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HALF IN ADVANCE.

PROSPECTUS OF The Farmer's Repository.

FERDINANDO FAIRFAX, esq. having relinquished the plan of the *Farmer's Museum*, the subscriber proposes to publish the above mentioned paper. Sensible of the utility of great promises or professions, he thinks he may yet say, that the REPOSITORY will be conducted with impartiality and decorum, as respects individuals; and with a primary view to the promotion of AGRICULTURE, and the other USEFUL ARTS of life, as far as his opportunity for suitable selections and other aid will extend; not omitting the news and interesting public affairs of the day; but condensing the less important to make room for the more important matter.

So far as political discussions may come into view, this paper will afford its decided support to the principles of Representative Democracy; but the editor, convinced of the inutility of personal or party invective to any good cause, will, at all times, be disposed to reciprocate, with his brother editors and others advocating different principles, a gentlemanly and liberal exchange of good offices—so long as they, by manifesting a similar disposition, shall entitle themselves thereto.

RICHARD WILLIAMS.
March 19, 1863.

TERMS.

This paper, of the royal size, will be published every Friday morning, at TWO DOLLARS per annum to each subscriber, payable one half in advance. Distant subscribers to have their papers regularly forwarded by mail, or such other conveyance as they shall approve.

Foreign Intelligence.

By the arrival at New-York of the ships *Foctor* and *Frances*, both from *Greenock*, the former in a passage of 34 days and the latter in 30, files of London papers to the 10th of Feb. and *Greenock* papers to the 13th have been received.

The news of the embargo reached Falmouth by the British Packet, on the 22d of January; but had produced no apparent sensation on the public mind; at least none that could be gathered from the papers: for, contrary to the usual practice of the English Editors, it is generally mentioned without either censure or approbation.

A change is said to be about to take place in the government of Switzerland, of which *Berthier* is to be king. *Talleyrand*, it is said, is to be king of Portugal. The loss sustained by Denmark from the British expedition is estimated at 67,000,000 rix dollars. The king of Sweden has declared that he will adhere to the system heretofore pursued by him, in consequence of which a Russian army had marched for Swedish Finland. An insurrection had occurred at Constantinople on account of the scarcity of provisions. Two serious disturbances had occurred at Lisbon from a like cause.

A new French imperial decree was issued on the 11th January at Paris, declaring that "when a vessel shall enter into a French port, or into that of a country occupied by our armies, any man of the crew, or passenger, who shall declare to the principal of the custom house that he said ship comes from Britain or her colonies, or countries occupied by British troops, or that has been visited by any British vessels, shall receive a third part of the produce of the net sale of the ship and cargo, if it be known that his declaration is exact."

The Rochfort Squadron got out the 16th of January, and was not heard of by the English until the 24th.

Sir George Prevost, with 5,000 troops, sailed on the 11th of Feb. for Halifax.

The news of the American embargo was received in London the 23d of January, by the *Abella* packet from New-York. As it was a measure anticipated it caused but little sensation. The London papers say, the embargo is not of a hostile character—"It applies," say they, "solely to American vessels, and can have no possible influence on the negotiation between the two governments. Indeed, considering the circumstances under which the act was passed, the measure would appear to be particularly directed against France." And they considered it the only measure to which America could have had recourse under existing circumstances, without incurring the risk of being involved in hostilities.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, January 21.

At 3 o'clock the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and Lords Dartmouth and Aylesford, took their seats immediately below the throne, as commissioners, & the Commons being soon after in attendance, the Lord Chancellor delivered the following speech:

"My Lords and Gentlemen, We have received his majesty's commands to assure you, that in calling you together at this important conjuncture of affairs, he entertains the most perfect conviction, that he shall find in you the same determination with which his majesty himself is animated, to support the honor of his crown, and the just rights and interests of his people."

"We are commanded by his majesty to inform you, that no sooner had the result of the negotiations at Tilsit, confirmed the influence and control of France over the powers of the continent, than his majesty was apprized of the intentions of the enemy to combine those powers into one general confederacy, to be directed either to the entire subjugation of this kingdom, or to the imposing upon his majesty an insecure and ignominious peace."

"That for this purpose, it was determined to force into hostility against his majesty, states which had hitherto been allowed by France to maintain or to purchase their neutrality; and to bring to bear against different points of his majesty's dominions, the whole of the naval force of Europe, and specifically the fleets of Portugal and Denmark."

"To place those fleets out of the power of such a confederacy, became therefore the indispensable duty of his majesty."

"In the execution of this duty, so far as related to the Danish fleet, his majesty has commanded us to assure you, that it was with the deepest reluctance that his majesty found himself compelled, after his earnest endeavors to open a negotiation with the Danish government had failed, to authorize his commanders to resort to the extremity of force, but he has the greatest satisfaction in congratulating you upon the successful execution of this painful but necessary service."

"We are further commanded to acquaint you, that the course his majesty had to pursue with respect to Portugal, was happily of a nature more congenial to his majesty's feelings. The timely and unreserved communication by the court of Lisbon of the demands and designs of France, while it confirmed to his majesty the authenticity of the advices which he had received from other quarters, entitled the court to his majesty's confidence in the sincerity of the assurance by which that communication was contemplated."

"The fleet of Portugal was destined by France to be employed as an instrument of vengeance against G. Britain. That fleet has been secured from the

grasp of France, and is now employed in conveying to its American dominions the hopes and fortunes of the Portuguese monarchy. His majesty implores the protection of Divine Providence upon that enterprise, rejoicing in the preservation of a power so long the friend & ally of G. Britain—and in the prospect of its establishment in the New World with augmented strength and splendor.

"We have it in command from his majesty to inform you, that the determination of the enemy to excite hostilities between his majesty and his late allies, the emperors of Russia and Austria, and the king of Prussia, has been but too successful—and that the ministers from those powers have demanded and received their passports."

"This measure, on the part of Russia, has been attempted to be justified by a statement of wrongs and grievances which have no real foundation. The emperor of Russia had indeed proffered his mediation between his majesty and France. His majesty did not refuse that mediation, but he is confident you will feel the propriety of his having been accepted—until his majesty should have been enabled to ascertain that Russia was in a condition to mediate impartially, and until the principles of the basis on which France was ready to negotiate were made known to his majesty."

"No pretence of justification has been alleged for the hostile conduct of the emperor of Austria, or for that of his Prussian majesty. His majesty has not given the slightest ground of complaint to either of those sovereigns, nor even at the moment when they have respectively withdrawn their ministers, have they assigned to his majesty any distinct cause for that proceeding."

"His majesty has directed that copies of the correspondence between his majesty's ambassador and the minister for foreign affairs of his imperial majesty the emperor of Russia, during the negotiations at Tilsit, and the official note of the Russian minister at this court, containing the offer of his imperial majesty's mediation between his majesty & France, together with the answer returned to the note by his majesty's command; and also copies of the official note presented by the Austrian minister at this court, and of the answers which his majesty commanded to be returned to them, should be laid before you."

"It is with concern that his majesty commands us to inform you, that notwithstanding his earnest wishes to terminate the war in which he is engaged with the Ottoman Porte, his majesty's endeavors, unhappily for the Turkish empire, have been defeated by the machinations of France, not less the enemy of the Porte than of Great Britain."

