## PROTECTING DUTY ON SLATE.

COMmunicated to the house of representatives, november 15, 1804.

## Mr. Samuel L. Mitchicil made the following report:

The Committee of Commerce and Manufactures respectfully submit their report on the memorial of the President and Directors of the New York Slate Companies:
Two associations of individuals, in the State of New York, were formed, one in the year 1800, and the other in 1803, for the purpose of exploring and opening quarries of slate, within Dutchess county, in the said State. After expending considerable capital, they state that they have been successful in finding slate of an excellent quality. This they have brought to market in great quantity, and offer for sale at a reduced price of fifty per cent. They allege that they are capable" of supplying the whole domestic demand for this useful article of building, and could easily furnish slate of various sizes and thickness, for exportation. But they complain of the rivalship and competition of the importers of slate from foreign countries; who, by means of superior numbers and capitals, can, without sensible inconvenience, submit to temporary losses, undersell the petitioners, and interrupt the regular course of their domestic industry. For the sake of preventing these discouraging embarrassments, they solicit an increase of impost on the importation of slate from foreign parts.

In the preamable to the act " making further provision for the payment of the debts of the United States," passed August 10th, 1790, it is declared that duties were laid on goods, wares, and merchandise, imported, for the discharge of the debts of the United States, AND The Encouragement and protection of manufactures. By the first section of that act, slate was charged with a duty of 10 per cent. ad valorem. Afterwards, by the act 'for raising a further sum of money for the protection of the frontiers, and for other purposes therein mentioned," passed May 2d, 1792, an additional $2 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was added; but this ceased at the end of two years, by its own limitation. Then again an additional five per cent. ad valorem was laid upon imported slate, by the first section of the "act for laying additional duties on goods, wares, and merchandise, imported into the United States," passed June 7 th, 1794.

A further impost of $2 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was laid by the first section of the "act further to protect the commerce and seamen of the United States against the Barbary Powers," passed March 25th, 1804, upon all goods, wares, and merchandise, chargeable with an ad valorem duty. Slate comes within this class of articles. The money collected goes to "the Mediterranean fund;" and this additional $2 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. will not be discontinued until three months after a ratification of a treaty of peace with Tripoli.

Hence, it appears that the existing duties on slate, imported from foreign ports, amount to $17 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. if imported in ships or vessels of the United States; and computing the 10 per cent. additional, amount to $19 \nmid$ per cent. upon all slate imported in vessels not of the United States. When to these are added freight, commission, insurance, and the other heavy charges on such a bulky article, it would seem that a sufficient protecting duty wasalready imposed to encourage this species of domestic manufacture. The committee are inclined to think it would be impolitic to increase the import to a prohibitory amount.

The committee cannot forbear to express a sentiment of pleasure on this discovery of an inexhaustible quantity of an incombustible material for covering buildings. The increasing scarcity of timber, and the prevailing custom of constructing fire proof houses, added to the more excellent, it may be said unequalled quality and abundance of the slate of New York, may be expected in a short time to accomplish the wishes of the petitioners, and give the home made slate a complete ascendancy in the market. While, therefore, they rejoice at the detection of this new resource of their country, and of its proportionally increased independence, they forbear to recommend any augmentation of impost upon its introduction from abroad.

On the whole, it is the opinion of the committee that any additional duty upon imported slate would, at this time, be inexpedient.

## STATE OF THE FINANCES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, NOVEMBER 21, 1804.
In obedience to the directions of the act supplementary to the act, entitled " An act to establish the Treasury Department, $"$ the Secretary of the Treasury respectfully submits the following report and estimates:

## REVENUE.

The nett revenue, arising from duties on merchandise and tonnage, which accrued during the year 1802, and on which the estimates of last year were predicated, amounted, as will appear by the statement $A$, to $\$ 10,154,000$. The nett revenue, arising from the same source, which accrued during the year 1803, has amounted, as appears by the same statement, to $\$ 11,306,000$; and it is ascertained that the nett revenue which accrued during the three first quarters of the year 1804, considerably exceeds that of the corresponding quarters of the year 1803. Without drawing any inference from the increase of the present year, an increase which must be ascribed to the situation of Europe, and will, eventually, be diminished by subsequent re-exportations, that branch of the revenue may, exclusively of the Mediterranean fund, be safely estimated at $\$ 10,730,000$, which is the average of the two years 1802 and 1803. The actual payments in the treasury, on account of those duties, during the year ending on the 30th of September last, amount nearly to the same sum; $(a$,$) and there is no reason to suppose that the receipts of the ensuing,$ will fall short of those of last year.

