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CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Friday, January 29. FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Mr. Grundy, from the committee of Foreign Relations, made the following report:

REPORT.

That in presenting to the House at this time a view of our relations with G. Britain, it is deemed unnecessary to retrace the causes which produced the war.

To form a correct estimate of the duties which the United States have to perform, it is necessary to take a view of the communications which have passed between the Executive of the United States and the British government since the declaration of war.

Your committee has seen with much satisfaction, that at the moment of the declaration of war, the attention of the Executive was engaged in an effort to bring it to a speedy and honorable termination.

It remains therefore for the United States to take their final attitude with G. Britain, and to maintain it with consistency, and with unshaken firmness and constancy.

It happened, that almost on the same day, in which the United States, after having been worn out with accumulated wrongs, had resorted to the last and only remaining honorable alternative, in sup-

port of their rights, the British government had repealed, conditionally, its orders in council. That measure was unexpected, because every application for it had failed, although repeated to the very moment it was decided on.

The other only remained: the practice of impressment. It was proposed to the British government to open an amicable negotiation to provide a substitute to it, which should be considered an ample equivalent.

Your committee have sought with anxiety some proof of a disposition in the British government, to accommodate on any fair condition the important difference between the two nations, relative to impressment, but they have sought in vain.

Had the Executive consented to an armistice on the repeal of the orders in council, without a satisfactory provision against impressment, or a clear and distinct understanding with the British government to that effect, in some mode entitled to confidence, your committee would not have hesitated to disapprove it.

It is not more consistent with every idea both of public as well as of private right, that the party, setting up a claim to any interest, whether it be to persons or property, should prove his right? What would be the conduct of G. Britain under similar circumstances?

With the British claim to impress British seamen, the United States have no right to interfere, provided it be in British vessels or in any other than those of the United States.

On a full view therefore of the conduct of the Executive in its transactions with the British government since the declaration of war, the committee consider it their duty to express their entire approbation of it.

The manner in which the friendly advances and liberal propositions of the Executive have been received by the British government has in a great measure extinguished the hope of amicable accommodation.

It is, however, possible that the British government, after instructing Admiral Warren, to communicate to the Department of State the repeal of the orders in council, may have declined the ar-

rangement proposed by Mr. Russel in the expectation that that measure would have been satisfactory to the U. States. Be this as it may, your committee consider it the duty of this House to explain to its constituents the remaining cause of controversy, the precise nature of that cause, and the high obligation which it imposes.

From what has been stated, it appears that however great the sensibility to other wrongs, the impressment of our seamen, was that alone, which prevented an armistice, and in all probability an accommodation. Had that real interest been arranged, in a satisfactory manner, the President was willing to rely on the intrinsic justice of other claims, and the amicable spirit in which the negotiation would have been entered into, for satisfaction in their favor.

The British government has insisted that every American citizen should carry with him the evidence of his citizenship, and that all those not possessed of it might be impressed. This criterion, if not otherwise objectionable, would be so, as the document might be lost, destroyed or taken from the party to whom it was granted.

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How much more deeply then ought we to be excited, when we behold so many of our fellow-citizens snatched from the bosoms of their families and of their country, and carried into a cruel and afflicting bondage. It is an evil which ought not, which cannot be longer tolerated.

The British pretension was maturing fast into a right. Had resistance been longer delayed, it might have become one.

Every administration remonstrated against it, in a tone which bespoke the growing indignation of the country. Their remonstrances produced no effect. It was worthy the illustrious leader of our armies, when called by the voice of his country to the head of the government, to pause, rather than to recommend to his fellow-citizens a new war, before they had recovered from the calamities of the late one.

In peace our free system of government would gain strength, and our happy union become consolidated. But at the last session, the period had arrived when forbearance could be no longer justified. It was the duty of Congress to take up this subject in connexion with the other great wrongs of which they complained, and to seek redress in the only mode which became the representatives of a free people.

