

are subject to tribute—on twenty millions of pounds, at the rate of 17 cents per pound. Let this be calculated and it will be seen what tax we must pay for leave to sell that article.

But, says the gentleman from Mass. we may now trade to Spain and Portugal—because Great Britain permits us. (Mr. Lloyd observed that he had not said we could trade there because Great Britain permitted it.) I know the gentleman did not say that, (said Mr. S.) but it is my inference. He said we might trade there. I deny it. I beg the gentleman to recollect what passed some time ago between Lord Hawkesbury and Mr. King, and see what reliance can be placed on the promises of British Ministers. On a representation made by Mr. King on the subject of the colonial trade, Lord Hawkesbury agreed that provided the vessel carrying produce from the colonies should go to the United States and re-load her cargo that she should not be liable to capture. What was the consequence? One year afterwards private instructions were given to the British cruisers to take such vessels and every atom of this prudence was swept from the ocean. If this is the manner in which ministerial promises have heretofore been fulfilled, what reliance can be placed on them now? By letters from my correspondents I learn that three merchants engaged in the American trade had waited on Mr. Canning to see whether American vessels might trade to Spain and Portugal? Yes, Mr. Canning answered, they might trade in the produce of their own country.—But the king is authorised to vary these laws and give permission to trade with any country when he pleases. Has he given any such permission to trade with Spain? No. Is then the mere conversation of Mr. Canning a sufficient security? No. Is it any thing like as binding as that formerly officially given to Mr. King, and which was violated? Certainly not. Can this then be a safe trade? No, sir; my informant, who was one of the merchants who waited upon Mr. Canning, says that should France, now warring with Spain, over-run any part of the country, and our vessels afterwards attempt to enter, not having heard of it, they would be good prize. I am not learned in the law, but I will ask this question of those who are. Would not a British judge in this case be obliged to abide by the law instead of the conversation of Mr. Canning? He certainly would, and would give our minister in this case precisely the answer which the French council of prizes gave General Armstrong, that the opinion of an individual could not contravene the express stipulations of a positive law.

The gentleman last up told us that American flour was selling at 47s. a barrel in England. The gentleman knows that flour carried there and not returned for re-exportation, cannot be removed. Flour in that situation has been lying 10 or 12 months in London, could not be exported, and is somewhat injured by age, having been locked up in the stores of England, without a possibility of exporting it; and it is this that sells at that price.

The honorable gentleman last up has said that the exports of the United States to Spain and Portugal were 20 millions of dollars. The gentleman's arguments were applied to Spain and Portugal. The exports to Spain and Portugal and all their possessions, including the immense exports to La Vera Cruz, amounted to something near this sum. But let us take the gentleman on his own ground and see what we could carry on of this trade in our domestic produce, if the embargo were removed. The whole exports of the United States in the produce of the land the year ending in October, 1807, were 48,695,592 dollars; of which the proportion to Spain was 1,181,231 dollars; to Portugal 829,313 dollars. I agree with the gentleman, that if the embargo was off, we might carry on a very lucrative trade with the Spanish colonies and the Brazils, if we had the materials to carry it on. They do not want our flour, but articles which can now no longer be got, goods imported from Germany, and napkeens and cotton goods from India. But these are not the produce of our country, to which the gentleman alluded; and I say that the exports of our domestic produce to the colonies and islands of Spain, Cuba alone excepted, are very small. G. Britain will not let us go to Germany to get German goods, and therefore we cannot carry them as we were accustomed to do. But perhaps we shall be told we may carry British goods. What does the gentleman say as a merchant, to paying double freight, duty and insurance, and then competing with England in the sale of her own manufactures. We have done it heretofore, because Great-Britain was excluded from that trade. Confine the trade then to Spain and Portugal, supposing it to be free, and it will not amount to two and a half millions altogether. We are to say to Great-Britain, if you will give us the boon of going to Spain and Portugal, (and perhaps this is but an ignus fulgur to lead us to her prize courts) we will submit to your tribute elsewhere.

