officers of those ports visit such prizes, (except for the purpose of preventing the carrying of any part of the cargo thereof on shore in any manner contrary to the established laws of revenue, navigation or commerce) nor shall such officers take cognizance of the validity of such prizes; but they shall be at liberty to hoist sail, and depart as speedily as may be, and carry their said prizes to the places mentioned in their commissions or patents, which the commanders of the said ships of war or privateers shall be obliged to shew.

No shelter or refuge shall be given in their ports to such as have made a prize upon the subjects or citizens of either of the said parties; but if forced by stress of weather or the dangers of the sea to enter them, particular care shall be taken to hasten their departure and to cause them to retire as soon as possible: nothing in this treaty contained shall however be construed to operate contrary to the former and existing public treaties with other sovereigns or states; but the two parties agree that while they continue in amity, neither of them will in future make any treaty that shall be inconsistent with this or preceding article.

Neither of the said parties shall permit the ships or goods belonging to the subjects or citizens of the other to be taken within cannon shot off the coast nor within the jurisdiction, described in Article XII, so long as the provisions of the said article shall be in force, by ships of war or others having commissions from any prince, republic, or state whatever. In case it should so happen, the party, whose territorial rights shall thus have been

violated, shall use his utmost endeavors to obtain from the offending party full and ample satisfaction for the vessel or vessels so taken, whether the same be vessels of war, or merchant vessels.

ARTICLE XX.

If at any time a rupture should take place (which God forbid) between his majesty and the United States, the merchants and others of each of the two nations, residing in the dominions of the other shall have the privilege of remaining and continuing their trade so long as they do it peaceably, and commit no offence against the laws, and in case their conduct should render them suspected, and the respective governments should think proper to order them to remove, the term of twelve months, from the publication of the order shall be allowed them for that purpose to remove with their families, effects and property; but this favor shall not be extended to those who shall act contrary to the established laws; and for greater certainty, it is declared that such rupture shall not be deemed to exist, while negotiations for accommodating differences shall be depending, nor until the respective ambassadors or ministers, if such there shall be, shall be recalled, or sent home on account of such differences, and not on account of personal misconduct, according to the nature and degree of which, both parties retain their rights, either to request the recall, or immediately to send home the ambassador or minister of the other, and that without prejudice to their mutual friendship and good understanding.

ARTICLE XXI.

It is further agreed that his majesty and the United States, on mutual requisitions by them respectively, or by their respective ministers, or officers authorised to make the same, will deliver up to justice all persons, who being charged with murder or forgery, committed within the jurisdiction of either, shall seek an asylum within any of the countries of the other, provided that this shall only be done on such evidence of criminality, as according to the laws of that place, where the fugitive or person so charged shall be found, would justify his apprehensions and commitment for trial, if the offence had there been committed. The expence of such apprehension and delivery shall be borne and defrayed by those who make the requisition and receive the fugitive.

ARTICLE XXII.

In the event of a Shipwreck happening in a place belonging to one or other of the high contracting parties, not only every assistance shall be given to the unfortunate persons, and no violence done to them, but also the effects which they shall have thrown out of the ship into the sea, shall not be concealed or detained, nor damaged under any pretext whatever: On the contrary the above mentioned effects and merchandize shall be preserved, and restored to their owners, or those who shall have assisted in saving their persons, vessels, and effects.

ARTICLE XXIII.

And it being the intention of the high contracting parties that the people of their respective dominions shall continue to be on the footing of the most favoured nation, it is agreed, that in case either party shall hereafter grant any additional advantages, in navigation or trade, to any other nation the subjects or citizens of the other party shall fully participate therein.

ARTICLE XXIV.

The high contracting parties engage to communicate to each other without delay, all such laws as have been or shall be hereafter enacted by their respective legislatures, as also all measures which shall have been taken for the abolition or limitation of the African slave trade; and they further agree to use their best endeavors to procure the co-operation of other powers for the final and complete abolition of a trade so repugnant to the principles of justice and humanity.

ARTICLE XXV.

And it is further agreed that nothing herein contained shall contravene or affect the due execution of any treaty or treaties now actually subsisting between either of the high contracting parties, and any other power or powers.

ARTICLE XXVI.

This Treaty when the same shall have been ratified by his majesty and the president of the United States with the advice of their Senate, and the respective ratification mutually exchanged, shall be binding and obligatory on his majesty and on the said states for ten years, from the date of the exchange of the said ratifications, and shall be reciprocally executed and observed, with punctuality and the most sincere regard to good faith.

