

pained his ear, and he did not expect to have heard it in this committee. Assemble a Convention, said Mr. H. and you carry into it all the exasperated feelings of the community at large, and particularly of those who for many years have been clamorous for a Convention. I tell you, Sir, those feelings it would be found difficult to control. In the present embarrassed state of the country, what security have we, for instance, that measures would not be adopted which would violate the obligation of contracts? I mention this as but a solitary example, which at this moment crosses my mind; God only knows the mass of evil which might result from a Constitution framed by angry men; who forgetful of what they owed to themselves and posterity, sought only to bring within their grasp political power.

Gentlemen say, give us a Convention, and we will give you a much better Constitution than we have at present.

It has been said, with as much beauty as truth, that "History is Philosophy teaching by example." Let us not, then, shut our eyes upon the hand of Philosophy when it points to the History of a sister State.—Connecticut has lately formed for itself a new Constitution. It was his lot, Mr. H. said, to reside in that State at the time its Constitution was formed, and he had an opportunity of observing the result of an experiment in political chemistry: he had seen discordant and heterogeneous particles thrown together, which by no process could be made to combine, until all that was good was precipitated to the bottom, and there floated on the surface a worthless scum. Sir, said Mr. H. I believe the better part of the people lamented the adoption of that Constitution, and still sigh in vain for the restoration of that good which they have lost.

The gentleman from Salisbury had referred to the old articles of confederation, which having been found defective, had given place to the present Constitution of the United States; and this was urged as a reason why we should alter our Constitution. Those articles, said Mr. H. were formed by good and great men, but that which was built on theory it was found would not stand the test of practice.—The only conclusion, therefore, fairly deducible from this historical fact, is, that experience is better than theory, and this conclusion is a weapon in our hands. The merit of our Constitution has been sanctioned by nearly half a century's experience, and we are asked to destroy it, to erect upon its ruins the speculations of theorists.

But it is said to be aristocratic and anti-republican.—This is an extraordinary charge to be brought against the government of North-Carolina. There are two men now living in the United States, who may be termed the high-priests of Republicanism. Thomas Jefferson and James Madison.—They live in the republican commonwealth of Virginia, and have had much to do in the formation of its government.—And how, he asked, were delegates to the Virginia Legislature elected? No man is entitled to vote for them who is not in possession of a freehold. No murmuring voice has been heard to issue from these gentlemen at this state of things. I have only to say, in conclusion, sir, we may live to see our Constitution revised, and if we do, we will live to repent it. (Debate to be continued.)

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, JAN. 14.

Mr. Sergeant, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to provide for delivering up persons held to labour or service in any of the states or territories who shall escape into any other state or territory; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Rankin, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to authorize the state of Illinois to open a Canal through the Public Lands, connecting the Illinois river with Lake Michigan, which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Nelson, of Md. after adverting to the importance of the subject of the motion which he had laid on the table some days ago, proposing the appointment of a committee to consider the expediency of making appropriations of Public Lands for the purposes of education in the old states, and to the fact that it had received the approbation of several states, and therefore was entitled to the serious attention of this House, moved that the house should now proceed to the consideration of that motion.

The house agreed to consider it, but

after some discussion, principally on proposed amendments, the house adjourned without coming to any decision upon it.

TUESDAY, JAN. 15.

Mr. Cocke, from the committee on Revolutionary Pensions reported a bill supplementary to the act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, which was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. J. T. Johnson, of Ky. the House agreed to consider a resolution by him submitted on a former day, directing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of establishing a national manufactory of arms, &c. on the western waters; and the same was thereupon adopted.

On motion of Mr. Mercer, it was Resolved, That the Committee on the Suppression of the Slave Trade be instructed to inquire whether the laws of the United States prohibiting that traffic have been duly executed, and if so, into the general effect produced thereby on the trade itself; also, to inquire into and report the defects, if any exist, in the operation of the laws, and to suggest adequate remedies therefor.

Mr. Nelson of Md. withdrew the resolution under discussion yesterday in the house, and in lieu thereof offered the following:

Resolved, That each of the United States has an equal right to participate in the benefit of the Public Lands, the common property of the Union.

