

proach over the character of a nation. But when a treaty of peace is made with the concealed design of not fulfilling it, and war is declared for the avowed purpose of avoiding it, the case is still worse. The representative system does not put it in the power of an individual to declare war of his own will. It must be the act of the body of the representatives, for it is their constituents who are to pay the expence. The state which the people of England are, now in, shews the extreme danger of trusting this power to the caprice of an individual, whatever title he may bear. In that country this power is assumed by what is called the crown, for it is not constituted by any legal authority. It is a branch from the trunk of monarchical despotism.

By this impolitic declaration of war, the government of England have put every thing to issue; and no wise general would commence an action he might avoid, where little is to be gained by gaining the battle, and every thing is to be lost by losing it. An invasion and a revolution, which consequently includes that of Ireland, stand now on the same ground. What part the people may finally take in a contest pregnant with such an issue is yet to be known. By the experiment of raising the country in mass the government have put arms into the hands of men whom they would have sent to Botany Bay but a few months before, had they found a pike in their possession. The honour of this project, which is copied from France, is claimed by Mr. Pitt; and no project of his has yet succeeded in the end, except that of raising the taxes and ruining the bank. All his schemes in the revolutionary war of France failed of success and finished in discredit. If Buonaparte is remarkable for an unexampled series of good fortune, Mr. Pitt is remarkable for a contrary fate; and his want of popularity with the people, whom he deserted and betrayed on the question of a reform of parliament, sheds no beams of glory round his projects.

If the present eventful crisis, for an eventful one it is, should end in a revolution, the people of England have within their glance the benefit of experience, both in theory and fact. This was not the case at first. The American revolution began on untried ground. The representative system of government was then unknown in practice, and but little thought of in theory. The idea that man must be governed by effigy and show, and that superstitious reverence was necessary to establish authority, had so benumbed the reasoning faculties of man, that some bold exertion was necessary to shock them into reflection. But the experiment has now been made. The practice of almost thirty years, the last twenty of which have been of peace, notwithstanding the wrong-headed tumultuous administration of John Adams, has proved the excellence of the representative system, and the new world is now the preceptor of the old. The children are become the fathers of their progenitors.

With respect to the French revolution, it was begun by good men and on good principles, and I have always believed it would have gone on so, had not the provocative interference of foreign powers, of which Pitt was the principal and vindictive agent, distracted it into madness and sown jealousies among the leaders.

The people of England have now two revolutions before them. The one as an example; the other as a warning. Their own wisdom will direct them what to choose and what to avoid, and in every thing which regards their happiness, combined with the common good of mankind, I wish them honour and success.

THOMAS PAINE.

America, March 4, 1804.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

AN arrival at Beverly from France, and two arrivals at New-York from England, furnish news from that country to the 3d March. From France direct we hear that at the close of the month of February, several expeditions of gun-boats had sailed from Bourdeaux and other ports for Flushing, one of the principal depots for the invading forces, these boats were from 60 to 90 tons burthen, pole-top-mast, and very heavily rigged, some having one, others two pieces of heavy artillery.

From the London papers we find that no event of interest had occurred as late as the 3d March; the threats and preparations of France had not abated, and in consequence the English marine force was more than ordinarily alert; what rendered it probable that some attempt will be speedily made, was, that a general embargo had been laid in all the French ports. It would appear from the London prints, that, contrary to our expectation, hopes were entertained of the complete

recovery of the King of England. Intrigues of the factions contending for the ministry appear however to have continued. Capt. Mentor, also arrived at Boston from Alicante, informs that all the officers of the United States frigate Philadelphia, seventeen in number, had been liberated through the spirited interference of the French consul at that place; and that 15 or 20 of the crew had found means to escape from servitude, by getting possession of a boat and putting to sea.

Accounts received from Gibraltar announce the sailing, from that place, on the 13th of Feb. of the United States brig Argus, in quest of a Tripoline privateer, which was said to be out.

Capt. Howard, of the John Morgan, (arrived at New-York) informs, that on leaving the Downs the 8th of March, he was visited by a Lieutenant from on board Lord Keith's fleet, who informed him, that he had that morning received information of a conspiracy against Bonaparte, at the head of which was the celebrated Moreau, and several other distinguished characters—All of whom had been detected. Moreau and several others had made their escape.—And further informed, that the British government had dispatched three or four cutters off to their (Moreau, &c.) assistance. Several men of war sailed for the French coast, the day Capt. Howard left there: Some of them steered for Cherbourg, off which place he heard a heavy firing before he lost sight of the coast.

