

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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RESOLVES

OF THE

GENERAL COURT

OF THE

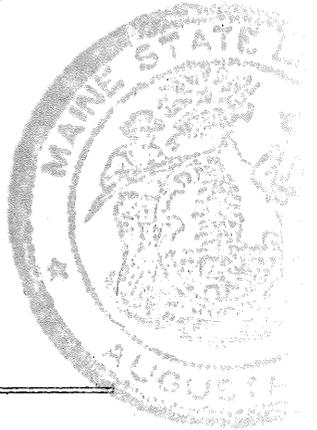
Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

PASSED AT THEIR SESSION IN

JUNE, 1813.



Published agreeably to a Resolve of January 11, 1812.



BOSTON :

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1813.

RESOLVES

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CIVIL LIST.

OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
FOR THE POLITICAL YEAR 1813—14.

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HIS HONOR
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Joseph Pierce,

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Thomas Barry,

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Joseph Tilden,

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William Orne,

Edward Brown,

Amos Hovey,

Ezekiel Savage,

Samuel G. Derby,

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John Pickering,

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 Daniel Brigham.
Stow and Boxborough,
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Concord, Tilly Merrick.
Bedford, John Meriam.
Burlington.
Woburn, John Wade,
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Stoneham.
Reading, Timothy Wakefield,
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South Reading, John Hart.
Wilmington.
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Tewksbury, Jesse Trull.

Chelmsford, Amos Whitney,
Carlisle.
Westford, Jesse Minot.
Acton, Joseph Noyes.
Littleton, Simon Hartwell.
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Dunstable.
Tyngsborough,
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Shirley, John Egerton.
Pepperell,
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Ashby, John Locke.

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 John Capen,
 William Pope.
Brookline, Isaac S. Gardner,
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Quincy, Thomas Greenleaf.
Braintree, Jonathan Wild.
Weymouth,
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Cohasset, Thomas Lothrop,
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Dedham, John Endicot,
 Samuel H. Dean,
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Medway, Nathaniel Lovell.
Bellingham, John Bates.
Franklin, Joseph Bacon,
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Wrentham, Jairus Ware,
 William Blackington.
Walpole, Daniel Kingsbury.
Foxborough.
Sharon, Benjamin Reynolds.
Stoughton,
 Benjamin Richards.
Randolph, Micah White.
Canton, Joseph Bemis,
 Lemuel Whiting.

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 Barnabas Hedge, Jun.

Abner Bartlett,
 Joseph Bartlett, 3d.
 Benjamin Bramhall.

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BRISTOL.

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<i>Rehoboth</i> , Hezekiah Martin, Joseph Wheaton, Samuel Bliss, 2d.	<i>New Bedford</i> , Gamaliel Bryant, Jireh Swift, Jun. John M. Williams, William Hathaway.
<i>Seekonk</i> , Peter Hunt, Oliyer Starkwether.	<i>Fairhaven</i> , John Hawes, Nicholas Davis, Jun. Joseph Tripp.
<i>Dighton</i> , John Hathaway, Leonard Hathaway.	
<i>Swansea</i> , Daniel Hale.	

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<i>Palmouth</i> , Thomas Fish, Jun.	Samuel Chase.
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DUKES' COUNTY.

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Chilmark.

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<i>Sutton</i> , Jonas Sibley,	Jeduthun Spooner.
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<i>Ward</i> .	<i>Petersham</i> , Joseph Gallond.

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<i>Lunenburg</i> .	<i>Royalston</i> , John Norton.
<i>Witchburgh</i> .	<i>Templeton</i> , John W. Stiles.
<i>Westminster</i> , Jonas Whitney,	<i>Athol</i> , James Humphries.
Abel Wood.	<i>Gerry</i> , Elijah Gould.
<i>Gardner</i> , Aaron Wood.	<i>Dana</i> , Stephen Johnson.

HAMPDEN.

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Oliver B. Morris,	Luke Parsons.
Edmund Dwight.	<i>Westfield</i> ,
<i>Longmeadow</i> , Calvin Burt.	Benjamin Hastings,
<i>Wilbraham</i> , Joseph Lathrop,	Frederick Fowler,
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Alexander Sessions.	Israel Parsons.
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Royal Wales.	<i>Blanford</i> , Alanson Knox,
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Savoy.

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John Hammond.
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Benjamin Green,

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Walter Hagens.
Saco, Benjamin Pike,
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Enoch Preble,
James Neale,
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William Francis.
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Joseph York.
Cape Elizabeth,
Silvanus Higgins.
Scarboro' Gideon Rice,
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Toppan Robie.
Standish, Theodore Mussey.
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Gray, Eliab Latham.
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Alford Richardson,
James Prince, jr.
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Free-Port, Samuel Porter,
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Brunswick, David Dunlap,
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Samuel Fessenden.	<i>Harrison</i> .
<i>Pegypscot</i> .	<i>Otisfield</i> .
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<i>Woolwich</i> , Richard Harnden.	Cyrus Eaton.
<i>Dresden</i> , George Houdlette.	<i>Camden</i> , Moses Trussel.
<i>Alna</i> , Jeremiah Pearson.	<i>Hope</i> , Fergus McClain.
<i>Whitefield</i> , Joseph Bailey.	<i>Union</i> .
<i>Jefferson</i> , Joseph Jackson.	<i>Putnam</i> .
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<i>Edgecombe</i> ,	<i>Montville</i> , Joseph Chandler.
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<i>Boothbay</i> , Jacob Auld,	Benjamin Riggs.
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<i>Bristol</i> , Samuel Tucker.	Abraham Hammat,
<i>Nobleboro'</i> , Ephraim Rollins.	John M. Moody.
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Henry Flagg.	<i>Bowdoinham</i> .
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<i>Cushing</i> .	<i>Lisbon</i> , Nathaniel Eames.
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<i>Thomaston</i> ,	
Ezekiel G. Dodge,	

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Seth Williams.	<i>Reedfield</i> .
<i>Hallowell</i> , Samuel Moody,	<i>Wayne</i> , Joseph Lamson.
Thomas Bond, jr.	<i>Fayette</i> ,
<i>Gardiner</i> .	Joseph H. Underwood.
<i>Monmouth</i> , Abraham Morrill.	<i>Mount Vernon</i> , John Hovey.
<i>Greene</i> , Luther Robbins.	<i>Belgrade</i> , Sherebiah Clark.
<i>Leeds</i> , Daniel Lothrop.	<i>Sydney</i> , Ichabod Thomas.
<i>Winthrop</i> , Samuel Wood,	<i>Waterville</i> ,

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<i>Dearborn.</i>	Samuel Redington.
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<i>New Sharon,</i> Abel Baker.	<i>Malta.</i>
<i>Chesterville.</i>	<i>Fairfax,</i>
<i>Farmington,</i> Asahel Gross.	Japhet Coombs Washburn.
<i>Temple.</i>	<i>Clinton.</i>
<i>Wilton,</i> Samuel Butterfield.	<i>Unity,</i> Rufus Burnham.
<i>Pittston,</i> David Young.	

OXFORD.

<i>Paris,</i> Seth Morse.	<i>Fryeburgh,</i>
Albion K. Parris.	Samuel A. Bradley.
<i>Hebron,</i>	<i>Lovell.</i>
Alexander Greenwood.	<i>Sweden.</i>
<i>Buckfield,</i>	<i>Denmark.</i>
Benjamin Spalding.	<i>Norway,</i> Levi Whitman.
<i>Turner,</i> Joseph Bonney.	<i>Waterford,</i> Calvin Farrar.
<i>Livermore,</i>	<i>Albany.</i>
William H. Brettun,	<i>Bethel,</i> Moses Mason.
Samuel Livermore.	<i>Jay,</i> James Starr, jr.
<i>Hartford.</i>	<i>Dixfield.</i>
<i>Sumner.</i>	<i>Rumford.</i>
<i>Porter.</i>	<i>Gilead.</i>
<i>Hiram and Brownfield,</i>	<i>Newry.</i>
James Steele.	<i>East-Andover.</i>

SOMERSET.

<i>Norridgewock,</i>	<i>New-Portland.</i>
William Sylvester.	<i>Freeman.</i>
<i>Canaan,</i> Eleazer Coburn.	<i>Madison,</i>
<i>Fairfield.</i>	Nathaniel Blackwell.
<i>Anson,</i> John Moor.	<i>Cornville.</i>
<i>Starks,</i> James Waugh, jr.	<i>Solon.</i>
<i>Mercer.</i>	<i>Athens.</i>
<i>Industry.</i>	<i>Harmony.</i>
<i>New-Vineyard,</i>	<i>Palmyra.</i>
<i>Strong.</i>	<i>Bingham.</i>
<i>Avon.</i>	<i>Phillips.</i>
<i>Embsden.</i>	

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

HANCOCK.

<i>Castine</i> , David Howe.	<i>Vinalhaven</i> , Cyril Brown.
<i>Penobscot</i> , William Freeman.	<i>Isleborough</i> .
<i>Orland</i> , John Lee.	<i>Lincolnton</i> , Samuel Miller.
<i>Buckstown</i> , Jonathan Buck.	<i>Northport</i> .
Joseph Lee.	<i>Belfast</i> , George Watson.
<i>Orrington</i> , John Wilkins.	<i>Prospect</i> , Joseph P. Martin.
<i>Brewer</i> , John Blake.	<i>Frankfort</i> ,
<i>Eddington</i> .	Philo H. Washburn,
<i>Ellsworth</i> , George Herbert.	William R. Ware.
<i>Surry</i> .	<i>Hampden</i> , Jonathan Knowles.
<i>Blue-Hill</i> , Elias Upton.	<i>Bangor</i> , Charles Hammond.
<i>Sedgwick</i> , Daniel Merrill.	<i>Orono</i> .
<i>Trenton</i> .	<i>Dixmont</i> .
<i>Sullivan</i> , Paul D. Sargent.	<i>Carmel</i> .
<i>Gouldsboro'</i> , Samuel Davis.	<i>Corinth</i> .
<i>Eden</i> .	<i>Exeter</i> .
<i>Mount Desert</i> ,	<i>Garland</i> .
Davis Wasgatt.	<i>New-Charlestown</i> .
<i>Deer-Isle</i> , Pearl Spafford,	<i>Foxcroft</i> .
Prescott Powers.	<i>Sebeck</i> .

WASHINGTON.

<i>Machias</i> , Peter Talbot,	<i>Robbinston</i> .
Jacob Longfellow.	<i>Jonesborough</i> .
<i>Eastport</i> ,	<i>Addison</i> .
Jonathan D. Weston.	<i>Harrington</i> .
<i>Lubeck</i> .	<i>Steuben</i> , Philo Lewis.
<i>Calais</i> .	<i>Columbia</i> .

Benjamin Pollard, *Clerk*.
 Rev. Joshua Huntington, *Chaplain*.

RESOLVES

OF THE

General Court of Massachusetts,

PASSED AT THEIR SESSION;

COMMENCED ON THE TWENTY SIXTH DAY OF MAY, AND ENDED
ON THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF JUNE, A. D. 1815.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

REPRESENTATIVES' CHAMBER, MAY 28, 1815.

At 11 o'clock, the Senators attended in the Representatives' Chamber, agreeably to assignment, when His Excellency the Governor came in, accompanied by his Council, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and other officers of government, and delivered the following

SPEECH :

*Gentlemen of the Senate, and
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,*

THE situation in which I am again placed, imposes a duty upon me, by every exertion in my power, to promote the interest and safety of my fellow citizens; their approbation of my conduct the last year, is peculiarly grateful, as it leads me to hope that my services in the year to come will be considered with the same indulgence; without it, I feel my

incompetence, at this difficult season, to discharge, in a satisfactory manner, the duties of the office which I have undertaken.

In pursuance of the authority given by the Resolve passed at the last session of the General Court, empowering the Governor, with advice of Council, to adopt certain defensive measures for the protection of the towns and harbors in the Commonwealth, three judicious persons, skilled in military affairs, were commissioned to carry into effect the intentions of the Legislature, expressed in the Resolve. The Secretary will deliver you a report of their proceedings under that commission.

By a Law of the United States, passed in April, 1808, the annual sum of two hundred thousand dollars was appropriated for the purpose of providing arms for the militia of the United States, to be transmitted to the several States, in proportion to the number of the effective militia in each State, and to be distributed under such regulations as should be prescribed by the State Legislatures. In compliance with the request of the late General Court, in their Resolve above-mentioned, I applied to the Executive of the United States, and requested such supply of muskets as might be conveniently furnished, and as might be considered the proportion to which this Commonwealth was entitled. A copy of the answer to this application, which I have received from the Secretary of War, will also be laid before you.

As we are engaged in War with a nation of great maritime strength, your attention will be directed, in a particular manner, to those parts of our extensive sea-coast where the people are most exposed to depredations; and being deprived of their usual means of support, have already suffered severely, and are in danger of still greater evils. I have no doubt you will be disposed to afford them every assistance they may stand in need of, within the power of the State Government. It belongs to the National Government to protect each of the States in the Union, and provide for the common defence; but if an invasion should be made or attempted on any part of our coast, I am confident that our militia would promptly, and with cheerfulness, exert their utmost endeavors to repel it.

We are bound to obey the Laws made in conformity with our Constitutions; but those Constitutions ensure to us the freedom of speech; and at this momentous period it is our

right and duty to inquire into the grounds and origin of the present War ; to reflect on the state of public affairs, and express our sentiments concerning them with decency and frankness ; and to endeavor, as far as our limited influence extends, to promote, by temperate and constitutional means, an honorable reconciliation. By an unnecessary war, the deepest guilt is incurred ; and therefore every belligerent nation should inquire which of the contending parties is chargeable with this guilt.

When war was declared against Great Britain, our complaints were chiefly founded upon her Orders in Council ; and though they were revoked within four days after the Declaration was published, it will be useful to attend to them when we are considering the necessity of that measure. In November, 1806, the French Emperor issued his Berlin Decree, declaring the British Islands in a state of blockade, and forbidding any commerce or correspondence with them. To this succeeded the British Orders in Council, and other French Decrees, some of which were of a still more exceptionable character.

Although the Decrees of Berlin and Milan, and the Orders in Council, were injurious to neutral rights, it would be uncandid to suppose that the direct object of either nation was to injure the commerce of neutrals. The French decrees might be thought necessary by that government to effect the subjugation of Great Britain ; and the Orders in Council were declared, by the latter, to be retaliatory measures, adopted in consequence of the aggressions of her enemy, and to be revoked when those aggressions ceased. In their arduous struggles they seem to have thought only of themselves ; and while those struggles continued we must have known that our commercial intercourse with them would be exposed to numerous embarrassments ; but we were consoled with the reflection that these would be counterbalanced by the advantages we derived from the war in Europe. Indeed it is probable, if our Government had maintained a system of impartial neutrality, and had imposed no restrictions on trade, that notwithstanding those Decrees and Orders, we might, by reason of our neutral character, have enjoyed a commerce more lucrative for the last seven years, than would have fallen to our share had the whole world been at peace.

In May 1810, the Congress directed that the Non-Inter-

course Act should cease as to that belligerent which should first so revoke its edicts as that they should cease to violate our neutral commerce, and that it should operate on the other which should neglect so to do within three months after the President's Proclamation, declaring the fact that such revocation had taken place. On the 10th of August following, the Duke of Cadore in a letter to our Minister in France, stated that the Berlin and Milan Decrees were revoked, and that after the first of November then next, they would cease to have effect ; it being understood that the English should revoke their Orders in Council, and renounce their new principles of blockade : or that the United States should cause their rights to be respected. This letter was considered by the President as an absolute repeal of the French Decrees, though it appeared to many persons, at that time, to have been only a provisional repeal, upon conditions that might never happen, and was not confirmed by any instrument of which the courts or people of France were obliged to take notice. The President, however, on the 2d of November, 1810, announced, by Proclamation, that the Decrees of Berlin and Milan were revoked ; and in March following the Congress passed a Law confirming that Proclamation, and the revival of the Non-Intercourse against Great Britain.

When our Government was thus committed, it was the policy of the French Emperor to convince the British nation that his decrees were not revoked, and he took effectual measures for that purpose. His public ships, by his authority and under his instructions, committed depredations on our commerce and burnt our vessels ; the French cruizers and privateers captured them and they were condemned in the French Courts ; nor has France made the least reparation for the plunder. On the 31st of March, 1811, the Emperor declared to his Council of Commerce, that the decrees of Berlin and Milan were the fundamental laws of his Empire. Many other declarations of this kind were made by the French Government, and though our Ministers remonstrated against them as containing no exception in favor of the United States, and requested some authentic act of the French Government to justify our national measures, no satisfaction could be obtained. If the President had then revoked his Proclamation, the numerous evils that have followed from that unfortunate measure, might have been prevented. But, as if the French Emperor was determined to

put our Government in the wrong, the Duke of Bassano, in May, 1812, when it might be presumed that war between this country and Great Britain would take place, produced to Mr. Barlow, a Decree which bore date the 28th of April, 1811, repealing the Decrees of Berlin and Milan, and assigning as the cause of the repeal, the Act of Congress of March, 1811. To suppose, therefore, that the French decrees were repealed on the 2d of November, 1810, involves the absurdity, that the effect took place long before the cause.

At the same time that the above decree was produced by the French Minister, he informed Mr. Barlow that the decree had not been published; but declared it had been communicated to our former Minister in France, and likewise sent to the French minister here, with orders to communicate it to Mr. Monroe. On the correctness of this statement it may be improper to form an opinion until our Government explain the transaction. But of this we may be certain, that if that decree was made in April, 1811, according to its date, it was concealed for the purpose of producing a war between this country and Great Britain; for the party who concealed it well knew, that if that decree was known in England, the Orders in Council would be revoked. If the decree bore a false date, and had not been communicated to our Ministers, no man, either in the Administration or among the people, can hereafter doubt concerning the character of the French Government, or the impositions practised upon us.

The principal remaining alledged cause of hostility, is the impressment of seamen from our merchant vessels.

The war in Europe opened to these States such an extensive field for commercial enterprize, that it might have been difficult to procure, immediately, such numbers of American seamen as could profitably be employed. Our wealth and navigation increased with a rapidity which has never been exceeded; many thousands therefore of British seamen deserted that service for a more safe and lucrative employment in ours; and greater numbers might have resorted to us, if they had not been apprehensive that the British navy would reclaim them. But if there had been no competitors from abroad, as men will always employ their industry in the manner they find most advantageous, the high price for that species of labour would soon have induced a sufficient number of Americans to become seamen; in that case the danger of impressment, by British ships, would have been prevented.

It appears therefore, that British seamen have been patronized at the expense of our own; and should Great Britain now consent to relinquish the right of taking her own subjects, it would be of no advantage to our native seamen; it would only tend to reduce their wages, by increasing the number of that class of men.

The British Government has never claimed a right to take our native American seamen; had such claim been made, we should all have united to resist it. Great Britain only claims the right of taking her own subjects from neutral merchant vessels. In doing this, from a similarity in language, our citizens have sometimes been subjected to impressment; but, so far as I have heard, they have been discharged, when application was made in their behalf, and evidence furnished of their citizenship. In some instances there may have been a wanton exercise of power by the impressing officers; but it is impossible for the best regulated state wholly to control the actions of its subjects, or restrain all its military and naval officers in their distant operations, from insolence and oppression; it is therefore, a rule of national law, that the faults of individuals shall not be imputed to the nation, unless they are approved and ratified by the government.

Some abuses must undoubtedly happen from the difficulty of distinguishing Americans from Englishmen. But it appears from the examinations already made, that these abuses have been greatly exaggerated, and that only a small number of native Americans are in the British service, who have not voluntarily engaged; and of these the British Minister, before the war, requested our government to furnish a list, that measures might be taken for their discharge. It is probable that more than one third of the native American seamen, belong to this State, and three fourths are supposed to be from the States of New-York and New-England; if the number detained in British ships had been great, the complaints would have been loudest from this part of the Union; but the fact has been quite otherwise. You, gentlemen, represent every town in the Commonwealth, and will be able to ascertain how many of your neighbours are held, without their voluntary consent, in the navy of Great Britain.

All the European nations agree in founding allegiance upon the circumstance of nativity; they claim and treat as subjects, all those who are born within the confines of their dominions; although removed to another country in their

youth. This doctrine of allegiance is also the common law of our own country, and as such, it often has been, and probably always will be, recognized by our courts.

The sovereigns of Europe have also universally assumed the right of prohibiting, whenever they please, the departure of their subjects out of the realm ; and we are told by the most approved writers on the law of nations, that a state has just cause of complaint against another which entices away, and employs its useful subjects. That every government has a just claim to the service of its subjects in time of war, and that all those who abandon their country, when in danger, are deserters, which she has a right to punish. It was upon this principle that our laws for the confiscation of absentees' estates were passed, and if the principle is unjust those laws were unjust.

Great Britain complains, that we have allured her seamen into our employment, by holding up superior inducements to them to quit her service and engage in ours ; and this too at a time when she was contending for all that was dear to her against the most formidable and efficient force, that in any age of the world has been united under one head. She asserts, that her seamen are essential to her safety ; that though they are not liable to be taken from our national ships, and we have a right to protect them while they remain within our territories ; yet, if they pass into her dominions, or if in transacting their own affairs on the high way of nations, they come within her power, she has a right to take them in virtue of her prior claim ; that the nations of Europe have for ages claimed and exercised this right, and that she can never relinquish it so long as we employ her seamen, without endangering the existence of her navy. What hope of peace then can reasonably be entertained while such a sacrifice is required of her ? A nation ought first to do justice to others before it demands justice of them ; when war was declared we knew that Great Britain had suffered greatly by the desertion of her seamen into our service ; but had we done any thing to prevent or discourage it ? though she alleged that they were necessary for her defence ; and to us they were only useful as the means of acquiring wealth.

In the war between France and England we professed to be a neutral nation. This amounted to an engagement on our part, that we would, in all things, shew an exact impartiality between the contending parties ; and policy as well as

justice demanded of us an equal attention to both. But have we maintained this exact impartiality towards the belligerents? Have not the restrictions upon our own commerce been so calculated, as deeply to wound the interests of Great Britain, without impairing the resources, or disturbing the continental system of her enemy? We have expressed a just sympathy for our seamen who are detained in British ships; but, have we shown a like sensibility for those who are confined in French prisons, until discharged by enlisting on board their cruisers? When the war commenced, had we not received as many and grievous insults from the French government as from the British; and in what manner have we resented them? Although, in proportion to her maritime means of annoyance, we had suffered much greater losses from France than from England, has not our language to the former been mild and conciliating, and have we not to the latter indulged in offensive reproaches and undeserved asperity? Men who sincerely desire peace, will not employ themselves to multiply the causes of dispute, and excite jealousy and irritation between the people of the two countries: they will rather allay the passions than inflame them, and will think it no diminution of our dignity, if in doubtful cases we recede from a supposed right, rather than support it by artifice and violence.

It has been often asserted that our national honor compelled us to engage in a war with Great Britain. The honor of a nation consists in the display of its wisdom, justice, moderation and magnanimity; it requires the government to regulate its conduct for the greatest advantage of the state, and to pursue that series of measures which most effectually promotes the welfare of the people. But that species of honor which would prompt us to wage war for every supposed instance of abuse or disrespect, is not the honor of a wise and moral people. A proud or passionate individual will sometimes claim a right to sport with his own life by putting it in hazard against the life of another; But, few men will avow that government has a right to expose the safety of the state, and the lives and fortunes of the citizens, merely to indulge its passions or gratify its ambition.

So far as conquest may be considered as the object of the present war, its policy, to say nothing of the justice of it, must be extremely doubtful. A few individuals may gain by an offensive war, but the great body of the people have

nothing to gain or hope for. In republics, the increase of power and wealth has often occasioned severe calamities, by increasing their pride and arrogance, and inspiring rash councils and extravagant measures. But when they have been successful in foreign war and acquired the title of conquerors, I think they have invariably and speedily lost their form of government. A man who has a large army at his control, must have the virtue of a Washington, not to make use of it for his own aggrandizement. The National Constitution was formed and adopted for our own defence ; there is not a clause in it, in which an extension of our territorial limits was contemplated. The Congress indeed were authorized to admit new states into the union ; but every man knew, that under the confederation it had been proposed to form a number of states in the western territory, and Vermont was even then a candidate for admission. I presume that no one thought of giving Congress the power to obtain by purchase or conquest the territories of other nations, and annex them to the United States, and form them, or subdivisions of them, into constituent parts of the union.

A suspicion has been intimated, that the hostility of the Indian tribes was excited by British influence : as no proof has been offered to us on this subject, it might be sufficient to say that a regard to vague and uncertain suspicions exposes a nation to become an unjust aggressor. But has not our conduct towards those tribes been often oppressive and unjust ; and have we not indulged an eager desire to obtain possession of their lands, when we had already millions of acres which we could neither cultivate nor dispose of ? Perhaps the late unfriendly dispositions of the Indians may be accounted for by the march of a hostile army into their country, and the battle which ensued, many months before war was declared against England.

