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FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 1866

(By Authority.)

AN ACT

Declaring the consent of Congress to an act of the State of South Carolina, passed on the 21st day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and four, so far as the same relates to authorizing the city council of Charleston to impose and collect a duty on the tonnage of vessels from foreign ports.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the consent of Congress be, and it is hereby granted and declared to the operation of an act of the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina passed the twenty-first day of December in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and four, entitled "An act to authorize the city council of Charleston with the consent of Congress, to impose and levy a duty on the tonnage of ships and vessels for the purposes therein mentioned," so far as the same extends to authorizing the city council of Charleston to impose and levy a duty not exceeding six cents per ton, on all ships and vessels of the United States which shall arrive and be entered in the port of Charleston from any foreign port or place whatever.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the collector of Charleston is hereby authorized to collect the duty imposed by this act and to pay the same to such persons as shall be authorized to receive the same by the city council of Charleston.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That this act shall be in force for three years, and from thence to the end of the next session of Congress thereafter and no longer.

NATHL. MACON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
S. SMITH, President
of the Senate, Pro tempore.
March 28, 1866,
APPROVED,

TH: JEFFERSON.

Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, April 14.

Mr. J. Randolph said he was about to call the attention of the House to a subject, which he should not have probably have brought into view, but for the change wrought in the state of the revenue, in consequence of the peace concluded with Tripoli. Among the different articles from which monies were drawn, there was none so heavily burthened as salt; and it would be recollected that it was one of the necessities of life, and an article the free use and consumption of which was of material importance to the agriculture of the country. Two acts had been passed laying a duty on this article. It was no new thing to wish—it was indeed extremely desirable—to diminish, if not to take off this duty;—and for that purpose he submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of Ways and Means be instructed to enquire into the expediency of repealing so much of any act as lays a duty on salt, and to report such provision, as may in their opinion, be calculated to meet the deficiency occasioned by that repeal.

Mr. Thomas said, the committee of Ways and Means, of which the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. J. Randolph) who has made the motion, was and still is chairman, were instructed, by this House, in the early part of last session, on a motion which he had the honor then to submit, to enquire into the expediency of reducing the duty on salt, and if he recollected right they were directed to report by bill or otherwise; but, from some cause or other, to him unknown, that committee had never yet made any report on that subject—courtesy might induce him to impute this neglect to the multiplicity of business put into the hands of the members of that committee.

He, Mr. T. always considered the duty on this article too high, and falling particularly heavy on the agricultural part of the community. It was now and always had been his wish to reduce it as soon as our revenue would permit, if consistent with the provisions made for paying off our national debt, and meeting the other exigencies of government—for his part he was at a loss, however, to discover, that the present situation of our revenue, and the calls on government for expenditures, together with the present aspect of our foreign relations, warranted this measure more now than last year. It was true that the war with the Barbary powers up the Mediterranean had ceased, but it was also true, that the two and a half per cent. additional duty on goods paying ad valorem duties, has likewise ceased with the peace concluded with Tripoli.

This duty was laid for the support of, and

was more than adequate to the expense of that war.

He repeated, that he was in favor of reducing the duty on salt, whenever we could part with so much of our revenue. He regretted, however, that the gentleman from Virginia, (Mr. Randolph) had not brought this subject up at an earlier period of the session when it might have been in our power to have examined into it, and if found practicable to have reduced the duty; but as the gentleman is himself chairman of the committee, and has it in his power to act on it immediately if he pleases, he hoped he, (Mr. Randolph,) would obey the instructions of the House when predicated on his own motion, although he did not when instructed by a resolution submitted by him, Mr. T. and, therefore, he would vote for the resolution with an expectation that we shall, now at least, have a report on the subject.

