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By AUTHORITY.

AN ACT

For establishing trading houses with the Indian tribes.

BE *it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled,* That it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, to establish trading houses at such posts and places on the frontiers, or in the Indian country, on either or both sides of the Mississippi river, as he shall judge most convenient, for the purpose of carrying on a liberal trade with the several Indian nations, within the United States, or their territories.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States shall be authorised to appoint a superintendant of Indian trade, whose duty it shall be to purchase and take charge of all goods intended for trade with the Indian nations aforesaid, and to transmit the same to such places as he shall be directed by the President. And he shall take an oath or affirmation faithfully to execute the trust committed to him, and that he will not directly, or indirectly be concerned or interested in any trade, commerce, or barter, but on the public account; and he shall also give bond, in the penal sum of twenty thousand dollars, with sufficient security, to be approved by the secretary of the treasury of the United States, truly and honestly to account, for all the money, goods and other property, whatever, which shall come into his hands, or for which in good faith he ought so to account, and to perform all the duties required of him by this act: and his accounts shall be made up quarter yearly, and transmitted to the secretary of the treasury.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the superintendant of Indian trade shall receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars, payable quarter yearly, at the treasury of the United States.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States shall be authorised to appoint an agent for each trading house established under the provisions of this act; and every such agent shall give bond with sufficient security in such sum as the President shall direct, truly and honestly, to account for all the money, goods, and other property whatever, which shall come into his hands, and for which he ought so to account, and to perform all the duties required of him by this act.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of each of the said agents, to receive from the superintendant of Indian trade, and dispose of, in trade with the Indian nations aforesaid, such goods as may be transmitted to him by the said superintendant, to be received and disposed of as aforesaid, according to the rules and orders which the President of the United States shall prescribe; and every such agent shall take an oath or affirmation, faithfully to execute the trust committed to him; and that he will not, directly or indirectly, be concerned or interested in any trade, commerce or barter, but on the public account, and he shall render an account quarter yearly, to the superintendant of Indian trade, of all money, goods, and other property whatsoever, which shall be transmitted to him, or which shall come into his hands, or for which, in good faith, he ought to account; and he shall transmit duplicates of his accounts to the secretary of the treasury of the United States.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the superintendant of Indian trade, the agents, their clerks, or other persons employed by them, shall not be, directly or indirectly, concerned in exporting to a foreign country, any peltries or furs belonging to the United States, or interested in carrying on the business of trade or commerce, on their own, or any other than the public account, or take or apply to his or their own use, any emolument or gain for negotiating or transacting any business or trade, during his or their appointment, agency or employment, other than provided by this act, or excepting for or on account of the United States. And if any such person shall offend against any of the prohibitions aforesaid, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit to the United States a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, and shall be removed from such office, agency or employment; and forever thereafter, be incapable of holding any office under the United States: *Provided,* That if any person, other than a public prosecutor, shall give information of any such offence, upon which a prosecution and conviction shall be had, one half of the aforesaid penalty, when received, shall be for the use of the person giving such information: *And provided also,* That if such misdemeanor be committed by the superintendant of Indian trade, or by any agent, it shall be deemed a breach of the condition of his bond, and the penalty thereof may be recovered in any court having competent jurisdiction of the same.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the prices of goods supplied to, and to be paid for, by the Indians, shall be regulated in such manner, that the capitol stock, furnished by the United States, shall not be diminished.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That during the continuance of this act, the annual sum of three thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the payment of the salary of the superintendant of Indian trade and his clerks, to be paid out of any money in the treasury of the United States, not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That during the continuance of this act, the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised to draw annually from the treasury of the United States a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars, to be applied under his direction to the payment of the agents and clerks; which agents shall be allowed to draw out of the public supplies two rations each, and each clerk one ration, per day.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That the sum of two hundred and sixty thousand dollars, including the sums heretofore appropriated, and applied to the like purpose, and exclusive of the salary of the superintendant of Indian trade, and of the allowances to agents and clerks, be, and the same is hereby appropriated, for the purpose of carrying on trade and intercourse with the Indian nations, in the manner aforesaid, to be paid out of any monies in the treasury of the United States, not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That if any agent or agents, their clerks, or other person employed by them, shall purchase or receive from any Indian, in the way of trade or barter, any gun, or other article commonly used in hunting; any instrument of husbandry or cooking utensil, of the kind usually obtained by Indians in their intercourse with white people, or any article of clothing, excepting skins or furs, he or they shall respectively forfeit the sum of one hundred dollars, for each offence, to be recovered by action of debt, in the name and to the use of the United States, in any court having jurisdiction in like cases: *Provided,* That no suit shall be commenced except in the state or territory within which the cause of action shall have arisen, or in which the defendant may reside. And it shall be the duty of the superintendant of Indian trade, or of the superintendants of Indian affairs, and their deputies respectively, to whom information of every such offence shall be given, to collect the requisite evidence, if attainable, to prosecute the offender without delay.