Resolved, That the States in whose favor Congress has not made appropriations of Land for the purposes of education, are entitled to such appropriations as will correspond in a just proportion with those heretofore made in favor of the other State.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed with instructions to report a bill in pursuance of the foregoing resolutions. On motion of Mr. N. the same were referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16.

Mr. Floyd laid upon the table the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before this House all the correspondence which led to the Treaty of Ghent, which has not yet been made public, and which, in his opinion, it may not be improper to disclose.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of War, transmitting the information called for by the House on the 10th instant, relative to the disbursements for the Indian Department above the appropriation of the last year.

The House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole on a bill to provide for the due execution of the laws of the United States in the State of Missouri, and for the establishment of a district court therein.

Mr. H. Nelson, from the committee who reported the same, proposed to fill the blank for the salary of the District Judge with the sum of 1600 dollars.

Mr. Herrick, of Maine, wished to be formed what were the duties to be performed in the state of Missouri which should authorize a salary of 1600 dollars, when, in the State of Maine, altogether more commercial, and imposing, as he was led to believe, more assiduous and important duties, only 1000 dollars per annum were allowed.

Mr. H. thereupon moved to fill the blank with the sum of 1000 dollars.

Mr. Garnett moved to fill the blank with the sum of 1200 dollars.

The question was first taken on the largest sum, 1600 dollars, and lost. It was then put upon filling the blank with the sum of 1200 dollars, and carried. And, after filling the other blanks in the bill, and adopting certain verbal amendments, the committee rose and reported the bill as amended. The House concurred.

WEST-INDIA TRADE.

The following Memorial from Norfolk was presented to Congress a few days ago. It will be recollected, that Mr. Henry's Resolution, lately offered to our Assembly, went to the same object.

THE MEMORIAL

OF THE CITIZENS OF THE BOROUGH OF NORFOLK TO THE CONGRESS OF THE U. STATES.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

The Memorial of the Citizens of the Borough of Norfolk respectfully represents:

For some time after the last peace with Great-Britain, a very profitable commerce was carried on with the British colonies, in British vessels from this port. The productions of this district indeed, and of some parts of North-Carolina, and of our own state, which commonly centre here, such as timber, lumber, corn, flour and tobacco, are the very articles which are most wanting for the supply of those colonies; and naturally drew their vessels to our harbor. This trade accordingly furnished employment and the means of living to many of our citizens, farmers, merchants, dealers in timber and lumber, and others; and contributed, in various ways, to promote the prosperity of the district and country. The articles imported, such as rum, sugar and molasses, not only supplied our own wants, but furnished us with new materials of export for foreign markets. The sale of our produce also brought specie into the country, (for the balance of trade was in our favor,) and gave us the means of remittance in coin, or bills for the purchase of manufactures abroad. At the same time, the duties on tonnage and imports drew revenue into the Treasury, and thus virtually taxed foreigners for the benefit of our own nation. It may be added, that this trade was constantly increasing; and the completion of the canal, and the im-

provement of the Roanoke, now about to be effected, promised still further to extend its profits.

In this state of things, an Act of Congress was passed on the 18th of April, 1815, entitled "An Act concerning Navigation," which prohibited all commercial intercourse with the colonies of Great Britain, in vessels of that nation, so long as her laws should continue to forbid it in our own. And some time afterwards, another act was passed, on the 15th of May, 1820, entitled "An Act supplementary to an act entitled an act concerning navigation," which was designed to enforce and secure the policy of the first.—Now your Memorialists cannot doubt for a moment that these acts were passed by your honorable body from the best motives; and with honest desires to promote the true interests of our country. But experience, they think, has fully proved that their real effect is entirely different. In this district, at least, it is both seen and felt, (and has been for some time past) that their influence is absolutely pernicious. Under their operation, the valuable trade with the British colonies, already mentioned, is banished from our port. Our farmers, our merchants, our dealers in timber and lumber, in fact all classes of our citizens are deprived in a great measure, of their former resources, and are many of them burdened with debts which they are unable to pay. Specie is no longer brought into our vaults—tribute is no longer paid at our Custom-House—and bills for remittance can only be purchased at a very great advance.—In short, our commerce is nearly gone—our agriculture naturally suffers with it—and our canal and other public improvements, attended with so much expense, appear to have been made almost in vain.

