

BY AUTHORITY.

*An Act, for the further Increase of the Revenue of this Province. Passed the 3d of March, 1813.*

WHEREAS importations are made into this Province by persons non-resident therein, and whereas it is expedient to lay a duty on such importations for the purpose of increasing the Revenue.

I. *Be it enacted by the President, Council and Assembly,* that from and after the passing of this Act, all goods of every description (fish and provisions of all kinds excepted) imported into this Province, by any non-resident or non-residents therein, or for his or their account, shall be subject to a duty of two and one half per cent on the prime cost, which duty shall be payable to the Treasurer or his Deputy, at the port or place where the same shall be imported or entered. *Provided always* that upon British Merchandise and Manufactures imported and entered for exportation to some other British Colony or Plantation, the duties shall be secured by Bond, to be cancelled upon proof of the exportation of the same (without breaking package) to such other British Colony or Plantation.

II. *And be it further enacted,* that it shall be the duty of every person importing or bringing goods of any kind into this Province, or receiving the same, to report the same in writing to the Treasurer or his Deputy, at the port or place where the same shall be imported and entered, within twenty-four hours after the arrival of the vessel in which the same shall be imported as aforesaid, and before the same or any part thereof shall be landed; to make oath whether any, and if any, what part of such goods belongs to any non-resident or non-residents, and all goods so imported, brought or received, respecting which the person importing, bringing or receiving the same, shall not make oath, that no non-resident has directly or indirectly any share or interest therein shall be subject to the said duty by this Act imposed; and the person or persons importing or bringing or receiving the same as Agent or Consignee shall pay, or secure to be paid, the aforesaid duty of two and one half per cent on the prime cost, which shall be ascertained by the oath of the person or persons importing, bringing or receiving such goods as aforesaid, to be made before the said Treasurer or his Deputy, at the port or place where the same shall be imported and entered; which oath as well as all other oaths required by this Law, the Treasurer, or his Deputy as aforesaid, is hereby empowered to administer; and in case any difference shall arise between the said Treasurer or his Deputy, and the owners or importers of any of the goods herein made liable to duty, as to the quantity, quality, or value thereof, such difference shall be settled by three Merchants on oath, to be chosen by the said Treasurer, or his Deputy, the decision of two of which Merchants shall be final.

III. *And be it further enacted,* that every person importing or bringing goods of any kind into the Province, or receiving the same as aforesaid, who shall neglect or refuse to report and make oath as herein before particularly provided, shall be subject to the like pains, penalties and forfeitures, as in and by the third Section of an Act made and passed in the forty seventh year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled "An Act for raising a Revenue in this Province," are provided for masters of vessels not making report as therein directed, and the Treasurer, or his Deputy as aforesaid, is hereby invested with like authority of search and seizure, and all other powers incident thereto as are prescribed thereby.

IV. *And be it further enacted,* that it shall be the duty of the Treasurer, or his Deputy as aforesaid, to demand, collect, and receive, the aforesaid duty, or take Bond and Security for the same in like manner, and under the same penalties, as are prescribed by the different Acts now in force, for raising a Revenue in this Province. *Provided always,* and it is to be understood that no person shall be considered as, or taken to be a non-resident under this Law, who at the time any Goods may be imported or brought into the Province or received as aforesaid, shall be a partner in any established Mercantile House, carrying on, transacting and doing business within the Province, or who shall in his own name have an established house, so carrying on, transacting and doing business.

V. *And be it further enacted,* that this Act shall be and remain in force until the first day of April, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixteen and no longer. *Provided* that this Act shall not be in force until His Majesty's Royal approbation be thereunto had and declared.

This Act was confirmed, finally enacted and ratified by an order of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in Council, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, dated at the Court at Carlton House, the 31st of July, 1813.

FROM A LATE LONDON PAPER.

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

The following reflections on the idea of a Congress for a Peace, are inserted in the St. Petersburg Gazette of the 29th of June, extracted from the Koenigsberg Gazette:—

"Now when all the Powers of Europe which retain their independence unite together, to set bounds to the ambition of France;—now, that it is determined that the subjugation of the Continent of Europe shall cease, since the nations are awakened; now, when France cannot, without rendering herself ridiculous, repeat to England, that she is sovereign of the continent, and, therefore, may quietly wait the termination of the British maritime power—now, when the nullity of a separate peace is apparent, and the obstinacy with which one war after another has been waged is exhausted, the voice of Peace is heard, and the French Emperor, proposing a general Congress for Peace, concludes an Armistice to put an end to the effusion of human blood; and while he speaks of sensibility, seems desirous to have it believed, that he has had no part in producing the misery, which, during the last ten years, has afflicted Europe.

