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wards postponed, and finally acted upon during that session. The report then made to the House is herewith submitted, and the committee request the same may be received as part of the present report.

The statement of the tonnage engaged in foreign voyages from Plymouth, Skewarkey and Windsor, for the last year, does not differ materially from that of the preceding year. By the collector's returns the registered tonnage does not appear to have increased while the amount of revenue collected from those ports has sensibly diminished, proving there are no errors in the document before the committee. In the former report the committee supposed the duties collected from Plymouth, Skewarkey and Windsor, amounted to about 6900 dollars per annum, making about one-fifth of the revenue of the whole district of Edenton, upon an average of several years; but the collector's return for the year ending the 30th September 1804, gives a duty, for the same ports, of only 3850 dollars, and the duty collected at Edenton, and the other ports of the district, exclusive of Plymouth, Skewarkey and Windsor, amounted to 30,153 dollars for the same year.

The foreign trade of Plymouth is by no means considerable, but it exports, coastways, large quantities of corn, peas, tar, rosin, turpentine, and other native productions. Eighty-one coasting vessels entered and cleared from that port during the last year; and the value of the articles exported in them is estimated at 87,200 dollars.

The petitioners complain of the inconvenience in crossing the Albemarle sound, to enter their vessels at Edenton, where they are also obliged to give bond and pay the duties: but similar objections might be raised against the greater number of ports of entry in the United States as many ports of delivery are at a greater distance from their ports of entry. And with respect to the registered tonnage, Plymouth does not appear at present to possess sufficient to give it preference over these ports.

Under these impressions, and considering if Plymouth should be made a port of entry, the emoluments of the collector would be inadequate to his support, without the addition of a considerable salary, the committee are induced to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition, with the documents accompanying it.

REPORT.

The Committee of Commerce and Manufactures having considered the petition of Tristram Hussey, of the island of Nantucket, in the state of Massachusetts, submit their

REPORT.

The petitioner, with Edward Cary, jun. and other merchants of Nantucket, were, and still are, the owners of the ship Union. This vessel has been, for some time past, employed in the whaling business, with an American master and crew, regularly documented as a vessel of the United States. In the year 1801, on the passage to the Brazils, and before they arrived at the Cape de Verde islands, they obtained eight casks of Spermaceti oil, and sent the same to New York, in an American vessel. The collector charged seventy-two dollars and fifteen cents duty on the oil, notwithstanding it was the produce of American fisheries. Upon a second voyage, in the same ship, in the following year, they procured twenty-seven casks of oil from whales taken on the passage, prior to passing the Cape de Verde islands, and shipped the same also in an American bottom, to New York, where the collector again demanded a duty on its importation, and they were obliged to pay a further sum of three hundred and twenty-three dollars and twenty-five cents for the duties. In both instances the oil was not landed at any foreign port. It was actually taken from the ship Union and put on board American vessels; and the proof exhibited to the committee is incontrovertible that it was the produce of the American whale fishery. The collector of New York might, with equal propriety, have charged a duty on the whole cargo of oil imported in the Union, had she entered at that port, as in the two cases under consideration. It appears that American oil cannot be subject to any duty whatever. There is no law known to the committee, that seems to authorise a similar charge. No duty can be collected on articles of the growth, produce or manufacture of the United States and wherever any American articles have been returned from foreign countries, the duties are believed to have been invariably remitted; or rather, none have ever been demanded. Cod-fish, taken by American fishermen in vessels, are not chargeable with duty, whether in the vessel in which they were caught, or on any other American bottom. Surely then, oil of the American fisheries must be entitled to a similar exemption from duty. The committee are of opinion, that congress ought to relieve the petitioners from the payment of the duty charged to them, without the authority of law to warrant it; and they beg leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner is reasonable, and ought to be granted.

REPORT.

The committee to whom were referred the memorial of the legislative council of the territory of Orleans, and also the memorial of the House of Representatives of the same territory, make the following Report, on the said memorial of the said legislative council, and in part on the said memorial of the said house of representatives.