The statement B exhibits, in detail, the several species of merchandise, and other sources, from which that revenue was collected, during the year 1803.

It also appears, that the revenue arising from the sales of public lands is gradually increasing. The statement $\mathbf{C}$ shows that, exclusively of the September sales, at Cincinnati, three hundred and fourteen thousand acres have been sold during the year ending on the 30th of September last. The proceeds of those sales, calculated on the supposition that every purchaser will be entitled to the discount allowed in case of prompt payment, would yield five hundred and fifteen thousand dollars. And, notwithstanding the difficulties which exist in drawing into the treasury the moneys collected by the receivers of the remote land offices, it is believed that the actual receipts from that source will, for the ensuing year, exceed four hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The permanent revenue of the United States may, therefore, including the duties on postage, and other small incidental branches, be computed at eleven millions two hundred thousand dollars.

And the payments in the treasury, during the year 1805, on account of the temporary duties which constitute the "Mediterranean Fund," are estimated at five hundred and fifty thousand dollars; making, in the whole, for the probable receipts of that year, a sum of

## EXPENDITURES.

The expenses of the year 1805, which must be defrayed out of that year, consist of the following items:

1. The annual appropriation of eight millions of dollars, for the payment of the principal and interest of the public debt; of which near $\$ 3,700,000$ will be applicable to the discharge of the principal, and the residue to the payment of the interest,
$\$ 8,000,000$
2. For the Civil Department, and all domestic expenses of a civil nature, including military pensions, the light-house and mint establishments, and the expenses of surveying public lands,
3. For expenses incident to the intercourse with foreign nations, including the payment of awards under the 7th article of the British treaty, and the permanent appropriation for Algiers, -
4. For the Military and Indian departments, including the permanent appropriation for certain Indian tribes,
5. For the Naval establishment, viz. annual appropriation charged to the ordinary revenue,
Extraordinary expenses of the last expedition against Tripoli, which will be payable in the year 1805, and are chargeable to the Mediterranean fund,
$\$ 650,000$
the year 1805, and are chargeable to the Mediterranean fund, - - 590,000
6. Reserved out of the Mediterranean fund, for meeting other extraordinary expenses, which may be incurred under the act constituting the fund,

Making, altogether,
Eleven millions five hundred and forty thousand dollars; and, deducted from the revenue of

- 11,540,000
- 11,750,000

Leaves a surplus of more than two hundred thousand dollars.

## MEDITERRANEAN FUND.

The sum which may probably be received during the year 1805, on account of that fund, and the payments during that year, which will ultimately be charged to the fund, are included in the preceding estimate of receipts and expenditures; but it is necessary to give a distinct view of the whole amount of revenue and expenses under that head.

The value of merchandise, paying duties ad valorem, which was imported in the year 1802, amounts, after deducting the exportations of the same year, to $\$ 31,706,000$. The value of the same description of merchandise, imported in the year 1803, amounts to $\$ 34,370,000$. The additional duty of $2 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on that description of imported articles, constitutes the Mediterranean Fund, and calculated on the average importations of the two years, would have yielded, annually, $\$ 826,000$. But several articles, which, in the years 1802 and 1803, paid duties ad valorem, having, in lieu thereof, been charged with specific duties, by an act of last session, are not liable to the additional duty of $2 \frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Although the value of those articles cannot be precisely ascertained, it is believed that the deduction, on that account, will not amount to $\$ 50,000$, and that the proceeds of the additional duty may be computed at the annual sum of $\$ 780,000$; and for the eighteen months commencing on the 1st July, 1804, and ending on the 31st December, 1805, at $\$ 1,170,000$. The expenses authorized under the act constituting the fund, have been predicated on that estimate, and apportioned in the following manner:

1. For the Navy Department, (in addition to the annual appropriation of $\$ 650,000$ ) viz.

There had been advanced, from the ordinary revenue, prior to the 30th September, 1804,
A further payment will be made before the 1st January, 1805, of
To be paid during the year 1805, on account of this fund, as stated under the 5th item of ex-
penditures for that year,
$\$ 350,000$
130,000
590,000
2. Reserved for other extraordinary expenses, which may be incurred for the same object, being the 6th item of expenditures for the year 1805,