The English orders had told us we might trade as usual with the West-India islands; but now, believing, no doubt, that this government has not strength or energy in itself to maintain any way as long what has she done? Proclaimed a blockade on the remaining islands of France, so that we are now confined to British islands alone. We are restricted from trading there by blockade, and what security have we that if the embargo be taken off—for I wish it off; no man suffers more from it in proportion to his capital than I do; ty. I

stand here the representative of the people, and must endeavor to act in such a manner as will best secure their interests; and I pledge myself to join heart and hand with gentlemen to take it off whenever we can have a fair and honorable trade—that from our submitting to these interdictions as a right of Great Britain she may not chuse to interdict all trade, she being omnipotent, and sole mistress of the ocean as we were told by the gentleman from Connecticut. I have seen a late English pamphlet called "Hints to both parties," said to be by a ministerial writer to this effect; that Great-Britain having command over all the seas, could and ought to exclude and monopolize the trade of the world to herself. This pamphlet goes critically into an examination of the subject; says that by a stroke of policy she can cut us off from our extensive trade; that she has the power, and having the power, she ought to do it.

Mr. S. concluded by saying that he had not meant to take up so much time of the house; he had meant merely to state his ideas of the situation in which we were placed by the edicts of the two belligerents. He wished to place it in such a point of view that gentlemen might be led to adopt such measures as might best secure the interests of the country. Mr. S. said his own private interests pressed so heavy on his mind, that he could scarcely trust himself to decide. He had therefore submitted those ideas to gentlemen whose feelings were not thus affected, that if they might think proper with the honorable gentleman to take off the embargo, he might join with them; if not, that some other measure might be adopted which would lead to the security of our peace and honor.

STATE PAPERS.

Col. LEAR'S LETTERS

Of the 28th and 31st of March, 1808.

(Fifth copy.)

Algiers, March 28th, 1808.

SIR, I have the honor to enclose triplicate of my respects to you of the 4th of January, and duplicate of that of the 9th inst. and the schedule of my account with the U. States. Since forwarding the first of these I have heard nothing respecting the U. S. excepting by a letter from Mr. Montgomery, our consul in Alicante, that an embargo had been laid on all vessels in the ports of the U. S.

It is with regret I have to inform you that our affairs here wear a different aspect from what they did when I had last the honor of writing to you. On the 16th inst. the Dey sent me a message by my drogerman that I should pay immediately 16,000 dollars for eight of the subjects of this regency, said to have been destroyed on board the American schr. Mary Ann, captured some time since by one of his frigates, as mentioned in my former letters. I returned for answer that I had not yet received any authentic advice of this business, and could therefore say nothing about it. The Dey then sent me word that he would wait the arrival of the courier from Alicante, by which I might receive some information. But on the 24th (the courier not having yet arrived) the drogerman informed me that the Dey had sent for him and ordered him to tell me that if I did not pay the money before night I should be sent to prison in chains.

I ordered him to return immediately to the Dey, and say, that I could not pay the money without the order of my government as it was an affair out of the usual course of our business here, and that I was ready to meet the event. He brought me word that the Dey would see me next day at noon on the subject. He accordingly sent for me at noon on the 25th. When I entered the palace I met Mr. Ulrich the Danish consul, who was descending from an audience of the Dey. He was seized by a Chaux, who carried him through the streets in the most indignant manner to the slave prison, where he was loaded with an enormous chain, the reason assigned for which was, that he had been called upon for his biennial presents which he declared he could not make without having time given him, as the vessel containing it, and annuities for the regency, had been taken by the English.

On meeting the Dey, he demanded from me immediate payment for the prisoners before mentioned, together with an additional two thousand dollars for the boy said to have been carried in the schooner to Naples. I told him with firmness that I could not pay it without the orders of my government, as it was an extraordinary case; and requested time to write and receive an answer; but was answered, that if it was not paid immediately, I knew what the consequence would be. I replied, that let the consequence be what it might, I should not pay it. I was then ordered to leave his presence. On descending to the area of the palace, where the Danish consul had been seized, I expected the same compliment which he had met with, and was prepared for it, but finding no one to molest me, I left the palace and returned to my own house, where I supposed the orders would be sent to have me arrested; but the day passed without my hearing any thing more of the matter. In the evening I met the French and Swedish consuls (the others being at the gardens) and we agreed to send for the other consuls the following morning, to concert measures for the liberation of the Dane. At noon we met at the Danish consul's house, with our respective drogermen, and proceeded to the palace, where

we had an audience with the Dey, who, after some conversation, agreed to release the Danish consul from his chains, at the intercession made for him. From thence we went to the marine, where the consul had been sent to work with the other slaves, carrying a chain of forty weight, to receive and conduct him to his house. While we were with the Dey on the business beforementioned, he asked me, in the presence of the consuls, if I did not intend to pay the money. I answered him as I had done the day before; to which he made the same reply; and I remained in daily expectation of experiencing the effect of this refusal; which is dictated by a sense of duty and a conviction that the honor of my country demands such conduct from me. I make no comments on the unpleasantness of my situation: my government and my country will consider it, and do what is right respecting it.