"But while the influence of France has been thus unfortunately successful in preventing the termination of existing hostilities, & in exciting new war against this country, his majesty commands us to inform you that the king of Sweden has resisted every attempt to induce him to abandon his alliance with Great Britain; and that his majesty entertains no doubt that you will feel with him the sacredness of the duty which the firmness and fidelity of the king of Sweden impose upon his majesty; and that you will concur in enabling his majesty to discharge it in a manner worthy of this country."

"It remains for us, according to his majesty's command, to state to you that the treaty of commerce and amity between his majesty and the United States of America, which was concluded and signed by commissioners duly authorized for that purpose, on the 31st of December, 1806, has not taken effect, in consequence of the refusal of the President of the United States to ratify that instrument."

"For an unauthorized act of force committed against an American ship of war, his majesty did not hesitate to offer immediate and spontaneous reparation. But an attempt has been made by the

American government to connect with the question which has arisen out of this act, pretensions inconsistent with the maritime rights of Great Britain: such pretensions his majesty is determined never to admit. His majesty, nevertheless, hopes that the American government will be actuated by the same desire to preserve the relations of peace and friendship between the two countries which has ever influenced his majesty's conduct, and that any difficulties in the discussion now pending may be effectually removed."

"His majesty has commanded me to state to you that in consequence of the decree by which France declared the whole of his majesty's dominions to be in a state of blockade, and subjected to seizure and confiscation, the produce and manufactures of his kingdom; his majesty resorted, in the first instance, to a measure of mitigated retaliation; and that this measure having proved ineffectual for its object, his majesty has since found it necessary to adopt others of greater vigor, which he commands us to state to you will require the aid of Parliament for their complete and effectual operation."

"His majesty has directed copies of the orders which he has issued with the advice of his privy council upon this subject to be laid before you, and he commands us to recommend them to your early attention."

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons, His majesty has directed the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you, in the fullest confidence that your loyalty and public spirit will induce you to make such provision for the public services as the urgency of affairs may require."

"His majesty has great satisfaction in informing you that notwithstanding the difficulties which the enemy has endeavored to impose upon the commerce of his subjects and upon their intercourse with other nations, the resources of the country have continued in the last year to be so abundant as to have produced, both from the permanent and temporary revenue, a receipt considerably larger than that of the preceding year."

"The satisfaction which his majesty feels assured you will derive, in common with his majesty, from this proof of the solidity of these resources cannot but greatly be increased, if, as his majesty confidently hopes, it shall be found possible to raise the necessary supplies for the present year without any material addition to the public burdens."

"My Lords and Gentlemen, We are especially commanded to say to you, in the name of his majesty, that if ever there was a just and national war, it is that which his majesty is now compelled to prosecute. This war is in its principle, purely defensive. His majesty looks but to the attainment of a secure and honorable peace; but such a peace can only be negotiated upon a footing of perfect unanimity."

"The eyes of Europe and of the world, are fixed upon the British Parliament."

"If as his majesty confidently trusts you display in this crisis of the fate of this country, the characteristic spirit of the British nation, and face unappalled the unnatural combination which is gathering around us, his majesty trusts us to assure you of his firm persuasion, that, under the blessings of Divine Providence, the struggle will prove successful and glorious to Great Britain."

"We are lastly commanded to assure you, that in this awful and momentous contest, you may rely on the firmness of his majesty, who has no cause but that of his people; and that his majesty respectfully relies on the wisdom, the candor, and the affectionate support of his parliament."

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

JANUARY 20.

American Intercourse Bill.—Mr. C. thought it extremely proper to bring this bill at present, before

real sentiments of America.—Were ministers prepared to see that America was inclined to join with us in our present course? If not, he thought the measure an anticipation not at all warranted from the late conduct of America. It was, at least, an anticipation of what ought to be the result of our negotiations.

Mr. Rose, in answer, said he admitted America had acted very rashly, in adopting some of her late measures; he was anxious, however, not to close the door of conciliation; and he was desirous to meet her precipitancy with moderation on our part. He could not pledge himself as to the pacific dispositions of America; yet he thought it advisable this bill should be renewed for a few months—it would be recollected, that if not renewed, no American ship could enter our harbors after one month's exile. He was anxious therefore to hold out moderation and conciliation to the last extremity, and if we erred at all, he wished it should be on the side of moderation.

The bill went through the committee.

FEBRUARY 2.

American Treaty.—Mr. Eden rose, in pursuance of his notice, to move for an address to his Majesty, praying that he would be graciously pleased to order to be laid before the House an authentic copy of the message of the President of the United States of America to both Houses of Congress, communicating his refusal to ratify the Treaty concluded between the Commissioners appointed on the part of his Majesty and the U. States, about a year since. The hon. gentleman made a few observations, and proposed ratification, and expressing a hope that an amicable arrangement was not impracticable, concluded with a motion according to his notice.

Mr. Canning was apprehensive that a difficulty of form might have arisen (for there could have been no other difficulty) as to the production of the paper referred to in the hon. gentleman's motion. There was nothing in America that corresponded with our Gazette; and the copy of the President's Message sent to this country by his Majesty's ambassador, was in fact only copied from a newspaper. On this day, however, he (Mr. Canning) had seen the American minister who had promised to furnish him with an authentic copy, which might enable his Majesty's government to fulfil the object of the hon. gentleman's motion. Whether or not the President could ratify, or refuse to ratify the treaty, without the consent of Congress, was a question arising out of the American constitution, with which the Parliament of this country had nothing to do. The Congress could do nothing, till the President had transmitted the treaty to them, and the power of transmitting or not transmitting, was in effect given to a power to ratify or not, as his diffidence should direct. The treaty was returned to this country by the President unratified.

Mr. Tierney adverted to the unguarded expressions in the speech from the throne, in which his Majesty was made to comment on the President's message on the authority of a newspaper report. The effect of these comments was to excite a belief, that the treaty had been absolutely rejected; whereas in fact, it may yet be ratified.

Mr. Canning explained. The hon. gentleman was under a complete misapprehension as to facts.

The address moved for by Mr. Eden was ordered.

Friday, Feb. 5.

A debate of considerable length occurred on the late orders in council respecting the commerce of neutrals. The Chancellor of the exchequer moved the House to resolve into committee of ways and means, for the purpose of submitting some financial propositions founded on those orders. Lord Henry Petty opposed the motion; he contended that the orders in council violated the laws of nations and the municipal law of this country; and further objected, that to enforce them, was adopting a system of great impolicy. The Chancellor of the exchequer, in a masterly speech, replied to the arguments of the noble Lord. He repeated the late orders in council on the same principles as 7th of Jan. 1807, and all became ministers

who issued that order to contend, that those which differed from it only by being more sufficient, were violations of the laws of nations and the municipal law of the land. Their policy, he observed, consisted in the protection they afforded to our commerce, and, in the inconvenience and distress the enemy must experience from their operations.

HOUSE OF LORDS, FEB. 4.

America.—Lord Grenville observed, that he had heard and read with regret, that the President of the United States of America had refused to ratify the treaty concluded by the commissioners appointed by both countries, for the purpose of carrying that beneficial object into execution. He should regret a rupture with America the more, because it must necessarily give an increase to the French interest, which he had no doubt would lead to the overthrow of the constitution and independence of America. Before, however, we arrive at the extremity of an open rupture with America, he hoped every exertion would be made to adjust our differences in a manner consistent with the honor, the dignity, and independence of both nations.