Now if this sacrifice of our interests could in any manner promote the welfare of the Union, your memorialists might find some consolation for their own sufferings, in the general prosperity of the nation. As members of a great community, indeed, they cannot expect or wish that their local interests should be regarded, except in their just relation to the advantage of the whole. And they may appeal with confidence, they trust, to their past history, for ample proof of their readiness, at all times, to bear their full proportion of those burdens which are necessary to maintain the rights and honor of our country. But, with all due deference to the wisdom of Congress, they cannot perceive that these Acts, which fall so heavily on themselves, are at all likely to benefit the United States.

The object of the restrictive system which they establish, your Memorialists understand, is to promote the shipping interest of the country, by increasing the employment for our vessels and seamen. It is not discovered, however, that it now produces, or can ever produce this effect. On the contrary, as far as the direct trade with the British colonies is concerned, it is obvious that the expulsion of British ships from our ports does not create any new demand for our own; and we only lose the sale of our produce without any equivalent. And as to the indirect trade which it promised to open with the British West-Indies, through other islands, this is found to be fettered with so many embarrassments, from circuitous dealings, and additions of charges, as to be altogether unworthy of our pursuit.

But we are to be indemnified, it is said, for our present loss by some future gain; that is, when our laws shall have driven Great-Britain to abandon her colonial system, and admit our vessels to share with her own in the trade with her colonies. But for themselves, your Memorialists can see no grounds to hope for such a result. That colonial system, it is well understood has been deliberately adopted by that nation, maintained for a long course of years, and become an essential part of her policy, inwoven in the very texture of her laws, and intertwined with all the habitual feelings and reasonings of her statesmen. She has accordingly often & openly avowed her determination not to abandon it but with her existence; and all her pride, as well as all her power, stands pledged before the world for its support. After this, it is quite clear, your Memorialists conceive, that she can only be driven from it by actual force. And is it then in the power of this country to apply that force?

On this point, it is sometimes asserted, that our articles of commerce, and especially our bread-stuffs, are indispensable to the very existence of the British colonies. Your Memorialists, however, are by no means satisfied that this opinion is correct. On the contrary, it may be assumed, they think, as a maxim, that no nation is of so much consequence in the world as that her commerce is absolutely essential to the support of any other. Indeed it is clear from history, that all the various nations of the globe have existed, and not uncomfortably at least, without those actual commercial connexions which are of comparatively modern origin. And our own former restrictive measures, it is believed, have gone far to shew the fallacy of the opinion on which they were founded. If the acts in question, therefore, could have a full and perfect operation according to their spirit, they would probably only drive those colonies to find out new sources of supply for their wants. And thus we might teach them, against our true policy, to clear their woods, plant their fields, and look out for other markets for their produce.

But all that our articles, our bread-stuffs at least, are indispensable to the British colonies, may they no continue to draw them from us in spite of our laws, and in a manner less favorable to our interests? It is well known, at least, and experience is proving every day, that flour, and even lumber, may be taken from this country to Great-Britain, and thence conveyed to her colonies in her own ships. But this no course of the trade, it is manifest, can only operate to favor British shipping, and no ours, by giving them a double freight instead of a single one.—And at the same time, it is well known, that no small quantities of flour are con-

stantly finding their way into Canada, for the more convenient supply of the West Indies from that quarter.

It is clear then, your memorialists conceive, that our restrictive system will never compel Great Britain to give us any share of her colonial trade. And if so, in what other way can it operate to increase the employment for our ships and seamen? Why, it is conjectured, it seems that it may stimulate the enterprize of our citizens to find out new markets for our produce; and it cannot be denied that this event is possible enough. But will the new markets be better than the old, than those which are now open to our sails? And it is certain that we shall obtain a larger share of the trade of the globe than that which we now enjoy? The truth is, it is evidently impossible to say what course the commerce of the world may take, when it is thus forcibly expelled from its present channels, and made to flow in new and strange directions. And what portion of the general trade of nations may fall to our share, in the novel arrangements of rival interests and jealous competitions to which our system may lead, is obviously beyond all political sagacity to divine. And are we not then encountering a present and certain loss, for the mere prospect of a future and most uncertain gain?

