tween the two powers, and the reliance of the Preſident on ſimilar diſpoſitions on your part; for myſelf I only make u̇ſe of the occaſion to aſſure your excellency of the ſenſibility with which I ſhall experience your friendly countenance and accomodations, and of the ſentiments of reverence and exalted eſteem with which,

I have the honor to be,

your excellency's obedient ſervant.

CIRCULAR.]

Department of State.

Waſhington May 21, 1801.

SIR,

For a conſiderable time paſt ſuſpicions have prevailed that a rupture with the United States was intended by the Baſhaw of Tripoli. Of late, the alarms and proofs have been ſuch as to impoſe on the Preſident the obligation of making immediately the moſt effectual proviſion within his authority for the defence and protection of our mediterranean commerce, incaſe it ſhould be attacked from that quarter. At the laſt ſeſſion of Congreſs ſix frigates were directed by law to be kept as a peace eſtabliſhment.—Out of this force three frigates and alſo a ſloop of war have been equipped and will ſail for the Mediterranean in a few days, under the command of Commodore Dale. Should war have been declared, or hoſtilities actually been commenced againſt our trade, this force will be employed in the moſt effectual manner for its ſafety. Should the means which have been or may be employed to obviate the neceſſity of ſuch an application of the force be ſucceſsful, the ſquadron after cruiſing a ſufficient time in the Mediterranean, perhaps, if circumſtances ſhould not render it unadviſable, as far as the Levant, and toward Conſtantinople, will return to the United States.

The expedition will by this means, be not without it's uſe, whatever may be the ſtate of things on its arrival. It will have the effect, from which ſo much advantage has been promiſed by our conſuls and others, of exhibiting to the Barbary powers a reſpectable ſpecimen of the naval faculties of the United States. It will exerciſe our mariners and inſtruct our officers in the line of their ſervice, and in a ſea which it may be particularly uſeful for them to underſtand.—And as they form a part of the peace eſtabliſhment, the meaſure will add but inconſiderably to the expenſe otherwiſe to be incurred. The United States being now alſo happily at peace and amity with all the European powers, the moment is the more favorable in that view of the ſubject.

The Preſident has thought proper that this early information and explanation ſhould be given to you, that being fully poſſeſſed of the cauſes and object of the expedition, you may guard it againſt any miſconception or miſrepreſentation that may by poſſibility be attached to it; and moreover prepare the government where you are, to lend to this ſquadron ſuch hoſpitalities and accommodations in its ports or elſewhere, as opportunities may claim, and as it would be incumbent on the United States to reciprocate.

The friendly diſpoſition felt by the United States towards juſtifies them in their confidence that no convenient proof of a like diſpoſition will be withheld, and of this friendly diſpoſition you are authorized and inſtructed by the Preſident, on all proper occaſions, to give the moſt explicit and cordial aſſurances.

To Rufus King, London, David Humphreys, Madrid, William Smith Liſbon, W. V. Murray, Hague.

[*A circular to the ſame effect was written to all our conſuls in the Mediterranean*]

Extract of a letter from James Leander Cathcart, to the Secretary of State, dated, Tripoli, April 18, 1801.

"I had the honor of receiving yours, of the 15th of January on the 13th inſtant, and am happy my conduct has been approved of by the Preſident. Yours to Dr. McDoungh I delivered to the Britiſh conſul to forward to him or to keep until his arrival. I have already informed you that he departed from hence with Commodore Campbell laſt January, in order to ſolicit the court of Portugal for the conſulate of this regency, he having the commodore's promiſe of recommendations.

"In conſequence of the deceaſe of our political father, I ſent my drogoman to inform the Baſhaw that the next day I ſhould hoiſt the banners of the United States half maſt, the only token of reſpect which I had in my power to pay to the manes of our much beloved patriot, intending to wait a proper opportunity to communicate to him your intimation. The Baſhaw ſent me a very polite meſſage, expreſſing his concern for our loſs, and requeſting to know if the Preſident had received his letter, which was forwarded by the Sophia. I anſwered in the affirmative, and ordered the drogoman to inform his excellency that I would wait on him when he was at leiſure.

