tents, and shall observe, Sir, that from the day the United States ship under your command arrived in this port, and to this day it has been generally supposed that the regency would insist that the United States ship should proceed to the Levant on business—or mission of this regency.—On the 18th ult. when you went with me to pay your respects to the Dey, after a little Algerine ceremony, the Dey said he would want this ship as a favor from the United States, to carry his Ambassador and presents to Constantinople, and return on the business to Algiers. I observed to the Dey, that the captain or consul had no orders or power, which, in any respects, could justify us in acquiescing in his demand, that without the orders of the United States we could not do any such thing, that we having no orders we could make no responsibility, that the captain could not protect his property against the Portuguese or Neapolitans, that your orders were to return to the United States, and by orders you could only defend your ship against French corsairs. The Dey did not seem satisfied with these explanations; that shortly after I repeated nearly the same objections on this business to the Algerine prime minister.

On the 26th ult. the Dey sent for me and the British consul, and asked me if I was still determined not to acquiesce in making responsibility and carrying his ambassador and presents. I again repeated all the arguments which I made use of on the 18th ult. and added, as this vessel belonged to the government of the United States, and we having no fixed peace or treaty with the Italian states, or with the Grand Signior, that this ship and crew would be in a very singular predicament in going to Constantinople on the business of the regency, we having no ambassador or consul at these places. The Dey answered passionately, that these were all excuses; that other nations had rendered Algiers the like favors, but that if the British consul would promise faithfully that a British ship of war would come here and go to the Levant on this mission, that under this consideration he would let the American ship return to her country—the British consul, John Falcon, Esq. promised and assured the Dey (in my presence) that as Lord Keith had promised to send a ship of war on this business, that said ship might be daily expected. The Dey observed, he would wait a few days before he would fully determine, to see if the British ship would arrive.

The Dey remained undetermined until the 3d inst. when arrived at Algiers from Mahon, a British ship of war of 24 guns, sent by the orders of Lord Keith, intentionally to carry the ambassador and presents of Algiers to Constantinople. This business seemed finished and settled, in order that the British ship of war would proceed on the business. But from the 4th inst. to this date, the Dey and ministry, and sundry persons of influence, started many difficulties relative to the mission of the regency going in the British ship, and finally objected to go. When this morning the Dey came to town from his country seat, and at 10 A. M. sent for me and told me without any alternative, the United States ship should do him the favor to carry his ambassador and presents to Constantinople; that if this favor or demand was not complied with, that he no longer holds to his friendship with the United States.

On my declaring that I or the captain of the United States ship had no orders, and could not justify ourselves to our government to acquiesce, the Dey got very angry, and declared that he considered every thing we did say or could say, to be excuses not to do him the favor he required, and if this favor was not acquiesced to, he knew what to do; that other nations frequently did it, and he could see no reason or motive which should prevent me on the part of the United States, acquiescing to the request.

I again repeated to the Dey that I or the captain could make no responsibility on the part of the United States, that we could not think his property safe under the American flag from the capture of his enemies, that the ship sailed dull or heavy; that it was war time, a thousand difficulties might happen. The Dey hastily observed that God was great, that all was on his head, that all difficulties would be surmounted.

I again declared that I or the captain had no orders which would, in any respect, justify ourselves to acquiesce. The Dey said he would justify us, and that the ship should go *per force*, and that we had no alternative but to do him this favor; that his mind and his ministry's were soured against the British, and that on this account he rejected the British ship, and would insist his request should be complied with.

The Dey said he would send his flag to the marine, to be hoisted at the mast head of the American ship. I answered I was very sorry on account of his determination, and withdrew; went and explained to the prime minister all that had passed or was said on this business between the Dey and me.

The prime minister observed that the Dey's mind was so positively fixed and determined on this affair, that there would be no alternative but to comply to prevent greater evils, reminding me of several overt acts of this regency to the consuls of other nations and their affairs; that he had tried to prevent the Dey from sending the American ship; that it had no effect.

At meredian, I and captain Bainbridge were sent for by the general of marine, when we made use of all those arguments which are heretofore detailed; the gen. of marine declared that there was no alternative but to comply. After our retiring from the marine half an hour, the general of marine sent to the consular house of the United States, to acquaint us that it was the orders of the Dey of Algiers, that the flag of Algiers should be hoisted to the main-top-gallant-mast-head of the American ship. That we answered all was *per force;* that we were in their power, and the regency of course might do as they had a mind. Shortly after we determined to see the Dey, and sent the American drogoman to acquaint the Dey that the consul of the United States and commandant of the United States ship demanded an audience.

