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FROM THE ESSEX REGISTER.

The Proclamation of the King of Great Britain is now before the public. It is not (as Major Russell observed) in the least degree equivocal. It is a most outrageous declaration of war against the rights of all nations.

That man is born free, and has an undoubted right to choose his own country, no one will deny but the blind advocate of the divine rights of kings; and no country that has any sense of national dignity will suffer its citizens to be enslaved under the pretence of their being subjects of Great-Britain.

Thus the British nation madly wages war with universal nature—they are at actual war with all languages but the English, and this proclamation is aimed exclusively at that.

As Britain claims the right of search for seamen as well as property, a question naturally arises, why in this case they are tried before condemnation, and in the other are condemned by the captains of ships who are in want of crews without a hearing?

We have admitted those who are naturalized to all the rights of American citizens—of which rights, one of the most important is, security from foreign violence. Our government cannot treat on such terms; if they do our constitution and laws are a dead letter—they are annulled by a British proclamation, and we must submit to the new law of nations.

COURT OF VICE ADMIRALTY.

Before the honorable and worshipful Henry Morden Dyer, Esq. Judge and Commissary of the said Court.

Amelia, Green master, of New-York—Mr. Wylly, king's advocate, prayed, that the said ship, together with her cargo, be pronounced forfeited and condemned, as a drift and perquisite to his majesty in his office of admiralty, for a breach of the laws of trade.

His honor the Judge, having heard the said claim and proofs read, and the arguments of advocates and proctors on both sides thereon, was pleased to reject the said claim, pronounce the said ship, her tackle, apparel and furniture, and all and every the goods, wares, merchandise and specie, on board of her laden, to have belonged, at the time of the capture and seizure thereof, to enemies of the crown of Great Britain and Ireland, and by interlocutory decree, condemned the same as good and lawful prize to H. M. S. Elk, Jeremiah Cogiano, Esq. commander.

The vessel was in her return voyage from West-Cross to Baltimore, having on board a cargo of produce, and about 208,000 dollars in specie, when she was captured and brought in for adjudication, upon the ground of being engaged in an illegal trade.

THOUGHTS ON THE BRITISH INJUNCTION TO VIOLATE THE LAW OF NATIONS AND THE AMERICAN FLAG. No. II.

Of all the attempts of the British government unwarrantably to injure neutral friends, none is more justly exceptionable than those in which they endeavor to act upon the American people, flag and property, under the color of British municipal law, without the realm of the United Kingdoms. The common and statute law of their empire can only be executed within their own real or fictitious jurisdiction; and so true, plain, and certain is this, that even the most odious crimes, committed on board of their own merchant ships at sea, are charged and laid, (by a common law rule and fiction) as having occurred within the body of one of their counties.

The late proclamation of the king of Great Britain, is of no avail as to the seizing of British subjects, for it orders the arrestation and detention of the persons of a large body of men, without naming one of them, (not to impress them into the marine service) as a consequence of not obeying a proclamation of which they may not have the least knowledge, the punishment of the recusant sailors, lies exclusively with the courts. We know that the British king's proclamations are not of any force whatever, except so far as they enjoy a lawful act.

The Proclamation is not even colorably legitimated, so far as would be done, were it a press warrant. It does not direct, or authorize impressment. It sets up a new practice of the crown (seizing by force of hired armed men) for disobedience to a proclamation. This act, if tolerated by the British nation, will make a stupendous revolution in the British constitution, to which it is as derogatory, and fatal, as it is to the honor and rights of neutral flags.

