France can weaken them by having converted the right, to be maintained, into a naked one whilst the sacrifices, to be made, would be substantial and extensive.

A hope, however is indulged, that your *instructions* from your government will soon enable you to give some satisfactory explanations of the measures to which reference has been made, and that their operation in virtue of modifications, which have not yet transpired, will not be as has been herein represented.

The President has received with great satisfaction the information, that the Consuls of France have been heretofore in the official and authorised practice of furnishing certificates of origin to American vessels; as well to those destined to neutral ports, as to those, whose sovereigns are in alliance with France; and that this practice, sanctioned by the French government, did not cease in any part of the U. States before the 13th of last month, and then only in consequence of a despatch from the Duke of Cadore bearing date the 30th of August preceeding. This satisfaction arises from the hope that similar information may have been given to the Danish government, and from a sense of the happy influence, which such a communication will have had on the American property, that had been seized and detained by the privateers of Denmark upon the supposition that these certificates of origin were spurious and not authorised by the French government. It is nevertheless, to be regretted, that the functionaries of France in Denmark had not made known to the Danish authorities, during the occurrence of such outrages on the American trade, the error of denouncing, as illegitimate, authentic documents, which had been lawfully issued by the accredited Agents of his Imperial Majesty.

I have the honor to be, &c.
(Signed) R. SMITH.

Translation of a letter from General Turreau, Minister Plenipotentiary of his Imperial and Royal Majesty, the Emperor of the French, &c. &c. to Mr. Smith, Secretary of State.

Washington, Dec. 25, 1810.

SIR—I have received the letter you have done me the honor to write to me the 18th of this month, and I hasten to transmit a copy of it to his Excellency the Duke de Cadore.

This despatch, sir, being an answer to the letters which I had the honor to write to you on the 27th Nov. and 12th of this month, naturally takes me back to their object, to which I believe it is my duty again to call your attention.

I pray you to observe, that the last instructions I have received from my court relative to the new directions the commerce of France with the United States must follow, are of a very old date: the official despatches, from which I have taken them, are of the 12th and 28th of April last. It is the more probable that the regulations of my government in regard to this commerce have undergone some modifications, as the Consul General received by the "Hornet," despatches of the 10th July, 22d and 30th August last, in which it is specially stated that cottons may be imported into France in American vessels, and under certain regulations—whereas, according to the instructions which were addressed to me on the 12th and 28th of April preceding, cotton and tobacco are specially prohibited.

I will add to these data (ces Donnes) that according to the orders transmitted to the Consuls of his Majesty, respecting certificates of origin, and under the date before cited, (30th August last) they may deliver them to all American vessels destined for France—observing that these certificates are not applicable *but to the products of the United States.* If these certificates of origin cannot be applied but to the productions of the United States, and cannot be given to any vessels but those destined for France, the introduction of these productions is not then prohibited here.

You will be pleased especially to observe, sir, that the dispositions which were announced to me by the despatches of the 12th and 28th of April, are of course anterior to the repeal of the decrees of Berlin and Milan, and are necessarily without an object, the moment the said decrees are no longer in force. I do not know of any subsequent acts which modify this repeal—for the instructions already cited, sent to the Consul General, the 30th Aug. last, relative to the certificates of origin, are only a consequence of it, and formally exclude only colonial productions.

Furthermore, sir, I have before me the letters of the Duke of Cadore to General Armstrong, under date of the 5th of August and 12th September, of which copies have been sent to me by order of my court. These are the only documents on which it seems to me reasonable to fix the attention, (s'arreter) and I see in them nothing which can cause it to be supposed that the French government may have had an intention to modify or to restrict the repeal of the before cited decrees. This act contains no reserve: it does not exact any guarantee. The declaration of the Duke of Cadore is formal; and it is the provisions themselves of the act of the honorable Congress of the 1st of May last, which have dictated to him the consequence.

I seize this occasion, with eagerness, sir, to renew to you the assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed) TURREAU.

GENERAL ARMSTRONG TO MR. SMITH.

Washington, 27th Dec. 1810.

SIR,

The enclosed documents marked 1 & 2, were intended to have made part of my last communication. The paper entitled *Avis au Commerce, &c. &c.* (notice to merchants) contains a tariff of the new duties payable in France, and shews, besides, what are the articles of commerce admissible there. If this paper has no other value, it will be found important from the illustration it gives to that passage of the Duke of Cadore's letter to me of the 12th of September last, in which he says, that *American vessels loaded with merchandise, the growth of the American states, will be received without difficulty into the ports of France.* It is also in perfect concert with the practice in the French custom house, in the case of the ship Ida, coming from Boston, with a cargo of cotton.