Your committee are aware that an interesting crisis has arrived in the United States, but they have no painful apprehension of its consequences. The course before them is direct. It is pointed out equally by a regard to the honor, the right and the interests of the nation.

Let it be distinctly understood, that in case an arrangement should be made between the two nations, whereby each should exclude from its service the citizens and subjects of the other, on the principles and conditions above stated, that this House will be prepared, so far as depends on it, to give it effect, and for that purpose to enact laws, with such regulations and penalties as will be adequate.

In declaring a willingness to give effect to the proposed arrangement, your Committee consider it equally the duty of the House to declare, in terms the most decisive, that should the British government still decline it, and persevere in the practice of impressment from American vessels, the United States will never acquiesce in that practice, but will resist it unceasingly with all their force.

War having been declared, and the case of impressment being necessarily included as one of the most important causes, it is evident that it must be provided for in the pacification. The omission of it in a treaty of peace, would not leave it on its former ground; it would in effect be an absolute relinquishment, an idea at which the feelings of every American must revolt.

The seamen of the United States have a claim on their country for protection, and they must be protected. If a single ship is taken at sea, and the property of an American citizen arrested from him unjustly, it rouses the indignation of the country.

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NOTICE.

All persons indebted to the estate of Geo. A. Muse, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and all persons, to whom the estate is indebted, are solicited to produce their accounts to the subscriber, properly authenticated.

SIX CENTS REWARD. RAN away from the subscriber living in Charlestown, Jefferson County, Va. on Sunday night the 17th inst. a boy bound by the Overseers of the Poor of Jefferson county, named Samuel Gray, but goes by the name of Samuel Tully.

NEGRO MAN FOR SALE. TO be sold, at private sale, a young, healthy, strong Negro Man. He will be sold for ready money or on a credit of twelve months.

FOR SALE OR RENT. THE yellow house on Congress street, in Charlestown, adjoining the Presbyterian meeting house lot.

NEW STORE. West end of Charles-Town; opposite Mr. Henry Haines' tavern. John Carline, Takes the liberty of informing the public generally, that he has just received and finished opening a neat assortment of

WINTER GOODS. suitable for the present season, consisting in part of the following articles: Superfine and common cloths, assorted; Superfine and common cassimeres, Bedford cords and Stockinets; Vests and Velveteens, assorted; Marcellises, Toiletette, Swansdown and Silk Vestings.

Wines, Spirits & Whiskey. Molasses, and Sugars of every quality, Coffee, Teas, &c. &c. All of which was purchased very low, and will be sold at the most reduced prices for cash or country produce.

A CARD. ALL those in arrears to the subscriber are earnestly requested to discharge their respective balances.—The utility of this must be obvious to every one, as it will enable him to supply them on better terms than if they withheld his funds.

HIDES & SKINS WANTED. THE highest price, in cash, will be given for hides and skins, delivered at the subscriber's tan yard, about 50 yards from the Charlestown mill. JACOB E. PARSON.

Clover Seed.

IT is the opinion of the best judges, that success in raising this valuable article, is more than two to one, in favor of early sowing.—It is now ready for delivery, at a low price in Shepherd's-Town: JAMES S. LANE.

NOTICE. BOOKS will be opened at Mr. W. W. Lane's store, Charles-Town, and at Mr. R. Rumphreys' store, Harper's Ferry, on the 22d February next, by the commissioners of Harper's-Ferry & Charles Town Turnpike road.

A SALE ON TWELVE MONTHS CREDIT.

ON Wednesday the 10th day of February next, at the plantation I purchased of M-Inure, and have lately sold to William Butler, two miles from Shepherd's-Town, on the great road leading to Smithfield: will be sold by Public Vendue, a number of able work horses, one or two saddle horses, a wagon and gears, milch cows and young cattle, a flock of sheep of an excellent breed, a windmill for cleaning wheat, a machine completely fixed for gathering cloverseed by combing off the heads, a light riding carriage fit for a plain family, with harness complete, a cider mill and press, hay in stack, plows, harrows, and farming tools of almost every description, with a variety of other articles.—Also one elderly Negro Man, well acquainted with the farming business.

