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FROM THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL.

ARTICLES UPON FRENCH INFLUENCE. No. IX.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

The secret message of the President of the United States, of December 1805, which was annexed to the number, opens an ample field for investigation and criticism. It is not probable that all can produce an instance of conduct at once so unprincipled and undignified, in the ruler of a people, as that of Jefferson upon this occasion appear to have been, when fairly and fully exposed.

Acknowledging the duty incumbent upon the Executive of the United States to require from government of Spain indemnification for our red citizens, the message announces that a convention was accordingly entered into between the Minister of the United States at Madrid, and the Minister of that government for foreign affairs, which it was agreed that spoiliations committed by Spanish subjects, and carried into ports of Spain, should be paid for by that nation, and that committed by French subjects, and carried into Spanish ports, should remain for further discussion. It would seem to appear that the transference of Louisiana by France to the United States, should be the rejection of this convention on the part of Spain. But it is believed that this was not the case. In this, as in all other instances, we were bound to know what the commands of France were, and to obey them. France would suffer Spain to make an arrangement with us, as we would give our discharge in full for France's peremptory pronouncement an unfounded claim on our part, that of payment for French spoiliations carried into Spanish ports. And why? Because, as happens to leak out, towards the conclusion of the message, "France was prompt in her declarations, that our demands upon Spain for French spoiliations, carried into Spanish ports, were included in the settlement between the United States, and France." That, in ceding Louisiana to the United States, and forwarding to all the difficulties which the division of boundaries must naturally produce, she even then intended to take that advantage of her own wrong in this respect which she has since done, by preventing an adjustment between us and Spain, except upon terms which replenish the French treasury, there can be no doubt in the mind of any man of common apprehension. It was one object, indeed, to give a plausible pretext for evading payment of French spoiliations in Spain, the existence of which was proved that, politically speaking, there was no Spain. But it was another and a greater one, to keep the boundaries of Louisiana unsettled as the instrument of establishing a strong influence over the United States, whether by the pretence of obtaining more money from us, or by the quite immaterial. Yet facts abundantly and conclusively shew that such an expectation has been entertained. M. Talleyrand was chief counsellor to his Imperial Majesty; and he not been Napoleon would have known the character and situation of our country. We saw our extreme love of peace; our deep animosity against England; the ill conduct of our government towards us; our ardent attachment, from revolutionary recollections, to the French nation; our consequent indisposition to view the wrongs done in so strong a light as those of England; our inefficiency in military and naval power; the irregularity which would attend the creation of a new navy; the idolatry of the people for the existing administration; the probability that idolatry would continue while the people believed the administration to be devoted to peace and peace; and the certainty that should we be impelled to war with a foreign power, even if opposition would exist among us to go to war with England rather than France. He was also acquainted with Jefferson's philosophizing, theorizing, and timid disposition; with his total want of energy; and with his ardent hatred of England and profound devotion to France. He knew that the same President Jefferson, excessively ambitious of literary fame, had staked his reputation upon a prediction that the Sun of France's glory was about to set forever, and of which he was deeply interested to turn his prediction into prophecy. Under all these circumstances he must have been a fool to doubt that the American President was ripe so far as to work on himself alone, for the great and noble work of completing the destruction of Old England. He could not therefore expect with confidence but a perfect submission to his dictation in regard to our relations in Spain.

There were several statements in the message, if not in fact false, were extremely deceptive. After the President had spoken of Spain as exercising power in reference to the contested boundaries of Louisiana, he incautiously admitted, in the very same paper, that France was managing the business to promote her own purpose, as she was by the singular expression, "Whatever direction she might mean to give to these differences—"

It is, whatever direction France might mean to give to the differences between the United States and Spain. He was sensible, indeed he had been informed by his agents in Europe, that France intended to give some direction to those differences, and he affected to be ignorant what it would be. Yet he perfectly knew what it was, and was at that moment secretly labouring to give those "differences" the very same "direction" which his friend Napoleon contemplated. This may be considered a high charge, but it will be amply supported by unquestionable facts. The direction which France meant to give, and had in fact given, was, that several millions of dollars should be paid out of the treasury of the United States into that of France. We could prove the fact to the satisfaction of any independent court or jury in the United States. But as Jefferson knows that we can prove it, we shall not be called on for the proof. We cannot exhibit in these letters the same sort of evidence, either as to this point, or as to a presumed particular correspondence between Jefferson and Napoleon, which it would be in our power to command in a court of law.

