THE TRUE REPUBLICAN, OR AMERICAN WHIG.

Chronicle

"THE TRUTH OUR GUIDE—THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END."

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PRICES CURRENT.

WILMINGTON, (N.C.) 1809.

Merchandize.	quantity	from D.	c.	to D	c.
Bacon,	Lb.		9		10
Butter,			16		18
Bees-wax,			33		
Beef,	Bbl.	9		10	
Brandy 4th proof,	Gal	2	50	2	75
Corn,	Bush	1	60	1	75
Cotton, Upland	Lb		14		16
Coffee,			25		
Flour,	Bbl	7	50	8	
Flaxseed,	Cask	7	50	8	
Gin, American	Gal		75		
Lumber, pine		10		12	
Boards 1 1-4 inch	th. ft.	10		12	
Scantling,		8		8	50
Timber, sq'r pine		5			
Shingles, Cypress	M.	2		2	25
Staves, w o Hhds		28		30	
do do to		14		16	
w o bols.		14		15	
Heading w o hhd		28		30	
	Lb		10		12
Molasses,	Gal		45		50
Naval Stores,					
Tar 32 Gallons	Bbl	2		2	25
Rosin,		3			
Turpentine, 320 lbs gross		3	75	4	
Spir. Turpentine,	Gal		37		40
Pork,	Bbl	13		14	
Peas,	Bush		62		70
Rum Jamaica, 4th proof,	Gal	1	50		
3d proof,		1	25		
American ditto			70		
Rice,	100b	3		3	25
Salt,	Bush		75		
Liverpool			70		
Sugar, Muscovado	100b	11		12	
Loaf,	Lb		21		22
Tobacco,	100lb	4	25	5	

ADDRESS

OF THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW-YORK, TO THOMAS JEFFERSON

Late President of the United States.

SIR,—The Legislature of the state of N. York, on the occasion of your voluntary retirement to the shades of private life from the office of chief magistrate of the United States, cannot without injustice to their feelings, refrain from expressing their respect for your exalted character, their gratitude for your services, and their best wishes for your personal happiness

Like your great predecessor, the immortal WASHINGTON, you have evinced to the world, by the whole tenor of your political life, and more especially by your magnanimous determination, to retire from office after having faithfully served the republic, that your only ambition was to promote the welfare of the people, and to perpetuate the principles of our republican institutions. Examples of such disinterested and distinguished patriotism, are rarely found in the history of nations—they add a lustre to the American name and character.

While we look back with satisfaction on your administration of the general government, we look forward with confidence to that of your successor. May he be animated by your illustrious example, and under the auspicies of the Almighty dispenser of all good, direct the destinies of our country in safety, amidst the agitations of a troubled world; and the remainder of your days be spent in the enjoyment of all those blessings which flow from an honorable and virtuous life, zealously devoted to the good of mankind.

LETTER OF THE HONORABLE JOHN ADAMS.

In the early part of the last session of congress, a gentleman holding an office of high responsibility, wrote to Mr. Adams, requesting his opinion with respect to the evils which pressed upon our country and the remedy to be applied. The answer has occasioned many conjectures and been the subject of much vague conversation. Willing to do justice to that candor, which regardless of party prejudice, calls on age & wisdom for counsel, and to that magnanimity, which, forgetting personal wrongs, looks only to the honor of our country, we have obtained leave to publish this interesting letter. We cannot anticipate the comments that may be made; but the text is genuine and we subscribe to its orthodoxy —*Boston Patriot.*

Quincy, 26th December, 1808.

SIR,—I received very kindly your obliging letter of the 16th of this month. Ever since my return from Europe, where I had resided ten years, and could not be fully informed of the state of affairs in my own country, I have been constantly anxious and alarmed, at the intemperance of party spirit, and the unbounded license of our presses. In the same view, I could not but lament some things, which have lately passed in public bodies. To instance, at Dedham and Topsfield, and last of all in the resolutions of our Massachusetts legislature. Upon principle, I see no right in our Senate and House to dictate, or advise, or to request our Representatives in Congress. The right of the people to instruct their representatives is very dear to them, and will never be disputed by me. But this is a very different thing from an interference of a state legislature. Congress must be the "cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night," to conduct this nation; and if their eyes are to be diverted by wandering lights accidentally springing up in every direction, we shall never get thro' the wilderness.

