

solemnly took the oath prescribed in the presence of the Emperor.

At six in the morning the ceremony was announced by a salute of artillery. The troops composing the garrison of Paris having repaired at ten o'clock to the Place du Carrousel, filed off before his Majesty, and formed a line from his palace to the Invalids.

Before noon her Majesty the Empress set out from the palace, and passed the garden of the Thuilleries between the line of troops. Her retinue consisted of four carriages, one with eight horses, and three with six. The Empress was accompanied in her coach by the Princesses, the sisters and sisters-in-law of his Majesty the Emperor. The other carriages were filled by the ladies of the palace, the first chamberlain, and first écuyer. The troops presented arms. The Governor of the Invalids, and the Grand Master of Ceremonies, met her Majesty at the grand portico, and conducted her to the decorated tribune that had been prepared for her in front of the Imperial Throne.

At noon, his Majesty the Emperor, under the discharge of a salute of artillery, set out on horseback from the palace, preceded by Marshals of the Empire and followed by the Colonel General of his guard, and the great officers of the Crown, his Aides-de-Camp and the Staff of the palace. The procession was opened by Chasseurs, and closed by the Horse Grenadiers of the Imperial Guard. Numerous discharges of cannon of the Invalids announced the arrival of his Majesty. The Governor of the Invalids, came without the gate to receive his Majesty, and present to him the keys of the Hotel. The Grand Dignitaries, Ministers, and the Great Officers of the Empire who did not come on horseback, as also the Members of the Great Council, and Grand Chancellor, and the Grand Treasurer of the Legion of Honour, met at the same place, and took their stations in the procession.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, with his Clergy, received his Majesty at the door of the Church, and presented to him the incense and holy water. The Clergy, in procession, conducted his Majesty, under a canopy of the Imperial Throne, to the music of a military march, and amidst the loudest acclamations. His Majesty was placed on the Throne, having behind him the Colonels-General of the Guard, the Governor of the Invalids, and the Great Officers of the Crown. On the two sides and on the second step of the Throne, was placed the Grand Dignitaries; on the lower, and to the right, the Ministers; to the left, the Marshals of the Empire; at the foot of the steps of the Throne, the Grand Master, and the Master of the Ceremonies; in the front of the Grand Master, the Grand Chancellor and the Grand Treasurer of the Legion of Honour. The Aides-de-Camp of the Emperor were standing in a line on the steps of the Throne. On the right of the altar, the Cardinal Legate was placed under a canopy and in an armed chair, which had been prepared for him; to the left of the altar was the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, with his Clergy. Behind the altar in an immense amphitheatre, were arranged 707 Invalids, and 200 young pupils of the polytechnic school. All the nave was occupied by the Great Officers, Commanders, Officers and Members of the Legion of Honour.

The Grand Master of the Ceremonies, having received the command of his Majesty, invited the Cardinal Legate to officiate, and his Eminence began the celebration of the mass.

After the Gospel, the Grand Master of the Ceremonies having received the orders of his Majesty, conducted to the steps of the Throne the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, who pronounced an eloquent discourse on the events of the day, on the miseries of political troubles, and on the gratitude due to the hero who, while he preserved the principles upon which the revolution commenced, had been able to terminate the calamities which followed it. The orator pointed out in a striking manner the duties which the institutions of the Legion of Honour imposed on all its members, and forcibly displayed the numerous advantages which must result from this union of the most illustrious supporters of the governments of the country.

After the discourse the Great Officers of the Legion being called successively by the Grand Chancellor, approached the Throne and individually took the prescribed oath. The Great Officers having taken the oath, the Emperor covered himself, and addressing the Commanders, Officers, and Legionaries, pronounced in a strong and animated voice, these words:

Commanders, Officers, Legionaries, Citizens and Soldiers, you swear by your honour to devote yourselves to the service of the Empire, to the preservation of its territory in its integrity, to the defence of the Empire, the laws of the Republic, and the property which they have consecrated; to combat by all the means which justice, reason, and the laws authorize, every enterprise which shall tend to restore the feudal regime. In fine, you swear to concur with all your power to the maintenance of liberty and equality, the first basis of our constitution.

