

THE ADVERTISER.

COLUMBIA UNITED, THE LAND OF FREEDOM, THE CLIMAX OF PEACE AND THE GRAVE OF TYRANTS.

NUM. 34.]

WINCHESTER, (K.E.N.) SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 25, 1815.

[Vol. 1.

The Advertiser

Published every Saturday Morning,

or

MARTIN & PATTEN.

CONDITIONS.

TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS, if paid within three months from the time of subscribing, or THREE DOLLARS at the expiration of the year.—No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages have been paid. No subscription will be received for a shorter term than twelve months unless paid in advance.

Subscribers, whose papers are delivered by Private Post, will be charged 50 cents per annum postage.

ADVERTISEMENTS, not exceeding a square, will be inserted at 50 cents the first insertion, and 25 cents for each continuance. Those coming from a distance must be accompanied by the cash, or they will not be attended to. All letters to the editors must be post paid.

AGENCY.

Montgomery County—John Campbell

Important Report

FROM THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Treasury Department,
Feb. 20, 1815.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 15th instant, which, in consequence of the termination of the war, requests, in behalf of the committee of ways and means, "a view of the probable receipts from imports and tonnage, during the year 1815, and any other information that may enable the committee to decide on the measures necessary to meet the unexpected and fortunate change, which peace must produce, in the resources of the United States."—It has hitherto been my arduous and painful employment, to suggest to your consideration measures for relieving the embarrassments of the treasury, with a view to the expenditures of a protracted war. And you will readily believe, that, on every account, personal as well as public, I join you most sincerely, in rejoicing at an event, which brings with it an immediate alleviation of the pressure upon this department, as well as a general assurance of national honor and prosperity.

The objects which claimed the attention of the committee, in my former communications, were, 1st, the state of the public credit; 2nd, the state of the circulating medium; and, 3d, the ways and means to defray the various expenses of the government.

1. The public credit was depressed during the war, owing to several causes, but must now cease to operate.—All the circumstances, internal and external, which were calculated to excite doubt as to the duration, or as to the issue of the contest, in the minds of the cautious and the timid, have passed away; and, in their place, the proofs of confidence begin already to appear, with practical advantage.—While it was doubtful to what extent the public exigencies would require the aid of loans, those persons who retained the means of lending either feared, or affected to fear, the eventual security of the government; and even the exemplary display of the national resources, which has been made during the present session of Congress, for the benefit of the public creditors, was curtailed of its natural effect, in the resuscitation of public credit, by the countervailing influence of causes which it is unnecessary to specify.—But when the whole amount of the public debt incurred during the war is fixed and ascertained; when it is known that ample provision is made for the punctual payment of the interest, and for the gradual extinguishment of the principal of the debt; and when, above all, it is seen, that Congress is inflexible in its adherence to the faith and policy of the legislative pledges; and the public credit of the United States will stand upon a basis the most durable and the most honorable.

2. The difficulties of the national circulating medium remain, however, to be encountered, under circumstances which the government cannot control. The effects of the peace will certainly restore a metallic medium; but until that result be produced, the only resource for all the pecuniary transactions of the treasury, as well as of individuals, will be the issues of treasury notes, and the notes of the state banks. If, indeed, the state banks were soon to resume their payments in specie; or if they were again,

to give credit and circulation to the notes of each other, throughout the U. States; and if they were, moreover, able and willing to accommodate the fiscal views of the government, (which I do not permit myself for a moment to doubt) a total dependence upon those institutions, however impolitic in the abstract, would be practically safe and beneficial. But if, on the other hand, the notes of the state banks shall continue limited, in circulation and use, to the city, the town, or the state, in which they are issued, it must be obvious, that they cannot answer the purposes of a national medium; and that the receipt of such notes, in payments for duties of import, or internal duties, will convert the public revenue, which is destined for general uses abroad, as well as at home, into a local fund that may not be wanted where it exists, and cannot be applied where it is wanted. It is, nevertheless, in the power of Congress to obviate, in a considerable degree, this difficulty, by authorising the payment of a reasonable rate of exchange, upon the transfer of its revenue, from the places of collection and deposit, to the places of demand and employment; and I respectfully recommend the expedient to the consideration of the committee of Ways and Means.