I am, sir, with very high consideration,
Your most obedient
And very humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Honorable Robert Smith,
Secretary of State.

[Here follows a list of the duties on articles imported into France, which is omitted as uninteresting to the readers of the Star.]

CONGRESS.—In Senate,

Thursday, Dec. 20.

Received from the House of Representatives a bill fixing the compensation of the additional Assistant Postmaster General which was passed to a second reading.

Mr. *Giles*, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Larkin Smith, Collector of the district of Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia, reported a bill for the relief of the Collectors of the ports of Norfolk, Baltimore and Philadelphia—which was passed to a second reading.

The Senate, after considering the bill respecting the addition to the territory of Orleans, in a committee of the whole, postponed the further consideration until to-morrow.

Mr. *Giles* obtained leave of absence for a fortnight from this day.

Friday, Dec. 21.

Mr. *Smith* (of Maryland) presented the petition of the President and Directors of the Union Bank of Georgetown, praying a charter of incorporation for reasons therein stated: which was referred to Messrs. Smith, (Maryland) Anderson and Pickering.

The bill fixing the compensation of the additional assistant Post master-general, was read a second time, and referred to Messrs. Bradley, Leib and Smith (of Maryland.)

M. *Lloyd* moved that the bill "declaring the laws now in force in the territory of Orleans, to extend to, and have full force and effect to the river Perdido, pursuant to the treaty concluded at Paris, on the 30th April, 1803, and for other purposes" should be referred to a committee, with instructions to report their opinion on the title of the U. States to the territory in question, and the grounds on which that opinion may be founded.

The Yeas and Nays on this motion, being taken are as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Dana, Goodrich, Horsey, Lloyd and Pickering.—5

Nays—Messrs. Anderson, Bradley, Campbell, Clay, Condit, Crawford, Cutts, Franklin, Galliard, Gilman, Lambert, Leib, Matthewson, Pope, Smith, (Maryland) Smith, (New York) and Tait.—17.

The further consideration of the above bill was postponed till Wednesday.

Mr. *Horsey* moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be laid before the Senate all the documents, papers or other evidences in his possession relating to the title of the United Stetes to the territory South of the Mississippi Territory, and eastward of the river Mississippi to the Perdido and to the boundaries of the said territory.

The yeas and Nays on this question stood thus:

Yeas—Messrs. Dana, Goodrich, Horsey, Lambert, Lloyd, Matthewson, and Pickering.—7.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson, Campbell, Clay, Condit, Crawford, Cutts, Franklin, Gaillard, Leib, Pope, Smith, (Maryland) Smith (New York) and Tait.—13. Adjourned.

Monday, Dec. 24.

Mr. *Leib* presented the petition of sundry merchants of Philadelphia praying relief from the operation of the non-intercourse law—which was referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

Also, the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce, praying a renewal of the charter of the Bank of the U. States.—Referred to the committee on the subject of Banks.

The bill to continue the Mediterranean fund was passed to a second reading.

The bill to make up the deficiency in the appropriation for the year 1810 for the relief of distressed seamen, was passed to a second reading.

The bill for the relief of the Collectors of the ports of Norfolk, Baltimore and Philadelphia was postponed till the second Monday in January. Adjourned.

Wednesday, Dec. 26.

A quorum not appearing, the Senate adjourned till to morrow.

House of Representatives.

Thursday, Dec. 20.

The following gentlemen compose the committee on Mr. Newton's motion respecting the state of the army. Messrs. Newton, Mumford, Crawford Milnor, Cochran, Winn and Champion.

Mr. *Bibb* is appointed on the committee for enquiring into the conduct of Gen. Wilkinson in the place of Mr. Troup excused from serving.

The bill fixing the compensation of the additional assistant Post-master general, was read a third time and passed.

Mr. *Van Horn* reported a bill to incorporate the Bank of Washington; which was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole.

AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION.

On the motion of Mr. *Macon*, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. *Cutts* in the chair, on the state of the Union, on the motion introduced by Mr. *Macon*, for adding to the constitution the following article:

"No Senator or Representative, after having taken his seat, shall during the time for which he was elected be eligible to any civil appointment under the authority of the United States, nor shall any person be eligible to any such appointment until the expiration of the Presidential term, during which such person shall have been a Senator or Representative."