At 2 P. M. we were in the presence of the Dey, and stated all those difficulties and all our former objections, that we had no orders; could not justify ourselves, and could make no responsibility. The Dey observed that there was no alternative but to comply; that in doing him this favor, that he never would forget it on the part of the United States, and that when he did God would forget him; that he would write to the government of the United States on this business of his making this demand, and assured capt. Bainbridge and me that the United States would be highly pleased at the conduct of the consul and commandant in obliging the Dey and regency, agreeable to the request he made to us as a favor from the United States. We observed to the Dey that this was a forced business; that under this idea and for the safety of his presents, it would be better that his flag should be hoisted at the fore-top-gallant-mast-head than the main. The Dey declared he did not well know this business, but that those at the marine knew the custom, he believed it was at the main.

On this we went to the marine, told the general of marine that if this United States ship should haul down her pendant and hoist the Algerine flag at the main, that said ship, agreeable to our laws, was out of commission, and would not be considered as a public ship of the United States; that the Algerine flag would be the same thing at the fore as the main, but to us it made great difference; that by Christian laws the ship would be considered as an Algerine property, and not as a ship of the United States; that we made this remonstrance and observation to prevent difficulties; on this explanation the general of marine got into a great passion, swore that the proposition and idea was made as an evasive pretence, that the ships of war of Spain and France and other nations, had acquiesced to hoist the Algerine flag at the main; that it was by the flag being hoisted there, that the mission was known and announced at Algiers and Constantinople. I explained to you, Sir, that it was the custom as I have seen and known, that the French and Spanish ships of war going on the like mission, hoisted at Algiers and Constantinople, the Algerine flag at the main; that at sea he wore his pendant and was more his own master. On this you observed, it being a forced business, that if there was a right to acquiesce to one point, there was no alternative but by the same rule to acquiesce to the other, relative to the flag.

The general of marine and officers of ditto, said if there was not a compliance on this business, agreeable to customs of all nations heretofore, that there no longer existed friendship between this regency and the United States. I observed that I was sorry that the United States had so much reason to know Algiers, and that Algiers had no reason to know the United States.

We went on board; the Turkish flag was hoisted at the main of the United States ship, and was saluted with seven guns as customary.

Painful is the detail, but it contains a narrative of facts. To the truth thereof, witness my hand and seal of office at Algiers, this 9th day of October, 1800.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) RICHARD O'BRIEN.

Extract of a letter from Richard O'Brien to the Secretary of State, dated at Algiers, October 22, 1800.

"As the United States ship Washington, capt. Bainbridge, has proceeded *per force*, in fact to save the peace of the United States with Algiers; to prevent captivity and detention to the ship, officers and crew, and to prevent the pretence of a sudden war and pillage and slavery to the citizens of the United States; I calculate that if said ship goes and comes safe in five months, it will cost the United States 40,000 dollars. This in comparison to what our losses might be if *war*, left me no time to hesitate in the choice of the evils and difficulties which presented fully in view; in surveying both sides of the coast and how we should stand on both tacks, I found there was no alternative but to proceed.

"I have made no responsibility, as is customary with all nations, (with) the Dey and regency. I am convinced that if an accident should happen to the Washington in being captured by any nation, or by being driven on shore, that as soon as this news would reach Algiers, that they would immediately send out their corsairs and send in all American vessels they should meet with, in order to repay themselves for the amount of Algerine property on board the Washington—we submitted to it in the affair of the ship Fortune, and if the amount in reality was 600,000 dollars the regency would take to the amount of one million of dollars.—It is their custom. Is not it a hard case for us to risque the ship and crew of the United States, and Algiers to force said ship, and if any accident to be liable to the difficulties and calamities I have described."

Extract of a letter from Mr. Cathcart to the Secretary of State, dated

TRIPOLI, Jan. 4, 1801.