Lord Hawkesbury would content himself with stating, for the satisfaction of their Lordships, that whenever the difficulty should take place, it should appear that every thing had been done by his Majesty's government to produce a reconciliation, consistent with the feelings and honor of both countries.

Lord Erskine asked to know whether the United States were more aggrieved with our orders of council at the time they had ordered their embargo.

Lord Hawkesbury replied that they were not.

Lord Holland moved that there be laid before the House a copy of the French decree of the 21st Nov. 1806, & a copy of such information as ministers had received from neutrals and friendly powers of the mode in which that decree had been executed.

Earl Grey gave notice that he should move on some future day, for all such documents as related to the attack on Constantinople, in order to exhibit to this country, and to the world, the gross misrepresentations which had gone abroad. — Adjourned.

PROTEST.

Die Veneris, January 12, 1808.—A motion was made to omit the fourth paragraph in the motion for an address to the throne, (viz. the paragraph respecting the seizure of the Danish fleet,) and the question being put,

"That the said paragraph do stand part of the motion,"

The same was carried in the affirmative.

"DISSENTIENT,"

"Because no proof of hostile intention on the part of Denmark has been adduced, nor any case of necessity made out to justify the attack upon Copenhagen, without which the measure is, in our conception, discreditable to the character and injurious to the interests of this country."

LONDON, JAN. 16.

We have just been informed by a general officer of high rank, that a small flying force, consisting of four regiments, under the command of Sir George Prevost (who so gallantly distinguished himself at Dominica) is preparing to go to the Bermudas, for the purpose of being ready to amov the Americans, should the existing difficulties between the two countries terminate unfavorably. This is an additional proof of the vigor and activity of the present administration.

Thursday, the merchants in London interested in the American trade, sent a deputation to Mr. Perceval, to know how far it would be prudent to lend goods to America. Mr. Perceval of course, was silent as far as it respected offensive measures on the part of America, but expressed his willingness to grant licenses to vessels going from hence to America with British goods. In consequence of this assurance, several vessels will be immediately dispatched.

NEW-YORK, March 24.

Late from England.

Yesterday the ship *Galedonia*, Captain Henderson, arrived at this port in 28 days from Liverpool, bringing London papers to the 17th Feb. inclusive—7 days later than any yet received. The papers are filled with important debates in parliament relative to America, a sketch of which follows. It will be seen, that the King of Holland has shut his ports, and recommends the immediate fitting out of privateers.

The decree of Louis, king of Holland is dated Jan. 28, at Utrecht. It enacts, that all the ports in Holland shall be shut against ALL ships whatever be their denomination, except to armed ships of his allies; ships of his allies or neutral powers who may enter his ports in distress, shall have no communication with the interior, shall be subject to quarantine, and under the most severe superintendance, and shall be compelled to put to sea as soon as the weather permits.

The French official Journal contains the declaration of his Prussian Majesty against England; in which he withdraws his Minister from the British Court, and renounces all connexion with her until peace shall be restored between her and France.

Nine sail of Russian ships are blockaded in the Tagus, badly manned and victualled.

In the House of Lords, on the 15th of February, the orders of Council being under consideration,

Lord Erskine observed, that he was amazed to hear the noble Lords talk of the necessity or policy of the measures under discussion. Did they shelter themselves under the principle of retaliation? if so, the House had long since been apprised that this measure of our government outstripped that of the enemy—it could not be defended on the principle of policy. The French decree, he said, as far as it affected America, had, he maintained, been satisfactorily cleared up to the minister then in France, and was deemed so even by the President of the United States—hence he contended, that America was no party in the decree of the French Emperor. This he said was evident also from her subsequent conduct, when aware even of our orders in council here, she ordered a general embargo. Much had been said of the right of retaliation, on which these orders were founded; no body denied the right to resort to such a system when the conduct of the belligerents justified its necessity—but even that law has its limitations, it should not ever overstep the nature of the evil which it went to redress; yet, in these orders, all limitation was lost sight of, and convenience alone regulated the extent. It would seem that if the French Emperor declared the moon in a state of blockade, Great Britain would have a meeting of the Board of Longitude, and our most celebrated astronomers, to retaliate by a prohibition on the Satellites to Jupiter—when he commanded a cessation of the Lunar motion of her conjunctions & opposites, they would react by a declaration that the whole Planetary system should stand still—(a loud laugh from the ministerial bench)—he really conceived notwithstanding the manner in which the comparison was received, that the cases were in a great degree similar: inasmuch as he believed Bonaparte had as much efficacy over the moon as he had in his declaration of placing the British Isles in a state of blockade.

Lord Grenville, in his speech, asked, was it not more natural to expect that ministers would defend their system of policy by a full discussion of the merits and necessity; that at last there would be an end to the eternal circle of arguing present questions from past transactions? With that feeling he entered on the discussion, believing in his soul, that on the *Revocation or Non-Revocation* of these orders depended the ultimate existence of the country. He continued the most animated appeal to the House, to interpose between the country and its destruction—to retreat its steps, as the path through which it moved led quickly to the grave—He warned them against the renewal of a system of taxation, either directly or indirectly upon American trade; and conjured them to seize the opportunity offered them, by the pre-eminence of France in this rivalry of injustice, of erasing from the records of the

country, and of obliterating from the minds of the people, the least intimation of acting upon a system of policy introduced and wantonly pursued, calculated for no other purpose, than to involve the nation in an unjust war."

Lord Lauderdale said "He wished the orders to be discussed on their own positive merits, and not on their comparative merits. He believed that they had been infinitely mischievous. They injured neutrals much more than the enemy; and were, in his opinion tantamount to a declaration of war against America."

The Lord Chancellor took a view of the various objections made to the orders of council, which he contended were not violations, either of the public law of nations or of the municipal law of the country—they were founded, he said on the most paramount of all rights—that of self-preservation—He considered it inconsistent with his Majesty's late ministers to raise objections against a system of conduct which they were the first to institute, and which every man must admit was called for by the violent and unjustifiable Decree of the French Government.

LIVERPOOL, February 17.

The debates in both Houses of Parliament, during the last week, will be found very interesting—Ministers and their friends have received a considerable shock from the details of circumstances asserted, in the most unreserved manner, that "the attack on Copenhagen, has alone alienated the Emperor of Russia from us, and induced him to declare war against England—that he would insist to the hour of his death, that our conduct at Copenhagen was the sole cause of the war with Russia." His Lordship also declared, that the terms on which the Emperor of France was willing to make peace with England, were not only equitable terms, but in his opinion, perfectly honorable for this country. The ministers may refuse to grant the information called for by the House, they may lug themselves in their supposed security, and speak peace to their own bosoms; the fire they have put to their neighbour's houses, has not yet reached their own—but the time is coming when they must fall from their situations, and their artifices be no longer of use to them. A few more statements like those of Lord Hutchinson's must surely, unless they have departed farther from the old morality than can be expected for the time, make them tremble for the injury & insult they have offered to their own country—to Denmark—and to the world. The atrocity of the attack on Denmark, and the impolicy of the late orders of council, will stand on the annals of this country, from which our posterity may learn how fit it is possible for the human character to sink in depravity; and, unless the present generation abjure the crime, will blush to find themselves the descendants of modern Britons.

LONDON, Feb. 15.