On motion, the committee rose, and the resolution was, on the sugguestion of Mr. Sheffey, referred to a select committee composed of Messrs. Macon, Burwell, Baron, Sheffey and Mitchell, with directions to report their opinion thereon.

Mr. *Basset* reported a bill for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church of Alexandria.—Twice read and committed.

Friday, December 21.

Mr. Jones & Mr. Clopton took their seats.

Mr. *M'Kinley*, the member chosen in the place of Mr. J. G. Jackson, resigned, appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. *Seybert* presented the petition of sundry merchants of Philadelphia, praying relief from the operation of the non-intercourse law. Referred to the committee on foreign relations.

CULTURE OF HEMP.

Mr. *Sheffey* remarked that the interruption of commerce to the Baltic had given a spring to the culture of hemp in this country, which would be much relaxed if the commerce should be opened. He was, he said, one of those who had always considered the encouragement of agriculture as one of the first objects of a good government.—He therefore proposed, with a view to ascertain how far it was proper to encourage the culture of hemp, to offer a resolution to enquire into the subject. He did not know how far it would be proper to adopt the measure which he contemplated; he was not advised whether the culture in the United States was sufficient for the consumption. If so, he should feel disposed to restrict the importation from abroad. The Committee of Commerce and Manufactures would be best able to ascertain how far it was proper to protect the culture of our own raw material. He therefore submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee of Commerce and Manufactures be instructed to enquire into the expediency of encouraging the culture of hemp, by protecting impost duties, or prohibiting the importation of that article into the United States; and that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. *Mitchell* said he had no inclination to oppose the passage of the resolution, its object being merely to enquire; and resolutions for enquiry, generally speaking, were those which, of all others, the House ought to pass.—He would just mention, however, his perfect conviction that the resources for the supply of this article were ample, and that enough could be raised on the Genesee flats and Walkill river in the state of New York, to supply the north, and in the state of Kentucky, to supply the south. The interruption of commerce with the Baltic, created an extraordinary price, which was bounty enough for the present. How far it might be necessary to extend the principle during free commerce, he did not say.

The resolution was agreed to without a division.

Mr. *Van Horn* presented the memorial of the United Wabash and Illinois Company, stating, that they purchased certain lands from the Indians in the year 1773, and praying from the United States a confirmation of their title to such part of the same as Congress shall deem expedient. Hr. Van Horn moved to refer the memorial to the Committee of Public Lands.

Mr. *M'Kee* objected to the reference on the ground that it was a subject on which Congress had frequently legislated, and had shewn their indisposition to comply with the wishes of the memorialists; and that it therefore would be a wast of time to refer a petition on the principle of which the House had so frequently decided.

Mr. *Van Horn* replied, that the right of petition was one which was secured to every citizen by the constitution; and that the House was bound to listen to their prayers; that this was a subject of great importance to the petitioners, and their claim was one which a committee of Congress had so far recognized in 1801, as to recommend a compromise of it. Besides the reference of every petition was a matter of course.

The reference as proposed was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. *Eppes*, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. CUTTS in the chair, on the bill making up the deficiency in the appropriation of 1810, for the relief of distressed American seamen in foreign countries. After some detailed statements from Mr. Eppes of the objects; this expenditure, the blank in the bill for the appropriation was filled with $75,559 89 cents.

The committee rose and reported the bill, which was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

MEDITERRANEAN FUND.

On motion of Mr. *Eppes*, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. BASSET in the chair, on the bill for continuing in force the first section of an act entitled "An act further to protect the commerce and seamen of the United States against the Barbary powers."

The committee rose and reported the bill without amendment, which was passed to a third reading without opposition.

Monday, Dec. 24.

Mr. *Seybert* presented the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of Philadelphia, in favor of the renewal of the charter of the Bank of the United States.—Referred to the Bank committee.

Mr. *Morrow*, from the committee on Public Lands, reported unfavorably to the claim of certain officers and soldiers in the British war against France in 1763 for lands; which was read and accepted by the House without opposition.

The bill for supplying the deficiency in the appropriation of 1810, for distressed seamen, &c. and the bill for continuing the Mediteranean Fund, were read a third time and passed.

The House went into a committee of the whole, Mr. PITKIN in the Chair, on the bill providing for the final adjustment of claims to lands, and for the sale of the public lands in the territories of Orleans and Indiana.—After some inconsiderable amendments to the bill, the committee rose and reported the bill, which was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Sheffey* presented the petition of sundry surviving officers of the revolution; which were referred to a select committee.

