

It gives me great pleasure that my much respected and venerable friend Mr. Langdon has previously received the tribute due to his services, as an early revolutionary character, as a member of the first federal senate, and as its president pro tempore for a number of years; and that our patriotic sister state, New-Hampshire, has been honorably distinguished on this occasion. The measure, in my mind, was consistent with strict justice and sound policy.

Accept, gentlemen, my best wishes for your health and happiness, and be assured, that with every sentiment of esteem and respect, I am yours sincerely,
E. GERRY.

Hon. John Smilie esq. &c. &c.

CAPITOL, June 22d, 1812.

Mr. Gales,—Since my highly revered friend, the virtuous and patriotic LANGDON, declined being considered a candidate for the vice presidency, I have heard it stated, that the causes of his declining were, that he disapproved of the measures of the administration, and that he would not consent to be a candidate with Mr. MADISON. I took the liberty to suggest this to him in a letter of the 6th inst. in reply to which I have received the inclosed, which is at your disposal.
JOHN A. HARPER.

PORTSMOUTH, June 15th, 1812.

Dear sir,—Your affecting letter of the 6th inst. I have received. Indeed it is impossible for me to find words to express my feelings, and the obligation I am under to my great and good friends. I am overwhelmed with grief when I reflect, that my advanced time of life only, prevented me from complying with their wishes.

I have the most sincere desire to join my friends at this all important moment, to carry into effect every decided measure to support the honor and independence of our country. I have longed to take my old friends by the hand, and to have an opportunity of paying my personal respects to those honorable gentlemen from the several states, who have been pleased to favor me with their notice, but I am prevented. I should have thought it an honor, and it would have been my highest pleasure to serve my country in any station, while my great and good friend Mr. Madison continued in the presidency, as I consider him one of our greatest statesmen, an ornament to our country, and above all, the noblest work of God, an honest man. I think it happy for our country that we have at this important crisis, such a decided character at the head of our affairs. As our patience is worn out, and we have drank the dregs of the cup of humiliation, if we now act with spirit and decision there is nothing to fear. I pray you, sir, to present my most profound respects to all my friends as they fall in your way.

I pray you, sir, to accept the homage of my great esteem and respect.

JOHN LANGDON.

Honorable John A. Harper.

Law of the United States

To prohibit American vessels from proceeding to, or trading with the enemies of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, That no ship or vessel owned in whole or in part by a citizen or citizens of the United States, shall be permitted to clear out or depart from any port or place within the limits of the United

States or the territories thereof, to any foreign port or place, till the owner or owners, agent, factor, freighter, master or commander, shall give bond, with sufficient security in the amount of such ship or vessel and cargo, not to proceed to or trade with the enemies of the United States. And if any ship or vessel owned as aforesaid shall depart from any port or place within the limits of the United States, or territories thereof for any foreign port or place, without giving bond with security aforesaid, such ship or vessel and cargo, shall be forfeited to the use of the United States; and the owner or owners, freighter, factor, or agent, master or commander, shall severally forfeit and pay a sum equal to the value of such ship or vessel and cargo; and the said master or commander, if privy thereto, and being thereof convicted, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and imprisoned for a term not exceeding twelve months, in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That if any citizen or citizens of the United States, or persons inhabiting the same, shall transport or attempt to transport over land or otherwise, any waggon, cart, sleigh, boat, or otherwise, naval or military stores, arms or the munitions of war, or any article of provision, from any place in the United States to any place in Upper or Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, or New Brunswick, the waggon, cart, sleigh, boat or the thing by which the said naval or military stores, arms, or munitions of war, or articles of provisions are transported, or attempted to be transported, together with such naval or military stores, arms or munitions of war, or provisions, shall be forfeited to the use of the United States, and the person or persons aiding or privy to the same, shall severally forfeit and pay to the U. States a sum equal in value to the waggon, cart, sleigh, boat, or thing by which the said naval or military stores, arms or munitions of war, or articles of provision, are transported or are attempted to be transported; and shall moreover be considered as guilty of a misdemeanor, and be liable to be fined in a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, and imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, at the discretion of the court: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall extend to any transportation on account of the United States, or the supply of its troops or armed force.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the collectors of the several ports of the United States be, and the same are hereby authorised to seize and stop naval and military stores, arms or the munitions of war or any articles of provision, and ship or vessel, waggon, cart, sleigh, boat, or thing by which any article prohibited as aforesaid, is shipped or transported, or attempted to be shipped or transported, contrary to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That no ship or vessel belonging to any citizen or citizens, subject or subjects of any state or kingdom in amity with the United States, except such as at the passage of this act shall belong to the citizen or citizens, subject or subjects of such state or kingdom, or which shall hereafter be built in the limits of a state or kingdom in amity with the United States, or purchased by a citizen or citizens, subject or subject of a state or kingdom in amity with the United States, aforesaid, from a citizen or citizens of the United States, unless forced by a stress of weather, or for necessary repairs; and any ship or vessel belonging to a citizen or citizens, subject or subjects of any state or kingdom in amity with the United