All the Members of the Legion of Honour kneeling, and with their hands raised, repeated at once, "I swear." The shouts of "Vive l'Empereur" were then renewed on all sides. These last words, pronounced with the accent of a profound energy, impressed the minds of all present with a lively emotion, with which they long continued to be pervaded. It is difficult to describe the enthusiasm which this moment produced. The moment of French glory suspended in the vaults of the nave, in which were assembled the bravest warriors, the numerous

ranks of aged and wounded soldiers, and the youth, representing the glory and the hope of their country; lastly, the religious solemnity of the altar, concurred most powerfully to exalt the imagination, and give presage of the most glorious duration to an institution formed under such auspices.

Mass being ended, the decorations of the Legion were deposited at the foot of the Throne, in golden basins.

M. de Segur, the Grand Master of the Ceremonies, then took the two decorations of the order, and gave them to M. de Talleyrand, the Grand Chamberlain. The latter presented them to his Imperial Highness Monsieur Prince Louis, who attached them to the habit of his Majesty. New honors of "Vive l'Empereur" were then heard several times repeated. The Grand Chancellor of the Legion invited the Great Officers to approach the Throne, to receive successively from the hands of his Majesty, the decorations which the Grand Master of the Ceremonies presented to him on a golden plate. The Grand Chancellor then called the Commanders, afterwards the Officers, lastly the Legionaries, who all came to the foot of the Throne to receive individually the decorations from the hands of the Emperor.

His Majesty particularly fixed his attention on those brave veterans whose glorious services were attested by their mutilations. He interrogated many of them relative to the places and actions in which they had received those noble wounds.

This assemblage of the most distinguished citizens of all classes and of all ages, presented a spectacle equally noble and affecting; the Soldier, the General, the Pontiff, the Magistrate, the Administrator, the Man of Letters, the celebrated Artists, receiving each the rewards of his talents and his labour seemed only to compose one family which pressed around the Throne of a hero, to adorn and support it. A lively and profound emotion was visible in every countenance; and this august and brilliant ceremony impressed the minds of all present with a reverence at once religious and martial.

The fête was terminated by a Te Deum, which, as well as the mass, was the composition of M. le Seur, the Director of the Imperial Chapel.

At 3 o'clock, his Imperial Majesty, under the discharge of a salute of artillery, left the church with the same retinue, and in the same order in which he had arrived. The return of her Imperial Majesty the Empress, was likewise made in the same order which had been observed in her way thither. Her Majesty, in all the places through which they passed, were saluted with the unanimous acclamations of an immense concourse of spectators. A salute of artillery announced the re-entrance of the Emperor into the palace of the Thuilleries.

In the evening the palace and gardens were illuminated, as were also the principal edifices of Paris. At 9 o'clock there was a concert on the terrace of the Imperial palace, and at 10 a fire work was displayed on the Pont Neuf; but the attention of the public was naturally diverted by the presence of their Imperial Majesties, who appeared and remained a long time at the entrance of the vestibule of the Salle des Gardes, in such a manner as to be seen by all the spectators. When the concert was ended, their Majesties, holding each other by the hand, approached to the edge of the terrace, when they bowed to the public, as if to testify how much they were sensible of the acclamations and testimonies of affection of which they had been the object in the course of the day.

The Emperor was dressed, according to the custom, in the most simple manner—that is to say, the uniform of his guard. The head-dresses of the Princesses were rich diadems; that of the Empress was entirely composed of diamonds.

At the moment the Emperor was preparing to leave the Imperial palace, a young man of between 17 or 18 years of age threw himself on his knees at the foot of the Throne, exclaiming "Pardieu! Pardieu!" The Emperor interrogated him, but it was with difficulty he could explain himself and say, that he solicited the pardon of his father, whose name (Destrems) has been well known in the revolution. The air of candour in this young man, and the extreme emotion which he manifested, affected his Imperial Majesty, and he granted him the pardon which he requested.

While the Emperor distributed to the Legion of Honour their decorations, an officer, much mutilated by severe wounds, presented himself with confidence to receive a cross, though he had not any letter of advice as a member of the Legion. Of this the Emperor was assured on enquiry, but he nevertheless presented to him a cross, on the certificate of glory which his wounds presented.

