

No. 3.

A statement of the denomination and value of silver coins, issued from the mint of the United States, from the 29th of November, 1796, (the date of the Director's last report) to this day, inclusive.

Dollars.	Half Dollars.	Quarter Dollars.	Dimes.	Half Dimes.
12,546	3,918	252	25,261	44,527
Total, Dollars, 19,320 45				

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, *Treasurer's Office, December 18, 1797.*

For BENJAMIN RUSH, *Treasurer.* NATH. THOMAS, *Clerk.*

N. B. There are now in the mint, nearly ready for delivery, about thirty-four thousand dollars in silver coins.

No. 4.

A statement of the denomination and value of gold coins, issued from the mint of the United States, from the 29th of November, 1796, (the date of the Director's last report) to this day, inclusive.

Eagles.	Half Eagles.	Quarter Eagles.
9,177	6,406	1,756
Value in Dollars, 128,190.		

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, *Treasurer's Office, December 18, 1797.*

For BENJAMIN RUSH, *Treasurer.* NATH. THOMAS, *Clerk.*

5th CONGRESS.]

No. 119.

[2d SESSION.]

DRAWBACK AND REDUCTION OF DUTIES.

COMMUNICATED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE 2D OF JANUARY, 1798.

Mr. LIVINGSTON, from the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures, to whom were referred the petition of Peter Aupoix, and the memorial of William White, made the following reports:

[PETER AUPOIX.]

That he prays the allowance of a drawback upon a quantity of goods exported by him from the United States, at the port of New York, in the month of October, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five.

On this application, the following facts appeared to the satisfaction of your committee:

That the goods in question were duly entered for re-exportation, in three parcels, and at three different days, at the custom house, in the said port of New York; that the necessary notice was given to the collector, with the description of the goods, and the names of the importers, and the places from whence, and vessels in which, the same were respectively imported; that proof was made by the respective importers, and persons through whose hands the said goods had passed, of the identity of the goods; that the same were regularly inspected by the officers of the revenue, and found to correspond with the description on which a permit was given by the collector, for the lading, which was performed under the superintendance of the officer who inspected the same. But that the exporter's oath of his intention to export the goods, and that he would not re-land them, was omitted in all the entries, and the bond in one of them.

Your committee further find, that the goods were really exported, and the proper certificates produced to prove their being landed in a foreign port.

Your committee also find, that these circumstances were submitted to the comptroller, by the late collector of the port of New York, and that his answer leaves the relief as a matter of discretion to the collector; but that the person now filling that office does not think fit to exercise any discretion on the subject, as the transaction took place in the time of his predecessor.

The committee have also been informed, that, as the time for taking the oath, and giving the bond, is not precisely fixed by law, the collectors of different ports have generally received them after the entry, and that this would, probably, have been done in the case of the petitioner, if he had not sailed in the vessel that carried his goods.

Though your committee are extremely loath to afford relief in cases of non-compliance with the regulations prescribed for the collection of the revenue, yet they think it essential to justice, and the interest of commerce, that such cases of unintentional omissions as can be relieved without opening a door to fraud, ought to be favorably heard. They deem this a case of that nature, and therefore recommend that the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That relief ought to be granted to Pierre Aupoix, according to the prayer of his petition.

[WILLIAM WHITE.]

That the memorialist seeks for a reduction of the duties on certain wines imported by him into the port of Boston, under the denomination of Sherry and San Lucar wines, but which are stated to have been about thirty per cent. below the usual value of wines of those denominations.

Though the fact is made to appear to the committee by the documents accompanying the memorial, yet they think the bad quality of an article which pays a specific duty not ad valorem, is no reason for reducing the duty, and that a contrary doctrine would go to place all the articles paying an enumerated duty, on a level with those paying duties ad valorem, which they presume was not intended by the Legislature.

The committee are therefore of opinion that the prayer of the memorial of the said William White ought not to be granted.

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