In the present moral state of the world, it would seem that our political friendships should be formed with some regard to that state. But are we encouraged by the moral qualities of the French government to take part in its wars ? Or will any one say that the cause of France is more just than that of Spain, Portugal, or Russia, or that her success would be more conducive to the happiness of mankind ? Or should we cultivate the friendship of France because she can do us more injury than England, or because her manners, religion or policy are more congenial to ours ? In our embar-

raised and alarming situation, it is indeed a very favorable circumstance, that the people have so generally expressed their utter aversion to a French alliance ;—such an alliance would be the greatest calamity, and must produce the most fatal effects.

It is my wish, Gentlemen, in making these observations, that they may lead to a dispassionate review of our conduct towards England and France, and of theirs in relation to us. While we attend to what is due to ourselves, we are not to forget what we owe to others ; and in cases liable to the least doubt, the claims even of an enemy should be impartially examined. If upon such examination we are convinced the war is necessary, we shall be justified in affording our voluntary aid to support it. But if we discover that our opinions or measures have been erroneous, we have the strongest motives, both from interest and duty, to relinquish them. We may indeed deceive ourselves and even resolve to cherish the deception ; but the Supreme Arbiter, to whose retributive justice the most solemn appeal has been made, cannot be deceived, and will not, with impunity, be mocked.

In times of party zeal and public commotion it may be difficult on some occasions to discern what is right. But I hope, that with a fixed attention to the duties imposed on us by our National and State Constitutions, and with a humble reliance on the Divine direction, the Members of this Government will, in this perplexing period, preserve consistency of conduct, and adhere, with undeviating constancy, to the principles of justice and truth.

CALEB STRONG.

Council Chamber, May 28, 1813.

ANSWER
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

May it please your Excellency,

THE House of Representatives receive with peculiar satisfaction your Excellency's communication to both Houses, and sincerely rejoice in the unequivocal testimony of the increased confidence and approbation of your fellow citizens, manifested in your recent election.

When your Excellency, in compliance with the anxious wishes of the people, consented, the last year, to leave the pleasures and tranquility of your favorite residence, and resume your high office, you rendered to your country a service never to be forgotten. A new order of things had arisen in this Commonwealth, inauspicious to personal security and the public peace. The most alarming innovations upon our ancient laws and usages, were introduced under the sanction of the highest authorities. Freedom of speech, and the right of the people to discuss, in their assemblies, the measures of Government, were denounced. The Law Officers of the Commonwealth were instructed to ransack files of newspapers in search of libels. To perpetuate the usurpation of party power, and effectually to prevent the reaction of public sentiment, under any change of times or of affairs, the valuation, which constitutes the basis of taxation, and of representation in one branch of the Legislature, was framed on principles grossly erroneous; and the State was divided, without regard to the provisions of the constitution, the dictates of justice, or the principles of equality, into districts of the most preposterous and inconvenient forms, for the purpose of securing political majorities. A monied institution was created, founded on the determination to abolish those already existing, and its capital was apportioned to counties and towns, upon a digested scheme of premiums for political corruption. The courts of justice were new modelled, and

a general removal from office, of those who were suspected of deviation from the creed of the ruling party, was commenced and defended as a measure of political justice.

At this alarming juncture, the eyes of the people were turned towards your Excellency, as to a tried and faithful friend, whose moderation and firmness were calculated to check the progress of these abuses, and contribute to their reformation. These expectations have been fulfilled, and the good sense of the people, with the benefit of your influence and example, has rescued the state from oppression, and probably saved it from the horrors of a civil commotion.

We advert with great interest to your Excellency's observations upon the exposure of our sea coast to danger, and are deeply affected by information of the privations and sufferings to which the inhabitants are doomed, in many places, by the wanton and cruel war in which we are engaged. As the General Government has wholly abandoned this important and extensive coast, and the trade so essential to their interest; as no portion of the immense revenue drawn from this state is applied to effective defence; and, as we learn from the War Department, that even the arms to which we are entitled by law, have been sent to prosecute a war of foreign conquest against our unoffending neighbours; the dictates of self preservation demand, that we should adopt measures for our own protection. And although a system of direct and internal taxation has been recommended by the President of the United States, which will add enormous burthens upon our constituents, yet we confidently hope, that the patriotism of our citizens will still be able to furnish some means of defence for our native state, should the General Government still continue to withhold that protection which is guaranteed by the constitution. It is, in these circumstances, a great consolation, that our brave and disciplined Militia, by your provident care, have been reserved at home to repel invasion, instead of being sent on expeditions, worse than fruitless, in which we might have been compelled to mourn over their defeats, when conscience would have forbidden us to rejoice in their successes.

The right and duty of a free inquiry into "*the grounds and origin*" of the present war, will never be relinquished by our constituents without a struggle. The doctrine, that silent acquiescence in ruinous measures must be enforced, because they are stamped with the forms of the constitution, is

not adapted to their character or comprehension : They imbibed different theories, in those times, when their petitions and remonstrances were despised and rejected by a British Parliament, deaf to their complaints and alien to their feelings. Such a doctrine is an incentive to tyranny, to stifle opposition, by doing its work with despatch.

Your Excellency's illustration of the causes of the unjust war in which we are engaged, is so lucid and satisfactory, and your view of the controversy respecting the British orders in council, and their claims to their own seamen from our merchant service, so conformable to the law and usages of nations, that we can only respond your sentiments upon these subjects.

By the correspondence between the French and American Ministers, lately submitted to Congress, it is most evident that the nation has been drawn into a war, either by a disgusting imposition practised upon our Government by the French Emperor, which it comports not with their policy to represent in its true colors ; or by the concealment of a most important fact by our Government, which it was their duty to disclose to the American people.

While many of the most upright and intelligent men have uniformly believed and maintained that the British orders in council afforded to our country no just cause of war, the doubts of others have probably arisen from divesting them of their declared character of measures of retaliation upon the conduct of her enemy : All dispassionate persons will admit that this was a question of international law, which it was not *incumbent* upon Government to decide, whatever were the sentiments of its individual members. It should have sufficed for the practical statesmen to inquire, whether, under existing circumstances, the interest or honor of the country rendered war inevitable ; and whether, on supposition of the affirmative, justice or expediency demanded the selection of Great Britain for an enemy.

But the authors of the war appear to have confined their attention to the first of these questions. They admit, that as the injuries inflicted upon our commerce were professedly incidental to their state of hostility with each other, and were not justified as acts of direct aggression upon the flag of the United States, it was at least optional with this government to continue to treat them as of this character, and to oppose them by remonstrance, until the national honor demanded a

more decided and vigorous course of proceeding. But is it not true that the unexampled fury and peculiar character and extent of the European contest—the power of the principal parties in the war—the complaints of administration against both—the remoteness of our situation, and our incapacity of bringing into operation against them any effective means of annoyance ;—our destitution of competent fleets and armies, the state of our finances, and the example of other nations ;—is it not true, that these and other circumstances, combined to furnish the most fastidious honor with a dispensation from ordinary rules and obligations, and a fair apology for avoiding, altogether, or at least for postponing until fully prepared, this last and terrible resort of nations ? No precedent to the disadvantage of the country, and no abandonment of just rights, could have been inferred from this forbearance.

Besides, in whose estimation was the national honor endangered ? Were we bound to dishonor ourselves in the opinion of France, that we might preserve the good graces of Britain ; or to embroil ourselves with the latter, that our chivalrous spirit might be respected by the former ? Or were the unresisting vassals of French power, among the nations of Europe, to be the arbiters of our honor ? Or was it desirable to secure the applause of other neutrals, who would willingly bestow upon us their admiration, in exchange for the profit to be derived from avoiding our example ? Certainly when the passions of these evil times shall have subsided, the American nation will be convinced, as the people of Massachusetts are convinced, that this is not a war for honor, interest, or independence ; but the miserable catastrophe of a plan of policy founded on the pride of system, and in hatred of one nation and partiality to another—passions which in their march towards the great objects of local aggrandizement and party power, have trampled upon the interests of the union, and threaten those of New-England with final destruction.

While the friends of a commercial policy, in our country, have reason to lament the jealousy and precipitancy which have precluded us from reaping the advantage of a state of affairs which can never be expected to recur ; the advocates for republican governments, throughout the world, will deplore the failure of this last experiment of the capacity of such governments to shun the faults and vices incident to other forms. No essay was ever made under circumstances

equally favorable. Aloof and distant from the storms which ravaged Europe, the attention of mankind was directed towards these states, as the sanctuary of the oppressed, and the chosen residence of liberty and peace. The harrassed subjects of other governments, whose lives and fortunes are devoted to war at the nod of a master, regarded with envy the condition of a great people, who, holding the sword in their own hand, would not permit it to be wielded for the purposes of ambition or conquest, of vanity or revenge. But this delusion has vanished; and unless better councils prevail, we shall henceforth be distinguished from other republics, only by the increased facility with which the people have surrendered their interests and understanding, to their plausible and presumptuous leaders.

Admitting however, that our controversies with other nations had arrived to a crisis, which left no alternative but war, we still most fully assent to your Excellency's intimation, that the selection of Great Britain for an enemy, in preference to her adversary, cannot be justified. That nation, by her superiority on the ocean, had effectually banished from it every hostile flag. The achievements of our naval heroes, on that element, exhibits satisfactory demonstration of their native prowess and skill; and excite vain regret for the neglect to foster this natural and precious safeguard and ornament of the nation. Still it was not to be concealed, that in war, with our disparity of force, our commerce must become a prey to our enemy. Canada, far from offering inducements to conquest, would prove a fatal present if it should be ceded by grant. The aggressions of Britain were last in order, least in degree, and accompanied by the benefit arising from the convoy of our ships, and the protection every where afforded against French depredations. Her interests, in many particulars, coincide with those of our own country. Her land was the birthplace of our ancestors; her religion, her language, her laws, are ours; and her downfall would draw after it the destruction of civil liberty throughout the world. If then a preference was due, in entering the lists for honor, to any nation, it was due to her. At peace with Great Britain, we should now have shared largely in the commerce of the world, and continued to be a prosperous and united people. In short, all the motives of prudence, justice and patriotism, which are characteristic of sound policy, forbade this unhappy controversy, in a tone so

loud, that we are compelled to look to other causes. These may be comprised in the fixed determination of those who displaced the friends and undermined the policy of Washington, to retain power, and as subservient to this object, to cherish prejudices which grew out of the revolutionary war, as a convenient and ready means of popular excitement. Hence, too probably, the uniformly cold, captious, and ungracious deportment towards one nation, and the tame, tolerant and submissive attitude towards another.

We are duly impressed by your Excellency's suggestion, that the extension of territorial limits was never contemplated by the framers of the constitution. If the President and Senate may purchase land, and Congress may plant States in Louisiana, they may, with equal right, establish them on the North West Coast, or in South America. It may be questioned, hereafter, whether after this formation of New States, the adherence of the old ones, which dissented from the measure, to the Union, is the result of obligation or expediency: And it is evident that this multiplication of new States, not parties to the original compact, must soon be regarded as fatal to the rights and liberties of some of the present members of the confederacy, and consequently as an insupportable grievance. This extension of territory has already excited a spirit of cupidity and speculation, which is among the causes of our present troubles. By means of power thus acquired, and the operation of the constitutional provision, whereby three freemen, in certain parts of the union, enjoy the same privileges in the choice of Representatives, which in other States is divided among five, the influence of Massachusetts and of the Eastern States, in the National Councils is lost; and systems of commercial restriction, of war and conquest, fatal to their interests, and outrageous to their feelings, are founded on its ruins.

We are aware that the expression of these truths, which are wrung from us by the tortures of an unfeeling and unmerited policy, will be imputed (by those who are interested in such a construction) to disaffection to the union. When the public Treasury has been lavished by administration, as the price of fixing upon Massachusetts the suspicion and odium of her sister States; calumny acquires an importance, which a House of Representatives may notice without a culpable condescension. It is not true, as your Excellency is aware, that the good people of this Commonwealth, or of

the metropolis, cherish views inimical to the continuance of the union. Massachusetts was alert and decided in promoting the old and new confederations. We remember also that under a wise administration, the present constitution was prolifick in every species of prosperity: we know that the affinities of interest which ought to unite us are natural, and predominate over the artificial collisions which tend to detach from each other the members of the great family. Nor are our intelligent citizens unmindful of the dangers, dissensions and final insignificance of the component parts, which too often attend the dissolution of confederated States. But on the other hand, we regard the union as only *one of the objects* of the constitution. The others, as expressed in the instrument, are to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity. So long as the union can be made the instrument of these other constitutional objects, it will deserve the support of all the friends of their country. But it is for these only that it possesses a value in our esteem. Without them it would prove a name and not a charm; and, like other constitutional provisions, a fair subject of amendment. It was not betraying an indifference to the union, to protest against measures as weak and mischievous which their authors afterwards abandoned as mischievous and weak. We have asked for an efficient protection to commerce, or that commerce should be permitted to take care of itself: Neither has been granted. The portion of the union which lives by commerce, is plunged into war by those who exult in their means of living without it, claiming however to be its best friends, and most competent to its regulation. Thousands deprived of the means of happiness, which endear either government or country, remonstrate and complain, and are branded as Malcontents by those who dispense seizures, forfeitures, penalties and prisons, as bounties for the encouragement and protection of commerce.

The imputation of undue partiality to the British nation, against the people of our state, is equally unfounded. The men of Massachusetts were the first to resist the pretensions of Great Britain—the blood of Massachusetts was the first that moistened the soil of Independence. Whence then this idle calumny? If the measures of Great Britain have been injurious to commerce, have we less interest than others in its

welfare? If American seamen have been impressed, does not the number of our seafaring citizens exceed that of any other state? If Great Britain could be proved to be jealous of the prosperity of the United States, is not ours a country whose merchants and carriers must be the immediate objects of competition? It was, among other reasons, to preserve the importance of our country and commerce, in the view of Great Britain, and to prevent the exposure of weak and vulnerable points—it was to cover the folly and self-conceit of visionary statesmen, that we opposed the measures which led to war, and that we are now anxious for peace. We foresaw that a commercial warfare with Great Britain would be unequal, and that the system of restrictions would recoil upon ourselves; and most sincere would have been our joy, to have discovered and acknowledged the fallacy of our predictions.

We shrink from an anticipation of the probable consequences of a protracted warfare, to the welfare of our country, and we rejoice in every glimpse, however feeble, of returning peace. A negotiation is announced as intended to be attempted in Russia. The scene is distant, and the delay apparently needless. We have however no disposition to impede its progress—or, by any measure, to incur the charge of weakening the hands of those who have gone so far to effect what we believe might be done with greater ease and promptness nearer home; and whatever may be our fears, we devoutly pray that the event may be peace. We are better reconciled to wait the issue in patience, as events have diminished the present danger of a French alliance—a measure so pregnant with every evil, and so utterly revolting to the sentiments of our people, that we trust no administration will persist in projects tending to such an issue.

To all the subjects recommended by your Excellency, we shall pay a prompt attention, and endeavor to terminate the session with all possible regard to the exigencies of the season.

ANSWER OF THE SENATE.

May it please your Excellency,

THE Senate of Massachusetts have met your Excellency, at the opening of the present political year, with the most lively emotions of respect and affection, and with devout thankfulness, to the Author of all good, for your re-election to the office of Chief Magistrate. In this event, so propitious to the best interests of our country, we discern a satisfactory evidence of the virtue and intelligence of our fellow-citizens—and we can assure your Excellency, that the enlightened people of this Commonwealth have witnessed your administration, during the past year, not only with entire approbation, but with the warmest sentiments of veneration and gratitude. The cheerfulness with which your Excellency has again accepted this high and responsible office, doubly arduous at this perilous crisis of our affairs, is a renewed proof of the pure and exalted patriotism for which your Excellency has ever been distinguished.

The Senate consider the view which your Excellency, in your communication to the Legislature, has taken of the causes which have produced the present calamitous situation of the country, to be so clear and comprehensive, that it would be difficult to make any observations, in their answer, which your Excellency has not anticipated.

A frequent recurrence to the principles of our constitutions, is necessary to a proper understanding and support of our rights and privileges.

That the freedom of speech and of the press, is essential to the preservation of our free governments ;—that all political power is derived from the people ;—that they may resume the trust which was delegated for their welfare, whenever it shall be exercised to their ruin ; and that allegiance and protection are reciprocal ; are positions in which all agree.

These rights are indeed liable to abuse. The freedom of speech may degenerate into licentiousness ; and the inherent right of the people to alter and amend their systems of government, may be perverted to the purposes of ambition.— But notwithstanding the difficulties and dangers which must be encountered for the attainment and support of civil liberty, yet its blessings are a full reward for all the care and exertion necessary to its preservation.

The constitution of the United States was the result of mutual forbearance and liberal compromise. There were however certain great interests, which were understood to claim its peculiar regard.

Among the most prominent of these were the encouragement and protection of commerce. This was justly considered by the New-England and navigating States, as an indispensable condition of the compact. It was commerce which gave value to their enterprize and agriculture ; and so careful were they to guard this sinew of their strength, that a provision was introduced into the constitution itself, exempting all exports from duty. This regard to commerce was not novel ; for in the Declaration of Independence, it forms a conspicuous allegation against Great Britain, that she had cut off our trade with all parts of the world.

It is not to be supposed that the navigating states would have adopted the constitution if they had foreseen that the effect of it would be the destruction of their commerce.

Soon after the constitution went into operation, the war in Europe broke out, and the citizens of the United States were necessarily affected by its consequences.

It was then that the patriotism and firmness of Washington were again tried. Moved by considerations of justice as well as of policy, notwithstanding the embarrassments of a powerful opposition, and with means and resources inconsiderable, compared with those which were in the power of the present administration—he took and maintained the ground of an impartial neutrality.

The state of prosperity which followed this magnanimous course, was unexampled in the history of the world.

It was emphatically the golden age. Our commerce was extended through the world ; richly rewarding the labour and enterprize of the farmer and the merchant, and furnishing abundant revenues for the support of government. With such an example before them, was it to have been expected

that any administration, under circumstances nearly similar, would pursue an opposite policy? Could it have been believed that the original ground and bond of the union would be abandoned? that measures would be adopted and pursued, with undeviating perseverance, destructive of our commercial advantages? that a naval defence should not only be neglected, but represented as an extravagant and useless expenditure!

It was naturally to be supposed, that both Great Britain and France would be desirous of the aid of the United States, in their sanguinary contest; but it was obviously the duty and for the interest of this country to remain perfectly neutral. Why then has our country been involved in war, especially with that power, whose means of annoyance so greatly exceed those possessed by the other? Was Great Britain selected for our enemy because she has paid less regard to her treaties than France?—In utter contempt of her engagement, that free ships should make free goods, France has plundered and confiscated American property, wherever it could be found. While one of these rival powers has, according to her agreement, compensated, in damages with interest, for injuries of which we complained, the other has avoided her compacts by the shameless avowal, that she finds a real inconvenience in their performance. While one of them has convoyed, the other has burnt our ships in every sea.

The principal alleged cause of the war, was the Orders in Council;—and although they have ceased, it is still necessary to consider the circumstances under which they were issued, rightly to understand the grounds and origin of that disastrous measure.

Our Ministers, in London, had concluded a treaty upon all the points in dispute between the two countries, just at the time when the Berlin Decree was published, prohibiting to neutrals all intercourse with Great Britain. Aware of the injuries which she must sustain from that flagrant violation of the law of nations, she frankly informed our government, that, if (contrary to all expectation) the United States submitted to that outrage, she should be obliged to retaliate upon France, by prohibiting, to neutrals, all trade with her.—The Berlin Decree was immediately enforced upon all American property, within the reach of French rapacity, as well in neutral territories as on the high seas. This was known

to our government :—for it appears, that as early as May, 1807, they informed our Minister in France, that “ there were proofs, that the West India privateers had, under color of that edict, committed depredations, which would constitute just claims for redress.”

The treaty was rejected by the President, as unworthy the consideration of the Senate ; notwithstanding the duty to preserve an exact impartiality. No efficient measures were taken against France, for her violation of her treaty as well as the law of nations : and after waiting nearly a year, Great Britain issued her Orders in Council, of 11th November, 1807, retaliating the aggressions of France, in pursuance to the notice before given.

These, as your Excellency observes, were declared to be retaliatory measures, adopted in consequence of the aggressions of her enemy, and to be revoked, when these aggressions ceased.

Our government contend, that France has been the first to do justice to the United States : That she repealed her decrees, and ceased to violate our neutral rights, in November, 1810 ;—and therefore, that Great Britain ought to have revoked her orders : That, in consequence of her refusal, the Act of Congress, of March, 1811, was rightfully passed, prohibiting all intercourse with Great Britain—a measure, which the Emperor has graciously condescended to consider as “ an act of resistance to the British orders.”

The question is thus brought to a single point. Did France repeal her decrees, and cease to violate our neutral rights, in November, 1810 ?

If she did, Great Britain was bound, upon her own principles, to repeal her orders. If she did not, it necessarily follows, that France has added insult to her original aggression.

The pretended repeal of the decrees, was upon condition, in effect, that Great Britain should abandon the antient rights and usages of war, sanctioned by the public law, touching blockades : “ a condition, which, (as your Excellency observes) many persons supposed would never happen.”

Nevertheless, our government conducted itself, in relation to Great Britain, as if the repeal had been absolute.

The ground taken by the American Cabinet, was, that France had ceased to violate the neutral rights of the United States ; and they insisted that Great Britain ought to believe it.

But the continued burning of American vessels, by order of the commanders of the Emperor's ships—the indiscriminate plunder and confiscation of American property on shore—on the seas—in France—in Denmark—Naples, and other subjugated States : These outrages, connected with the repeated declaration of the Emperor, that the decrees were the fundamental law of his empire, still operated upon the incredulity of Great Britain.

At length, when it suited the purposes of the Emperor, but not till April, 1811, he made his repealing decree, and as we are informed, communicated it to our cabinet, although it was not made public for more than a year after its date ; and this puts the question, now under consideration, forever at rest. The Emperor declares, that he repealed his decrees, in consequence of our act of resistance to the British orders :—but our government declares, that this act was in consequence of his repeal of the decrees.

“To suppose, therefore, (as your Excellency remarks) that the French decrees were repealed on the 2d November, 1810 ; involves the absurdity, that the effect took place long before the cause.”

During all this period, the negotiation was pending with Great Britain. She making overtures to revoke her orders, upon receiving evidence of the repeal of the decrees :—the actual repeal was carefully concealed—and the American cabinet employed itself, in laboured essays, to persuade Great Britain, that the pretended repeal was real and absolute—until they terminated the discussions by a declaration of war.

It is now sufficiently apparent, that if the decrees had been effectually resisted, the orders in council would not have been issued—for as soon as the real repeal was produced, Great Britain annulled her orders, according to her uniform engagement. Unfortunately, however, the country was plunged into the war, before the revocation could be known here.

The declaration of the French Minister, that the decree of April, 1811, was communicated to our cabinet, was true, or it was not. If it was not true, why have not the administration indignantly denied the fact, and taken such a position, in relation to that perfidious power, as the occasion required ? If it was true, and the war has been produced by the concealment, will not all the blood that has been or may be shed, in carrying it on, be required at the hands of its authors ?

If, upon the discovery of the perfidy of the French government, the President had revoked his Proclamation, we agree with your Excellency, "that the numerous evils that have followed from that unfortunate measure, might have been prevented."

And considering the restrictions which the European powers, in time of peace, usually impose on trade with their colonies—we perfectly agree with your Excellency, "that it is probable, that if our government had maintained a system of impartial neutrality, and had imposed no restrictions on trade, that notwithstanding those decrees and orders, we might, by reason of our neutral character, have enjoyed a commerce more lucrative, for the last seven years, than would have fallen to our share had the whole world been at peace."

The orders in council having been thus removed, the only remaining alleged cause of war, was the right which Great Britain claimed to take her own seamen from our merchant ships.

That cause alone, was not considered as a sufficient objection to the arrangement which was made with Mr. Erskine, and little doubt can be entertained, that another arrangement, equally advantageous to the United States, might have been made, and the war instantly brought to a close. As impressments had been continually diminishing, it is not easy to perceive why the necessity of war for that cause should have increased.

Besides, the people had expressed great satisfaction with that arrangement, and would undoubtedly have rejoiced had a similar course been pursued.

By this, we do not mean that the manner should have been exactly followed; for we should exceedingly regret that any offensive terms should have been again introduced, having a direct tendency to defeat the negotiation.

The people, fortunately, understand the subject of impressment much better than formerly, and it will be difficult to persuade them, that they are to be benefitted by the employment and protection of foreign seamen.

The result of the late investigation, upon this subject, in this Commonwealth, abundantly proves, that the risque of impressment of native American seamen is so small, that it scarcely excites their attention or regard. Indeed, it must be considered as a singular circumstance, that our western

brethren should express and seem to feel so much more sympathy for the wrongs suffered by the seamen, than the seamen do for themselves.

It ought to be recollected, that the evidence on that examination, was taken, under oath; from merchants of this state, who had employed the greatest number of seamen, in voyages to all parts of the world: and it is much to be desired, that such further investigation will be had in other commercial states, as will present the whole truth upon this very interesting subject.