In the present reign "orders of the king and council" have had all that force imparted to them, in respect to the ships and cargoes of neutral friends by their act of June 17th, 1793, and of 1803—Whether the British parliament will suffer the king to alter the common law punishment for disobedience to a proclamation, calling their subjects home, will remain to be seen. Whether they will allow such proclamation to be enforced by the military—out of the realm—on waters within the common jurisdiction of Independent States—on board of vessels, public or private, of powers in amity, remains to be seen. The act of Parliament sanctioning the crown in making rules and regulations for courts, confines it to prize courts, and the property of aliens. Here the bodies of Englishmen are the object, and the courts interfered with are the courts of common law. For in their discretion alone does it lie, after the fact shall be found in due form of law. Well might the great Hume intimate the idea, that the race of the British constitution is towards the goal of despotism.

There are other considerable objections to this proclamation at English common law. Blackstone, while a judge, declared that by the common law every man may go out of the realm, for whatever cause he pleases, without obtaining the king's leave, provided he is under no injunction to stay at home. The great charter of John expressly declared this right. An act of parliament was passed to restrain it, but Blackstone admits that it was repealed by the 4th of James the first, chap. 1. The liberty of going abroad remained universal. Some late acts of Parliament, not at hand may abridge the liberty of some manufacturers in this respect, but it is doubted. Sailors are in no wise prohibited, and Blackstone adds, that it is a high contempt in any man not to obey the king's writ, sent to him, or letters directed to him, commanding his return. But he says nothing of general undirected notices in that place. No authority is to be collected from this learned jurist, where upon to ground the legality of enforcing by seizure a general proclamation of recall to any large descrip-

tion of unnamed British subjects. Nor does it appear that any person whatever can be seized by the military, by an order of the crown. The process must go forth from the court officers and be returnable to those courts whereby alone a subject may be seized, stayed, or punished for disobedience of a royal proclamation.

The procedure therefore of arresting British subjects in our ships on the high seas, must be considered by an American administration not unfriendly to England, as an outrage on the existing peace, the more indecorous as contrary even to English law.

COLUMBUS.

The British have taken possession of Madeira "in an amicable way."

The French troops under the prince of Ponte Corvo (Bernadotte) were to enter Zealand on the 17th of November.

The menaced expedition against India, is much more plausible on paper than on dry land. It is no doubt possible, but that is all.

There can be little doubt of an intended invasion of the British dominions; according to the latest advices from France, there will be five different attacks, or expeditions, from different points, at the same time.

The rumor of an attack upon Gibraltar, is but a mere "russe de guerre"—the occupation of the coasts of Italy and the Ionian sea; and the influence of France on Turkey; reduces Gibraltar to the character of a mere trophy of former maritime and military prowess; but is no longer the key to the Mediterranean trade, since France holds the warehouses.

A horrid murder was committed last Friday evening by two negroes, on a woman in Black Horse alley. Both of the offenders are apprehended.

Extract of a letter, from the American consul at St. Thomas, to a gentleman in Philadelphia, dated 12th November, 1807. "Your favors per Union and Olive Branch, I received at Tortola, where I went to have an interview with admiral Cochrane, respecting vessels being permitted to sail from this port."

"This island is under a very strict blockade, they have not allowed American vessels to leave this port even in ballast, however I have got permission from the admiral for American vessels to leave the port in ballast, or with the cargoes they have brought here, provided it was not Danish property. No other or better arrangement could be made."

Extract of a letter from the Grand Judge, Minister of Justice to the Imperial Autocracy General for the Council of Prizes. PARIS, 18th Sept. 1807.

Sir, I have submitted to His Majesty, the Emperor and King, the doubts raised by his Excellency the Minister of Marine and Colonies, on the extent of certain dispositions of the Imperial Decree of the 21st Nov. 1806, which has declared the British Isles in a state of blockade.

The following are his Majesty's intentions on the points in question: Q. May vessels of war, by virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 21st Nov. 1806, seize on board neutral vessels, either English property, or even all merchandise proceeding from the English manufactures or territory?

A. His Majesty has intimated that as he did not think proper to except any exception in his Decree, there is no ground for making any in its execution, in relation to any whomsoever (a l'égard de qui ce peut être)

His Majesty has postponed a decision of the question whether armed French vessels ought to capture neutral vessels bound to or from England, even when they have no English merchandise on board.

