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SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Presented 1st February, 1804.

Read, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole Houſe on Monday next.

The Committee of Claims, to whom was recommitted the petition of David Valenzin, together with their former report thereon, reſpectfully ſubmit the following

REPORT—

(CONCLUDED.

Notwithſtanding this melancholy cataſtrophy, your committee have thought it their duty to complete, as far as might be in their power, the enquiry they had thus far purſued: and as the meſſenger returned with Mr. Heath on Sunday laſt, they have ſince proceeded to take his examination, which is ſubjoined, (marked K) and which appears to be a free diſcloſure of all the circumſtances attending his management of the prize. He teſtifies, after explaining the time and manner of the capture, that David Valenzin, and ſeveral other priſoners, were put on board the Enterpriſe, and ſent to Tunis; from which place he received the order of Commodore Morris, to deliver to the bey of Tunis, or his order, the greater part of the cargo. The reſidue being the property of David Valenzin, and but a ſmall proportion of it in a periſhing condition, was ſold by order of the commodore, and the Sales completed by the 8th June 1803. The groſs amount of ſales was 2,665 70 dolls. cts. the net proceeds, after deducting charges and expenſes, were 2,144 11—This ſum, after deducting five doubloons paid to commodore Morris, leaving a balance of 2,064 11, was by him depoſited, with the approbation of the Secretary of the navy, in the bank of diſcount and depoſit in this city on the 17th December, Anno Domini, 1803. On which day alſo he left his papers relative to the diſpoſal of the cargo with Mr. Goldſborough, clerk in the navy department.

From the whole evidence, thus collected, your committee are clearly of opinion, that in whatever light the original capture is to be viewed, the diſpoſition of the prize was irregular and illegal. If it was the intention of the captors to conſummate their right to the property captured, it was obviouſly their duty to tranſmit the ſame, accompanied by the neceſſary papers, without delay to the United States for adjudication. Even admitting the propriety of ſelling ſuch of the prize goods as were in a periſhing condition, ſtill the reſidue, with the proceeds of ſuch as were neceſſarily ſold, might and ought to have been thus tranſmitted at the time the priſoner was ſent to the United States. By the ſale of the property under the attending circumſtances, it is worthy of conſideration, whether a ſerious, if not an inſurmountable obſtacle may not have been created to a trial of the validity of the capture in a court of maritime juriſdiction. To ſubject the claimant or claimants to the inconvenience and expenſe of ſeeking redreſs from the ordinary court of law in a caſe ſo ſituated, can be neither right nor reaſonable—Juſtice, therefore, evidently requires that proviſion be made by the legiſlature for their indemnification.

Your committee are alſo of opinion, not until David Valenzin was duly liberated from his impriſonment, an obligation reſted upon the government of the United States, to provide for his decent ſupport; and that of courſe, the individuals who have generouſly contributed to his neceſſities, and who have defrayed the expenſe of his interment, ought to be remunerated. With theſe impreſſions, your committee reſpectfully offer to the Houſe the following reſolutions, viz.

Reſolved, That proviſion ought to be made by law for reſtoring to the legal repreſentatives of David Valenzin the value of the property captured from him in the Mediterranean, by the American ſquadron, in the month of January, A. D. 1803.

Reſolved, That proviſion ought to be made by law for indemnifying the individuals who, during the impriſonment of the ſaid David Valenzin, contributed to his ſupport—and who have defrayed the expenſes of his interment.

THOMAS M'EUEN, THOMAS HALE & WILLIAM DAVIDSON, who heretofore, have tranſacted buſineſs under the firm of *Thomas M'Euen & Co.* will in future uſe that of *M'Euen, Hale & Davidson.*

Philadelphia, Feb. 1—tw&w6f

FROM THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE.

Sambrook-house, Oct. 30.

As many thouſands of Sylvanus Urban's Miſcellany iſſue monthly from the preſs, and it being one of theſe periodical publications not only generally read, but likewiſe preſerved as a repoſitory of information; I am deſirous of conveying to the public, through this extenſive medium, ſome obſervations on the Small-pox, and its increaſing fatality: I ſay *increasing*, becauſe from converſation with medical practitioners, added to my own experience, I am of opinion, that more patients have died of late years of the Small-pox than formerly, in proportion to the number attacked by it; as well as by Inoculation in proportion to the number inoculated. It has been calculated that about one in ten fell victims to this ſcourge of human exiſtence, and of late about one in eight. The calculation of deaths by Inoculation has been one in 500, and and is now at leaſt one in 300. Hence we may rationally and piouſly view the recent diſcovery of Vaccine Inoculation, or the art of conveying the Cowpock from one human being to another, as truly opportune and providential!