We concur with your Excellency in the belief, "that British seamen have been patronised at the expense of our own, and that if Great Britain should consent to relinquish the right of taking her own subjects, it would be of no advantage to our native seamen, it would tend only to reduce their wages, by increasing the number of that class of men."

We believe there never was a subject more grossly misrepresented, both as to the cause and effect, than this of impressment.

Give our gallant seamen ships and employment, and they will not call upon the landmen for protection or for bread.

Your Excellency very justly observes that "the national constitution was formed and adopted for our own defence, and that there is not "a clause in it in which an extension of our territorial limits was contemplated." Attached as we are to the union of the states upon the principles of the constitution, we are alarmed that Congress should ever have pursued a policy, in the admission of new states, so entirely contrary to these principles, and so fatal to the safety of the union.

The duty imposed by the Constitution upon the General Government to provide for the common defence, was undoubtedly a principal reason for its adoption. But in what manner has this duty been performed?

Although Massachusetts and other great navigating States have contributed immense sums for the support of the General Government, yet, when they are plunged into the war by States whose contributions have often fallen short of the expence of the collection, they are left to take care of themselves.

What measures have been adopted for the protection of our immense property on the ocean? where are the troops, raised and paid by the United States? They have been

most improvidently drawn from the seaboard, the most exposed part of our country, for the purpose of invading the territory, and attacking the inhabitants of a neighboring and unoffending province, which was sincerely desirous of continuing upon the most friendly terms with us : a province too, the conquest of which, if made, can be of no advantage, but may produce incalculable evils to our country.

The refusal of the President to furnish this State with its proportion of arms, for which the State has already paid, we hope is not a correct indication of the temper and disposition entertained, by the General Government, in relation to the aid which they propose to afford in this war, which has been so wantonly waged. Considering that the distribution was peremptorily required by law, to be made according to the effective militia of each state, we know not from whence the President derived his power to dispense with its obligations.

The accumulated evils which have fallen upon the people in consequence of the departure from the principles and policy of Washington, have in a great measure silenced the rage and lessened the asperity of party animosity.

Involved in one common distress, they look upon each other with astonishment and sympathy, and are anxious only for the public safety.

Depending upon the blessings of Heaven, our fathers braved and resisted oppression, and founded this free state upon the principles of civil and religious liberty.

We trust that their sons have not degenerated—and that they will duly appreciate and defend their precious heritage.

We cordially unite with your Excellency in the “hope that with a fixed attention to the duties imposed by our national and state constitutions, and with a humble reliance on the divine protection, the members of this government will, at this perplexing period, preserve consistency of conduct, and adhere, with undeviating constancy, to the principles of justice and truth.

RESOLVES.

June, 1813.

CHAP. I.

*Resolve granting Rev. William Allen, \$50.
27th May, 1813.*

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury, fifty dollars to the Rev. William Allen, of Pittsfield, who was the Preacher of the Election Sermon, for the present year ; and that his Excellency the Governor, be requested to issue his warrant on the Treasury accordingly.

CHAP. II.

Resolve establishing the Number of Notaries Public in the town of Salem, County of Essex. 29th May, 1813.

Whereas, it is represented to be inexpedient, that there should be four Notaries Public in the town of Salem, in the County of Essex.

Therefore resolved, That there shall be three persons annually elected, to that office, in the town of Salem, and no more, any law or resolve to the contrary notwithstanding.

CHAP. III.

Resolve establishing the Pay of the Council and General Court. 1st June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to each Member of the Council, Senate and House of Representatives, two dollars per day, for each day's attendance the present session, and the like sum of two dollars, for every ten miles travel, from their respective places of abode, to the place of the sitting of the General Court.

And be it further resolved, That there be paid to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, two dollars per day, for each and every day's attendance, over and above their pay as members.

CHAP. IV.

Resolve confirming the Doings of the third Congregational Parish, in Portland. 1st June, 1813.

On the petition of Thomas Forsaith and others, a Committee in behalf of the third Congregational Parish, in the town of Portland, in the County of Cumberland, praying that the records and assessments of said parish may be confirmed and rendered valid in law.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that the records and assessments of the said third Parish shall be confirmed, and made valid in law, notwithstanding the omission or neglect of the officers thereof, in not taking the official oaths required by law, in like cases.

Provided, That nothing in this resolution shall be construed to affect any suit at law, now pending.

CHAP. V.

Resolve authorizing the Assessors of Dorchester, to assess a Tax to discharge a Judgment. 1st June, 1813.

On the petition of James Humphreys and others, Repre-

representatives of the town of Dorchester, setting forth that the inhabitants of said town, at a legal meeting, on the 10th day of May, instant, unanimously voted to petition the General Court, for an act, authorizing the town to assess a tax upon said inhabitants, for the purpose of paying off and discharging a judgment, recovered before the Supreme Judicial Court in March last, by Benjamin Glover, against Samuel Clap and Ebenezer Wales, jr. and others, late town officers in said town.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that the Assessors of the town of Dorchester, are hereby authorized and directed to assess upon the polls and estates, subject to taxation in said town, the sum of eight hundred dollars, and a sum in addition thereto, sufficient to pay all costs of said suit and levying of execution ; which sum of eight hundred dollars and costs, are the amount of a judgment recovered by said Benjamin Glover against said Clap and others, town officers as aforesaid, and to issue their warrants to collect the same, in due form of law, and to proceed therein, in all respects, as in the assessment and collection of other town taxes ; and the Treasurer of said town is hereby authorized to pay off the said judgment and execution from the proceeds of said assessment, on a warrant to be drawn upon him by the Selectmen of said town.

CHAP. VI.

Resolve confirming the Records and Doings of the town of Paris. 1st June, 1813.

On the petition of the Inhabitants of the town of Paris, in the County of Oxford, representing, that from the incorporation of said town, the certificates of the oaths of their town officers have not been recorded at length, as by law they ought to have been ; that the clerks, in some instances, have neglected to add their signature or attestation to the records ; that some of the records have been entered in the town books as copies, when in fact they were the original entries ; and that the clerks have omitted to record the impression of seals on the Selectmen's warrant for town meetings, and praying that the doings and proceedings of said

town and its officers, in the premises, may be confirmed and rendered valid.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that the records of the said town of Paris, be deemed and taken to be as valid and effectual, to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been entered as the original record, and been properly certified and attested by the town clerk; and that the proceedings of said town and the doings of its officers, be ratified and confirmed, and the same shall be deemed and taken to be as valid and effectual, in all respects, and in the same manner as they would have been, if the evidence of the qualification of such officers had been duly preserved or recorded, and the impression of the seals on the Selectmen's warrants for town meetings, had been regularly entered on the records of said town.

CHAP. VII.

Resolve discharging John Frost, of Elliot, from the residue of an Execution. 2d June, 1813.

On the petition of John Frost, of Elliot, in the County of York, husbandman, setting forth, that a judgment has been rendered against him, by default and through the mistake of the Clerk, at the last October term of the Supreme Judicial Court, holden at Alfred, for and within said County, on a scire facias, as the surety of one James Chick, and it appearing that the cost of said suit having been paid by said Frost.

Therefore resolved, That for the reasons set forth in said petition, the said Frost be wholly released and discharged from the payment of the residue of said judgment and execution.

CHAP. VIII.

Resolve authorizing the Assessors of Portland, to assess a Tax for the support of a Watch. 2d June, 1813.

On the petition of the town of Portland, praying for authority from the General Court, to assess and levy the sum of two thousand dollars, on the polls and estates in said

town, for the purpose of establishing and supporting a watch in that place.

Be it resolved, That the Assessors of the town of Portland, in the County of Cumberland, be, and they are hereby authorized to apportion and assess the sum of two thousand dollars, on the polls and estates in said town, for the purpose of supporting a watch for the present year, and that the said tax shall be apportioned, assessed and collected in the same manner that the town, county and state taxes now are.

CHAP. IX.

Resolve on the petition of Ezra Ripley, of Concord, making valid his Doings as Executor of Abigail Dudley.
2d June, 1813.

On the petition of Ezra Ripley, of Concord, in the County of Middlesex, clerk, executor of the last will and testament of Abigail Dudley, late of said Concord, single woman, deceased, testate, stating, that he took upon himself that trust, by giving bond as the law requires, on the twenty-fifth day of August, 1812; that said Ezra made known his said appointment and acceptance, by posting notifications thereof in said Concord, and by publishing the same in a newspaper, within three months from the time of his said appointment, pursuant to the order of the Judge of Probate, for the county aforesaid, but by accident, omitted to make and file in said Probate Court, his affidavit thereof, within seven months from the time of his giving said bond, and accepting said trust, agreeably to the provisions of law.

Resolved, For the relief of said Ezra, that he may, at any time within three months of the date of this resolve, make and file an affidavit of his doings, as executor of the last will of said Abigail, in the Probate Office for the County of Middlesex aforesaid, which affidavit shall be admitted in evidence in any court, and shall be valid in law, to all intents and purposes, as fully as if said affidavit had been made, filed and recorded in said Probate Office, within seven months from the time said Ezra took upon himself said trust. any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

CHAP. X.

Resolve directing the Treasurer to obtain from the files of the Supreme Judicial Court, a certain Note given by the State of Georgia, and sell the same. 3d June, 1813.

*Whereas, there is a certain State Note of the State of Georgia, which is the property of this Commonwealth, now remaining upon the files of the Supreme Judicial Court, for the County of Suffolk, bearing date the 22d day of March, A. D. 1785, and given for the sum of 500*l* sterling :*

And whereas, The interest of the Commonwealth requires, that the said Note should be disposed of, and the proceeds thereof placed in the Treasury of the Commonwealth.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Commonwealth be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to obtain from the files of the said Supreme Judicial Court, the aforesaid State Note of the State of Georgia, and when the same shall be delivered to him, the said Treasurer, that he sell and dispose of the said State Note, in such manner as shall be most for the interest of the Commonwealth, and place the proceeds thereof in the Treasury.

Resolved, That when the proceeds of the said State Note shall be received by the said Treasurer, and placed in the Treasury as aforesaid, that the said Treasurer be, and he is hereby further authorized and directed to discharge, as far as may be, the amount of the net proceeds, by him received, upon the sale of said Note, a certain judgment in favor of the Commonwealth, against John Peck, rendered in the Supreme Judicial Court, for the County of Suffolk, November term, 1806, for the sum of \$5255 56, and costs, which judgment was founded upon a certain covenant of the said John Peck, wherein he guaranteed to the Government, the validity of the aforesaid State Note.

CHAP. XI.

Resolve appointing Benjamin Russell, Esq. Printer for the State. 3d June, 1813.

On the petition of Benjamin Russell, of Boston, in the

County of Suffolk, praying to be appointed and employed as Printer to the General Court, the ensuing year.

Resolved, That the said Benjamin Russell, for reasons set forth in his said petition, be, and he hereby is appointed the Printer of this Commonwealth, for one year from the fourth day of June, instant, to be fully completed and ended, and until another State Printer shall be appointed in his stead.

Provided, He, the said Russell, shall do and perform, or cause to be done and performed, the printing, in a faithful and workmanlike manner, on good and suitable paper, and with all reasonable despatch, and to the acceptance of the officers for whom the work may be done.

Be it further resolved, That the compensation which shall and may be allowed and made to the said Benjamin Russell, for printing and materials furnished as aforesaid, shall be such as the Committee on Accounts may deem to be just and reasonable ; they, the said Committee on Accounts, taking into consideration and comparison, the pay and allowance heretofore made, for similar and like services rendered, and articles furnished, by the printers to the General Court, for several years last past.

CHAP. XII.

Resolve for Paying the town of Buckstown, for Supplies furnished the Militia at Eastport. 3d June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to Jonathan Buck and Joseph Lee, Esquires, Agents for the town of Buckstown, the sum of ninety-six dollars, seventy-seven cents, for supplies furnished by said town, to the militia detached and marched to Eastport, under the command of Captain Joshua Chamberlain, by order of the Commander in Chief ; and that his Excellency the Governor, be requested to draw his warrant on the Treasury for the amount.

CHAP. XIII.

Resolve granting a Tax to the County of Dukes' County.
3d June, 1813.

Whereas, The Treasurer of the County of Dukes' Coun-

ty, has laid his account before the Legislature, which account has been examined and allowed :

And whereas, The Clerk of the Court of Sessions, for said County, has exhibited an estimate, made by the said Court, of the sums necessary to discharge the debts of said County, and the charges which may arise within the said County, the year ensuing.

Resolved, That the sum of three hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby granted, as a tax on the said County of Dukes' County, the present year ; to be apportioned, assessed, paid, collected and applied, for the purposes aforesaid, according to law.

CHAP. XIV.

Resolve granting a Tax to the County of Oxford, for the building a Court House, &c. 3d June, 1813.

Whereas, The Treasurer of the County of Oxford, has laid his account before the Legislature, which account has been examined and allowed :

And whereas, The Clerk of the Court of Sessions, for said County, has exhibited an estimate, made by the said Court, of the sum necessary to be raised the current year, for the purpose of erecting a Court House and fire proof offices in said County.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby granted, as a tax on the said County of Oxford, the present year ; to be apportioned, assessed, paid, collected and applied, for the purposes aforesaid, according to law.

CHAP. XV.

Resolve allowing the town of Pittston, further time to complete a Bridge. 3d June, 1813.

On the petition of the Selectmen of Pittston, in the County of Kennebeck, in behalf of the inhabitants of said town, praying for longer time to erect and complete a Bridge across Warromontogus Stream, in said town, than is allowed by a resolve passed February 22d, 1812.

Resolved, For the reasons set forth in said petition, that there be, and hereby is allowed, to said inhabitants of Pittston, a further time of two years, from the first day of January next, to finish and complete the said bridge, any thing in the resolve passed the twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twelve, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Provided, However, that the said inhabitants, shall first give bonds to the Treasurer of said Commonwealth, in the manner pointed out in said resolve.

CHAP. XVI.

Resolve on the Petition of Samuel Leighton and others, Assessors of Eliot. 4th June, 1813.

On the petition of Samuel Leighton and others, Assessors of the town of Eliot, for the year eighteen hundred and twelve, praying, that their doings in committing certain lists of taxes to Elisha Goodwin, then one of the Constables of said town, for collection, may be made valid in law, and that the said Goodwin may be authorized to collect the same.

Resolved, That for reasons set forth in their said petition, the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that the said Elisha Goodwin be authorized to collect all such taxes as may have been committed to him by said Assessors, in the same way and manner as he legally might have done, and that all monies already collected, and all acts done by said Elisha Goodwin, as collector as aforesaid, shall be as legal and valid, as if no other collector of said town had been chosen or appointed.

CHAP. XVII.

Resolve empowering the first Parish in Roxbury, to hold a meeting for the choice of Assessors. 4th June, 1813.

On the petition of Jonathan Dorr, Benjamin Weld and Charles Davis, Committee of the first Parish in Roxbury.

Resolved, That the inhabitants of said Parish be, and they hereby are authorized and empowered to hold a meet-

ing for the choice of Assessors, for the current year, and that the said Jonathan Dorr, Benjamin Weld and Charles Davis be, and they hereby are authorized and directed to issue their warrant in form of law, for calling a meeting of the inhabitants of said Parish, for the purpose aforesaid, and that the Assessors who may be chosen at said meeting, shall have all the powers, and be held to perform all the duties of Assessors of Parishes regularly chosen in the month of March or April, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

CHAP. XVIII.

Resolve authorizing Paul Adams and others, to make application for a Jury to estimate damages occasioned by a road laid out through their land. 4th June, 1813.

On the petition of Paul Adams and others, praying that they may be authorized to make application to the Court of Sessions to estimate the damages sustained by the laying out of a road.

Resolved, That Paul Adams, David Dole, jr. John Longfellow, Moses Adams, John Knight, jr. Eunice Knight, Moses Ralf, John Plumer, and Friend Danforth, be, and they are hereby authorized to make application to the Court of Sessions, next to be holden at Ipswich, in and for the County of Essex, for a Jury to estimate the damages they have sustained, by the laying out of a road through their land, in the town of Newbury, in said County of Essex, beginning near the northwest end of the Downfall road, and running westerly, being the same road which was granted by the said Court of Sessions, and by the said Court accepted at the October term, in the year 1811 ; and the said Court of Sessions are hereby authorized to sustain the said application and grant the same in the same manner the said Court of Sessions should or might have done, had the application been made in due season.

CHAP. XIX.

Resolve authorizing Joseph S. Cooke to sell Estate of John Cooke. 4th June, 1813.

On the petition of Joseph S. Cooke, of Providence, in the County of Providence, and State of Rhode Island, Guar-

dian of the person and estate of John Cooke, of said Providence, an ideot, praying that said Joseph S. Cooke may have liberty to sell the estate of the said ideot, and that the proceeds thereof, after the payment of the said John's just debts, may be invested in such manner as that the income of the same may be sufficient for the future support of him, the said John Cooke.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that the prayer thereof be granted, and the said Joseph S. Cooke be, and he is hereby authorized to sell the said estate, and to make and execute a good and sufficient deed or deeds of the same.

Provided, The said Joseph S. Cooke shall first give bond with sufficient sureties, living within this Commonwealth, to the Judge of Probate, for the County of Bristol, in this Commonwealth, in such sum as the Judge aforesaid shall deem sufficient, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his, the said Joseph's duty in the premises, and the said Judge of Probate is hereby authorized to receive said bond, when executed in manner aforesaid, and cause the same to be filed in the Probate Office, in said County, for the benefit of the said John.

CHAP. XX.

Resolve granting William Donnison, Esq. \$250, for services, &c. as Adjutant General, to 4th March last.
5th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to William Donnison, Esq. the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars, in full compensation for all his services as Adjutant General, and for office rent, clerk hire, fuel and incidental charges in said office.

CHAP. XXI.

Resolve allowing Captain Samuel G. Ladd, \$71 15, for expences paid for purchasing land and building a Gun House in Hallowell. 5th June, 1813.

On the petition of Samuel G. Ladd, praying to be reim-

bursed for expences paid by him for the use of the Commonwealth.

Resolved, For the reasons set forth in said petition, that there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury of this Commonwealth, to Sannel G. Ladd, seventy-one dollars and fifteen cents, in full compensation for the expences paid by him for purchasing land and building a Gun-House thereon.

CHAP. XXII.

Resolve authorizing any one Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to hold the next term of said Court at Castine.
7th June, 1813.

Resolved, That the Supreme Judicial Court next to be holden at Castine, for the Counties of Hancock and Washington, on the third Tuesday of this present June, may be held by any one Justice of said Court, and such Justice shall be, and hereby is authorized to hear, try and determine all such matters as may come before the said Court, and which by force of the act passed on the fifteenth day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and five, entitled "an act making further provision in the Judicial department," may be heard, tried and determined by the Supreme Judicial Court, when holden pursuant to the third section of the aforesaid act, and such Justice shall be, and hereby is also authorized to hear, try and determine all questions of divorce and alimony which may lawfully come before the said Court, to be holden as aforesaid; and all actions, suits and processes, which may be pending in the said Court, and which may be there continued for the advisement of the Court upon any question of law, may be heard and determined at any term of said Court, to be holden in any other County, pursuant to the second section of the act aforesaid, and judgment therein may be rendered as of the said term of said Court, to be holden at Castine by virtue of this resolve.

CHAP. XXIII.

Resolve authorizing the Overseers of the Marshpee Indians to reconvey to Nathan Bourne, certain Rights, &c.

8th June, 1813.

On the petition of Ephraim Spooner and Joshua Thomas, Overseers of the plantation of Indians at Marshpee, in the County of Barnstable.

Resolved, That for reasons set forth in said petition, the said Ephraim Spooner and Joshua Thomas, Overseers as aforesaid, be, and they are hereby authorized to reconvey to Nathan Bourne, of Sandwich, in the County of Barnstable, by deed, all the rights, easements and privileges which the said Nathan conveyed by his deed, to the said Overseers of Marshpee, and for a consideration which has failed, as set forth in their petition; and that the said deed, when executed, shall be legal and valid; and the said Overseers are hereby authorized, if they think proper, to enter into a rule of reference touching the premises as aforesaid, for the final adjustment of the claims of the said Nathan, and the proceedings under said submission shall be binding on the parties, and have full legal effect.

CHAP. XXIV.

Resolve authorizing Charles Barber to sell Real Estate of Minors, Children of Samuel Smith. 8th June, 1813.

On the petition of Charles Barber, Guardian to the Children of Samuel Smith, late of Gray, now of Portland, in the County of Cumberland, viz. to Samuel Smith, jr. Eliza Smith, William Smith, Polly Smith, David Smith, Edward Smith and John Smith, minors, praying for leave to sell certain real estate in Portland, conveyed by George Wheelright to John Stone, in trust for Susanna Smith, wife of said Samuel Smith, and said Children.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that the said Charles Barber, Guardian as aforesaid, be, and hereby is authorized and empowered, to sell and convey, by deed, in fee simple, the said real estate as described and bounded in the aforesaid deed of George Wheelwright to John Stone,

which deed is dated the twenty second day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eleven, to any person or persons who may offer the most therefor, at public auction or private sale, on such terms and conditions as he may think most consistent with the interest of said Susanna and said Children, and the money arising therefrom to vest in neat stock and real estate in the town of Gray, aforesaid, or in good securities, as may best promote the interest of said Susanna and Children.

Provided, That the said Charles Barber first give bond, with sufficient sureties, to the Judge of Probate of the County of Cumberland, to account for the proceeds of the sale thereof: Conditioned, that he will well and truly observe all the rules and regulations, relative to the sale aforesaid, in the same way and manner as is provided by the laws of this Commonwealth, in cases where Guardians shall have been empowered by the Supreme Judicial Court or Circuit Court of Common Pleas, to make sale of the real estate of their wards for the payment of debts or for their support.

Be it further resolved, That the said Charles Barber be, and hereby is authorized and empowered to deliver up to the widow of the said John Stone, deceased, a certain bond, dated the twenty second day of August, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and eleven, given by the said John Stone to the said Susanna and Children, for the sum of one thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duty as trustee of said real estate; and also to cancel a certain mortgage of certain real estate in said Gray, dated on the aforesaid twenty second day of August, given by the said John Stone to the said Susanna and Children, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his trust aforesaid.

CHAP. XXV.

Resolve establishing the Salaries of the Lieutenant Governor, Secretary and Treasurer. 8th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to his Honor the Lieutenant Governor thereof, the sum of five hundred and thirty three dollars and thirty three cents, in full of his salary for one year from the thirty first day of May last past.

Also to Alden Bradford, Esq. Secretary of this Commonwealth, the sum of two thousand dollars, as and for his salary for one year from the sixth day of June instant, he, the said Secretary, to be accountable, at the end of said year, for all fees of offices he shall have received.

And likewise to John T. Apthorp, Esq. Treasurer and Receiver General of the said Commonwealth, the sum of two thousand dollars, as and for his salary for one year from the sixth day of June current, and that all the aforesaid salaries be paid quarterly as they shall become due.

CHAP. XXVI.

*Resolve granting §53 32, to the town of Castine.
8th June, 1813.*

On the petition of David Howe, in behalf of the inhabitants of Castine.

Whereas, A resolve passed on the 5th day of February, 1803, directing the Treasurer of this Commonwealth to deduct from the state tax for the town of Castine, four cents on a thousand dollars, for the valuation of the year 1802, during the term of said valuation, and it appears by the Treasurer's books, that the resolve has not been complied with.

Therefore resolved, That the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be directed to pay the town of Castine, or any person authorized by them to receive the same, the sum of fifty three dollars and thirty two cents, being the amount due said town of Castine.

CHAP. XXVII.

Resolve directing the Solicitor General relative to the real estates of Treasurer Skinner's Bondsmen, and granting §100 for paying the expense of eight informations against Civil Officers in Hampden. 8th June, 1813.

On the Communication of Daniel Davis, Esq. Solicitor General, relative to certain public prosecutions.

Resolved, That the Solicitor General be, and he hereby

is authorized to give such credit to any purchaser or purchasers of any real estate or estates of the sureties of the late Treasurer Skinner, which may be taken in execution for the satisfaction of any judgment or judgments in favour of the Commonwealth, and take such security for the payment of the purchase money, as he, or any agent, duly appointed by him for that purpose, shall deem expedient.

Resolved, That the household furniture and such of the farming utensils and cattle of the said sureties, and such of their horses and carriages, as in the opinion of the Solicitor General may be necessary for the reasonable accommodation and comfort of their respective families, shall be exempt from being taken in execution upon any or either of the said judgments aforesaid.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to the Solicitor General, for the purpose of defraying the expences of eight informations, in the nature of a Quo warranto, against certain civil officers of the County of Hampden, specified in his communication to this Legislature, dated 27th May last.

CHAP. XXVIII.