"Few believe in the sincerity of such a proposal; they cannot suppose that any thing else is intended but to gain time.—For our own part, we must confess that we differ from this opinion. France is now obliged to carry on the war from her own resources alone, and has no longer the power to continue it; and Napoleon, as the founder of a new dynasty, must heap sacrifices on sacrifices. The theatre of war extends from the Tagus to the Neva, and from the Danube to the Frozen Ocean. Spain has, for five years past been changed into a desert, and has been only an open grave for the French armies. The piles are yet smoking on which, in the plains of Russia, the bodies of more than 300,000 French warriors, the flower of Western Europe, were consumed, to prevent the pestilence. All the colonies of France are in the hands of England, and no means remain of recovering them by force. Spanish America has detached herself from the mother country, and will reserve her resources for her own use, regardless of the warning of the French Minister—to beware how she yields herself exclusively to England. The whole European world is in commotion, and refuses to lend itself to an influence which has caused all its misery. Under such circumstances, the wish for peace is natural, even in those who have to thank the war for every thing.

"But how shall this wish be gratified?

"A Congress for a general peace, we are told, shall be assembled at Prague, at which shall appear, on the one part, the Plenipotentiaries of France, those of the United States of America, Denmark, the King of Spain, and all the allied Princes (unquestionably of Italy and Germany); on the other part, the Plenipotentiaries of England, Russia, Prussia, the Spanish Insurgents, and the other Allies of these Belligerent Powers, (among which, doubtless, Sweden is to be reckoned.) It is added, that these principles accord with the views of Austria.

"It consists with the nature of things, that, if Europe should ever enjoy a peace of some length, in its duration, it can only be the work of a Congress, and cannot be produced by such negotiations as those of Pittsburg, Tilsit, and Vienna. This, however, must be the first question, who shall be admitted to this Congress?

"If the French Emperor can procure an admission to it for the Plenipotentiaries of the United States of America, it is difficult to say why the Turkish Emperor, the King of Persia, and the Republic of Spanish America should not be admitted. The policy of the United States is essentially different from that of the European States, though they are for the moment involved in the war which France carries on against England. Their interest, therefore, can only be the general interests of trade; and they can have nothing to do with a Congress for Peace, held at Prague, but merely to perplex and protract the negotiations.

"It is still more remarkable that the Plenipotentiaries of the Spanish Insurgents shall be admitted together with those of King Joseph. How! Have the two, then, any thing in common? Is there any capitulation between the Insurgents and the King of Spain? Must not the former insist that Joseph Napoleon shall evacuate Spain? and the latter that there shall be no Insurgents in Spain?

"And what should the Allies of France do at a Congress for peace, if among them

we are to reckon the Princes of Germany and Italy? How long have they had interests to espouse or defend? Hitherto their greatest virtue has consisted in slavish obedience. They were the vassals of France, in the worst sense of the word; and as such, in negotiations for a general peace, they can only be the objects of them, not participants in them.

"The only real Plenipotentiaries, therefore, that will remain, are those of England, France, Russia, Austria, Prussia, Sweden, and Denmark. The objects they have to discuss are of sufficient magnitude, and sufficiently perplexed to engage them for a long time, and to set in motion every passion.

"The French Emperor, before his departure from Paris in April last, said to the Deputies of the Legislative Body, that the integrity of the French Empire had never been endangered, nor ever should be. If he continue to adhere to this declaration, the Congress for Peace at Prague is superfluous. Not only must there be a question of what France has usurped from Germany, (the Rhine being considered as the boundary between France and that country;) but of the abolition of the Confederation of the Rhine, and even of the Kingdom of Italy itself; as also of what has been annexed to France in the south of Germany; or the independence of Germany can never be re-established.

"France must return to original principles, and open the Congress with declaring that she is willing to retire within her natural boundaries. This declaration, alone worthy of a great Power, will reconcile all the Powers of the Continent, and though it contains the confession of past faults, it is the only initiative of a future peace with England. France must now feel, that she has only weakened herself by her acquisitions; she has now an opportunity to repair that error.

"In short, either France understands the art, at the approaching Congress for Peace, wherever it may take place, to reconcile to herself the Powers of Europe—and then will she obtain more than she could have expected: or she does not understand that art—and then is the Revolution of the 18th of Brumaire not the last that she may expect. Able physicians, in desperate cases, have often recourse to opposite remedies.—There is now only one means to regain the confidence of Europe, which must be, before the Congress commences; to recall the French armies from Germany and Spain; for a negotiation for peace in the neighbourhood of 300,000 French troops, will not be carried on in the best spirit. If Napoleon cannot prevail on himself to remove them, he boasts in vain of commiseration for the shedding of human blood: the war must still continue; and as he has already found a Marlborough in Spain, he may find a Prince Eugene in Germany."

Copy of the Prince Regent's late Letter to Lord Wellington.

CARLTON-HOUSE, July 3, 1813.