"In the evening he ſent Farſara to inform me that he was indiſpoſed or would have been glad to ſee me, and requeſted if I had any thing to impart that I would communicate it to Farſara. I accordingly requeſted him to expreſs to the Baſhaw his excellency the Preſident's ſatisfaction with the arrangements that took place laſt year, and to aſſure him that he had never conſidered him as dependent upon either of the other regencies, that he had always treated him as an independent prince, and the government of the United States would always conſider him with as much reſpect, and treat him with the ſame friendſhip that they did the heads of the other regencies. Farſara returned with the following anſwer. "His excellency the Baſhaw has deſired me "to requeſt you to acquaint the Preſident of the United States, that he is "exceedingly pleaſed with his proffers "of friendſhip; that the reſpect which "he has ſhewn to his communication "is really flattering, that had his proteſtations been accompanied with a "frigate or brig of war, ſuch as we had "given the Algerines, he would be ſtill "more inclined to believe them genuine; that compliments altho' acceptable were of very little value, and "that the heads of the Barbary States "knew their friends by the value of the "preſents that they received from "them."

"It being too late for any anſwer that evening I made ſuch comments on the Baſhaw's meſſage as might ſerve to eradicate from the mind of the Jew the moſt diſtant expectation that the Preſident would ever make ſo great a ſacrifice, which I informed him was entirely incompatible with the intereſts of the United States.

"Conſidering it highly improper to delay giving a direct, explicit, and categorical anſwer to the Baſhaw's inſinuation, I ſent my drogoman to the caſtle to requeſt an audience; I having previouſly formed a reſolution never to employ a third perſon whenever the honor or the intereſt of my country was concerned. The drogoman informed me that his excellency had ſeen Farſara, and if I had any further communication to make to employ him, as he was very much indiſpoſed. Thus was I diſappointed.

"Farſara waited upon me in the afternoon, when I requeſted him to inform the Baſhaw, that if he ſuppoſed that the cruiſers which were ſent by our government to Algiers were given gratuitouſly he had been miſinformed; that during our negociation laſt year I had acquainted him that the frigate was given to that regency in lieu of caſh, for the ranſom of our citizens, which had been redeemed on credit more than a year before her arrival; that the cruiſers were built on commiſſion, and paid for in caſh out of the public treaſury, and were not the property of the Dey, as he ſuppoſed; that I had copies of their accounts by me which he ſhould peruſe if he thought proper, whereby he would be informed of the magnitude of his expectation, and the improbability of the United States having given them gratuitouſly; that I was ſenſible how diſagreeable it would be to diſappoint expectations when once formed; I therefore found it my duty to prevent any taking place, in order to avoid the chagrin attending a poſitive refuſal, which, from the nature of the requeſt, muſt naturally be expected from the Preſident of the United States.

"The Baſhaw returned in anſwer, that he had concluded peace with the United States for much leſs than he had received from other nations, and that he knew his friends by what he received from them.

"I ſhall by no means broach this ſubject to the Baſhaw again, as I have hindered him from having any ground for expectation, and ſhall continue to act in the ſame manner, ſhould he ever make it a topic of converſation, as he can have no pretext to make a demand, and only inſinuates that he expects ſome mark of the Preſident's friendſhip, more ſubſtantial than compliments. I imagine it will be beſt to take no further notice of it. The appearance of our frigates in the Mediterranean will, I hope, eradicate any expectation that he may have flattered himſelf with, if any really exiſts, and until that period, believe, me Sir, our comerce will never be upon a reſpectable footing in theſe ſeas."

[*To be continued.*]

NOTICE

For locating the Canada and Nova-Scotia Refugee Lands.

WHEREAS ſaid lands are to be located on the 12th inſtant, the ſubſcriber begs leave to acquaint his friends and the public in general, that he has employed a gentleman reſiding in the country near ſaid lands, to explore them, they having been explored by half ſections, and all the minutes tranſmitted to him here, deſcribing the ſoil, timber, ſituation, &c.

Will be ready to make the locations on the day appointed.—Any perſon wiſhing to have their lands located, can have it done on reaſonable terms, by applying at the Waſhington City Tavern, near the Treaſury Office, to

PETER MILLS.

Waſhington, January 2, 1802.

4t.

Boarding House.

E. Gardner, at No. 6, of the Seven Building, will accommodate gentlemen with boarding and lodging on moderate terms.

Dec. 28, 1801. ep7t

National Intelligencer.

CONGRESS
OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 30, 1801.

MR. DAVIS made a report for allowing further time to holders of military warrants to regiſter and locate the ſame.

