enough to increase the number of your enemies? Do you value public opinion as nothing? This is the language I would hold?, and I would treat with her on fair, on reciprocal principles—not on the principles of the Delphic oracle, a reciprocity to the ear but not to the sense. But truely if gentlemen are for going to war, for enforcing a right bottomed on the principle that free ships make free goods, they may make war till there is not a British plank on the ocean, for they never will cede, they never ought to cede this principle. I say they ought not, for I take it for granted that nation will be governed by ministers of common sense; and no such minister but must see a death-blow to British greatness in the establishment of it. Are you, therefore, the advocates of this nation, because you say they ought not to give up what they never *will* surrender, what they cannot give up without committing a political *felo de se*. Yes, sir, I have said what I am willing to do. There is a pending negociation—and the late events in Europe, while they will greatly facilitate that negociation, make it your interest not to co-operate in putting down this people; unless you think it the safest for the world that the sceptre of the sea and the land should be in the same hands.

MR. J. CLAY said he was sorry the committee were determined to press this subject. He believed a delay of four or five days would be important—he therefore moved that the committee should rise.

MR. ALSTON said, it would certainly be unnecessary for the committee to rise with a view to decide upon the resolution offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr Gregg) the committee having refused in the first instance to take up his resolution and having acted upon that which had been submitted by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Nicholson) was a sufficient evidence of the sense of this House as to its final adoption or rejection. The newspapers emanating from this place to all parts of the United States, would convey the sense of the House as fully upon the resolution as though a final vote should have been taken, and should the resolution offered by the gentleman from Maryland, be now decided upon, and agreed to every one would be satisfied that the one offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania would not be adopted.

Mr. Alston said it was time, high time that, this House had come to some determination upon this important subject. It was time that the public mind was put to rest. It was time that the American people were informed of the extent that we intended to go, and of the steps we intended to take towards G. Britain, in order to meet the aggressions committed by that government upon the commerce of our country. He verily did believe the resolution submitted by the gentleman from Maryland, the merits of which, it was in order, upon the present motion to discuss, better calculated to have the desired effect upon that government on whom it was intended to operate, than any other plan or project which had been submitted or talked of, inasmuch as it was only a commercial regulation or restriction acknowledged by all governments in the world, to be perfectly within the control of every independent nation. Some gentlemen had thought it not sufficiently strong, that something more efficient should be adopted. For his part he did believe it much stronger as to the effect it would have, in bringing G. Britain to terms of amicable adjustment than that which had been submitted by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, and which was now sleeping on the table. This Mr. A. said, was that kind of commercial regulation that carried with it the appearance of a determination to persevere in, & in his humble opinion, it was well calculated to distress that nation, who had so long persisted in a regular system of aggression towards us. On the contrary that which had been submitted by the gentleman from Pennsylvania was such a one as G Britain would plainly discover we ourselves did not mean to persevere in, because it would readily be seen that while it distressed her, it would be equally injurious to us. Another reason suggested itself why he would prefer the resolution now under discussion. It seemed to be understood on all sides, let which should be adopted, or whatever course should be pursued, that no system was to go into operation immediately; that full time was to be given for an attempt at friendly negociation. It was intended as an expression of public sentiment. It was, therefore, of great importance to this nation that the sentiment expressed should be with as much unanimity as possible. It was evident to all that the resolution offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, from the violent opposition it had met with, could not, if carried at all, be carried by that majority, that the one now under discussion could. If, therefore, he in the first instance had been in favor, he should after the discussion which had already taken place, think himself, for the sake of harmony alone, perfectly justified in abandoning it. The resolution now under discussion, which was offered by the gentleman from Maryland, could not be objected to, as the other had been, on the ground of its being in any manner whatever calculated to produce war, if adopted in the full extent in which it was submitted. The object of the present resolution is a prohibition of certain articles, the growth and manufacture of G. Britain and her dependencies from being imported into the U. S. most of which articles, Mr. A. said, he was advised by those better acquainted than himself with mercantile transactions, could be obtained from other countries, and those which could not be obtained, we could either do very well without, or raise within ourselves. What effect then would this measure have upon G. Britain? No person would deny that it would lessen in her own country the value of her manufactures; whilst our citizens at home were perfectly content, the voice of the artizan, the manufacturer, and the laborer in G. Britain would be raised against the aggressions committed by their own government, which caused us, and in fact compelled us in self defence to enter into the regulation proposed.