The expedition under the command of Lieut. Gen. Sir George Prevost, sailed from Portsmouth on Saturday for Halifax. The 7th, 8th, 13th, and 23d regiments of foot accompanied him. This force would be further augmented by the 98th regiment, from Bermuda, and the 61st, 101st, and 10th Royal Veteran Battalion, at Halifax, where the staff of the army already is. The expedition under Gen. Spencer remained at Falmouth on Friday last, expecting to be joined by the troops, collected at Portlandmouth. The two corps united would amount to nearly ten thousand men—From the magnitude of this force, it would seem as if government had come to a determination to defend our possessions in North America to the last extremity, in case of a war with America.

Sir Sidney Smith, we understand, has proceeded to the Brazils, to take the command there. The squadron which is to blockade the Tagus is under the command of Sir C. Cotton and Rear Admiral Conway.

The captain of an American ship arrived at Plymouth from Barcelona. He reports that he had seen French troops on the Spanish frontiers, to the amount of 140,000 men, destined for an attack on Gibraltar. They were accompanied by several bodies of miners, who expected to commence their work in a few weeks.

CHARLES TOWN, April 1.

On the 22d of March the President of the United States laid before both Houses of Congress the following important message. The documents accompanying it are very lengthy; the House have been occupied several days in their perusal. We regret that the limits of our paper will not admit of their entire insertion. The letter of Gen. Armstrong, alluded to in the message, has not yet been published. The earliest opportunity will be taken to give it to our readers.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

At the opening of the present session, I informed the legislature that the measures which had been taken with the government of Great Britain, for the settlement of our neutral and national rights, and of the conditions of commercial intercourse with that nation, had resulted in articles of a treaty, which could not be acceded to on our part; that instructions had consequently been sent to our ministers there, to resume the negotiations, and to endeavor to obtain certain alterations, and that this was interrupted by the transaction which took place between the frigates *Leopard* and *Chesapeake*. The call on that government for reparation of this wrong produced, as Congress has been already informed, the mission of a special Minister to this country, and the occasion is now arrived, when the public interest permits and requires, that the whole of those proceedings should be made known to you.

I therefore now communicate the instructions given to our Minister resident at London, and his communications to that government, on the subject of the *Chesapeake*, with the correspondence which has taken place here between the Secretary of State and Mr. Rose, the special Minister charged with the adjustment of that difference; the instructions to our Ministers for the formation of a treaty, their correspondence with the British commissioners, and with their own government on that subject; the treaty itself and written declaration of the British Commissioners accompanying it, and the instructions given by us for examining the negotiations, with the proceedings and correspondence subsequent thereto. To these I have added a letter lately addressed to the Secretary of State from one of our late Ministers, which, though not strictly written in an official character, I think it my duty to communicate, in order that his views of the proposed treaty, and of its several articles, may be fairly presented and understood.

Although I have heretofore, and from time to time, made such communications to Congress, as to keep them possessed of a general and just view of the proceedings and dispositions of the government of France towards this country, yet in our present critical situation, when we find that no conduct on our part, however impartial and friendly, has been sufficient to insure, from either belligerent, a just respect of our rights, I am desirous that nothing shall be omitted on my part, which may add to your information on this subject, or contribute to the correctness of the views which should be formed. The papers which for these reasons, I now lay before you, embrace all the communications, official or verbal, from the French government, respecting the general relations between the two countries, which have been transmitted through our Ministers there, or through any other accredited channel, since the last session of Congress; to which time all information of the same kind had, from time to time, been given them. Some of these papers have already been submitted to Congress; but it is thought better to offer them again in order that the chain of communications, of which they make a part, may be presented unbroken.

When, on the 26th of February, I communicated to both Houses the letter of Gen. Armstrong to M. Champagny, I desired it might not be published, because of the tendency of that practice to restrain injuriously the freedom of our foreign correspondence. But perceiving that this caution, proceeding purely from a regard to the public good, has furnished occasion for disseminating

unfounded suspicions and insinuations, I am induced to believe that the good which will now result from its publication, by confirming the confidence and union of our fellow citizens, will more than countervail the ordinary objection to such publications. It is my wish therefore that it may be now published.

TH. JEFFERSON.

March 22, 1808.

Washington City, March 23.

Mr. Rose on Monday took leave of the President, and yesterday left this city for Alexandria, whence he proceeds to Norfolk, where he means to take immediate passage for England in the *Stairac*.

Mr. Foster, secretary of legation, & the Messrs. Cassinajors are to accompany him. Mr. Mansfield remains for some time in this country, not in the character of Secretary of legation, as has been rumored, Mr. Foster not having vacated that place, and it being his purpose to return to the United States about October next.

If the observation and information of the Editor of this paper are correct the votes of Pennsylvania will not be divided; they will be decidedly for Mr. Madison. So that, as things now appear, the majority will probably number 127—leaving to certain and uncertain 40 votes. To promote a completely unanimous vote, as the Vice-President appears disinclined to serve again in that station, would it not be both wise and proper to take up *De Witt Clinton* as the Republican candidate for Vice-President. We suspect no measure could be more efficacious in allaying the angry passions.

Aurora.

FRENCH DECREE.

PARIS, January 14.

At the Palace of the Thuilleries, Jan. 11, 1808.

Napoleon, Sec. upon the report of our minister of finances, seeing our decrees of the 23d of November and 17th Dec. with the concurrence of our council of state, we have decreed, and do decree as follows:

Art. I. When a vessel shall enter a French port, or into that of a country occupied by our armies, any man of the crew, or a passenger, who shall declare to the principal of the custom house that the said ship comes from Britain or her colonies, or countries occupied by British troops, or that it has been visited by any British vessel, shall receive a third part of the produce of the net sale of the ship and cargo, if it be known that his declaration is exact.

Art. II. The principal of the custom house, who shall receive the declaration mentioned in the preceding article, shall, in conjunction with the commissary of the police, who shall be called on for that purpose, and the two principal of the custom-house officers of the port, shall cause each of the crew and passengers to undergo separately the interrogatory prescribed by the second article of our decree of the 22d of November, 1807.

Art. III. Any functionary or agent of government, who shall be convicted of having favored the contravention of our decrees of the 22d November and 17th December, 1807, shall be prosecuted in the criminal court of the department of the Seine, which shall be formed into a special tribunal for this purpose, and punished, if convicted, as if guilty of high treason.

Art. IV. Our ministers are charged, each in his respective department with the execution of the present decree.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.

New-Tork, March 19.

Capt. Johnson arrived yesterday in 21 days from Trinidad, informs that flour at that place was 30 dollars a barrel.

March 21.

The ship *Eliza*, Skiddy, arrived at this port yesterday, in 29 days from Bordeaux. She left there on the 20th of February, and the Editor of the mercantile Advertiser has received by her French papers to the 14th February.

Captain S. and the passengers inform us, that the markets in France were very high; that the American vessels were hurrying off as fast as possible, being apprehensive of a seizure; and that they were coming in billast, to avoid capture by the British. It was supposed in France that if the American government made a treaty with Great Britain, France would

declare war against this country. A passenger in the *Eliza* has brought dispatches from Mr. Armstrong, the American minister in Paris to the Secretary of State.