The houſe took up the *Library Bill*, when Mr. Randolph moved to ſtrike out that part which gave permiſſion to the Heads of Department, Judges of the Supreme Court, and foreign miniſters to take out books, which was agreed to and the bill was ordered to be engroſſed for a third reading to-day.

On motion of Mr. Randolph, the houſe went into a committee of the whole on the ſtate of the union; when Mr. Randolph ſubmitted his motion of yeſterday, viz. "that it is expedient to reduce the military eſtabliſhment of the U. S.."—He made the motion in Committee of the whole as it appeared to be more conſonant to the proceedings of the houſe.

The reſolution was agreed to without a diviſion; and reported to the houſe who concurred without a diviſion, and appointed a committe of five to bring in a bill.

MR. DAVIS moved the appointment of a committee to enquire into the expediency of repealing the acts impoſing duties on ſtills and diſtilled ſpirits, on refined ſugars, on ſales at auction and on pleaſurable carriages.

Mr. Davis ſaid his object, in making this motion, was that the houſe ſhould accompliſh that directly, which had been this ſeſſion attempted in ſo circuitous a way, as to embarraſs and delay its proceedings. He ſaw no reaſon for going into a Committee of the whole, in order to arrive at deciſions that might better be made directly by the houſe itſelf.

On this motion a debate of conſiderable length enſued, in which, on the one ſide the reference to a ſelect committee, and on the other a reference to a committee of the whole houſe, was advocated. No deciſion was had, and of courſe the motion of Mr. Davis was ordered to lie on the table.

DR. MITCHELL obſerved that it was contemplated in the Preſident's Meſſage, that it would be neceſſary to appropriate an annual ſum for naval purpoſes. It appeared alſo from the Meſſage, that ſome doubt was entertained by the Executive of the competency of his power to employ ſuperintendants, and to fix navy yards. He mentioned theſe circumſtances, with the view of offering a reſolution that a committee may be formed on the ſubject, who ſhould enquire into the expediency of applying to naval purpoſes. the proceeds of the ſales of public veſſels.

On the ſuggeſtion of the Speaker, Dr. Mitchell moved the going into a Committee of the whole on the ſtate of the union, in which he would make his propoſed motion.

On this motion, a debate of conſiderable length enſued, in which Mr. Davis declared that he thought this the fit time to determine the propriety of that circuitous mode of procedure, which had been practiſed this ſeſſion.

MR. DAVIS, for reaſons which he aſſigned at length, in which Dr. Euſtis concurred, ſupported the propriety of a reference in the firſt inſtance to a ſelect committee.

Meſſrs. Griſwold, Rutledge, Bayard, Randolph and Dana, ſupported a reference to a committee of the whole.

As the ideas expreſſed only related to the mode of proceeding on the part of the Houſe, we omit detailing them.

The houſe decided in favor of going into a committee of the whole; when DR. MITCHELL moved, that ſo much of the Preſident's meſſage as relates to naval prepartions and to the eſtabliſhment of ſcites for naval purpoſes be referred to a ſelect committee, which was agreed to in committee, confirmed in the houſe, and a committee of five appointed.

During the courſe of the debate, MR. BAYARD, (in alluſion to the adoption yeſterday of the reſolution of Mr. Randolph for reducing the military eſtabliſhment, which he thought premature, not conſidering the houſe as ſufficiently acquainted with the details of the ſubject to act upon it) ſaid, that if gentlemen were for reducing the army in whatever degree, or for abandoning it altogether, he ſhould go with them. He would, on ſuch occaſion, be governed by the ſame principles which had hitherto guided him. He had heretofore been diſpoſed to repoſe a liberal confidence in the Executive of the United States; and when an increaſe of our military force had been recommended by the Preſident he had invariably been for it; much more would he be diſpoſed, when a reduction was recommended from the ſame quarter, to ſanction it by his vote. With the Executive reſted the reſponſibility of the exterior defence of the nation; and if the Executive was of opinion that the nation was ſecure with a force of 3,000, 2,000, 1,000, or without a ſingle man, he would concur with him in giving effect to ſuch a conviction.