Resolve compensating Abiel Hall for taking depositions, and Andrew Roberts, as a witness in the case of Thomas Keeler, Esq. 8th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be granted and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, twenty-five dollars to Abiel Hall, Esq. for his services in taking and certifying depositions in the case of Thomas Keeler, Esq. of Alfred, in the County of York, for mal practice in his office as a Justice of the Peace, on the complaint of James Bean and Edmund Pitts, against the said Thomas Keeler, Esq. in the year 1809, and also twenty two dollars to Andrew Roberts, as a witness in said cause for his travel and attendance, in full for their services; and his Excellency the Governor, with advice of Council, is requested to issue his warrant on the Treasury, for the payment of the sums aforesaid, to the said Abiel Hall, Esq. and Andrew Roberts.

CHAP. XXIX.

Resolve establishing the Pay of the Clerks in Secretary's and Treasurer's Offices. 8th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to the first Clerk in the Secretary's Office, the sum of fourteen hundred dollars, in full compensation for his services, for one year from the first day of this present month of June ; and also to each of the other Clerks in said Secretary's Office, the sum of three dollars and forty-nine cents per day, for each and every day they are respectively employed therein, for one year commencing the said first day of June instant.

And be it further resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury aforesaid, to the first Clerk in the Treasury Office, the sum of fourteen hundred dollars in full compensation for his services for one year from the first day of this current month of June ; and likewise to each of the other Clerks in said Treasurer's Office, three dollars and eighty four cents per day for each and every day they are respectively employed therein for one year, commencing the said first day of June current.

CHAP. XXX.

Resolve on the Petition of Jonathan Burgess, a Soldier in the late revolutionary army, granting him \$215 84. 9th June, 1813.

On the petition of Jonathan Burgess, praying compensation for services as a soldier in the fourth Massachusetts Regiment, during the revolutionary war.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that there be granted and paid out of the Treasury of the Commonwealth, to said Jonathan Burgess, the sum of two hundred and fifteen dollars and eighty four cents, in full for his services aforesaid ; and his Excellency the Governor, with advice of Council, is hereby authorized and requested to draw his warrant on the Treasury accordingly.

CHAP. XXXI.

Resolve on the Petition of Ruthy Barrett and others, authorizing Timothy L. Jennison to execute a Deed to Catharine Smith. 9th June, 1813.

On the petition of Ruthy Barrett and others, heirs at law to the estate of Thomas Barrett, late of Cambridge, in the County of Middlesex.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that Timothy L. Jennison, of Cambridge, Executor of the last will and testament of said Barrett, be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to make, execute and release to Catharine Smith, of said Cambridge, widow, a deed of conveyance of all the right and title, which the said Barrett had in and to the estate of Mary Richardson, late of Cambridge, widow, deceased, being one fifth part of the said widow's dower, and that the said Jennison, in his capacity as Executor of the last will and testament of said Barrett, be held to account for the proceeds of the same, in the same manner as though it were personal estate.

CHAP. XXXII.

Resolve on the Petition of Wiggins Hill, authorizing the Administrator on Estate of Josiah Hills, to convey to him a lot of Land. 9th June, 1813.

On the petition and representation of Wiggins Hill, of a place called Kenduskeag, in the County of Hancock, yeoman, praying that the Administrator on the estate of Josiah Hills, may be authorized to convey to him a certain lot of land, the same having been set off, on execution, on a judgment in favor of said Josiah Hills, which judgment was obtained in a suit against Eleazer Spaulding, jr. John Spaulding and Seth Spaulding, in favor of said Josiah Hills, by mistake, instead of said Wiggins Hill.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that the Administrator on the said Josiah Hills' estate be, and he is hereby authorized to convey, by deed, to said Wiggins Hill, all the right, title and interest which the said Josiah Hills had, by virtue of the levy of said execution, in and unto a

certain piece or parcel of land, situated in township numbered five, in the seventh range of townships, north of the Waldo Patent, beginning at the north-east corner of lot number two, in the first range of lots in said township; thence north, seventy rods to a stake; thence east, sixty four rods to a birch tree; thence south, seventy rods to a hemlock, standing in the town line; thence west, sixty four rods to the first bounds; which said deed shall, to all purposes, have the same force and effect as though the judgment aforesaid had been obtained and execution levied in the name of the said Wiggins Hill.

CHAP. XXXIII.

Resolve on the Petition of Daniel Lunt.

10th June, 1813.

On the petition of Daniel Lunt,

Resolved, That the Commonwealth's Agent upon the subject of Eastern Lands, be, and he hereby is authorized and empowered to sell and convey to the said Daniel Lunt, all the right, title and interest which the Commonwealth has of, in or to two small Islands, lying in Androscoggin River, opposite to and nearly adjoining the land which said Lunt purchased of the Committee for the Sale of Eastern Lands, by deed, dated the twenty ninth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety, upon such terms and conditions, as said Agent may deem just and reasonable, under all the circumstances of the case.

Provided, The same still remain the property of this Commonwealth.

CHAP. XXXIV.

Resolve on the Petition of William Sullivan, Esq.

10th June, 1813.

On the petition of William Sullivan, of Boston, Esquire, praying that a resolve may be passed, to empower Daniel Sargent, of said Boston, Esquire, to convey certain lands which the late John Turner Sargent, of Boston, Esquire,

held in trust, and whereof he died seized : For reasons set forth in said petition,

Resolved, That Daniel Sargent, of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, Esquire, be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to execute, acknowledge and deliver, in due form of law, unto William Sullivan, of Boston, aforesaid, Esquire, and to his heirs and assigns in trust, a deed of conveyance, of all the right, title, interest and estate which John Turner Sargent, late of said Boston, Esquire, deceased, had in and to certain land, and the privileges and appurtenances thereof, situate in Boston, aforesaid, and bounded and described as follows, viz. :—Beginning at the corner of Beach-street and Rainsford's lane, bounding on Beach-street, eighty five feet ; on Rainsford's lane, one hundred and fourteen feet ; on the rear or northerly line, one hundred and one feet ; westerly seventy four feet ; then running eastwardly and bounded southwardly twenty feet ; then running southerly and bounded westerly forty four feet to Beach-street, be the said lines or boundaries more or less, with the wharf, flats, and the privileges and appurtenances laying before the Distill-house, on said estate, at the southerly side of Beach street, as it formerly was, about seventy feet, beginning on Rainsford's lane (the new street called Front-street, being laid out over part of said wharf) and extending southwardly from the southwardly boundary of Beach-street, aforesaid, as far as the flats or the rights appertaining to said estate, extend. Reference being had to the deeds of conveyance heretofore executed. See Book 123, folio 153 ; Book 144, folio 264 ; Book 210, folio 60, where deeds are recorded, touching the premises.

And be it further resolved, That the said Daniel Sargent be, and he hereby is authorized and empowered to convey to Jonathan Earle, of Leicester, in the County of Worcester, in like manner, all the right, title, interest and estate which the said John Turner Sargent had in and to the land and appurtenances described as follows, viz. :—Beginning on the great post road, leading through the town of Leicester, at a point on the south westwardly side of the said road, where the land, herein described, adjoins to land now or late of Mr. Hearsey ; and from said point, running south four degrees east, one hundred and forty rods to the Mower Farm, so called ; then running east two and one half degrees north, fifty rods by the Mower Farm ; thence running

north four degrees west, seventy one rods ; thence running north forty five degrees east, twenty four rods and ten links to the aforesaid post road ; and thence running north-westwardly, by the post road, to the place of beginning : this land being fifty two acres, and part of the Nathan Hearsey Farm, so called :—And that the deeds, by said Daniel Sargent lawfully executed in virtue hereof, shall be good and valid, to pass and convey all the estate and title, which the said John T. Sargent had, at the time of his decease, in said lands, as though such deed or deeds had been executed by the said John Turner Sargent in his life time.

CHAP. XXXV.

Resolve on the Petition of William Atkinson and Partners.
10th June, 1813.

On the petition of William Atkinson, in behalf of himself and Partners, praying an allowance of a certain sum of money paid by them to the Treasury of this Commonwealth.

Resolved, That for reasons set forth in the petition, there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to the said William Atkinson, for himself and Partners, the sum of forty four dollars and seven cents ; and his Excellency the Governor, with the consent of the Council, is hereby requested to draw his warrant on the Treasurer for the same.

CHAP. XXXVI.

Resolve on the Petition of William Trowbridge, making valid an Affidavit. 10th June, 1813.

On the petition of William Trowbridge, of Newton, in the County of Middlesex, gentleman, Executor on the estate of Edmund Trowbridge, late of Newton, in said County, gentleman, deceased, intestate, praying that his affidavit of his having given notice of his appointment as Executor of said will, and having taken upon himself that trust, made in the Probate Court, in said County, on the eleventh day of May, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, and recorded in the

Probate Office, in said County, together with a true copy of one of the notifications of said appointment, in the Registry of Probate in said County, may be made valid in law, although not made within seven months after the day of said appointment, as the law requires.

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition be granted, and the said affidavit, and copy of one of said original notifications, recorded as above mentioned, shall be valid, and have the same force and effect in law, as if the same had been done within seven months after the day of said appointment, any law, usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

CHAP. XXXVII.

Resolve on the Petition of John Richards and others.
10th June, 1813.

On the petition of John Richards, for himself and others, praying, that the time for performing the settling duties upon certain lands in the District of Maine, may be extended.

Resolved, For the reasons set forth in said petition, that the Agents for the Sale of Eastern Lands be, and they are hereby authorized to renew the bonds given to the Commonwealth by John Richards and others, bearing date June 1st, in the year of our Lord 1807, conditioned for performing the settling duties on the lands formerly sold by the Commonwealth to William Bingham, and (after deducting from the penalties of said bonds, the sum of thirty dollars for each settler which has been placed on said lands, conformably to the condition of the existing bonds) to take bonds for the balance of the penalties due after such deduction, with condition for performing the residue of said settling duties in four years.

And resolved further, That if the devisees in trust of the estate of the said William Bingham, or the said Richards, or any person acting under them, or in their behalf, shall advance or expend any sum or sums of money in laying out and making a public road through the tract known by the name of the Kennebeck Million, to meet or continue a road already surveyed and authorized to be laid out from the north line of said tract, to the British Province of Canada, the said Agents shall, from time to time, allow and endorse

upon the bond, to be executed by said Richards, all such sums as shall be truly expended by the said devisees, or said Richards, or any person claiming under them, on producing satisfactory evidence thereof; and the said Agents are hereby authorized to contract with said Richards, or the said devisees, for the laying out, making and completing said road, throughout said tract or any part thereof.

Provided, The same shall be paid for, by discounting the expence thereof, from the penalty of the bond to be given as aforesaid, by said Richards, and not otherwise.

CHAP. XXXVIII.

Resolve to reduce the Poll Tax. 10th June, 1813.

Resolved, That the valuation established by a resolve, passed on the thirtieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twelve, be so far amended, as that the rateable polls shall be estimated at one ~~mile~~ ^{mill} each, on the sum of one thousand dollars, in all taxes hereafter to be assessed on the several towns, districts and plantations in this Commonwealth; and that said valuation be made to conform to the estimation of the polls as aforesaid.

CHAP. XXXIX.

Resolve on the Petition of Cyrus Hamlin, directing the Treasurer to stay execution against the Bondsmen of David Learned, late Sheriff of Oxford County.

10th June, 1813.

On the petition of Cyrus Hamlin, praying for stay of execution against the bondsmen of David Learned,

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth, be, and he is hereby directed to stay execution against the bondsmen of David Learned, late the Sheriff of the County of Oxford, for the sum of three hundred and twenty-four dollars, and interest thereon, for the term of one full year, from the last day of the present session of this General Court, that said bondsmen

may be enabled to discharge the aforesaid sum without further cost.

CHAP. XL.

Resolve appointing Commissioners to settle Treasurer's Accounts. 11th June, 1813.

Resolved, That the Hon. John Welles, Benjamin Weld, George Blanchard, Joseph Beamis and Ezekiel Savage, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners to examine, liquidate, adjust and settle the accounts of John T. Apthorp, Esq. Treasurer and Receiver General of this Commonwealth, from the eighth day of June, 1812, the time of his entering on the duties of his office, to the thirtieth day of June instant, inclusively, and the said Commissioners are directed and empowered to deface all notes and due bills, orders, or other obligations issued under the authority of this Commonwealth, by any officer thereof, which have been redeemed by the Treasurer, or his predecessors, and to report their proceedings at the next session of the General Court.

CHAP. XLI.

Resolve on the Petition of Joseph D. Bass, for the heirs of the late Edward Tyler, Esq. and others.
11th June, 1813.

On the petition of Joseph D. Bass, for the heirs of the late Edward Tyler and others.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that a further time of two years, from the first instant, be, and hereby is allowed to the heirs and assigns of the late Edward Tyler and others, owners of township letter D. in the County of Oxford, to complete the settlement of forty families on said township, and if they, or their heirs or assigns, shall settle within said time, the said number of families on said township, that then the estate and right of said Edward Tyler and others, their heirs and assigns, shall be valid, full and effectual to all intents and purposes, as if the conditions of settlement expressed in the original deed given of said

township, by the Committee appointed by the General Court, to sell and convey the unappropriated land in the District of Maine, had been fully and seasonably complied with.

Provided, Nevertheless, the said Tyler and others, their heirs and assigns, shall, on or before the first day of December next, give bonds to the Commonwealth, with sufficient surety or sureties, to the satisfaction of the Agent for the Sale of Eastern lands: Conditioned, that the number of families required in said original deed, to be settled on said township, shall, within said term of two years, be settled thereon, or for the payment of thirty dollars for each family which shall then be deficient.

CHAP. XLII.

Resolve granting Charles Hammond, \$126 50, expences in laying out a Road through No. 4. 11th June, 1813.

On the petition of Charles Hammond, praying for compensation for services rendered in laying out a road, pursuant to a resolve passed March 2d, A. D. 1810.

Resolved, On the petition aforesaid, for the reasons therein set forth, that the said Charles Hammond be, and hereby is allowed to receive from the Treasury of said Commonwealth, the sum of one hundred and twenty-six dollars and fifty cents, in full for his services, as set forth in said petition; and his Excellency the Governor, is hereby authorized to draw his warrant on the Treasury of said Commonwealth for said sum.

CHAP. XLIII.

Resolve on the Petition of the town of Pownal. 11th June, 1813.

On the petition of the town of Pownal, praying, for reasons set forth in their petition, that they may be authorized and empowered to lay out their State tax, for the year eighteen hundred and twelve and thirteen, on their County roads in said Pownal.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars (being a sum but a little more than said town's proportion of the State

tax, for one year) be remitted to said town of Pownal, upon condition, that said sum of one hundred dollars, be laid out and expended upon the County roads, leading through said town.

Be it further resolved, That the Selectmen of said town of Pownal, shall, at the next session of the General Court, certify under oath, that the said sum of one hundred dollars, has been laid out and expended on the County roads, leading through said town; and also that the monies which have been levied and assessed in said town, for the repairs of highways, have been worked out upon the roads and bridges in said town.

CHAP. XLIV.

Resolve for distributing a Pamphlet, among the Militia, entitled "The Elements of War." 11th June, 1813.

Whereas, From the nature of our republican government, the Militia of this Commonwealth are the constitutional defence thereof, and it is indispensably necessary for the perfect organization and discipline of the Militia, that some comprehensive and uniform system of tactics in modern use, should be adopted throughout this Commonwealth, as the basis of their discipline.

And whereas, A treatise of this nature, now presents itself, entitled "The Elements of War," which has met the current approbation of the most able and experienced military officers in our country: Therefore, for the more perfect organization and discipline of the Militia, and for the encouragement of both officers and soldiers.

Resolved, That the Adjutant General be, and he hereby is directed, to procure and distribute, as soon as may be, to each General, Field and Commissioned Staff Officer, and to each Company in the Militia of this Commonwealth, one copy of the treatise aforesaid, for the use of such officers and Companies, and to be handed down to their successors in office, for the use aforesaid.

Provided, The same can be purchased for one dollar and fifty cents each, printed on good paper, well bound with leather, and lettered on the back, *Elements of War*, and on one side, *Massachusetts Militia*.

CHAP. XLV.

Resolve granting further time to Nathaniel Ingersoll and John Hodgdon, to settle a Township. 11th June, 1813.

On the petition of Nathaniel Ingersoll, praying further time for the settlement of families, on a half township of land, granted to Westford Academy.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that a further time of three years, from this time, be, and hereby is allowed to Nathaniel Ingersoll, of New-Gloucester, in the County of Cumberland, and John Hodgdon, of Ware, in the County of Hillsborough, in the State of New-Hampshire, their heirs and assigns, to complete the settlement of ten families on the half township of land granted the Trustees of Westford Academy.

Provided, The said Nathaniel Ingersoll or John Hodgdon, their heirs or assigns, shall, on or before the first day of October next, give bond to the Treasurer of this Commonwealth, in the sum of six hundred dollars, with sufficient surety or sureties, to the satisfaction of the Agents for the Sale of Eastern lands: Conditioned, that there shall be settled on said grant, the number of ten families, within the time extended aforesaid, or for the payment of thirty dollars for each family which shall then be deficient; on payment of which sum, then the estate, right and title of the said Nathaniel Ingersoll and John Hodgdon, their heirs and assigns, shall be valid, full and effectual, to all intents and purposes, as if the condition of settlement, expressed in the original deed given of said half township, by the Agents for the Sale of Eastern lands, had been fully and seasonably complied with.

And be it further resolved, That the Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, is hereby directed upon receiving the bond as above specified, to give up or cancel two bonds, one signed by Nathaniel Ingersoll, Peter Chandler, jr. and Thomas Johnson, dated the 22d day of September, 1809; the other signed by John Hodgdon, Asa Butterfield and Ebenezer Bankcroft, jr. dated the 29th day of August, 1809, which bonds are now lodged in the Treasury-Office.

CHAP. XLVI.

Resolve for printing the Charters, Colony and Province Laws. 12th June, 1813.

The Committee appointed to consider what number of copies of the charters and public and general laws of the late colony and province of Massachusetts Bay, ought to be printed at the expense of and for the use of this Commonwealth, have attended that service, and ask leave to

Report, That it is expedient to have one thousand copies of the same, for the use of this Commonwealth, for which purpose they recommended the passage of the following resolve.

Resolved, That Nathan Dane, William Prescott and Joseph Story, Esquires, be authorized to cause one thousand copies of the charters and the public and general laws, of the late colony and province of Massachusetts Bay to be printed, for the use of this Commonwealth, in the same manner, as is provided by a resolve, passed fifteenth of January, 1813, instead of five hundred copies, as by said resolve is directed.

And be it further resolved, That the said copies shall be distributed, by the Secretary, in the manner provided by a resolve for distributing the laws, passed 31st January, 1807, except so far as the same requires a distribution of the laws to the Members of the General Court.

CHAP. XLVII.

Resolve directing the Solicitor General to consent to the continuance of any Indictments against the Proprietors of Canal Bridge, pending in Middlesex. 12th June, 1813.

Resolved, That the Solicitor General of this Commonwealth, be authorized and directed to consent to a continuance of any indictments, pending in the County of Middlesex, against the Proprietors of the Canal Bridge, from the next October term of the Supreme Judicial Court, to the next April term of said Court, if the said Corporation shall request it.

CHAP. XLVIII.

Resolve discharging Secretary Bradford from \$7350 80, and granting balance of his account. 12th June, 1813.

The Committee appointed to examine the accounts of Alden Bradford, Esq. Secretary of this Commonwealth, relative to all monies heretofore by him received, in virtue of certain warrants, drawn by his Excellency the Governor, in favor of said Bradford, by him to be expended on account of the Commonwealth, have attended that service, and ask leave to

Report, That the said Bradford received the sum of seven thousand three hundred and forty-four dollars, eighty cents, in the manner aforesaid, from the twenty-second June, 1812, to twenty-fifth May last inclusive, and that he has expended, on account of the Commonwealth, for the same purposes, for which the said warrants were drawn, the sum of seven thousand three hundred and fifty dollars, eighty cents, and that the following resolve be passed by the Legislature.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, the sum of six dollars to Alden Bradford, Esq. Secretary of this Commonwealth, and that the said Alden Bradford be discharged from all monies heretofore by him received, in virtue of the warrants aforesaid.

CHAP. XLIX.

Resolve authorizing Oliver Wendell, Esq. to sell Estate of the heirs of Jacob Wendell. 12th June, 1813.

On the petition of Oliver Wendell, Esq. sole surviving executor of the last will and testament of the Hon. Jacob Wendell, Esq. late of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, deceased.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that said Oliver Wendell, Esq. be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to sell and convey, and for that purpose to make, execute and deliver deeds, to convey all the right, title, interest, claim and demands of the heirs of said Jacob Wendell, to four thousand four hundred and twenty four acres of land, which were assigned by the Proprietors of the Ken-

nebeck purchase from the late colony of New Plymouth, to said heirs of said Jacob Wendell ; and also all the right, title, interest, claim and demand of the heirs of said Jacob Wendell, to the undivided lands and property of said Proprietors of the Kennebeck purchase from the late colony of New Plymouth ; and that said Oliver Wendell shall account for and pay to said heirs, their several proportions of the proceeds arising from such sales, in the same manner as if the same had been personal estate.

CHAP. L.

Resolve making appropriations for discharging all debts due from the State Prison and for its current expences.

12th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury, to the Warden of the State Prison, the sum of two thousand and ninety dollars and seventy four cents, to pay the balance of the debts due from the said institution, which were contracted by Daniel Jackson, Esq. formerly Superintendant thereof ; and the said Warden is hereby directed to discharge said debts as soon as may be, and produce vouchers for the same to the Directors, and that there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury, the further sum of six thousand dollars, to be drawn from the Treasury by said Warden, in such sums as the Directors shall, from time to time, direct for the use of said institution ; and his Excellency the Governor, with advice of Council, is hereby requested to draw his warrants on the Treasurer for said sums accordingly.

CHAP. LI.

Resolve on the Petition of Robert Thompson and others.

12th June, 1813.

On the petition of Robert Thompson and others, composing one of the Companies of detached Militia of this Commonwealth, under command of Captain Joshua Chamberlain, ordered into service by his Excellency the Governor,

for the defence of the eastern frontier, on the 14th day of August, A. D. 1812, praying for additional compensation.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that there be granted and paid out of the Treasury of said Commonwealth, unto said Captain Joshua Chamberlain, to and for the use of the privates, non-commissioned officers and musicians of said company respectively, the sums following, viz. : to each private, the sum of three dollars and thirty three cents per month ; to each serjeant, the sum of four dollars per month ; to each corporal and musician, the sum of three dollars and sixty seven cents per month, during the time of five months, in which they were in said service, agreeably to the roll hereto annexed, which will be a gratuity in addition to the pay allowed by the United States, already by them respectively received.

CHAP. LII.

Resolve authorizing the Treasurer to pay to Shubael Downes, certain sums of Money for the use of the persons therein named. 12th June, 1813.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Commonwealth be, and he is hereby authorized to pay to Shubael Downes, the several sums allowed to Elijah G. Wetherly, Noah Whittier, Abiel Townsend, Thomas Belither, Robert Townsend, Noah Allen, Nathaniel Lane, Thomas Thornhill, Joel Knight, Thomas Hodgman, James Boyd, Johnson Williams, Andrew Dunning, Anuaniah Bohannon, Timothy Barker and Liba G. Spring, for their services in the local militia in the town of Calais, according as they are made up in the payroll, by the Adjutant General, during the months of July and August last, on the said Shubael Downes giving sufficient bonds to the said Treasurer, to pay over to the several persons above named, the amount severally due to them.

CHAP. LIII.

Resolve for paying the Charlestown Members of the General Court, whose election was declared void.

14th June, 1813.

Resolved. That David Goodwin, Thomas Harris, Wil

liam Austin and John Soley, Esquires, who were returned as Members of this House from the town of Charlestown, but whose election has been declared void by said House, be allowed to exhibit to the Committee on Accounts, an account of their attendance, as Members of this House, to the time when their said election was declared void as aforesaid ; and that said Committee be directed to allow to each of said persons, two dollars a day for each day he may have attended as a Member of this House, during the present session of this General Court.

CHAP. LIV.

Resolve on the Petition of Robert Treat. 14th June, 1813.

On the petition of Robert Treat, in behalf of Joseph Treat, praying for a further time to make payment of the interest on his bond to this Commonwealth.

Resolved, That the said Joseph Treat be, and he hereby is allowed one year from the nineteenth day of the present month of June, to pay one half of the whole interest that may then be due on his bond to this Commonwealth, dated the nineteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and six, and the further time of two years from the said nineteenth day of the present month of June, to pay the remaining half of said interest ; and the Treasurer of this Commonwealth is hereby directed to stay any further proceedings thereon, until the expiration of the period or periods of time above named.

CHAP. LV.

*Resolve granting Jacob Kuhn, Messenger, \$350.
15th June, 1813.*

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury, to Jacob Kuhn, three hundred and fifty dollars for the present year, commencing the thirtieth day of May last, to be in addition to the sum of four hundred dollars allowed him by a resolve of March 26th, 1793, establishing the pay of the Messenger of the General Court.

CHAP. LVI.

Resolve relating to Non-resident Lands.

15th June, 1813.

