ties. Here is the annual amount of commerce between us and the dominions of G. Britain, calculated on an average for the three last years.

IMPORTS.

	Dollars.
From the dominions of G. Britain in Europe, (Gibraltar excepted)	27,400,000
From the British East-Indies	3,530,000
From the northern British colonies in America	540,000
From the British West-Indies	4,570,000
	36,040,000

EXPORTS.

To G. Britain in Europe (Gibraltar excepted) including clearances *for England and a market*, and flour and wheat, which are not permanent articles of exportation to G. Britain, and including foreign merchandize, re-exported,	15,690,000
To the British E. Indies	130,000
To the northern British colonies	1,000,000
To the British W. Indies	6,480,000
	23,300,000

Total imports	36,040,000
Total exports	23,300,000
Balance against us	12,740,000

Our annual imports from all the world amount to	75,316,000
Of which we import from Great Britain	36,040,000
Balance from other countries,	39,276,000

Almost half our imports therefore are from the British dominions, and the balance of trade is twelve millions of dollars against us. However inaccurate or inconclusive may be the ideas sometimes annexed to what is called *the balance of trade*, it is evident to common sense that the nation which sells to another every year manufactures of the value of twelve millions beyond the whole value of the productions of the other nation which she buys, must be carrying on, in that particular, a very profitable commerce. It was said by sages of old time, that whoever Deity determined to destroy, he first made mad. Is Great Britain devoted by Providence to destruction? Can she be so mad, so outrageously and incurably mad, as to deprive herself forever of this very gainful commerce, in revenge for our exercising an unquestionable right, in consequence of the wrongs we suffer? Can her wise government, for wise it certainly is, adopt so strange a course of conduct? But after all many are sceptical as to the injury to be done to G. Britain. I am not one of those who anticipate the ruin of her manufacturing establishments from this measure, and perhaps they will not even be paralised, but her manufactures will certainly diminish in price, and she will be under the necessity of searching out new channels of trade by which to pour them off from her shores; this may be the extent of the injury, but it will be sufficiently serious to induce her to do us justice. It is contended that the injury to ourselves will be incalculable: I think it may easily be estimated. It will be nothing more, calculating upon the continuance of peace, than a small augmentation of the price of the articles which we shall obtain as substitutes for British goods, a temporary fall of the prices of some of our own productions, and a small decrease of the revenue. But it is thought by some that we must starve or freeze in six months without British commerce. Are the days of the revolution so soon forgotten? Of our annual imports from G. Britain of the value of about twenty seven millions and a half of dollars, upwards of twenty-six millions in value is composed of goods paying duties *ad valorem*, and embracing, with inconsiderable exceptions, all the woollen, cotton, linnen, silk, metal, earthen, glass and paper manufactures, and only 1,540,000 of articles paying specific duties, and consisting principally of salt, steel, lead, nails, and porter. These it is said cannot be obtained elsewhere, particularly coarse woollens, and we shall be told that our habits have placed them upon the list of necessaries. But our habits can change. Our importations are chiefly composed of the luxuries and conveniences of apparel. If the public good requires it, we may dispense with luxuries, or rather our conveniences may become luxuries, our necessaries conveniences. The truth, however, is, that we can obtain similar articles, or tolerable substitutes, on the continent of Europe. From Spain we can get silk handkerchiefs and velvets, as well as wines and fruits. From Portugal, not only fruits and oils, the product of that country and of Italy, but Lisbon salt in any quantity, wine, brandy, and some East India goods. From France, wrought silks, superfine broad-cloths, calicoes and chintzes, printed goods, linens, cambricks, lawns, lace, cotton fabrics, salt, writing paper, brandy, wines, and all the productions of Italy and the Levant. From Germany, Holland, and the North of Europe, several kinds of linen, cotton, & woollen manufactures, broad-cloths, kerseymeres, coarse woolens, Russia sheeting, Silesian linens, cambrics and lawns, damasks and diapers, glass, copper, and some iron manufactures, sheet copper, German steel, cordage, looking glasses, calicoes, brass kettles, and many other articles. It is admitted that there are some woollen manufactures in Germany, and some cotton ones in France. Almost all the countries on the continent of Europe, if not now manufacturers for exportation, may become such, if circumstances make it for their interest; and such will be the effect of our refusing to import [illegible]itish productions. It will give a stimulus to the manufactures of other countries which will produce great effects, in the natural course of things it will induce those countries to form new manufacturing establishments, and to extend and improve their old ones. Besides, it will induce them to sell to us a great part of what they now consider as necessaries of life, on account of the advance of price, and to replace them by importations from Great Britain at reduced prices. This increase of the price of foreign articles for our own consumption will be a disadvantage, but we must bear a temporary and partial evil with a view to ultimate and general good.

