

FROM THE PUBLIC LEDGER.

JAMES MADISON, Esquire, President of the United States.

You are assailed and defended, alternately by writers under Greek and Roman signa-... They mix two ingredients which, like vinegar, cannot coalesce. Patriotism and...

proclaimed it—"totidem verbis." You directed that all further verbal conferences with Mr Jackson should be discontinued, and discussions in writing only admitted. For what reason? Be-

cause—having been once deceived—you now resolved not to be deceived again, but to conduct the negotiation yourself in the latter, which you could not do in the former mode. The letters of the secretary, from this epocha, assume a new shape, and acknowledge his paternity in nothing but the signature.

The vast solicitude which this gentleman has manifested to identify himself with the government still further corroborates his guilt. Have you canvassed for votes in favour of Mr. Giles' resolutions? No! Sir you have scarcely opened your lips. Have you written to your friends in the different states to re-echo these resolutions in the state legislatures? No! from my long and intimate acquaintance with your virtue and prudence, I can venture to say you never have.

Can your secretary say the same thing? Can he say that he has not written to A. B. C. D. E. and F. and so on, to the end of the alphabet? Can he say that he did not write to a gentleman in Richmond, and inclose to him a sketch of the sort of resolutions he wished the legislature of that state to adopt? Can he say that those resolutions, a little modified for vanity's sake, were not put, by that gentleman, into the hands of a young member and ultimately passed? In a word—Can he say that he has not been intriguing, upon this occasion, all over the United States?

Sir! examine both ends of this man's wallet and you will be surprised to find—

"Mantica quod in tergo est!"

A FEDERAL FRIEND.

Alexandria, February 15th, 1810.

THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Is the commerce of the United States in a more prosperous situation than it was before Mr. Jefferson's election? When the Constitution was formed and the government under it organized, the situation of the country was lamentable. The nation was deeply in debt, and without credit. The old confederation had run down, and with it, all nationality. The authority of the state governments had in some instances been set at defiance, and insurrections had arisen to an alarming degree in one of the states. The Treaty of Peace between the United States and Great Britain had never been carried into effect by either party. Indian wars ravaged our inland borders; and the British held their posts on our frontiers.

In this distressing situation general Washington and his federal friends, who assisted in forming the constitution, took charge of the public affairs of the nation. Scarcely had they begun to carry into effect their excellent schemes of policy, when we became embroiled with Great Britain. Spoliations to an immense amount, were committed by her cruizers upon our commerce, the spirits of a large part of the country were irritated, and a loud cry for war resounded from one den of democracy to another, through the union. General Washington did not look to the mood of a large city, as a thermometer of public opinion. He consulted with wise and patriotic men, not with Frenchmen and Irishmen on the best course to pursue. The result was, Mr. Jay's mission to the British court; and that issued in the celebrated treaty of 1794. In compliance with the terms of that treaty, Great Britain gave up the western posts; we conforming on our part; arrangements were made to adjust the claims of both parties by commissioners; and in the end, the people of this country received several millions of dollars, as a compensation for their losses by British depredation; and peace and friendship again subsisted between us, and that nation. In the mean time our trade proceeded with new life and vigor, and increased beyond the most sanguine expectations. This period cannot be forgotten; and must it not be acknowledged by all honest men, that the prosperity of the country was altogether without a parallel?

The Jeffersonians were deadly enemies of this treaty. It expired during the presidency of their leader, and he refused to renew it, although the offer was made by the British government. Why was this refusal?—Will any honest man in the U. States, say at this time, that this treaty was not advantageous in a high degree to us? This enquiry is not made of Irishmen or Frenchmen, who have not seen enough to discern the true interests of the country, nor integrity enough to pursue them, if they could discern them. But let the intelligent and upright natives of the soil, say on their consciences, whether the treaty of 1794 was not, in its effects, highly advantageous to this country? It was, however, rejected; and from the time of its expiration, to the present moment, what has been our situation? Has our trade been more prosperous? Have our farmers been benefited by the embarrassments of commerce? Is our revenue increasing? Are our seamen in any better predicament, either in point of wages, or protection? It is a fact that some of the members from Kentucky and Tennessee, and some from Virginia and Georgia, and a number of Irishmen in the country, lament with much apparent sorrow, over our sailors impressed on board the British navy. But it is worthy of notice, that this excessive sensibility comes from parts of the country where there are few or no sailors. If we were looking for real sympathy on this subject, we should naturally expect to find it in the middle, and particularly the eastern states, where the sailors belong, and where their friends reside. The truth is, it is a political stalking horse, rode by