Mr. *Mitchill* presented the petition of the manufacturers in brass and copper, in the city of New-York, praying the removal of the duty on zinc (or spelter)—Referred to the committee of Commerce and Manufactures.

A letter was also received from the Secretary of the Treasury, accompanied by a report on the subject of foreign coins now in circulation in the United States.—Referred to the committee on this subject.

On motion of Mr. *Macon*,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of providing for the formation and printing of a complete general index to the several volumes of the laws of the United States as now published, including those which may be passed at the present session of Congress, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

To morrow being Christmas day, the House adjourned to Wednesday—62 to 23.

Wednesday, December 26.

Mr. *Burwell* offered the following resolution, remarking that a similar resolution had been adopted in 1801 & a bill reported, but not acted on from the pressure of other business; and he presumed there could be no objection to providing a remedy in a case, where the omission had been entirely by accident. This limitation of time for entering claims, Mr. B. said, was almost unknown in any other country than the United States, and generally affected most severely those who were particularly entitled to indulgence. All those persons who might be supposed to be disposed to defraud the public were always attentive to their interests; but there was a class of honest claimants who were inattentive, and who were generally the sufferers by the act of limitation.

The following is the resolution offered by Mr. Burwell, which was referred, on the suggestion of Mr. *Poindexter*, to the Committee of Public Lands.

Resolved, That a further time of six months ought to be allowed to claimants to land in the state of Georgia south of the state of Tennessee to register the evidences of their titles with the Secretary of State of the United States.

On motion of Mr. *Johnson*, the House came to a resolution to appoint a committee to revise the laws for establishing trading houses, &c. and regulating the intercourse among the Indian tribes.

Some other business of minor importance was done. The House adjourned at an early hour.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

We find Mr. Pickering, with his usual bitterness, pursuing in the Senate of the United States interests hostile to the welfare of his country; and, in the pursuit, trampling under feet all notions of fidelity and honor. The paper which, with unpardonable outrage, he read to the Senate, as coming from Talleyrand, when examined, even with the superficial knowledge we have of it through the National Intelligencer, proves nothing but the chicanery of the French government. It bears date in the year 1804, the year *after* Louisiana was purchased from France; and, of course, the year after France had assigned away all her rights. But the git of this letter of Talleyrand's will be better understood, when we bring to the reader's recollection the fact, that subsequently to the purchase of Louisiana by the United States, the American government, by way of terminating all disputes amicably, was desirous to purchase the fraction of West Florida left to Spain after the convention of April 30th, 1803, as well as East Florida, and in the year 1804 a bargain was driving at Paris and at Madrid for the whole territory. The bargain was driven at *Paris* as well as at Madrid, because it was well known that France had a paramount controling influence over the councils of Spain. Whilst this bargain was going on what so natural as that Talleyrand should endeavor to enhance the value of the property to be sold? This enhancement he attempted, it seems, by contending that Louisiana did not include territory on the eastern side of the Mississippi; and thus, by creating a difficulty as to the extent of the country which we had purchased, Talleyrand imagined the United States would be alarmed into a compliance with the highest terms of purchase that France and Spain might demand for the residue. This is the whole secret, without doubt: and this is the kind of *proof* Mr. Pickering brings forward to invalidate the title of the United States to West Florida as far east as the Perdido—a kind of proof which may be got at any time from either Great Britain or France, to deprive us of all their rights.

Of what avail is it that Charles Maurice Talleyrand, or any other cunning politician, attempts, *after sale*, to explain the limits sold! The deed of sale, is the only standard of decision; and that deed takes in the territory as far east as the Perdido. All deeds are constructed most strictly against the grantor, and most liberally in favor of the grantee: But in this case there is no necessity for resorting to the aid of this old and well known law-maxim to support our claim; because every fact and every reasonable exposition that bears upon the case is in our favor.

Suppose, for the sake of homely illustration, that Toby Jones, in the year 1762, had owned a certain tract of land, the eastern boundary of which was Crooked Run, and that he had always owned it with that extent; suppose, further, that Toby Jones had, in the year 1763, sold his plantation, thus extending, to Tom Williams; and that this Tom Williams, in 1783, had sold this same plantation to Jack Norris.—Now, suppose, moreover, that Jack Norris should resell to Toby Jones this identical plantation with the same extent that it had when Toby Jones first owned it: Pray, would it not still extend eastward as far as Crooked Run? And, if any person subsequently purchased from Toby all his right, would that person not buy as far as Crooked Run too?—You have only to put Perdido for Crooked Run; France for Toby Jones; Great Britain for Tom