Mr. J. Randolph, said he had but two or three words to offer on the subject of the motion said to have been offered during the last year on this point. He had a distinct recollection of such a motion having been offered; and he also recollected that he had told the mover of it, that it was not then possible to take off the duty upon salt, inasmuch as they had only the session preceding been compelled to raise additional revenue for the purpose of carrying on the Tripolitan war. He did not recollect whether the resolution had been agreed to by the House. But it would be recollected that during the latter part of the session the most active members of the committee of Ways and Means were almost exclusively engaged in conducting an impeachment depending before the other branch of the legislature. If the committee of Ways and Means had failed in their duty to make a report, the House would perceive that it was on one of those trivial motions, which had been made under circumstances that did not entitle it to respect. For when it was considered that they had recently been obliged to resort to new taxes for carrying on an existing war, it could not have been expected that they were in a situation to dispense with old ones. The reason why this resolution had not been brought forward at an earlier period of the session, Mr. R. said, was most obvious. He had not heard of the conclusion of peace with Tripoli till Saturday, and this was, therefore, the earliest occasion that offered for making it.

Mr. Chandler said he hoped the motion would prevail. He had himself contemplated making a similar motion.

Mr. Smilie likewise supported the motion.

Mr. Alston said he heartily concurred in the propriety of taking off the duty on salt; but he thought the House ought previously to know what equivalent could be brought forward. This subject had been thought of before this proposition had been submitted, and the continuation of the duty of two and a half per cent. had been considered an advisable substitute. He had no doubt that the duty on salt might be dispensed with, and that that he had referred to, would answer as a substitute. But he had doubts of the propriety of the direction proposed to be given to this business. He thought this resolution, together with that offered by a gentleman from Massachusetts, should go hand in hand with each other—whether they went to the committee of the whole House, or to the committee of Ways and Means, was immaterial to him—that if one of these sources of revenue were given up, the other should be at the same time substituted in room of it. He said he did not know in what situation the resolution offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts was which he would wish to know before he voted on this resolution.

A member observed that the house had never agreed to consider it.

Mr. Thomas said, as the gentleman from Virginia appeared to have forgot that the committee of which he was chairman, were instructed to enquire into the expediency of reducing the duty on salt, in the early part of the last session, he wished the clerk to read that part of the journal. The resolution he said passed about the first of Dec.

Mr. J. Randolph said he certainly did not deny the existence of such a resolution. He had only observed that he did not recollect having received it from the Clerk.

The Clerk read the resolution offered last session by Mr. Thomas on the 7th of December, 1864, which was such as he had stated, and which appeared to have received the sanction of the House.

Mr. Alston then moved that the resolution should be referred to a committee of the whole, which, after a few words in opposition to such a mode of reference by Mr. Leib, was disagreed to—Ayes 22.

When the original motion obtained without a division.

The bill for the safeguard of merchant vessels in the vicinity of the U. States, was read a third time.

Mr. Dana observed that the Yeas and Nays had been called on several occasions to show the difference that subsisted in the House. He hoped they would be taken on this occasion to manifest their concurrence in opinion.

The Yeas and Nays were accordingly taken, and were—Yeas 87—Nays 5.

The bill for carrying into effect certain Indian treaties was read a third time and passed.

Mr. J. C. Smith, from the committee of claims, made a report on the petition of Daniel Cotton, recommending its indefinite postponement, in which the House concurred.

The bill making appropriations for carrying into effect the treaty between the U. States and the Chickasaw tribe of Indians, was read a third time.

Mr. Lyon declared himself against this bill, on account of the provisions contained in the third section, and moved a recommitment of the bill to a committee of the whole House, which was disagreed to—Ayes 28.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill.

Mr. Quincy objected to the provisions of the third section; which are as follows:

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That if any person shall make, or attempt to make, a settlement on any of the lands thus ceded by the Cherokees and Chickasaws, and lying within the Mississippi territory, or shall, unless authorized so to do by the surveyor of the public lands south of Tennessee, survey or attempt to survey such lands, or designate boundaries by marking trees or otherwise, such offender shall, on conviction thereof in any court of record of the United States, or of any of the territories of the same, forfeit a sum not less than dollars, nor exceeding dollars, and suffer imprisonment for a term not less than months, nor exceeding years; and it shall moreover be lawful for the President of the United States, and he is hereby required to employ such military force as he may judge necessary, to remove from the said lands any person who shall make, or attempt to make any settlement as aforesaid: Provided, That nothing herein contained, shall affect persons making settlements on lands purchased from the United States in conformity with the preceding section of this act.