And in the mean time, it ought to be considered, that the great weight of the loss is falling most unequally and injuriously upon two or three of the United States. It is the agriculture of Maryland, Virginia and North-Carolina, in fact, that is virtually and almost exclusively taxed, in its depreciated value, to maintain a commercial experiment which it is supposed may redound to the benefit of all the nation. But this, your memorialists conceive, is directly contrary to the spirit of the constitution, and the very object for which the union was formed. It is indeed a principle, they think, involved in the very nature of our federal compact, that all measures for a national object should operate as equally as possible on all parts of the country. To cast the whole burden, therefore, of this restrictive system upon the states already mentioned, is, substantially and essentially, as unjust as it would be to make them bear the whole brunt and weight of a foreign war.

But it is said that our restrictive system will promote the manufactures, and at the same time increase the coasting trade of the United States; and it is not denied that it may have some tendency to produce this effect. But still it must be taken into the account, that we cannot increase a demand for our own manufactures, without diminishing that for foreign—and in doing this, we must, of course, part with some of our old customers, who will not buy when they cannot sell. Nor is it at all desirable, your Memorialists suppose, to favor our manufacturers beyond the encouragement which they have already received. In a country like ours, indeed, abounding in vast regions of fertile land, it would seem that the cultivation of the soil is the best kind of industry in which our citizens can engage. To bring this restrictive system, therefore, to the aid of our manufactures, is to give them an additional encouragement which they cannot fairly require; and it is to do this too, by laying new burdens upon our agriculture, already sufficiently depressed by the state of commerce in the world.

In answer to all this, it is said that nothing can be more just than the policy of this restrictive system, which proceeds altogether upon the principle of perfect equality of rights, and reciprocity of commercial regulations, among all the nations of the earth. But is this any thing more than a specious fallacy? For has not every nation a clear right to regulate the trade of foreign vessels with her own soil? And has she not the same right to regulate their trade with her colonies, which are indeed only parts of her own soil? But allow the principle to be ever so just in theory, it is certainly erroneous in fact. It cannot be doubted, at least, that in the actual state of things, and according to the law and usage of nations, Great-Britain has what may be called the physical right to regulate the trade of her colonies in her own way. It cannot be doubted that she has the right to appropriate the whole of that trade to herself. And do not all nations, holding colonies, claim and exercise the same right? And do not the United States themselves maintain the monopoly of their coasting trade? And is not the trade of G. Britain with her colonies, in effect, her coasting trade? Indeed it is not denied that she may exclude our articles of commerce and our vessels altogether. But surely the greater power includes the less; and if she may exclude our goods in our ships, she may yet admit them in her own. It is true, at the same time, the United States have an equal right to counteract her policy, so far as it affects their interests, by counter-acting regulations in their own favor—if they choose to adopt them. Whether they will or not, is a question, not of right, or principle, or duty, but of mere expediency alone.

After this, it will not be said, your Memorialists indulge the hope, (as it is sometimes weakly insinuated,) that there is any want of patriotism in contesting the policy of this restrictive system. On the contrary, they look upon it, as they have always done, in the light of a mere experiment whose virtue was to be tried by experience, and they only believe that experience has now decided against it.—As long as its efficacy was upon its trial, notwithstanding its most heavy and afflictive pressure upon themselves, they were anxious, as became good citizens, to give it all the advantage of apparent unanimity and concert, to insure its success—and they forebore to complain. But now that it has failed, notoriously and palpably, to realize the hopes of its friends, they owe it, they think, to the nation, as well as to themselves, to remonstrate against its continuance.

With these feelings and convictions, your Memorialists, accordingly, now

come before your honorable body, with that profound respect which is due to the Great Council of their country, and they do most humbly pray you to repeal the said act of Congress establishing the restrictive system, as the interests of this Borough and District, and of the whole nation, appear to require.

LITTLETON W. TAZEWELL,
RICHARD E. PARKER,
GEORGE NEWTON,
ROBERT B. TAYLOR,
JOHN TABB,
BENJAMIN POLLARD,
WILLIAM MAXWELL,

NOTE.

