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FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM. | MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1805. | *PAID IN ADVANCE.*

(By Authority.)

AN ACT

Authorising the appointment of Measurers of Coal and repealing part of the act, entitled, "An act supplementary to the act, to regulate the measuring of Coal."

BE it enacted by the First and Second Chambers of the City Council of Washington, That from and after the passing of this act, all coal brought to the city of Washington for sale, and sold by measure, exceeding the quantity of twenty bushels, shall be measured under the inspection and agreeably to the direction of one of the coal measurers, to be appointed under the authority hereof.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That the Mayor be, and he hereby is authorised annually, to appoint a number of coal measurers not exceeding five for the city, to continue in office for one year thereafter, and whose duty it shall be to attend the measuring of all coal sold by measure, and to see that the measure given is true and just, and agreeably to law.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That each and every coal measurer acting under the authority of this act, shall previously thereto take and subscribe an oath or affirmation for the faithful and impartial discharge of the duty hereby imposed, and that he will to the best of his knowledge see strict justice done both to the buyer and to the seller in the measurement of coal under his inspection, which oath shall be taken and subscribed in the presence of some magistrate residing in the city, and deposited with the Register.

Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That every coal measurer shall keep a book in which he shall regularly make entry of the time of measurement, the vessel, warehouse or yard, from which the coal is delivered, the seller's name, the quantity measured and delivered for each purchaser, and to whom delivered; he shall also give to every person receiving coal, and with every load delivered, a ticket, in which shall be expressed the name of the seller, purchaser, and carrier, and the quantity of coal in the cart, waggon or other vehicle, with which it is sent.

Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That the books of admeasurement of coal, kept by each measurer, shall, within one month after the expiration of the year for which the appointment was made, be deposited and remain with the Register, and all those interested shall have free access thereto; and the Register is authorised and directed to give certificates therefrom, when demanded, for which he shall be entitled to receive for each certificate, twelve and a half cents.

Sec. 6. And be it enacted, That the decision of the measurer shall be final and complied with in measuring all coal delivered agreeably to this act: *Provided*, however, it shall always be at the option of those interested to call upon the measurer most agreeable to themselves, for the execution of the duties hereby imposed.

Sec. 7. And be it enacted, That the measurers shall be entitled to receive half a cent per bushel, as a compensation for their services, to be paid in equal proportions by the purchaser and seller, unless otherwise specially agreed upon by themselves.

Sec. 8. And be it enacted, That each measurer appointed shall provide and keep a two bushel measure, agreeably to the first section of the act "to regulate the measuring of coal," at the expence of the city, to be used when coal is delivered under his inspection.

Sec. 9. And be it enacted, That so much of the act, entitled, "An act supplementary to the act to regulate the measuring of coal," passed the fourteenth day of July, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, as makes it lawful in cases where the purchasers may so agree without measurement, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Sec. 10. And be it enacted, That any person who shall sell any coal contrary to this act, shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of two dollars, one half to the informer, the other to the use of the city.

JOHN DEMPSIE, *President of the First Chamber.*

SAML. HAMILTON, *President of the Second Chamber.*

APPROVED, October 17th, 1805.

ROBERT BRENT, MAYOR.

Test, THOMAS HERTY, REGISTER.

ELIAS B. CALDWELL,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

HAS removed his Office, to the house lately occupied by Mr. LAW, on Capitol Hill.

Washington, July 26—tf

TO HIRE OR FOR SALE

A MIDDLE aged, strong NEGRO WOMAN, who has been accustomed to House work. ALSO, a NEGRO GIRL in her fourteenth year. Apply at the Office of the *National Intelligencer.*

October 25—tf

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER

The following document marks the spirit which characterised America thirty one years since, towards a government which then trampled on our rights. In approbation of the measure it recommended, we perceive the names of many of the most distinguished men the United States has produced. Our situation has since that period materially changed; but many of the sentiments and principles then avowed will remain eternally true.

Declaration, non-importation, non-consumption, and non-exportation agreement of the American Congress, resolved on October 24, 1774.