Application had been made to the French Emperor, through the minister of Marine, Decres, to know what construction would be put on the imperial decree of the 17th of Dec. which renders vessels liable to condemnation for having on their passage been visited by British cruisers. The answer to the queries of the applicant was to this effect:—"That the decree was liable to no construction different from its letter; that no one had a right to put any construction upon it; that it was plain and simple, and must be severely, strictly, and literally executed upon all objects which it embraced; that vessels subject thereto would be brought before the competent tribunals as soon as possible; and that the crews of such vessels as came under the decree would be permitted to live on board their respective ships, at the expense of the ship and cargo, until they were finally condemned, when they (the crew) would be delivered up to their respective consuls." Copies of the official letter from the minister might have been had in Bordeaux, but the subject was not thought of at the time of sailing by either the captain or passengers.

List of Letters.

The following List of Letters now remains in the office, and if not taken up, or before the first day of July next, they will be sent to the General Post-Office as dead letters.

A. Elias Arvin, Thomas Atwell, Christian Allering.

B. Benjamin Beeler, Dennis Berry, Rebecca Brown, William Burnett, Mrs. Brown, James Bowen, Abraham Bane, Anne Barrett.

C. Edward Christian, Henry Crawford, 2, Charles Carter, 2, William Crumpton, Peter Cockrell, Andrew Craig, Robert Carter.

D. Michael Duro, 2, Paul Dust, Thomas Davenport, Anne Drew, Henry Canby, Leonard Davis, Thomas Denison.

E. John Evans.

F. Thomas Flagg.

G. Matthew W. Gwynn, Thomas Gibson, James Gardner, Joseph Gillenbarger, Edward S. Gantte.

H. William H. Harding, 3, William Hall, James Hite, John Hanie, Geo. Howe, Peter Haines, Symon Hynes, Eliza Hunter, 2.

K. James King.

L. William Little, Ester Lathels, Theodorick Lee.

M. John Mosler, 2, William Malin, Jesse Moore, 2, Moses McCormick, Robert Morrow, Fulton Middleton, John McKinley.

N. North & Smallwood.

O. John D. Orr, 2.

P. John Palmer, Eliza Patton.

R. Samuel Russell, Daniel Richards, B. Roberts.

S. Henry Saunders, John Spangler, Cyrus Saunders, Alexander Straith, 2, John Sinclair, 2, James Shirley, Cadrey Shepherd, Jacob Swanger, Smit Slaughter, Henry Sapping, James Short, Susan Swaney, Anthony Srother, Joshua Swain.

T. Francis Tillet, 2, William Taylor, William Tapscott, Aquilla Thomas.

W. James Williams, Samuel Williams, William Wallingsford, William Wallis, Uriah White, Martha Willson, Samuel Webb, James Wood, Rachel B. Wadding, John Welch, 2.

JOHN HUMPHREYS, P. M.
April 1, 1808.

Valuable Property for Sale.

THE subscriber will sell by the highest bidder, for cash, before Thomas Flagg's door, in Charles Town, on the 23d day of April, an undivided moiety of a Mill, with its appurtenances, adjoining the Shenandoah river, in the county of Jefferson; and also an undivided moiety of two acres and thirty two poles of Land, adjoining the same; the above property having been conveyed to the subscriber in trust by Michael Dorsey, to secure the payment of a sum of money due from said Dorsey, to Geo. Slusher. The aforesaid property is uncommonly valuable, on account of the permanence of the buildings, the convenience of the situation, and its abundance of water.

THOMAS GRIGGS, Trustee.

April 1, 1808.

Public Sale.

Under the authority of a deed of trust executed to me by Cyrus & John Saunders, on the 27th day of February last, for the benefit of Joseph Crane and Nathaniel Craghill, I will sell on the 9th of the present month, in Charlestown, before the door of Thomas Flagg's tavern, at public sale, (for cash) to the highest bidder, the following property, viz. a tract of land supposed to contain 104 acres, lying in the county of Jefferson, and the same tract which James Conway, deceased, inherited as one of the representatives of Cornelius Conway, deceased, the same having been transferred by the said James Conway, in his life time, to the said Cyrus.

Also, a house and lot of land situate in Charlestown, and the same lot which the said Cyrus derived title to under conveyance from a certain James Whaley.

The foregoing premises will be conveyed to the purchasers by the undersigned, in character of trustee, acting under the aforesaid deed.

WILLIAM TATE, Trustee.
For Messrs. Crane & Craghill.

April 1, 1808.

For Sale.

A HOUSE and LOT, in Kingstreet, in the town of Smithfield, Jefferson county. This house is well situated for any kind of public business, and will be sold very reasonable. Apply to the subscriber in Smithfield.

GEORGE PULTZ.
April 1, 1808.

Six Cents Reward.

RAN AWAY from the subscriber living in Smithfield, sometime in November, 1805, an apprentice boy to the Shoemaking business, named Robert Irvine. Any person apprehending said boy and bringing him to me shall have the above reward, but no charges.

GEORGE PULTZ.
April 1, 1808.

Young Billy Duane.

WILL stand in: ensuing season at the subscriber's stable, at Hall's mill, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at John Smith's, in Smithfield, and will be let to mares at the moderate price of Five Dollars the season, payable the first day of October next; but may be discharged by the payment of four dollars, if paid by the first day of August next; two dollars the single leap, and seven dollars to insure with foal, to be paid as soon as the mare is known to be with foal; the insurance to be forfeited if the mare is parted with. The season will commence the first day of April, and end the first day of July.

YOUNG BILLY DUANE is rising five years old, is a beautiful dapple grey, full fifteen hands three inches high; he was got by captain Richard Baylor's noted horse Old Billy Duane, his dam was got by Old Paul Jones; Old Billy Duane was got by Americas, out of capt. Baylor's noted running mare Betsey Baker. Due attendance will be given to the above mentioned funds; but I will not be answerable for accidents or escapes.

JACOB ALLSTAT.
March 21, 1808.

An apprentice wanted.

A smart boy, about fourteen years old, will be taken as an apprentice to this office.

Farmer's Repository.

VOL. I. CHARLES TOWN, (Virginia,) PRINTED BY WILLIAMS AND BROWN. No. 2.
TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM, FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1808. HALF IN ADVANCE.

From a Gibraltar paper of January 16.

MADRID, Jan. 8, 1808.

His majesty has been pleased to issue the following Royal Decree:

The abominable crime committed by the English ships of war in 1804, by the express order of their government, against the four frigates of my royal navy, which were iniquitously surprised, attacked and captured, while navigating in the full security of peace, induced me to put an end to all intercourse with the British Cabinet, and to consider myself as in a state of war with a power which had so unjustly violated the laws of nations and humanity. So atrocious an aggression was a sufficient motive for me to break asunder all the bonds by which a nation is connected to another, if I had not taken into consideration what I owed to myself, and to the honor and glory of my crown and of my beloved subjects. Two years of war elapsed without the pride of Great Britain in the least abating, or her renouncing the unjust dominion which she styles over the seas; instead of which, on the contrary, confounding friends with foes, she has displayed her determination to treat all in the same tyrannical manner. Moved by these considerations, I determined in Feb. last, conforming myself to the wise measures adopted by my intimate ally the emperor of the French and king of Italy, to declare, as I did declare, the British islands in a state of blockade, in order to try whether I could by this means, bring the British cabinet to give up their unjust dominion over the seas, and to conclude a solid and lasting peace. Far from it, not only have they rejected the propositions which have been made to them on the part of my intimate ally the emperor of the French and king of Italy, but they directly and through the channel of several powers in amity with England; but, having been guilty of the scandalous attack upon the town and port of Copenhagen, they have pulled off the mask in such a manner that nobody can doubt but their insatiable ambition aims at the exclusive commerce and navigation of every sea. Nothing evinces it so clearly as the measures which they have just adopted, under date the 14th (11th) of November last, not only declaring in a state of blockade all the coasts of France, Spain, their allies or those occupied by the fleets of either power, but subjecting the vessels of neutral powers at peace, or even in alliance with England, not only to be searched by British cruisers, but also to touch, in spite of themselves, at a port of Great Britain, and to pay so much per cent. upon the value of their cargoes, according to the arbitrary determination of the British legislature. In consequence whereof, being authorised by the just rights of reciprocity to take such measures as I deem fit to prevent the abuse which the British cabinet are making of their forces, with regard to neutral flags, and in order to see whether they may thereby be prevailed upon to give up such unjust tyranny, I have resolved to adopt the same measures which have been taken by my intimate ally the emperor of the French and king of Italy, and it is my will that they shall be adopted throughout my dominions, as follows:

Considering that by the above mentioned act of the 14th (11th) of November last, the British cabinet have stripped the vessels of all European nations of their national character, and that no government has the power of giving up any share of its independence, all the sovereigns of Europe being guaranties of the sovereignty and independence of their flags; and that, if through an unpardonable weakness, which would be an indelible stain in the eyes of posterity, if such tyranny were allowed to be laid down as a principle, and consecrated by custom, the English would take it for granted to establish it as a right, in the same manner that they have availed themselves of the toleration of governments, for the purpose of establishing the infamous principle, that the flag does not protect the goods, and of giving their right of blockade an arbitrary latitude, to the prejudice of the sovereignty of all States; I have decreed, and do decree what follows:

[Here follows an almost literal copy of the first four articles of Bonaparte's decree.]

Let it be so understood, &c.—Subscribed by his majesty—Arajuéz, January 8, 1808.

A. D. PETER CEVALLOS.

FROM HAVANNAH, Jan. 14.

The Intendant of this city has issued an order, demanding that the merchants who hold American produce, shall furnish for the use of government, 6,744 barrels of flour; 1,027 barrels pork; 1,251 barrels best; 63,552 wt. of good beans, and 95,815 wt. of ordinary; 2,396 jars of oil; and 81 barrels of vinegar; which, if not delivered in ten days, he will take measures for obtaining by force, for the use of his Catholic Majesty's troops." We have (says the Boston Centinel) the Havannah Gazette, which contains this order.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, MARCH 14.

Mr. Quincy, after a prefatory address of near an hour, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the House the dispatches addressed to this government by the American minister at Paris, touching the proceedings of the French government in relation to neutral commerce, which have been received since the dispatches of that minister, which were communicated to Congress by message on the 19th Feb. 1807.

Mr. Quincy having required the yeas and nays on the consideration of this resolution, and the question having been put "will the House now consider the resolution?" It was negatived as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Boyle, Champion, Chittenden, Claiborne, Culpepper, Dana, Davenport, Deha, Elliot, Gardner, Gray, Harris, Hoge, Howard, Kelly, Kenan, Lewis, Livermore, Lyon, Macon, Marion, Masters, Milnor, Jer. Morrow, John Morrow, Mosley, Mumford, Pitkin, Quincy, Rea, (Sen.), Riker, Rowan, Rutledge, S. Smith, Stanford, Stedman, Swart, Taggart, Tallmadge, Upham, Van Cortlandt, Van Rensselaer, and D. R. Williams—44.

NAYS.—Messrs. L. J. Alton, W. Alton, Bacon, Bard, Barker, Ballet, Bibb, Blackledge, Blake, Blount, Brown, Burwell, Butler, Calhoun, George W. Campbell, M. Clay, Clopton, Cobb, Cuts, Dawson, Deane, Durell, Eppes, Findley, Fisk, Franklin, Goodwyn, Green, Heister, Helms, Holmes, Holland, Isley, Johnston, Jones, Kirkpatrick, Knight, Lambert, D. Montgomery, Nelson, Newbold, Newton, Nicholas, Porter, Pugh, Rhea, (Ten.), M. Richards, Seaver, Sloan, Smelt, Smilie, I. K. Smith, J. Smith, Southard, Storer, Taylor, Thompson, Troup, Van Allen, Verplanck, Wharton, Whitehill, Wilbour, M. Williams, Wilson, and Witherell—66.

On motion of Mr. Dawson, the House took up for consideration the bill from the Senate for raising an additional force, with the report of the select committee upon it, 54 to 22.

Mr. Rowan moved to commit the bill to a committee of the whole. Such a bill as this should not be lightly passed over. What occasion called for this bill now? If we are to have war, said he, we must immediately raise a larger force. Whenever the occasion for force is manifest, none will be more ready to raise it than I; but till that time I am opposed to raising a regular force. I will not do it merely because it is deemed necessary by an individual; it belongs to the people to raise an army and declare war; we must know the state of affairs before we can be justified in doing it. We have not as yet I hope, forgot the sentiment of the nation on the subject of standing armies, expressed a few years ago; and surely we shall see cause for it now before we agree to pass the bill.

The question having been put on a reference to a committee of the whole, it was carried, Ayes 72, and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15.

Mr. Clark presented a memorial of a committee on behalf of certain land holders in the territory of Louisiana, praying a confirmation of their titles in

fee simple; which was referred to the committee on Public Lands.

On motion of Mr. Rhea the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, 39 to 36, on the bill to alter and establish certain post roads.

On the details of this bill a long and defatigating discussion arose, which continued till the usual hour of adjournment, when the committee rose without having made much progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Thursday, March 17.

The following message was received from the president of the United States and referred to a committee of the whole on the floor of the Union.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I have heretofore communicated to Congress the decrees of the government of France of Nov. 21, 1806, and of Spain of Feb. 19, 1807, with the orders of the British government of January & Nov. 1807.

I now transmit a decree of the emperor of France, of Dec. 17, 1807, and an admiral decree of the 3d of Jan. by his most Catholic majesty. Although the decree of France has not been received by official communication, yet the different channels of promulgation through which the public are possessed of it, with the formal testimony furnished by the government of Spain in their decrees, leave us without a doubt that such an one has been issued. These decrees and orders taken together, want little of amounting to a declaration that every neutral vessel found on the high seas, whatsoever be her cargo, and whatsoever foreign port be that of her departure or destination, shall be deemed lawful prize; and they prove more and more the expediency of retaining our vessels, our crews and property within our own harbours, until the dangers to which they are exposed, can be removed or lessened.

TH: JEFFERSON.

March 17, 1808.

Friday, March 18.

The bill for raising an additional military force was reported with amendments, and committed to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Livermore after an address of considerable length, moved the following resolution, which the House refused to consider by Yeas and Nays, 84 to 24.

Resolved, That the public good requires that the several laws having an embargo on all ships and vessels of the United States should be repealed, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpose; and that said committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of permitting the merchant vessels of the United States to arm for their defence against certain cruisers, and of associating for the purpose of convoy; and to inquire into the expediency of suspending commercial intercourse with France, and the nations under the control of the Emperor of the French, and to report by bill or otherwise.

A committee was appointed on motion of Mr. Nelson to inquire into the propriety of erecting an Invalid Corps.