"On the 2d inst. in the evening, the banners of Sweden, by the Bashaw's request, were hoisted upon the Danish house, and a temporary flag-staff was prepared in order that the customary salute should be fired next day. When a peace takes place with any nation, it is customary for the different consuls to congratulate the Bashaw on the event; you may judge with what a grace I performed a ceremony so repugnant to my feelings, but it was necessary. I accordingly waited upon his excellency in company with the Danish consul, Swedish ex-consul, Mr. Bohrstrom the present consul, and several others;—after congratulation, perfumation, fumigation and drinking of coffee and sherbet were over, commenced the following litigation:—'I have concluded a peace with the Swedes,' commenced the Bashaw, 'and I am certain that the king of Sweden is sensible that I was forced to declare war against his nation contrary to my inclination, for had my demands been satisfied in the first instance, I should not have captured their ships and enslaved their people; some nations,' added he, (meaning the United States) 'have used me very ill, they look upon me as nothing, they have recourse to Algiers for all things; I should be glad to know which is thought most of at Constantinople?'—I could easily have solved that doubt, by saying that the Dey of Algiers had lately sent presents to the Grand Signior to the amount of a million of dollars, which were powerful arguments in his favor; but as the conversation was general, I did not conceive it more incumbent on me to answer his prologue than any of the rest of the company, and in fact I could say nothing but what I have communicated already. The Bashaw observing my silence, directed his discourse to me, and asked me if I understood the Arabic & Turkish languages, I answered that I had a trifling knowledge of them, but spoke them so miserably that I never used any of them, especially as his excellency and ministers all spoke Italian.' 'Pray,' says the Bashaw, 'what was the present Dey of Algiers in the reign of Mahomed Bashaw?' I answered that he was a person very much respected in consequence of his being the cousin of Hassan Bashaw, but had no post whatever. 'And pray what, was Hassan Bashaw, at that time.' First, he was bilkilharche of the marine, and afterwards was made prime minister and treasurer in Algiers called the Hasnagi. The Bashaw turned up his nose with visible signs of contempt, and was going to proceed, when a person informed him that a piece of timber was not to be found in the whole regency large enough to make a flag staff for the Swedes, unless they took one of the cruisers spars, 'It is a difficult thing,' says the son of Ali Bashaw, 'to get a flag staff put up when it once comes down; when the American flag staff comes down it will take a great deal of grease, (meaning money) to get it up again; the Danish flag staff is broke I hear and wants mending with a new one.' He smiled a ghastly *grin*, and said, 'after all, what is twenty thousand dollars a year for a Christian nation to pay that has such vast resources. Had I enough to live on I would not trouble myself with cruisers, although my subjects always wish war, because it is to their advantage. How many Raizes,' added he, 'have I that know the way to the Great Sea?' Admiral Morad answered about twenty. There not being I believe one capable but himself, without his accompanying them, shews that the Bashaw and his officers pay no great regard to truth.—'Well,' replied his excellency, 'I will find them vessels—In Tripoli, consul, we are all hungry, and if we are not provided for, we soon get sick and peevish.' As the Bashaw spoke in metaphors I answered him in the same manner, by saying, that when the chief physician prescribed the medicine, I should have no objection to administer the dose, but until then I could say nothing on the subject. 'Take care,' answered the Bashaw, 'that the medicine does not come too late, and if it comes in time that it will not be strong enough.'

Extract of a letter from Richard O'Brien to the Secretary of State, dated at Algiers, Jan. 27, 1801.

"On the 21st inst. arrived at Algiers, in 23 days from Constantinople, the United States ship the George Washington, William Bainbridge, Esq. Commander. The Grand Signior has detained the Algerine ambassador sent and presents, until that the regency of Algiers complies with all his demands, and will have full submission to his orders.

"The presents and funds, which were sent by the Washington, certainly amounted to one and an half million of dollars. A Swede with the Dey's nephew arrived at Smyrna with 500,000. This was by the orders of the captain Bashaw deposited in the treasury of the Grand Signior at Smyrna. Another Swede, with the Algerine prime minister's nephew, with at least 400,000 dollars, ran on shore at the Island of Candia. This money also has fallen into the possession of the Grand Signior. Add to this that the 100 Turks who went in the Washington, and are detained at Constantinople, were chiefly the most rich and first men of this regency. These considerations will certainly induce this regency to acquiesce in the demands of the Grand Signior.

"The Dey will make a hawl to repay him for his present losses, I hope we shall not be the victims; we are nearly two and a half years in arrear; no funds, we have a valuable unguarded commerce in these seas; we are threatened by all Barbary; therefore we should act with energy, make good our stipulations and annuities, have consular friends (not to be depending on mercenary Jews) and shew force in this sea."

Extracts of a letter from Mr. O'Brien to Mr. Smith, Minister, Plenipotentiary of the United States, at Lisbon, dated Algiers, Feb. 7, 1801.

"Even at this moment I shudder for fear of our valuable vessels and citizens in this sea; so much in arrears, no funds, no corsairs, and threatened by all the dogs of prey.

"Algiers, a pirate state, wants employment for the refractory and for their corsairs. The troubles of the Baltic will scare the Swedes and Danes into port, and we in arrears, no oil in our lamps, no anchor and cables, no corsairs in this sea: we will be the victims; such, sir, is my present fears."

Extract of a letter from Mr. Cathcart, to the Secretary of State, dated

TRIPOLI, IN BARBARY,
May 16, 1801.

"This evening (10th May) at 6 P. M. Hadgi Mahomude la Sore, the same that went to Algiers in the Hamdullah, came to the American house, and told me, not to be alarmed, for the Bashaw had sent him to inform me, that he declared war against the United States, and would take down our flag-staff on Thursday the 14th inst. that if I pleased to remain at Tripoli I should be treated with respect, but if I pleased I might go away. I sent my compliments to the Bashaw and informed him that it was my positive instructions not to remain an instant after a declaration of war took place, and that I should charter a vessel to-morrow if possible.