Dispatches had been received from Lord Nelson, giving an account of the ill-treatment of the English Consul by the Dey of Algiers—at which place his Lordship had appeared with part of his squadron, and demanded satisfaction—which the Dey refused to give. His Lordship thought it improper to commence hostilities without the consent of his government, and wrote home for orders.

One of the passengers in the John Morgan informs, that he was told by the mate of the ship Chatham, on the 8th of March, that he had received a letter from Capt. Chew, commander of said ship, then at London, stating, that the British Government had issued orders to prevent the sailing of all vessels from England. The Chatham was from New-York bound to Amsterdam, but was ordered away from that port by the British.

LONDON, February 25.

There have been rumours that a plan of Regency had been digested; but in the present circumstances we apprehend nothing of this kind is in contemplation. If what is reported in the ministerial circles be true, his Majesty's health will soon admit of public business going on as before, if not already. In this case the nation naturally expect that the report of the Physicians will state a decisive progress in his Majesty's recovery. The Bulletins which at first stated the King to be much indisposed, will not merely state that the King is "rather better," and again "rather better," making each report refer back to an illness alarmingly announced, while the stages of amendment are imperfectly marked. The public therefore naturally look to the report of the Physicians, as that in which, without being distracted by vague reports & conjectures, they may depend. They may rest their confident hope that his Majesty's health, and of course the natural constitutional course of the government, will speedily be restored; those reports should be calculated to enforce such confidence. At so alarming a crisis of public affairs, it is fit that the nation should have the consolation of knowing on the best authority, that his Majesty is almost well.

On Saturday accounts were received, of an embargo being laid in all the ports of France, from which it is inferred, that the enemy means immediately to attempt the invasion. Orders have been sent in consequence to all the Naval stations along the Coast.

It is said that in the treaty signed at Madrid by Joseph Buonaparte, guaranteeing the neutrality of Spain, besides the sum to be paid upon the face of the treaty, there was one equal to a million sterling stipulated for, which went into the private pocket of the Buonaparte family.

The report of the French fleet having given Lord Nelson the slip at Toulon, and of his Lordship steering after them with every rag of sail he could carry, is not wholly discredited, tho' wanting confirmation.

The Lord Chancellor has had an audience for the first time of her Majesty, and a communication, the result of that conference, has been made to the Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness feels in this momentous crisis the necessity of appealing to the best advice he can obtain. An express was sent off on Thursday night to Lord Moira, requesting him to attend the Prince with all possible dispatch.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1804.

A question, interesting to the people of the State of New-York in particular, and the Union generally, has been lately decided in the Legislature of that State; a bill for extending the right of suffrage to all persons who paid taxes, and destroying the aristocratic principles which excluded all from voting but those possessed of freehold property, had been introduced by a Republican member, and on motion for its rejection, there were ten Federalists in the affirmative, and seventy-one Republicans in the negative. On the question being put on the clause containing the principle of the bill, it was adopted without a division. The extension of the right of suffrage will considerably increase the already predominant Republican influence in New-York.

In consequence of the impeachment of three of the Pennsylvania Judges for their misconduct towards Mr. Passmore, Judge Breckenridge (the other Judge) has addressed a letter to the House of Representatives of that State, requesting, tho' he was not on the bench when the question was heard in its different stages, as he was present on the last hearing, and as he cannot say he did not take a part in the decision, not having dissented from it, that he may be added to the list of impeached officers. This letter was referred to a committee, who reported the following resolution which was concurred in by the house 54 to 24:

"Resolved that a committee be appointed to draft an address to the governor to remove Hugh Henry Brackenridge from office."

We are informed, (says the Philadelphia Gazette) that the Governor has rejected the application made by the legislature for removing judge Brackenridge; by observing, that the honorable body had "done many things which they ought not to have done, and left undone those things which they ought to have done."

Extract of a letter from New-Orleans, dated February 26, 1804.

The French and Spaniards seem almost in a state of Rebellion here, as they are committing depredations almost every day, and are continually robbing and murdering.—Three attempts were made to burn the city last night. A few nights ago some villains broke into the store of Mr. James Johnson, of New-York. Mr. J. having had a hint of their design, laid wait for them; as soon as they entered, they made for the iron chest, when Mr. J. fired a blunderbuss, but missed them, they immediately made for the door, when Mr. J.'s company fired a double barrel'd fowling piece and wounded two of them, one of which mortally. When day light appeared, they tracked them by the blood, caught two of the villains and conveyed them to jail. I have since heard they have taken several others. Our danger is such, that I have been three nights on patrol since my arrival, and, unless some other means are fallen on soon, I fear the consequence will be dreadful, as the French and Spaniards are determined to do some mischief shortly, and we have very few regular troops to prevent them. [Philad. pap.]

