NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. VII. WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. No. 983.

FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1807. *PAID [illegible]*

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the report of the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures on the memorials of the sugar refiners—Mr. BASSET in the chair—it was read as follows:

The Committee of Commerce and Manufactures to whom was referred the petitions of Edward Pennington and others of Philadelphia, and Charles Garts and others of Baltimore, sugar refiners, submit their report—

The petitioners are manufacturers of sugar in the U. S. and request that the sugar refined by them shall be allowed a drawback on the exportation. The subject has been often before Congress, and a lengthy and detailed report was made by the committee at the second session of the 8th Congress, to which the committee beg leave to refer and request it may be considered as part of this report.

The opinion of the committee is opposed to granting any additional allowance or advantages to the sugar refiners, for the reasons stated in their former report—and they respectfully offer the following resolution:—

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to grant the prayer of the petitioners.

The reading of the former report was then called for and the clerk having read the same,

Mr. Mac Creery spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman—When the report which was last read was presented to the House at a former session, it was referred to a Committee of the Whole—but owing to a press of business apparently of greater importance, it was not acted on. Notwithstanding that two lengthy reports have been made on this subject by the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures, and that I have generally stood alone in opposition to them, I must now presume to hope that a majority of this committee, and amongst them the members of the Committee of Commerce and Manufactures, will ultimately agree to the desired modification of this branch of trade, when they come to understand the subject more perfectly, and shall be convinced that they have entirely mistaken the object of the petitioners. They neither ask or desire any new duties or restrictions laid on the importation of refined sugars—they are willing, on the contrary, that the present duties on imported refined sugars and on sugar candy shall be made as low as Congress may deem necessary—all they ask is, that they may be allowed a reasonable drawback on the exportation of domestic refined sugar, made from foreign materials.

The objections urged in this report are,

1st. That Louisiana sugar might be refined and exported.

2d. That imported sugar might be kept in store more than a year, and a drawback obtained afterwards.

3d. That the quantity of freight is diminished when the article is refined.

4th. That New England rum, cordage, canvas, made into sails, and manufactured iron are equally entitled to drawback, though not asked for.

As to the first and greatest objection, I answer that such an imposition is more easily guarded against than in any other species of goods, because, we can have, beside the oath of the employer, that of the refiner also, and he is in this, a disinterested person—but the quality of this sugar being much preferred for retail, renders this precaution less necessary—and besides these reasons the public revenue can run no risk until a greater quantity of Louisiana sugar is furnished to us than is consumed in the U. S. For example—suppose our home consumption amounts to fifty millions pounds of sugar, which I believe it does, and the same quantity to be furnished us by Louisiana, which pays no duty—and suppose that an equal quantity of sugar of foreign growth be imported, and pays a duty of two and a half cents per lb. and that a drawback is allowed on exporting the same—this quantity of fifty million will certainly be re-exported, because it cannot be consumed, and will obtain a drawback of the duties paid on entry; so that in fact the revenue gains nothing by the importation or exportation of any part of this 100 millions, save 3 1-2 per cent on the debentures granted on the part exported. *I* would therefore ask what difference it can make to us which half is consumed, or which exported? Sir, it makes none, and I contend that the revenue can run no possible risk in this business until the quantity of sugar imported from Louisiana, exceeds our whole consumption. At present the quantity we receive from thence amounts to about four millions of pounds annually. When it shall exceed our consumption (an event which I shall be proud of) we shall have little difficulty in guarding against the imposition apprehended.

I have often seen, sir, that when subjects of this nature are discussed on this floor, the first question with many gentlemen is, how will this measure effect our revenue? I acknowledge that this consideration should never be lost sight of—but must at the same time avow, that it has always been with me a secondary one. The first, in my estimation, is how will it affect the people? If the people shall gain ten times as much as the revenue loses by a measure, he must be a poor financier who cannot supply the loss in another shape. But, I am ready to assert that not only the people, but the government also will benefit by the desired alteration. During the period in which a drawback was allowed on the exportation of domestic refined sugar, the erection of refineries increased to such a degree that at present being in a great measure confined to home consumption, most of them are idle half the year. The amount of that article exported last year, was short of 140,000lbs. by which no doubt the nation benefitted about 7000 dollars, being 2 1-2 cents per lb. on the quantity of crude sugar employed—but, sir, if the refiners be allowed a reasonable drawback, the quantity exported would in all probability soon amount to three million pounds or more annually—and, allowing only one cent per pound to be retained at the custom house, leaves a revenue of 30,000 dollars. In addition to this consideratio, sir, let me add, that where a people is confined to the supplying of its own consumption of any article, the manufacture of that article must ever decline. I cannot better illustrate this proposition than by quoting the instance of the late policy of G. B. towards Ireland. The latter nation was not only allowed the free exportation of linens, but in some cases a bounty—yet in woollens were restricted to their own consumption. Every body knows that the manufacture of the one, although obliged to import their seed, flourished to an extraordinary degree; whereas in the other, although good wool was always abundant, declined; and they purchased their woollen cloths chiefly from England—and for this simple reason, that the dread of making too much and the surplus perishing, they dare not make enough for their own use. Observe the price of coffee in the U. S. compared with any and every other country that imports and consumes it—we have it infinitely lower than any of them—because our merchants are not afraid of having more than can be consumed; knowing that they can readily obtain a drawback of duty on all they re-export. And it is owing to a defect of this regulation in the case of sugar, that the price of loaf sugar is at this time higher, compared with the price of crude sugar than it was during the existence of the excise law, when a drawback was allowed on the exportation.

