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(By Authority.)

AN ACT

For licencing and regulating auctions in the city of Washington.

BE *it enacted by the First and Second chambers of the city Council of Washington,* That no person or persons whatsoever except as hereinafter is excepted, shall after the publication of this act, take upon him her or themselves to sell or expose to sale by way of vendue or auction any goods wares or merchandise within the city of Washington unless such person shall reside within the city, and first receive a licence and shall have given bond to the mayor and council of the said city in the sum of five thousand dollars with two sufficient securities conditioned for his or their honest and due performance of the duties of an auctioneer or vendue master for the term of one year; but the mayor shall not licence more than two auctioneers within any one year. The bond given by an auctioneer shall not become void on the first recovery, but may be put in suit and prosecuted from time to time by and at the costs of any person injured by a breach thereof until the whole penalty shall be recovery.

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted,* That if any person shall be found selling or disposing of any goods, wares or merchandise within the city of Washington by way of vendue or auction without being licenced and having given security as aforesaid, such person or persons so offending and being thereof lawfully convict shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of two thousand dollars to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction, one half to the informer, the other to the use of the corporation.

SEC. 3. *Be it enacted.* That the auctioneer or auctioneers licenced as aforesaid shall receive all articles, which they shall be required to sell at public auction, and give a receipt for the same, if requested; and in three days after any sale made, shall deliver to the owner or owners of the articles sold, a fair account of the sale, and shall pay the amount of the money received deducting therefrom the fees and commissions hereinafter allowed; that is to say, on the sale of all dry goods five per cent on the amount sold, unless they shall be sold in their original packages, in which case a commission of two and a half per cent only shall be allowed; on the sale of all wet goods, groceries of every description and horses two and a half per cent, upon household goods and furniture five per cent; upon the amount of the sales of all vacant lots, and vessels, the property of one person or of two or more persons jointly, two per cent on the first two hundred dollars, and one per cent on the next one thousand dollars, and if the amount of the sales should exceed fifteen hundred dollars, then one fourth per cent on such excess; and if the said auctioneers shall on the same day, or by adjournment to any other day make sale of more than one vacant or improved lot, or vessel, the property of the same person or persons it shall be, considered as one entire sale and a commisson allowed thereon agreeable to the rates before stated: and when the said auctioneers shall let ground on a rent for ever, they shall receive a commission on a sum equal to the amount of ten years purchase of such rent. In all cases where any articles shall be actually exposed to sale, which shall not be sold by reason of their not producing the price limited, it shall be lawful for the auctioneers to demand and receive one fourth of the commission on the sum at which such articles shall have been struck off, which they would been entitled to receive had such articles been actually sold. Provided, That such commission shall not be demanded or received more than three times on the same article. Every auctioneer who shall demand or receive any fees or commission where none are allowed by law, or greater fees or commissions than are so allowed, shall forfeit four times the amount of the fees or commissions so demanded or received; to the use of the person or persons on whom such demand shall be made, or from whom such fees or commissions shall be received.

SEC. 4. *Be it enacted,* That no auctioneer shall receive storage for any goods, wares or merchandise, put into his hands for sale, except for the following articles, and at the rates herein specified: that is to say, for all wet goods and groceries, and for all pork, beef or fish in barrels or hogsheads, coffee in hogsheads, tierces, barrels or bags, crockery or glass in hogsheads or crates which shall remain undisposed of after having been once exposed to sale; for every hogshead, pipe or crate twenty-five cents per month; for each barrel or bag eight cents per month, and in the same proportion for any larger or smaller quantity, and for any longer or shorter time.

SEC. 5. *Be it enacted,* That no person licenced as aforesaid shall receive goods for sale of any servant or minor, without the owner's certificate: and every auctioneer before exposing of any real or personal estate to public sale, shall make out in writing and sign and publicly read the conditions of sale, and every auctioneer shall advertise the articles intended for sale, and the time and place of each sale in one or more newspapers printed within the city, and shall moreover give notice of the same by a crier and the ringing of a bell. No auctioneer shall sell or retail dry goods in lots or parcels of less value than three dollars, or wet goods in lots or parcels of less value than five dollars, or liquors of any kind in less quantity than five dollars, under the penalty of five dollars for every offence, to be recovered, one half to the informer and the other to the use of the corporation.