It had been said by the gentleman from Georgia, (Mr. Early) and also the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. Nicholson) that the agriculturalist was not interested in the carrying trade. Although, Mr. Alston said, he knew very little about commercial matters, never having been concerned in mercantile transactions, yet he thought he could prove to the committee and to the world, that they were inseparably connected together, and that the price which the agriculturalist obtained for his produce greatly depended upon the encouragement and protection given by government to this very carrying trade. Whether the produce raised by the constituents of the gentleman from Georgia and the gentleman from Maryland is carried first to the West Indies, and exchanged for articles the growth and manufacture of those islands, and then brought to this country and re-shipped to the European markets, he would not pretend to say; but this much he would say, and say it truly, that the greater part of the produce raised by his constituents first found a market in the West Indies, was there exchanged for the productions of those islands, and then carried to the mother countries; by which means the value was greatly enhanced. On the contrary, if this carrying trade shall not be protected, and this mode of exchange of produce is put an end to, what will become of the large quantities of corn and pork raised in this country, which finds a market no where else? Every body knows there is not specie in those islands sufficient to purchase it, and if exchanged for West India produce, our markets are already overstocked, no merchant will buy our produce, to exchange for an article that must rot in his warehouse. It must therefore evidently appear to every body that unless our corn and our pork are exchanged for West India produce, and that produce permitted to be sent abroad to find a market, large quantities must and will be wasted in the barns and granaries of those who raise it.

It could not therefore, Mr. A. said, be expected from him, to abandon to G. Britain the principle by her contended for, when the greater part of the produce raised by his constituents consisted in the articles of corn and pork. He believed he might say with safety, that no part of the United States of the same extent of territory, raised an equal proportion of those two articles with that he had the honor of representing upon this floor. He thought it therefore clearly proved, that if the produce of this country now carried to the West India islands was to be disposed of for nothing but specie, and for articles which were only to be consumed in the U. States, that a great depression of the price of our produce must inevitably follow. On the contrary, by affording a proper and necessary protection to the carrying trade, our produce would be exchanged for that of others which finds a market in various parts of the world, where the enterprize of our countrymen carries it.

It had been stated that, notwithstanding any prohibitions or restrictions we may adopt, the manufactures of G. Britain will find their way into our country. This, for aught he knew, might be the case, either by taking a circuitous route, or by being smuggled; and should that be the case the same thing would attend our produce, should its importation into G. Britain be prohibited. He could not see but that the account on that score would be fairly balanced.

Mr. Alston did not think this measure, if adopted and persevered in, would have a material effect upon the revenue of our country. Gentlemen were alarmed least that system, which had been in his opinion so wisely established by this government for the extinguishment of the national debt should be broken in upon, and consequently an increase of the national debt be the effect. If in his opinion this measure would endanger the system of extinguishing that debt, he would be one of the last men found in supporting it; and he believed weak and delicate as his constitution appeared to be, that by a firm adherence to the system established, he should live to see the debt finally wiped away. The system for extinguishing the national debt had, when adopted, his hearty assent, and it was with pleasure that he looked back to the vote he had given upon that occasion.

If gentlemen will give themselves the trouble to examine the several articles contemplated to be prohibited by this resolution, they will find that on the subject of woollen cloths there is a blank in the resolution, which he hoped would be filled with such a sum as would admit the importation of all such woollen cloths as were found absolutely necessary for clothing the laboring part of the community—fine cloths would be obtained from other countries, and on them no diminution of duty would take place; the revenue of course would not be affected on the article of woollen cloths. He would not, however, examine at this time the several articles separate, as his could be better attended to at a future stage of the business, after the principle should be decided. If the other blank in the resolution should be filled with the first of December or January next, he could see no necessity for delaying a decision, as the time for the system to go into operation would afford ample time for an attempt at negociation.