The object of the memorialists is to obtain from the general government a grant of lands for the establishment and support of colleges, schools and other seminaries of education within the territory of Orleans.

Your committee are of opinion, it ought to be a primary object with the general government to encourage and promote education in every part of the union, so far as the same can be done consistent with the general policy of the nation, and so as not to infringe the municipal regulations that are, or may be adopted by the respective state authorities on this subject.

The benefits resulting to society in general from the establishment and support of public institutions for the education of youth, and the general diffusion of science, are too well known to all discerning persons, to require any particular investigation on the present occasion. The national legislature has, by several of its acts on former occasions, evinced, in the strongest manner, its disposition to afford the means of establishing and fostering with a liberal hand, such public institutions.

By a resolution of the old Congress, under the confederation, of the 20th March, 1785, it is declared that lot No. 16, of every township, in the territory north west of the river Ohio, (which is equal to one thirty sixth part of the same) shall be reserved for the maintenance of public schools within the said township. It also appears by an act of Congress passed the 3d March, 1803, that in addition to certain tracts of land before that time appropriated for that purpose, there were appropriated and vested in the legislature of the state of Ohio, in trust, for the use of schools in that state, certain quarter townships, in certain tracts therein described, estimated to be equal to the one thirty-sixth part of all the lands contained in the said several tracts to which the Indian claim had been extinguished; also one thirty sixth part of all the lands of the United States lying in the said state of Ohio, to which the Indian title had not been extinguished, which might be purchased of the said Indian tribes by the U. S. making the quantity of land appropriated for the use of schools within the said state, equal at least, to one thirty-sixth part of all the lands belonging to the U. S. within the same. A similar provision has also been made by a law passed in 1803, for the use of schools in the Mississippi territory.

By this liberal policy, the general government has secured to the people of the state of Ohio, and of the Mississippi territory, a permanent fund for the promotion of learning and the general diffusion of knowledge within the same.

Your committee are of opinion, it would be sound policy in the general government, as well as consistent with equal justice, to act on this occasion with the same liberality towards the people of the territory of Orleans—that has been shown in relation to the state of Ohio and the Mississippi territory; and to make the like provision for the establishment and support of public schools in the one case, that has been made in the others.

In pursuing this line of conduct, the national legislature will afford to the people of the territory of Orleans, the strongest proof of a disposition, not only to extend to them the rights and privileges of American citizens in general, but to place them on an equal footing with the citizens of the most favored portion of the union, who have experienced the immediate attention of the general government; and to observe towards them the fostering care of an indulgent parent, feeling lively interest in their future prosperity and happiness. In this measure the people of that territory will become sensible, in some degree at least, of the advantages they have derived, and may yet obtain, from being incorporated into the union, and becoming a portion of a free and independent nation.

The committee have not been able to obtain official information to enable them to form a correct opinion with regard to the quantity or value of the public lands within the city of New Orleans, nor have they any information respecting the situation of the said lands in relation to the centre of the city, on the bank of the river Mississippi, and as it may probably be necessary for the general government to reserve for public purposes some portions of the said lands, which cannot at present be designated, your committee are of opinion, it would not be advisable, at this time, to appropriate or dispose of the lands belonging to the U. S. within the limits of the city of New Orleans.

Your committee respectfully submit to the House; the following resolution:

Resolved, That for the establishment and support of public schools within the territory of Orleans, there shall be appropriated, and reserved from sale, one thirty sixth part of all the lands of the United States, within the territory, to which the Indian claim has been extinguished, or may hereafter be extinguished, which one thirty sixth part shall consist of the section No. sixteen, in each township, of the said lands, shall be surveyed in townships of six miles square each, and the same divided into sections of one mile square each; and shall, if the lands be

surveyed in a different manner, be delineated by lots; and the lands, so appropriated, shall be applied to the use aforesaid, within the townships, or particular divisions, not exceeding townships in extent, respectively, within which the same shall lie.