But yet I say, Imputation and strong circumstances, That lead directly to the door of truth, Will give you satisfaction, you shall have it.

There is no hesitation in asserting that Jefferson, more perhaps through fear than from corruption, had made up his mind to carry into effect the "direction" which France "might mean to give to the differences" between the United States and Spain. He will not deny it. The public may expect the proof.

The publication of the secret documents, "IN EXTENSO," is suspended for the present. When the Public reflect upon the importance of those parts of them which were disclosed in the seventh number, and, which completely proved the fact of the subjection of Jefferson's administration to the influence of France, and reflect also that documents of such importance had not been known, for four or five years, to exist, by 50 or 60 inflexible opponents of the administration in Congress, they must have some idea of the power of that charm which binds the members of the national legislature to secrecy in certain cases. It appears now to be universally admitted that there is no constitutional or legal obstacle to the publication of those documents. But the writer finds that some of those whose judgment he cannot but highly respect, are not quite so clear as to the perfect propriety of such a step. All the members of Congress have been uniformly agreed in opinion that some parts of the papers which were laid before them ought not to be given to the world.—More, much more general information upon the subject, however, the Public are entitled to and shall receive.

P. S. The defence set up by Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison, in the National Intelligencer, against the charges contained in No. VII. will be examined at considerable length in No. X. to which will be added an appendix, very much to the point, in which two great statesmen will be cut to pieces with their own favorite edge tools. It augurs well that that those gentlemen treat this subject so seriously, and it would put to the blush, if any thing could, the few wretched French paragraph makers who affect to ridicule a development which their masters feel to be fraught with death to all their hopes.

From the Connecticut Mirror.

On the 4th of July, instant, that profound statesman Samuel Harrison Smith, editor of the National Intelligencer, favoured his readers with two columns of sage reflections, occasioned by the arrival of this national anniversary. After some preliminary remarks, he says—"It was not so much from the actual oppressions we suffered, as the principle involving the right to oppress us that prompted our purpose, and fixed our determination to resist [Great Britain] at every hazard. Has this principle, for which we fought and bled and suffered in various other ways been maintained? If it has, we may fairly rejoice; if it has not, we have abundant cause for mourning."

"It would be a proud consolation were we able to answer this inquiry without qualification, in the affirmative."

Whether such things as this, which appear from time to time in that paper, are the works of Mr. Smith himself, or Mr. Jefferson, or Mr. Madison, we pretend not to know. Those gentlemen all write so much alike, and are so much on a footing in point of talents, that it requires no inconsiderable degree of critical skill to discriminate between their several labours. But we presume the man who wrote these remarks, is prepared to answer such inquiries as they fairly give rise to: and with that persuasion, we take the liberty to submit a few to his consideration.

As it is in terms here conceded, that the principle for which we contended in the war of independence, has been abandoned, to whom is the dereliction chargeable? Have the Jeffersonians the hardihood to say it is General Washington? If they have, we shall be glad to hear them. Will they bring it home to Mr. Adams? We should think from the tenor of this year's toasts, and from the recent labours of this unhappy old man, that they would not like to lay this sin at his door.

If, however, they think proper to do it, a reference to their former treatment of him, will possibly furnish some evidence applicable to the question. If the charge be just, and cannot be laid to the account of the two first administrations, where can it fall, but upon the sacred head of "the man of the people"—the "illustrious Jefferson?" If then we have at length found the nation at culprit, it may be well to inquire for a moment, what drove him to this act of desperation.

If Mr. Jefferson is to be supposed capable of speaking the truth at all, he has in some measure, at least "by implication," exonerated his predecessors from the foul crime of sacrificing so essential a principle of our national prosperity and honour. In his celebrated inaugural speech, delivered on the 4th of March, 1801, after expressing his full confidence that "the honest patriot" would not "abandon a government in the full tide of successful experiment, which has so far kept us free and firm"—and after a series of very handsome remarks without meaning—and after a catalogue of what he then deemed the essential principles of our government he adds—"These principles form the bright constellation, which has gone before us, and guided our steps through an age of revolution and reformation. The wisdom of our sages, and blood of our heroes, have been devoted to their attainment:—they should be the creed of our political faith; the text of civil instruction, the touchstone by which to try the services of those we trust; and should we wander from them in moments of error or of alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps, and to regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty and safety." If we understand this language, Mr. Jefferson does not, upon taking the reins of government into his own hands, pretend to charge his predecessors with abandoning any essential principle fought for in the war of independence. Well then, as the government was, by his own confession in "the full tide of successful experiment," when he took it, how has it happened, that the essential principle for which we fought in the war of independence, has been abandoned under his administration?