I have not been inattentive to the course of our public affairs, and agree with Congress in their resolutions to resist the decrees, edicts and orders of France and England; but I think the King's proclamation for the impressment of seamen on board merchant ships, has not been distinctly enough reprobated. It is the most groundless pretension of all. Retired as I am, conversing with a very few of any party; out of the secret of affairs; collecting information only from public papers and pamphlets, many links in the great chain of deliberations, actions and events, may have escaped me. You will easily believe, that an excessive diffidence in my own opinion has not been "the sin, that has most easily beset me." I must nevertheless confess to you, that in all the intricate combinations of our affairs, to which I have ever been a witness I never found myself so much at a loss to form a judgment of what the nation ought to do, or what part I ought to act. No man, then, I hope, will have more confidence in the solidity of any thing I may suggest, than I have myself.

I revere the upright and enlightened general sense of our American nation. It is nevertheless capable, like all other nations, of general prejudices and national errors. Among these I know not whether there is any more remarkable than the opinion, so universal, that it is in our power to bring foreign nations to our terms, by withholding our commerce. When the executive and legislative authority of any nation, especially in the old governments and great powers of Europe, have adopted measures upon deliberation, and published them to the world, they cannot recede, without a deep humiliation and disgrace, in the eyes of their own subjects, as well as all Europe. They will therefore obstinately adhere to them, at the expence even of great sacrifices, and in defiance of great dangers. In 1774, Congress appeared almost unanimously sanguine, that a non importation and non-consumption association, would procure an immediate repeal of acts of Parliament and royal orders. I went heartily along with the rest in all these measures, because I knew, that the sense of the nation, the public opinion in all the colonies required them; and I did not see that they could do harm. But I had no confidence in their success, in any thing but uniting the American people. I expressed this opinion freely to some of my friends, particularly to Mr Henry, of Virginia, and to Major Hawley of Massachusetts. These two and these only, agreed with me in opinion that we must fight after all. We found by experience, that a war of eight years, in addition to all our resolutions, was necessary; and the aid of France, Spain and Holland too, before our purposes could be accomplished. Do we presume that we can excite insurrection, rebellion, and revolution in England? Even a revolution would be no benefit to us. A republican government in England would be more hostile to us than the monarchy is. The resources of that country are so great; their merchants capitalists, and principal manufacturers are so rich, that they can employ their manufactures and store their productions for a long time, perhaps longer than we can, or will bear to hoard ours. In '94, upon these principles, and for these reasons I thought it my duty to decide in Senate as I did Mr Madison's resolutions, as they were called, and I have seen no reason to alter my opinion since. I own I am sorry when the late non-importation law passed. When a war with England was seriously apprehended in 1794, I approved of an embargo as a temporary measure to preserve our seamen and property; but not with any expectation that it would influence England. I thought the embargo which was laid a year ago, a wise and prudent measure, for the same reason viz. to preserve our seamen and as much of our property as we could get in; but not with the faintest hope that it would influence the British councils. At the same time, I confidently expected, that it would be raised in a few months. I have not censured any of these measures, because I knew the fond attachment of the nation to them; but I think the nation must soon be convinced that they will not answer their expectations. The embargo and the non-importation laws I think ought not to last long. They will lay such a foundation of disaffection to the national government as will give great uneasiness to Mr. Jefferson's successor, and will produce such distractions and confusions as I shudder to think of. The naval and military force to carry them into execution would maintain a war. Are you then for war, you will ask? I will answer you candidly; I think a war would be a less evil than a rigorous enforcement of the embargo and a non intercourse. But we have no necessity to declare war against England or France, or both. We may raise the embargo, repeal the non importation, authorise our merchants to arm their vessels; give them special letters of marque to defend themselves against all unlawful aggressors; and take, burn or destroy all vessels, or make prize of them, as enemies, that shall attack them. In the mean time, apply all our resources to build frigates some in every principal seaport. These frigates ought not to be assembled in any one port, to become an object of a hostile expedition to destroy them. They should be separated and scattered as much as possible, from New-Orleans to Passamaquoddy. I never was fond of the plan of building a line of battle ships. Our policy is not to fight squadrons at sea; but to have fast sailing frigates, to scour the seas, and make impressions on the enemy's commerce; and in this way we can do great things. Our sea ports and most exposed frontier places ought not to be neglected in their fortifications; but I cannot see for what purpose an hundred thousand militia are called out, nor why we should have so large an army at present. The revenues applied to these uses would be better appropriated to building frigates. We may depend upon it, we shall never be respected by foreign powers, until they see that we are sensible of the great resources which the Almighty, in his benevolent Providence, has put into our hands. No nation under the sun has better materials, architects, or mariners for a respectable maritime power.—I have no doubt our people, when they see a necessity, will cheerfully pay the taxes necessary for the support of their union, independence and national honor.—When our merchants are armed, if they are taken, they cannot blame the government. If they fight well, and capture their enemies, they will acquire glory and encouragement at home; and England or France may determine for themselves whether they will declare war. I believe neither will do it, because each will be afraid of our joining the other. If either should, in my opinion, the other will rescind; but if we should have both to fight, it would not be long before one or the other would be willing to make peace; and I see not so much difference between fighting both and fighting England alone.

