

DOCUMENTS

WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE U. STATES.

(CONCLUDED)

It has not been explained, whether it was meant, as the universality of the term "deserters" would import, to include American citizens who might have left the British service. But what possible consideration could have induced the British government to expect that the United States could admit a principle, that would deprive our naturalized citizens of the legal privileges, which they hold in common with their native fellow citizens. The British government ought not to have made such a proposition; because it not only, like others, naturalizes aliens; but in relation to the United States, has even refused to discharge from the British service, native citizens of the United States involuntarily detained. If an American seaman has resided in G. Britain, or has married therein, or has accepted a bounty in her naval service, his discharge therefrom, on the regular application to the British government, has been invariably refused by its board of admiralty. This I state on the authority of the official reports made to this department. It is therefore, truly astonishing, that with a knowledge of these facts, such a pretension should have been advanced at all, but above all, that it should have been made a sine qua non to an act of plain justice, already so long delayed. This is the more to be regretted, as the omen does not favour the belief we would willingly cherish, that no predetermination exists in the councils of his Britannic majesty irreconcilable to an amicable arrangement of an affair, which affecting so deeply the honour of the United States, must precede a general regulation of the mutual interests of the two countries.

After the correspondence with Mr. Jackson was terminated, two notes, of which copies are herewith sent to you, were presented to me in the name and by the hand of Mr. Oakley, the British Secretary of Legation.

The first requested a document, having the effect of a special passport or safeguard to Mr. Jackson and his family during their stay in the U. States. As the laws of this country allow an unobstructed passage thro' every part of it, and, with the law of nations equally in force, protect public ministers and their families in their privileges, such an application was regarded as somewhat singular; there was no hesitation however, in furnishing a certificate of his public character, and to be used in any mode he might choose. But what surprised most was the reasons assigned for the application.

The insult he alluded to, was then, for the first time, brought to the knowledge of this government. It had, indeed, been among the rumors of the day, that some unbecoming scene had taken place at Norfolk or Hampton, between some officers belonging to the Africaine and some of the inhabitants, and that it originated in the indiscretion of the former. No attention having been called for, and no enquiries made, the truth of the case is unknown. But it was never supposed that Mr. Jackson himself, who was on board the frigate, had been personally insulted. Nor is it yet perceived in what way he considers it as having happened. It is needless to remark that any representation on the subject would have instantly received every proper attention.

Another ground on which a protection was asked for, is the supposed tendency of the language of our newspapers to excite popular violence on Mr. Jackson's person. Had he been longer and better acquainted with the habits and spirit of the American people, he would probably never have entertained an apprehension of that sort. If he meant to animadvert on the free language of the newspapers, he might justly be reminded that our laws, as those of his country, set bounds to that freedom; that the freedom of the British prints, however great with respect to public characters of the U. States, has never been a topic of com-

plaint, and that supposing the latitude of the American press to exceed that of Great Britain, the difference is infinitely less in this respect between the two, than between the British press and that of the other nations of Europe.

The second note seems to be essentially intended as a justification of the conduct of Mr. Jackson in that part of his correspondence which has given umbrage. If he intended it as a conciliatory advance, he ought not to have preceded it by a demand of passports, nor by the spirit or the manner in which that demand was made. He ought, in fact, if such was his object, to have substituted an explanation in the place of his reply to my premonitory letter. But whether he had one or other, or both of these objects in view, it was necessary for him to have done more than is attempted in this paper.

It was never objected to him that he had stated it as a fact that the three propositions in question had been submitted to me by Mr. Erskine, nor that he stated it, as made known to him by the instructions of Mr. Canning, that the instructions to Mr. Erskine containing those three conditions was the only one from which his authority was derived, to conclude an arrangement in the matter to which it related. The objection was that a knowledge of this restriction of the authority of Mr. Erskine was imputed to this government, and the repetition of the imputation, even after it had been pre-emptorily disclaimed. This was so gross an attack on the honor and veracity of this government, as to forbid all further communications from him. Care was, nevertheless, taken at the same time, to leave the door open for such as might be made through any other channel, however little the probability that any satisfactory communications would be received through any channel here.