Those duties began to operate on the 1st day of July last;' but, as they are payable six, eight, nine, ten, and twelve months after the importation, no part will be paid in the treasury during the present year; and a sum of only $\$ 550,000$ is expected to be received in the course of the year 1805. For that sum only, credit has been taken in the general estimate of receipts for that year; whilst a part of the $\$ 1,170,000$, chargeable to the fund, has already been expended, and the rest is included in the preceding estimate of expenses for 1805. The difference, amounting to $\$ 620,000$, will, at the end of the next year, consist of outstanding bonds, payable in 1806. And, if the additional duty should, as well as the extraordinary expense for which it is appropriated, cease at that time, that outstanding balance will, as it is collected, replace in the treasury the sum advanced for the ordinary revenues, in anticipation of the proceeds of the fund. For it is hoped that the situation of the treasury will render it unnecessary to recur to the authority given by the act, to borrow on the credit of the fund.

## BALANCE IN THE TREASURY.

The greater part of the balance of $\$ 5,860,98154$, which, on the 30 th day of September, 1803 , remained in the treasury, was, in the last year's report, considered as applicable to the payments of certain extraordinary demands, therein stated.

As no payment has been made on that account, during the last year, besides the first instalment of $\$ 888,000$ due to Great Britain, nor any other extraordinary expense been discharged, than the advance of $\$ 350,000$, in anticipation of the Mediterranean fund; the balance remaining in the treasury on the 30th September, 1804, still amounted to $\$ 4,882,22511$. That sum, together with the estimated surplus of revenue for the year 1805, the sum advanced from the ordinary revenue to the Mediterranean fund, and the arrears of the direct tax and internal revenues, may still be considered as sufficient to discharge the balance of $\$ 1,776,000$, due to Great Britain; the loan of $\$ 200,000$ due to Maryland; and two millions of dollars on account of the American claims assumed by the French convention. As the greater part of those demands will be paid in the course of the year 1805, the balance will not, probably, at the end of that year, exceed the sum which it is always expedient to retain in the treasury.

## PUBLIC DEBT.

It appears by the estimate $D$, that the payments on account of the principal of the public debt, have, during the year ending on the 30th September last, amounted to
$\$ 3,652,88715$
And during the three years and a half, commencing on the 1st day of April, 1801, and ending on the
30th September, 1804, to -
During the same period, a new debt of thirteen millions of dollars has been created by the purchase of Louisiana, viz:
Six per cent. stock, issued in conformity with the convention, - $\quad-\quad-\quad$ - $\$ 11,250,000$
Amount of American claims assumed by the convention, and for the payment of which authority has
been given to obtain a loan; two millions thereof being already provided for, out of the surplus
specie in the treasury,

Another view of the subject may be given, in the following manner:
The balance in the treasury amounted, on the 1st day of April, 1801, to And on the 30th September, 1804, to
\$1,794,044 85
Making an increase of 4,882,225 11

From which deducting the proceeds of the sales of the bank shares,
3,088,180 26

Leaves, for the increase arising from the ordinary revenue,
\$1,800,580 26
From the 1st day of April, 1801, to the 30th September, 1804, the following debts, which originated prior to that period, have been discharged:
1st. Payments on account of the domestic and foreign debt, as above stated, . - $\$ 13,576,89186$
2d. First instalment of the sum payable to Great Britain, "in satisfaction and dis-
charge of the money which the United States might have been liable to pay, in
pursuance of the provisions of the sixth article of the treaty of 1794,"
888,00000

15,000,000 00
Leaves,
A difference of more than twelve hundred thousand dollars in favor of the United States.
It may be added, that, if the revenue shall, during the ensuing year, prove, as is not improbable, more productive than has been estimated, the surplus will be applied towards the payment of the above mentioned sum of $\$ 1,750,000$, yet unprovided for, on account of the American claims, and will, so far, diminish the amount of the loan authorized for that object.

From the preceding statements and estimates it results, that the United States have, during the period of three years and a half, ending on the 30th September last, discharged a larger amount of principal of their old debt, than the whole amount of the new debt, which has been or may be created in consequence of the purchase of Louisiana; and that their existing and growing resources will, during the ensuing year, be sufficient, after defraying the current expenses of the year, and paying more than $\$ 3,750,000$, on account of the engagements resulting from the French and British conventions, to discharge a further sum of near three millions and seven hundred thousand dollars, of the principal of the public debt.