From what had fallen from his colleague, the hon. Speaker, upon the other resolution, he supposed he was against the one now under discussion. Although the honorable Speaker and himself were near neighbours, yet the interest of those they represented might be very different, and whilst the Speaker in protecting the interest of his constituents, thought it best to abandon the principle contended for, he, Mr. Alston, thought it all important to his constituents not to abandon it; and altho' he differed very widely from his colleague upon the present question, he hoped he should be found at all times supporting such measures, as should not abandon the interest of those he represented, whatever might be the respect he had for the interest and opinion of others. He thought it unnecessary for the honorable Speaker to have risen for the purpose of defending himself against a charge of inconsistency, for every person knew without a defence that his honorable colleague was consistency itself.

Mr. Alston concluded by observing, that although it had been asked in the present discussion, if we were ready to plunge the nation in a war, as he did not believe it was intended to apply to the present resolution, he thought it unnecessary to make any remarks in reply to this question.

MR. SMILIE hoped the committee would not rise. He said he had heard no arguments urged in favor of the motion, which had any weight, and the late events in Europe, so far from recommending delay, enforced the propriety of prompt measures. This was the auspicious moment for acting, and he hoped it would be seized.

The question was taken on the committee's rising, and passed in the negative——Ayes 48—Noes 63.

MR. J. CLAY. I confess for my own part, when *I* see men possessed of so little information so confident, and thus determined to hurry on this discussion, *I* feel extremely diffident of my own opinion. With several of the gentlemen who have preceded me in debate, *I* have considered the resolution now under consideration as best calculated to obtain redress for the injuries we have received from the cruizers of Great Britain. *I* believed that while it did little injury to ourselves, it would have a very different operation on Great Britain. *I* was also in favor of it, as it pointed out a course short of serious collision with her. *I* had also hoped that the committee would have agreed to have taken up the resolution which *I* had the honor some time since to lay on the table, as the ground work of a permanent system. From the course this discussion has taken, *I* had flattered myself some little information as to the situation of our foreign commerce, would have been given. *I* am no merchant myself, nor am *I* much acquainted with commercial subjects. *I* did expect that those who were conversant with those subjects, and particularly the gentleman from Massachusetts, would have condescended to give us some detailed information. As *I* have been disappointed in this respect, *I* will hereafter take up a little time in showing that as to our foreign relations, the gentlemen on both sides have been egregiously misled by incorrect statements.

In these remarks *I* do not mean to attach any blame to the document from the Secretary of the Treasury, as the statements in that report have not been viewed in their proper light by gentlemen who have taken a part in this debate. *I* might here dilate upon the advantages that flow to us from the carrying trade, but as the usual hour of adjournment is approaching, *I* shall avoid going into this question.

Instead of there being a balance of 6 or 7 millions annually against us, *I* believe it can be shewn that there is a balance of *two millions* annually, in our favor. We have 670,000 tons of shipping employed in foreign trade, and it would not be unfair to calculate the profit of this freight at eight millions, founded not on war prices, but on the usual peace prices, and calculating but one voyage a year. Under this view it must appear, that our commerce is of more importance than it seems to be in the opinion of those with whom *I* have the honor to vote on this occasion. But there is another question worthy of consideration. *Is* there no course which we can pursue, which, without injuring ourselves, shall induce G. Britain to give up her pretensions, and her unjust violation of the law of nations? Believing that there is, I opposed the resolution of my colleague (Mr. Gregg) I consider, on the other hand, the resolution of the gentleman from Maryland as well calculated to answer this purpose. I am therefore in favor of acting, but not now, on this subject; and I am of opinion that by the beginning of next month it is probable we shall have information that will enable us to act decisively. It being my intention to remark more fully on this subject, as the usual hour of adjournment is at hand, I again move that the committee rise.