Resolved, That so much of a resolve of the Legislature, passed on the twenty second day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, as requires “advertisements for the sale of non-resident lands for the payment of taxes, to be published in the papers printed at Springfield and Northampton, when the lands to be sold lie in either of the Counties of Hampshire or Berkshire,” be and the same is hereby repealed.

CHAP. LVII.

Resolve granting to Samuel Brown, \$110 80, for his services in the fourth Regiment of the revolutionary army.

15th June, 1813.

On the petition of Samuel Brown, praying for compensation for services as a soldier in the fourth Massachusetts regiment, during the revolutionary war.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that there be granted and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to said Samuel Brown, the sum of one hundred ten dollars and eighty cents, in full for his services aforesaid.

CHAP. LVIII.

Resolve granting Captain Joshua Chamberlain, \$28, for Expences. 15th June, 1813.

On the petition of Joshua Chamberlain, praying that he may be remunerated for certain expences incurred by him, when on duty, as an officer of the detached militia ordered to the eastern frontier by the Commander in Chief, and which have not before been allowed.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to the said Joshua Chamberlain, the sum of twenty

eight dollars, in full for the doctor's bill, board and attendance of Henry Snow, one of the said detached militia, and for the expences of said detached militia, at the widow Mary Burnham's.

CHAP. LIX.

Resolve granting Elizabeth Churchill, \$174 36, due her husband, Joshua Totman, as Quarter Master second Massachusetts Regiment. 15th June, 1813.

On the petition of Elizabeth Churchill, widow of Joshua Totman, late a Quarter Master in the second Massachusetts regiment, commanded by Col. John Bailey, in the late revolutionary war.

Resolved, That one hundred and seventy four dollars and thirty six cents, be granted and paid out of the public Treasury, to the said Elizabeth Churchill, in full compensation for the services of her late husband, Joshua Totman, as Quarter Master in the said second regiment, being a balance due to the said Totman, on a settlement of the army accounts.

CHAP. LX.

Resolve authorizing Isaac and William Clark, to execute a Deed to Nathan Batchelder, of Hallowell. 15th June, 1813.

Whereas, Nathan Batchelder, of Hallowell, in the County of Kennebeck, by his petition, has prayed that authority may be given to Isaac Clark, of Monmouth, and William Clark, of Hallowell, Administrators on the estate of Isaac Clark, jr. late of said Monmouth, deceased, to make and deliver a deed of a certain lot of land to him, situated in said Hallowell, and bounded thus:—Beginning on the street which runs westerly by the bank lot, at the distance of twelve rods from Second-street, and on a street now laid out, but not yet accepted by the town; thence running westerly on said first mentioned street ten rods; thence southerly four rods to a stake; thence easterly ten rods to a stake on said street, laid out as aforesaid; thence northerly by said last

mentioned street four rods to the point of beginning ; and it appears that said Isaac Clark, jr. in his life time, agreed, by his contract, not under seal, to convey said piece of land to said Batchelder, but the conveyance was prevented by the sudden death of said Isaac Clark, jr. ; therefore, for the reasons set forth in said petition,

Resolved, That the said Isaac and William, as Administrators on said estate, be, and they hereby are authorized and empowered to make, execute and deliver to said Batchelder, a good and sufficient deed of the said lot of land, and such deed duly acknowledged and recorded, shall give as good a title to said lot of land, as if a deed of the same had been duly executed by said Isaac Clark, jr. in his life time, and by him delivered to said Batchelder.

CHAP. LXI.

Resolve allowing Pay to Sylvanus Lapham, Assistant to the Messenger of the General Court. 15th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, unto Sylvanus Lapham, Assistant to the Messenger of the General Court, one dollar per day, during the present session of the Legislature, over and above the usual allowance to him, which is two dollars per day.

CHAP. LXII.

Resolve allowing Pay to John Perry and Warren Chase, Assistants to the Messengers of the General Court. 15th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to John Perry and Warren Chase, Assistants to the Messenger of the General Court, one dollar per day each, during the present session of the said Court, over and above the usual allowance to them, which said usual allowance is two dollars per day.

CHAP. LXIII.

Resolve on Petition of Captain Joshua Chamberlain and others. 15th June, 1813.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Joshua Chamberlain and others, have attended that duty and *Report*, That the said Chamberlain and others, were detached and stationed at Eastport, in September last, by order of the Commander in Chief; that they were shortly afterwards taken into the service of the United States, and were discharged and paid by the United States, until the first day of January last, at Eastport, a distance of one hundred and sixty miles from their homes, without any appropriation for their expences of travelling and transportation of baggage.

Therefore resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to Captain Joshua Chamberlain, the sum of \$58 89;—to Lieutenant Peter Newcomb, the sum of \$45 3;—to Ensign Samuel Freeman, the sum of \$42 70, for fourteen days pay, rations and transportation of baggage. Also to Captain Joshua Chamberlain, the sum of \$78 3, for apprehending and securing four deserters, and reward as ordered by Major Ulmer.

CHAP. LXIV.

Resolve permitting the towns of Boston, Dorchester and Brookline, to keep their Powder in the State Magazine. 15th June, 1813.

Resolved, That the towns of Boston, Dorchester and Brookline, be, and they are hereby, severally authorized and permitted to keep the powder required of them, by the 22d section of the act, entitled “an act for regulating, governing and training the militia of this Commonwealth” in the State Powder Magazine, situated in Roxbury, in the County of Norfolk.

CHAP. LXV.

Resolve on the Petition of Seth Spring and others. 16th June, 1813.

On the petition of Seth Spring, Andrew M. Spring and

John Spring, representing that there is a surplus of land belonging to the Commonwealth, in a tract of land, granted to Benjamin Prescott, Esq. by a resolve of the 25th of June, 1773; and also a surplus of land belonging to the Commonwealth, in a township of land, granted by the General Court, to Samuel Whittemore and others, on the 8th day of February, A. D. 1774, and confirmed to them, by a resolve passed the 16th day of June, 1780.

And whereas, It appears that the said Seth, Andrew and John, have purchased of the Agents for the Sale of Eastern lands, all the right of the Commonwealth in and unto the surplus of lands, in both the above mentioned tracts and grants of land, for a valuable consideration expressed in their contracts with the said Agents:—And it appearing to be necessary, that the aid of the Legislature should be afforded to the said petitioners, to enable them to take and hold possession of the said surplus lands, and also to ascertain the quantity and to fix the location thereof.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Commonwealth, be, and he is hereby directed to suspend any action or suit, brought or to be brought, against the petitioners for their notes, given for the use of the Commonwealth, for the purchase of said surplus lands, until the further order of the Legislature.

CHAP. LXVI.

Resolve granting Thomas Walcutt, \$125.
16 June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury, to Thomas Walcutt, a Clerk in the lobbies, for the assistance of the Members of the Legislature, one hundred and twenty-five dollars, in full for his services during the present session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXVII.

Resolve for paying the Clerks of the two Houses.
16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the public Treasury,

to Samuel F. McCleary, Clerk of the Senate, and Benjamin Pollard, Clerk of the House of Representatives, two hundred dollars each; and also to Robert C. Vose, assistant Clerk of the Senate, one hundred and twenty-five dollars, in full for their services in said offices the present session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXVIII.

Resolve allowing \$1000, to Jacob Kuhn, Messenger, to purchase Fuel, &c. 16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to Jacob Kuhn, Messenger of the General Court, the sum of one thousand dollars, to enable him to purchase fuel, and such other articles, as may be necessary for the use of the General Court, together with the Governor and Council Chamber, the Secretary's and Treasurer's Offices, he to be accountable for the expenditure of the same.

CHAP. LXIX.

Resolve granting Pay to the Committee on Accounts. 16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury, to the Committee appointed to examine and pass on accounts, presented against the Commonwealth, for their attendance on that service, during the present session, the sums hereunder annexed to their names, in addition to their pay as Members of the Legislature:—

Hon. Silas Holman, sixteen days, sixteen dollars.

Hon. Joseph Whiton, sixteen days, sixteen dollars.

Thomas Hale, sixteen days, sixteen dollars.

James Robinson, sixteen days, sixteen dollars.

George Crosby, sixteen days, sixteen dollars.

CHAP. LXX.

Resolve granting to Theron Metcalf, Esq. Reporter of Contested Elections, \$125. 16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the pub-

lic Treasury, to Theron Metcalf, Esq. Reporter of Contested Elections, for this House, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars, for his services, during the present session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXXI.

Resolve granting \$190, for completing the publication of Jenkins' Art of Writing. 16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That one hundred and ninety dollars be placed in the hands of the Committee, in the case of John Jenkins, for aiding him in finishing the publication of his books, the said sum being in addition to what was granted by a resolve of twenty sixth of February, one thousand eight hundred and twelve; and his Excellency the Governor, is requested to draw a warrant on the Treasury for that sum, in favor of said Committee, to enable them to complete said work.

Be it further resolved, That said Committee be requested, on the completion of said work, to place in the Secretary's Office, the number of copies this Commonwealth may be entitled to receive, for the future order of the Legislature.

CHAP. LXXII.

Resolve granting Robert Milton, \$50, for expences incurred by a wound received when on military duty. 16th June, 1813.

On the petition of Robert Milton, praying for compensation for a wound received, while doing duty, as a soldier, in Captain Nehemiah Holbrook's company, Colonel Jacob Gill's regiment, at a regimental muster, in Braintree, on the eighth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to the said Robert Milton, the sum of fifty dollars; in full compensation for the loss of time and money expended in consequence of said wound.

CHAP. LXXIII.

Resolve directing the Adjutant General to prepare a system of discipline for the Artillery, and the Quarter Master General to contract for Gunners' Quadrants.

16th June, 1813.

Whereas, A resolve passed on the twelfth day of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and eight, authorizing and requesting the Governor to direct, that twelve Gunner's Quadrants be purchased of Charles Hammond, the inventor; and also empowering the Governor to appoint the inventor as an Instructor in the Art of Gunnery and use of said Quadrants.

And whereas, The provisions of said resolve have never been carried into effect.

Therefore resolved, That the Quarter Master General be, and he hereby is empowered to contract with Charles Hammond, Esq. for the right to make and use the said Gunner's Quadrants within this Commonwealth, at such price as, and on such conditions, as he may, with the advice of the Adjutant General, think for the interest of this Commonwealth.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor, be, and he is hereby authorized and requested, to cause to be made and distributed among the artillery companies, batteriès and fortifications, within this Commonwealth, so many of said Quadrants as he may deem necessary and useful.

And whereas, There is at present, no established rule of discipline for the artillery of this Commonwealth,

Resolved, That the Adjutant General be requested to prepare a system of discipline for the artillery of this Commonwealth, and report the same to the Legislature at the next session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXXIV.

Resolve granting \$109 75, to the town of Lynn, for supporting Molly Babbitt. 16th June, 1813.

On the petition of Zachariah Atwell and Nathan Mudge, Overseers of the poor of the town of Lynn, praying that said town may be remunerated for supporting Molly Babbitt, a person non compos mentis.

Resolved, For reasons set forth in said petition, that there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, unto the said town of Lynn, the sum of one hundred and nine dollars and seventy five cents, in full for supporting Molly Babbitt, from the thirtieth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eleven, until the ninth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen.

CHAP. LXXV.

Resolve granting the Page of the House, \$1 25 per day, for his attendance and services. 16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to the Messenger, to be paid by him over to Stephen Hall Tower, one dollar twenty five cents per day, for each day he, the said Tower, shall have attended, as Page, the present session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXXVI.

Resolve granting to John Low, jr. Assistant to the Messenger of the General Court, \$35. 16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth, to John Low, jr. Assistant Messenger of the House of Representatives, thirty five dollars, in full for his services in that capacity, during the present session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXXVII.

Resolve granting to Ward Lock, Assistant to the Messenger of the Governor and Council, \$50. 16th June, 1813.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury of this Commonwealth, to Ward Lock, the sum of fifty dollars, in full for his services, as Assistant to the

Messenger of the Governor and Council, the present session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXXVIII.

Resolve on the Accounts of the Agents for the Sale of Eastern Lands, and making grants for their services.
16th June, 1813.

The Committee of both Houses, that were appointed to examine the accounts of the Agents for the Sale of Eastern Lands in the District of Maine, have examined their account of proceedings, from the fourteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and twelve, to the first day of June, eighteen hundred and thirteen, wherein they acknowledge to have received in securities and money, the sum of eight thousand, eight hundred and ten dollars and eighty five cents; and they have paid the Treasurer in securities, together with payments made for clerk hire and other charges, including the amount due the Agents for services, the sum of ten thousand and thirty one dollars and fifty nine cents; and there appears to be a balance due to said Agents, of one thousand two hundred and twenty dollars and seventy four cents, all of which appears to be right cast and well vouched.

THOMAS STEVENS, *Chairman.*

Therefore resolved, That the Agents be, and they are hereby discharged from the sum of eight thousand eight hundred and ten dollars and eighty five cents; and the Governor is requested to draw his warrant in favor of the heirs of John Reed, Esq. for the sum of five hundred and fifty dollars, in full for his services as Agent for Eastern Lands, to the time of his death; and in favor of William Smith, Esq. in full for his services, as Agent aforesaid, to the fourteenth day of May last past, the sum of six hundred and seventy dollars and seventy four cents, and in full discharge of the balance of said account.

Be it further resolved, That William Smith, Agent for the Sale of Eastern Land, be, and he hereby is authorized to contract for opening the road from Kennebeck to Chaudiere rivers, agreeable to the new surveyed route directed to be explored by a resolve passed the 29th February, 1812, and to

carry said resolve fully into effect, any thing in said resolve to the contrary notwithstanding.

Be it further resolved, That all further proceedings respecting the opening the road, from the river Kennebeck to river Chaudiere, and the road from Penobscot river to the river St. Johns, be suspended, until the next session of the General Court.

CHAP. LXXIX.

Resolve on the Petition of John Coffin Jones, authorizing the Judge of Probate, for Suffolk, to allow further time to the Commissioners on Estate of Joseph Russell.

16th June, 1813.

On the petition of John C. Jones, of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, Esquire, stating, that he is a creditor to the estate of Joseph Russell, late of said Boston, Esquire, deceased, which has been duly represented insolvent, and that more than eighteen months has expired since the date of the commission of insolvency, but from the various and complicated accounts between him and the estate of said deceased, and also of the late firm of Jeffry and Russell, it has become necessary, that further time be allowed the Commissioners, to receive and examine his claim, and also, any further claims that may be exhibited against said estate.

Therefore resolved, That for reasons set forth in said petition, the Judge of Probate, for the County of Suffolk, be, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to grant out a new commission on said estate, or to allow such further time to the former Commissioners, on said estate, not exceeding twelve months, as he shall judge expedient, to receive, examine and allow, all such claims, as shall be duly exhibited and proved against the estate of said deceased, under the said Commission.

CHAP. LXXX.

Resolve directing the Treasurer, to recover possession of Lands mortgaged to the State, by Leonard Jarvis, Esq.

16th June, 1813.

Whereas, It appears that certain lands in the towns of

Penobscot, Surry and Ellsworth, have been mortgaged to the Commonwealth, and by Leonard Jarvis, Esq. for a sum of money due from him to the Commonwealth, and that the debt for which said lands were mortgaged, is yet unpaid, and that the lands mortgaged as aforesaid, for the security of said debt, have never been sued out or taken possession of.

Therefore resolved, That the Treasurer of the Commonwealth be, and he is hereby authorized and directed forthwith, to take all necessary measures, to recover possession of the lands aforesaid, for the use of the Commonwealth, either by entering into and upon the same, for condition broken, or if need be, to put in suit the mortgage deeds of the said lands, and the same to prosecute to final judgment and execution.

Resolved, That the said Treasurer be, and he is hereby further directed to suspend any suit against the said Leonard Jarvis, upon any note or other personal security, by him given to the Commonwealth, for any debt for the collateral security of which the aforesaid lands were mortgaged, until the further order of the General Court.

CHAP. LXXXI

*Report relative to the defenceless state of our Sea-Coast, and
Resolve providing for the Defence of the same.
16th June, 1813.*

The Committee appointed to consider so much of his Excellency's speech as relates to the *defenceless state of our sea coast*, request permission to report,

That they have given the subject all the consideration, which the importance of its nature and the alarm and anxiety of the public required. It can hardly be necessary for your Committee to state, that one of the primary objects of the federal compact, was, to *provide for the common defence*. In the preamble to the constitution, it is expressly assigned, as one of the great purposes, for which the union was formed.

Accordingly the respective states surrendered to the general government, all the powers, which were deemed necessary for the accomplishment of this object; the right to declare war and make peace; the right to raise and support armies; the right to provide and maintain a navy; and the right to lay and collect taxes, duties, and imposts, as the exigency

cies of the public might require. At the same time, the states, relying upon the general government for protection, formally divested themselves of the substantial powers of preparing, in time of peace, for their individual defence, in time of war.

But your Committee are compelled to say, that, in their apprehension, this provision of the constitution has not been complied with in relation to this Commonwealth. Massachusetts, possessing a sea coast of nearly six hundred miles, with about one-third of the tonnage of the union lying at her wharves, and a frontier of four hundred miles, bordering upon the hostile provinces of New-Brunswick and Lower Canada, is exposed at every point and open to the depredations and ravages of the enemy, as revenge, rapacity, or caprice, may dictate. It might have been expected, not merely as the result of an express provision of the constitution, but as the dictate of a wise and liberal policy, that the old commercial states, who achieved the revolution, and who have contributed more than their full shares towards the support of the general government, would not be abandoned for the conquest of a territory not worth possessing as a gift. Nevertheless your Committee find, that as dangers have accumulated, the garrisons upon your sea board have been reduced, and the Commonwealth is given over to her fate, when alone a provision for the common defence becomes of any practical importance.

Your Committee can discern nothing, either in the character of the war or circumstances of the country, to justify this conduct. If the union was not for the common defence, it may well be inquired, of what value is it to the people? If that defence may be withheld in time of war, the only time of danger, especially when aggression is provoked, it may well be asked, how far a wise and provident state ought to rely on such a resource for her security?

Most governments, both in ancient and modern times, have availed themselves of the intervals of peace, to prepare for war, as the best way either to avoid or prosecute it with success. But the government of the United States seems to have reversed this decision of all former times, and have subverted in peace, to re-establish in war, the only sure means of defence to a commercial nation. Still it was optional with the administration, either to postpone the war to the preparation, or the preparation to the war. To select the latter and bring a war upon this people, whom they were bound to pro-

ject, without first furnishing that protection, is, in the judgment of your Committee, but one remove from a declaration of war by the government itself against the people of this Commonwealth. It is the same in effect; it is not distinguishable in principle.

A rich and maritime state, without adequate protection, exists only by sufferance. As she is a lure to rapacity, so she will become a victim to power, whenever, according to the calculations of interest, it may be expedient to bind her for the sacrifice. Hence it becomes a subject of deep and interesting consideration to the people of this Commonwealth, how they are to provide for present defence and future security.

The most common and approved means of national defence are,

1st.—By regular and permanent fortifications, garrisoned by regular and well disciplined troops.

2dly.—By an adequate number of vessels of war; and

3dly.—By temporary fortifications and batteries, with the aid to be derived from the militia.

Neither the first nor second method can be carried into effect in season for the emergencies of the present war. They are obviously beyond the reach and means of this state. But, in the opinion of your Committee, it is doubtful whether we have the right to fit out vessels of war by the authority and under the commission of this Commonwealth. If the conduct of the government of the United States be correct, in sending from the coast the public ships of war, and neglecting to provide and substitute smaller vessels in their place, it *ought* at least to be doubtful whether it would be expedient. But if we have the right, your Committee would inquire, whether it be a right which ought to be exercised in the present unjust and destructive war? whether it is not a duty of high import and binding obligation, not to become partners of its guilt by voluntarily embarking in its prosecution? and whether a naval force, fitted out by this Commonwealth, and stationed off our ports and harbours, would not necessarily come in contact with our adversary, and, by frequent collision, create mutual asperity, and ultimately involve us, as voluntary and active partizans, in the war?—Your Committee are of opinion, that such a measure, considering the limited force which the Commonwealth is able to furnish, instead of diminishing would augment, if possible, the ex-

isting evils ; and instead of accomplishing would defeat the object in view—the protection of the coasting trade.

The only remaining method of defence, which seems to be expedient, is by erecting temporary fortifications, and establishing batteries at such important places, as are most exposed to the casualties of war.

Should the President of the United States still refuse to furnish this Commonwealth with the arms to which, by law, we are entitled, it will be necessary for the Commonwealth to furnish itself. According to the last return, there is a deficiency of 5,688, which we ought to be able to supply from the public arsenal.

Your Committee beg leave also to state, that although the militia of this Commonwealth is generally well disciplined, yet it is in vain to expect from it that subordination and skill, which constitute the strength and efficiency of a regular army. In the present state of our country, your Committee deem it necessary, that a portion of the militia should be organized into distinct corps, for the purpose of theoretic and practical instruction in the military art.

For the accomplishment of the foregoing purposes, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :—

Resolved, That the Governor, with advice of Council, be, and he is hereby authorized to erect such fortifications and establish such batteries, as may be deemed necessary for the defence and protection of such towns, within this Commonwealth, as are most exposed to the invasion of an enemy and the casualties of war, and to purchase, mount and furnish, for the use of such town or towns, a competent number of pieces of ordnance, with other suitable munitions of war. And to establish upon the head lands, capes and other convenient places, a line of signals, by which to give timely notice to vessels navigating along the coast, of an enemy's approach.

And in case the President of the United States should refuse or neglect to transmit to this Commonwealth the proportion of arms, to which the same is entitled, by a law of Congress, passed April 23d, 1803, then and in that case, the Governor is hereby authorized and empowered to purchase such number of fire arms, for the use of the Commonwealth, as from the returns of the militia thereof shall appear to be necessary.

And in order to carry into effect the purposes aforesaid

the Governor is hereby authorized to employ one or more discreet and faithful persons, who shall be skilled in the science of engineering and gunnery, and who shall be entitled to a reasonable compensation for their services.

And the Governor is hereby further authorized, to provide a sufficient guard for all arsenals, parks of artillery and military stores, the property of this Commonwealth, as the same may, from time to time, become necessary.

And the Treasurer of this Commonwealth is hereby authorized and empowered, to borrow of any bank or banks in this Commonwealth, a sum of money not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, to be applied to the purpose aforesaid, and accounted for accordingly.

The aforesaid money to be borrowed in such sums as the Governor with advice of Council shall direct, and the Governor is hereby authorized, from time to time to issue his warrant upon the Treasury for such sums as may be deemed necessary for carrying into effect the purposes aforesaid.

Resolved, That the Adjutant General be requested to consider and report to the General Court, at their next session, what alterations are necessary in the militia system of the Commonwealth, and also, the best method of organizing and disciplining a select corps of troops, bearing a proportion to the whole number of the militia of said Commonwealth as one to five, as also the best method of organizing the exempts.

ROLL No. 69.....June, 1813.

THE Committee on Accounts having examined the several accounts, they now present,

REPORT, That there are due to the Corporations, and persons hereafter mentioned, the sums set to their names respectively, which, when allowed and paid, will be in full discharge of the said accounts to the several dates therein mentioned, which is respectfully submitted.

SILAS HOIMAN, *per order.*

PAUPER ACCOUNTS.