My heart is with the Spanish Patriots, and I should be glad to assist them as far as our commerce can supply them. I conclude by acknowledging that we have received *greater injuries from England than from France, abominable as both have been. Whatever the government determines I shall support as far as my small voice extends.*

I am, sir, with respect and esteem,
Your humble servant,
JOHN ADAMS.

N. 1. *The Tribute and British licenses, must be prohibited under adequate penalties.*

FOREIGN ADVICES.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 28

In December last the Austrian Cabinet sent a confidential mission to St. Petersburgh, with a view of exposing to the emperor Alexander the extravagant and dangerous ambition of Bonaparte, the injustice of his conduct in Spain, and the necessity he had imposed on the cabinets of Russia and Austria to unite for their mutual protection. The emperor Francis at the same time, made a frank communication of the measures he had adopted to meet the war which he despaired of being able to avert, and he invited the emperor Alexander to enter into such arrangements as might be necessary to oppose a barriet to the overwhelming tyranny of France.

This overture the emperor Alexander immediately communicated to Bonaparte in Spain, and to this circumstance his hasty and unlooked for return to Paris is imputed.

We further learn that the intentions of Austria, the hopes of Prussia and the politics of Russia, have been exposed to France, by the interception of a letter from the Queen of Prussia to her father the duke of Mecklenburgh Strelitz. From the reports which have reached us, it appears, that the suspicions of the French ambassador Caulaincourt had been excited by frequent interviews which the Prussian Minister of State baron Sladen, (who had attended their majesties to Petersburgh,) had had with the Austrian embassy and that he had caused a Prussian officer of the name of Bruger, who was entrusted with dispatches for Berlin, &c. to be followed, and it is said, murdered and his papers secured. Amongst these was the letter from the queen to her father, expressive of her hope, that the war which Austria was about to wage, in which Alexander had been strongly although hitherto unsuccessfully urged to join, would tend to restore her husband to his former rank in Europe. The emperor Alexander is represented as being pleased with the preparations of Austria, and to be restrained from joining in them rather through fear of Bonaparte than from friendship to him. The situation of affairs in Spain is mentioned as being favorable to the intended operations of Austria, which, it is added, would develope themselves early in the Spring.

The Prussian army comprises 40,000 effective men; of which 8,000 were cavalry, and 26,000 infantry; the rest artillery, guards, &c.

Reports of an approaching war between France and Austria were in general circulation in the north. The French army, under the orders of the duke of Auerstadt, which was cantoned in Hanover, Hanau, &c. was in motion and the Danish paper, *The Fagan*, of the 6th inst observes that the prince of Ponte Corvo had received dispatches from France, which had occasioned particular sensation at Hamburgh. The same paper however contains an extract from the Westphalian Official Gazette, contradicting the report of an intended augmentation of that army, or an immediate movement of it.

We mentioned in our last number, that the Austrian government was forming large stores of grain from the neighbouring States, particularly from Bavaria.—The foreign Journals which have since reached us, contain numberless paragraphs on the same subject

CADIZ, FEBRUARY 23.

PROCLAMATION.

Our Lord the king Don Ferdinand VII. and in his royal name, Don Felix Josef, field marshal of the royal armies, and governor pro tempore of this place, &c.

In consequence of the discontents and commotions which have taken place in this city, whose inhabitants have requested various things which they consider useful and necessary to their private and public security, and to the exercise of their liberty and of the national independence, and considering their loyalty and patriotism at all times, and particularly at present as also the signal and important services which they have performed and are now performing in favor of the just cause which they defend at the hazard of their lives and fortunes, it is made known as follows:

1. That the said governor, with the advice and concurrence of the most reverend father guardian of Capuchins, has resolved,