SEC. 6. *Be it enacted,* That no auctioneer shall by himself or by any person for his use, purchase any articles sent to him or her for sale, except for his or her consumption. Every auctioneer shall for every offence forfeit and pay five hundred dollars, one half to the use of the person who shall sue for the same; the other half to the use of the Corporation: *Provided* that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent any auctioneer from advancing money on goods deposited for sale.

SEC. 7. *Be it enacted,* That all auctioneers licensed as aforesaid, shall keep a printed copy of this law in some conspicuous place in their auction room, for the inspection of the public; or for such neglect shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars for the use of the Corporation.

SEC. 8. *Be it enacted,* That every auctioneer licensed under this act, shall out of the monies arising from each and every sale at auction, return and pay to the city treasurer for the use of the city at the rate of one per cent on the amount of all sales made by him or them, and shall once in every three months on oath or affirmation, account for and pay the same so the treasurer for the use of the city: *Provided* always that the license of an auctioneer shall, after the expiration of the first year be annually let by the Mayor by public advertisement to the highest bidder, on approved security according to the provisions of this act; and the person or persons thereupon licensed shall in manner aforesaid, pay to the treasurer for the use of the city, such further additional rate of per centage on the amount of all sales made by him or them as he or they shall have publicly bidden or offered to pay for the said license of an auctioneer.

JOHN DEMPSIE,
President of the First Chamber of the City Council of Washington.

SAMUEL HAMILTON,
President of the Second Chamber of the City Council of Washington.

APPROVED,
Feb. 10, 1806.

ROBERT BRENT, Mayor.
Test. THOMAS HERTY, Reg.

Report of the committee appointed on the 18th of December last, to whom were referred the report of a select committee, on the letter of Wm. H. Harrison, made the 17th February, 1804; a memorial of the legislative council and House of Representatives of the Indiana territory; and several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the said territory.

REPORT.

The committee to whom were referred the report of a select committee, made on 17th February, 1804, on a letter of Wm. Henry Harrison, president of a convention held at Vincennes, in the Indiana territory, declaring the consent of the people of the said territory to a suspension of the 6th art. of compact between the U. S. & the said people; also on a memorial and petition of the inhabitants of the said territory; also on the petition of the legislative council and house of representatives of the said territory; together with the petition of certain purchasers of land, settled and intending to settle on that part of the Indiana territory west of Ohio, and east of the boundary line running from the mouth of Kentucky river; and on two memorials from the inhabitants of Randolph and St. Clair,

REPORT...

THAT having attentively considered the facts stated in the said petitions and memorials, they are of opinion that a qualified suspension, for a limited time, of the 6th article of compact between the original states and the people and states west of the river Ohio, would be beneficial to the people of the Indiana territory. The suspension of this article is an object almost universally desired in that territory. It appears to your committee to be a question entirely different from that between slavery and freedom, inasmuch as it would merely occasion the removal of persons, already slaves, from one part of the country to another. The good effects of this suspension, in the present instance, would be to accelerate the population of that territory, hitherto retarded by the operation of that article of compact; as slave holders, emigrating into the western country, might then indulge any preference which they might feel for a settlement in the Indiana territory, instead of seeking, as they are now compelled to do, settlements in other states or countries permitting the introduction of the slaves. The condition of the slaves themselves would be much ameliorated by it; as it is evident, from experience, that the more they are separate and diffused, the more care and attention are bestowed on them by their masters; each proprietor having it in his power to increase their comforts and conveniences in proportion to the smalness of their numbers. The dangers too (if any are to be apprehended) from too large a black population existing in any one section of country, would certainly be very much diminished, if not entirely removed. But whether dangers are to be feared from this source or not, it is certainly an obvious dictate of sound policy to guard against them, as far as possible. If this danger does exist, or there is any cause to apprehend it, and our western brethren are not only willing but desirous to aid us in taking precautions against it, would it not be wise to accept their assistance? We should benefit ourselves without injuring them, as their population must always so far exceed any black population which can ever exist in that country, as to render the idea of danger, from that source, chimerical.

Your committee consider the regulation contained in the ordinance for the government of the territory of the U. S. which requires a freehold of fifty acres of land, as a qualification for an elector of the general assembly, as limiting too much the elective franchise. Some restriction, however, being necessary, your committee conceive that a residence continued long enough to evince a determination to become a permanent inhabitant, should entitle a person to the rights of suffrage. This probationary period need not extend beyond twelve months.