All which is respectfully submitted.
ALBERT GALLATIN, Secretary of the Treasury.
Treasury Departhent, November 19th, 1804.
A.
$\mathcal{A}$ Statement exhibiting the amount of duties which accrued on Merchandise, Tonnage, Passports, and Clearances; of Debentures issued on the exportation of Foreign Merchandise; of payments for Bounties and Allowances and for expenses of collection, during each of the years 1802 and 1803.

|  | duties On |  |  | Debentures issued. | Bounties and allowances. | Gross revenue. | Expenses on collection. | Nett revenue. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Merchandise. | Tonnage. | Passports \& clearances. |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1802 \\ & 1803 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r}\$ 14,795,975 \\ 14,249,958 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | \$161,709 79 <br> 166,52891 | $\$ 13,820$ 15,902 | $\$ 4,197,256$ $2,569,813$ | $\$ 134,23380$ <br> 151,717 <br> 6 | \$10,640,015 86 | \$485,451 93 404,42840 | $\begin{array}{r} \$ 10,154,56393 \\ 11,306,43022 \end{array}$ |
| * Gross revenue for the year 1803, Deduct interest and storage, |  |  |  |  | - - | $\$ 11,7$ | $\begin{aligned} & 10,85862 \\ & 15,99923 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| Gross revenue, per statement B, |  |  |  |  | - - | \$11,6 | 94,859 39 |  |

-1 Statement of the amount of American and Foreign Tonnage employed in Foreign trade, for the year 1803, as taken from the records of the Treasury.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { American tonnage in foreign trade, . } \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \\
& \text { Foreign tonnage, } \quad .
\end{aligned}
$$

Total amount of tonnage employed in the foreign trade of the United States,
Proportion of lforeign tonnage to the whole amount of tonnage employed in the foreign trade of the United States,

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## B.

A Statement exhibiting the value and quantities, respectively, of merchandise, on which duties actually accrued during the year 1803, (consisting of the difference between articles paying duty, imported, and those entitled to drawback, re-exported) and, also, of the nett revenue which accrued, during that year, from duties on merchandise, tonnage, passports, and clearances.



Treasury Department, Register's Office, November 14, 1804.
JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.

| Offices. | Lands sold. |  | In the hands of Receivers, Oct. 1st, 1803 | Due by individuals, 1st October, 1803. | Receipts, by Receivers, from individuals. |  |  | Payments by Receivers. |  | Repay- | Balance due on 1st Oct. 1804. |  | Total balance due lst Oct. 1804. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Acres. | Purchase money. |  |  | On account of purchase money. | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \begin{array}{c} \text { on account of of } \\ \text { Surveying } \\ \text { fees. } \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Amount of forfeitures. | Into treasury. | The part for expenses. |  | Fromindividuals | By receivers. |  |
| Zanesville, Marietta, Steubenville, Chillicothe, Cincinuati, | 11,224.16 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | \$23,168 38 |  |  | - \$4,407 03 $\frac{1}{2}$ | \$87 00 |  |  | - |  |  |  |  |
|  | 10,084.79 |  |  |  | ${ }_{5}{ }_{5}, 76760{ }^{\text {c }}$ | 6300 | 7554 | \$4,312 82 | \$548 18 | \$16 32 | \$18,7665 ${ }_{24}{ }^{\text {a }}$ | ${ }_{3,651} \mathbf{4}$ 65 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | ${ }_{31,516}{ }^{23,392}$ |
|  | 122,990.55 | 251,972 84 | 140,392 8912 | 416,843 62 | 195,021 $58 \frac{1}{4}$ | 90150 | 38119 | 232,708 431 | 3,744 $74 \frac{1}{2}$ | 40418 | 473,794 877 ${ }^{\frac{3}{4}}$ | 103,584 554 | 577,379 43 |
|  | 97,733.01年 | 195,810 9912 | 81,883 54 | 291,444 62 | 114,393 46 | 97500 | 35717 | 105,675 26 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 2,726 $24 \frac{1}{2}$ |  | 372,862 $15 \frac{1}{2}$ | 91,933 $90 \frac{1}{2}$ | 464,796 06 |
|  | 72,220.89 | 144,441 78 | 36,081 $38 \frac{1}{2}$ | 370,638 93 | 75,667 14t | $43665 \frac{1}{2}$ | 13425 | 18,258 ${ }^{13}$ | , 7358 |  | 3, ${ }^{\text {a }} 12$ |  | 464,796 06 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 314,253.41 ${ }^{\frac{1}{4}}$ | 635,563 83 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 260,432 47 | 1,092,390 $\mathbf{7 7} 7 \frac{1}{2}$ | 395,256 824 | 2,463 152 | 1,025 75 | *360,954 65 | 8,375 55 | 44127 | 1,332,697 184 | 297,782 273 |  |