Upon this motion some conversation took place, when the motion of the committee to rise was agreed to—Ayes 65—Noes 47.

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

WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY, MAY 23.

The French Official Journal, in noticing the provisions of the bill brought into the Congress of the United States, against the pressing of American seamen by the English cruisers, subjoins the following observations:

"We can here perceive the energy of a nation which has some sense of her dignity. She has no navy; compared with England, she is feeble; but she is determined to make every effort to support the chances of war, to perish, if it be necessary, in defence of her honor and her rights. Well may such conduct put to the blush that other power, who, intimidated by the cannon of Nelson, betrayed the cause of nations, destroyed the charter of sovereigns, and acknowledged the legality of the tyranny of the English on the sea! These are not the paths which lead to glory. From that moment, all the unprotected nations were delivered up to the oppression and the plunder of England, whose caprice constitutes the law to which they are obliged to submit. What a difference between the successors of Catharine and that great princess! Prussia is the only power who has not acceded to these principles, so dishonorable to royalty. Denmark defended herself in her capital, which was bombarded, exposed herself to the greatest danger, but she was under the necessity of submitting to the influence of her neighbors. It will now be the honorable distinction of America to raise her voice, to claim with firmness the rights of all nations, and to maintain a cause which the intrigues, the threats, and the gold of England have induced the powers of Europe to betray!"

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—APRIL 2.

AMERICA.—Mr. Rose gave notice of his intention to bring forward to-morrow, a motion of the utmost consequence with regard to the intercourse of America with our West-India colonies.—This motion he was urged to press, in consequence of what he heard was going forward elsewhere, combined with a negociation of great importance, which was known to be on the *tapis*. The idea of enabling the governors of the West India islands to suspend our navigation laws during the war, struck him to be a project so alarming, that he felt it to be his duty at once to move for the production of such documents as he knew were calculated to show, not only the inexpediency, but the danger of such a proceeding.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

American indemnity bill.—Lord Auckland rose, pursuant to the notice he had given, to bring in a bill of indemnity to all such persons as had advised or carried into execution, proclamations for suspending the laws which regulated the intercourse between the West India colonies and the U. States of America. He stated with great perspicuity the nature of that trade, from the year 1783 to the present period, & the necessity which produced the occasional relaxation of the navigation laws, as applicable to the intercourse between America and the West Indies. During the greater part of that time, it frequently occurred, that the different governors in the colonies were compelled to admit certain articles, the produce of the United States, in American bottoms. This was certainly against the existing laws, and therefore it became necessary to pass an annual bill, to protect those persons from the penalties attached to the breach of these laws. For fifteen years previous to 1801, this indemnity bill was continued, but in the confusion which was produced at that time, by a change in his majesty's councils, the bill had been neglected and had not been since revived. In fact, there had been four sets of ministers, including the present, who had neglected to apply to Parliament for that annual bill. His lordship next explained the nature of the commercial relations between this country and America, and expressed his satisfaction in the growing prosperity of America, which he looked upon as the best security for the continuance of that peace and friendship which he hoped would ever subsist between her and G. Britain. His lordship brought in the bill.

Lord Holland declared himself strongly in favor of a liberal intercourse between the West India islands and America, and declared his intention of proposing a prospective clause to be introduced into the bill, the tenor of which should be to enable the governors to open the ports to American vessels, by proclamation.

Lord Grenville professed himself in favor of the principle of occasional relaxation from the strictness of the navigation act, and hoped the noble lord would bring in a clause to the effect he proposed.

The duke of Montrose hoped that no dereliction of the principle respecting neutrals would take place, and that ministers would not concede any of the belligerent rights, which were among the best foundations of the prosperity of our commerce.

After some observations, in explanation, from lords Holland, Auckland, Sheffield, Grenville and the duke of Montrose, the bill was read a first time, and ordered to be printed. Adjourned till to morrow.

FROM A LONDON PRINT.

A marriage has lately taken place between a MR. KNIGHT and a MISS DAY. The most rigid lover of decorum and sobriety, will not object, we presume, to this mode of turning *Day* into *Night*.