Theſe remarks called up MR. RANDOLPH, who ſaid that he had little tho't his motion, agreed to yeſterday ſub ſilentio, and without the leaſt heſitation, would have been made the topic of ſuch animated animadverſion as he had heard to-day. He would tell the gentleman from Delaware, that his motion had neither been immature in ſubſtance, or premature as to time. It would be recollected, that previous to its adoption the Secretary of War had been called upon to furniſh information to the houſe. He had furniſhed information, to his mind completely ſatiſfactory. He had ſtated the eſtabliſhment to be 5,000 men; and his opinion that all the garriſons required only 3,000 men. Could it then with any reaſon be called premature to act upon ſuch information? If the gentleman from Delaware, or other gentlemen thought ſo, why not combat a deciſion at the time? Did they imagine, that, without the expreſſion of a murmur by them, the mover would himſelf riſe and oppoſe his own motion?

As to the delays, which had been noticed as having taken place in the tranſaction of buſineſs, it was not to be aſcribed to any particular mode of procedure; but to the unuſual languor of the ſeaſon; to the abſence of ſeveral members of great weight; to the augmentation of new members not yet fully acquainted with the forms of buſineſs; & to the unuſual maſs of information preſented to the houſe, which enlarged the field of action, and to the delays of printing ariſing from the unuſual quantity of matter ſubmitted.

A meſſage was received from the Senate, offering for the concurrence of the houſe reſolutions, drawn with much ſpirit, approving the gallant conduct of Capt. Sterret and his crew in the capture of a Tripolitan corſair of ſuperior force; requeſting the Preſident to preſent Capt. Sterret with a gold medal with ſuitable emblems; and to preſent the other commiſſioned officers with ſwords; with a concluding reſolution, that the non-commiſſioned officers and crew receive an extra month's pay.

Ordered to lie for conſideration till Monday.

MR. BAYARD moved, that the houſe reſolve itſelf into a Committee of the whole on the ſtate of the union, for the purpoſe of enabling him to offer a reſolution to the following effect.

Reſolved, that the committee of Ways and Means be inſtructed to enquire into the expediency of repealing the laws laying duties on ſtills and diſtilled ſpirits, on refined ſugar, on ſales at auction, on pleaſurable carriages, on ſtamps and on poſtage of letters.

Mr. Bayard made this motion for the purpoſe of placing the important ſubject contemplated by it in a train for deciſion. He thought it full time to commence our proceedings on it; and in his opinion it was fit that the conſideration of the ſubject generally ſhould go before the committee of Ways and Means. The ſubject was ſo important, as to ſtrike at the vital principles of our revenue. The repeal of the internal taxes involved a reduction of 600,000 dollars in our receipts. The propriety of ſuch a reduction did not conſtitute a diſtinct ſubject for conſideration, but depended upon the deductions made on a comprehenſive view of our finances, which could only be taken by the committee of Ways and Means, to whom was committed generally whatever regarded revenue.

If the minds of gentlemen were made up to aboliſh all the internal taxes, it muſt be to them perfectly immaterial to what committee a reference was made. He knew the flattering proſpects held out by the Preſident, and he hoped they would all be verified. But his own mind was not made up, nor did he know that the minds of other gentlemen were made up, on the propriety of diſpenſing with theſe taxes. He was led to this inference by obſerving no official notice to ſuch effect in the communication made by the Secretary of the Treaſury. On the contrary the Secretary had ſo made his calculations, predicated as they were upon the continuance of theſe taxes, that his calculations would be greatly deranged by diſpenſing with them.

Mr. Bayard knew not that we were prepared to leap this precipice. If the public burthens could be reduced, he would be delighted with the act of reduction. Yet ſtill if the ſum of 600,000 dollars, derived from theſe taxes could be diſpenſed with, doubts might be entertained whether the internal taxes were thoſe which ſhould be firſt either reduced, or aboliſhed. He held it to be a correct principle that taxation ſhould be equal, and that no one claſs of citizens ſhould be burthened, to the exemption of all other claſſes. From a ſlight conſideration of the ſubject, he had found no other way of enabling our brethren to the weſtward to participate in the public burthens than by affording them an opportunity of paying their portion of internal revenue. It might appear, on inveſtigation that more ſubſtantial relief would be afforded to the various deſcriptions of our citizens, by continuing the internal taxes, and reducing thoſe on imports; and if it ſhould be thought proper to diminiſh the burthen impoſed on our weſtern citizens, he would aſk whether that effect would not be more ſubſtantially accompliſhed by reducing the tax upon ſalt. It would be recollected that great oppoſition had been made to the impoſition of this tax, which had been denominated oppreſſive as it fell upon an article of neceſſity.