The effect of this measure upon the revenue is a subject of great alarm; it is to render us bankrupt in fortune as well as reputation. The annual revenue of the U. S. on an average of the three last years, has been 11,550,000 dollars, of which 5,432,000 dollars are derived from our imports from the British dominions, and 6,118,000 dollars from our imports from the rest of the world. This is certainly a very serious view of the subject; but we believe that this measure will not produce war, and of course that it will not paralise our commerce. Our merchants will still be enterprising, and will have new inducements to enterprise; our flag will still wave on every sea and in every clime; from new sources and channels of commerce we shall derive articles similar to those now imported from Britain, or tolerable substitutes; and the increased price of those articles will add something to the revenue, while it will be in some degree diminished by the general effect. Gentlemen of great commercial information, have calculated that the revenue will not be diminished to the amount of one million; but let us suppose that it will be lessened two millions, or even 2,550,000 dollars. With only nine millions instead of eleven and a half, it is certain that we cannot expend three or four millions for the support of government, and sustain besides the annual appropriation of eight millions for the payment of the national debt. But let us suppose the worst, and what follows? We may submit to the usurpations of G. Britain on the ocean, we may throw at her feet every thing but nominal independence and honor, we may disgrace and degrade ourselves in the eyes of the world, & we shall extinquish our national debt in 1816, 1817, or 1818. On the other hand, we may assume a manly and dignified national spirit, we may recall the principles and the habits of the revolution, we may arm our government with sufficient energy to vindicate and maintain our national rights, we may command respect from other nations, and we shall extinguish our national debt in 1824, 1825, or 1826. This may be the alternative in the last resort, but for the present we can increase the ratio, and of course the quantum of the duties which constitute the revenue. In hard times we must expect to bear hard burdens.

The adoption of this measure, we are told, will throw an unequal and unreasonable weight upon our southern brethren; it is feared that it will not only lessen the price, but utterly preclude the market, of their staple export commodities. Here we ought to pause & reflect; & if such an evil will flow from this source, we ought to abandon the project.

Upon reflection we do not believe that such will be the consequence. The two great articles of southern exportation are cotton and tobacco. The value of our annual exports, for the three last years, *to the dominions of G. Britain in Europe* only, has been 15,690,000 dollars, of which the value of cotton has been 5,640,000 dollars, and of tobacco 3,220,000, both together 8,860,000. Deducting from the gross amount of 15,690,000, the sum of 2,260,000 for foreign goods re-exported, we have 13,430,000 for all the articles of domestic produce, and of course the southern states furnish nearly two thirds in value of our domestic exports to the *European dominions only* of G. Britain. But our exports to the British colonies, in all parts of the world, consist of the productions of the northern and middle states; of provisions and live stock, lumber, naval stores, pot ash, furs, and foreign merchandize acquired by the carrying trade. And cotton and tobacco are now exported to other parts as well as G. Britain; the total annual value of the exports of cotton being, 6,940,000, & of tobacco 6,143,000 dolls. these two articles (and there are no other of consequence exported from the southern states except rice which is comparatively of inconsiderable value) amounting in the whole to 13,083,000, which deducted from 39,928,000, the whole amount of exports of domestic produce, leaves 26,845,000 dollars for the exports almost exclusively of the northern and middle states. It is not believed that this measure will shut up the British market for a raw material so necessary to their manufactures as our cotton. A non-importation is not in itself a non-exportation: Our exports may still go to Great Britain, as it will be her interest to receive them. But suppose she adopts measures of retaliation against her interest, and excludes them. When we know that even in the present war she opens free ports in her colonies for a partial commerce with her enemies, and when we are told that the French armies are now clad in British manufactures, can we doubt that the British government, with that depth of commercial as well as national policy for which it is distinguished will, whatever may be its ostensible acts, open some indirect channel of trade by which to supply itself with an article so essential to the system of its manufactures? Besides, as I have already observed, in reference to importation, even the preclusion of the British market would open a new one for this article in France and other countries, by holding out an encouragement for them to extend and improve those manufactures of which it forms the raw material. The only effect upon the articles of cotton and tobacco would be a small decrease of their price, and perhaps that only temporary, and would not a similar effect be produced upon the productions of other parts of the union? Would not the price of the exports of the northern and middle states, of our beef, pork, butter cheese, dried and pickled fish, flour, wheat, corn, lumber, and all other articles, be effected? Unquestionably. We hoped this would have been viewed as a great national question upon a great national scale, and not made a local one. But does not the carrying trade, which we wish to protect, present a local question also? Is it not almost exclusively carried on by citizens of the northern and middle states?