those who have ambitious, or revengeful views to answer, and has no sincerity in it. When we find them yearn over our seamen imprisoned in France, and when we discover any effectual measures taken to relieve them, we may begin to think more favorably of the Jeffersonians. At present, they are entitled to but little credit for their pretences. If the commerce and the seamen, of the United States have any real friends, they are in the commercial States.

How is it with the farmers? Have they not learned by dear experience, that their prosperity is intimately connected with commerce? Are their circumstances mended by a Jeffersonian administration of government? Does the produce of their farms find a ready market, or command a better price, than it did in Federal times?

Why is it, that we hear them so often anxiously enquiring after the repeal of the non-intercourse and the opening of a free trade, *once more*? Are their taxes more easily paid, are their families better dressed, are they able to settle their sons, who come of age, or furnish their new married daughters more easily, than before the country became encumbered with embargoes, non-intercourse, &c. &c.?

When these questions are satisfactorily answered, a multitude more are ready to be asked. In the mean time we should be happy to be informed by some shrewd ministerial calculator, how much nearer we are, to the establishment of "the freedom of the ocean," than we were twenty-two years ago;—Have all the combinations of French intrigue and French force drawn Great Britain one inch nearer to the point of surrendering this last plank of her national safety? We say nothing at present of the advantages or disadvantages, which we should be likely to realize from the establishment of this fanciful principle. The only enquiry now is—are we in a fairer way of obtaining it, than we were when Mr. Jefferson first came into office. If not, what has been gained in this particular, by his patriotic services? Cos. Mirror.

FROM THE VIRGINIA PATRIOT.

RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

The particular attention of the people should be directed to the resolution submitted by Mr. Livermore, in the house of representatives, on Wednesday, the 28th ult. It will be found in [the last Minerva] and it will in the same place be seen, that the House refused even to consider this resolution. The conduct of the executive in refusing to receive the Spanish Minister, with the present proceedings of the majority in Congress, furnish the best test of their feelings and sentiments towards foreign powers. The only legal government of Spain, the supreme central junta, sent a minister to the United States with full powers to engage for the payment of eight millions of dollars, as compensation for spoliations formerly committed on American commerce, and to settle to the satisfaction of this government the contested boundaries of Louisiana. This minister was rejected by Mr. Madison, for no other reason that can be conceived of, than that his reception would offend Bonaparte. And it comes to this, that the President of the United States shall be deterred from exercising an undoubted attribute of sovereignty, from fear of the anger of a foreign power? Shall he sacrifice the interests of the United States to such fear? The partisans of administration speak of a "contention for the government" in Spain and maintain that no power can be acknowledged in that country until the contest is terminated. With the same propriety they might say, that we ought not to receive a minister from Great Britain, because there certainly does exist a "contention for the government" of that country. Bonaparte does unquestionably aim at the conquest of Great Britain, and, if his means should ever be adequate to the end, would dethrone the Brunswick dynasty and substitute the Corsican. Upon the same principle indeed we might refuse to acknowledge any other government; than that of France, for she certainly aims at universal empire, and therefore there is a contest for the government of Austria, Russia, Prussia, &c. In what manner will it be attempted to distinguish the case of Spain? Possibly her subjugation may be more near; but this is a matter of great uncertainty. Instead of joining in the general opinion that she will speedily be conquered, I think that the chance of her ultimately maintaining her independence is by no means desperate. At all events her subjugation is more remote than is generally imagined.

But shall it be conceded, that the Emperor of France may lawfully dethrone monarchs at his will; that he may change the governments of independent states according to his pleasure, and plant Corsican dynasties in all parts of the earth? Must all nations submit to the arrogance of the man, who by his mere decree pretends to dethrone the King of Naples and without colour of justice to seize the kingdom of Spain? Let us suppose, that during the late campaign in Germany Bonaparte had pretended to create one of his brothers Emperor of Austria, would this have rendered the title of Francis disputable? Certainly not; for all nations have an interest in opposing these usurpations.