Commercial Information.—At the request of the Governor-General at Batavia, the merchants of the United States are informed that cargoes may be had at Batavia for cash, of sugar and pepper, in like manner as in the former war.

I. H. C. HEINEKEN, Commercial Agent.

Philadelphia, March 30.

From Washington, April 11.

Extract of a letter from Commodore Preble, to Mr. Cathart, dated 4th of January, 1804, in the harbour of Syracuse.

"I have just returned from a cruise off Tripoli, where on the 23d of December, I captured a vessel with the Bashaw's presents to the grand Signior, accompanied by several officers of distinction. I trust this capture will give us considerable advantage in negotiating a peace."

New-York, March 20.

By captain Butler of the Hope, from Guadaloupe, we understand that the blockade was raised on the 20th of February; that Martinique was closely blockaded, and Americans bound there, would be taken and condemned—coffee 29 to 30 sous—molasses 40 sous—lumber 28 dollars 1000 feet—beef 14—pork 16—flour 7—salt fish 4—staves 33—shingles 4—butter 30 sous, and lard 30 sous.

Upwards of 2000 well armed French troops with several general officers, who lately esca-

ped from the resentment of the injured Haytians, now triumphantly free and independent are encamped near the city of Havanna, and excite no small degree of jealousy and apprehension in the minds of the feeble Spaniards.

It is asserted that the British have got possession of the city of St. Domingo, with the approbation of the Haytian government. The French troops had been permitted to remove themselves to Cuba. The whole Island of Hispaniola is now in possession of the blacks, under the command of Gen. Dessalines, first consul for life.

[Prov. Gaz.]

Extract of a letter received per the Hourne from Curracoa, dated March 14.

"The British left this place on the 20th ult. at night, after destroying a considerable part of the town; and have still a frigate blockading our harbour, which turns away all vessels bound here, so that it is impossible to get in. There is no business doing here; and what is much against American trade, the governor had prohibited the sale of flour over 9 dollars per barrel. No Spanish produce at market."

We learn with real pleasure, that a perfect understanding subsists between all the branches of the royal family. The Duke of York has visited the Prince, and after an explanation relative to the correspondence caused by the Prince's offer of military services, an entire reconciliation has taken place.

[Lon. Pap.]

PORT OF WILMINGTON.

ENTERED SINCE OUR LAST.

Brig Industry, Cook,	Charleston
Sch'r Defiance, Brown,	St. Eustacia
CLEARED.	
Brig William & Thomas, Thomas, St. George,	[Holmowes]
Barque Pallas, Marshal, St. George, Grenada,	New-York
Sch'r Vigilant, Cameron,	Charleston
Sloop Rebecca, Croket,	
Sch'r Three Sisters, Simmons,	

NOMINAL PRICES CURRENT. At WILMINGTON, April 24, 1804.

	From	To
	Dis.	Dis.
BACON per cwt.	9	—
Butter per lb. scarce,	18	—
Cotton per lb.	14	—
Coffee per lb.	28	—
Corn per bushel,	90	—
— Meal, do.	1	—
Flour per barrel,	8	50
Lumber per M. plenty,	9	—
W. o. hhd. staves,	23	—
R. o. do. do.	10	—
W. o. bl. do. rough,	10	—
Shingles per 1000,	2	—
Molasses per gallon,	60	—
Pork per barrel, plenty,	13	—
Rice per cwt.	4	—
Rum, W. I. pr. g. 3d p.	1	—
— Jamaica do. 4th do.	1	15
— N. E. do.	none	75
Tobacco per cwt.	5	50
Tar per barrel,	1	25
Turpentine,	4	—

Taken Up, and committed to Jail in this town on the 8th instant.

A Negro Man, WHO calls himself JOHN READ, and says he formerly belonged to a Mr. La Fayette of Philadelphia, who removed from thence to France, about 20 years ago, and left him his freedom. From his master brought him from Cape Francois previous to the late revolution, and on his departure for France, they resided some time in Philadelphia, after which he says he followed the sea, and was cast away last fall on Bull Head, in the sch'r Britannia, of Baltimore, bound from thence to Charleston, at which time he lost all his papers relative to his emancipation. The said Negro man is 5 feet 6 1/2 inches high, and slim made, about 24 years of age, speaks French and English, and has a scar on his right wrist, which appears to have been occasioned by the stroke of a sword.

Should the said Negro, contrary to the above statement, be the slave of any person, he is required to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take him away; otherwise he will be dealt with as the law in such cases directs.

John Sullivan, Gaoler. Wilmington, April 23, 1804.

BLANKS. For Sale at this Office.