WE, his majesty's most loyal subjects, the delegates of the several colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower counties of Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina and South-Carolina, deputed to represent them in a continental congress, held in the city of Philadelphia, on the fifth day of September, 1774, avowing our allegiance to his majesty, our affection and regard for our fellow subjects in Great-Britain and elsewhere, affected with the deepest anxiety and most alarming apprehensions at those grievances and distresses, with which his majesty's American subjects are oppressed, & having taken under our most serious deliberation the state of the whole Continent; find that the present unhappy situation of our affairs is occasioned by a ruinous system of colony administration, adopted by the British ministry, about the year 1763, evidently calculated for enslaving these colonies, and with them the British empire. In prosecution of which system, various acts of parliament have been passed for raising a revenue in America, for depriving the American subjects, in many instances, of the constitutional trial by jury, exposing their lives to danger, by directing a new and illegal trial beyond the seas, for crimes alledged to have been committed in America: and in prosecution of the same system, several late, cruel and oppressive acts have been passed respecting the town of Boston and the Massachusetts bay, and also an act for extending the province of Quebec, so as to border on the western frontiers of these colonies, establishing an arbitrary government therein, and discouraging the settlement of British subjects in that wide extended country; thus by the influence of civil principles and ancient prejudices, to dispose the inhabitants to act with hostility against the free protestant colonies, whenever a wicked ministry shall choose so to direct them.

To obtain redress of these grievances, which threaten destruction to the lives, liberty and property of his majesty's subjects in North America, we are of opinion that a non-importation, non-consumption and non-exportation agreement, faithfully adhered to, will prove the most speedy, effectual and peaceable measure: and therefore we do for ourselves, and the inhabitants of the several colonies whom we represent, firmly agree and associate under the sacred ties of virtue, honor and love of our country, as follows:

First. That from and after the first day of December next, we will not import into British America, from Great-Britain or Ireland, any goods, wares or merchandize whatsoever, or from any other place, any such goods, wares or merchandize, as shall have been exported from Great-Britain or Ireland; nor will we, after that day, import any East India Tea from any part of the world; nor any molasses, syrups, paneles, coffee, or pimento, from the British plantations or from Dominica; nor wines from Madeira or the Western Islands; nor foreign indigo.

Second. We will neither import nor purchase any slave imported after the first day of December next: after which time we will wholly discontinue the slave trade, and will be neither concerned in it ourselves, nor will we hire our vessels, nor sell our commodities or manufactures to those who are concerned in it.

Third. As a non-consumption agreement, strictly adhered to, will be an effectual security for the observation of the non-importation, we, as above, solemnly agree and associate, that from this day, we will not purchase or use any tea imported on account of the East India company, or any on which a duty hath been or shall be paid; and from and after the first day of March next, we will not purchase or use any East India tea whatever; nor will we, nor shall any person for or under us, purchase or use any of those goods, wares or merchandize we have agreed not to import, which we shall know or have cause to suspect, were imported after the first day of December, except such as come under the rules and directions of the tenth article hereafter mentioned.

Fourth. The earnest desire we have not to injure our fellow subjects in Great Britain, Ireland and the West Indies, induces us to suspend a non-exportation until the 10th day of September, 1775; at which time, if the said acts or parts of acts of the British parliament, hereinafter mentioned, are not repealed, we will not directly or indirectly, export any merchandize or commodity whatsoever to Great Britain, Ireland or the West Indies, except rice to Europe.

Fifth. Such as are merchants, and use the British and Irish trade, will give order, as soon as possible, to their factors, agents and correspondents, in Great Britain and Ireland, not to ship any goods to them, on any pretence whatever, as they cannot be received in America; and if any merchant residing in Great Britain or Ireland, shall, directly or indirectly, ship any goods, wares or merchandize, for America, in order to break the said non-importation agreement, or in any manner contravene the same, on such unworthy conduct being well attested, it ought to be made public; and, on the same being so done, we will not from thenceforth have any commercial connexion with such merchants.

Sixth. That such as are owners of vessels, will give positive orders to their captains, or masters, not to receive on board their vessels any goods prohibited by the said non-importation agreement, on pain of immediate dismission from their service.

Seventh. We will use our utmost endeavours to improve the breed of sheep, and increase their number to the greatest extent; and, to that end, we will kill them as seldom as may be, especially those of the most profitable kind; nor will we export any to the West Indies or elsewhere; and those of us, who are or may become overstocked with, or can conveniently spare any sheep, will dispose of them to our neighbours, especially to the poorer sort, on moderate terms.

Eighth. We will, in our several stations, encourage frugality, economy, and industry, and promote agriculture, arts, and the manufactures of this country, especially that of wool; and will discountenance and discourage every species of extravagance and dissipation, especially all horse racing, and all kinds of gaming, cock-fighting, exhibitions of shows, plays, and other expensive diversions and entertainments; and on the death of any relation or friend, none of us, or any of our families will go into any further mourning dress than a black crape or ribband on the arm or hat, for gentlemen, and a black ribband and necklace, for ladies, and we will discontinue the giving of gloves and scarves at funerals.