The petition of certain settlers in the Indiana territory, praying to be annexed to the state of Ohio, ought not, in the opinion of your committee, to be granted.

It appears to your committee that the division of the Indiana territory, in the manner directed by the ordinance of 1787, and for which the people of Randolph and St. Clair have petitioned your honorable body, would be inexpedient at this time. The people of the two sections have lately entered into the second grade of government, the whole expense of which would fall on the people of one section, if a division was now to be made. This, in the opinion of your committee, would be neither politic nor just. But although a division of the territory appears improper at this time, we think it should be made as soon as the population of either section has increased so far as to entitle them to form a state government. The petition which prays that such a government may be formed, by uniting the two sections, as soon as their inhabitants shall have augmented so far as to authorise it, your committee conceive ought not to be granted. A territory, when once erected into a state, cannot be divided or dismembered, without its own consent. The formation, therefore, of two states out of this territory, originally intended by the ordinance of 1787, could not constitutionally be effected, if the two sections were once permitted to form one state, without the consent of that state, however necessary the extent and population of that territory might render such division.

After attentively considering the various objects desired in the memorials and petitions, the committee respectfully submit to the house the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved,* That the 6th article of the ordinance of 1787, which prohibits slavery within the Indiana territory, be suspended for ten years, so as to permit the introduction of slaves, born within the United States, from any of the individual states.

2d. *Resolved,* That every white freeman of the age of twenty one years, who has resided within the territory twelve months, and within the county in which he claims a vote, six months immediately preceding the election, shall enjoy the rights of an elector of the general assembly.

3d. *Resolved,* That the petition of certain settlers in the Indiana territory, praying to be annexed to the state of Ohio, ought not to be granted.

4th. *Resolved,* That it is inexpedient at this time to grant that part of the petition of the people of Randolph and St. Clair, which prays for a division of the Indiana territory.

5th. *Resolved,* That so much of the petition of the legislative council and house of representatives of the Indiana territory, as prays that the two sections may be united into one state government, ought not to be granted.

The following report has been made to the Senate by the Secretary of state.

"The secretary of state, in compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 2d March last, directing him to lay before the Senate at their present meeting, "such laws of Great Britain, as impose any higher or greater duties on the exportation of goods, wares and merchandize to the United States, than are imposed on similar goods, wares, and merchandize, when exported to the nations of Europe, and also to report the amount in sterling money, of the exports to the United States from Great-Britain and Ireland, for the years 1802, 1803, and 1804, on which such duties are charged," has the honor to transmit herewith a copy of an act of the British parliament, passed on the 7th of May, 1802, entitled "An act for granting to his majesty, certain duties on goods imported into and exported from Great Britain, and on the tonnage of ships and vessels, entering outwards or inwards in any port of Great Britain, to or from foreign ports;" whereby on every hundred pounds of the value of goods, wares, and merchandize, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of Great Britain, (except in special cases) when exported to any part of Europe, or to any port or place within the streights of Gibraltar, a duty of ten shillings is imposed; but on the same goods, when exported elsewhere (except to countries within the limits of the charters of the East India company) the duty is doubled.

"Another act of parliament, dated on the 4th July, 1803, a copy of which is also herewith transmitted, entitled "An act for granting to his majesty, during the present war, and until the ratification of a definitive treaty of peace, additional duties on the importation and exportation of certain goods, wares, and merchandize, and on the tonnage of ships and vessels in Great Britain," imposes 1 per cent. duty on goods, wares, and merchandize, the growth, produce, or manufacture of G. Britain (with certain exceptions) exported to Europe or the Mediterranean and 3 per cent. upon such goods, wares and merchandize, when exported elsewhere, except to countries within the charters of the East India company.

"A table exhibiting the amount in sterling money, of the exports from Great Britain to the United States, in the respective years 1802, 1803, and 1804, on which duties under the above mentioned acts of parliament were payable, and the amount of duties so paid, is annexed hereto.

"It must be observed, that as from the mode of collecting ad valorem duties in Great Britain, the merchants generally deem themselves secure in undervaluing their exports, to the amount of about one fifth, the real value of these exports to the United States, exceeds that given in the table by an equal proportion.

"It may also be remarked, that the table does not give the full annual amount of the respective duties of 1 and 3 per cent. in any year except that of 1804; the first mentioned duty not having commenced until the month of May, 1802, nor the other until the month of July, 1803.