From the Alexandria Expositor.

As was stated in our last, we were in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, and early on Thursday morning we hastily narrated the proceedings of that day, and sent the article home, which appeared under the Expositor head, beginning with the word feeling and ending with that of peace, for composition. The conclusion was forwarded by post. It was, therefore, with surprise on the Editor's return that he found his letter had never been received by his Assistant, and that so bald a statement had appeared of the proceedings of Wednesday in the Expositor. Its Editor deems this statement necessary before he proceeds with further details, and he trusts his friends will admit it as a sufficient apology for the abruptness with which the article alluded to concluded, and for some inaccuracies which not being able himself, in time to correct last Friday's paper, appeared in the original matter it contained.

After proving that the contested trade was just and honorable, as stated in our last. Mr. Crownshield said he considered this question intimately connected with our independence; the heroes that had achieved that glorious event, after so ardent a struggle, would look down with scorn and contempt on their degenerate offspring, if, indeed, we should resign so sacred a principle as that contended for. The right to employ our own capital as we pleased, and where the continuity of a voyage was broken, to do with the articles imported as we please; was, in his mind, a most important right, & rather than relinquish it, he would agree for life not to wear British manufactures; nay, said the patriot, fired with a generous enthusiasm, I would rather go naked. Alluding to the impressment of our sailors, he stated his belief that more than three thousand were, at this time, held in slavery by Britain, and without even payment of their wages, compelled to fight her battle against our friends. That he had no doubt upwards of one hundred of our seamen were killed or wounded at the battle of Trafalgar. Was this right, said Mr. C. was this honorable to our nation, was this what America would submit to? He hoped in God not. He would not, and he trusted that if members of that house were so disposed, the people would soon be otherwise and more perfectly represented. He knew the national sentiment was with him, and he trusted the national honor would be supported. The British paid no wages to the great body of those unfortunate of his fellow citizens whom they had impressed, because it was their principle to pay none till they entered, this few of our citizens would do.

Gentlemen had recommended the delivery up of British subjects in our merchants employ, for his part he saw no difference between seamen and landmen, and if we surrendered any we might surrender all. But he desired gentlemen to recollect the irritation produced by the case of Robbins, alias Nash, whose innocence he believed. The giving up this one man produced more irritation than any measure of the last administration, and he would ask gentlemen to reflect on what might be the consequence of our giving up numbers. He hoped the measure would not be adopted. On Mr. C's setting down, a motion was made to adjourn the committee, which prevailed.

It is now an avowed fact that a division has taken place among the republicans in congress, and that Mr. Randolph is at the head of the opposition. The seceding members amount, it is conjectured, to twenty-four. The federalists, some of whom have been known to boast that "the democrats were now divided, and that they could do with them as they pleased," are ready to throw their weight into any scale that may give them again a chance of power. The ostensible cause of this division is the question whether we shall submit to the continued insults and robberies practised upon us by the British; or whether we shall make some stand against them. This division of sentiments, among men, the republicans of America, have been in the habit of respecting, demands, in our opinion, an explicit avowal from the Editor, of every paper of the principles on which he means it should be conducted. Impressed with this opinion, the Editor of the Expositor makes no apology for filling some late and perhaps some future papers with so much original matter, although pressed in the details from Europe, for the victories of Bonaparte cease to be important when opposed to the independence of the United States.