Whereupon a short debate ensued, in which Messrs. Quincy and Lyon opposed, and Messrs. J. Randolph, J. Clay, and Gregg supported the passage of the bill.

The former gentlemen opposed it on account of the preceding provisions, which they considered as calculated, by authorizing the use of the military force, to prevent the legal adjustment by judicial decision of claims under individuals pretending to have good titles to a part of the country.

The latter gentlemen contended that the power gave to the President was not only just in itself, but absolutely necessary to prevent an intrusion on the lands of the United States by a particular description of the Yazoo claimants, who were represented as having formed the purpose of establishing an extensive settlement on them, and thus creating a force which would keep possession of the country in defiance of the laws of the United States.

The question was then taken by Yeas and Nays on the passage of the bill—Yeas 68—Nays 33.

A bill respecting claims to land in the Indiana territory and state of Ohio, was read a third time, and passed without a division.

A message was received from the Senate, stating that they had agreed to the resolution authorizing the adjournment of the two Houses, with an amendment, fixing Monday next as the time of adjournment.

The House immediately took up this amendment.

Mr. J. Randolph moved to postpone its consideration till Saturday.

Mr. Conrad opposed this motion, which was disagreed to—Ayes 29.

When the amendment of the Senate obtained—Ayes 73.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole—Mr. Gregg in the chair—on the bill "supplementary to the act, intitled, "An act making provision for the redemption of the whole public debt of the United States."

Mr. Varnum considered the objects contemplated by this bill too important and the subject too abstruse, to be likely at so late a period of the session to command that attention they merited; and therefore moved that the committee should rise, with a view to postponing the farther consideration of the bill to the next session.

Messrs. Tallmadge and Quincy supported, and Messrs. J. Clay and Randolph opposed this motion, which was disagreed to—Ayes 32—Noes 42.

When the bill was considered by sections, and some progress made in it, when the committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again.

The following message was received from the President of the U. S. To the Senate and House of Representatives of the U. States.

During the blockade of Tripoli by the squadron of the U. S. a small cruiser, under the flag of Tunis, with two prizes, (all of trifling value) attempted to enter Tripoli, was turned back, warned, and attempting again to enter, was taken, and detained, as prize by the squadron. Her restitution was claimed by the Bey of Tunis, with a threat of war in terms so serious, that on withdrawing from the blockade of Tripoli, the commanding officer of the squadron thought it his duty to repair to Tunis with his squadron, and to require a categorical declaration whether peace or war was intended. The Bey preferred explaining himself by an ambassador to the U. S. who on his arrival,

renewed the request that the vessel and her prizes should be restored. It was deemed proper to give this proof of friendship to the Bey, and the ambassador was informed the vessels would be restored. Afterwards he made a requisition of naval stores to be sent to the Bey in order to secure a peace for the term of three years, with a threat of war, if refused. It has been refused, and the ambassador is about to depart without receding from his threat or demand.

Under these circumstances, and considering that the several provisions of the act of March 25, 1804, will cease in consequence of the ratification of the treaty of peace with Tripoli, now advised and consented to by the Senate, I have thought it my duty to communicate these facts, in order that Congress may consider the expediency of continuing the same provisions for a limited time, or making others equivalent.

TH: JEFFERSON.

April 14, 1866.

Referred to the committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Gregg, from the committee on public lands, made a report, recommending the indefinite postponement of the petition of Ann D. West, William Fitzhugh, Joseph Jackson, and Bushrod Washington and Laurence Lewis.

TUESDAY, APRIL 15.

The Speaker laid before the House a report from the secretary of the treasury, transmitting a statement of receipts and expenditures for the year 1864.

The House took up the amendment proposed by the Senate to the bill authorizing a detachment of the militia, to substitute, in that part of the bill relative to the militia to be called into active service, "as the President in his direction shall deem most proper"—in the room of "which from their local situation shall be deemed most convenient."

