

of the preceding January, was still in force, in consequence of the failure of an attempt to procure its repeal, he considered it an unequivocal act of war, and a breach of the independence and sovereignty of neutral nations, which was only to be met by a determined resistance. As the Chief Magistrate of America had expressed so strong a sense of the aggression in that instance, there was no ground to suppose that he would not act as decidedly on the present occasion. And this was another consideration why this country ought to abstain, for the present, from any act which might prove grievous to the trade of America, until it should be seen whether the American government would follow the same course now as in '98."

From Lord Castlereagh's Speech.

As to the period of our history, which has been alluded to, he should presently shew, that the time of the American government had been wasted in negotiations. Whatever might be the feelings of government towards America, whatever might be the principles on which the late negotiations had been concluded, these were no reasons for delaying the adoption of more vigorous means of retaliation against the enemy. He contended that considerations of forbearance respecting America, should not induce the house to abstain from adopting, not an act of practical injustice, but the measures which the circumstances of the times required, namely to warn American vessels in the first instance, against entering French ports; but not to capture them, unless bent on entering the power of France. If they were to wait till the American government should insist upon those principles, by which the law of nations is upheld, they might wait till doomsday, as whatever might be their feelings, the commercial people would attend to their commercial interests. Since the publication of this decree which had been at first general as to all nations, some communication had taken place between the American Ministers in this country, and the French government in consequence of which, some practical relaxation of the decree had taken place. This was one ground why we should look upon America with jealousy; and it was an aggravation that she had, by a secret understanding with the French government, contrived to take her shipping out of the operation of the decree that was at first general and placed herself in a situation of connivance with the French government.

From Sir Thomas Foxton's Speech.

The real cause of this pernicious forbearance, was the dread of breaking off the treaty lately pending between this country and the American government. This was the pistol held at the breast of ministers; and this their great anxiety to ward it off."

From Lord Howick's Speech.

It seems that the gentlemen on the other side feel somewhat jealous of America because France may be disposed to exempt her from the operation of the decree. The thing is not unlikely; but no communication of the kind has been made to Ministers by the American Plenipotentiaries. The words of the decree seem to apply to the Continental Powers only, and consequently America may be exempted. Suppose she is; would that be a reason why we should go to war with America? Is not this intention of gentlemen, or what is it? But surely it must be a waste of the time of the House to dwell upon such arguments. The treaty of America they have also brought into discussion; and it has been intimated, that it was contrary to the honour and interests of the country to enter negotiation with America, until the Non-Importation act was repealed. If this disgrace was attached to the negotiation, why were not motions made last session to break off the negotiation, until that decree was repealed. Surely such a conduct would have been more manly, than now to assume a hostile tone, while we are daily expecting the ratification of the Treaty we have concluded."

January 27.

Fifty tons of gold, from House, passed thro' Hanover for France, on the 19th of this month.

The Comet lately discovered at Marseilles will be visible in our horizon about the latter end of the month. It may be very distinctly observed and followed by a common telescope. It is said very much to have influenced the season, and to have produced that very mild winter which has been so general throughout all Europe.

Buonaparte has given orders for the whole of the regular troops to be marched from every part of France, and has issued a decree for embodying and organizing the national guard, all over France. Every male from 16 to 90, capable of bearing arms, is called on to supply the place of the regulars, ordered to Poland. The conscripts for the year 1807, are all to cross the Rhine before the end of March, and are to proceed to the army in four divisions.

February 7.

The Princess of Wales.—On Thursday se'night the illustrious female, who has for many months been the object of ca-

lumnny, received a formal communication from one of the highest law officers of state, in which her Royal Highness is assured of the investigation so long pending having terminated most completely to her honour, and to the entire satisfaction, in respect to her demeanour, of those to whom the delicate and important question was so solemnly referred, and that their Majesties, convinced of the justice of the decision upon the case, are anxious to receive her, and to prove how sensible they are of the persecution she has undergone. February 12.

We are very sorry to see, by accounts from Dublin, that an intention seems to be entertained of pressing the discussion of the Catholic question again this session. When the Catholic question was brought forward in 1803, we deprecated the discussion of it; we equally deprecate it now, and we shall think it our duty to support the ministers in resisting every attempt that may be made to induce them to bring forward the Catholic question at present.

PRINCESS OF WALES.

Arrangements, it is said, had been made for the publication of the minutes of the proceedings before the commissioners, including copies of several letters from an illustrious personage; but, contrary to the most earnest wish and pressing entreaties of her royal highness, it has been determined, from motives of state policy, not to give publication to the report.

BARBADOES, Feb. 7.