But it is said, the junta is a self-created body. This is not correct. The King of Spain being in the power of Bonaparte, the government necessarily devolved upon the other estates of the kingdom, the nobles and people, and by them the junta was created. By this body the government is

administered in the name of their captive king. This is the only government acknowledged by Spain. The pretended king Joseph has no other power than that of an invading enemy—he governs the district of country, which is immediately occupied by his troops and nothing more. The case of two parties in a country contending for the sovereignty is not parallel. When the people of a country are divided into two parties, and the leaders of each contend to be the sovereign, other states may properly refuse to acknowledge either. But in the present case there does not appear to be a division of the people, who are united in resisting the most abominable usurpation that ever was attempted.

\* This statement having been made by Mr. Bayard in the Senate and not denied, must be considered admitted.

Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 1.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITIA.

The house in committee of the whole, Mr. MILNOR in the chair, on the bill authorizing a detachment of the militia of the United States, as reported with amendments by a select committee.

The bill as amended provides—

That the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized, at such times as he shall deem necessary, to require of the executives of the several states and territories, to organize, arm and equip, according to law, and hold in readiness to march at a moment's warning, their respective proportions of one hundred thousand militia, officers included, to be apportioned by the President of the United States, from the latest militia returns in the department of war; and in cases where such returns have not been made, by such other rule as he shall judge equitable.

Sec. 2. That the executives of the several states and territories may accept as part of the said detachment, any corps of volunteers who shall engage to continue in service six months after they arrive at the place of rendezvous.

Sec. 3. That each company of volunteers may be composed of volunteers from one or more companies of militia, and shall be commanded by such officers from the respective companies to which they belong, as the executive of the state or territory may designate for that purpose, having regard, as near as may be, to the numbers volunteering from each company.

Sec. 4. That each volunteer shall sign an engagement to serve the U. States, according to the provisions of this act; and when his engagement shall be accepted by the executive of the state or territory to which he belongs, he shall, as soon as called into actual service, under authority of the U. States, be subject to the rules and articles of war; and may also be called into the service of the U. States, to any place not beyond sea, out of the jurisdiction of the U. States.

Sec. 5. That when a return of such volunteers shall be made to the department of war, each non-commissioned officer and private shall be furnished by the U. States with a musket and other accoutrements required by law, in complete order, and each musician with a suitable instrument of music.

Sec. 6. That the said volunteers shall, once in each year, if not called into actual service, be encamped for ten days successively, for improvement in camp duty and discipline, either by regiments, battalions or companies, as the commander of brigade shall direct. And in case any non-commissioned officer, musician or private shall fail to attend and perform his duty as aforesaid, without an excuse satisfactory to the commandant of his regiment, or shall so appear, without being uniformed according to orders, his arms and accoutrements, or musical instrument shall revert to the United States.

Sec. 7. That for the safe keeping and security of the arms, accoutrements and instruments of music aforesaid, the commandant of each regiment be, and he is hereby authorized and required to designate some convenient place of rendezvous, at which the volunteers aforesaid shall meet, for the purpose of being instructed in camp duty and discipline, as herein before directed; and at the place so designated, there shall be an arsenal for the deposit of the said arms, accoutrements and instruments of music, under the superintendance of an armorer, to be appointed by the commandant of the regiment; and it shall be the duty of said armorer, to cause the said arms, accoutrements and instruments of music to be kept in good order, ready to be delivered to the several companies of volunteers aforesaid, either to be instructed in camp duty and discipline as aforesaid, or when called into actual service. And at the expiration of the time for which such volunteers engaged to serve, they shall each be entitled to the arms, accoutrements and instrument of music aforesaid as their own private property, to be used and disposed of as they shall think proper:—Provided never theless, That before any such volunteer shall receive the arms, accoutrements or instruments of music to which he is entitled by this act, he shall produce from the commanding officer of his regiment, a certificate that he has performed the service required by his engagement.

Sec. 8. That the commanding officer of each regiment, be and he is hereby authorized and required to rent for the use of the United States a convenient building to be used as an arsenal,