SEC. 12. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the said superintendant of Indian trade, under the direction of the President of the United States, to cause the said furs and peltry to be sold at public auction, public notice whereof shall be given three weeks previous to such sale, in different parts of the United States, making an equal distribution of the same, in proportion to the demand of the market, and as may be deemed most advantageous to the United States, and upon such terms and conditions as shall be prescribed by the secretary of war: *Provided,* That there shall not be less than six annual public sales, of the said furs and peltry, and that the superintendant of Indian trade shall not hold more than two such sales in any state, during any one year.

SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted,* That this act shall be in force for and during the term of three years, and no longer.

NATHL. MACON, *Speaker of the House of Representatives.*
S. SMITH, *President of the Senate pro tempore.*

April 21, 1806,
APPROVED,—TH: JEFFERSON.

To be Sold,

Or EXCHANGED for other property in the CITY, or its vicinity.

TWO valuable and contiguous TRACTS of LAND in the state of Kentucky, the one containing 6820 acres, and the other 6252 acres, by late resurvey. They are under old and indisputable titles of more than twenty years, and situate in a populous county, adjoining flourishing settlements. All taxes thereon have been duly paid. Apply to the subscriber,

JOHN BECKLEY.

City of Washington, November 6—wtf

Valuable Property For Sale.

THE Subscriber offers for sale a number of valuable heights convenient to the city of Washington about 2 1-2 miles from the President's House and near the same distance from the Capitol, and command a handsome view of the City, river Potomac, and Alexandria. Lot No. 1, contains 60 acres, No. 2, contains 42 acres. No. 3 contains 102 acres. No. 4 contains 19 acres; Likewise a lot lying between John Tayloe, and Dr. Worthington, containing from 80 to 100 acres. Those lots will be sold together or apart as may suit purchasers.

Terms may be known by applying to James White or Rev. John Breckenridge near the property. Jan. 24—wtf.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, *MARCH* 12.

DEBATE

On Mr. GREGG's Resolution.

(CONTINUED.)

MR. RHEA, (of Tennessee) said it was with some difficulty he had prevailed on himself to attempt to make any remarks on the resolution now under consideration, but the duty he owed to his fellow citizens, to this honorable committee, and to himself, constrained him not to remain silent.

It is not many years since the U. S. of America, from being obscure colonies of G. Britain, emerged into sovereignty—The treaty of one thousand seven hundred and eighty three restored peace, and confirmed the independence of these U. States; but they were involved in a large debt, incurred by that war, which terminated in their independence. The U. S. were then possessed of large fertile territory; but agricultural industry was injured by the war, and they were without resources and without commerce.

With the return of peace, agricultural industry was revived and enlarged; an extensive enterprising commerce began to operate and unfold itself. Persevering, active industry, in the business of agriculture—and in that of commerce, in a period of little more than twenty years of peace, hath afforded resources for the payment of a large portion of the public debt; hath increased the wealth of individuals and of the nation, and hath elevated these U. S. to be the second commercial nation in the world: and for this, there is reason to apprehend they have incurred the jealousy of that maritime power whose unprovoked war hastened them into independence.

If the history of commerce is attended to, it will be discovered that it originated with the nations of the east, (as did almost every other effort and speculation of human genius) and from thence travelled westerly. In its course, it continued certain periods of time with some favored cities, and with some favored nations, and when it departed from one city and nation, it took up its residence with another more to the west. Tyre, Carthage, and Alexandria, were ancient cities highly favored by commerce in their respective times. Genoa, Venice, and Amsterdam in modern times; at this time London is the most favored commercial city in the world. Commerce in its progress from east to west, was always attended with a spirit of monopoly. With whatever favored city and nation, commerce resided, that city and nation soon after became ambitious to monopolise commerce to itself, and to exclude (except so far as it might judge proper for its own interest) all other nations from participating equal advantages.

To be, or to be rising to be, a nation of commercial influence, hath from time to time been cause of contention among the nations bordering on the shores of the ocean. That contention for superiority hath in most instances been attended with desolating war; and in many cases ended with the subversion & ruin of a rival commercial power, or of a power who attempted to monopolise commerce to itself. To this cause in a certain degree may be attributed the desolation of Tyre, the demolition of Carthage, and the ruin of Alexandria of ancient times; the fall of Genoa, and the declension of Venice in modern times.