It is said that this trade produces a revenue of only 850,000 dollars. But what is the amount of the trade, and why does it not produce more revenue? The annual value of articles of foreign produce, re-exported to all parts of the world, is estimated at 28,533,000 dollars. It produces but a small sum because it has been deemed good policy not to tax it, but to cherish, to patronise it, as a source of industry and profit.

But some gentlemem are not inclined to protect this trade, and some even hazard an opinion that it is injurious to the country. We thought the principle advanced by able writers on political economy, was equally settled with men of science and men of common sense, that the amount of the real wealth of a nation is composed of the combined amount of the produce of its land and labor, of its industry upon the ocean as well as upon the terra firma; and that five millions of dollars, earned in the carrying trade, the product of labor on the seas, by citizens of the U. S. and incorporated into the great stock of our national wealth, were just equal to five millions of dollars acquired by the labor of the husbandman. The impressment of our seamen too may be viewed as a local question; those unfortunate men belong to the northern and middle states. Gentlemen seem to consider them as persons of no character or consequence, mere adventurers on the ocean, wandering beyond the limits and the powers of the national jurisdiction and protection. Not so. They are men and citizens, they have friends, connexions, and a home, and are employed in an honest occupation; and surely the impressment of thousands of them, in a state of worse than African slavery, on board those floating castles which spread terror through the world, is a local question of as much importance as the price of cotton and tobacco. On this subject alone the friends of the resolution are prepared to say that strong measures ought to be adopted, and ought never to be abandoned, until our flag shall be suffered to protect those over whom it waves. If the American Eagle is disposed to sink beneath the feet of the British Lion, he can expect nothing but contempt and outrage; but it is in his power to take a more elevated situation, to soar out of reach, and be at once secure and triumphant.

Not only are the peculiar interests of our southern brethren to be sacrificed by this measure, but it is to lead to war with G. Britain. On what is this idea founded? On the cool calculating character of her celebrated minister? It will be in itself no cause of war; it is a commercial regulation merely; and we have the same right to adopt it that G. Britain has to pass those laws by which she imposes greater duties on the exportation of goods, wares, and merchandise to the U. S. than are imposed on similar articles exported to the nations of Europe. It is neither more nor less than a commercial regulation; a part of the system of managing our own concerns in our own manner; and it ought not to be presumed that it will produce war. Can G. Britain wish, at the present moment, to add to the number of her enemies?—She is indeed the soul of a powerful coalition, but she has a powerful enemy to contend with. She is fighting, not the battles of the human race, not for the rights and privileges of the people of Europe, least of all for the rights and privileges of the people of America, but for her own national existence. Her wooden walls, like those of ancient Athens, which, by the direction of an oracle, are said to have preserved that celebrated city from destruction, constitute the only barrier between herself and ruin. Are we the enemies of G. Britain? Not at all—except in war—enemies in war—in peace friends. We love the British people—we should be monsters if we did not, for British blood flows in our veins. We venerate those monuments of British learning and of British liberty, which have so long adorned the dark scene of Europe. We respect the power and the ability of the British government, and we will respect its magnanimity and justice, when it shall respect our rights. And are we the eulogists and flatterers of France? The last task we should wish to undertake would be that of adding new gems to the imperial crown of the emperor of France and king of Italy. I speak for myself alone, but I do not believe that the friends of the resolution have any peculiar partiality for emperors and kings. We would wish to navigate our political bark to any other port than that bestrided by the Colossus of universal empire. We have differences with other nations besides Britain; but do we prostrate ourselves at their feet? We wish to treat nations as they treat us, for it is impossible for nations to pursue with success any other course of conduct; we would use them well or ill in proportion to the degree of friendship or injury we receive; with other nations, weaker measures may succeed, but the injuries we sustain from G. Britain demand strong measures, and we believe the one which is now proposed will produce the desired effect. Not that we are hostile to negociation, but we wish to give to the instrument of negociation a new tone—We fear that if this measure be not adopted, no energetic one will be; and that the report, Mr. Chairman, which it becomes your duty to make on retiring from that chair every evening, and yielding it to the honorable Speaker, that *the committee of the whole have had the state of the union under consideration and come to no resolution thereon*, will continue to be the same conclusion of every day's discussion during the present session. Having done our duty in supporting this resolution, we shall be as willing to meet our constituents as those gentlemen who give a different vote. We wish for peace, we are anxious to avoid war, but we cannot submit to national disgrace.