We have in some years exported from 50 to 60 millions of pounds of crude sugar—could all this have been exported in a refined state, the revenue might have benefitted much, and the manufacturer still more. It would have brought much more in foreign countries, and enabled the exporters to import so much more of other goods which would still have encreased our revenue.

There is yet another advantage of great importance to be derived—Belligerents have undertaken to say that our exportation of raw sugars was in many instances, for account of their enemies: therefore, had these sugars been exported in a refined state, such allegations could not have been made.

The circumstance of merchants holding imported sugars in their ware houses for more than a year must occur so seldom, that I am astonished how it could be thought of as an objection.—It may happen that sugar of a bad quality cannot be readily disposed of; but there can be no danger of refiners meddling with it.

The next objection is still more unfortunate—for in place of diminishing freight, it actually augments it—for take a cask of raw sugar, and refine it, I defy you to put the loaves made from it into the same volume—therefore, as it takes up more room and pays freight by measurement, while the crude sugar pays by weight, the ship owner is benefitted.

The argument that because a drawback is not allowed on rum, cordage, canvas, and iron, though not asked for, there ought not on sugar, is a curious one.

A drawback was allowed on rum when sugar was admitted to it, and why the distillers do not apply for it again, I know not: I do believe, though I am not certain of the fact, that a considerable part of what is commonly exported, goes to the coast of Africa; where it is not easy to procure the documents necessary to obtain the drawback. If a drawback on this article should hereafter be applied for, and it can be made appear that it is beneficial to commerce, I shall, for my part, have no objection to grant it.

The manufacturers of cordage will scarcely apply for an indulgence of this sort; the duty on imported hemp being only one cent. per pound, & one pound of hemp making two pounds of tarred rope, renders the object too trifling.

To allow a drawback on imported canvass made into sails, would be attended with much difficulty; and must cause a deviation in some respects to rules laid down, and in practice at the custom-house.

The quantity of nails and spikes exported in one year is so small, that a reasonable drawback allowed on that article would amount to a very few thousand dollars, and will not, until the manufacture shall increase very much, be asked for.

However, sir, as the House is now very thin, and probably will not come to any decision on this measure until we have further information, I move you that the committee now rise, in order that the petitions and report on this subject be referred to the Secretary of the Treasury, that he may report thereon.

Mr. Early hoped the committee would not rise for the purpose proposed; he was against any further reference of this business, on which so much time had already been spent—as it had been before the House for a number of years and he did not think that any new light could be thrown on the subject.

The comittee rose, and leave being asked to sit again, it was resolved in the negative.

Mr. Early moved that the House concur with the resolution of the committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

Mr. Varnum spoke in favor of this motion, and the question being put, that the House do agree to the said report, it was carried in the affirmative.

DOCUMENTS

Accompanying a Bill making compensation to Messieurs Lewis and Clarke, and their companions, presented the 23d January, 1807.

COMMITTEE ROOM,
January 12, 1807.

SIR,

The committee to whom has been referred a resolution of the House of Representatives, to enquire what compensation ought to be made to Messrs. Lewis and Clarke, and their brave companions, for their late service in exploring the western waters, have instructed me to request that you will furnish them with such information, in the possession of the department of war, as you may deem necessary to guide the committee in establishing their rate of compensation; also a list of the names of the officers, and their respective grades, and the names of the soldiers under their command.

From your most obedient servant,
WILLIS ALSTON, jun.

Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
January 14, 1807.