"Thursday 14th, at 1 P. M. Hadgi Mahamude la Sore came to inform me that the Chevaux were coming to take our flag-staff down. I waited until the Seraskier arrived, and then sent said la Sore to offer him 10,000 dollars in addition to what I had already offered which was rejected by the Bashaw, and orders given to cut away the flag-staff.

"At a quarter past 2 they effected the grand atchievement, and our flag-staff was chopped down six feet from the ground, and left reclining on the terrace. Thus ends the first act of this tragedy. I hope the catastrophe may be happy."

FOR SALE.

A superb Curricle with plated Harness.

ALSO a pair of young, handsome and fleet PONIES, and a capital saddle horse, who never was in harness. Enquire of the Printer.

Dec. 18. eptf

JOHN MINCHIN,
BOOT-MAKER,
(From Philadelphia)
New-Jersey Avenue near the Capitol.
JOURNEYMEN SHOEMAKERS
wanted—Also two apprentices.

Dec. 7 eotf

NOTICE.

THIS is to give notice, That the subscriber hath obtained from the orphans' court of Washington County, in the District of Columbia, letters of administration on the personal estate of James Robinson, late of the county of Washington deceased, all persons having claims against the said deceased, are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at or before the first day of June next, they may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of the said estate. Given under my hand this 24th day of December in the year 1801.

LEWIN TALBURTT,
Administrator.

December 28, 1801. eptf

National Intelligencer.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, January 4, 1802.

Mr. GREGG presented two petitions, drawn with great spirit, from certain aliens in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, praying a repeal of the laws respecting aliens.—Referred.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, accompanying a report of the commissioners of the fund for navy pensions and half pay.

The Speaker also laid before the House a letter from Samuel Dexter, late Secretary of War, stating that in his official character he had rented a house in the City of Washington for the War Office, which had been consumed by fire, and that he had been sued in his personal capacity by the owner of the house for the loss he had incurred.

Mr. RANDOLPH moved that the house should go into a committee of the whole on the state of the union, with the view of submitting three resolutions to the committee, viz.

1. Resolved, That it is expedient to enquire whether any and what alterations should be made in the Judicial establishment of the United States.

2. Resolved that provision ought to be made for the impartial selection of juries.

3. Resolved, That it is expedient to enquire, whether any, and what reductions can be made in the civil expences of the government of the United States.

The House accordingly went into committee, Mr. Morris in the chair.

Mr. BAYARD presumed an agreement to these resolutions would in their present shape meet with no opposition. It was impossible to determine what shape they would ultimately assume. The judiciary system was doubtless susceptible of amendment, and if any proper amendments should be proposed, he would concur in their adoption. With respect to the second resolution, though he did not know that there was any necessity for altering the mode at present practised of selecting juries, having not heard of any complaints under it, yet as the resolution only led to an enquiry into the subject, he would not object.

With regard to the last resolution, it was one in which we must all concur. The object, if attainable, would be extremely grateful to all of us.

The three resolutions were agreed to without a division.

The committee rose, and reported the resolutions.

On the report being taken up, Mr. *Randolph* moved, that the consideration of the two first resolutions be postponed till the third Monday of January.

Mr. BAYARD hoped the motion for postponement would not prevail. The propositions were abstract ones leading to enquiry, and the sooner they were acted upon the better. The mode pursued by the gentleman from Virginia, if his simple object was to give notice, was the least happy that he could have devised. For it gave to gentlemen no opportunity to prepare themselves, as they were totally unacquainted, in the present stage of the business, what would be the alterations proposed. If a committee were now appointed, they would have time to deliberate on a subject of the utmost importance, one so complicated as to require great attention.—When their report was made, he would be one of those who would ask from the candor of the House time to consider it.

Mr. RANDOLPH said he was at all times willing to accommodate gentlemen of every political description on proper occasions. Apprehending that his resolutions, if taken up in the House, would give rise to discussion, he had moved for their postponement, from a wish not to interfere with the desire of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, and other gentlemen, to act on the apportionment bill. As his motion for postponement appeared likely to be itself productive of discussion, by which the time of the House would be exhausted, and the means he used defeat the end he had in view, he would withdraw his motion.

The House then agreed to the resolutions without a division.

Mr. Randolph moved the reference of the two first resolutions to the same committee.

He said, in reply to the gentleman from Delaware, that he made the motion respecting juries not because any complaint did at present exist of the exercise of the powers under which jurors were selected, but because they had not long since existed, and because in similar circumstances they might again exist. He was glad the gentleman from Delaware had no reason to complain of their present abuse. But this was no security against the future.

Mr. BAYARD said that he had spoken as he had done, not for the purpose of expressing any opinion that any abuse