

vertiser.
BY
UNION.)
T,
T.MORE.
5 per ann.
with papers.
1806



tion to sud-
thropriation
g the year
nd five.
nd House
States of
That for
appropriat-
g the year
nd five, the
d and fifty
of any mo-
ise appro-
hereby is
representatives.
N,
ident of the
RSON.

ng Island
ry, in the
a port of
nd House
States of
That the
e, and he
quired, to
ht houses
one
int, in the
Rhode-Is-
r Watch
stead, on
ew-York,
said light
e Presi-
otherwise
at the ex-
Provided,
ommoda-
obtained
gialatures
shall cede
to the U.
ding six
ropriated
xpence
to be paid
ry not o-
cted, That
ary of the
houses so
onty, on be-
anty be de-
thter light
eir neigh-

ACON,
ventative,
Vice-Presi-
and
RSON.

ed States,
JAMES Ca-
noli.
on, Aug.
1805.
resentation
urron, that
ment for
with the ba-
dians leav-
forces in
time for
this place
ed States
opened a
aw. His
for peace
our part
ation.

a reparation of all their property. These terms were at once rejected, and after some discussion, I proposed, as the ultimatum, that a mutual delivery of prisoners should take place, and as he had a balance of more than 200 in his favor, I would give him 60,000 dolls. for them; but not a cent for peace, which should be made on terms of the most favored nation with whom he has a treaty, and a regulation respecting prisoners, if a future war should take place between our nations; and in order to prevent any fruitless altercation, I declared I would not go on there to complete the business until these terms were formally acceded to. The weather proving bad for the season, obliged our vessels to keep off, and prevented a regular communication with the shore, which prevented the completion of the preliminaries until the 3d instant, when they were sent off to me with the bashaw's seal. I immediately went on shore, and in 24 hours all the officers and crew of the late frigate Philadelphia were sent on board the ships.

I found that the heroic bravery of our few countrymen at Derne, and the idea that we had a large force and immense supplies at that place, had made a deep impression on the bashaw. I kept up that idea, and endeavored from thence to make an arrangement favourable to his brother, who, although not found to be the man whom many had supposed, was yet entitled to some consideration from us. But I found that this was impracticable, and that if persisted in, would drive him to measures which might prove fatal to our countrymen in his power. I therefore engaged, of course, that on the conclusion of peace, we should withdraw all our forces and supplies from Derne, and other parts of his dominions: and the bashaw engages, that if his brother withdraws himself quietly from his dominions, his wife and family should be restored to him. This is all that could be done, and I have no doubt the United States will, if deserving, place him in a situation as eligible as that in which he was found.

TRANSLATED.

Copy of a letter from Hamet Bashaw, Caramalli, to his friend and brother, William Eaton, late general commander in chief of our allied forces in our kingdom of Tripoli.

Without placing in view the misfortunes which so long pursued me, I cannot forbear expressing to you, at this moment of our final separation, the deep source of gratitude I feel for your generous and manly exertions in my behalf. Be assured, that in whatever situation the will of God shall place me, I shall always bear this impression of gratitude on my heart.

On returning to your happy country, to which I wish you a safe passage, I request you will express to your sovereign, my cordial thanks for his manifestations of friendship towards me. Had it been ordained, that measures might have been carried forward to the attainment of my wishes, the restoration of my rightful dominions to me, it would certainly have been cause of eternal gratitude. But, it is true, my own means were small. I know indeed they did not answer your reasonable expectations. And this, I am ready to admit, is a good reason why you should not choose to persevere in an enterprise hazardous in itself, and perhaps doubtful in its issue. I ought, therefore, to say, that I am satisfied with all your nation has done concerning me. I submit to the will of God; and than the king of America, and all his servants, for their kind dispositions towards me. Situated as I am, you must still allow me to ask another expression of your friendship. You tell me that in your treaty with Jussuff Bashaw, my perfidious brother, he has promised to restore to me my family. I pray you will use your influence with your admiral, to permit one of your vessels to go and ask for them, and that he will give me the means of repairing, with some small assistance to enable me to subsist myself and suite, into some country where I may hope to spend the residue of my days in peace.

Again I repeat to you my love and esteem, and I send honor and long life to your sovereign, which may the merciful God confer to him.

Done at Syracuse, the 29th day of June, 1805. (Hamet's Seal.)