SIR,

Agreeably to the request of the committee, as expressed in your letter of the 12th inst. I herewith transmit a list of the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, who formed the party recently returned from an enterprize, which they commenced and prosecuted with a degree of boldness, perseverance, judgment and success, that has rarely, if ever occurred, in this or any other country.

The officers and soldiers will receive their usual compensations from this department, up to the time of their return to St. Louis.

The quantum of gratuity, either in land or money, or in both, to which such meritorious and unusual services may be entitled, on the score of national justice, or on the principles of sound policy and national liberality, being principally a matter of opinion, it is with diffidence that I take the liberty of proposing for the consideration of the committee, a grant to each non-commissioned officer and private, of 320 acres of land; to lieutenant Clarke, of 1,000; and to captain Lewis, of 1,500, with the addition of double pay to each while engaged in the enterprize; and that each one should have permission to locate his grant on any lands that have been surveyed, and are now for sale by the United States.

It may be proper for me to remark, that in a conversation with captain Lewis, he observed, that whatever grant of land Congress might think proper to make to himself and lieutenant Clarke, it was his wish there should be no distinction of rank so noticed, as to make a difference in the quantity granted to each; and that he would prefer an equal division of whatever quantity might be granted to them.

I also transmit herewith, the letter from captain Lewis to the Secretary of War, which accompanied said list.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
H. DEARBORN.

Hon. WILLIS ALSTON,
Chairman, &c.

CITY OF WASHINGTON,
January 15, 1807.

SIR,

Herewith inclosed I transmit you the roll of the men who accompanied me on my late tour to the Pacific ocean, through the interior of the continent of North America.

In addition to the men whose names are entered on this roll, there are two others who have some claims to a gratuity, as connected with the expedition; but as I cannot consider them in all respects as of the permanent party, I have thought their pretensions more properly the subjects of this detached communication, than of the roll which accompanies it.

Richard Warfington was a corporal in the infantry of the United States' army, whom I had occasion to take with me on my voyage as far as the Mandan nation. His term of service expired on the 4th of August, 1804, nearly three months previous to my arrival at that place. Knowing that it would become necessary for me to send back my boat in the spring 1805, with a party of soldiers, whose terms of service had not expired; that it was of some importance that the government should receive in safety the dispatches which I was about to transmit from thence; that there was not one of the party destined to be returned from thence in whom I could place the least confidence, except himself, and that if he was discharged at the moment of the expiration of his term of service, that he would necessarily lose his military standing, and thereby lessen the efficiency of his command among the soldiery; I was induced under these considerations to make an arrangement with him, by which it was agreed, between us that he should not receive his discharge from the military service until his return to St. Louis, and that he should, in the interim, retain his rank, and receive only for his services the accustomed compensation. Accordingly, he remained with me during the winter, and was the next spring, in conformity to my plan placed in command of the boat, and charged with my dispatches to the government. The duties assigned him on this occasion were performed with a punctuality which uniformly marked his conduct while under my command. Taking in to view the cheerfulness with which he continued in the service after every obligation had ceased to exist from his inlistment; the fatigues, labour and dangers incident to that service, and above all the fidelity with which he discharged his duty, it would seem that when rewards were about to be distributed among those of the party who were engaged in this enterprize, that his claim to something more than his pay of seven dollars per month, as corporal, can not be considered unreasonable.

John Newman was a private in the infantry of the United States' army, who joined me as a volunteer, and entered into an inlistment in common with others, by which he was held and mustered as one of the permanent party. In the course of the expedition, or shortly before we arrived at the Mandan village, he committed himself by using certain mutinous expressions, which caused me to arrest him, and to have him tried by a court martial formed of his peers; they finding him guilty, sentenced him to receive seventy-five lashes, and to be discharged from the permanent party. This sentence was confirmed by me, and the punishment took place. The conduct of this man, previous to this period, had been generally correct, and the zeal he afterwards displayed for the benefit of the service was highly meritorious. In the course of the winter, while at Fort Mandan, from an ardent wish to atone for the crime which he had committed at an unguarded moment, he exerted himself on every occasion, to become useful. This disposition induced him to expose himself too much to the intense cold of that climate, and on a hunting excursion he had his hands and feet severely frozen, with which he suffered extreme pain for some weeks. Having recovered from this accident by the 1st of April, 1805, he asked forgiveness for what had passed, and begged that I would permit him to continue with me through the voyage; but deeming it impolitic to relax from the sentence, although he stood acquitted in my mind, I determined to send him back, which was accordingly done. Since my return, I have been informed that he was extremely serviceable as a hunter, on the voyage to St. Louis, and that the boat on several occasions, owed her safety, in a great measure, to his personal exertions, being a man of uncommon activity and bodily strength. If under these circumstances, it should be thought proper to give Newman the remaining third which will be deducted from the gratuity awarded Baptiste Le Page, who occupied his station in the after part of the voyage, I should feel myself much gratified.