The whole number of deaths every year in Britain by the Small-pox is about 36,000; in London alone about 3000; and in all Europe, in the ſame ratio of population, about 470,000; the lives of every one of whom might have been ſaved by the practice of Vaccine Inoculation. If parents and guardians of children allow them to take the Small-pox, and they ſhould die of it, are not ſuch parents and guardians acceſſary to their deaths? As the Vaccine Inoculation is a certain ſecurity againſt the Small-pox; as it introduces no conſtitutional diſeaſe or blemiſh, and never is fatal; what apology can ſuch parents and guardians offer for neglecting the means of prevention and ſecurity? Parents are placed, by the Almighty Giver of human life, as guardians over both the body and mind of their children; they nurture them in infancy, they educate them, and direct the biaſs of their minds; they clothe and protect them from the inclemency of the elements; and ought, as much as in them lies, to keep their bodies free from diſtempers. They cannot now plead ignorance. The evidence of 200 000 witneſſes, who have received the Cow-pock with perfect ſafety, conſtitute a charge of neglect wherever children have been ſuffered to die by the Small-pox. True it is, I continually hear the pathetic exclamation of parents, when it is too late, "Oh that my loſt child had been inoculated with the Cow-pock!" We read, however, in the laſt week's report in the bill of mortality, of 81 deaths by the Small-pox *! Painful to reflect, that in this enlightened metropolis nearly 12 helpleſs children ſhould be ſuffered to expire daily under this fatal ſcourge! Such alarming inſtances of mortality ſhould rouſe every man of urbanity. Magiſtrates, I call upon you to ſuperintend the government of the city: upon paſtors, you who influence morality and conſcience; as well as invoke the legiſlators of the nation to avert theſe murders!

Magiſtrates! your office is more dignified and important than that of conveying a convict to the place of execution. May you ſpare ſome moments to the information of thoſe untutored individuals within your juriſdiction; who, poor and ignorant as they may be, conſtitute an induſtrious and uſeful part of the community; who, by your influence might be directed to ſelf preſervation! If you hear of a ſingle murder having been perpetrated by a hardened villain, or of an infant deſtroyed by an abandoned mother, your endeavors are laudably exerted to diſcover and puniſh theſe depraved delinquents; and your moral feelings are excited by the ſentiment of blood for blood. What emotions muſt then be produced by the reports, in the bills of mortality, of 12 perſons daily falling victims to the ſmall pox in the metropolis over which you preſide! In a free country, you cannot legally compel your fellow citizens to ſave the lives of their children, though our exertions and example might influence the multitude; and a portion of that munificence, which you in your public and private capacities diſpenſe, in the promotion of great and charitible inſtitutions, ſo honorable to the corporation and to individuals, might be directed to the extenſion of Vaccine inoculation, by which you would be the medium of reſcuing from the grave almoſt as many lives in one month as there are days in a whole year!

Paſtors! Ye to whom thouſands daily liſten, remember the declararation of your Divine Maſter, who "came to ſave, not to deſtroy men's lives." Your brethren of Geneva † have conſidered the promulgation of vaccine inoculation as a part of their ſacred office; for what approximates man nearer to his God, than ſaving the lives of his fellow creatures?

Legiſlators! Ye, who penetrate into all the ramifications of finance; and whoſe attention is exercied in framing laws for the ſecurity of property; the extenſion of commerce; and the accumulation of wealth; recollect, that in proportion to the number of inhabitants, and to their uſeful employment is centered the wealth of a nation; and that, by your attention to vaccine inoculation, you may in a century double the population of this kingdom. You offer premiums to encourage trade. A ſmall premium from government, to promote this diſcovery, would enlarge the number of thoſe who conſtitute the agency and means of trade. It is indeed painful to ſtate, that people ſhould require premiums to engage them to ſave the lives of their offspring. It is, however, too true, as the number of deaths by the ſmall pox irrefragably evince. Were government, and individuals in power and wealth, unitedly to extend the means of vaccine inoculation among the lower claſſes of people, its ſucceſs would ſoon induce them to adopt it as a favor without pecuniary reward.

Both high and low have ſtill prejudice to overcome. How often do we hear individuals exclaim, "*that they would not have a beastly disease for the world.*" But, when they reflect that they drink the milk of the cow, eat cheeſe made from milk, and the fleſh of this healthy animal, theſe prejudices they ſay, "*they will trust to Providence, and not bring on a new disease.*" As to truſting to Providence, it behoves every human being; but this ſhould encourage us to exert our endeavours to promote providential deſigns. He gives us powers and inclinations to clothe ourſelves to defend us from the inclemency of the weather. Houſes are built to protect us from rain and ſtorms, cold and heat. And if theſe endeavours are crowned with health and comfort, ſhould we not in a particular manner exert ourſelves to protect the lives of our helpleſs children, who, would without our aid in various ways, be daily dying around us? It is, therefore. our duty to co-operate with the goodneſs of Providence, who has afforded us the knowledge and the means of communicating to our children the Cow-pock, which is no diſeaſe; as a preventive to the Small-pox, the moſt malignant of all diſeaſes.