To the other enclosures I add a printed copy of a paper purporting to be a circular letter from Mr. Jackson to the British consuls in the U. States. This paper speaks for itself. As its contents entirely correspond with the paper last referred to, as they were unnecessary for the ostensible object of the letter, which was to make known Mr. Jackson's change of residence, & as the paper was at once put into public circulation, it can only be regarded as a virtual address to the American people of a representation previously addressed to their government—a procedure which cannot fail to be seen in its true light by his sovereign.

The observations, to which so much extent has been given in this letter, with those contained in the correspondence with Mr. Jackson, will make you fully acquainted with the conduct and character he has developed, with the necessity of the step taken in refusing further communications from him, and with the grounds on which the president instructs you to request that he may be immediately recalled. You are particularly instructed at the same time in making those communications, to do it in a manner that will leave no doubt of the undiminished desire of the United States to unite in all the means the best calculated to establish the relations of the two countries on the solid foundation of justice, of friendship, and of mutual interest.

With great respect, &c. R. SMITH.

Wm. Pinkney, Esq. &c. &c. &c.



Congressional Proceedings.

Friday, December 15.

Mr. Troup prefaced the following resolution, by observing that he did not so much wish the papers touching the Yazoo transactions printed, for the purpose of enlightening the house, as to perpetuate the evidence of the corruption of those transactions. He believed a deliberate conspiracy had been formed to destroy the records of this subject; and the warning which they would give to republics, would be a hundred thousand times more valuable than the expense of printing them.

Resolved, That two copies of the act of the legislature of Georgia, commonly called the rescinding act, of 1796; two copies of the constitution of Georgia in 1789; 300 copies of the constitution of the same state in 1778, two copies of the report of

the commissioners appointed in pursuance of the act regulating grants of lands south of Tennessee, and authorising the establishment of a separate government in the Mississippi territory; and 300 copies of the articles of cession and agreement between Georgia and the U. States, be printed for the use of the house.

Mr. Bacon was in favor of the resolution, but wished it to lie on the table, for the purpose of allowing him time to examine into some other documents on the subject, which he thought should be printed at the same time. Agreed to.

A message was received from the President of the U. States, transmitting a copy Mr. Jackson's circular, as published originally in the "Independent American," and also a copy of Mr. Canning's dispatch to Mr. Erskine—Ordered to be printed.

Monday, December 18.

The house took up the resolutions of Mr. McKim, relative to the adoption of countervailing regulations of our commerce and shipping with foreign nations, & additional duties on imported spirits from countries which do not permit a reciprocal trade in the same to our merchants; and referred them to the committee of commerce and manufactures.

On motion of Mr. Poindexter, a resolution was adopted, instructing the committee on the public lands to enquire into the expediency of repealing certain parts of the act to prevent the illegal settlements on, and to expel intruders from the lands of the United States.

Mr. Fisk reported a bill, making provision for taking the third census of the inhabitants of the U. States and their territories; which was twice read, and referred to a committee of the whole, on Monday next.

The house took up Mr. Troup's resolution, ordering the printing of certain documents in relation to the Yazoo purchase and claims.

Mr. Bacon moved an amendment, embracing several other papers on the subject; among them, the act of Georgia making sale of the Yazoo lands.

Mr. Troup moved, that this part of the amendment be rejected.—Carried: Yes 53—Nays 44. The resolution, with the remainder of the amendment, was then adopted.

Mr. Poindexter offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, that the Secretary of State be requested to lay before the house an abstract of all British patents, warrants, or orders of survey, filed in his office agreeable to the several acts of congress regulating grants of publicland south of Tennessee.

Mr. Love presented a petition from the stockholders of the Bank of Washington, praying for an act of incorporation; which was referred to the committee for the district of Columbia.

The house resumed the consideration of the resolutions relative to the Bature at New Orleans, and referred them, together with two memorials on the same subject, to a committee of the whole, on Friday next.