"My dear Lord,

"Your glorious conduct is beyond all human praise, and far above my reward.—I know no language the world affords worthy to express it. I feel I have nothing left to say, but devoutly to offer up my prayers of gratitude to Providence, that it has, in its omnipotent bounty, blessed my Country and myself with such a General. You have sent me, among the trophies of your unrivalled fame, the Staff of a French Marshal, and I send you in return that of England. The British Army will hail it with enthusiasm, while the whole universe will acknowledge those valorous efforts which have so imperiously called for it.—That uninterrupted health, and still increasing laurel, may continue to crown you through a glorious and long career of life, are the never ceasing and most ardent wishes of, my dear Lord, your very sincere and faithful friend.

"G. P. R."

"The Marquis of Wellington."

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 29.

Extract of a letter from an American gentleman in Bayonne, dated the 12th August, to his friend in this city.

"I am at this moment literally at the cannon's mouth. On my arrival I found this city in the greatest confusion. Every moveable thing is put in requisition. The town is full of wounded soldiers that have taken refuge within the walls. Six days since there was a most sanguinary conflict between the French and allied armies. The force of the allied army was about 150,000 men, under the command of Lord Wellington, that of the French, about 70,000 under the command of Marshal Soult. This action proved very fatal to the French, as their loss is estimated at 15,000 men. The battle was fought at the foot of the Pyrenes,

and was visible from this town, and both armies have encamped in this neighborhood. The quiet state which they appear to be in at this moment, and the superior positions which the French occupy, is a good evidence, that Lord Wellington declines a further contest. But should the French army be driven within the walls of Bayonne, they will be able to stand a very long siege.

"St. Sebastians had been closely besieged for twelve days, and constant report of cannon from that quarter, proves that it has not fallen."

—O—

Extract of another Letter dated Bayonne, August 20.

"The English are still in possession of Passage. This place (Bayonne) is however considered safe."

—O—

Extract of a letter to a gentleman in New-York, dated Bayonne, Aug. 25.

Since my last arrival here I have witnessed the total rout of the French armies of Portugal and the north of Spain. It presented a shocking spectacle.—Amongst the fugitives there were many of those wretched Spaniards who had embraced the French cause; many of them before the revolution, opulent persons, reduced to the necessity of begging for bread, and both men and women objects of disgust from their appearance.—It is understood that the Italian Soldiery in the French service commenced the plunder of these unfortunate wretches during the last night of their retreat, by firing over them, when they fled, leaving all behind them, thinking they were attacked by the English, while the soldiery plundered their baggage, till the English put the latter to flight, and afterwards pressed them and the whole army so closely that it ended in a total rout.

It is astonishing that Wellington did not pursue his advantage—during the period of six days he might have entered, sacked and burnt this city without meeting any resistance. The consternation that prevailed was so general that the inhabitants fled in all directions with their property. Marshal Soult at length arrived, and in a very short time formed the army, and marched them to the frontiers. He has attempted to enter Spain but without success, both armies are now employed in defending their positions. The towns of Pampeluna and St. Sebastians are invested by the combined armies, the former it is supposed will surrender in a few days, the latter has sustained several assaults and from the strength of its citadel will probably hold out. The port of Passage is in possession of the English and will probably remain so during the Winter—this will prevent any expedition being made from the United States to this quarter for the present.

The markets are very dull for colonial produce. Our vessels, considering every circumstance, will hardly gain a freight by their traffick. There are no hopes entertained of peace.

We expect momentarily to hear of a battle having been fought in the north. Should they commence again, Wellington will probably enter France. The combined army it is said amount to 180,000 combatants; the French army on the frontiers to about 60,000. Every mile in this part of the country presents a fine position, for this reason, neither army can make a movement without calculating to lose a great number of men, particularly if they attack.

In the South of Spain the Invaders were in full retreat; but the exact route taken by Suchet was not ascertained.—It was certain, however, he had not effected a junction with Soult.

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From the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

SEVENTH NAVAL VICTORY.

Copy of a letter from Commodore PERRY to the Secretary of the Navy.

United States schooner Ariel, Put-in-Bay, September 13, 1813.

SIR,—In my last I informed you that we had captured the enemy's fleet on this lake. I have now the honor to give you the most important particulars of the action. On the morning of the 10th instant, at sunrise, they were discovered from Put-in-Bay, where I lay at anchor with the squadron under my command. We got under weigh, the wind light at S. W. and stood for them. At 10, a. m. the wind hauled to S. E. and brought us to windward; formed the line and bore up. At 15 minutes before twelve the enemy commenced firing; at 5 minutes before twelve the action commenced on our part. Finding their fire very destructive, owing to their long guns, and its being mostly directed at the Lawrence, I made sail, and directed the other vessels to follow for the purpose of closing with the enemy. Every brace and bowline being shot away she became unmanageable, notwithstanding the great exertions of the sailing master. In this situation she sustained the action up-