Town of Ashburnham, to supplies to Sukey Franklin, to 1st March, 1813,	8 25
Alfred, for board and clothing William Griffiths, to 31st May, 1813,	67 20
Adams, for board and clothing Freeman Blakely, Lydia Dailey's two children, Susannah Camp and Barna Evens, to the time of his death, including funeral charges, the whole to 22d May, 1813,	89 41
Abington, for board, clothing and doctoring Thomas Seymore, to 7th June, 1813,	46 62
Baldwin, for board and clothing Daniel Hickey, to 1st May, 1813,	21 25
Bellingham, for board and clothing Nathan Freeman and Robert Atkins, to 1st April, 1813,	87 25
Brookfield, for supplies to Jonas Banton, to 2d May, 1813,	44 78
Belgrade, for supplies and doctoring Hannah and Abigail Odlin, to 2d May, 1813,	25 21
Bradford, for board, clothing and doctoring Joshua Letters, to 1st June, 1813,	31 42
Barnardstown, for supplies and doctoring Edward Armes, to the time of his death, May, 1813,	7 20
Blanford, for board and clothing Samuel Walker, to February, 1813,	75 00
Bristol, for board and clothing William Howe, to 1st May, 1813,	67 20

Becket, for board, clothing and doctoring Sally and Hiram Leonard and Mary White, to 18th May, 1813,	43 97
Burlington, for board of James Cade, to 6th April, 1813,	15 00
Bradford, Samuel, keeper of the gaol, in Suffolk County, for supporting sundry poor prisoners confined for debt, to 1st June, 1813,	146 10
Berwick, for board of Lemuel Woodworth, to 24th May, 1813,	19 80
Billerica, for board, clothing and doctoring Thomas Guy, to the time of his death, including funeral charges, 22d May, 1813,	36 67
Bridgewater, for board and clothing Frederick Bignor and John Stocks, to 6th June, 1813,	27 15
Buckston, to board and clothing James Maurice, to 3d May, 1813,	93 50
Boxborough, for board and clothing John M'Koy, to 31st May, 1813,	62 00
Boston, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers to 1st June, 1813,	8532 77
Chester, for board and clothing Benjamin Powers, and supplies to the family of George Weden, to 22d May, 1813,	47 27
Conway, for board of Hannah M'Neil, to 18th May, 1813,	21 60
Cheshire, for board, clothing and doctoring and sundry supplies to sundry persons, to 23d May, 1813,	305 68
Chesterfield, for supplies to Adam Hamilton, to 22d May, 1813,	33 74
Colrairie, for board, clothing and doctoring Sally Lamonier, Richard Hynes and Rachel Hynes, to 24th May, 1813,	79 71
Castine, for board, doctoring and supplies to John Cain, to 13th May, 1813,	68 32
Charlton, for boarding and clothing Edward Madden, to 24th May, 1813,	26 00
Canton, for board and clothing John Cole, to 10th June, 1813,	29 20
Carlisle, for board and clothing Robert Barber, to 22d May, 1813,	23 66

Cushing, for board of James Walker, to 1st June, 1813,	18 70
Cape Elizabeth, for board and clothing James Ramsbottom, to 23d May, 1813.	33 75
Dartmouth, for board and clothing John Quannaville, to 23th May, 1813,	83 00
Durham, for board and clothing Asa Samuel and Jonathan Demerit, children of Jonathan Demerit, to 23th May, 1813,	158 60
Danvers, for board and clothing sundry paupers, to 8th June, 1813,	461 84
Elliot, for supplies to Jacob Brewer and Jack Roberts, to 24th May, 1813,	39 77
Edgarton, for board and clothing Anthoy Chadwick, to 22d May, 1813,	21 25
Framingham, for supplies to Hugh McPherson, to the time of his death, including funeral charges, March, 1813,	34 01
Franklin, for board, clothing and doctoring Thomas Barre, to 5th June, 1813,	94 50
Falmouth, County of Cumberland, for board and Clothing Felician Sang, to 31st May 1813,	41 00
Greenwich, for board, clothing and doctoring John Bailey, William Rice, Eliza Harrington, Jonathan Bailey and Samuel Bailey and Joseph Bailey's families, to 25th May, 1813,	144 65
Granby, for board of Ebenezer Dervin, to 24th May, 1813, including doctoring,	30 56
Gill, for board and clothing Sarah Hamilton and Samuel Lyon and wife, to 22d May, 1813,	56 58
Granville, for board and clothing Archibald Stewart and George Taylor, to 1st June, 1813,	63 84
Gorham, for board of Robert Gilfilling and Jacob Morse, to 9th June, 1813,	45 50
Gloucester, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 10th May, 1813,	973 08
Hancock, for supplies to Ruckamic Farley's family, to 21st May, 1813,	45 43
Hallowell, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 1st June, 1813,	227 72

Hodgkins, Joseph, keeper of the house of correction, in the County of Essex, for board and clothing Mary Adelaide, Hulah Hicks, John Squires and Josiah Bennington, to 6th June, 1813, including an allowance made by the Court of Sessions, to 21st March, 1813,	386 90
Hutson, John, keeper of the gaol, in the County of Essex, for supporting sundry poor prisoners confined for debt, to 28th May, 1813,	201 65
Lanesboro', for board, clothing and doctoring Jerusha Welch, a child of Clary Tracy, David Jennings, and supplies to Ichabod Sherlock and Asa Parsons, to the time of his death, including funeral charges, 31st May, 1813,	216 65
Lenox, for boarding and clothing Abram Palmer, Tabitha Lewis and Augustus Palmer, to the time of his death, 24th May, 1813,	58 20
Leeds, for board and clothing Nicholas Tallier, to 20th May, 1813,	38 75
Lee, for board and clothing Azubah Cain, Lucy Fuller, Conrad Flaak, Daniel and Betsy Santer, and supplies to Jonathan and Sarah Blackman, to 19th May, 1813,	134 31
Leyden for board, clothing and doctoring Stacey Fuller, Eleazer Wagner and Ruth Abel, to 19th May, 1813,	59 77
Litchfield, for board and clothing Daniel Howard, and two children of Hannah Taylor, 1st June, 1813,	46 39
Lincolnvile, for board of Alexander White and Timothy Cox, to 20th May, 1813,	51 00
Lancaster, for board and clothing William Shearer, to 3d June, 1813,	61 00
Mount Vernon, for board and clothing David Bassford, to 18th May, 1813,	33 40
Machias, for board, clothing and doctoring Daniel McDonald, Moses Rhoda and Viah Wheaton, to 12th May, 1813,	72 22
Milford, for board and clothing Eliza Gould, to 25th May, 1813,	56 80
Montague, for board, nursing and clothing Joshua Searles, to 17th May, 1813,	88 49

PAUPER ACCOUNTS.

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Methuen, for supporting Nancy Hale, to 22d March, 1813,	5 36
Marlborough, for boarding and clothing Joseph Waters, to 28th May, 1813,	62 00
Marblehead, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 6th June, 1813,	273 98
Milton, for board and nursing Alexander Theophilus, and supplies and doctoring William Kimball, to 2d May, 1813,	47 84
Manchester, for board, clothing and doctoring Thomas Douglas, to the time of his death, including funeral charges,	28 45
Northfield, for board, doctoring and nursing Richard Kingsbury, to the time of his death, including funeral charges, March, 1813,	19 34
Norwich, for board, clothing and doctoring Daniel Williams, to 31st May, 1813,	25 48
New Marlboro', for board and clothing Orke Eugene, to 7th June, 1813,	9 56
Newton, for board, clothing and doctoring Richard Clark, to the time of his death, including funeral charges, 30th September, 1813,	23 50
Northampton, for boarding, nursing and doctoring Patrick McGavaraw, to the time of his death, including funeral charges,	74 02
Newburyport, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 1st June, 1813,	1865 31
Newbury, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 1st June, 1813,	1127 76
Paris, for board of George Warren, a poor prisoner, confined for debt, to 7th August, 1812,	10 50
Pittsfield, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 1st June, 1813,	365 40
Peru, for supplies and doctoring James Robins and family, to 24th May, 1813,	46 03
Plymouth, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 23d May, 1813,	215 89
Portland, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 1st June, 1813,	1059 02
Russell, for board and clothing John Ward, to the time of his death, May, 1813,	30 89
Rutland, for board and clothing William Henderson and John Cowland, to 1st June, 1813,	41 72

Rowley, for board and clothing Benning Dowe and Elle Collins, to 21st May, 1813,	69 60
Randolph, for board, doctoring and nursing William Kimball, to the time of his death, including funeral charges, 30th April, 1813,	30 34
Rowe, for board and clothing Betsey Carpenter, 15th May, 1813,	34 00
Roxbury, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 3d June, 1813,	377 73
Somerset, for board and clothing William Elliot, to 1st June, 1813,	19 28
Swansey, for board and clothing Garrett Burns and James Garrett, to 22d May, 1813,	84 25
Sandisfield, for board, clothing and doctoring Mary Tryon, Eliza Dando, William Wallace, Richard Dickinson and his family, to 20th May, 1813,	60 80
Sandwich, for board and clothing Richard Crouch, to 23d May, 1813,	22 00
Salem, for board, clothing and doctoring sundry paupers, to 6th June, 1813,	1267 29
Thomastown, for board and clothing John Anderson, to 15th May, 1813, including doctoring,	159 77
Taunton, for board and clothing Mary Magdalen, to 22d May, 1813,	134 50
Uxbridge, for board of David Mitchell, Fillis Jenks, Benjamin Contriff, to 24th May, 1813,	47 68
West Hampton, for board and clothing John Gray and wife, to 4th June, 1813,	49 58
Westfield, for board and clothing John Newton and wife, to 20th May, 1813,	46 50
West Springfield, for board and doctoring James Aldreck, Hannah Shevoy and Hannah Felt, to 20th May, 1813,	45 54
Waterborough, for board of William Jordan, to 9th June, 1813,	5 50
Williamston, for board, clothing and doctoring Robert Merrill, Charlotte M'Carty, Rachel Galushua, Christopher Glover and Mary Blue, to 25th May, 1813,	120 87
Waldoborough, for supporting John and Phillip Handle, to 6th June, 1813,	171 20
Windsor, for board and clothing Henry Smith and wife, to 19th May, 1813,	41 57

Walpole, for board and nursing Nancy Keans, two children and John Webb, a poor prisoner, confined for debt, to 24th May, 1813,	126 76
Wrentham, for board, clothing and doctoring Thomas Jackson, to 1st June, 1813, the time he left the town,	97 22
Worcester, for board and clothing sundry paupers, to 1st June, 1813,	88 00

Total Paupers,	22,696 02

*MILITARY ACCOUNTS.**Courts Martial and Courts of Inquiry, &c.*

To Hayden, Moses, for his services as Judge Advocate, at a Court of Inquiry, held at Great Barrington, December, 1812; also at a Court of Inquiry, held at Egremont, 22d December, 1812; also at a Court Martial, held at Lenox, whereof Prentice Williams was President,	29 08
Hunt, John, for his travel and attendance on a Court of Inquiry, held in Great Barrington, August, 1811, whereof Colonel John Whiting was President,	5 46
Cummings, David, for the expence of a Court Martial, held at Salem, 20th April, 1813, whereof Colonel Benjamin Jenkins was President,	75 36
Maltby, Isaac, for part of his travel in attending a Court of Inquiry, held at Salem, 25th July, 1812, omitted in the pay roll of said Court, by mistake,	14 14
Mansfield, William, for summoning witnesses to attend the Court Martial, for the trial of General Goodale, omitted in the pay roll of said Court,	8 50
Williamson D. William, for taking affidavits to be used before his Excellency the Governor, in the contested election of Daniel Webster and others, officers of the militia in Bangor, 11th September, 1811,	8 05

Richardson, Alford, B. General, for his travel and attendance upon a Board of Officers, held by order of the Commander in Chief, at Brunswick, 13th July, 1812,	21 20

	161 79

Brigade Quarter Masters.

To Fales, C. Samuel, to 1st October, 1812,	19 72
Hildreth, Jonathan, to 1st June, 1813,	22 13

	41 85

Brigade Majors and Aids de Camp.

To Goodnow, John, to 1st May, 1813,	52 37
Hubbel, Calvin, to 26th April, 1813,	25 77
Jaques, Samuel, to 26th May, 1813,	241 25
Maston, Zachariah, to 1st May, 1813,	49 40
Russell, Edward, to 22d May, 1813,	27 20
Tinkham, Seth, to January, 1813,	61 40
Wingate, F. Joseph, to 21st May, 1813,	44 20

	501 79

Adjutants.

To Adams, Thomas, to 3d January, 1813,	147 10
Allen, Elisha, to 18th June, 1812,	21 75
Adams, Moses, to 11th May, 1813, including his services at Eastport, in obedience to General Orders,	78 82
Bosworth, Sherman, to 20th May, 1813,	34 50
Blossom, Alden, to 1st June, 1812,	13 25
Barrett, George, to 4th June, 1813,	38 50
Bray, Oliver, to 6th June, 1813,	14 30
Boyd, William, to 5th June, 1813,	92 55
Chase, L. Thomas, to 20th February, 1813,	17 89
Curtis, Joseph, to 1st November, 1812,	23 06
Cheney, Amasa, to 1st January, 1813,	30 06
Champney, John, to 1st June, 1813.	55 75
Emery, Moses, to 25th May, 1813,	16 32

MILITARY ACCOUNTS.

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Fisk, Ezra, to 3d May, 1813,	37 57
Hodsdon, Isaac, to 20th April, 1813,	31 37
Jewett, Caleb, to 25th March, 1813,	87 76
Keith, Cyrus, to 20th April, 1813,	44 20
Knight, McJames, to 1st May, 1813,	15 01
Munroe, Reuben, to 20th September, 1812,	15 47
Porter, Horace, to 1st January, 1813,	81 31
Richardson, Wyman, to 17th May, 1813,	29 12
Stevens, H. Paul, to 2d June, 1812,	13 75
Silsbee, Samuel, to 23d April, 1813,	24 62
Sayles, Richard, to 4th June, 1813,	13 51
Tainter, Harvéy, to 15th May, 1813,	17 91
Taft, Hazeltine, to 3d June, 1813,	42 24
Toby, Elisha, to 1st January, 1813,	40 63
Wood John, to 6th May, 1813,	86 54
Washburn, Cromwell, for his services in 1811,	16 95
Washburn, H. Philo, to 9th May, 1812,	32 95
Wild, Jonathan, to 25th May, 1813,	52 04

	1266 80

Expences for Horses to Haul Artillery.

To Acock, William, to 4th October, 1812,	5 00
Barnes, Cornelius, to 11th May, 1813,	3 00
Day, David, to 3d October, 1812,	10 00
Gleason, John, to 3d October, 1812,	5 00
Glover, Samuel, to 3d October, 1812,	6 00
Jenkins, Weston, to 6th January, 1813,	15 00
Leavenworth, David, to 7th October, 1812,	6 25
Parkhurst, Amos, to 19th May, 1813,	5 00
Peabody, Jacob, to 17th October, 1812,	6 00
Plumer, Addison, to 17th October, 1812,	12 50
Page, Timothy, to 1st October, 1812,	8 00
Putnam, Jesse, to 17th October, 1812,	6 00
Shaw, Southworth, to 13th October, 1812,	7 50
Stall, Samuel, to 21st October, 1812,	15 00
Stone, Martin, to 1st October, 1812,	10 00
Smith, Edmund, to 7th June, 1813,	6 00
Thayer, Zebediah, to 5th September, 1812,	9 00
Vernum, Phineas, to 11th May, 1813,	3 00
Walker, Abbott, to 28th May, 1813,	7 50

Total Military Accounts,

\$2117 93

SHERIFFS AND CORONERS' ACCOUNTS.

Adams, Moses, Sheriff of the County of Hancock, for returning votes, for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, June, 1813,	22 24
Brown, Henry, C. Sheriff of the County of Berkshire, for returning votes of Electors of President, Vice President, and Representatives to Congress, 1812, and Governor and Lieutenant Governor, 1813,	67 50
Bridge, Edmund, Sheriff of the County of Lincoln, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, 1813,	14 56
Crane, Elijah, Sheriff of the County of Norfolk, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, 1813,	1 36
Cooper, John, Sheriff of the County of Washington, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, 1813,	30 40
Delano, William, Coroner of the County of Franklin, for inquisition on the body of a stranger, and funeral charges, May, 1813,	23 36
Freeman, James, Sheriff of the County of Barnstable, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Representatives to Congress, and Electors of President and Vice President, June, 1813,	35 60
Folsom, John, Coroner, in the County of Suffolk, for inquisition on the bodies of six strangers, 29th May, 1813,	127 35
Hunnell, Richard, Sheriff of the County of Cumberland, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, June, 1813,	10 40
Howard, Samuel, Sheriff of the County of Kennebeck, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, June, 1813,	14 40
Lawrence, Jeremiah, Sheriff of the County of Nantucket, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, 1813,	10 80
Matoon, Ebenezer, Sheriff of the County of Hampshire, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, 1813,	7 60

PRINTERS' ACCOUNTS.

307

McMellen, John, Sheriff of the County of Oxford, for returning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, 1813,	12 80
Smith, Jonathan, Sheriff of the County of Hamp- den, for returning votes for Governor and Lieu- tenant Governor, 1813,	8 00
Worth, Jethro, Sheriff of Dukes' County, for re- turning votes for Governor and Lieutenant Go- vernor, and Representatives to Congress, June, 1813,	48 00

Total Sheriffs and Coroners,	\$434 37

PRINTERS' ACCOUNTS.

Allen, W. B. and H. G. for printing Acts and Re- solves, to 1st July, 1812,	16 67
Belcher, Joshua, for printing for the Agricultural Society, to March, 1813,	200 00
Cushing, Thomas, for printing the Acts and Re- solves to the 26th May, 1813,	16 67
Clapp, William, W. for printing to 23d February, 1813,	15 25
Dickman, Thomas, for printing Acts and Resolves, to 22d May, 1813,	16 67
Dennie and Phelps, for printing Acts and Resolves, to February, 1813,	16 67
Edes, Peter, for printing Acts and Resolves, to 1st May, 1813,	16 67
Foster, Moses, B. for printing to June, 1813,	3 26
Lindsey, Benjamin, for printing Acts and Resolves, to 1st May, 1813,	16 67
Munroe and French, for printing to February, 1813,	55 00
Russell and Cutler, for printing to June 11th, 1813,	3000 00
Thomas, Isaiah, for printing Acts and Resolves, to 13th May, 1813,	33 33
Young and Minns, for printing to 10th June, 1813,	691 95

Total Printers,	\$4099 17

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS.

Blaney, Henry, for labour on State House, to May, 1813,	33 37
Chase, Warren, for services to 16th June, 1813,	42 00
Durant, William, for labour on the State House, to June, 1813,	42 25
Guardians of the Dudley Indians, for balance in full due them, to 22d May, 1813, which the Treasurer of the State is directed to charge said Indians with,	138 40
Hunter, John, P. for taking up the body of a stranger, by order of the Coroner of Suffolk, May, 1813,	5 00
Howe, John, for sundries for the State House, to January, 1813,	41 64
Kuhn, Jacob, for balance due him on the 12th June, 1813, over and above the several grants made him by the General Court, up to 12th June, 1813,	117 00
Lapham, Sylvanus, for services to 16th June, 1813,	46 00
Marshall, Moses, for taking up the body of a stranger, by order of the Coroner of Suffolk, May, 1813,	6 00
Perry, John, for services to June 16th, 1813,	46 00
Pollard, Benjamin, for services performed by order of the House of Representatives, March 13th, 1813,	20 00
Tudor, William, and Tucker, John, for their ser- vices in filing papers of the Supreme Court, for the County of Suffolk, conformable to a resolve of the General Court, February, 1813,	238 08
Weld, Benjamin, William Hammatt, and Thomas Harris, a Committee appointed by the Legisla- ture, to examine and audit the accounts of the State Prison, 1st June, 1813,	150 00
Newton, George, S. for services performed by or- der of the Committee on Impressments,	20 00
William Mansfield, do.	7 00
E. Mudge, do.	4 00
S. Sumner, do.	4 00
J. Colburn, do.	2 20
S. Twist, do.	12 00

Total Miscellaneous,	\$971 94

Aggregate of Roll No. 69.

Expences of State Paupers,	\$22,696 02
Do. Militia,	2,117 98
Do. Sheriffs and Coroners,	434 37
Do. Printers,	4,099 17
Do. Miscellaneous,	971 94

	\$30,319 48

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the public Treasury, to the several Corporations and persons mentioned in this Roll, the sums set against such Corporations and persons names respectively, amounting in the whole, to the sum of thirty thousand, three hundred and nineteen dollars and forty-eight cents; the same being in full discharge of the accounts and demands to which they refer.

In Senate, June 16th, 1813.

Read and accepted, sent down for concurrence.

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President*,

In the House of Representatives, June 16th, 1813.

Read and concurred,

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker*.

*June 16th, 1813....*Approved,

CALEB STRONG.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 4, 1813.

ORDERED, That Messrs. THATCHER, Warren, LLOYD, Boston, HALL, Williamstown, BATES, Northampton, with such as the Honorable Senate may join, be a Committee to consider so much of His Excellency's Speech as relates to "an extension of our territorial limits" and forming new States without the territorial limits of the United States, with leave to report by bill or otherwise. Sent up for concurrence.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker.*

IN SENATE, JUNE 4, 1813.

Read, and concurred, and the Hon. Messrs. QUINCY, ASHMUN and FULLER are joined.

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President.*

THE Committee appointed to consider "so much of His Excellency's Speech as relates to an extension of our territorial limits" and forming new States without the territorial limits of the United States,"

RESPECTFULLY REPORT,

THAT they have considered the subject, committed to their investigation, with the attention and solicitude, which its nature and importance demand. On the one side, they have been careful to give full weight to all the obligations, which are due from the people of Massachusetts to the people of the United States; as resulting from the federal compact. On the other, it has been their study not to forget the duties, which a powerful and independent state owes to itself and posterity; on occasions, when great constitutional principles are deliberately violated. On occasions of this kind, in the opinion of your Committee, the duty of a people is as

plain as it is imperious. The beginnings of manifest usurpations are never to be neglected ; since silence, on the part of the people is, always, taken as acquiescence by the advocates of usurpation. What power seizes, without right, to day, it holds, tomorrow, by precedent ; and the day after, by prescription. A wise people, therefore, will always canvass every new pretension of power at the threshold ; being assured that the liberties of a people have nothing to fear from vigilance, and every thing from apathy. Nor, in the opinion of your Committee, will a wise people refrain from such an examination, because the nature of the usurpation, or the circumstances of the period, may, in the judgment of some, render farther measures untimely. Much is gained to liberty, by a distinct assertion of the constitutional principles, on which it rests. And a people may lose by being ignorant of their rights, but never by understanding them.

In entering upon this investigation, your Committee have not omitted to consider the reasons for present acquiescence, in violations of the Constitution, drawn from the particular embarrassments, resulting from the war, and the encouragements, which the enemy may receive from any evidence of discontent, at the present moment, among the states ; or among the people. They have given this suggestion all the attention it appeared to merit. But, in their opinion, this objection has the less weight, inasmuch as the particular subject of animadversion is independent, altogether, of the principle of the war ; so far as this principle is known. Besides, it would be little else than a bounty, on foreign war, if domestic usurpation should find in it a shield, or a sanction. Your Committee have given this consideration the less importance from the conviction, they entertain, that the American people may have peace, whenever the administration of the general government shall seek it, with a sincere disposition for its attainment.

As your Committee have deemed it their duty not to be restrained, by such temporary considerations, from a deliberate and public examination of the subject submitted to their inquiry, so, also, they have not been disposed to connect this great, constitutional question with the transient calamities of the day, from which it is, in their opinion, very apparently, distinguished, both in its cause and its consequences. In the view, therefore, they are about to present of this great constitutional question, they have confined themselves, strict-

ly, to topics and arguments drawn from the terms of the constitution, and the history of the period, at which it was adopted ; and with a reference to fulfil their duty to their country and posterity, by a distinct avowal of their opinions and the grounds of them, with the hope of limiting the farther progress of the evil, rather than any expectation of immediate relief, during the continuance of the existing influences in the national administration.

The question touching the admission, into the union, of states, created in territories, lying without the ancient limits of the United States, has been considered, by your Committee, in relation to constitutional principles and political consequences. By an Act of the Congress of the United States, passed the 8th day of April, 1812, entitled, " an Act for the admission of the State of Louisiana into the Union and to extend the laws of the United States to the said State," the said State of Louisiana was admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the other States. This act was, in the opinion of your Committee, a manifest usurpation, by the Congress of the United States, of a power not granted to that body by the federal constitution. The State of Louisiana was formed, in *countries situated beyond the limits of the old United States* ; according as those limits were established by the treaty of Paris, commonly called the Treaty of Peace, in the year 1783 ; and as they existed, at the time of the formation and adoption of the federal constitution. And the position which your Committee undertake to maintain is this, that the Constitution of the United States did not invest Congress with the power to admit into the Union, States, *created in territories not included within the limits of the United States* ; as they existed, at the peace of 1783, and at the formation and adoption of the Constitution. Your Committee are thus particular, in stating with precision, the constitutional ground, which they maintain, because the doctrine here asserted, has been confounded, sometimes artfully, sometimes negligently, with the questions which have arisen, concerning the admission of Kentucky, Vermont, Ohio ; or which may arise on the admission of new States, to be created in the Michigan, Indiana or Illinois territories. With none of which has the question, now under consideration, any affinity. These last mentioned States and territories all lie *within the old limits of the United States*, as settled by the Treaty of Peace, and as existing at the time of the formation and adop-

tion of the federal Constitution. Now the State of Louisiana lies *without those limits* ; and on this distinction the whole question of constitutional right depends. The power, assumed by Congress, in passing this act for the admission of Louisiana, if acquiesced in, is plainly a power to admit new States, into this Union, at their discretion, without limit of place; or country. Not only new States may be carved, at will, out of the boundless regions of Louisiana, but the whole extent of South America, indeed of the globe, is a sphere, within which it may operate without check or control, and with no other limit than such as Congress may choose to impose on its own discretion.

Your Committee have, in vain, looked for any clause in the Constitution of the United States, granting such a power. In the first place, the parties, associating, are declared to be "*the people of the United States,*" and the objects of the association are stated to be, "*to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to OURSELVES AND OUR POSTERITY.*" Your Committee deem themselves authorized to assert, without fear of contradiction, that by the terms "*the people of the United States—*" "*ourselves and our posterity,*" were intended the people inhabiting, and who should inhabit the States and territories lying within the limits of the United States, as they were established by the treaty of 1783, and as they existed at the time of the formation and adoption of the federal Constitution ; and that none of the terms of the Constitution indicate the idea that foreign states, or kingdoms, or new states, created in their territories, could be admitted into a participation of its privileges.