It was the practice formerly to attempt leſſening the danger of the Small-pox, by inoculating perſons with it; but this often proved fatal, and it is always infectious: by which property, inſtead of diminiſhing the Small-pox, it has tended to ſpread it, as appears by the induction delivered into the Houſe of Commons by the Committee on Dr. Jenner's petition, in conſequence of a table I preſented to the committee:

"As a compariſon between this new practice and the inoculated Small-pox, forms a principal conſideration in the preſent enquiry, ſome facts with regard to the latter engaged the attention of your committee; and they have inſerted in the Appendix, No. 44, ſtatements of the mortality occaſioned by the Small-pox in 42 years, from 1731 to 1772; the reſult of which appears to be an increaſe of deaths amounting to 17 in every 1000; the general average gives 72 in every 1000 during the firſt 42 years, and 89 in the 42 years ending with 1772, ſo as to make the whole exceſs of deaths in the latter period 1742."

By this table, as it clearly appears that inoculation ſpreads the ſmall-pox, and by it the number of deaths are increaſed, it ſhould not be practiſed any longer, but be legally interdicted; for, although it may ſave one perſon, it may be the means of ſpreading it to the prejudice of many. There are ſevere laws againſt any one ſetting his houſe on fire, becauſe he may deſtroy his neighbour's life and property; and ſo it is with inoculation of the ſmall-pox, for no limits can be aſcertained of the extent of its infectious and deſtructive poiſon; whilſt the cow-pox is not catching or infectious; and, if it could be caught, it is not dangerous, for indeed it excites but little or no indiſpoſition. It produces one ſmall ſpot, or pimple where the lancet or thread, touched, and uſually no more.

Under all theſe advantages, it is earneſtly to be wiſhed that inoculation by the cow-pox might become immediately general; not merely among the affluent, but that they may unite in promoting the active and enlarged plans for extending it among thoſe who are unable to pay for medical attendance.—Plans ſo intereſting to the well-being of the community, and proſperity of the ſtate, will doubtleſs be ſupported by the liberality of government, and thereby ultimately eradicate the greateſt ſcourge of human exiſtence that ever deſolated the Univerſe.*

J. C. LETTSOM.

P. S. The phyſicians of Geneva have publiſhed the following advertiſement; which, in that important moment when the children are chriſtened, is delivered by the clergyman to the godfathers after the baptiſm is over, in order to make the people more inclined for the Cow-pox, by preſenting to them the Vaccine Inoculation as a matter of conſcience.

"The child that is juſt chriſtened is, among different other dangers, expoſed to become a ſacrifice to the Small-pox; a diſeaſe that, ſince the 8th century, has ſpread itſelf through Europe in ſuch a manner, that it is morally impoſſible to preſerve the child from it except by Inoculation. Luckily, and by a particular favour of Providence, a diſcovery has been lately made, confirmed by the teſt of experience, which is both harmleſs and ſecure, and may be employed in all ſeaſons, in weak, tender, and new-born children; a remedy that is never attended with any bad ſymptom, but of the mildeſt nature, viz. the Vaccine diſeaſe, an affection that has hitherto proved ſlight and very mild, and affords the ineſtimable advantage of not being contagious, ſo that it may be inoculated in a houſe without any danger to the neighbours, though it at the ſame time averts for ever the misfortune of receiving the ſmall-pox.

"If you, parents, wiſh to defend this child from that danger, we conjure you to get it immediately inoculated with the cow-pox. Haſten to preſerve it from that dangerous diſeaſe, which fills your hearts with deſolation, and by which your children riſk every moment to be infected. Do not deliver them to the nurſes before you have reſcued them from this danger. The experience and obſervation of the phyſicians and ſurgeons of this place, who know themſelves the feelings of a father, and who have inoculated their own children, ought to encourage you to follow their example. In the name of humanity, by all that is dear to you, we requeſt you to follow their example; if not, we juſtify ourſelves when once you ſhed tears for the loſs of this child: you have not been willing to avail yourſelves of this remedy that was offered you, ſimple and eaſy as it is; you have refuſed it, you have unreaſonably doubted to apply it in time, though the ſubſcribed phyſicians and ſurgeons have made it our duty to inoculate every child that has been brought to us without the leaſt recompence. Our fellow citizens know that we have hitherto accepted no reward from any perſon whoſe circumſtances did not allow it."

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* Another bill of mortality for the ſubſequent week has appeared; by this account 72 only have died by the ſmall pox within the week; or little more than 10 a day, making the whole number of victims by the ſmall pox in 14 days 153, or about 11 each day.