#### FROM THE AURORA.

#### TO THE FRENCH INHABITANTS OF LOUISIANA.

A publication having the appearance of a memorial and remonstrance, to be presented to Congress at the ensuing session, has appeared in several papers. It is therefore open to examination, and I offer you my remarks upon it. The title and introductory paragraph are as follows:

"To the Congress of the United States, in Senate, and House of Representatives, convened."

"We the subscribers, planters, merchants and others, inhabitants of Louisiana, respectfully approach the Legislature of the United States, with a memorial of our rights, a remonstrance against certain laws which contravene them, and a petition for that redress

to which the laws of nature, sanctioned by positive stipulations have entitled us."

It often happens that when one party, or one that thinks itself a party, talks much about its rights, it puts those of the other party upon examining into their own, and such is the effect produced by your memorial.

A single reading of that memorial will show it is the work of some person who is not of your people. His acquaintance with the cause, commencement, progress and termination of the American revolution decides this point; and his making our merits in that revolution the ground of your claims, as if our merits could become yours shows he does not understand your situation.

We obtained our rights by calmly understanding principles, and by the successful event of a long, obstinate, and expensive war. But it is not incumbent on us to fight the battles of the world for the world's profit. You are already participating, without any merit or expense in obtaining it, the blessings of freedom acquired by ourselves; and in proportion as you become initiated into the principles and practice of the representative system of governments of which you have yet had no experience, you will participate more, and finally be partakers of the whole. You see what mischief ensued in France by the possession of power before they understood principles. They earned liberty in words but not in fact. The writer of this was in France through the whole of the revolution, and knows the truth of what he speaks; for after endeavoring to give it principle he had nearly fallen a victim to its rage.

There is great want of judgment in the person who drew up your memorial. He has mistaken your case and forgotten his own; and by trying to court your applause has injured your pretensions. He has written like a lawyer, straining every point that would please his client, without studying his advantage. I find no fault with the composition of the memorial, for it is well written; nor with the principles of liberty it contains considered in the abstract. The error lies in the misapplication of them, and in assuming a ground they have not a right to stand upon. Instead of their serving you as a ground of reclamation against us, they change into a snare on yourselves. Why did you not speak thus when you ought to have spoken it. We fought for liberty when you stood quiet in slavery.

The author of the memorial injudiciously confounding two distinct cases together, has spoken as if he was the memorialist of a body of Americans, who after sharing equally with us in all the dangers and hardships of the revolutionary war had retired to a distance and made a settlement for themselves. If in such a situation, Congress had established a temporary government over them in which they were not personally consulted, they would have had a right to speak as the memorial speaks. But your situation is different from what the situation of such persons would be, and therefore their ground of reclamation cannot of right become yours. You are arriving at freedom by the easiest means that any people ever enjoyed it; without contest, without expense, and even without any contrivance of your own. And you already so far mistake principles that under the name of rights you ask for powers: power to import and enslave Africans; and to govern a territory that we have purchased.

To give colour to your memorial you refer to the treaty of cession (in which you were not one of the contracting parties) concluded at Paris between the governments of the United States and France.

"The third article (you say) of the treaty lately concluded at Paris declares, that the inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated into the union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages, and immunities of citizens of the United States, and, in the mean time, they shall be protected in the enjoyment of their liberty, property, and the exercise of the religion they profess."

As from your former condition you cannot be much acquainted with diplomatic policy, and as I am convinced that even the gentleman who drew up the memorial is not, I will explain to you the ground of this article. It may prevent your running into further errors.

The territory of Louisiana had been so often ceded to different European powers that it became a necessary article on the part of France, and for the security of Spain the ally of France, and which accorded perfectly with our own principles and intentions, that it should be ceded no more; and this article, stipulating for the incorporation of Louisiana into the union of the United States stands as a bar against all future cession, and at the same time as well as "in the mean time;" secures to you a civil and political permanency, personal security and liberty which you never enjoyed before.

France and Spain might suspect (and the suspicion would not have been ill founded had the cession been treated for in the administration of J. Adams,) that we bought Louisiana for the British government, or with a view of selling it to her; and though such suspicion had no just ground to stand upon with respect to our President Thomas Jefferson, who is not only not a man of intrigue, but who possesses that honest pride of principle that cannot be intrigued with, and which keep intriguers at a distance, the article was nevertheless necessary as a precaution against future contingencies. But you, from not knowing the political ground of the article, apply to yourselves personally and exclusively what had reference to the territory to prevent its

falling into the hands of any foreign power that might endanger the Spanish dominions in America, or those of the French in the West-India islands.