Indeed, it is not pretended, as your Committee understand, by the advocates of this usurpation, that it has any color of justification, in the terms of the Constitution, unless it be in the third Section of its fourth Article. The tenor of which is as follows :—

SECT. 3.—"New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union ; but no new State shall be formed, or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State ; or any State be formed by the junction of two or more states, or part of states, without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

"The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make

“ all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory, or other property, belonging to the United States : and nothing, in this Constitution, shall be so construed as to pre-
 “ judice any claims of the United States, or of any particu-
 “ lar State.”

Upon this section, your Committee observe, that, without reference to the known condition of the United States, and the history of the times when the Constitution was adopted, if the terms of this section be, alone, considered and examined by those rigid and approved rules of construction, recognized on similar occasions, and relative to other instruments, the terms do not authorize the power which has been assumed, but, on the contrary, do strongly and almost, necessarily, imply that no power was granted to admit States, created in territories, without the limits of the old United States.

The section contains the grant of an authority, and expresses certain limitations to that grant. The first clause of the section “ New States may be admitted, by the Congress, into this Union,” is, indeed, very broad and comprehensive ; and had there been no objects, within the old boundaries of the United States, sufficient to exhaust the whole force of the terms, some doubt might result upon the subject. Yet, even in such case, it would seem incredible that an association of States, forming a constitution for purposes, exclusively their own, should transfer the power to Congress, of admitting, at will, into a participation of their rights and privileges, any state or kingdom, in any part of the globe, without expressing any limitation to the exercise of a power, in its nature, so great and critical.

Happily, however, we are not reduced to the necessity of supposing such an absurdity. The fact is notorious and undeniable, that the terms relative to the admission of new States had objects, *within the limits of the old United States*, sufficient to exhaust the full force of those terms, so that there is no necessity to resort to the creation of States *without the antient limits*, in order to give efficacy to them. On the contrary, every limitation of the power contained in this section shows, that no other operation of it was contemplated, except *within the old limits of the United States*. These limitations are relative to States formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State ;—to States formed by the junction of two, or more States or parts of States ;—to the disposal and regulation of the territory or property of the

United States;—to a reservation in favor of any claims of the United States, or any particular State.

Now is it to be believed, that a power to create and admit States, beyond the antient boundaries of the United States, was granted to Congress absolutely, without any limits, while the comparatively unimportant power of creating States, within the antient boundaries, is guarded by so many and so strict limitation? Had the admission of new States, to be formed in countries, then the parts of foreign and distant kingdoms, been contemplated, would not some terms have indicated the conditions, the principles or occasions, on which such annexation of a mass of foreigners with their territories should take place? In the opinion of your Committee, the entire absence of any such restriction is, of itself, conclusive evidence, that such admission of foreign countries, far from being contemplated, was not so much as, even, considered possible, by the framers of the Constitution, or by the people at the time of its adoption.

The situation of the United States and the history of the times, when the Constitution was adopted, strongly, corroborate this idea; indeed, in the opinion of your Committee, render it so absolutely demonstrable, as to amount, in their minds, to certainty.

Such was the situation of the United States, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, that the admission of new States, in countries beyond the old limits of the United States, does not appear to have been contemplated, as an event probable, or even possible. On the contrary, the writings of that period, and the debates of the various meetings and conventions, assembled for the purpose of considering the Constitution, show, that the extent of the United States, even within its antient limits, was one of the principal objections to the practicability of the proposed Constitution, within those limits. Your Committee have, in vain, sought in the history of the discussions of that period, for the expression of any opinion, either by way of reason in favor or against the Constitution, that, by any possibility, it might be susceptible of that construction of late given to it, and to which they object. The idea does not seem to have entered into the mind of any one that it was possible that such a construction could be given, and for the reason above suggested, that the extent of the country, as at that time existing, was urged, and

admitted on all sides, to be one of the most forcible objections to the practicability of the experiment.

It is well known that to secure the union of the thirteen primitive states, and the advantages thence resulting were the main objects of the federal constitution. To this was added the design of admitting such other states as might arise in their own bosoms, or in territories, included within the general limits of the old United States. By the proceedings of the old Congress, subsequent to the peace of 1783, it appears, that it was in contemplation to create and admit States, within the limits of the old United States, and not included within the particular boundaries of any state. But it appears no where, that, subsequent to the peace of 1783, the admission of States, beyond the limits then established, was ever either proposed, or publicly contemplated.

Now it is very apparent to your Committee, that the power to admit States, created in territories, beyond the limits of the old United States is one of the most critical and important, whether we consider its nature, or its consequences. It is, in truth, nothing less than the power to create in foreign countries, new political sovereignties, and to divest the old United States of a proportion of their political sovereignty, in favor of such foreigner. It is a power, which, in the opinion of your Committee, no wise people ever would have delegated, and which, they are persuaded, the people of the United States, and certainly, the people of Massachusetts, never did delegate. The proportion of the political weight of each foreign State, composing this union, depends upon the number of the States, which have a voice under the compact. This number, the Constitution permits Congress to multiply, at pleasure, within the limits of the original States, observing, only, the expressed limitations, in the Constitution. To pass these limitations and admit States, beyond the ancient boundaries, is, in the opinion of your Committee, an usurpation, as dangerous as it is manifest, inasmuch as these exterior States, after being admitted on an equal footing with the original States, may, and as they multiply, certainly will become, in fact, the arbiters of the destinies of the nation; by availing themselves of the contrariety of interests and views, which in such a confederacy of States, necessarily arise, they hold the balance among the respective parties and govern the States, constitutionally composing the Union, by throw-

ing their weight into whatever scale is most conformable to the ambition or projects of such foreign States.

Your Committee cannot, therefore, but look with extreme regret and reprobation upon the admission of the territory of Louisiana to an equal footing with the original and constitutionally admitted States ; and they cannot but consider the principle, asserted by this admission, as an usurpation of power, portending the most serious consequences to the perpetuation of this Union and the liberties of the American people.

Although the character of this usurpation and its ultimate consequences ought, naturally, to excite an extreme degree of alarm, in this quarter of the country, as it indicates that new and unconstitutional arbiters, remote from our interests and ignorant of them, are admitted into the Union, yet the nature of the remedy is, in the opinion of your Committee, a subject of much more difficulty than the certainty of the mischief. On the one hand, it is the duty of a free and wise people, to meet encroachments upon the principles of their Constitution in their first beginnings, and to give no sanction to the continuance or repetition of such violations, by tameness or acquiescence. On the other hand, they are sensible that the people of Massachusetts, oppressed by the burden of an unjust and unnecessary war, are, at this moment, naturally, more solicitous about instant relief from existing sufferings, than about the distant consequences of political usurpation. Nevertheless, in the opinion of your Committee, the Legislature of Massachusetts owe it to themselves, to the people of this State and to future generations, to make an open and distinct avowal of their sentiments upon this topick, to the end that no sanction may appear to be derived from their silence ; and also that other States may be led to consider this intrusion of a foreign State into our confederacy, under this usurped authority, in a constitutional point of view, as well as in its consequences, and that, thereby, a concurrence of sentiment and a coincidence of councils may result ; whence alone can be hoped a termination of this usurpation, and of the evils, which are, apparently, about to flow from it.

Your Committee, therefore, propose for the adoption of the Legislature, the following resolutions :—

Resolved, As the sense of this Legislature, that the admission into the Union, of States, created in countries, not comprehended within the original limits of the United States, is

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not authorized by the letter or the spirit of the federal Constitution.

Resolved, That it is the interest and duty of the people of Massachusetts, to oppose the admission of such States into the Union, as a measure tending to the dissolution of the confederacy.

Resolved, That the Act passed the eighth day of April, 1812, entitled, "An act for the admission of the State of Louisiana into the Union and to extend the laws of the United States to the said State," is, in the opinion of this Legislature, a violation of the Constitution of the United States; and that the Senators of this State, in Congress, be instructed, and the Representatives thereof requested, to use their utmost endeavors to obtain a repeal of the same.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Commonwealth be directed to transmit a copy of these Resolutions to each of the Senators and Representatives of this Commonwealth, in the Congress of the United States.

By Order,

JOSIAH QUINCY.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 15, 1813.

Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker.*

IN SENATE, JUNE 16, 1813.

Read and concurred.

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President.*

PAPERS,

ON THE

DEFENCE OF BOSTON AND OTHER PLACES.



AN ACT

MAKING PROVISION FOR ARMING AND EQUIPPING THE
WHOLE BODY OF THE MILITIA OF THE
UNITED STATES.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the annual sum of two hundred thousand dollars be, and the same hereby is appropriated, for the purpose of providing arms and military equipments for the whole body of the militia of the United States, either by purchase or manufacture, by and on account of the United States.

SECT. 2.—*And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is authorized to purchase sites for, and erect such additional arsenals and manufactories of arms, as he may deem expedient, under the limitations and restrictions now provided by law : *Provided also,* that so much of any law as restricts the number of workmen in the armories of the United States to one hundred men, be, and the same hereby is repealed.

SECT. 3.—*And be it further enacted,* That all the arms procured in virtue of this act, shall be transmitted to the several States composing this Union and territories thereof, to each State and territory respectively, in proportion to the number of the effective militia in each State and territory, and by each State and territory to be distributed to the militia in such State and territory, under such rules and regula-

tions, as shall be by law prescribed by the Legislature of each State and territory.

J. B. VARNUM,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

S. SMITH,
President, pro tempore, of the Senate.

April 23, 1808.

APPROVED,

TH : JEFFERSON.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR THE DEFENCE OF BOSTON AND
OTHER PLACES....27TH FEBRUARY, 1813.

RESOLVED, That the Governor with advice of Council, be, and he is hereby authorized to adopt such defensive measures, and to carry the same into immediate execution, as may be deemed necessary to protect the town of Boston, its harbour and vicinity, and the towns, ports and harbours of this Commonwealth, from the invasion of an enemy during the present war.

And for the purpose aforesaid, the Governor is hereby authorized to employ any officer or officers, person or persons, skilled in the science of engineering and gunnery, also to mount such number of heavy cannon, mortars and howitzers on travelling or fort carriages, as may be deemed necessary, to provide munitions of war, in sufficient quantities, and all the necessary apparatus for a powerful train of heavy artillery, to ascertain and designate the posts or places where said artillery can act with the greatest effect against the enemy's shipping entering or attempting to enter our ports and harbours, to cause batteries to be constructed, and breast works to be thrown up where it may be deemed necessary, with furnaces to heat shot.

And the Treasurer of this Commonwealth is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow of any bank or banks in this Commonwealth, a sum of money not exceeding one hun-

hundred thousand dollars, to be applied to the purposes aforesaid, and to be accounted for accordingly.

The aforesaid money to be borrowed in such sums as the Governor, with advice of Council, shall from time to time direct, and the Governor is hereby authorized from time to time to issue his warrants upon the Treasury for such sums as may be deemed necessary for carrying into effect the purposes of this resolve.

And be it further resolved; That the Governor be requested to apply to the Executive of the United States, and respectfully request such supply of muskets, belonging to the United States, as may be conveniently furnished, and as may be considered the proportion to which this Commonwealth may be entitled, to be apportioned and distributed to the several towns of this Commonwealth, for the use of the militia thereof, in such manner as the Governor, by and with the advice of Council, may deem most for the public service.

BOSTON, MARCH 1st, 1813.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to enclose to your Excellency an extract from a Resolve of the General Court of this Commonwealth, passed on the 27th of February last; and in compliance with the objects of the Legislature expressed in the said Resolve, to request for the use of this State, such supply of muskets, belonging to the United States, as may be conveniently furnished, and as may be considered the proportion to which this Commonwealth may be entitled.

I am, Sir, with great respect,
your most obedient humble servant,
CALEB STRONG.

The President of the United States.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

MARCH 15, 1813.

SIR,

IN answer to your Excellency's Letter of the 1st instant, (enclosing a Resolution of the Legislature of Massachusetts,

of February 27th, 1813, addressed to the President of the United States, and "requesting such supply of muskets as may be conveniently furnished, and as may be considered the proportion to which the Commonwealth may be entitled,") I have the honor to inform your Excellency, that as the arms provided, in virtue of the act of April 23, 1808, for arming and equipping the militia of the United States, have been inconsiderable, in proportion to the militia to be supplied, the President has deemed it most conducive to the general interest, to supply, in the first instance, the frontier States and the militia who have come forward in the service of the country. When the state of the public arsenals will justify the measure, Massachusetts will receive her proportion of arms, agreeably to the provisions of the Law.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be,
 Your Excellency's most obedient servant,
JOHN ARMSTRONG.

His Excellency CALEB STRONG, }
 Governor of Massachusetts. }

IN SENATE,

MAY 28, 1813.

READ, and committed to the Hon. John Welles and Edmund Foster, Esq'rs, with such as the Hon. House may join, to consider and report. Sent down for concurrence.

JOHN PHILLIPS, President.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

MAY 28, 1813.

READ and concurred, and the Hon. Mr. Lloyd and Messrs. Gardner, of Bolton, and Richardson, of North Yarmouth, are joined.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, Speaker.

REPORT.

THE Committee to whom was referred the letter of the Secretary of War of the United States, to his Excellency the Governor, bearing date at Washington, March 15th, 1813, in answer to an application, made by his Excellency in compliance with a resolve of the honorable the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the Executive of the United States, requesting such supply of muskets as might be considered the proportion to which the Commonwealth was entitled, under a law of the United States, passed in April, 1808; by which law the annual sum of two hundred thousand dollars was appropriated for the purpose of providing arms for the militia of the United States, to be transmitted to the several states, in proportion to the effective militia in each state,—

RESPECTFULLY REPORT,

THAT the law of the United States referred to by his Excellency the Governor, and entitled, “an act making provision for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States, and appropriating annually two hundred thousand dollars for that purpose,” provides that the arms procured in virtue of that act, *shall be transmitted* to the several States composing the Union, and the territories thereof, to each State and territory respectively, in proportion to the number of effective militia therein, under such rules and regulations as shall be by law prescribed by the Legislature of each State or territory.

In the apprehension of your committee, the terms of the law are simple, precise, and definite, admitting neither of a perversion of purpose nor latitude of construction—of the favouritism of partiality, or an indulgence of caprice.

The people of the United States, for the better defence thereof, by an act of their constituted authorities, set aside from their revenue the annual sum of two hundred thousand dollars, for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States, and expressly directed that the arms provided in virtue of that act should be transmitted to the seve-

ral States composing the Union and territories thereof; to each State, and territory, respectively, in proportion to the number of its effective militia. Hence it became the duty of the government not to wait for the application of the several States, but on the receipt of such supply of arms, as would admit of a reasonable division, promptly to transmit the same to the respective States and territories.

Whether this has been done, conformably with the provisions of the law, or consistently with those principles of respect, equality and impartiality, which ought to regulate the conduct of the General Government towards each member of the confederacy—the history of the amount of this fund—the distribution of the arms—and the letter of the Secretary of War will determine.

The act having passed in April, 1808, it is evident that at this time one million of dollars must have accrued under it, and ought to have been appropriated towards arming the whole body of the militia of the United States. Of this sum, or the proceeds of it, on the ratio of her contributions to the revenue of the United States, Massachusetts would be entitled to about one fifth part, having paid upwards of forty millions towards the two hundred and fifteen millions of dollars derived by the United States under the operation of the Federal Government—but predicated upon the more unfavourable ratio of the law, which in this case must govern, Massachusetts, although capable of bringing into the field an effective force of one hundred and twenty thousand free white citizens, for the purpose of sustaining her rights, of checking usurpation, or of repelling invasion, would be entitled only to the number of arms procured under the act of April, 1808, in the ratio that 70,530, the number of militia agreeably to the last return to the General Government from Massachusetts, bears to 719,449, the whole return of the militia of the United States as communicated to Congress by the President, on the 13th of February of the present year—thus giving to Massachusetts, an indisputable claim, a vested right, without the power of alienation or diversion, in any department of the General Government, to about one tenth of the said sum of one million of dollars already accumulated, or of about one tenth of the number of arms that have been procured therefrom.

And your Committee further report, that, from the returns made to Congress by the war department in December last,

it appears, that contracts, under the law of the United States of April 23, 1808, have been made for 100,200 stands of arms, of which 24,000 stands were contracted for in Massachusetts, and 9875 stands were actually delivered by the manufacturers within the State, prior to October last, and that, from these contracts, there had been received by the General Government, six months since, 31,640 stands of arms, at which time 53,560 stands of arms in addition were due, and ought to have been delivered into the public arsenals, of which, about one tenth part, from the moment of their receipt by the General Government, became, in the opinion of your Committee, the actual property of the State of Massachusetts, and by the terms of the same law, it also became the duty of the administrators of the General Government, to have caused a proportion of them in that ratio to be transmitted or delivered to this State ; that not a single musket of this number has been received, or has been intended to be transmitted or delivered, is too apparent, from the reply of the Secretary of War to the application of his Excellency.

Of the distribution of the stands of arms which had been actually received by the Government of the United States, under the law of April, 1808, it appears from returns made to Congress, by the Department of War, to the month of December last, that

1000 stands had been delivered to New-Hampshire.

2500 ————— to Vermont.

1000 ————— to Rhode-Island, to which State
250 stands had also been loaned.

1000 ————— to New-Jersey.

500 ————— to Delaware, to which State 650
stands had also been loaned.

2130 ————— to North Carolina.

2000 ————— to South-Carolina.

1000 ————— to Georgia.

1500 ————— to Ohio, to which State 3500 stands
had also been loaned.

1500 ————— to Kentucky.

1500 ————— to Tennessee,

250 ————— to Louisiana, and

216 ————— to the Territory of Illinois, and
that there had been loaned to the District of Co-
lumbia, 2200.—

What has become of nearly 16,000 stands of arms in ad-

dition, which are acknowledged to have been received, and of 53,560 stands of arms which were contracted to be delivered on or before the 7th October, 1812, and remain unaccounted for; or what number has been received since October, or under what authority the Department of War has assumed a discretion neither given, nor warranted by the law, of loaning an excess beyond the proportion to which it was entitled by the provisions of the law, to any State or territory, or of making any loan whatever, your Committee have not the means of ascertaining; and the short duration of the present session of the Legislature will not admit of a timely reference to the only source, from which perhaps information might be obtained.

Of the causes, or pretences which have induced the Government of the United States to furnish eleven States of the Union, the District of Columbia, and the territory of Illinois, with a proportion of arms, which it has seen proper to withhold from the populous, respectable, and exposed State of Massachusetts, and which had been delivered from its own manufactories—the letter of the honorable John Armstrong, Secretary at War of the United States, of March 15th, communicated by his Excellency, furnishes the evidence.

By that letter, his Excellency is informed, that “the President has deemed it most conducive to the general interest to supply in the first place the frontier States, and the militia who have come forward in the defence of the Country, and that when the state of the public arsenals will justify the measure, Massachusetts will receive her proportion of arms agreeably to the provisions of the law.”

In commenting on these reasons of the Secretary at War, for the omission to transmit or to deliver to the State of Massachusetts, the proportion of arms to which it was entitled, your Committee beg leave to remark, that the state of the public arsenals in December last, as it respects the supply of arms, provided for the respective States and territories, will be manifested by the preceding statement, from which it appears, that of the 85,200 stands of arms which were due to the General Government from the contractors, in October, and of which it is acknowledged 31,640 had, at that time, been delivered, short of 15,100 had been distributed as late as December last; but they confess they are wholly unable to comprehend or perceive, even on the alledged principles of distribution, how the withholding from the State of Massa-

achusetts, rashly and unpreparedly plunged, in common with the rest of the Union, into a disastrous war with the most powerful maritime nation the world ever witnessed ;—possessing a defenceless, more extended, and more densely populated seaboard than any other State in the Union, intersected with ports and harbors in every direction, heretofore, by the goodness of God, the blessings of peace, and the industry of their inhabitants, the native havens of one third of the tonnage of the nation, and bordered by a long line of boundary on the east and on the north, by the provinces of the enemy, can be justified or palliated, by a pretence, that it has been deemed most conducive to the general interest, in the first place to supply the frontier States, and in consequence, to omit the transmission or delivery of a single musket, to a State, with a frontier of nearly a thousand miles in circuit.

The additional cause assigned by the Secretary at War, for withholding the proportion of arms allotted to Massachusetts, “ that it was most conducive to the general interest, to supply, in the first place, the militia who have come forward in the service of the country,” alone remains to be considered ; and your Committee with reluctance approach this part of the duty assigned them ; for they are confident that while the State of Massachusetts, among the most antient and powerful of the sisters of the great family of the States, who compose this confederated empire, will duly guard her own honor, and self respect, and will ever be alive to the maintenance of her just rights at every hazard, that she will never compromise her dignity, nor stoop from her pride of place, to repel unmerited aspersion, if any such were intended, on the motives of the man, whom she is gratified to honor, who has evinced himself to be a wakeful watchman on the citadel, and a faithful guardian of the constitutional rights, and liberties of his fellow-citizens ; nor upon a militia, inferior to none in the Union, and who are at once the ornament, the boast, and the security of the State which has reared, and formed, and which delights to cherish and respect them. And should at any time hereafter any insidious foe seek to sow the seeds of jealousy and discord between the militia of the several parts of the Union, by unfounded imputations on the efficiency or patriotism of the military of Massachusetts—the Legislature will view all such attempts with horror, and reject them with disdain.

Under the influence of these convictions, the Committee forbear to dilate on this part of the letter of the Secretary at War, and limit themselves to reporting, that from the whole view of the subject which they have been enabled to take, they are of opinion, that the proportion of arms provided under the law of the United States of the 23d of April, 1808, to which the State of Massachusetts is entitled, has been unduly withheld from her, and that in the present exposed situation of the country, it is the imperious duty of the Legislature to place that part of it under their protection in an effective state of defence, as speedily as may be practicable; and they therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, As the sense of this Legislature, that by the provisions of the law of April 23d, 1808, it was the duty of the President of the United States, to cause to be transmitted to the State of Massachusetts, in conformity to the request of his Excellency the Governor, of the first of March last, the proportion of the arms prescribed by said law, which, according to the plain and explicit terms thereof, cannot, under any pretence, be justly or lawfully withheld.

Resolved, That the application of his Excellency the Governor for the transmission of said arms, in pursuance of the resolve of the Legislature of the 27th of February last, was, in every respect suitable and proper; and that the refusal to comply with said request was a rejection of an indisputable claim to property legally vested in this Commonwealth, and a neglect to perform a duty enjoined upon the Executive Department of the National Government by the positive provisions of law.

Resolved, That the terms in which this refusal is expressed, in the Answer of the Secretary at War to the letter of his Excellency the Governor, convey an indirect censure against the Government and Militia of Massachusetts, for a neglect to discharge its duty as a constituent part of the Union—which even if it had been just, could have formed no plausible pretext for the refusal—but which, being altogether unfounded, the Legislature, from the perfect respect for their Chief Magistrate, their confidence in the courage and patriotism of the Militia, and their sense of duty to themselves and their constituents, are bound to repel, as an attempt to fix an unmerited stigma upon the character of this Commonwealth.

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General, of this Commonwealth, be directed forthwith to forward to the Secretary at War of the United States, a copy of these resolves; and in case of a further refusal or neglect, beyond a reasonable time, to transmit the arms which rightfully belong to this State, by virtue of the law aforesaid, that his Excellency the Governor be requested to forward similar copies to each of our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States, that they may endeavor to obtain, by the interposition of the legislative authority, our proportion of the means provided from the common revenue "for the common defence," which the Executive department has unjustly withheld, and which our exposed situation, during the present calamitous state of the country, imperiously demands.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 14, 1813.

Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker*.

IN SENATE, JUNE 15, 1813.

Read and concurred,

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President*.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 8, 1813.

ORDERED, That Messrs. MILLS, *Northampton*, SOLIVAN, *Boston*, GOODWIN, *Berwick*, and DWIGHT, *Springfield*, be a Committee, with such as the Honorable Senate may join, to consider what measures it is expedient for this Legislature to adopt in relation to the unhappy war in which we are engaged;—the means to induce a speedy restoration of peace;—and to restore this Commonwealth to the blessings of a free and unmolested commerce, and to that influence in the councils of the nation, to which she is so justly entitled—with leave to report. Sent up for concurrence.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker*.

IN SENATE, JUNE 8, 1813.

Read, and concurred, and the Hon. Messrs. PERKINS, BLAKE and HOLMES are joined.

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President*.

JUNE 12th, 1813.

THE Committee of both Houses appointed “to consider what measures it is expedient for this Legislature to adopt, in relation to the unhappy war in which we are engaged, the means to induce a speedy restoration of peace, and to restore this Commonwealth to the blessings of a free and unmolested Commerce, and to that influence in the councils of the nation, to which she is so justly entitled,” have attended the service assigned them, and ask leave to report a Remonstrance to the Congress of the United States, which is hereto annexed.

All which is respectfully submitted.

T. H. PERKINS, *Per Order*.

REMONSTRANCE.