$\begin{array}{r}\$ 10,51771 \\ \begin{array}{r}358,72768 \\ 5,77376\end{array} \\ \hline 375,01915 \\ 14,06450 \\ \hline 360,95465 \\ \hline \hline\end{array}$

$$
\begin{array}{r}
340,84894 \\
17,878 \quad 74 \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$




ants on Trea-
nt of " warn

$-$| $919,724.65$ |
| :---: |
| $314,253.41$ |

$1,223,978.06 \frac{1}{4}$
-
Total,

C—Continued.
Estimate showing when the instalments, which compose the balance due from individuals, will become payable.

| Offices. | Remaining due in 1804. | Becoming due in 1805. | Becoming due in 1806. | Becoming due in 1807. | Becoming due in 1808. | Total. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Zanesville, - | 1,385 06 | - | 5,792 09 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ |  |  | 18,761 34눈 |
| Marietta, - | 5,118 81 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 5,452 45 | 7,28672 | 5,815 59 | $4,19166 \frac{1}{2}$ | 27,865 $24 \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}}$ |
| Steubenville, | 6,130 02 ${ }^{\frac{3}{4}}$ | 175,529 48 ${ }^{1}$ | 152,951 96 | 90,532 03 | 4,191 48.651 | 27,865 243 - |
| Chillicothe, | 56,781 $77 \frac{3}{4}$ | 132,784 59 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 78,974 724 | 63,328 $24 \frac{3}{4}$ | $40,99280{ }^{\frac{3}{4}}$ | 473,794874 $372,86215 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| Cincinnati, - | 108,813 14 | 161,566 35 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 96,398 54 ${ }^{\text {2 }}$ | 51,259 54 | 21,375 98 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 439,413 $56 \frac{1}{2}$ |
| Dollars, | 178,228 82 | 475,332 88 ${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ | 341,404 044 | 216,727 50 ${ }^{\frac{3}{4}}$ | 121,003 923 | 1,332,697 $18 \frac{3}{4}$ |

Treasury Department, Register's Office, November 14th, 1804.
JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.

## D.

An estimate of the principal redeemed of the debt of the Gnited States, from 1 st October, 1803, to 30th September, 1804; showing, also, the redemption of the principal of the said debt, from 1st April, 1801, to 30th September, 1804.

|  | Redemption from 1st Octo ber, 1803, to 30th September, 1804. | Redemption from <br> 1st April, 1801, to <br> 30th September, 1803, as per document $E$, referred to in Secretary's report of 24th October, 1803. | Total principal redeemed from 1st April, 1801, to 30th September, 1804. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| On Account of the domestic debt. |  |  |  |
| The amount of warrants issued on the Treasurer of the United States, according to the quarter yearly statement of receipts and expenditures, from 1st October, 1803, to 30th September, 1804, exclusive of $\$ 94651$, repaid into the treasury, was $\$ 4,367,18596$ Deduct interest which accrued during the same period, calculated quarter yearly, <br> - 3,325,511 74 |  |  |  |
| Payments made in certificates of the debt of the United States, on account of lands purchased, <br> Payments to foreign officers, and for certain parts of the domestic debt, |  | $2,641,516$ 43,939 66 60,223 63 | $\begin{array}{r} 3,683,19044 \\ 53,14613 \\ 65,99703 \end{array}$ |
| Payments on account of domestic loans, on account of the foreign debt. | 500,000 00 | 1,990,000 00 | 2,490,000 00 |
| The amount of warrants issued on the Treasurer of the United States, exclusive of $\$ 120,000$ repaid into the treasury, and $\$ 4,59539$, the amount of commissions to the purchasing agents, was <br> $\$ 2,876,54122$ |  |  |  |
| Deduct one year's interest on the Dutch debt, viz: Amount of one year's interest, including commissions and postage of letters, after deducting for anticipation of interest paid by commissioners, Guilders, 693,000 |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{rrr}\text { At } 40 \text { cents, is } & - & - \\ \text { Deduct gain on exchange, }\end{array} \quad-\quad 25,20000$ |  |  |  |
| $1 \quad \overline{251,55823}$ |  |  |  |
| Interest to 30th September, 1804, on the Louisiana six per cent. stock, 528,749 93 |  |  |  |
|  | 2,096,233 06 | 5,188,325 20 | 7,284,558 26 |
|  | 3,652,887 15 | 9,924,004 71 | 13,576,891 86 |

Treasury Department, Register's Office, 14th November, 1804.
JOSEPH NOURSE, Register.


[^0]:    17.2 to 100