* There are, indeed, ſeveral inſtitutions where the poor may receive the cow-pox gratuitouſly, as at ſome of the Diſpenſaries, and particularly at the Vaccine Inſtitution, Golden-ſquare; but the number of deaths by the ſmall-pox is a proof how inadequate they are to the total extinction of this fatal diſeaſe.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

Run away on the firſt of April laſt my ſervant HARRY. He is about twenty-one years of age five feet five inches high, a ſtraight well proportioned active man, black complexioned a round full viſage, and comely face but much carbuncled, and ſtern countenance. He ſpeaks good Engliſh with a rough voice, and can read and write a little, and plays on the fiddle. Harry is a native of this ſtate but is well acquainted in the ſtates of North Carolina, Virginia and Tenneſſee where he has travelled as my waiting man.

The above reward of one hundred dollars will be paid for lodging him in any jail of the United States ſo that I may get him, or if delivered to me in Charleſton or on my plantation near Parker's Ferry all reaſonable charges will be paid in addition to the above reward.

ANDREW BURNET, collect. diſtrict South Carolina.

Feb. 3—w8ortow

CONGRESS.

House of Representatives.

Wednesday, January 18.

Debate on Mr. Rodney's motion for the extinguishment of the Balances reported to be due by several states.

(Continued.)

Mr. HOLLAND. It is to be expected that gentlemen repreſenting various parts of the union, and particularly thoſe who were eye witneſſes to the hardſhips experienced under the revolutionary war, will be led to think that the diſtreſſes they ſaw, and the exertions performed immediately within their own view, were not equalled in any other part of the continent. That this is the caſe we have ſufficient evidence, by the declarations of many honorable gentlemen on the preſent queſtion. A gentleman from Maſſachuſetts (Mr. Thatcher) has ſaid that the ſtates of New England had ſuffered and done more for the obtaining of independence, than what had been done, or ſuffered by the ſouthern ſtates. That we are greatly indebted to the prowefs of our eaſtern brethren—that they were unanimous in ſentiment, prompt, and fought many a well fought battle in the revolutionary war, and acquitted themſelves with honor I am not diſpoſed to deny, and that we are greatly indebted to them for the bold intrepid manner of their conduct againſt the common enemy; and that it was by the exertions of thoſe patriots with that of thoſe throughout the union, that procured our independence.

The patriots in New England being of one ſentiment, had only to contend with the common enemy. A contention, when compared with that of their ſouthern brethren, will be found to be unequal in exertion, honor, or conſequences. The eaſtern was a foreign, the ſouthern a foreign and civil war. In the eaſt they could, without ſuſpicion of being betrayed, collect together, and level all their forces againſt one object, and could retreat with ſafety into the boſom of their country. But there was no ſuch advantages with us, we had no retreat. We had the common enemy on the coaſt, the ſavages on the frontier, and enemies within our own boſom. We were nearly equally divided, it has never been decided which had the majority, and the controverſy was not to be determined by argument, but by battle, and battles were frequent, not of a people againſt a foreign foe, but a battle of neighbor againſt neighbor, and among the ſlain it was common to ſee acquaintances, neighbors, brothers, and ſometimes a father, who had fell by the hoſtile arms and prowefs of his ſon. It was a war the moſt diſtreſſing and intolerable of all wars, too much ſo to be further related. But I hope, after the imperfect ſketch that I have given, the honorable gentleman from Maſſachuſetts will admit, that their friends in the ſouthard have at leaſt experienced their equal ſhare of diſtreſs in the revolutionary war. That the patriots to the ſouth (and it was a war of patriots and not of ſtates, ſtates were only deſcribed by geographical boundaries, and boundaries that were yet to be conteſted for) have ſuffered in the conteſt equal to any given number of patriots in the ſtates of New England; and let it be recollected, that the object of the conteſt hath by the united exertions of thoſe patriots been obtained, and let us not tarniſh it by invidious compariſons, or ſully it by keeping in remembrance and repeated diſcuſſion, this bone of contention. This old dry bone, that before has been ſtated by my friend from Delaware, to have no nutriment upon it.

But perhaps the honorable gentlemen from Maſſachuſetts draws their concluſions of the ſervices performed by the eaſtern ſtates, from the report of the commiſſioners of ſettlement. If this is the ſource from which theſe concluſions are drawn, I am convinced upon examination, that it will alſo fail. Agreeably to this report, Maſſachuſetts is a creditor ſtate, New Hampſhire, South Carolina, and Georgia. So that it appears from this document that the little convulſed ſtate of South Carolina, not having a third of the population, has done within a few thouſand dollars as much as the powerful ſtate of Maſſachuſetts. And that the two weakeſt ſtates to the ſouthard, and on the ſouthern frontier, harraſſed, divided, and unde