TYBER NAVIGATION.

PURSUANT to a resolution adopted at a GENERAL MEETING of the Subscribers to the Tyber Navigation held at Mr. Rhodes's tavern on the 23d ult. the *Directors* submit the following statement, of the advantages derived by the citizens from the erection of the WHARF on 12th street west within the year 1805, and also, the probable advantages that will be derived from the improvement now in progress, when the water shall be sufficiently deep to admit vessels drawing from 8 to 10 feet, as is contemplated.

From the best information that can be obtained, we are warranted in saying that upwards of 2,500 cords of wood have been delivered within the above time, at the wharf; the average saving in the cartage alone, may be fairly estimated at 50 cents per cord, or *Dollars* 1,250

Other articles, such as stone, sand, fish, grain, plank, &c. -	200
Add to this the constant supply of wood at an early season, thereby enabling the citizens to procure fuel much easier, and certainly at a reduced price, perhaps 50 cents per cord—but make it only 25 cents, there will be a saving of - - - -	625
The saving of wharfage of the above quantities, calculating at the rate of 6 cents per cord,	150
Total amount,	2,225

It has been ascertained from long experience, that the average rates of cartage per cord, from Lear's Hamburg, or Young's wharfs has never been less than one dollar, and other articles, with the addition of wharfage, and loss of time, amounting to 4,450 dollars, which proves that there is a saving of one half, or 2,225 dollars to the citizens within the year 1805, from the erection of the wharf.

If then such great advantages have been derived from its erection, the expense of which did not exceed 900 dollars, and with only 4 1-2 feet water at common high tide, what may not be reasonably expected from its extension to the line of the canal, and the contracting of the channel by a strong and close board fence, which will increase the rapidity of the current, and from the removal of 4 feet depth of mud, thereby creating a channel 9 feet deep at high tide, as well as a solid bank the whole extent of the improvement? When once completed, the Tyber will become the harbor for bay and river craft, the cargoes of which generally consist of lumber, grain, oysters, cord-wood and stone coal. The consumption of this latter article is very great. The public offices consume annually upwards of 12,000 bushels, and from a rough estimate there is reason to believe, that more than that quantity is consumed in private dwellings within the limits of the Tyber south and east, and 18th street west; say in all 24,000 bushels; from this article alone there would be a saving to the public of 1 1-2 cent per bushel in cartage, or 360 dollars if the coal vessels could discharge their cargoes at the wharf on the Tyber.

The directors are of opinion, that captains of vessels from New England, &c. would prefer coming to the centre of the city, where there would be a greater chance of a ready market, from their arrival being more generally known; the cargoes of this description of traders generally consist of cheese, fish, onions, beef, pork, potatoes, apples, cider, &c. Regular packets to Alexandria, Norfolk, Baltimore, & elsewhere, would soon be established, the advantages of which would be incalculable; and once commenced, must rapidly increase. The citizens in general will then see the necessity of opening the Canal, to the Eastern Branch, which, from its depth of water, must continue to be the harbor for foreign traders; the great bulk of back country produce will be taken to it through the canal, promoting the interest of every part of the city.

Having stated so much, it becomes now the duty of the Directors to inform the public of the state of the funds. The whole amount of subscriptions is 1,204 dollars; of this sum there has been expended 554, leaving unexpended 650 dollars. They now earnestly request of the subscribers who are delinquent, to make speedy payment of their respective instalments to THOMAS THORPE, who is duly authorised to receive them, otherwise it will be impossible for them to go on with spirit. They also earnestly solicit subscriptions of those citizens who have not yet subscribed, not doubting but that they will be amply remunerated for the sums they may affix to their names, and speedily see the city rise to commercial importance.

ROBERT UNDERWOOD, *Treasurer,*
Thomas Thorpe,
Clotworthy Stevenson,
Lewis Morin,
Joseph Huddleston, and
Francis Clark,
Directors.
Washington, May 4, 1806.