The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the resolution from the Senate respecting the conduct of Mr. Jackson, and approving that of our Executive in putting a period to all communication with him—Mr. Basset in the chair.

Mr. Rhea moved, that the committee rise, and report their agreement to the resolution.

Mr. Gold moved, that the committee rise, and report progress, with a view to obtain the information, requested from the President, respecting certain communications and conversations between Mr. Canning and Mr. Pinkney.

During a short debate upon the latter motion, in which Messrs. Gold, Gardener, Dana, Pitkin, Bacon, Wheaton, and Newton supported, and Messrs. Rhea and Alston opposed it, a message was announced from the President of the United States.

The committee then rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The message, with the accompanying documents, consisting of extracts from four letters of Mr. Pinkney to the Secretary of State, which contain statements of official and unofficial conversations between Mr. Canning and Mr. Pinkney; were read and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Smilie moved, that the house again resolve itself into a committee of the whole.

This motion was negatived. And the house adjourned at half past two o'clock.

Domestic Manufactures.

From Pittsfield, in Berkshire county (Mass.) we are favoured with the most cheering intelligence of manufacturing industry and enterprise.

In ten towns alone fifty-five thousand yards of woollen cloth have been made within the present year; and it is estimated that 100,000 yards have been manufactured in the county, of the common wool of the country, 3-4ths of a yard wide.—Carding machines, and new constructed Jennies for spinning, of the invention of Mr. Scholfield (of Pittsfield) are introduced into practice, which are said greatly to facilitate the operations. Each machine has from 20 to 30 spindles; cost \$50, and one of them is adequate to the work of several families.

"The cost of foreign cloths, is already so high, says the Pittsfield Sun, that very few can afford to wear them. A number of pieces have this year been made and finished in this town, which sell readily for three dollars per yard, 3-4ths wide, and which are in every point equal to foreign broadcloth, which costs eight dollars; leaving to the manufacturer a profit of more than a dollar on a yard."

An extensive manufactory of sail duck and cotton ducking, is also in operation, at which above 20,000 yards of the former, and a large quantity of the latter have been made the past year.

In the manufactory of muskets and small arms, more than one thousand have been made, and sold by contract to the state of New York.

The editor of the Sun very properly styles such useful labors and their profits, "the solid sinews of national wealth."—Insisting that, when well conducted, domestic manufactures are sources of gain to the manufacturer, and of wealth and independence to the state, he says: "There are no airy speculations, but are plain facts, tested by actual experiment, and which every farmer may reduce to profitable practice.—Let us, then hear no more of the lazy suggestions, that we are incapable of manufacturing our own common clothing, and that we had better buy of others than make for ourselves. The fact is, that the injustice and violence of foreign nations have at last forced us to rely upon our own internal resources, have discovered to us what we can do if we will, and may thus eventually prove a permanent benefit to us, if rightly improved."

When one single county can perform so much, what may not be effected by the spirit, capital, and labor of a state—or of all the states? We have depended on our enemies too long for our clothes, the fashion of our clothes, the fashion of our laws, and even the fashion of thinking. A better order of things, we trust, is fast advancing.

The Cement of Independence.

We notice with pleasure the articles of Association of a Society formed at George-town (Col.) for the purpose of encouraging home manufactures, and rearing domestic animals for that purpose, to be called "The Columbian Agricultural Society for the promotion of Rural and Domestic Economy." There are to be two general meetings annually, to be held the 3d Wednesday in May and November. A President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Standing Committee of 20 members, are to be appointed to transact the business of the institution, "whose individual duty it shall be to pay a particular attention to the state of agriculture in their own neighborhoods,—to the manner of raising and supporting stock,—and to the progress of domestic manufactures; and in conjunction with such members of the society as may reside in their vicinage, to use their endeavors to correct such errors, and to introduce such improvements, in rural and domestic economy, as they may be enabled to discover from their own experience and observation, or from their correspondence and connection with the society."

All premiums, shall be adjudged at one of the general meetings of the society by a board of five members.