It is many years since Great Britain began to be a nation of commercial importance. Agricultural industry, and manufacturing genius, pursued with steady and unremitting attention, gave wings to her commerce. Her merchant vessels, from her insulated position, as from a center, passed ocean in all directions, and articles of her manufacturing appeared for sale in the ports of every maritime nation.

Commercial success and favorable maritime events, caused the policy of G. Britain to contemplate the dominion of the ocean necessary to secure the existence and continuance of a commercial monopoly; for this purpose the construction of a navy was, with unabating vigor, attended to.

G. Britain, governed by her favorite policy of acquiring unlimitted commerce, hath for ages past (except some partial intervals) been engaged in wars with her maritime European neighbors. Any cause hath been laid hold of by her to procure the ruin of a commercial rival. To that policy may be attributed the wars between G. Britain and Holland—between G. Britain and Spain, and between G. Britain and France, which caused the loss of the lives of millions of men, and the expence of millions of money. Actuated by this policy, G. Britain progressed until the commerce of every other European maritime nation hath been destroyed, or made subservient to her interest, and she hath made herself the unrivalled commercial power in Europe.

No nation ever acquired and possessed commerce as extensively as G. Britain. That wisdom which systematised the plan, and that undeviating persevering policy, which, notwithstanding internal commotion and external wars, conducted her to the summit of commercial power, will ever command admiration. The acquisition is the effect of the work of ages. Her commercial aggrandisement hath been her favorite object, to this her policy for a long series of years hath been directed. In this policy may be discovered the cause of all the wars she hath been engaged in for centuries past, To monopolise the commerce of the world was her paramount object, to retain it the energy of her power will be exerted. In acquiring it her power was the law; in preserving it, the same law will be observed.

The mind cannot without horror contemplate the ravages, carnage and destruction, that monopolizing policy hath occasioned, either directly or indirectly in every quarter of the earth.

It is to be apprehended that G. Britain sees a new commercial rival emerging into existence in the west at a distance of three thousand miles. That, that rival is the United States of America. A new nation, composed of citizens for the most part derived from the dominions of G. Britain. A nation, who as it were in a day, hath arisen into existence and carried its commerce to the most distant regions.

It may with propriety be said, there is reason to believe, that the encreasing commerce of these United States affords more serious cause of inquietude to G. Britain than that of any other nation ever did. The vast territory of these United States, so fertile and so productive of all the necessaries of life; the extensive forests of lofty timber with which that territory is covered, and the certainty that it contains and will produce all the materials necessary for ship building; the temperate manners and fixed habits of the citizens, their agricultural industry and commercial enterprize, their population increasing in a ratio unexperienced since the first settlement of nations, afford sufficient cause for restless alarm.

With deep and corroding regret the policy of G. Britain contemplates these things, and foresees a diminution of her commercial power in the prosperity of that of these U. States.

Great Britain hath destroyed the commerce of Holland, of Spain, of France, and that of most of the other maritime powers of Europe; it only remains to restrict the commerce of these United States, and by that means to seize the commerce of the world.

In conformity to her fixed policy G. Britain hath, contrary to all law, from time to time impressed seamen, citizens of these United States, and in consequence of new maritime rules, not recognized by the laws of nations, and which power hath enabled her to impose, her armed ships have captured merchant ships and vessels of these U. S. not bound to ports blockaded nor carrying articles termed contraband of war; and the same merchant ships and vessels, are condemned by her courts of admiralty, under pretence that a trade not permitted to neutrals in time of peace ought not to be allowed in time war.

It is to be apprehended, that the new regulations imposed by G. Bitain, are only an ostensible cause for capturing the merchant ships and vessels of these U. S. and that there is another cause, proceeding from her policy, of more remote consequence. That cause may be the suppression of the commerce of these U. S. or at least to reduce it to a compleat dependence on her own commerce. This opinion will appear to be not without reason, if a retrospective view is taken of the policy, the conduct and persevering industry of Great Britain to destroy the commerce of European powers.

When the maritime power of Great Britain is contemplated, it may be enquired, what can these U. S. do to prevent the prostration of their commerce?