Ninth. Such as are venders of goods, or merchandize, will not take advantage of the scarcity of goods that may be occasioned by this association, but will sell the same at the rates we have been respectively accustomed to do, for twelve months last past. And if any vender of goods, or merchandize shall sell any such goods on higher terms, or shall in any manner, or by any device whatsoever, violate or depart from this agreement, no person ought, nor will any of us deal with any such person, or his, or her factor or agent, at any time thereafter, for any commodity whatever.

Tenth. In case any merchant trader or other person, shall import any goods or merchandize after the first day of December, and before the first day of February next, the same ought forthwith, at the election of the owner, to be either re-shipped or delivered up to the committee of the county or town, wherein they shall be imported, to be stored at the risque of the importer, until the non-importation agreement shall cease, or be sold under the direction of the committee aforesaid; in the last mentioned case, the owner or owners of such goods shall be reimbursed (out of the sales) the first cost and charges, the profit, if any, to be applied towards relieving and employing such poor inhabitants of the town of Boston, as are immediate sufferers by the Boston port bill; and a particular account of all goods so returned, stored or sold, to be inserted in the public papers; and if any goods or merchandizes shall be imported after the said first day of February, the same ought forthwith to be sent back again, without breaking any of the packages thereof.

Eleventh. That a committee be chosen in every county, city and town, by those who are qualified to vote for representatives in the legislature, whose business it shall be attentively to observe the conduct of all those touching this association; and when it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of a majority of any such committee, that any person within the limits of their appointment has violated this association, that such majority do forthwith cause the truth of the case to be published in the gazette; to the end that all such foes to the rights of British America may be publicly known, and universally contemned as the enemies of American liberty; and thenceforth we respectively will break off all dealings with him or her.

Twelfth. That the committee of correspondence in the respective colonies do frequently inspect the entries of their custom houses, and inform each other from time to time of the true state thereof, and of every other material circumstance that may occur relative to this association.

Thirteenth. That all manufactures of this country be sold at reasonable prices, so that no undue advantage be taken of a future scarcity of goods.

Fourteenth. And we do further agree and resolve, that we will have no trade, commerce, dealings or intercourse whatsoever, with any colony or province in North America, which shall not accede to, or which shall hereafter violate this association, but will hold them as unworthy of the rights of freemen, and as inimical to the liberties of their country.

And we do solemnly bind ourselves and our constituents, under the ties aforesaid, to adhere to the association until such parts of the several acts of Parliament passed since the close of the last war, as impose or continue duties on tea, wine, molasses, syrups, paneles, coffee, sugar, pimento, indigo, foreign paper, glass, and painters colours, imported into America, and extend the powers of the admiralty courts beyond their ancient limits, deprive the American subjects of trial by jury, authorise the judge's certificate to indemnify the prosecutor from damages, that he might otherwise be liable to from a trial by his peers, require oppressive security from a claimant of ships or goods seized, before he shall be allowed to defend his property, are repealed: and until that part of the act of the 12 G. 3. ch. 24. entitled, "an act for the better securing his majesty's dock-yards, magazines, ships, ammunition, and stores," by which any persons, charged with committing any of the offences therein described, in America, may be tried in any shire or county within the realm, is repealed; and until the four acts passed the last session of Parliament, viz. that for stopping the port and blocking up the harbor of Boston—that for altering the charter and government of the Massachusetts Bay—and that which is entitled, "an act for the better administration of justice," &c. and that "for extending the limits of Quebec, &c." are repealed. And we recommend it to the provincial conventions, and to the committees in the respective colonies, to establish such farther regulations as they may think proper, for carrying into execution this association.

In Congress, Philadelphia Oct. 24.

Signed, *Peyton Randolph*, President.

New-Hampshire.

John Sullivan, Nathaniel Folsom.

Massachusetts Bay.

Thomas Cushing, John Adams,
Samuel Adams, Robert T. Paine.

Rhode Island.

Stephen Hopkins, Samuel Ward.

Connecticut.

Eliphalet Dyer, Silas Dean,
Roger Sherman.

New-York.

Isaac Low, John Jay,
John Alsop, James Dunne,
William Floyd, S. Boerum,
Henry Wisner, Philip Livingston

New-Jersey.

James Kinsey, Richard Smith,
Wm. Livingston, John De Hart,
Stephen Crane.

Pennsylvania.