William Eaton to commodore Rodgers. SYRACUSE, June 30th, 1805.

I have been yesterday and to-day occupied with the proceedings and records of the court of enquiry on Capt. Bainbridge, which is the reason I did not wait on you on board yesterday morning.

Inclosed is a copy, by translation, of a letter Hamet Bashaw has written me, date 29th. This I think is enough to do away any insinuations concerning our intercourse with this prince, injurious to the honor of the United States. He tells me he shall write to the same effect to the President.

To-morrow morning I will do myself the honor to wait on you with a statement of the pay due to the troops who served me through the desert of Derne.

To the people of the United States of America.

It is known to the whole world, that the reigning Bashaw of Tripoli, Jussuff, obtained the throne by the murder of our father and elder brother, and by my exile, who came next in succession. Driven by his impious and cruel usurpation, I took refuge in Egypt, where I was kindly received by the Mameluke beys, who gave

me a distinguished rank in the military service. Reposing in the security of peace, I had ceased to repine for the loss of my throne, and regretted only the lot of my unhappy subjects, doomed to the yoke of my cruel and tyrannical brother.

It was at this epoch, that the arrival of general Eaton, gave me hopes of better fortune; and though I could not tell what were his powers, I trusted to the faith of a great people, of whom he was the ostensible representative, and threw myself into his arms. We concluded a treaty at Alexandria, a copy of which is among the papers of commodore Barron, in the custody of his secretary, Mr. Robert Denison. This treaty not only stipulates the recovery of the throne for me, but also includes several advantageous articles for the United States, for which general Eaton will be my voucher. Ought I then to suppose that the engagements of an American agent would be disputed by his constituent government? I cannot suppose that a gentleman has pledged to me the honor of his country on purpose to deceive me.

General Eaton and myself, with our joint followers, had already advanced 600 miles into the kingdom of Tripoli; and a general defection had seized my brother's army, and all things prepared the protect of America to be hailed sovereign of his usurped throne. At this juncture a peace is concluded, in which a throne, acquired by rapine and murder, is guaranteed to its usurper, and I, the rightful sovereign, the friend and ally of America, am left unprovided for. No article in my favor, no provision for me and my family, and no remuneration for the advantages I had foregone in trusting to American honor. I am left in Syracuse with thirty dependents, on the pittance of two hundred dollars per month, and no prospect of future establishment. What with the expenses of my retinue, &c. &c. I, a sovereign prince, am now reduced to the pension of 150 cents per day.

I must here observe, that Mr. Eaton, whose generosity I cannot sufficiently praise, has assisted me from his own finances, else hard indeed had been my lot.

When the prevalence of ages has accustomed men to the government of one, the right of a throne enters into the system of human thoughts, and that usage must have its rights like others.

In this situation, I appeal to the virtue, generosity, and candor of the people and government of America. I trust that a brave and free nation will interest itself in behalf of a fallen prince, who has trusted to its national honor and good faith. I trust the government will take my case into consideration, and at least send me back to Egypt, indemnified for those comforts lost by uniting my fortune to theirs: and I am confident the American people will feel for the misfortunes of one, who has fought in the united cause of their interest, and his own right.

(Signed) HAMEI BASHAW, Son of Ali Bashaw Caramalli, of Tripoli. [L. S.] SYRACUSE, Sept. 1st, 1805.

COPY.

Mr. Eaton to the Secretary of the Navy. Washington City, Dec. 5th, 1805.

SIR, Commodore Barron's instructions to captain Hull, of September 15, 1804, and my convention with Hamet Bashaw, of February 23, 1805, comprise all the obligations entered into with Hamet. Copies of both of which are in the offices, as also the correspondences resulting therefrom. By perusing the Bashaw's letters from Syracuse, and by reviewing the transactions to which they refer, I cannot find that any additional observations of mine can throw more light on our transactions. It is impossible for me to undertake to say that the Bashaw has not been deceived. Nor can I, by any shape in which the subject can be viewed, reconcile the manner of his being abandoned, with those principles of national justice and honor which have hitherto marked our character. The term co-operation, I always considered so nearly synonymous with alliance, that it would require the nicest distinction of diplomatic skill to discriminate the meaning, and hence supposed, that an engagement to co-operate with Hamet Bashaw, excluded the idea of using him as an instrument. This construction was the more readily admitted in this case, because until after we had proceeded far in the co-operation, I never heard a syllable of peace, neither from the President, nor from yourself, nor from the commander in chief, which did not look forward beyond an effort to chastise the enemy, and because I always felt a confidence, that such a report, well conducted, would destroy him. I really can offer no explanations on this subject, which are not to be found in my official communications, except a circumstance which I am aware, modesty should conceal, but which was calculated at all events to save the honor and the interest of the United States, harmless. On entering the ground of war with Hamet Bashaw, Mr. O'Bannon and myself united in a resolution to perish with him, before the walls of Tripoli, or to triumph with him within those walls. In the former event, we should have acquitted our duty; in the latter, glorified our country. We were supported by a similar resolution on the part of commanders in the squadron; and to encourage Hamet Bashaw to perseverance, and in order to