*To the Honorable the Senate, and the Honorable the House
of Representatives of the United States,
in Congress assembled.*

THE Legislature of Massachusetts, deeply impressed with the sufferings of their constituents, and excited by the apprehension of still greater evils in prospect, feel impelled, by a solemn sense of duty, to lay before the National Government, their view of the public interests, and to express with the plainness of freemen, the sentiments of the people of this antient and extensive Commonwealth.

Although the precise limits of the powers reserved to the several state sovereignties have not been defined by the Constitution, yet we fully coincide in the correctness of the opinions advanced by our venerable Chief Magistrate, that "our Constitutions ensure to us the freedom of speech, and that, at this momentous period, it is our right and duty to inquire into the grounds and origin of the present war, to reflect on the state of public affairs, and to express our sentiments concerning them, with decency and frankness, and to endeavor, as far as our limited influence extends, to promote, by temperate and constitutional means, an honorable reconciliation."

If then, such are the rights and duties of the people, surely those, who, at this solemn crisis, are selected by them and who are specially honored with their confidence, may venture, respectfully, but frankly, to express the sentiments and feelings of those whom they have the honor to represent.

The States, as well as the individuals composing them, are parties to the national compact, and it is their peculiar duty, especially in times of peril, to watch over the rights, and guard the privileges solemnly guaranteed, by that instrument. Certainly then this expression, from the Legislature of the free and independent Commonwealth of Massachusetts, will not be disregarded, by the present Congress of the United States. For although the numerous petitions and remonstrances of the people of this State, in relation to such mea-

asures as they deemed dangerous to their rights, and ruinous to their interests, have heretofore been received, in a manner little calculated to produce that harmony, and to cement that Union, which ought to be the permanent aim of the General Government ; yet we cannot but indulge the hope, that new councils and a more conciliatory spirit will distinguish the several branches of the present national Legislature— That they will endeavor, by the exercise of justice and impartiality, to allay the apprehensions, and restore the confidence of the eastern and commercial States—to remove their actual sufferings—and to replace them in the happy and prosperous condition from which they have been driven, by a succession of measures, hostile to the rights of commerce, and destructive to the peace of the Union.

It is not to be expected, that a hardy and industrious people, instructed in the nature of their rights, and tenacious of their exercise, whose enterprize was a source of individual wealth and national prosperity, should find themselves obliged to abandon their accustomed employments, and relinquish the means of subsistence, without complaint ; or that a moral and christian people should contribute their aid, in the prosecution of an offensive war, without the fullest evidence of its justice and necessity.

The United States, from the form of their Government, from the principles of their institutions, from the sacred professions which, in all periods of their history, they have made, from the maxims transmitted to them, by patriots and sages, whose loss they can never sufficiently deplore, as well as from a regard to their best and dearest interests, ought to be the last nation to engage in a war of ambition, or conquest.

The recent establishment of their institutions, the pacific, moral and industrious character of their citizens, the certainty that time and prudent application of their resources, would bring a seasonable remedy for any transient wrongs, would have induced a wise and provident, an impartial and temperate administration, to overlook, if it had been necessary, any temporary evils, which either the ambition, the interest, the cupidity, or the injustice of foreign powers might, occasionally, and without any deep and lasting injury, have inflicted.

With these maxims and these views, we cannot discern any thing, in the policy of foreign nations, towards us, which in point of expediency, required the sacrifice of so many and

so certain blessings, as might have been our portion, for such dreadful and inevitable evils, as all wars, and especially in a Republic, entail upon the people.

But, when we review the alledged causes of the war against Great Britain, and more particularly, the pretences for its continuance, after the principal one was removed, we are constrained to say, that it fills the minds of the good people of this Commonwealth, with infinite anxiety and alarm. We cannot but recollect, whatever the pretences of the Emperor of France may have been, pretences which have uniformly preceded and accompanied the most violent acts of injustice, that he was the sole author of a system, calculated and intended to break down neutral commerce, with a view to destroy the opulence, and cripple the power of a rival, whose best interest, and whose real policy were, to uphold that commerce, so essential to her own prosperity.

It is not for us to decide, whether the enemy of France did, or did not, adopt the most natural and efficacious means of repelling her injustice. It is sufficient, that we are persuaded, the United States might, by a firm and dignified, yet pacific resistance to the French decrees, have prevented the recurrence of any retaliatory measures on the part of Great Britain—measures not intended to injure us, but to operate on the author of this unjust and iniquitous system. And, however honorable men may differ, as to the justice of the British retaliatory Orders in Council, we do not hesitate to say, that France merited, from our Government, a much higher tone of remonstrance, and a more decided opposition.

In reviewing the avowed causes of the present war, we would, if it were possible, pass over a series of transactions, imperfectly explained, and calculated to excite our alarm and regret, at the hasty manner, in which it was declared. But the history of the pretended repeal of the French Decrees, which, if our government was sincere, we are bound to believe, was the immediate cause of the war, is so well attested, and has been so often discussed, and is, besides, so important in this enquiry, that mere motives of delicacy cannot induce us to pass it over without notice.

If war could be justified against Great Britain exclusively, it must have been, on the ground, assumed by our government, that the French Decrees were actually repealed, on the 1st of November, 1810. The indiscriminate plunder and destruction of our commerce—the capture of our ships, by the

cruizers of France, and their condemnation, by her courts, and by the Emperor, in person—his repeated and solemn declaration, that those Decrees were still in force, and constituted the fundamental laws of his Empire, at a period, long subsequent to the pretended repeal, seemed to furnish an answer, sufficiently conclusive, to this question; and we cannot but lament, that evidence, so satisfactory to the rest of the nation, should have had so little weight, with that Congress, whose term of service has lately expired.

But this important question is now definitively answered; and the American people have learned, with astonishment, the depth of their degradation. The French Emperor, as if, for the perfect and absolute humiliation of our government, and for the annunciation to the world, that he held us in utter contempt, reserved, till May, 1812, the official declaration of the fact, that these decrees were not repealed, until April, 1814; and then, not in consequence of his sense of their injustice, but because we had complied with the condition he had proscribed, in the letter of the Duke of Cadore, in causing "our rights to be respected," by a resistance to the British Orders; and he has since added, that this Decree of repeal was communicated, to our Minister at Paris, as well as to his own at Washington, to be made known to our Cabinet. As the previous pledge of Great Britain gave the fullest assurance, that she would repeal her Orders, as soon as the Decrees, on which they were founded, should cease to exist; and, as her subsequent conduct leaves no doubt that she would have been faithful to her promise, we can never too much deplore the neglect to make known this repeal, whether it be attributable to the French Government, or our own.

If to the former belong the guilt of this duplicity and falsehood, every motive of interest, and every incitement of duty call loudly upon our administration, to proclaim this disgraceful imposition to the American people; not only, as it would serve to develop the true character and policy of France, but, to acquit our own officers of a suppression, too serious to be overlooked or forgiven.

But whatever may be the true state of this mysterious transaction, the promptness with which Great Britain hastened to repeal her Orders, before the declaration of war, by the United States, was known to her, and the restoration of an immense amount of property, then within her power, can leave but little doubt, that the war, on our part, was premature, and

still less, that the perseverance in it, after that repeal was known, was *improper*, *impolitic* and *unjust*.

It was *improper*; because it manifested, in this instance, a distrust in the good faith and disposition to peace, of a nation, from which we had just received a signal proof of both.

It was *impolitic*; because it gave countenance to the charge, of a subserviency to the views of France, and of an ulterior design of co-operating, with her, in the profligate and enormous project of subjugating the rest of Europe.

It was *impolitic*; as it tended to unite all descriptions of people, in England, in favor of the present war, and to convince them, however erroneously, that moderation and fairness, on her part, only laid the foundation of new claims, and higher pretensions on ours.

It was *unjust*; because the evidence, afforded by the prompt repeal of the Orders in Council, ought to have satisfied us, that Great Britain was sincerely disposed to maintain and preserve pacific relations, with the United States; and all wars are unjust, the objects of which can be attained by negotiation.

It was *unjust*; because the whole history of our diplomatic intercourse with Great Britain shews, that we never induced her to believe, that we considered the impressment of her own seamen, on board our merchant ships, as a reasonable ground of war; and we had never offered her the alternative of war, or a relinquishment of this practice.

It was *unjust*; because the pretensions and claims, on the one side and the other, although attended with difficulties, were not irreconcilable. Great Britain did not claim the right to impress our native seamen. She disavowed the practice, in all cases, when the fact was made known to her—she restored, on legal evidence—she had recently offered to return all who were of that description, of whom a list should be furnished, by our government—and she had many years before, made such offers of fair and amicable arrangement of this whole subject, as, to two distinguished members of our present Cabinet, appeared “both honorable and advantageous.”

It was *unjust*; because we had not previously taken all the reasonable steps, on our part, to remove her complaints of the seduction and employment of her seamen. This is made manifest, by the conduct of the same Congress which declared the War; they having admitted the propriety of ob-

viating those complaints, by an act passed subsequent to the commencement of hostilities.

No State in the Union can have a greater interest, or feel a stronger desire, to protect commerce, and maintain the legitimate rights of seamen, than this Commonwealth. Owners of one third of all the navigation, and probably, furnishing nearly one half of all the native seamen, of the United States, we are better enabled to appreciate the extent of their sufferings, and must also be presumed, to sympathise with them, more sincerely, than the citizens of States, destitute of commerce, and whose sons are not engaged, in its prosecution; unless it be admitted, that the sufferers, their parents, relatives and friends, are less interested in their welfare and protection, than those who are united to them, only, by the feeble ties of political connexion.

With all the means of information, furnished by every motive of duty, and every inducement of interest, we are constrained to say, that this evil of impressment has been grossly exaggerated; that we have reason to believe, an honest and fair proposal, as honestly and fairly executed, to exclude the subjects of Great Britain from our service, would have much more effectually relieved our own seamen, and more essentially advanced their interest, than a resort to war; that the true interests of the United States coincide with the policy, adopted by all other countries; and that we should be more independent, our seamen would be better protected, and our country eventually more prosperous, by renouncing altogether, the pretension of screening, and employing British seamen.

The doctrine of natural allegiance is too well founded, has been too long established, and is too consonant with the permanent interest, the peace and independence of all nations, to be disturbed, for the purpose of substituting in its place, certain visionary notions to which the French Revolution gave birth, and which, though long since exploded there, seem still to have an unhappy influence in our country.

Having thus found the avowed causes of the war, and especially the motives for a perseverance in it, so wholly inadequate, to justify the adoption of that policy, we have been obliged to resort to other, and more concealed motives. We cannot however, without the most conclusive evidence, believe, although the measures and language of some high pub-

lic functionaries indicate the fact, that ambition, and not justice, a lust of conquest, and not a defence of endangered rights, are among the real causes of perseverance, in our present hostilities.

Must we then add another example to the catalogue of Republics, which have been ruined, by a spirit of foreign conquest? Have we no regard to the solemn professions we have so often repeated, none to the example, none to the precepts of Washington? Is it possible, either to acquire, or to maintain, extensive foreign conquests, without powerful standing armies? And did such armies ever long permit the people, who were so imprudent, as to raise and maintain them, to enjoy their liberties?

Instances of military oppression have already occurred, among us; and a watchful people, jealous of their rights, must have observed some attempts to controul their elections, and to prostrate the civil, before the military authority. If the language of some men, high in office—if the establishment of a chain of military posts, in the interior of our country—if the extensive preparations which are made in quarters, where invasion cannot be feared, and the total abandonment and neglect of that part of our country, where alone it can be apprehended, have excited our anxiety and alarm, as to the real projects of our rulers, these emotions have not been diminished, by the recent invasion, seizure and occupation of the territory of a peaceable, and unoffending neighbour.

If war must have been the portion of these United States—if they were destined by Providence, to march the downward road to slavery, through foreign conquest and military usurpation, your Remonstrants regret, that such a moment, and such an occasion should have been chosen, for the experiment—that while the oppressed nations of Europe are making a magnanimous and glorious effort, against the common enemy of free States, we alone—the descendants of the Pilgrims—sworn foes to civil and religious slavery, should voluntarily co-operate with the oppressor, to bind other nations in his chains; that, while diverting the forces of one of his enemies, from the mighty conflict, we should endanger the defenceless territories of another, in whose ports the flag of our independence was first permitted to wave, now struggling for existence, beneath his iron grasp.

Permit the Legislature of this Commonwealth, whose citizens have been ever zealous, in the cause of freedom, and who contributed their utmost efforts, for the adoption of that constitution, under which, in former times, we enjoyed so much prosperity, most respectfully, but earnestly, to entreat and conjure, the constituted authorities of the nation, by the regard due to our liberties, to our union, to our civil compact, already infringed—to pause before it be too late. Let the sober, considerate, and honorable Representatives of our sister States, in which different councils prevail, ask themselves—

Were not the territories of the United States sufficiently extensive, before the annexation of Louisiana, the projected reduction of Canada, and seizure of West Florida ?

Had we not millions upon millions of acres of uncultivated wilderness, scarcely explored by civilized man ?

Could these acquisitions be held, as conquered provinces, without powerful standing armies ? and would they not, like other infant colonies, serve as perpetual drains of the blood and treasure of these United States ? Or is it seriously intended, to adopt the dangerous project of forming them into new States, and admitting them into the Union, without the express consent of every member of the original confederacy ? Would not such a measure have a direct tendency to destroy the obligations of that compact, by which alone our union is maintained ?

Already have we witnessed the formation and admission of one State, beyond the territorial limits of the United States, and this too, in opposition to the wishes and efforts, as well as in violation of the rights and interests of some of the parties to that compact—and the determination to continue that practice, and thereby, to extend our republic, to regions, hitherto unexplored, or peopled by inhabitants, whose habits, language, religion and laws, are repugnant to the genius of our government, is openly avowed.

Against a practice, so hostile to the rights, the interests, the safety of this State, and so destructive to her political power ; so subversive of the spirit of the Constitution, and the very principles upon which it is founded ; your Remonstrants, in the name and behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, feel it their duty to enter their most deliberate and solemn protest.

If an extensive, confederated republic is to be main-

tained, and we most fervently pray that it may, it can only be, by a free communication of the grievances felt, and the evils apprehended, by any of its members; and by a prompt and liberal remedy. The same spirit of concession which dictated the formation and adoption of the Constitution, should be kept in permanent and perpetual exercise.

The blessings of government, its vigilance, its protection, its rewards, should be equally, and impartially distributed, and its burdens as equally, and fairly imposed. No portion of the Union ought to be sacrificed, to the local interest, passions, or aggrandizement of others. It cannot, however, be denied, that causes have occurred, to disturb the balance, which, when adjusted, was intended to form the principal security of our present compact. But the remedy is in the power of Congress, and we look to their wisdom, for its efficacious and speedy application.

The chief motive which influenced the Eastern States to abolish the old confederation, and to surrender a great share of their own sovereign power, as appears by the recent history of those times, was the expectation, that their commerce would be better protected by the national government.

The hardy people of the North, stood in no need of the aid of the South, to protect them, in their liberties. For this, they could safely rely, as they always had done, on their own valor. But it was an important object with them, that every aid, facility and encouragement should be given to that commerce, upon which their prosperity, almost exclusively depended.

To ensure this great object, a very unequal proportion of political power was conceded to the Southern States. The representation of Slaves, was the price paid by the Northern States, for the stipulated protection and encouragement of their trade, and for an agreement of the southern members of the Union, that the public burdens should be apportioned according to representation. Experience however, has proved, that, although the contract, on our part, has been faithfully fulfilled, both these considerations have utterly failed.

Indications of a spirit hostile to commerce were early visible, among some of those who now control the destinies of our Republic. But the father of his country then presided in our councils, and this spirit was vanquished. Under the influence of the wise, and liberal, and magnanimous system, adopted and pursued, by his administration, commerce was

indeed cherished, extended, and protected; and the stipulations of the Constitution were fulfilled, in sincerity and good faith.

Since that period however, the same spirit has arisen, and has exhibited an unrelenting severity, in the exercise of its sway—until, at length, by series of restrictions, utterly destructive of the calculations of the merchant—by prohibitions and double duties—by embargoes and non intercourse—and lastly, by war, the poor remains of that commerce, which once covered the ocean with its sails, have been nearly annihilated.

Nor has the other part of the consideration been better fulfilled—Taxation has never, except in a single instance, and that to one hundredth part only of the revenue raised under the Constitution, been apportioned according to representation; and with what reluctance it was then submitted to by the Southern States, and with what tardiness it was even partially collected, public records will determine.

Of the two hundred and fifteen millions of dollars, derived by the United States, under the operation of the Federal Government, Massachusetts has paid upwards of forty millions—an amount beyond all proportion to her political weight in the Union.

If therefore, the revenues derived from this Commonwealth, and paid into the national treasury, had been preserved in her own, she would have been fully competent to her own defence, and would not have been obliged to solicit, nor experience the injustice of a refusal of the arms, for which she has long since paid, and which were her due from the General Government. What good cause can be assigned for this refusal, your Remonstrants are wholly unable to determine. No discretion is, by law, vested in any officer of the government, in relation to this subject. Its provisions are simple, plain and peremptory. Your Remonstrants therefore, cannot but express their astonishment, that the State of Massachusetts, possessing a sea coast, more extensive and populous than that of any other State in the Union, and a defenceless frontier by land, should not only be entirely abandoned, by the government whose duty it is to protect her, but should also be refused the arms, for her own defence, to which she is, by law, entitled. They cannot however, permit themselves to doubt, that Congress will forthwith adopt such measures, as will render, to this Com-

monwealth, that justice which the executive department has refused.

If the war, in which we have been rashly plunged, was undertaken to appease the resentment, or secure the favor of France, deep and humiliating must be our disappointment. For although the Emperor is lavish in his professions of "love for the American people," applauds our ready self devotion, and declares "that our commerce and our prosperity are within the scope of his policy," yet no reparation has been made, or offered, for the many outrages, indignities and insults he has inflicted on our government, nor for the unnumbered millions of which he has plundered our citizens. And when we consider the course of policy pursued by our rulers, in their external relations, and commercial restrictions, from the prohibition of our trade to St. Domingo, to the declaration of war against Great Britain—that this course often received his open approbation, and was not unfrequently, conformable to the system which he himself had adopted—when we consider also, the mysterious secrecy which has veiled the correspondence of the two governments, from our view—and above all, when we consider, that in many instances, the most important measures of our government have been anticipated, in Paris, long before they were known to the American people, we cannot conceal our anxiety and alarm, for the honor and independence of our country. And we most fervently pray, that the sacrifices we have already made, like the early concessions of Spain, and Portugal, of Prussia, and Sweden, may not be the preludes to new demands and new concessions; and that we may be preserved from all political connexion with the common enemy of civil liberty.

To the constituted authorities of our country, we have now stated our opinions, and made known our complaints. Opinions, the result of deliberate reflection, and complaints "wrung from us, by the tortures of that cruel policy" which has brought the good people of this Commonwealth, to the verge of ruin. A policy which has annihilated that commerce, so essential to their prosperity—increased their burdens, while it has diminished their means of support—provided for the establishment of an immense standing army, dangerous to their liberties, and irreconcilable with the genius of their Constitution—destroyed their just and constitutional weight, in the General Government—and, by in-

volve them in a disastrous war, has placed in the power of the enemy, the control of the fisheries ; a treasure of more value to the country, than all the territories, for which we are contending, and which furnished the only means of subsistence, to thousands of our citizens—the great nursery of our seamen—and the right to which can never be abandoned, by New-England.

Under such circumstances, silence towards the government would be treachery to the people. In making this solemn representation of our sufferings, and our dangers, we have been influenced, only, by the duty which we owe to our constituents, and our country, to our consciences, and the memory of our fathers. And to the Searcher of all hearts we appeal, for the purity of our motives, and the sincerity of our declarations.

Far from wishing to embarrass the administration, in any of their negotiations for peace, we cannot but express our regret, that they should not have evinced a sincere desire, for this great object, by accepting some of the repeated overtures, made by the enemy, for the suspension of hostilities. —And permit us, in conclusion, most earnestly to request, that measures may immediately be adopted, to stay the sword of the destroyer, and to prevent the further effusion of human blood; that our invading armies may be forthwith recalled within our own territories; and that every effort of our rulers may be speedily directed to the attainment of a just and honorable peace; that mutual confidence and commercial prosperity may again be restored to our distracted and suffering country; and that by an upright, and faithful administration of our government, in the true spirit of the constitution, its blessings may be equally diffused, to every portion of the Union.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 14, 1813.

Read and accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker.*

IN SENATE, JUNE 15, 1813.

Read and concurred,

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President.*

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 16, 1813.

Ordered, That the Hon. the President of the Senate and the Hon. the Speaker of the House of Representatives, be, and they hereby are requested forthwith to transmit to the Senators of this Commonwealth, one copy of the Remonstrance of this Legislature, to the Congress of the United States, and one copy thereof to the Representatives of this Commonwealth in Congress, duly authenticated, that the same may be presented to the respective houses to which they belong. Sent up for concurrence.

TIMOTHY BIGELOW, *Speaker.*

IN SENATE, JUNE 16, 1813.

Read, and concurred.

JOHN PHILLIPS, *President.*

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

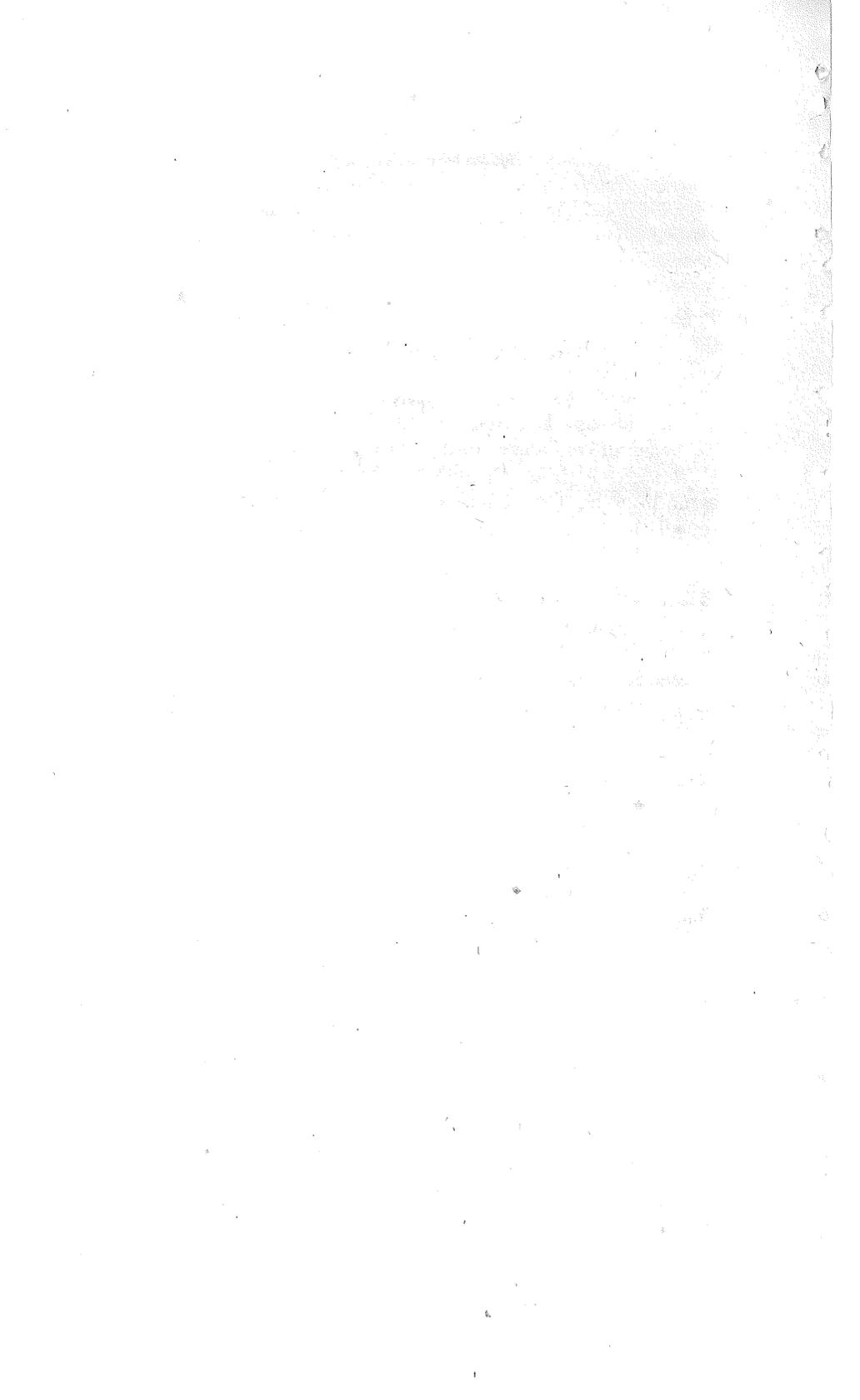
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Secretary's Office, October 6th, 1813.

By this I certify, that the printed copies of the Resolves (contained in this Pamphlet) passed by the General Court, at their Session in June, 1813, have been examined and compared, in this Office, with the originals, and appear to be correct.

ALDEN BRADFORD,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.



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TO RESOLVES PASSED JUNE, 1818.

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