The House concurred in this amendment the bill has consequently passed both Houses.

A bill, from the Senate, for regulating the time of holding the courts in the district of Columbia and for other purposes, was referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

This bill alters the time of holding the court in Washington county to the first Monday in June, and in Alexandria county to the 1st Monday in July—and makes some further provision for insolvent debtors.

On motion of Mr. Masters the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Varnum in the chair, on the bill "for fortifying the ports and harbors of the United States, and for building gunboats."

The first section was read as follows:

Section 1. That a sum of money not exceeding 150,000 dollars, in addition to the sums heretofore appropriated, shall be, and the same is hereby appropriated to enable the President of the United States to cause the ports and harbors of the United States to be better fortified and protected.

M. D. R. Williams moved to strike out this section, which motion was disagreed to—Ayes 20.

Mr. Masters moved to strike out the sum of "150,000," for the purpose of inserting "500,000."

A division of the question having been called for; the question was put on striking out, and lost—Ayes 27.

Mr. Masters moved a new section—viz. that a sum, not exceeding be appropriated to enable the President of the United States to cause the ports and harbors of New-York to be better fortified and protected.

Mr. Smilie opposed the motion.

Mr. D. R. Williams moved to amend the motion by adding Charleston after New York.

Mr. Eppes moved to add Norfolk.

Mr. Early moved to add New Orleans.

Mr. R. Nelson moved to add Baltimore.

Mr. Goldsborough moved to add George Town.

Mr. Quincy spoke at considerable length in favor of making a liberal appropriation for the fortification and protection of our ports and harbors.

Messrs. Dawson, Smilie, Sloan, and Lyon spoke against Mr. Masters's motion which was disagreed to—Ayes 31.

Mr. Dawson stated that the fate of the frigate Philadelphia was well known, and added that the frigates Boston and General Green had been condemned as unfit for service. To supply the deficiency in the naval establishment, he offered a new section appropriating a sum not exceeding 500,000 dollars to enable the President to cause three additional frigates to be built.

Mr. Lyon moved to add, after frigates, or two seventy fours. This amendment was disagreed to—Ayes 28.

When the section offered by Mr. Dawson was likewise disagreed to—Ayes 40—Noes 54.

A new section, offered by Mr. Nelson, authorizing the President to sell such of the national vessels as in his opinion shall be in such a situation, as to make it the interest of the U. S. not to repair the same, was agreed to—Ayes 63.

The committee then rose and reported the bill, which the House took into consideration.

Mr. J. Clay moved to strike out the first section.

Messrs. J. Clay, R. Nelson, and Bedinger supported; and Messrs. Dawson, Varnum, Gregg, Dana, and Elmer opposed this motion, which was disagreed to—Yeas 24—Nays 76.

Mr. Masters then moved to strike out "150,000," and insert "500,000" dollars. Motion disagreed to—Yeas 31—Nays 71.

When the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Speaker laid before the House the following letter from the secretary of the treasury:

Treasury Department,
April 15, 1866.

Sir,
In answer to the request contained in the resolution of the House of Representatives of

the 8th inst. I have the honor of respectfully to state, that no application has been made to draw money from the Treasury for the purchase of the Florida before an appropriation made by law for that purpose.

The circumstances, which may have produced an impression that such an application had been made, being unconnected with any matter pertaining to the duties of the office of secretary of the treasury, are not presumed to come within the scope of the information required from this department by the House.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Sir, your obedient servant,
ALBERT GALLATIN.

The Honorable,
the Speaker of the
House of Representatives.

A message was received from the President, communicating the treaty between the United States and the Piankeshaw tribe of Indians.

A message was received from the Senate stating that they had receded from some of their amendments to the civil appropriation bill.

The House, on their part, immediately receded from their disagreement to the other amendments.

The bill has consequently passed the two Houses.