No person shall be allowed to exhibit any article for premium, unless it has been raised, grown, or made in some county of this District, or of the adjoining states, in which there shall reside at least one member of this society; nor any article for which a public premium shall have previously been given.

The society will lay no claim to any article for which a premium has been awarded; but the owner or exhibitor, may, immediately after the adjournment of the society on the day of exhibition, remove such article, and dispose of it at pleasure.

MONARCHISM vs. DEMOCRACY.

Why do envious and prejudiced persons predict evil to the objects of their aversion? The reason is obvious; their predictions are governed by their wishes.—My neighbor \*\*\* is indisposed; his case defies the power of medicine; he will certain-

ly die, exclaimed an envious man, who at heart wished the event to take place.

The adherents of monarchy in this country (and to say that monarchists do not infest the United States) is to deny the evidence of our senses) frequently observe, that "democracy ends in tyranny; and no instance to the contrary can be adduced from history." The observation is retrospectively correct. All the ancient democracies, if so they deserve to be called, ended in tyranny; but a knowledge of this fact should not dishearten the friends of popular government. Life terminates in death, and youth invariably conduces to old age and decrepitude; yet these inevitable consequences, so painful to reflection, afford no just reason for suicide; nor, for sporting with health and juvenility. If nations, like individuals, grow old and vicious, it furnishes no excuse for trifling with their youth and their political virtue, or for despising them. Time impairs all things; marble yields to its power; even the human mind testifies to its influence. Ambition, faction and discord, the lapse of ages, and revolutions of opinion, necessarily subvert the wisest institutions, and change the political features of the world; yet it is not attributable to the perverseness of democracy, nor to monarchy, nor to any particular form of government whatever.—But where does monarchy end? In a millennium of civil government? Let the history of past ages, and the annals of modern times, solve the inquiry; Let the present political situation of England, reply to the question. Monarchy begins in tyranny, terminates in absolute despotism, and is tyranny throughout; but is it not better for a nation whose political existence, we will, in order to illustrate the position, limit to one thousand years; we say, is it not better for that nation to exist in all the plenitude of democratical freedom, for nine centuries, and then to settle into the "calm of despotism," than to submit to the lash of tyranny, through the dreary period of one thousand years?

Where have been produced the richest specimens of human character and happiness? Consult the Pantheon; consult history; and you will find that Greece and Rome have produced more great men than all the monarchies of which history has preserved the remembrance. After all the defects and excesses of popular governments, no one supposes them less beneficial to the world than the ancient monarchies, or eastern tyrannies.—Let not then, the friends of democratical liberty be discouraged at the gloomy picture which history has drawn of the fate of the ancient republics, nor disheartened by the unfavorable predictions of monarchists, since monarchy has produced all the evils of democracy, without yielding any of its blessings; besides, the Columbian Republic rests on a base that promises to our civil institutions, stability and duration. Interest will operate as a powerful conservatory of political freedom. Nature seems to have placed the American people in a condition suitable to try every experiment of political science and of human perfectability: for this sublime purpose, she has given us (the true chosen people,) such an abundance of territory, that may secure, for many ages, that equality of property and ease of subsistence which form an immovable basis of social union, to resist all the shocks of faction, ambition, avarice, opinion, and foreign hostility.

Because all antecedent democracies have perished in prematurety, is it just and reasonable to say that our happy republic will descend to an untimely grave? The light of the press never dawned on Roman liberty, nor cheered the eyes of Grecian patriots. In this country the liberty of the press, augmenting popular intelligence, presages the happiest results.

It was the opinion of one of the best French writers, Condorcet, that, if the absolute and unlimited liberty of the press, were to be established in any country of the globe, it would form a source of light, that would illumine the whole world, and enable man to develop his high characteristic of perfectability, by bursting like the chrysalis, the bag of instinct, to assume the wings of calculative reason.

The idea of Condorcet may be visionary; faction may convert the press into an engine of calumny; the breath of corruption may poison the channel of truth; but it is to the freedom of the press that we must look for the perpetuation of our liberties.

Saratoga Adt.