(Debate to be continued)

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, APRIL 7.

HUNTRESS—*J. Stinson*, Master.

Minutes of the judgment in the High Court of Admiralty of England, on the hearing of the above cause on the 12th September, 1805.

The Right Hon. Sir Wm. Scott, Knight, the judge, observed. This is a question arising on the British recapture from the Spaniards of a vessel laden with naval and military stores going for Malta and Syracuse—it has been truly stated that generally neutral property is not liable to salvage on recapture; it is also true that in the course of the last war the law was, in consequence of the frequent rapine of the French, altered by the consent of neutrals themselves—this was founded on the practice of the French and confirmed in recaptures from them. Naval stores destined to a British port are by treaty between Spain and America, liable to condemnation; these would therefore be subject to salvage, but in this instance in fact not going to Malta, consigned to English possession or for English use, but for the use of an American squadron then notoriously cruizing against the common enemy of Spain and America and every other civilized state, the property of the government, not *lucrandi causa*. What therefore would have been its situation in a Spanish tribunal? I think the preceding facts are fully established in evidence before this court, and that they would have so been b[illegible]re the Spanish courts. I cannot but assent to the principle that great deference is to be paid to the declaration of governments—here is that of the President himself confirmed—I cannot say confirmed, for it needs no confirmation, but seconded by that of the French and English ministers. It is impossible to suppose that the American government would wish to deceive, and that those stores were for the use of the British in violation of the treaty with Spain—its good faith is too well known. I am therefore of opinion that restitution would have been due from the justice of the Spanish tribunals, and that the British re-captor is not entitled to more than the expences of submitting this question to the court, which was not improper.

Restitution of the ship and cargo decreed upon payment of the recaptor's expences.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3.

Mr. Varnum observed that a report on a new organization of the militia had been made at an early period of the session, of a negative kind; that a bill had subsequently been acted upon in the House in some measure implicating the points taken in the report; and that afterwards a bill on the subject had been brought before the Senate, which induced him to suspend calling the attention of the House to the report. That bill had been negatived. His object in rising was to state that as the report was of a negative character, he should not think of calling it up, unless it was the wish of gentlemen that it should be discussed.

A bill to amend an act to divide the Indiana territory into two separate governments, and for other purposes, was read a third time, and passed.

A bill making appropriation for the support of the military establishment of the U. S. for the year 1806, was read a third time.

On motion of *Mr. Tallmadge* the bill was recommitted to a commitee of the whole House, in which it underwent an examination; when it was reported to the House, and read a third time and passed.

Mr. J. C. Smith, from the committee of Claims, reported that it would be expedient to agree to the amendments proposed by the Senate to the bill making provision for persons disabled by known wounds received during the revolutionary war.

Mr. Blackledge moved a postponement of the consideration of the bill till to-morrow.

Mr. D. R. Williams moved an indefinite postponement.