Mr. J. Randolph, from the Committee of Ways and Means, to whom was referred the message from the President of the U. States, relative to the state of our affairs with Tunis, and a resolution directing an enquiry into the expediency of taking off the duty on salt, made a report by way of bill, entitled an act for repealing the act laying duties on salt, and for continuing for a further time the 1st section of the act further to protect the commerce and seamen of the U. States, against the Barbary powers.

This bill repeals, from the 1st day of January next, so much of any existing act as lays a duty on salt, and continues the Mediterranean fund of two and a half per cent till the end of the next session of Congress.

Referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

CHAMBERSBURG, April 14.

SUICIDE!

This most horrid crime, was committed in this place, on Saturday night last, by a certain SAMUEL BELZ, of this county. He was imprisoned last autumn, in this town, for improper behavior to his wife—he made his escape from jail and could not be taken. It appears, that he came to the house occupied by his family, on Saturday evening—that his wife observing a pistol in his possession, and recollecting the ill usage he formerly gave her, and his violent threats, got alarmed and prudently flew from the house—that he sent for her to return, which she positively refused to do—He then discharged the contents of the pistol in his breast. He languished until 11 o'clock on Sunday night, when he expired—He was perfectly sensible until nearly his last moments. The reason he offered for committing this rash act was, that he was apprehensive the flight of his wife would disprove his being in town, and that the officers of justice would apprehend him—that he had resolved to die rather than be again imprisoned.

CHARLESTON, April 5.

We last night received Amsterdam papers of the 8th of February. Short staple Cotton in the Price Current of the 5th is quoted at 46 a 48 gros. No Rice at Market.

Our last London papers mention a report that another French squadron, consisting of several sail of the line, had during the tempestuous weather made their escape from Brest early in Feb.

Captain Woodward, arrived this morning, fell in with a British squadron off Madeira on the 16th February. They consisted of nine sail of the line and two frigates; and informed that they were in pursuit of that part of French fleet which had escaped from Brest under Jerome Bonaparte. Capt. W. did not learn who commanded the British squadron.

A few days before captain Jewitt left Guadaloupe, the ship Felicity, capt. Jones, of Philadelphia, arrived from Bordeaux. It was immediately proclaimed by the officers of the government, that accounts were received of a general continental peace—that Hamburg had been seized by Prussia—and that Kosciuszko had been proclaimed King of Poland.

Captain Jewitt informs that the British cruisers detain and send into Antigua and Montserrat, every Danish and American vessel they fall in with.

Just Imported

IN the ship United States, from London, and now landing,
800 kegs 1st and 2d quality White Lead, ground in Oil
Venetian Red, ground in Oil, in kegs
Spanish Whiting, in lbs.
Best Green Coppas in lbs.
Red Lead in barrels
Venetian Red in do.
Spanish Brown in do.
White Vitreol, Powdered Litharge, Patent Yellow, Vermillion Red, Sugar of Lead, Prussian Blue No. 1, 2, 3 and 4, Best Stone Ochre, 400 kegs Dup Gold Leaf, large and small Camel Hair Pencils, Glaziers Diamonds, best Copal Varnish, and a full assortment of Painter's Brushes, Sash Tools and Marking Brushes.
Also on hand,
Paint, Oil, boiled and raw Whale and Spermaceti Oil, Yellow Ochre and Spanish Brown ground in oil, Tar and Turpentine, Rosin, Spirits of Turpentine, Black and Bright Varnish of their own manufacture. Also, WINDOW GLASS of various sizes, for sale by
JOHN W. GLENN & Co.
April 9 1866

To the Voters of the City and County of Baltimore.

GENTLEMEN,
HAVING been solicited by a number of my friends in the city and county, to offer myself a candidate for the office of SHERIFF, at the ensuing election, and feeling a consciousness that I possess the necessary qualifications to discharge the duties attached to that office, I now come forward and respectfully solicit your votes and interest at the ensuing election; assuring you, that, if I should become your choice, I shall make every exertion to discharge the duties attached to the office with punctuality, integrity and humanity, as far as may be consistent with the interest of those whom I may have the honor to serve.

JOHN KERNS.

February 12