Thus impressed, and having lived the best part of his life in England, which induces him to believe that he is at well acquainted with the resources of that nation's wealth and power as any man who has never been in it, he will define his views of the question now before the house of representatives in order that no deception may be practised on his patrons, but that each subscriber may know the views and principles of the paper he assists to support. The Editor of the Expositor deems war, the greatest evil incident to human

ty, save one, the exception is national gradation, to avoid which war sometimes may be necessary. The difficulty that exists in dragging this nation even into a just war, gratifies him; as it secures us from those which are avoidable with honor. But as the individual assailed by the midnight robber and suddenly awakened from his sleep first sees the glittering dagger at his throat, is justified if he destroys the assassin; so, a nation whose rights are violated, whose property is plundered and citizens enslaved, is also justified in using all the means nature has afforded to prevent the continuance of such aggressions. The conduct of Britain is insufferable. Her practices can no longer be submitted to. The honor—the dignity—the independence of the United States forbid it. We however desire explicitly to be understood as not the advocates of war. The non-importation resolution has been called a war measure. We insist that it is a domiciliary regulation and that Congress has as much right to restrict the trade with Great Britain, as Great Britain has to restrict the trade of the United States with her West India islands, or to prevent the importation of manufactured articles, into her dominions from the United States. Such are her daily practices, yet the United States has never therefore made war on Britain; they are internal regulations she has a right to make, and by a parity of reasoning, they cannot deny us the same privilege. So far from its being a war we deem it a peace measure.

Two millions of her subjects depend on the United States for their diurnal maintenance, and will that government, hazard the evils which must result from depriving of employment such multitudes? Will the government, date the rotting of immense quantities of her manufactured articles on the hands of her merchants? Will she even venture the consequences, which will befall her West Indies, or the possibility of famine at home? It is well known she does not grow wheat enough for her own consumption, and where can she get supplies, but from the United States. We believe these views will press upon her ministers, and that when they perceive the U. S. determined on prudent, yet decided, firm, yet efficient measures they will recede from their practices. If on the other hand they observe on our part a tame and base submission, they will look down upon us with contempt, and not satisfied with a part, seize the whole commerce of our country. But forsooth it is urged, that she is distressed, and that it is ungenerous, to take advantage of her situation. Away with such sophistry. If she practices injustice in her distress, let the consequence rest on her own head, if she continues it, she will feel, that her most valuable possessions, are subject to the power of the U. S.—her commerce to their privateers—and that her fisheries exist but thro' their liberality.

For these reasons we are decidedly in favor of the measure now agitated in congress. We confess we are abstract politicians. We know no land mark in the science of government by which men can be directed than that afforded by this moral principle. It is true Mr. Randolph, on Friday spoke contemptuously, indeed, of abstract politicians, and avowed himself the advocate of expediency. Be it so—But as Mr. R. vouchsafed no argument to convince us of the superior rectitude of his system, the airy bubble of a windy eloquence, was not like to produce much effect.

Impressed with these sentiments and having heard of the attacks made by Mr. R. on the President and Mr. Maddison, and partaking in the common astonishment produced, the Editor determined to visit Washington, to see with his own eyes, and hear with his own ears, the wonderful novelties exhibited in congress. The proceedings of Wednesday he has narrated from memory, unfortunately, he was unable to attend the house on Thursday, when reports says, that considering only his own character, and improperly applying it to the President's, he appropriated to that illustrious Citizen, an epithet, which peculiarly belongs to Mr. R. for in verity, none of the deeds of the knight of La Mancha are more wonderful than the late achievements of the American Burke. It was on this occasion the national water closet was introduced, a simile the ladies could not have pardoned in a man, but which might pass unnoticed and uncensured in a berdless quib.

On the same day he trespassed far, very far indeed, the bounds of decorum, with respect to Gen. Thomas, a gentleman of mild and amiable manners, permitted perhaps, by the chairman, from the gratification it afforded him, to hear the president and some of the most worthy members of Congress censured and abused. A member from Rhode Island was also honored with his notice, and some apprehensions were entertained of the consequences.

On Friday, we were early in the house, when the ordinary business was finished, a message was received from the Senate, stating the appointment of a committee to consider the unfinished business before congress, and soliciting a similar one on the part of the House of Representatives, to report thereon, with a view to a speedy adjournment. Mr. Allen moved that the message should lay on the table, in order that the house might first go through the important business before them. Mr. A. said they had done. We mean not to apply this epithet in a political, but in a common and honorable sense.