The alternative, or concurrent resource of treasury notes, for a national circulating medium, has, on other occasions, been considered. The security of the government must always, upon every reasonable and candid estimate, be deemed superior to the security of any private corporation; and so far as treasury notes bear an interest, and are receivable in the payment of duties and taxes, they are evidently more valuable than bank notes, which do not possess those characteristics.—But the machinery of a bank is calculated to give an impulse and direction to its issues of paper, which cannot be imparted by the forms of the treasury, or any merely official institution, to the paper of the government. In the operations of a bank, too, the facilities of bank credit supply the place, in a very important degree, of the issue of notes, so that a bank loan of 30 millions of dollars, for instance, would probably require no greater issue than 6 millions of dollars in notes. On the contrary, the whole amount of whatever sum is to be raised by an issue of treasury notes must be actually sent, in the form of treasury notes, into the market, thro' the various channels of credit or demand. It is, however, to be admitted, that an issue of treasury notes not greatly exceeding in amount, the demand created for them by the duties and taxes for which they are receivable, can be annually sustained; but if the amount exceeds, or even equals, the amount of that demand, the revenue will generally be absorbed by the notes before it reaches the treasury; the holder of the treasury notes being thus paid, in preference, and often to the exclusion of every other public creditor; and the other branches of the public service being thus deprived of the contemplated means for their support.

It is proper here to observe, that the actual issue of treasury notes on this day (including those due and unpaid, those which are daily becoming due, and those which have been ordered, but are not yet signed) amounts to the sum of \$18,637,436 80 cents, and the amount will be constantly augmenting. If, therefore, the revenue for the year 1815, enriched by the duty on imports, and by the other beneficial effects of the peace, should amount to 20 millions of dollars, it is still evident that the whole of the revenue might be expended in the single purpose of paying the treasury note debt; leaving every other object of the government to be provided for by loans, or by new issues of treasury notes.

Having suggested the difficulty and the danger, I cannot presume to dwell upon any expedient for relief, which Congress has already refused to adopt; but I take the liberty, with deference and respect, to renew the recommendation of the plan that was submitted to your consideration, in my letter of the 17th January last, under a belief, that, considering the outstanding amount of treasury notes, any new issue should be made to rest upon a basis, that will enable the government to employ it, both as a circulating medium, and as the means of raising money, in aid of the revenue. How far a power given to fund the treasury notes, upon an advanced interest, or to pass them in payment of taxes and duties, will be sufficient for the purposes contemplated, without providing other means of payment by regular instalments, I must submit to the judgment of the committee.

3. The ways and means to defray the various expenses of the government for 1815, will consist of the revenue

which will be actually received at the treasury during that year. This not intended, on the one hand, to take into view the balances due upon the appropriations of preceding years; nor, on the other hand, to take into view the revenue which will accrue in the present year, but which will not be payable until the year 1816.

The direct amelioration of the resources of the country, in consequence of the peace, applies principally to the item of the duties on imports and tonnage. The effect, however, must be confined, with immaterial exceptions, for 1815, to two-thirds, or the eight concluding months, of the year. The West India trade will produce little, and the European trade nothing, by way of revenue, before the 1st of May next. Some outstanding adventures, beyond the Cape of Good Hope, will hardly be brought home, upon the intelligence of peace, before the present year has expired. Considering, therefore, that a credit of eight, ten, and twelve months, is allowed for the duties on merchandise imported from Europe; and that a credit of three and six months is allowed for the duties on merchandise imported from the West Indies; it is evident that, whatever may be the amount accruing on merchandise imported from Europe for the year 1815, the actual receipts at the treasury cannot be great; that the whole of the duties accruing on merchandise imported from the West Indies before the 1st of July, will be actually received at the treasury in the year 1815; and that one moiety of the amount of the duties on merchandise imported from the West Indies, between the 1st of July and the 1st of October, will also be received at the treasury in 1815.