Extract of a letter to a Merchant in New-York from his Brother, dated Kingston, Jamaica, Nov. 10th, 1807.

"I arrived here on Sunday the 8th after having encountered greater difficulties on this little voyage than I ever experienced on any former; and was sent in by a British ship of war, for trial, under pretence of a breach of the Revenue laws, by bringing beef and pork to this Island. On Friday last, after having taken a pilot, and standing for Port Royal, we were boarded by H. B. M. brig Goetia, capt. Clement, who examined us very strictly, broke open private letters, &c. and finally put a prize matter on board and ordered us for our destined port. I have gone through the regular tedious examination, and have great reason to suppose we shall be discharged without being libelled."

"We had previous to this completely run the gauntlet. On first setting sail from St. Thomas, when almost clear of the Port, we were fired upon from the batteries, and brought to our moorings again. I was carried before the commandant and council, who informed me that no provisions could be permitted to be carried from the Island; and that the government would take them at the market price, which was very low. This I objected to, as my object was to go to Jamaica; but demanded four dollars more than the market price, or to be permitted to depart. The commandant flew into a rage, and declared the ship should not leave the port; on which I took the liberty to observe, he could only stop her by laying an embargo on every vessel in the harbor; or I would abandon her, and seek for damages. The old fellow at length, finding it impossible to keep her, after two days detention, was graciously pleased to let us depart. We had no sooner cleared the port when a boat from one of the blockading squadron ran along side, and persumptively ordered us to return into the port, which we refused. I then went on board the commandant, and offered him the ships papers, which he refused; but perilled, in his order to return, which I so positively refused to do, saying, 'we would see the ship sink under us (which he threatened to do) rather than carry her into port again; and after some altercation, the ship was taken possession of, and ordered for Tortola. The captain and myself were detained on board the Frigate, and put in confinement, and after two days of most infamous treatment, were sent on board the Galatia Frigate, where I was treated very politely, and proceeded to Tortola, where on a representation which I made to

Admiral Cochrane (on board the Belleville of 80 guns) he ordered the ship to be liberated, & permitted us to proceed without any further trouble. Our progress was pleasant and rapid, until the moment it was checked by a shot from the Goelan. I have, however, every expectation of a favourable issue."

POUKKEEPSIE, Dec. 16.

Meteor.—On Monday morning last, between break of day and sunrise, a terrestrial Meteor was seen from this place, flaming across the heavens in a direction from N. W. to S. E. Apparently it was as large as the moon at full, inconceivably light, and travelled with amazing velocity, leaving a luminous trail behind—The light occasioned thereby when it crossed the zenith, was nearly equal to midday. A ridge of heavy, dark clouds lay along the south and east, behind which it passed when it had arrived within about 30 degrees of the horizon, illuminating the cloud for a moment, in all its parts. Within about 4 or 5 minutes, a heavy explosion was heard, from the region of the heavens where it disappeared, resembling the discharge of cannon.

On the 17th of October, 1783, about 6 or 7 o'clock in the evening, a Meteor of similar description passed over this and the New-England states; first appearing in the S. E. and exploding in the N. W. about 30 degrees above the horizon.

The British government in Canada is resorting to the old game at which it played in its lost thirteen colonies—the following is from a paper published in Canada:—

The freeholders of the East Riding of Yorkshire, and of the counties of Durham and S. Yome. To the freeholders of the East Riding of Yorkshire, and of the counties of Durham and S. Yome. When you called on me to sign a petition in relation to the late assembly I would discharge my duty faithfully, but I am now hurried to England from the most disastrous circumstances of my country, having succeeded the secretary to the late assembly, in his Majesty's pleasure to suspend me from the judicial situation in this province. However the noble lord at the head of the colonial department, is actuated by the highest sentiments of honor, and the strictest principles of justice; therefore, I trust, like the divine rod of Aaron will quickly overcome the machinations of the magicians.