"The measures taken for complying with the resolution of the Senate, as far as respects the exports to the U. States from Ireland, not having been successful, the secretary of state takes the liberty of annexing a table, shewing the value of goods exported in the years 1802, 1803, and 1804, respectively, from that country, and distinguishing the amount subject to duty; which amount being inconsiderable, a statement of the unfavorable discriminations, if any, against the U. States, becomes of less importance.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES MADISON.

Department of State, Jan. 27, 1806.

Annexed to this report are the two acts of the British Parliament referred to.

A table of the new and additional duties payable on goods imported into Great Britain, not imported by the East India company.

A table of like goods imported into G. Britain by the East India company.

A table of new and additional duties payable on the exportation of goods from Great Britain.

A table of tonnage duties payable on ships entering outwards or inwards in any port of Great Britain to or from any foreign ports, by which one shilling a ton is imposed on vessels entering outwards or inwards to or from any port in the U. States.

A table of new and additional duties payable on importations into and exportations from Great Britain, and on goods carried coastwise from port to port within Great Britain.

By this table the *following duties are imposed on articles imported:*

	l.	s.	d.
Copper unwrough per cwt.	0	4	6
Cotton wool of growth of U. S. or British colonies per 100 lbs.	0	8	4
—— of growth of other countries.	0	12	6
Sugar for every 100 l. of duties	20	0	0
All other goods, except tea, wine, and particular descriptions of wood for every 100 l. of duties.	12	10	0

On articles exported the following duties:

	l.	s.
Goods, wares, and merchandize, not being of the growth, produce, or manufacture of G. Britain, for every 100 l. of the produce and amount of the duties of customs due and payable on the exportation thereof, an additional duty of		12 10
Goods, wares, & mercandize, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of Great Britain, (except as hereinafter mentioned) exported to any part of Europe, or to any port or place within the Streights of Gibraltar, for every l. 100 of the true & real value thereof, an additional duty of	1	
Goods, wares, & merchandize, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of G. Britain (except as hereinafter mentioned,) exported to any port or place whatever, not being in Europe or within the Streights of Gibraltar, or within the limits of the charters granted to the united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, for every 100 l. of the true and real value thereof, an additional duty of	8	
Goods, wares, & merchandize, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of Great Britain (except as hereinafter mentioned,) exported to any port or place whatever, being within the limits of the charters granted to the united company of merchants of England trading to the East-Indies, for every 100 l. of the true and real value thereof	4	

Except,

—— Bullion.

—— Cotton yarn, or other cotton manufactures, being of the manufacture of G. B.

—— Sugar refined, in loaf complete and whole, or lump duly refined, and all refined sugar called bastard, and ground or powdered sugar, & refined loaf sugar broke in pieces, and all sugar called candy & molasses.

—— Any sort of craft, food, victuals, cloathing or implements, or materials fit & necessary for the British fisheries, established in the island of Newfoundland, or in any of his majesty's colonies, islands, or plantations in N. America, exported from G. Britain to the said colonies, islands, or plantations.

—— Goods, wares, or merchandize exported from Great Britain to the isle of Man, by virtue and under the authority of any licence which the commissioners of his majesty's customs in England or Scotland, or any three or more of them respectively, are or may be by law authorised and empowered to grant.

—— Military stores exported by the united company of merchants of England trading to the East-Indies.

A table of new and additional duties payable on goods imported by the East India company.

A table of new and additional tonnage duties, payable on ships entering inwards or outwards in any port of G. Britain from or to foreign ports; by which it appears that one shilling sterling is imposed upon every ton of ships from the United States.

An account of the value, estimated at the current market price, of goods, the growth or manufacture of Ireland, exported to the United States of America, in the last three years in Irish currency.

By this account it appears that the amount of goods thus exported was for the year 1803, l. 124,713
for 1804, 221,446
for 1805, 239,953

An account of the exports from Great Britain to the United States, subject to the one per cent. duty of the 42nd of Geo. III. and to the 3 per cent. duty of the 43rd of Geo. III. in the years 1802, 1803, and 1804, with the amount of duty so paid.

	Value of Goods.	Duties.
In 1802,	l. 2,026,000	20,166
1803,	3,350,800	72,504
1804,	3,121,900	124,365