I have the honor to be,
With due consideration and much respect,
Your obedient servant,
MERIWETHER LEWIS, *Capt.*
1st. U. S. reg. Infantry

Gen. H. DEARBORN,
Secretary at War.

The following are the names of the persons above referred to:

John Ordway, Nathaniel Pryor, Charles Floyd, Patrick Gass, William Bratton, John Collins, John Colter, Pier Cruzatte, Joseph Field, Reuben Field, Robert Frazier, Silas Goodrich, George Gibson, Thomas P. Howard, Hugh Hall, Francis Labuicke, Hugh M'Neal, John Shields, George Shannon, John Potts, John Bapteist La Page, John B. Thompson, William Werner, Richard Windsor, Peter Wiser, Alexander Willard, Joseph Whitehouse, George Drulyard, Touisant Charbono.

GENERAL REMARK.

With respect to all those persons whose names are entered on this roll, I feel a peculiar pleasure in declaring, that the ample support which they gave me under every difficulty; the manly firmness which they evinced on every necessary occasion, and the patience and fortitude with which they submitted to and bore the fatigues and painful sufferings incident to my late tour to the Pacific ocean, intitles them to my warmest approbation and thanks; nor will I suppress the expression of a hope, that the recollection of services thus faithfully performed, will meet a just reward, in an ample remuneration on the part of our government.

MERIWETHER LEWIS, *Capt.*
1st U. S. reg. Infantry.

Washington, Jan. 15, 1807.

Lexington, Jan. 5.

At a meeting convened on the 3d January, in the town of Lexington, for the purpose of taking into consideration the hostile attempts of Col. Burr and others, to separate from the union the western states, and to make war upon the Spanish provinces, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, it appears from late disclosures that certain artful and designing men have, within the United States, and abroad, represented the people of this state as disaffected to the confederacy and government of the United States of America, and "ripe for enterprize"—which suggestions if suffered to pass unnoticed might, in some degree, answer the purposes intended, and destroy the confidence as well of our sister states as of citizen and citizen.

Resolved, Therefore, as the decided opinion of this meeting, that all charges or insinuations against the people of this state of disaffection to the union, or government of the United States, are gross misrepresentations and without foundation

2d. That this portion of the people of Kentucky now assembled, do declare their attachment to the government of the United States, and a sincere desire to preserve the union of all the states and territories thereunto belonging.

3d. That we view with indignation, and will repel to our utmost, any proposition or attempt to dissever the said union.

4th. That it is the duty of every citizen to be vigilant and decided in counteracting the expedition which has of late been preparing, and intended to be set on foot from the United States, whether it be against New Orleans, Louisiana and its dependencies, or against the Spanish provinces of Mexico, or elsewhere, and to communicate from time to time, such intelligence as may be received, concerning the said expedition, or the persons concerned therein.

Resolved, That the people of this state be invited to hold similar meetings in their towns and counties, to express their sentiments on the subjects contained in the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, That this meeting do highly approve of the conduct of their representatives in the state legislature, for expressing their attachment to the union, and their confidence in the administration of the general government, and their willingness to support such measures as may be adopted for the prosperity and happiness of our country.

Resolved, That the editors of newspapers in this state be requested to publish the foregoing resolutions.

JOHN BRADFORD, Chairman.

Attest

NAT. G. S. HART, Clk.

BAILY WASHINGTON,

Has received by the sloop Olive Branch and other Conveyances,

MADEIRA and Lisbon Wine, Cogniac Brandy, Apple, do Antigua Rum, country, do. Whiskey, Gin, Molasses, Imperial, Old Hyson, Young Hyson, and Souchong teas, table Salt in Baskets, Capers, Cloves, Mace, Cinnamon, Nutmegs, Allspice, ground Ginger, Starch, Almonds, Raisins, warranted Chocolate, London refined Salt Petre, Coffee, Pearl Barley, Rice, Pepper, [illegible], Dixon's Philadelphia Mustard, Cayenne Pepper, Lump, Loaf and Brown Sugars, fresh and salted Butter. Windsor shaving Soap, Eagle Gunpowder in canisters of one pound each and of a very superior quality, genuine Spanish Segars and Demijohns with a neat selection of Dry Goods, Glass and Crockery Ware—which he is selling as usual at the most reduced prices at his store South B street near the Capitol.

January 19 - tawsw