A message was received from the President of the United States, in relation to the Military Academy; which was referred to a select committee.

The contested election of Philip Barton Key, having gone through the committee of the whole, was at length decided on, and Mr. Key was proclaimed in his seat, 57 to 52.

Saturday, March 19.

The whole of this day was spent on the bill for raising an additional military force. It went through the committee of the whole, and was reported to the House. Considerable progress was made in the details of the bill; but they were not perfected, when the House adjourned, it being then near four o'clock.

CASE OF JOHN SMITH.

IN SENATE, March 15.

This being the day assigned by the Senate for further consideration of the report made in this case, Mr. Smith being himself absent, appeared by his counsel, who read a long letter from him, addressed to two members of the Senate, representing the circumstances which had prevented him from obtaining the evidence deemed by him material to his

defence. After reading the letter Mr. Harper suggested the hope that further time would be allowed, and that the case would be postponed to the beginning or middle of April.

Mr. Hillhouse moved a postponement to the first Monday of April.

Messrs. Robinson, Crawford, Gregg and Anderson opposed, and Mr. Adams supported this motion.

Mr. Kitchell expressed a hope that, if a postponement obtained, it would not be to a distant day.

Mr. Hillhouse acquiesced in this suggestion.

Mr. Giles moved a postponement to Monday week. This motion was supported by Messrs. Giles, Adams & Bayard, & was opposed by Messrs. S. Smith and Anderson: when the question was taken by yeas and nays, and the motion negatived. Yeas 15, nays 17.

At the request of Mr. Smith's counsel the business was postponed till to-morrow.

Public Sale.

WILL be sold to the highest bidder, for cash, on Saturday the 21st day of May next, before Thomas Flagg's tavern, in Charlestown, all the interest of William Conway in a tract of land lying in the county of Jefferson; and also all the interest which James Conway, deceased, possessed in said tract at the time of his death; being parts of that very valuable farm formerly possessed by Cornelius Conway, deceased; the same having been conveyed to the subscriber in trust, to secure to Jacob and Daniel Allstadt a sum of money, as will more fully appear by reference to the conveyance now of record in the office of the county of Jefferson. The interest conveyed to the subscriber will contain, (it is believed) about two hundred and five acres. This tract is well watered, and in point of soil perhaps inferior to none in the county.

THOMAS GRIGGS.

March 18, 1808.

HIBERNUS,

WILL stand this season at Charlestown, at Shepherd's-town, at Shannon-hill, and occasionally at other places in this county; at Eight Dollars the season, (slightable with six dollars if paid before the first day of September next) three dollars the leap, ready cash, and twelve dollars for insurance of a mare retained by the owner, till it can be ascertained whether or not she is foal. The days and places of his stands will be more particularly made known hereafter.

This horse is in the highest vigour, and is a capital foot getter of the most useful horses; his colts are remarkably strong and handsome, and I have understood that some of them have sold for very great prices.

He was gotten by the famous imported horse Paymaster, one of the most valuable and best bred horses ever brought to this country; and from the most respectable information, I have reason to believe his dam also was thorough bred; but not having yet been furnished with her pedigree, I cannot put Hibernus at the price of a thorough bred horse. He therefore now stands cheaper than any horse of his value ever did, in this valley. FERDINANDO FAIRFAX.

Shannon-Hill, March 10, 1808.

I CERTIFY that Hibernus, a fine chestnut horse, was sold by me to Doctor William Thornton, of the city of Washington; that he was got by Doctor Norris' thorough bred imported horse Paymaster, out of a Dove mare. Further I cannot certify respecting the pedigree of this valuable horse; but I am informed, that Gabriel Christie, esq. of Harford, (collector of the customs at Baltimore) has asserted that he is a thorough bred horse. He was foaled in a part of the country where people are not particular in tracing the pedigree of their horses. He was sold to John S. Webster, of Harford, for five hundred dollars cash, when one year old. His colts are remarkably strong and handsome; and several of them are kept for studs; and I have understood, that five hundred dollars have been asked for one of his colts, out of a good mare, and three hundred for one out of a very ordinary one. He would now make a great feason in Harford where he formerly stood.

NATHAN LUFBOROUGH.

City of Washington, June 20, 1807.

ENGLISH HOUSE OF LORDS.

Protest of Lord Erskine against the Danish Expedition.

Dissentient, for the reasons that follow.

Because, it has only been through the slow and painful progression of many ages, that civilized nations have emerged from a state of continual insecurity and violence; by the establishment of an universal public law, whose maxims and precedents have been long acknowledged to be of the same force and obligation, as the municipal constitutions of particular states. A system which has gradually ripened with the advancement of learning and the extension of commerce, and which ought to be held sacred and inviolate, by all governments, as binding the whole civilized world under one politic and moral dominion.

Because, Alledged departures from the principles and authority of this public law in the earliest stages of the French revolution were held out by the parliament of Great Britain, as the origin and justification of the first war with revolutionary France, and because in all its subsequent stages, the continuance of hostilities was uniformly vindicated in various acts of state, as being necessary for the support of the moral and political order of the world, against the avowed disregard and subversion of it by the different governments of France, in their groundless and unprovoked attacks upon the independence of unoffending nations.

Because, The people of Great Britain in being repeatedly called upon by the king and parliament to support the public law, thus alleged to have been violated, and to exhibit an example to the most distant ages, submitted to the heaviest burthens, and sacrificed the most essential advantages, rather than consent to any peace, which was considered by their government as an abandonment of their allies, or as inadequate security for the rights and privileges of other nations: And because, it appears in many state papers during the progress of the wars with different governments of France, that it was the duty and the interest of Great Britain, and her pledge to the world, to maintain inviolate the acknowledged principles of public law, as the only foundations upon which the relations of peace and amity between nations could be supported.

Because, It is the first and most indispensable maxim of public law, founded indeed upon the immutable principles of justice, that no violence should be offered by one state to another, nor any intrusion made upon the rights, property, independence or security of its inhabitants except upon an aggression by such state, and the refusal of adequate satisfaction; or in the rare instance of indispensable necessity, involving national destruction, such as in the case of an individual would justify homicide, or destruction of property for self preservation; and because the observance of this rule should, if possible, be held more sacred by great and powerful nations, it being the very end and object of universal law to give perfect security to the weakest communities under the shadow of an impartial justice.

Because, The late attack upon Copenhagen, in a season of profound peace with the crown and people of Denmark, and immediately following the solemn declaration by the crown prince, of his resolution to maintain his neutrality, & to consider any nation as an enemy which should seek to disturb it, would, without some just cause, which in this case is wholly unsupported by proof, be a most manifest and unprincipled departure from the whole system of moral policy and justice, which the British government had, as above, professed to act upon, inasmuch as any contempt or

violation of public law by the government of France, though it might release Great Britain from all observance of it, as far as regarded such offending belligerent, could not possibly destroy or effect its protective sanctions in her intercourse with friendly and peaceable states. On the contrary, it ought to have invested the law of nations with a more binding and sacred obligation, since the professed object and justification of our war with France at that very moment was to restore to a suffering world the good faith and security which had been lost by a contempt of its dominion.