Though wretched, even to agony, whilst under the slightest imputation, your welfare, your happiness, and the prosperity of the province shall engage my attention and animate my exertions. The objects that I have in view, I leave to the Al mighty to defend; but if it please my return shall be as rapid as my departure was unexpected.

I am gentlemen, Your obliged, obedient, And very humble servant, ROBERT THORPE.

Magnum, Nov. 2, 1807.

Philadelphia, Dec. 22. Arrived brig Agnes, West, Boston, 8 days; salt fish, Pilot, Brown, Portland, 8; salt herring, Nancy, Allen, New Bedford, 10; Louisa Adeline, Lyons, Savannah, rice and cotton 8.

Cleared, brig Eliza, Gifford, Guadaloupe; salt herring, Baker, Curacao; Liberty, Lewis, Norfolk; Beisey, Baxter Boston; sloop Favorite, Keene, hence at Savannah.

New-York, Dec. 22. Arrived ship Bristol Trader, Phelps, from London, and 25 days from the Downs. In a gale on the 10th ult, 8 vessels were ashore in the Downs, amongst which was the ship Ulysses, of New Orleans, from Roumney for New-York. Dec. 3, at 11 long, 90, 30, spoke sloop Packet, 3 days from Wiscasset for the West-Indies.

Ship Jane, Fowler, 50 days fr. St. Ues, with salt. Sailed with ships Wigham and Mary, and Alpheus of Warren for New-York; parted company on the third day after sailing, off Madeira. Left brig Seaflower, Bunin, for England; an American ship, a Boston and a Cape Cod brig, at quarantine, just arrived, December 4, in lat. 21 11, long. 69, spoke sloop —, Higgins, from New-London for Tobago, with stock. 14th, in lat. 71 39, long. 73, saw a deeply loaded ship, dismantled, standing south-east, with one sail, on the stump of her mainmast.

Brig Eliza, Holly, 15 days from Nevra, with coffee, rum, molasses and honey. Left brig Eliza, Pendleton, for New-York detained; sloop —, Bradford, for do. brig Hiram, of Bath, for North Carolina, in 10 days; salt herring —, Butler, for Providence in 3; sloop Caroline, Bowles.

Schooner Zebra, Thompson, 16 days from Point Pe're (Guad.) with sugar, coffee and cotton. [The Zebra went ashore on the West Bank, on Friday, morning, but will probably be got off—part of the cargo has been brought in lighters.]

Sloop Constellation, Bogers, 5 days from Murfreesborough, with naval stores.

Below last night, the barque, William, Morris, 14 days from Turks-Island, with salt.

CONGRESS. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Washington, December 22.

The doors of the house were opened this morning about half after 11 o'clock; but a message was soon afterwards received from the senate, and they were again closed for a few minutes. When they were again opened, the house proceeded to consider the bill making further appropriations for the fortification of our ports and harbors as reported by the committee of the whole. Mr. Masters moved that the bill be again committed to a committee of the whole for the purpose of striking out one million of appropri-

ated by the bill) and inserting fifteen hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Masters spoke at some length in favor of the motion.—The question was taken on it by yeas and noes, and it was lost, yeas 83, noes 79.

The question was then about to be taken on agreeing to the bill as reported by the committee of the whole, when Mr. Bacon remarked that he had a secret communication to lay before the house, and wished the galleries to be cleared, and the doors to be closed, which was accordingly done.

The doors were opened in a few minutes and the fortification bill was again taken up. Mr. Cook spoke at considerable length in favor of larger appropriations. Mr. Sloan made some humorous remarks in reply to Mr. Cook; when the question was taken on the appropriation of one million for the repair and building of fortifications, and unanimously agreed to.

The bill was then ordered to be read a third time to-day.