The late apprehensions at Dominico of an attack from Guadalupe, seem to have been reciprocal with the enemy, who were under similar fears there of an attack from us, and had made those demonstrations which excited alarm, for the purpose only of self defence. Upon the arrival of our Squadron at Dominico, where they are ever on the alert, the island was found under Martial Law; but it was immediately discontinued, Sir Alex. Cochrane having ascertained that the movements at Guadalupe were unconnected with any hostile project.

By the return of Sir A. Cochrane, we have had the satisfaction of hearing of the capture of the enemy's corvette brig Lynx, which had some time ago escaped with the Themis frigate into these Seas, from Sir Samuel Hood's Squadron. This corvette was captured on the 22d ult. by the boats of the Galatea frigate, & reflects considerable credit on the judgment of Captain Sayer, who commands her, as well as the highest honour on the Officers, Seamen, and Marines of the boats which effected it. The Galatea fell in with the Lynx off Laguna, whither she was bound with dispatches from Guadalupe, and after a long and ineffectual chase, Captain Sayer finding no chance of the frigate coming up with her, from the prevailing light winds, manned five of his boats with 60 seamen and 20 marines, who under command of Lieutenants Coombe, Walker, and Gibson, and two petty Officers, were dispatched at two P. M. after the brig. By great perseverance and exertion, the boat got up with her, and hailing, were answered, "A French Corvette"; upon which they instantly pulled up, and endeavoured to get along side, but the enemy being prepared for their onset, opened a brisk and heavy fire on them, foiled their attempt. Our gallant tars, however, nothing discouraged, again attempted to board, but a second time were driven back with some loss. This seemed only to redouble their ardour, & opened to them a new mode of attack;—they now dropped their boats altern, which in loose measure sheltered them from the enemy's gallant fire, while it enabled them to pour in upon him a most effectual one from muskets and muckety, which partly cleared the deck of the corvette, they again pulled along side and, notwithstanding this small and fatigued party were now hand to hand actually opposed by a crew of 160 men, after a gallant struggle they beat the enemy from his quarters, and in a few minutes got entire possession of his vessel. In effecting this, the loss on our part was 9 killed and 22 wounded; among the former we regret to number Lieutenant Walker, and with the latter Lieutenant Coombe, who suffered severely. On the part of the enemy, there were 14 killed, & 20 wounded—including the 31 lieut. with the killed, & the 13 and 21 captains with the wounded.

From the Republican Watch-Tower.

TO RUFUS KING, Esq.

Sir,

From your silence on the subject of my letter of the 4th inst. I presume that I am not to be honoured with a reply. Perhaps this may be owing to my temerity in addressing him, whom Mr. Coleman calls "the first man in the country." Of the height to which your friends exalt or wish to exalt you, I confess I was not aware

when I rashly ventured to question the propriety of some part of your past conduct. I thought that, in this country, you had many equals; and I protest I imagined that Mr. Jefferson, for instance, was your superior. You will, sir, however, I hope, excuse my ignorance in this respect, and attribute it to the circumstance of my being an alien, and of course not yet sufficiently acquainted with the local politics of this country.

Though you, sir, have not honoured me with your notice, I have been abundantly honoured by your friends; and yet, extraordinary as it may appear, I mean to pay little attention to their assiduities, but to envelope myself in dignity like your own. As far as they have attempted to attack my character, I shall leave it to be defended by others, or rather to defend itself. Not that I affect to be insensible to the value of public opinion; but in truth, sir, in the present pressure of professional business, I have not time to do justice both to you and to myself; and I think it of infinitely more importance to the community, in the existing crisis, to make known what you are than what I am. You are the candidate for public favour, and your conduct is the proper subject of public enquiry. Permit me, however, sir, before I enter upon that interesting topic, to make a few general observations touching myself. Mr. Coleman has brought forward some extracts from the reports of the secret committee in Ireland—I think it more than probable that he was not himself in possession of these documents—from whom then did he receive them? There is no person in this country more likely to have them, than the gentleman who was at the time, the resident Minister at London—When you handed them to him, perhaps your memory might have served you to state, that as soon as those reports appeared, in the prints of the day, Mr. McNevin, Mr. O'Connor, and myself, at that time state prisoners, by an advertisement to which we subscribed our names, protested against the falsehood and inaccuracy of those reports; for which act we were remitted to close custody in our rooms for upwards of three months, and a proposal was made in the Irish House of Commons by Mr. McNaghten, an Orangeman, to take us out and hang us without trial. You might also, perhaps, have recollected (for it has been published) that while we were in that situation, other state calumnies accidentally reached the ears of one of our fellow sufferers in another prison, who wrote a letter to the editor of the Courier in London for the purpose of contradicting them, and inclosed a copy of his letter to Lord Castlereagh. Upon this Mr. Secretary Lord Castlereagh informed him, that if he published the contradiction he should be hanged; so that he replied that he was ready to meet the event; upon which Mr. Cooke told him that since he was indifferent about his own life, he must know that if he persevered, the whole system of Courts Martial, massacre and horror should be renewed throughout the country. By that menace he was effectually restrained.