Because, Information of a projected confederacy between France and Denmark, assumed, without evidence, to have been communicated to ministers through channels which called, on their parts, for inviolable secrecy, might be a foundation for acquitting them from blame, if the question before the House had been the propriety of their acquittal or condemnation, yet it cannot possibly justify, in the absence of all proof, an address to his majesty, pronouncing their attack upon Copenhagen to be an act of indispenable duty; because, giving credit to the declarations of ministers, that they had informations of such projected confederacy, it is impossible for this House to know whether they ought to have acted upon to so dreadful an extent, without having before it, most precisely and distinctly, the specific nature of such communications, so as to be able to estimate the credit due to them, not only from the facts themselves, but from the situations and characters of the persons by whom they were made.

The conduct, besides, of ministers, in the whole transaction, is in manifest opposition to this principle of the attack. — They made no such charge upon Denmark when before Copenhagen, nor even pretended to have invaded her with a cause of war. Their language upon the spot, and even in the address proposed to his majesty, is the language of regret, a language utterly inconsistent with the vindication of a proceeding, which would have been as mild and forbearing against an enemy, as it was barbarous and treacherous against a friend. The position also of Denmark, when the assault was made upon her, is the strongest evidence to resist the presumption of an understanding with France. Her army was in Holstein, which France was menacing, whilst Zealand was left defenceless, and the ships dismantled, at a moment when the consciousness of a treaty or confederacy must have suggested to all the contracting or confederating parties, the necessity of concentrating the whole force of Denmark, to defend her capital, and to secure her fleet.

Because, No evidence whatever has been laid before the House, to establish any hostile confederacy between Denmark and France, nor any design on the part of the former to depart from the strictest neutrality; on the contrary, the abovementioned solemn declaration of the Crown Prince to the British minister ought to have been received by his majesty's servants as the pledge of a firm resolution to maintain neutrality; and because nothing short of a hostile design in the government of Denmark, could justify the demand of her fleet, or the bombardment of Copenhagen to enforce the surrender of it.

Because, It was completely in the power of Great Britain to have protected the Danish fleet from any hostile attack of France, which destroys the pretence of such an indispensable necessity as could alone justify even the slightest trespass upon a peaceable and unoffending state.

Because, Still assuming, in the absence of all evidence to the contrary, that the government of Denmark was faithful to her neutrality, no speculation of the probable fall of her fleet into the

possession or power of France, could possibly justify its hostile seizure by Great Britain. Such a principle would be utterly subversive of the first elements of public law, as being destructive of the independence of weaker states, inasmuch as it would create a jurisdiction in the stronger nations to substitute their own security and convenience for the general rule, and invest them also with the sole privilege of determining the occasions upon which they might consider them to be endangered; and because to justify the attack and plunder of a weak unoffending power, upon the assumption that a stronger belligerent might otherwise attack and plunder her, would be to erect a new public law upon the foundations of dishonor and violence, making the tyranny of one nation a warrant for substituting the dominion of oppression for the sacred obligations of morality, humanity and justice.

Because, Supposing it to have been not only probable, but even certain, that France could have succeeded in carrying away in the winter the ships and stores from Copenhagen, but without the consent of Denmark, faithful to her neutrality, the iniquity of that act, in sound policy, independently of all considerations of justice, ought to have been left to the French government to perpetrate; because the carcasses of the ships would have been the only fruit of an act of the deepest atrocity, whilst the indignation of a brave and generous people, now too justly directed against Great Britain, would then have been pointed against France; and Denmark, with the protection of our fleets, might have kept open the Baltic to our commerce, and extended our maritime means of restoring the tranquillity of the world.

Because, Until this attack upon Copenhagen shall receive vindication by proof of its justice, or condemnation, in the absence of it, from the Parliament of Great Britain, she has lost her moral station in the world, since the very system of wrong and violence, which she has so long confederated Europe to destroy, at the expence of her blood and resources, will have been established by her own example.

Because, A whole nation ought not in the mean time to be dishonored, nor its immemorial characteristic brought into question for the acts of ministers; and because it is the duty of those subjects, who, by the constitution of the government, have the high privilege of perpetuating their sentiments upon the public records of their country, to vindicate themselves from the imputation of having acquiesced in acts of the greatest injustice.

ERSKINE.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, MARCH 21.

Mr. Rowan held in his hand a resolution for an enquiry into the conduct of Harry Innes. He observed in preface, that it was of the utmost importance in our government, which depends upon will, to animadvert with the utmost severity upon a deviation from a correct course of any one of its functionaries. Whatever excuse might be found in the weakness of human nature for any errors in the judgment, yet for a deviation from the allegiance, which he owes to his government, as a child to its father, no excuse could be found in the weakness of his frame or the incompetency of judgment. — If then it were found that any judge had violated his duty in that respect, the good of the union, the perpetuity of the government, and sound policy required that he should experience the utmost severity of animadversion. He therefore offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the conduct of

Harry Innes, district judge of the United States for the district of Kentucky, relative to his having whilst in the tenure of his office aforesaid, been party or privy to a project on the part of Spain or her subjects to dismember these United States, or to the seduction of the state of Kentucky from this Union; or relative to his having been party or privy during the time aforesaid to a project of France or her citizens, to embroil these United States in a war with Spain; or relative to his having illicitly corresponded with both or either of the governments aforesaid or their subjects or citizens upon one or both the projects aforesaid; or relative to his having known and concealed from this government one or both the said projects; and that the said committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, and that they report whether in their opinion the said Harry Innes hath so acted relative to all or either of the subjects aforesaid as to require the interposition of the constitutional power of this House.

Mr. Stanford observed that the subject of the Western conspiracy was one of the most interesting which had ever been presented to the general government. If the public prints could be credited, this comprehended but one of at least three attempts to seduce the Western country from its allegiance. The present proposition, coming from a western state, in an imposing manner to the House, was one of the best pledges that the state itself did not participate in the disaffection. The subject was so generally important, that he thought the people ought to have general information on it; for his own part he thought this resolution rather limited, and that it should be so modified as to authorize an enquiry into the general extent of these intrigues. To promote a deliberate course on this subject, he moved that the resolution lie on the table.

Mr. Pitkin thought that on the request of a state there could be no hesitation to make an enquiry; he thought it should be immediately referred to a committee.

The resolution was however ordered to lie on the table without a division.

On motion of Mr. Dawson the House took up the unfinished business on the bill for raising an additional military force.

Mr. Stanford wished to know if he could withdraw his motion made on Saturday, and move that each company should consist of one hundred men each, taking away the discretionary power to increase the number?

The speaker said the motion was not in order.

Mr. Dawson announced his intention to make such motion, if the amendment should be agreed to. Whatever might be his opinion of vesting a discretionary power in the Executive, this was no time for discussion. The situation of the country might immediately require not only these men, but a much larger number.

Mr. W. Alston thought it would be much better to leave a discretion to increase the number from 6 to 10,000 in the event of any contingency, than to erect an army of 10,000 men at once.

The question was then taken on the motion made on Saturday to strike out the discretionary power to increase the number and carried 63 to 45.

The words "sixty eight" the number of each company were then struck out, and "ninety-six" inserted, 65 to 17.

The bill was ordered to a third reading on this day.

Mr. M. Clay moved for the consideration of the report of the committee of the whole on the bill for classing the militia. — Negatived 57 to 37.

The engrossed bill from the Senate for raising an additional military force was read the third time; and the Yeas and Nays being asked on its passage by Mr. Stanford,

Mr. Upham opposed the bill at some length—when Mr. U. ceased the House adjourned.