The effect of the restrictive system upon the commerce and shipping of this District, will appear from the following statement, taken from the Custom-house books:

In 1816 the duties on imports were	
American,	\$343,422 46
Foreign,	339,028 14
Total,	\$682,550 60
In 1821, to the 30th of September,	
American,	\$78,314 52
Foreign,	1,928 86
Total,	\$80,143 88
Loss,	\$602,407 22
In 1816, the duties on tonnage (including light money) were	
American,	\$1,958 88
Foreign,	30,116 58
Total,	\$32,075 46
In 1821, to the 30th of Sept'r,	
American,	\$1,058 02
Foreign,	134 97
Total,	\$1,192 99
Loss,	\$30,882 87
In 1816, the amt of exports was \$2,353,551	
In 1821, to the 30th of September, 298,684	
Loss,	\$2,054,867
In 1818, the amount of tonnage returned to the Treasury was	
Registered,	14,756
Enrolled and Licensed,	12,394
Total,	27,360
In 1821,	
Registered,	10,257
Enrolled and Licensed,	12,635
Total,	23,032
Loss,	4,328

It should be observed, however, that the returns to the Treasury cannot be relied on to shew the actual amount of tonnage, as they do not, and cannot, notice the registers and licenses lost or otherwise not accounted for. The actual amount of tonnage belonging to this port, is ascertained to be, in fact, only 321 tons, all told!

WASHINGTON'S BIRTH DAY.

FIFTH CLASS OF THE
WASHINGTON
MONUMENT LOTTERY
Which will commence drawing in the City of BALTIMORE, on FRIDAY, the 22d of next month, (FEBRUARY), being the Anniversary of the Birth of the illustrious Hero and Statesman, who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

GRAND SCHEME.

1 prize.....\$30,000 is 30,000 Dollars.
1 prize.....20,000.....20,000 Dollars.
1 prize.....10,000.....10,000 Dollars.
2 prizes.....5,000.....10,000 Dollars.
2 prizes.....3,000.....6,000 Dollars.
2 prizes.....2,000.....4,000 Dollars.
20 prizes.....1,000.....20,000 Dollars.
50 prizes.....500.....25,000 Dollars.
100 prizes.....250.....25,000 Dollars.
500 prizes.....50.....25,000 Dollars.
6000 prizes.....10.....60,000 Dollars.
20,000 Tickets.....180,000 Dollars.

Not two Blanks to a Prize.

The whole payable in cash.

First 3000 Blanks each, : : \$10
First No. entitled to, : : 3000
First No. 4th day, : : 1000
First No. 6th day, : : 1000
First No. 8th day, : : 2000
First No. 10th day, : : 1000
First No. 12th day, : : 1000
First No. 14th day, : : 1000
First No. 16th day, : : 10,000
First No. 18th day, : : 1000
First No. 20th day, : : 1000
First No. 22d day, : : 5000
First No. 24th day, : : 1000
First No. 26th day, : : 1000
First No. 28th day, : : 20,000
First No. 30th day, : : 1000
First No. 35th day, : : 30,000

TICKETS, : : \$10
HALVES, : : \$5
To be had in the greatest variety of Numbers, at

COHEN'S

LOTTERY AND EXCHANGE OFFICE,
No. 114, Market-street, Baltimore.

Where was sold to a gentleman residing in Albemarle co. (Va) the great Capital Prize of FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, drawn week before last in the Grand State Lottery. Also, the TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS in the same Lottery, sent by Mail to a young gentleman at Lancaster, Ohio; besides SIXTEEN OTHER CAPITALS to various parts of the Union.

ORDERS from any part of the United States, either by Mail or private conveyance, enclosing the Cash or Prize Tickets, post paid, will meet the same punctual and prompt attention as if on personal application—addressed to

J. I. COHEN, Jr.

Secretary to the Managers—Baltimore.

At COHEN'S OFFICE, more Capital Prizes have been obtained than at any other Office in America; and where, in the three last MONUMENT LOTTERIES, were sold the Capitals of \$40,000, in shares—30,000—2 of 20,000—3 of 10,000, &c. &c. Baltimore, Jan. 1, 1822. 64—65

BLANKS
Of every description, may be had, this Office.