In faith whereof, we the undersigned plenipotentiaries on the part of his majesty the king of Great Britain, and the commissioners extraordinary and plenipotentiaries, on the part of the United States of America, have signed this present treaty, and have caused to be affixed thereto the seal of our arms. Done at London, this thirty first day of December one thousand eight hundred and six.

[Seal] (Signed) VASSALL HOLLAND,  
[Seal] (Signed) AUCLAND,  
[Seal] (Signed) JAMES MONROE,  
[Seal] (Signed) WILLIAM PINCKNEY.

The following is the official Note delivered by Lords Holland and Auckland to the American Ministers previously to signing the treaty.

The undersigned Henry Richard Vassall lord Holland, and William lord Auckland, plenipotentiaries of his Britannic majesty,

have the honor to inform James Monroe and William Pinckney, commissioners extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the U. S. of America, that they are now ready to proceed to the signature of the treaty of amity, commerce and navigation, on the articles of which they have mutually agreed.

But at the same time they have it in command from his majesty to call the attention of the commissioners of the U. States to some extraordinary proceedings which have lately taken place on the continent of Europe, and to communicate to them officially the sentiments of his majesty government thereupon.

The proceedings alluded to are certain declarations and orders of the French government issued at Berlin on the 21st of November last.

In those orders the French government seeks to justify or palliate its own unjust pretensions by imputing to Great Britain principles which she never professed, and practices which never existed. His majesty is accused of a systematic and general disregard of the law of nations recognized by civilized states, and more particularly of an unwarrantable extension of the right of blockade; whereas his majesty may confidently appeal to the world on his uniform respect for neutral rights, and his general and scrupulous adherence to the law of nations without condescending to contrast his conduct in these particulars, with that of his enemy; and with regard to the only specific charge, it is notorious that he has never declared any ports, to be in a state of blockade without allotting to that object a force sufficient to make the entrance into them manifestly dangerous.

By such allegations, unfounded as they are, the enemy attempts to justify his pretensions of confiscating as lawful prize all produce of English industry or manufacture, though it be the property of neutrals; of excluding from his harbors every neutral vessel which has touched at any port of his majesty's dominions though employed in an innocent commerce, and of declaring Great Britain to be in a state of blockade though his own naval ports and arsenals are actually blockaded, and he is unable to station any naval force whatever before any port of the United Kingdom.

Such principles are in themselves extravagant and repugnant to the law of nations; and the pretensions founded on them, though professedly directed solely against Great Britain, tend to alter the practice of war amongst civilized nations, and utterly to subvert the rights and independence of neutral powers.

The undersigned cannot therefore believe that the enemy will ever seriously attempt to enforce such a system. If he should, they are confident that the good sense of the American government will perceive the fatal consequences of such pretensions to neutral commerce, and that its spirit and regard to national honor will prevent its acquiescence in such palpable violations of its rights, and injurious incroachments on its interests.

If however the enemy should carry these threats into execution, and if neutral nations, contrary to all expectation, should acquiesce in such usurpations, his majesty might probably be compelled, however reluctantly, to retaliate in his just defence, and to adopt, in regard to the commerce of neutral nations with his enemies, the same measures which those shall have permitted to be enforced against their commerce with his subjects. The commissioners of the United States, will therefore feel, that at a moment when his majesty and all neutral nations are threatened with such an extension of the belligerent pretensions of his enemies, he cannot enter into the stipulations of the present treaty without an explanation from the United States of their intention, or a reservation on the part of his majesty, in the case above mentioned, if it should occur.

The undersigned considering that the distance of the American government renders any immediate explanation on this subject impossible, and animated by a desire of forwarding the beneficial work in which they are engaged, are authorized by his majesty to conclude the treaty without delay. They proceed to the signature under the full persuasion that before the treaty shall be returned from America with the ratification of the United States, the enemy will either have formally abandoned or tacitly relinquished his unjust pretensions; or that the government of the United States, by its conduct or assurances, will have given security to his majesty that it will not submit to such innovations on the established system of maritime law: and the undersigned have presented this note from an anxious wish that it should be clearly understood on both sides, that without such an abandonment of the pretensions on the part of the enemy, or such assurances, or such conduct on the part of the United States, his majesty will not consider himself bound by the present signature of his commissioners to ratify the treaty, or precluded from adopting such measures as may seem necessary for counteracting the designs of his enemy.

The undersigned cannot conclude without expressing their satisfaction at the prospect of accomplishing an object so important to the interests and friendly connection of both nations, and their justness of the conciliatory disposition manifested by the commissioners of the United States during the whole course of the negotiation.

Signed,  
VASSALL HOLLAND.  
AUCLAND.  
London, Dec. 31, 1806.