JAMES BROWN & CO.

At their Store in Shepherd's-Town, are now opening and selling, ROSE, striped and plain Blankets Superfine white and scarlet Flannels Yellow, red and white ditto, assorted qualities. Bearskins, Coatings and Forrest Cloths Kerseys, Half-Thicks and Plains Jersey Stripes and Plains Superfine Cloths & Cassimeres } assorted Middle and low-priced ditto, } colors Bedford Cords and Stockinets; Vests and Velveteens, assorted; Marcellises, Toiletette, Swansdown and Silk Vestings.

To Millers & Millwrights. THE SUBSCRIBER HAS FOR SALE A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF BEST WARRANTED BOLTING CLOTHS; ALSO, BEST HOME-MADE TWILLED BAGS. JAMES S. LANE.

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Slaves. Who was lately killed, nobly fighting in the American cause; being an extract from a letter, written by a young gentleman in the N. W. army, to his friend in Lexington.

the whole of that district from its ravages, had not the Portuguese settlement of Bissao intervened and furnished the slave traders with a point from which they could carry slaves without the risk of capture. It will be recollected, by the 10th article of the late treaty of amity with the court of Brazil, the Portuguese were restricted in carrying on this traffic to places belonging to their sovereign. Though the Portuguese take a share in this traffic, yet it appears that the greater proportion is either British or American trade, conducted under the flags of Spain or Portugal. A great number of the coasters are American vessels, and manned by the subjects of the United States, who avail themselves of the Spanish and Portuguese flags. An abstract has been transmitted, however, to the American secretary of state, of the captains' and vessels' names, tonnage, &c. in order that a prosecution may be instituted against the offenders. The directors say that they have made frequent representations to government on this subject.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE. From the following important act, (now a law of the land,) it appears that slaves purchased hereafter are not admissible into this state.—Enquirer. AN ACT CONCERNING SLAVES.

BE it enacted by the General Assembly, That any person a citizen of this commonwealth, and residing therein, now being the actual owner of any slave or slaves out of this commonwealth, and born within the United States or the territories thereof; and any person who may hereafter remove to this commonwealth, with a bona fide intention of becoming a citizen and inhabitant thereof, and shall be, at the time of his removal, the actual owner of any such slave or slaves, and shall moreover, either have been the actual owner thereof for two years immediately preceding such removal, or have acquired title thereto by marriage, descent, or devise, shall be, and he is hereby authorised to bring into this commonwealth, and to hold therein, any such slave or slaves—Provided, That such owner shall, within sixty days after such slave or slaves shall have been brought into this commonwealth, exhibit to some justice of the peace for the county or corporation in which he may reside, or may have removed to, a statement in writing containing the name, age, sex and description of each and every slave so brought in; and moreover shall make oath, or solemn affirmation, before such justice, that the statement contains a true account of the slave so brought in; and that the said slave or slaves have not been brought into this commonwealth for the purpose of sale, or with intent to evade the laws of this commonwealth to prevent the further importations of slaves, or in any manner contrary to the provisions of this act; and within sixty days thereafter, shall return such statement, together with a certificate of the said oath or affirmation, to the court of the county or corporation, then to be recorded.

BE it further enacted, That any person, being a citizen of this commonwealth, and residing therein, who may have heretofore brought any slave or slaves into the same, contrary to the provisions of the act passed the twenty-fifth day of January 1806, entitled, "an act to amend the several laws concerning slaves," shall be permitted to retain such slave or slaves within this commonwealth, and shall be discharged from all fines, penalties and forfeitures, incurred thereby: Provided, That he shall conform to the provisions of the foregoing section on or before the first day of June next.

BE it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for any person, who shall have brought any slave into this commonwealth, or retained any one therein, under the authority of the first or second section of this act, to make any voluntary sale, or contract for the sale, of such slave, within the space of two years from the time that such slave shall have been so brought. And if any person shall make such sale or contract, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, the slave so sold, or contracted to be sold, shall be forfeited, and be subject to the same proceedings and appropriation, as if this act had never been passed.