You claim (you say) to be incorporated into the union of the United States, and your remonstrances on this subject are unjust and without cause.

You are already incorporated into it as fully and essentially as the Americans themselves are, who are settled in Louisiana. You enjoy the same rights, privileges, advantages and immunities which they enjoy, and when Louisiana, or some part of it shall be created into a constitutional state, you also will be citizens equally with them.

You speak in your memorial, as if you were the only people who were to live in Louisiana, and as if the territory was purchased that you exclusively might govern it. In both these cases you are greatly mistaken. The emigrations from the United States into the purchased territory, and the population arising therefrom will, in a few years exceed you in numbers. It is but 26 years since Kentucky began to be settled, and it already contains more than double your population.

In a candid view of the case, you ask for what would be injurious to yourselves to receive, and unjust in us to grant. Injustice, because the settlement of Louisiana will go on much faster under the government and guardianship of congress than if the government of it were committed to your hands; and consequently the landed property you possessed as individuals when the treaty was concluded, or have purchased since, will increase much faster in value. Unjust to ourselves, because as the reimbursement of the purchase money must come out of the sale of the lands to new settlers, the government of it cannot suddenly go out of the hands of congress. They are guardians of that property for all the people of the United States. And besides this as the new settlers will be chiefly from the U. States it would be unjust and ill policy to put them and their property under the jurisdiction of a people whose freedom had contributed to purchase. You ought also to recollect that the French revolution has not exhibited to the world that grand display of principles and rights that would induce settlers from other countries to put themselves under a French jurisdiction in Louisiana. Beware of intriguers who may push you on from private motives of their own.

Your complaint of two cases, one of which you have no right, no concern with; and the other is founded in direct injustice.

You complain that Congress has passed a law to divide the country into two territories. It is not improper to inform you, that after the revolutionary war ended, Congress divided the territory acquired by that war, into ten territories; each of which were to be erected into a constitutional state when it arrived at a certain population mentioned in the act; and in the mean time, an officer appointed by the President, as the governor of Louisiana now is, presided as governor of the western territory, over all such parts as have not arrived at the maturity of adulthood. Louisianians will require to be divided into twelve states or more; but this is a matter that belongs to the purchaser of the territory of Louisiana, and with which the inhabitants of the town of New Orleans have no right to interfere; and besides this it is possible that the inhabitants of the other territory would chafe to be independent of New Orleans. They might apprehend, that on some pre-empting pretence, their produce might be put in requisition, and a maximum price put on it; a thing not uncommon in a French government—as a general rule, without refining upon sentiment, one may put confidence in the justice of those who have no inducement to do us injustice; and this is the case Congress stands in with respect to both territories, and to all other divisions that may be laid out, and to all inhabitants and settlers of whatever nation they may be.

There can be no such thing as what the memorial speaks of, that is, of a governor appointed by the President, who may have an interest in the welfare of Louisiana. He must from the nature of the case, have more interest in it than any other person can have. He is entrusted with the care of an extensive tract of country, now the property of the United States, by purchase. The value of this lands will depend on the increasing prosperity of Louisiana, its agriculture, commerce, and population. You have only a local and partial interest in the town of New Orleans or its vicinity; and if, in consequence of enlarging the country, new seats of commerce should offer, his general interest would lead him to open them, and your partial interest to shut them up.

There is probably some justice in your remark, as it applies to the governments under which you formerly lived. Such governments always look with jealousy, and an apprehension of revolt, on colonies that increase in prosperity, and they send governors to keep them down. But when you argue with the conduct of governments distant and despotic, to that of domestic and free government, it shows you do not understand the principles and interests of a republic, and to put your right in friendship; we have had experience and you have not.

The other case to which I alluded as being founded in direct injustice, is that in which you petition for power, under the name of rights, to import and enslave Africans? Dare you put up a petition to demand for such a power, without fearing to be struck from the earth by its justice?

Why then do you ask it of men against men? Do you want to secure in Louisiana the horrors of Domingo?

COMMON SENSE.