Mr. Thomas reported "a bill supplementary to the act entitled an act, regulating the grants of lands, appropriated for the relief of the refugees from the British provinces of Canada and Nova Scotia," which was read twice and referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Mr. Crowninshield said, that it would be acknowledged by all, that a prompt communication along our coasts, and from different parts of the interior, would be extremely advantageous. For this purpose he would offer a resolution for the establishment of telegraphs. Their utility had been experienced in France, Spain and England; and he believed that by means of them information might be conveyed from that house to New York in four hours. He thought the house could not do this time go into a more important matter. He therefore submitted the following resolution: Resolved, That it is expedient to authorize the president of the U. S. to establish telegraphs along the coast, and in such other situations of the U. S. as he may think proper. Referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Another confidential message was received from the senate and the doors were again closed, and remained so until 3 o'clock, when the house adjourned.

Mr. Cook, from the committee of 17, appointed to inquire whether any, and if any, what description of claims against the U. S. are now barred by the statute of limitations, which in reason and justice ought to be provided for by law, reported a bill making provision for extinguishing the debts due from the United States, which was made the order of the day for Monday next.

Dr. Tissot's Gout and Rheumatic Drops.

A fresh supply of this invaluable medicine has just been received by George Dobbin and Murphy, No. 10, Baltimore street, for sale wholesale and retail.

The Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago and the various disorders of the same nature are so exquisitely painful, and so difficult to be cured, that they have justly excited the utmost stretch of medical invention. Some professional gentlemen have resorted in one department of the science—others in another: Dr. Tissot particularly has long been renowned for the superiority of his prescriptions in chronic diseases—and the length of time which elapsed during his sole attention to the nature and effects and cure of these affections render the medicines which he recommended of invaluable importance. The beneficial effects of these Drops have been so often experienced and their extraordinary efficacy has been attested by witnesses so numerous and so unimpeachably credible, that incredulity itself cannot doubt the virtues of Dr. Tissot's Gout and Rheumatic Drops. Large quantities have already been vendued, and the sale is now becoming so general, and their certainty in curing the disorders of a chronic nature is so completely ascertained, that certificates of their unbounded utility are now unnecessary. Testimonies of their value, and a volume of attested cases of the cures performed by them, may be seen upon application at G. Dobbin and Murphy's, No. 10, Baltimore street, Baltimore.

The price of Tissot's Gout Drops, in large phials, is only two dollars per bottle.

Generous allowance made to those who buy to sell again.

Of the many respectable testimonials of the effects of the above Drops, which have been received in Baltimore—we beg leave to annex the following:

CERTIFICATE Of General Ridgely, of Hampton. I certify, that having received a blow on my knee, which induced severe pain and swelling, I was advised to apply to Dr. Tissot's Gout and Rheumatic Drops, and on bathing the part with them only a few times, agreeably to the directions, they effected a perfect cure. At another time, my wrist was affected with Rheumatism to such a degree, as to render my hand for the time useless, when on making application of the same remedy in like manner, the disorder in the course of 24 hours, was entirely removed. I therefore from the experience I have had of the efficacy of said medicine, consider it a beneficial aid, to recommend it in similar cases to others. Signed, G. RIDGELY, of Hampton.

CERTIFICATE Of Mr. Thomas Kelso, Butcher. About three weeks since I was violently attacked with Rheumatic pains throughout my whole frame, in so severe a manner as not to be able to turn in my bed without assistance, proceeding, as I suppose, from a severe cold, on being advised by a friend to apply Dr. Tissot's Gout and Rheumatic Drops, I accordingly obtained from the agents, Messrs. G. Dobbin & Murphy, two bottles, the application of which, under God, have perfectly restored me to health. I am therefore induced with confidence to recommend this medicine as a certain cure for the above disorders. Signed, THOMAS KELSO. Baltimore July 22d. 1806. G. DOBBIN & MURPHY, Agents for Baltimore.