Had you thought of mentioning those things, you might have jocularly added, that though these statements might serve some present party purposes, it was rather more unfair to judge of us by the calumnies of the Irish government than it would be to judge of Mr. Jefferson and his friends by the editorial articles in the Evening Post. The weapons you are using have been tried in Ireland among my friends and my enemies, where every thing was minutely known, and they failed to effect. If I had ever done anything mean or dishonourable, if I had abandoned or compromised my character, my country or my cause, I should not be esteemed and beloved in Ireland as I am proud to know I am. I should not enjoy the affection and respect of my republican countrymen in America, as you, sir, and your friends confess I do. It would not be in the power of one who had departed from the line of his duty in their and his common country, by simply expressing to them his sentiments to you, to do you such an essential injury as I am accused of having committed.

Another charge made against me, is that I am an alien, interfering in the politics of this country. Be it so for a moment, and let me ask why is it that I am an alien in this my adopted country at this day? Because, in consequence of your interference, I was prevented from coming to it in 1798, and from being naturalized upwards of three years ago. Supposing then that I should refrain from intermeddling with politics in every other case; where you are concerned I feel myself authorised to exercise the rights of a citizen as far as by law I may; for you know it is an established rule of equity and good sense that no man shall be benefited by his own wrong. But how do I come forward? Not as a citizen, but as a witness. Allow me to ask you if I possessed a knowledge of facts which could prove Mr. Jefferson guilty of a robbery or a cheat, and unfit to be trusted with power, would you think me culpable if, notwithstanding my alienage, I made them known to the public to prevent their being deceived and misled? And shall I not be permitted, because in consequence of your very misconduct I am not a citizen, to testify to facts which will

prove you unfit to be entrusted in this country with any kind of delegated power? Whether Peter Porcupine or Mr. Carpenter ever went through the forms of naturalization I know not; but perhaps they might both be safely considered as aliens; and yet I have never heard any of your friends censure their interference in the politics of America. I do not mention those gentlemen as my models, nor propose their example as my vindication, but I wish to shew the pliability of those principles which are to be erected into a barrier against me.

As a witness then, sir, I come forward to testify not to my countrymen, but to the electors of this city, to the whole of the United States, if you should ever aspire to govern them, and I now present you with my evidence.

In the summer of 1798, after the attempt of the people of Ireland for their emancipation had been completely defeated; after every armed body had been dispersed or had surrendered, except a few men that had taken refuge in the mountains of Wicklow; while military tribunals, house burnings, shootings, torture and every kind of devastation were desolating and overwhelming the defenceless inhabitants, some of the state prisoners then in confinement entered into a negotiation with the Irish ministers for effecting a general amnesty; and as an inducement offered, among other things not necessary to the examination of your conduct, to emigrate to such country as might be agreed upon between them and the government. When I consented to this offer, for me, (and it was the case with the great majority) I solemnly declare that I was perfectly apprised that there were no legal grounds discovered upon which to proceed against me. I further knew that the Crown Solicitor had in answer to the enquires of my friends informed them there was no intention of preferring a bill of indictment against me. So much for the personal considerations by which I might have been actuated; and now, sir, to return.

The offer was accepted, the bloody system was stopped for a time and was not renewed until after your interference, and after the English ministry had resolved openly to break its faith with us. On our part, we performed our stipulations with the most punctilious fidelity, but in such a manner as to preserve to us the warmest approbation of our friends, and to excite the great dissatisfaction in our enemies. Government soon perceived that on the score of interest it had calculated badly, and had gained nothing by the contract. It was afraid of letting us go at large to develop and detect the misrepresentations and calumnies that were studiously set afloat; and had therefore I am convinced determined to violate its engagements by keeping us prisoners as long as possible. How was this to be done? In the commencement of our negotiation, Lord Castlereagh declared as a reason for our acceding to government's possessing a negative on our choice, that it had no worse place in view for our migration than the United States of America. We had made our election to go there, and called upon him to have our agreement carried into execution. In that difficulty you, sir, offered very effectual assistance to the faithlessness of the British cabinet. On the 16th of September, Mr. Marsden, then undersecretary, came to inform us that Mr. King had remonstrated against our being permitted to emigrate to America. This astonished us all, and Doctor McNevin very plainly said that he considered this excuse as a mere trick between Mr. King and the British government. This, Mr. Marsden denied, and on being pressed to know what reasons Mr. King could have for preventing us, who were avowed republicans, from emigrating to America, he significantly answered, "perhaps Mr. King does not desire to have republicans in America." Your interference was then, sir, made the pretext of detaining us for four years in custody, by which very expensive and useless plans of settlement within these states were broken up. The misfortunes which you brought upon the objects of your persecution were incalculable. Almost all of us wasted four of the best years of our lives in prison. As to me, I should have brought along with me my father and his family, including a brother, whose name perhaps even you will not read without emotions of sympathy and respect. Others, nearly connected with me, would have come partners in my emigration. But all of them have been torn from me. I have been prevented from saving a brother, from receiving the dying blessings of a father, mother & sister, and from soothing their last agonies by my cares; and this, sir, by your unwarrantable and unfeeling interference.