This motion was opposed by Messrs. J. C. Smith, L[illegible], J. Clay, Varnum, Bedinger, and Van Cortlandt.

Mr. D. R. Williams withdrew his motion, when it was agreed that the bill should lie on the table.

The bill supplementary to the act making provision for the payment of claims of citizens of the U. S. on the government of France, passed through committee of th[illegible] whole, without amendment, and was ordered to a third reading to-morrow.

A message was received from the Senate stating that they had receded from their amendment to the bill fixing the compensation of the officers of the two Houses—The bill is consequenlty passed.

The House again went into committee of the whole on the bill altering and establishing certain post roads.

The bill directs the establishing of a route from Athens to Tellico-block-house.

It was moved to strike out Tellico block-House, and insert Knoxville.

On this motion, as well as the provision of the bill, a debate of some length arose, which issued in the adoption of the amendment as well as the provision.

Various other amendments were made, when the committee rose and reported the bill, which was ordered to a third reading to-morrow.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4.

On motion of *Mr. Leib* the House agreed to a resolution, for the appointment of a joint committee to confer with a committee of the Senate, on the time when it will be expedient to close the present session; and named on their part Messrs. Leib, Clark, & Tenney.

Mr. Dawson from a committee appointed on a resolution of the House made a report, concluding with a resolution that it is not expedient to make any further legislative provision respecting navy yards, in which the House concurred.

Mr. Dawson also reported a bill concerning the further safeguard of merchant vessels in the vicinity of the U. States, which was referred to a committee of the whole House on Monday.

A bill from the Senate for the relief of Gilbert C. Russel, was read twice.

A bill supplementary to the act making provision for the payment of claims of citizens of the U. States on the government of France was read a third time and passed.

A bill further to alter and establish certain post roads was read a third time and passed.

Mr. J. Randolph reported a bill to prohibit officers of the army and navy from holding or exercising any civil office, which was referred to a committee of the whole to-morrow.

Mr. Crowninshield, from the committee of Commerce and Manufactures, reported a bill laying a duty on copper, which was referred to a committee of the whole on Monday.

A message was received from the Senate stating that they have agreed to the amendments of the House to the act to repeal so much of the act regulating foreign coins and for other purposes as is contained in the second section thereof.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on a bill for erecting certain light Houses in the state of Massachusetts; and for building a beacon or pier at Bridgeport, in the state of Connecticut.

An addition was made to the bill, on the motion of *Mr. Blount*, providing for the placing of buoys over several shoals in North Carolina.

When the bill was reported to the House, and ordered to a third reading to day. It was afterwards read a third time and passed, and the title amended in correspondence with the amendment.

The House took up the amendments of the Senate to the act in addition to an act to make provisions for persons that have been disabled by known wounds, received in the actual service of the U. States during the revolutionary war.

Mr. Alston moved to recommit this bill to the committee of the whole House.

This motion was supported by Messrs. Alston, T. Moore, D. R. Williams, Blackledge, and opposed by Messrs. J. C Smith, J. Clay, R. Nelson, and Van Cortlandt; and was disagreed to—Ayes 26.

Mr. Blackledge moved to amend the amendments of the Senate, so as to provide for the placing on the pension list of the United States all such wounded or disabled persons as have been placed on the pension lists of the states for wounds or disabilities received during the revolutionary war, on adducing a prescribed proof.

Messrs. Blackledge, Blount, Clarke and Gregg, supported; and Messrs. J. C. Smith, Bedinger, R. Nelson, Varnum, Southard, Bidwell, and Sloan opposed this amendment, which was disagreed to—Ayes 34—Noes 69.

The friends of the amendment contended that it was just that a full and liberal provision should be made for all the militia disabled, as well those already provided for by some states, as those not provided for by other states.

The opponents of the amendment did not deny the justice of such a provision, but contended that it would not probably receive the approbation of the Senate, and that it was impracticable to make it without going into minute details forbidden by the advanced stage of the session, and recommended that it should be made the subject of a distinct bill at a future session.

The question was then taken on agreeing to the amendments of the Senate, and passed in the affirmative—Yeas 97—Nays 15. The bill is consequently passed.

Mr. J. C. Smith then offered a resolution, directing the secretary of war to procure and cause to be laid be-