Attention ought alſo to be paid to the liability of ſeveral articles to be ſmuggled, the only mode of preventing which was well known to be a reduction of the duties.

Mr. Bayard ſtated theſe circumſtances, not as evidences of having matured his own ideas; but to ſhew the neceſſity of referring the ſubject to a committee, whoſe ſpecial duty it was to take a general view of the reſources and expences of the nation, and who, therefore, in the preſent ſtage of the ſeſſion, were alone in a ſituation to make the requiſite enquiry.

MR. EUSTIS ſaid that the reaſons offered by the gentleman from Delaware were with him concluſive that this was not the proper time for conſidering the ſubject. Until we know the reductions in the expenditures of the government that are to be made, it is impoſſible that we can ſay how far it will be expedient to reduce or aboliſh our taxes. We had not determined to what extent the army or the navy ſhould be reduced, nor had we come to any ultimate deciſion on any reduction whatever. For theſe reaſons he muſt oppoſe a deciſion at this time upon the ſubject, whether that deciſion was in this or any other ſhape.

MR. BACON concurred with Mr. Euſtis in conſidering any deciſion as at preſent premature.

MR. RUTLEDGE viewed the ſubject as of great importance. He could not figure to his imagination one, likely to occur this ſeſſion of equal importance. The Preſident contemplated a repeal of all the internal revenues, and the impoſition of all taxes upon imported articles. The Secretary of the Treaſury appears, by implication, to be of a different opinion, and contemplates a continuance of theſe duties. What is the object of the gentleman from Delaware? Why delay; time for conſideration, by the reference of the ſubject to a committee moſt competent to enquire. As to the public burthens, every member on the floor had a common feeling. We do not wiſh to lay unneceſſary taxes. But when taxes are laid, when they are uncomplained of, it was, indeed, deeply intereſting without conſideration to decide on their abolition. Mr. Rutledge ſaid for himſelf he ſhould be embarraſſed by being forced into an immediate deciſion. We want information before we are called upon to decide. The motion ſeeks that information. It ſends the buſineſs to the committee of Ways and Means, to whom it belongs of right. It is their duty to conſider it, for whatever relates to revenue muſt go to them. Gentlemen cannot ſay they are ſurpriſed. By the reſolution, they are not called upon to decide upon the ſubject; they are only called upon to place it in a train for deciſion.

MR. MACON hoped the buſineſs would be taken up; and the ſooner it was done the better. It was certainly of great importance, and the earlier the Houſe proceeded to conſider it, the ſooner would they be prepared for deciding upon it. If the vote of reference was final, the arguments of the gentleman from Maſſachuſetts would apply.—But this was not the caſe.

It had been ſaid that the Preſident had declared his opinion that we can diſpenſe with theſe taxes. The ſtatement was not correct. His opinion was contingent. He had ſaid, we may diſpenſe with theſe taxes in caſe we proportionably reduce the expences.

As to the remarks made reſpecting the different opinions of the Preſident and Secretary of the Treaſury, they likewiſe were erroneous. Diſtinct views were taken by each. The Preſident, contemplating a reduction in the expenſes, intimates the expediency of repealing the internal taxes; whereas the Secretary of the Treaſury, taking things as they are, ſtates the effects of their continuance. From theſe circumſtances, no diverſity of opinion could be inferred.

Mr. Macon concluded by expreſſing a hope that the expences of the government would be reduced, that the internal taxes would be taken off, and that immediate meaſures would be purſued for preparing the houſe for a final deciſion.

MR. EUSTIS was alike hoſtile to the preſent motion, and to that which had been made by the gentleman from Kentucky, who had yeſterday introduced the ſubject. He had heard the motion with a ſenſation of uncommon ſurpriſe; for he was of opinion that the public attention ſhould not be attracted, or the public ſenſation excited, till we ſhould be able to determine the courſe proper to be purſued. He felt himſelf unprepared to decide, and believed other gentlemen were equally unprepared. He hoped that he cheriſhed a ſuitable reſpect for the Preſident of the United States; though he did not know that he would go ſo far as the gentleman from Delaware, and diſband a whole army at his word.

The wiſeſt courſe was to wait until information was obtained. This would in fact be gaining time. If the com-