The average of the net revenue of the customs which accrued for the three years, 1806, 1807, 1808, was more than 14,000,000 of dollars for each year; and a similar average for the three succeeding years, 1809, 1810 and 1811, was about 9,000,000 of dollars, for each year. But the first period was one of uncommon commercial prosperity, when the United States were the only neutral nation, and cannot be taken as the basis of an estimate for the present time, when the other nations of the world are, also, at peace. The second period was embarrassed by commercial restrictions; but, probably, the effect of those embarrassments upon the revenue were counterbalanced by the advantages of our neutrality. It is thought, therefore, upon the whole, that in a state of general peace, the customs operating upon the single duties would not have produced, before the American war, more than a sum of nine or ten millions of dollars annually. But the comparatively small quantity of foreign merchandise, at present in the American market, would probably give rise to an extraordinary amount of importations during the first year of peace, equal at least to the supply of two years; if the fact, that the double duties are limited in their continuance to a year after the termination of the war, did not operate as a check upon importations, beyond what may be requisite for the consumption of the current year. These counteracting causes may, therefore, be reasonably supposed to neutralize the force of each other, and consequently to refer and confine any estimate of the double duties upon merchandise, imported in the year 1815, to the amount of importations for the consumption of a single year.

Under these views it is estimated, that the produce of the customs, during the first twelve months of peace, will amount, with double duties, to a sum between eighteen and twenty millions of dollars.—Of that period, 10 months occur in the year 1815; but as the importations can only partially commence, for the space of two months, and cannot reach the average extent for three or four months, the fair proportion of time, to form the ground of an estimate, will be (as already suggested) 8 months of the year 1815. Upon this scale of computation, the product of the customs, which will accrue from the 1st of May to the 31st of December, 1815, will probably be 13,500,000 dollars; but there must be added to that sum the estimated amount of customs accruing, independent of the effects produced by the peace, from the 1st of January to the 1st of May, to wit: 1,500,000 dollars; making the aggregate of the revenues of the customs, accruing in the year 1815, about 15 millions of dollars.

It remains, however, to present an estimate of the amount of the customs, which will not only accrue, but which will actually be received at the Treasury, in the year 1815. The extent of the commerce, which is expected to be opened, and the effect of the credits which are allowed for the

payment of duties, for the year 1815, have been already explained. The estimate, therefore, assumes the following form:—

1. The total revenue of the customs, accruing in the year 1815, being, as above stated, \$5,000,000

It is estimated that of that sum there will become payable, and will actually be received into the Treasury, in the year 1815, in the manner exhibited in the annexed schedule marked A, about 3,500,000

2. That on account of custom-house bonds, outstanding at the end of the year 1814, which, in the letter from this department, dated the 17th of January, 1815, was reserved to meet the unsatisfied appropriations of that year, there will be received, during the year 1815, near 3,000,000

Making the total amount of the actual receipts into the treasury, from the customs, for the year 1815, \$6,500,000

The ways and means of the Treasury for 1815, provided and payable during the year, may now be presented in a view essentially different from that which was necessarily taken in the letter from this department, dated the 17th of January last, while contemplating a continuance of the war.

1. The duties on imports and tonnage will, probably, produce a sum, inclusive of that receivable for duties which accrued prior to the present year, of about \$6,500,000

2. The direct tax, instead of a sum of 2,000,000 of dollars, will probably give to the treasury, in the year 1815, in consequence of the facilities of the peace, a sum of about 2,500,000

3. The internal duties, old and new, and postage, instead of a sum of 7,050,000 dollars, will probably give to the treasury, in the year 1815, in consequence of the facilities of the peace, a sum of about 8,000,000

4. The sales of the public lands will probably produce, in the year 1815 1,000,000

5. The amount of incidental receipts, from miscellaneous sources will, probably, be about 200,000

\$18,200,000

While the revenue is thus materially augmented, the charges upon the Treasury will be considerably reduced. It is not in the power of this department, at the present time to advert to the estimates of the expenses of the peace establishment for the war and navy departments; but with the aid of the public credit, and the legislative sanction for the measures which will be proposed, it is believed that the treasury will be competent, in that respect, to meet the most liberal views of the government. Independent, therefore, of the estimates of the war and navy departments, the charges on the treasury for the year 1815, will consist of the following items:—

1. Civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses, as stated in the general estimates for one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, \$1,979,289 39

2. The public debt will call for a sum of \$14,723,808 59, to answer the following claims: For interest and reimbursements of the funded debt created before the war, (the amount of principal unredeemed on the 31st of December, 1814, being about 39,905,183 dollars, 60 cts.) 3,453,778 46