As it is very likely the cruisers which are now fitting out will have orders to capture American vessels, I have written to our consul at Alicante by this opportunity, which is unexpected and the only one likely to occur soon, to convey notice to all the consuls of the U. States in this sea, to guard our merchant vessels against the evil which may occur. A copy of my letter to him I have now the honor to enclose. In consequence of the barbarous outrage which has been committed on the Danish consul, and threatened to be put in execution against me, the consuls have been brought to reflect on their precarious situation here; and I trust that in a few days there will be a compact entered into among us, that we will use our best endeavors to enforce that article which exists in all the treaties between this regency and christian powers, securing the person and family of the consul from violence and outrage, in consequence of any thing he may do in the exercise of his official functions. And I hope each one will bind himself not to do any act as a public agent, while any one is held in or threatened with, duress vile.

Our respective governments, I trust, will sanction such a measure, and give orders to their consuls accordingly.

Notwithstanding all I have stated, it is possible that the Dey may not proceed to extremities towards me, or commit hostilities on our commerce and citizens, until I hear from my government on the subject. But I have tho't it my duty to guard as much as possible against the evil, by giving notice to our vessels which may be in this sea, as well as those in the Atlantic; for at present there is nothing to prevent their cruisers from passing the Straits.

The camp is expected to march in a few days against Tunis, and their cruisers are said to be intended for that quarter; but there is no doubt but some of them will cruise in every part of this sea, and probably go into the Atlantic.

With sentiments of the highest respect and most sincere attachment,

I have the honor to be, sir, your most faithful and obedient servant,

TOBIAS LEAR.

The Hon. JAMES MADISON, Secretary of State of the United States of America, Washington.

(Triplicate) Algiers, March 31, 1808.

SIR—A copy of what I had the honour of writing to you, on the 28th inst. with its enclosures, accompanies this. The vessel which took the aforesaid letter, did not sail until the 29th.

Yesterday I sent my drogerman to the palace, to know of the Dey what were his ultimate intentions, (if he chose to declare them) respecting the business mentioned in my last; and to request that I might be allowed three months to receive the orders of my government.—The answer brought was, that if I paid the money in the course of the day, we should stand as we were before; but if I did not he should pursue his own measures. As I was yet uncertain whether his threats would be put in execution against me personally, or against our commerce, I remained fixed in my first resolution. This morning the two frigates which had been preparing some days past, made the signal for sailing; and a formal message was sent to inform me, that they had orders to capture American vessels, (the threats of personal violence to me having had no effect.) I thought it a duty which I owed to my government and to my country, to prevent if possible the calamity which might fall on our citizens and their property; I therefore sent to inform the Dey, that if he should recal his orders from these vessels, before they sailed, and make no renewal of them to these or others, I would pay the money; but that I considered it as a measure forced upon me, and as such should represent it to my government. The order was recalled, after the frigates had got under way; and the money is to be paid to-morrow, which I shall obtain by bills on John Gavino, Esq. our consul in Gibraltar, to whom I shall give bills on the Secretary of State of the U. S. to meet the same. The frigates have gone out, and the other cruisers will be got ready for sea immediately. A vessel is expected to sail in a few days for Alicante, by which I shall write to our consul, contravening the positive advices for our vessels not to leave the ports in which they may be; but, at the same time, directing them to be strictly on their guard.

I have, this day, had an opportunity of writing to Tripoli, (the first which has occurred for more than three months) which I have improved: and by the same route to Tunis, giving information of what has passed.