Your friends, when they accuse me of want of moderation in my conduct towards you, are wonderfully mistaken. They do not reflect, or know, that I have never spoken of you without suppressing (as I do now) personal feelings that rise up within me, and swell my heart with indignation and resentment. But I mean to confine myself to an examination of your

Porcupine was not naturalized, and I understand that Mr. Carpenter is not.

conduct, as far as it is of public importance.

The step you took was unauthorized by your own government. Our agreement with that of Ireland was entered into on the 29th of July—Your prohibition was notified to us on the 16th of September; deduct 7 days for the two communications between Dublin and London, and you had precisely 42 days, in the calms of summer, for transmitting your intelligence to America and receiving an answer. As you had no order than what was the motive of Your unauthorized act? I cannot positively say, but I will tell you my conviction. The British Ministry had resolved to detain us prisoners contrary to their plighted honour; and you, sir, I fear, lent your ministerial character to enable them to commit an act of perfidy, which they would not otherwise have dared to perpetrate. Whether our conduct in Ireland was right or wrong, you have no justification for yours. The constitution and laws of this country gave you no power to require of the British government that it should violate its faith and withdraw from us its consent to the piece we had fixed upon for our voluntary emigration. Neither the President nor you were warranted to prevent our touching these shores; though the former might, under the Alien Act, have afterwards sent us away if he had reason to think we were plotting anything against the United States. I have heard something about the law of nations; but you, I presume are too well acquainted with that law not to know that it has no bearing on this subject. Our emigration was voluntary, and the English government had in point of justice no more to do with it than to signify that there was no objection to the place of residence we had chosen.

Another circumstance which compels me to believe a collusive league between you, in your capacity of resident minister from America, and the cabinet of St. James's, is the very extravagant and unwarrantable nature of your remonstrance, which had the ministry been sincere towards us, they could not possibly have overlooked. If they had intended to observe their compact, you, sir, would have been very quickly made to feel the futility of your ill timed application. You would have been taught that it was a matter of mere private arrangement between government and us, with which you had no more to do than the minister of Denmark, Sweden, Portugal, or any other neutral power. What inference ought fairly to be made from the facts I have stated, every man must decide for himself. On me, they have forced a conviction, which, if you can shake it, I shall much more gladly forego than I state it here, that in the instance alluded to, you degraded the dignity and independence of the country you represented, you abandoned the principles of its government and its policy, and you became the tool of a foreign state, to give it a colourable pretext for the commission of a crime. If so, let it be that you should hereafter be entrusted with any kind of delegated authority? What motives you may have had for that conduct, if in truth it was yours, I undertake to say. Mr. Marsden seemed to doubt whether you wished for republicans in America—and I shrewdly suspect he spoke what the British ministry thought of your politics.

Perhaps it may be said that you were yourself deceived by those very calumnies of which I have complained. I sincerely wish I could believe that such were the fact—but observe this argument. We contradicted the misstatements of the committees of the Lords and Commons of Ireland, by an advertisement written in prison, signed by our names, and published on the 17th of September—it must have reached London on the seventh or eighth—your remonstrance must have been made on or before the 12th; for it was communicated to us on the 16th. The effect produced by our advertisement was electrical, and the debate which it caused on the very evening of its appearance, in the Irish House of Commons, was most remarkable. As you doubtless read the newspapers of the day, these facts could not have been unknown to you. Why then should you be deceived by misrepresentations which we had recently contradicted under circumstances to extraordinary? Mr. King, did you enter so deeply into the revolution of your country as to implicate your life in the issue of its fortunes? From the strong attachment of your political friends, I presume you were a distinguished leader in those eventful times; if not, you had certainly read their history. Did you remember the calumny which has been thrown out by British agents against the most upright & venerable patriot of America? Did you call to mind the treatment which had been given in South Carolina to Governor Gadsden, to General Rutherford, Col. Isaac, and a number of others who had surrendered to that very Lord Cornwallis, with whom, thro' his ministers, we negotiated; and that those distinguish-