For interest of the funded debt created since the war, (the amount of principal on Dec. 31st, 1814, being 38,580,812 26, to which little has been since added) \$3,000,000 00

For the principal and interest of treasury notes falling due in 1815, and the 1st of January, 1816, including 62,000 dollars of notes issued under the act of Feb. 25th, 1813, falling due within this period \$8,271,033 12

14,723,808 58

16,703,397 97

It is to be observed, however, that the preceding estimate does not include a sum of 2,799,200 dollars, being the principal of the treasury notes, which became due in 1814, and remain unpaid; because the unexecuted authority to raise money by loan for that year, is sufficient to cover the amount, if a loan can now be obtained, independent of the custom-house debt, (3,000,000 of dollars) which accrued in 1814, but is payable in 1815, and which is now considered as part of the excess of

\$3,975,909 83, stated in the letter of the 17th of January, 1815, for the purpose of being specifically transferred, in the present estimates, from the ways and means of last year, to the credit of the ways and means for the present year.

Upon the whole, then, it appears that the revenue for the year 1815 will probably amount to 18,200,000 dollars; and that ways and means are now to be devised, to provide for the difference between that sum, and the aggregate amount of the demands for the service of the year 1815; which will be ascertained by adding the amount of the estimates for the peace establishment of the war and navy departments to the amount of the demands for the expenses of government, and the public debt being, as above stated, the sum of \$16,703,097 97.

It only remains to suggest some additional measures, which appear to be required at this time, for the support of the public credit, and the supply of the treasury.

1. It is respectfully suggested, that all the holders of treasury notes, issued or to be issued under the authority of any existing law, should be allowed to fund them at an interest of 7 per cent; and that interest be allowed on all treasury notes which have not been punctually paid, until the day of funding, or of payment.

2. It is respectfully suggested, that a new issue of treasury notes should be authorised upon the principles suggested in the letter from this department, dated the 17th of January, 1815.

3. It is respectfully suggested, that a loan should be authorised to the amount necessary, upon a view of all the estimates, to complete the ways and means for the year 1815.

4. It is respectfully suggested, that the exportation of specie should be prohibited for a limited period.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

A. J. DALLAS,

J. W. Eppes, Esq. chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means.

From the National Intelligencer,

ALL THE POINTS GAINED.

The war which has been just closed by the Treaty of Ghent, was entered upon chiefly for four objects:

1. To put an end to the unretaliated spoiliations of our Commerce.
2. To resist the Orders in Council.
3. To oppose the practice of Impressment.
4. To vindicate the Honor of the Nation.

In all these objects the United States have succeeded.

First: As to unretaliated spoiliations of Commerce. They ceased by the declaration of war; and the captures from the British, by American public and private armed ships, amount to about fourteen hundred, a number far exceeding that taken from the United States by the cruisers of Great Britain during the same period. Nor did our citizens suffer, in that respect, by a change to a state of war from the condition of things that immediately preceded hostilities; because, prior to the war, American ships and merchandise were universally captured by the British without reprisal; whereas the declaration of war, by authorizing reprisals, diminished our loss by arming our trade, and produced a profit by privateering.

Secondly: As to the Orders in Council. They were revoked before the news of the declaration of war reached England; but not before the tone of the American Executive and the proceedings of Congress indicated hostilities on the part of the United States. Before the Congressional measures bore a decidedly belligerent aspect, the British government had uniformly declined to repeal the orders. I speak to facts with which every politician is familiar. It may, therefore, be truly stated, that the determination to go to war on our side, produced the repeal of the Orders in Council.

Thirdly: As to the practice of impressment. As long as that practice continued, the American government refused to make peace. When Sir John Borlase Warren, in the name of the Prince Regent of England, offered terms of peace in every other respect as good as those obtained at Ghent, Colonel Monroe rejected his offer because the Prince Regent would not agree to suspend the practice of impressment. When our plenipotentiaries first went to negotiate for peace in Europe, they were first instructed to insist on a written abandonment of the practice of impressment. Such a stipulation was necessary at that time, because France and Great Britain were still at war. By the peace in Europe the practice ceased. As the cessation