Joseph Galloway, Edward Biddle,
John Dickinson, John Morton,
Charles Humphreys George Ross,
Thomas Mifflin.

New-Castle, &c.

Cesar Rodney, George Read,
Thomas M'Kean.

Maryland.

Matthew Tilghman, William Paca,
Thomas Johnson, Samuel Chase.

Virginia.

Richard H. Lee, Richard Bland,
George Washington, Benj. Harrison,
P. Henry, jun. Edmond Pendleton.

North-Carolina.

William Hooper, R. Caswell,
Joseph Hewes.

South-Carolina.

Henry Middleton, John Rutledge,
Thomas Lynch, Edward Rutledge,
Christ. Gadsden.

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JOHN BECKLEY.

City of Washington, November 6—wtf

FROM THE AURORA

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE SEAS.

We hear this expression frequently made use of in conversation—and such is the force of habit, that we rarely stay to examine the import of phrases which form a part of the machinery of amusement, of enquiry, of controversy, and even of history, and which very often affect the peace and happiness of nations. What is meant by the *sovereignty of the seas?* Is it of the same nature as other sovereignties? Does it depend on the principles of natural right—agreement—compact or prescription?—Is it a sovereignty *jure divino* or founded on the *jus gentium?* Concerning sovereignty on land we have distinct ideas, though there are various descriptions of sovereignty. In some countries where the sovereignty of the people was once the received and rational principle, that sovereignty is now trampled upon. Even in America, where, by the constitution and laws of the land, the principle of sovereignty in the people is recognised and in constant practical use, it is frequently derided; because one of the modes by which depravity prepares for the destruction of what it hates, is to find an excuse in its derision for its meditated crime.

That great and good man Sir Wm. Jones in his memorable dialogue, has given a distinct idea of the meaning which he attached to sovereignty in society. His biographer, lord Teignmouth, has repeated the same idea in a few words.

"On the people depend the welfare, the security and permanence of every legal government; in the people must reside all substantial power; and to the people must all those to whose knowledge and ability, we sometimes wisely, often imprudently, confide, be always accountable for the exercise of that power with which they are intrusted."

Even where governments are established without regard to the people, we can obtain a distinct knowledge of the import of sovereignty, by resorting to the particular principle of its social power, whether it is vested in an aristocracy such as existed in Venice, in an oligarchy such as formerly existed in Berne, and such as now exists but under a different name and organization in Britain; or under a despotism such as Prussia, Spain, or Russia. The governing and controuling and legislating power is here sovereign; and there is either a supposed or an actual submission of the governed to the sovereign, whether that sovereign be the few or the one.

We can trace the foundations even of these various principles of social sovereignty—in the institutions of ancient nations;—in the intellectual acuteness or sturdy independence of the Greek and Roman republics, we find in various ages the people supreme, either in their assemblies or by their delegates. In various changes we can trace the spirit of aristocracy, springing from the lust of power and of monopoly, occasionally strengthened by superstition and the general ignorance which prevailed in nations where constant wars or the absence of commercial enterprize, literary curiosity and other incitements, preclude the great mass from the cultivation of letters, or the improvement of the mind.

In the feudal ages, and those dark ages which succeeded the fall of the Roman empire, we can trace the foundation of individual despotism in the inevitable principle of military rule—promoted by similar means with those by which the ruin of popular sovereignty was accomplished in ancient Rome.

In every case we can discover some cause and in many instances (as in Denmark) some reasons which appear to justify the substitution of one species of sovereignty for another. But between these various principles and the phrase, the sovereignty of the seas, we find no analogy, no reasonable similitude, no principle which can sanction or palliate the monstrous tyranny which lurks beneath the terms of which it is composed.

The idea of Locke on the importance of rightly understanding terms, can never be too much attended to, while language is so imperfect as to leave room in the clearest definitions for the evasions of sophistry and the perversions of fraud. The import of this phrase was suggested to our present enquiry by a course of reflections on the late decisions in the British admiralty court, in the case of the ship Enoch, capt. Doan, and some others.

We are taught by legal authorities, to consider the law of nations, as one uniform, rational and consistent system of principles; or that like the "*common law, it embraces the whole of the moral law*—the unerring rule of wisdom; that it emanated from the Deity himself, and is that rule of conduct which distinguishes between right and wrong, which was implanted in the breast of man by eternal uncreated wisdom, and which has been confirmed by the experience of ages. Whatever therefore is right, is COMMON LAW—whatever is wrong, is not COMMON LAW. That country whose citizens are not under the