Painful as has been my situation in this affair, I feel conscious of having discharged my duty to my country in the best, and indeed only, manner in my power. While I could believe that the consequence of refusing to make this unjust payment would fall upon me personally, I was ready to meet it; but when I was convinced that my country would suffer

in the persons and property of its citizens, I was obliged to yield.

My letters, which accompany this, contain what I have to say on our affairs here, and I shall only add the assurance of high respect and sincere attachment with which I have the honor to be, sir, Your most faithful and obedient servant.

TOBIAS LEAR.

The Hon. James Madison, Sec. of State of the U. S. of America, Washington.



RURAL ECONOMY.

"The first of Arts, source of Domestic ease, Pride of the Land and patron of the Seas."

A NEW PROCESS IN MAKING BUTTER.

Communicated for the Star by Dr. George Buchanan of Wadesborough, Anson County.

At a friend's, in the country, a few evenings ago, I was entertained with the experiment of making (as it was called) a pound of butter out of a pint of milk.

The process is as follows.—A pound (or any given quantity) of common butter is to be beaten quite soft, and as much salt added to it as will season the additional pound to be made from the milk. A small quantity of new milk, slightly warmed, is then added to the butter. The whole is put into a convenient vessel for churning, or rather for stirring; which is performed by a brisk continued rotatory motion with a spoon or other instrument for 15 or 20 minutes, by which time (or even in 10 minutes) the milk will become entirely incorporated with the butter.

I have made no experiment to determine whether the process is facilitated by the trituration of body; [common salt] but apprehend that it is not; from having frequently observed the same kind of butter produced, under certain circumstances, in the ordinary way of churning. Nor do I know, from experience, what effect it has in correcting the rancidity of old butter; but am persuaded that it must be, of all others, the best and cheapest corrective.

It is obvious, from the composition of this butter, that it is less adapted to culinary purposes, than that which abounds more with oil; but it is of a pleasant taste, is better suited to the stomach's of convalescents, and children may be indulged in it more freely than in the ordinary kind.

Wadesborough Nov. 24, 1808.

To the Farmers of the United States.

Permit me through the medium of a newspaper, to give you a few hints respecting the culture of Indian Corn. Although the mode here recommended may be considered very imperfect, yet it may engage the attention of farmers more able than myself, and by their experiments, bring the art of husbandry to great perfection. I have been convinced from experience as well as philosophy, that planting corn at the distance of four feet, with four or five kernels in a hill, and that raising the earth about it in hoeing time, are equally absurd. Planting the seed at so great a distance is wrong on several accounts.

1st. Corn is a plant that requires both moisture and heat; but not a heat so intense as the meridian sun in summer often produces.—Any man of common observation will allow, that in moist warm weather, corn always vegetates the fastest. The extreme heat of the sun has a tendency to, and will rarify and exhale both the moisture and the salts or nitrous particles, which in a degree, deprives the plants of nourishment. To plant the rows of your corn about three feet distant, and the hill in the rows about twenty inches, with two kernels in each hill, will give the same quantity of seed, and each plant its share of heat and moisture. The ground will be so shaded before the drought of summer comes on, that neither the extreme heat of the day, nor the night chills, are so destructive as they are to corn planted in the old way.

As I generally sow and plant my ground alternately, I find by experience, that my successive crops, as well as my corn are much larger than they were when I used the former mode.

Against hilling corn I think several reasons may be offered.

1st. Nature always directs right with regard to the placing of vegetable roots. If you draw over them a new layer of earth, you derange the order of nature; you give them different degrees of heat and moisture, and create for them, as it were, a new climate. Second, if you make a hill about your corn, it keeps the stalk tender within the hill. If it is only bent by a storm, a hole is left in the top of the hill on the windward side of the stalk, and the rain washes in the dust and prevents the corn from rising after the storm is over. Third, corn is a plant of quick vegetation and sends forth its roots to a great distance from its stalk. If you plough between the rows you will cut the fine roots of the corn, which greatly injures it. This you will discover by the corn's wilting when you plough it in the middle of a hot day in hilling time.

From the foregoing consideration and others I am convinced, that it is best to plough your ground well in the spring, to run over it a light harrow before you plant it, to keep the ground as clear of weeds as possible after the corn is up, and at each time hoeing, in order to prevent exaltations, to stir gently the whole surface of the earth.

As the exports of America chiefly depend on the agricultural part of the society, it is of