move understandingly with him, I included the convention with him, which has been made, the base of our treaty with his rival.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c. (Signed) Wm. EATON.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. January 23.

DEFENCE OF OUR PORTS AND HARBORS.

DEBATE on the following report of a select committee, on that part of the President's message that relates to aggressions committed on our coasts by foreign armed vessels; to the defence of our ports and harbors; to the building of seventy-four gun ships, and to the preventing the exportation of arms and ammunition.

In committee of the whole—Mr. GREGG in the chair. The first resolution was read as follows:

Resolved, That a sum of money, not exceeding one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, be appropriated to enable the President of the United States, to cause our ports and harbors to be better fortified and protected against any insult or injury.

Mr. DAWSON. At the commencement of the present session, the President of the U. S. in obedience to his duty, made known to us the state of the nation—he then informed us, that "Our coasts have been infested, and our harbors watched, by private armed vessels, some of them without commissions, some with illegal commissions, others, with those of legal form, but committing piratical acts beyond the authority of their commissions. They have captured in the very entrance of our harbors, as well as on the high seas, not only the vessels of our friends coming to trade with us, but our own also. They have carried them off under pretence of legal adjudication, but, not daring to approach a court of justice, they have plundered and sunk them by the way, or in obscure places, where no evidence could arise against them, maltreated the crews, and abandoned them in boats in the open sea, or on desert shores, without food or covering. These enormities appearing to be unreached by any control of their sovereigns, I found it necessary to equip a force, to cruise within our own seas, to arrest all vessels of these descriptions found hovering on our coasts, within the limits of the Gulf Stream, and to bring the offenders in for trial as pirates."

"The same system of hovering on our coasts and harbors, under color of seeking enemies, has been also carried on by public armed ships, to the great annoyance and oppression of our commerce.

"With Spain our negotiations for a settlement of differences have not had a satisfactory issue. Spoiliations during the former war, for which she had formally acknowledged herself responsible, have been refused to be compensated but on conditions affecting other claims in no wise connected with them. Yet the same practices are renewed in the present war, and are already of great amount. On the Mobile, our commerce passing through that river, continues to be obstructed by arbitrary duties and vexatious searches. Propositions for adjusting amicably the boundaries of Louisiana have not been acceded to."

"Inroads have been recently made into the territories of Orleans and the Mississippi. Our citizens have been seized and their property plundered in the very parts of the former which had been actually delivered up by Spain, and this by the regular officers and soldiers of that government.

"In reviewing these injuries from some of the belligerent powers, the moderation, the firmness, and the wisdom of the legislature will all be called into action."

This communication excited the honest indignation of all who heard it; and a similar impression seems to have been made in every part of the continent—Already have our constituents expressed their sentiments; daily do our fellow citizens convey to us declarations of their indignation, already have they offered their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor in support of our just claims, and of our violated rights—nor have occurrences since lessened that impression—It now becomes our duty, and a most important one it is; to adopt those measures, and to provide these means best calculated to meet the state of things; to secure peace, if peace is attainable on terms consistent with our interest and honor—and, if not, to unite the confidence, rouse the zeal, and direct all the energies of our country, (by the folly of some governments and the vices of others, they should become necessary. To this all the wisdom, all the firmness, all the moderation of Congress will be called into action. It will behoove us to be neither rash nor diffident. But assuming that ground which reason, justice, and our importance as a nation entitle us to, to maintain it with unabating zeal, an invincible firmness, and rendering justice to all, we have a right to demand it from all.