BE it further enacted, That the act entitled, "an act to amend the several laws concerning slaves," passed on the 17th of January, 1811, shall be and the same is hereby made perpetual. All acts and parts of acts, coming within the purview of this act, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed. This act shall commence and be in force from and after the passing thereof. (A true copy.) WM. MUNFORD, C. H. D.

Portrait of Logan, the Indian Chief.

Who was lately killed, nobly fighting in the American cause; being an extract from a letter, written by a young gentleman in the N. W. army, to his friend in Lexington.

"In a letter I wrote you some time ago, I gave you an account of the action between three of our Indian spies, Logan and two others, and five Indians and a British officer. I consider that exploit as one of the greatest exertions of heroic valor ever performed by any man in any country. None but a mind naturally great could conceive the idea of attacking and defeating a force doubly as strong as his own, possessing every advantage which time and situation could give them. He did attack and defeat them, but the victory was purchased by the sacrifice of his life. All this was done to remove the suspicion of gen.

meanly and insultingly expressed to Logan, before his departure.—He said "Logan, we have for some time entertained suspicions of your fidelity; we think you come into our army with the intention of betraying our situation to the enemy." Although every man is at liberty to form his own opinion respecting men, and their intentions, no man who was possessed of any feeling would have expressed himself in such a manner, so insulting so wounding to the feelings of a man of sensibility. Logan said after he returned, "I have done this for my country.—I have sacrificed my life to prove my fidelity to my employer." He expressed himself to Major Harden as a man of honor should have done, who had his feelings so grossly insulted. In his last moments he was calm and tranquil as the summer's setting sun; not a wave of trouble rolled over his placid mind. He had been apprized that his wife and children should be removed to the settlements and tenderly provided for; and his every earthly anxiety was removed. Almost the first words he spoke after he arrived in camp, were expressive of his sentiments as a husband and father.—"What will poor squaw say when she hears this; what will poor children do when Logan is dead?" It would have melted the heart of adamant to have heard and seen him. He gave directions to have his family conveyed to Kentucky, and his children educated. "If they do not do well," he said "turn them loose, let them live as the brutes."

Logan was naturally one of the greatest men I ever knew; his mind was of an uncommon texture; his whole character was marked with the strongest features. Every feature of his face (which was one of the noblest order) portrayed the native dignity of a mind which danger could not appal, nor difficulties depress. But he is gone. I never knew a man I respected more from the slight acquaintance I have had with him. I took particular delight in seeing him and hearing his remarks, which were always pertinent and aptly fitted to the company and subject. My feelings have seldom been so much excited as they have been by the fate of this man. The manner of his death and the treatment he received from several officers heightened the interest I feel in his misfortune. At the head of his Shawnee warriors, Logan would have been of essential service to the U. States. Every thing conspired to make him faithful; his town was almost in the settlements & surrounded by our troops. He was liberally paid by congress and treated with great respect by Harrison.—He was yesterday buried at the fort with all the honors of war. He was borne in a litter made for the purpose, by eight officers. His Indian friends were extremely affected. The tears of friendship glistened in their eyes. They turned away in mournful silence when his remains were deposited in the ground.

From a late London Paper. SLAVE TRADE.

In the sixth annual report of the directors of the African Society, there is some singular and important information respecting the yet existing traffic in human beings. It will be scarcely credited by the public, that during the year 1810, not less than between 70 and 80,000 negroes were transported as slaves from the western coast of Africa to the opposite shores of the Atlantic. This enormous traffic (says the report) was chiefly confined to that part of the African coast which lies between Cape Palmas and Bengulla.—The naval force stationed in that quarter had succeeded in nearly destroying the trade to the northward of Palmas, and it was the opinion of a late English commander (capt. Columbine) that it would have been in his power to have delivered