Mr. Rhea said, he was not sufficiently conversant in the commercial history of G. Britain to know, what quantities of mercandize, either Holland, Spain or France annually imported from Great Britain: or what quantities of merchandize Great Britain exported directly or indirectly to either of those nations:—but he was induced to believe, that neither of those nations, for that cause, had such strong hold on G. Britain, to induce her to keep in peace, as these U. S. have. That Great Britain had not such interested inducements to preserve peace with either of those nations, as she hath to preserve peace with these U. S. Each of those nations was a near neighbor to Great Britain: these U. S. are west of the Atlantic ocean. Neither of those nations imported annually such great quantities of merchandise from G. Britain and her dominions, as these U. S. do; it is questionable whether any other nation ever did.

Great Britain hath commenced her career of injuring the commerce of these U. S. not by direct warfare, but by a mode of restraint and spoliation as efficient in event, if persisted in and suffered. There is reason to believe that these restraining regulations are put in force as matter of experiment, and if it is perceived that they are submitted to other new regulations will be invented, adopted and enforced until the desired object is obtained.

G. Britain (and every other nation, whatever system be acted on to obtain it) is bound only by her own interest. If that interest directs her policy to attempt a diminution or subversion of the commerce of the U. S. that attempt will be made. An attempt already hath been made to restrain the commerce of these U. S. by impressing seamen and capturing ships and vessels.

Mr. Rhea said, it was his opinion, that some principle of reaction ought to be adopted, that it should consist of certain commercial regulations, which may be commensurate with the injury. That this regulation may be a suspension of the importation of goods, wares and merchandize from the United Kingdoms of G. Britain and Ireland, & the colonial dependencies thereof, as is declared in the resolution of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, now under consideration. The measure which ought to be adopted should be effectual and within the power of these U. S.

Mr. Rhea said, he was not particularly attached to that resolution, his desire was that some regulation might be made that would be commensurate to the object.

Every nation hath a right to determine whether it will or will not import merchandize from any other nation. If it determine not to import, and did not import, that is not a just cause, nor ought to be any cause of offence to the other nation. It was not his desire that the U. S. should give cause of offence to, or commence hostilities or be at war with any nation. He was firmly determined not to surrender any right, which in his opinion, did belong to the people of these U. S.

These U. S. import annually from G. Britain merchandize to the amount of more than thirty millions of dollars from the dominions of G. Britain. The vending so great a quantity of merchandize to these U. S. is an object of the first magnitude to G. Britain, and which she would at any time, particularly at the present, be very reluctant to lose. If adequate commercial regulations be adopted, there is reason to believe that G. Britain will be induced for preservation of her own interest to make friendly arrangements, will remove all existing differences, and do justice to these United States, in their commercial concerns, agreeably to the existing, known, used and accustomed laws of nations.

If on the reverse, it shall so be, that G. Britain will refuse to make friendly arrangements and to do that justice which these U. S. are entitled to, and will persevere in impressing seamen, citizens of these U. S. and will continue to commit injuries on their commerce; one of two things must be the consequence. These U. S. have either to submit their commerce to the policy of G. Britain, or to call forth their energies to resist the attempt of deprivation. If G. Britain shall hazard a contest, she hath much to lose, and a war may terminate as much to her injury as to that of these U. S.

In discussing the subject under consideration, arguments had been deduced from geographical divisions of these U. S. and from the injury which might be done to the exportation of particular articles of particular states. These geographical distinctions might as well not have been made—these U. S. on every national question are one. Arguments deduced from any injury which may accrue to the exportation of any particular production of any particular state, are not well founded. In this case is involved the welfare and interest of these U. S. The policy of G. Britain may be to suppress the commerce of these U. S. if possible, or to reduce it to an entire subserviency on her own commerce.

It hath been said that G. Britain is fighting for her national existence, and that this being so, the U. S. ought not now to urge their complaints. If it be so, these U. S. have not been the cause of that war; these U. S. have not been aiding the enemies of Great Britain, they have preserved an impartial neutral position. They have not been hostile or inimical to Great Britain in the course of that war. Their conduct hath been the conduct of friendship. But Great Britain is said to be fighting for her national existence, if so, to what cause is that war to be assigned? Is the non performance of the treaty of Amiens as it related to Malta a cause of that war? If so what nation refused the performance; G. Britain or France? The answer is evident. Can Great Britain justify injuries done to her friends? Will Great Britain attempt to justify her unjust attempts to suppress the commerce of these U. S.

But it is said G. Britain is fighti[illegible] her national existence. Ad[illegible] be so, will any gentlemen say, in the event of the war, Grea[illegible] shall lose her national existe[illegible] that loss in the day of retribu[illegible] be attributed to these U. S. not. [illegible]