It is impossible for any person to look back on the injuries and insults which we have received, without feeling much indignation and a spirit for revenge. It is impossible to look forward without feeling much anxiety and much awe. I own to you I have experienced them. I have however consoled myself with the pleasing hope, that when we came into a committee of the whole, and took a general view of the state of our country, a spirit of accommodation would have discovered itself, that forgetting all party or local distinctions we should have united our ef-

forts in support of our violated rights, of our plundered property, of our degraded citizens—nor did I doubt, nor do I now, that with this disposition the wisdom of Congress was adequate to all their purposes; to support the peace, interest and honor of our country.

Mr. CLINTON. It must strike every member of the House that the sum contemplated to be appropriated by the resolution to the protection of our ports and harbors, is altogether inadequate. I did not expect that we should be called upon at this time to take this subject into consideration, and I am not, therefore, prepared to go into the necessary details upon it; but I believe the proposed sum will go but a small way to fortify even the port of New-York alone. I believe the fortification of our ports and harbors is an object of the very first importance, which has excited the sensibility of our countrymen from one end of the continent to the other. The attention of Congress has been particularly called to the defenceless and unprotected state of the port of New-York, on which two memorials have been presented, one from the merchants of the city of New-York, and the other from the corporation. I do not wish to be understood as casting any reflection on the opinion of the secretary of war, or on the respectable committee who has made this report. But before I give my vote on the subject, I wish it could be enquired into more particularly. I could wish that we had previously a statement of the situation of the harbors, and of the sum necessary to protect each port. Before we have this statement, it is impossible for us to decide whether the proposed sum of 150,000 dollars, will be competent. I would rather not appropriate a cent than agree to such a sum as would be a burlesque on the subject.

Mr. THOMAS said the sum was certainly inadequate, and the granting it appeared nearly equivalent to doing nothing. He thought the course pursued in this instance an unusual way of making an appropriation. The common way was to leave sums blank, until after principles were decided and a bill brought in to carry them into effect. After the principle is settled, that we will fortify our ports and harbors; that we will build a number of gun boats, or seventy four's, or both, a bill might be brought in, and it would be then time enough to fill up the blanks. In order that this course might be pursued, he would move to strike out 150,000 dollars.

Mr. N. WILLIAMS. It may seem strange that so small a sum should be proposed by the committee; but when the precise object of the report is considered, it will not appear so surprising. It was not contemplated in the committee that 150,000 dollars would be adequate to the erection of fortifications for the defence of our numerous harbors. It was only considered as adequate to the repair of the present fortifications, and the fitting up of some additional guns. I am not unaware that the subject is of the highest importance. The fortification of the ports and harbors of so extensive a country is deservedly considered of the first consequence. When we come to take up the subject in this large point of view, we shall not fix our attention upon so pitiful a sum as that now under consideration.

If this be the intention of my colleague I shall heartily concur in his motion. If on the contrary, a majority of the committee think it best, in the first instance, to attend to the repair of existing fortifications, and the fitting up of some additional guns for immediate use; and hereafter to go into a consideration of more extensive measures of defence, I shall acquiesce. At any rate, I am willing that the sense of the committee should be taken on this question, and for that purpose I second the motion of my colleague.

Mr. ELY. I cannot conceive it of much consequence whether the sum appropriated be 150,000 dollars or one million. The only question is, whether we will make any appropriation. Being one of the committee who made the report, I will take the liberty of stating the motives which governed them.

The committee had no particular predilection for the sum stated in the report; for they knew it was in the discretion of the house to modify it as they saw fit. The committee had a conversation with the secretary of war on the subject. He was pleased to say that there were some ports as well fortified as could be expected in the present situation of the country; but that in other places the fortifications were defective and inadequate. He stated that at New-Orleans, the fortifications were very inadequate; that they had gone out of repair, and it was a question whether it were not best to change their sites. He represented that at Savannah there were no works, adding that Georgia had made no cession of land to the United States, on which to erect them. He stated that at Charleston, the works had suffered considerably in consequence of tornadoes. He said there were some works at Norfolk; and likewise stated the situation of New-York. From his statement it appeared that by hills had been done towards the effectual protection of that harbor; and that it was extremely difficult to do any thing to protect it against any considerable force that might be brought against it. He stated that there was some protection at Newport; and that in the Chesapeake Bay the harbor was nearly as well secured as it