When Mr. Jefferson took the government, he had so full a treasury and such ample sources of revenue, that in his first message after he came into office, he gave Congress to understand, that—"weighing all probabilities of expense, as well as of income, there is reasonable ground of confidence, that we may now safely dispense with all internal taxes." Since his administration commenced, he has had no insurrections, no war, foreign or domestic, to drain the treasury (unless indeed the operations on the Barbary coast are to be dignified with the name of war) no extraordinary calls for expenditure, except to carry on lawsuits; and yet at the end of eight years, we find him with an empty treasury, a ruined commerce, the sources of revenue dried up, our foreign relations in utter entanglement and confusion—and to crown the whole; the essential principle for which we struggled in the war of Independence has not been maintained.

Will the Jeffersonians, as usual, charge the federalists with this abandonment? Stop, gentlemen. Do you not recollect that Mr. Jefferson's popularity gained ground incessantly, from the moment he pronounced the twaddle dum of his inaugural speech, until it was known that he was to leave the throne? Then indeed, as is always the case with sycophants, and office seekers, the public adoration was turned towards the rising sun. But the democratic cry of "162 to 14" cannot be forgotten.—Could federalists then, have controlled the affairs of government, against the force of such overbearing majorities as he has had throughout his administration, and particularly for several of the last years of it? Wonderful power must indeed be ascribed to them, if with six or seven senators, and between twenty and thirty representatives, they were able to manage their devoted opponents.

It is not owing to the federalists, Mr. Smith, that your joy on the 4th of July suffers any degree of diminution. It is owing to the pernicious measures of the man whom you, and your party have almost adored—IT IS OWING TO MR. JEFFERSON. He is answerable for embarrassment and perplexities, at home and abroad—he has destroyed our commerce, drained our revenue, and reduced us to the most abject, humiliating, and disgraceful condition, split into actions at home and despised, plundered, and insulted by all nations, with whom we are in any way connected.

From the Connecticut Herald.

Duc la Cadore, our Rulers and the falsey.—The public have now been some weeks on tiptoe to gain a peep at the dignified resentment which it was hoped our government would display in return for N'Apollyon's infamous letter to our minister, through the Duke of Cadore: The reader must bear in mind (for he cannot forget if he would) that the tyrant politely informs Mr. Armstrong that the American government is without energy, without honor, and without character; and that the nation have not equal spirit with the British colony of Jamaica. The compliment, it is true, appeared some what rank, and many honest folks were credulous enough to

suppose that Our Rulers would take it fairly by the horns, and declare it to be, at least, "an insult by implication." No such thing. The proud attitude of an honorable man was never maintained by the obsequious tool of a despot. The only symptom of either resistance or displeasure, which shews the least official tincture, are some puny paragraphs that have dragged their slow length through the government gazette. But lest those should weaken the Corsican's declaration that our government is without character, they were immediately followed, in the same print, by a very labored effort to shew that Great Britain was the original aggressor on neutral rights; and ergo, (as Col. Duane would say,) an insult from France is no insult at all, at all.—This deduction is undoubtedly conclusive. Still we cannot but admire at the philosophy, or rather malady, which has directed the destinies of this nation for ten years past.—whenever an insult, even by implication, comes in the gentle whispers of a zephyr from Old England, why then sure, all the testy humours of our rulers are in a flutter, their crest is erect, their wrath in a blaze, and British messengers of peace are discarded with contempt. But let insults and injuries oftentimes multiplied and heaped upon us to infinity, by the monster who drives the chariot of desolation through the earth, and it is all submitted to with patience, with composure, with the meekest resignation. We cannot help thinking that our national administration has long been, and still is, like a man in the palsy. An affront, whether great or small, if it comes from an English finger, touches the nicest fibres and most irritable nerves of these exquisitely sensitive gentry; while a Frenchman may bolt the whole energy of his clenched fist, into the very bowels of the nation; and lo! nothing but a palsied mass, a shapeless ductility of listless matter, is presented to welcome the thrust.

Gen. Terreau and Mr. Jefferson.—Gen. Terreau, for a series of years past has been a resident minister at the seat of our government. When he first arrived it was well known that he had been deeply stained with the innocent blood shed in the French revolution. According to the Paris Moniteur, the French Government paper, it had been alleged against him, "that he had caused the inhabitants of several districts to be assembled, and then had them all shot, to the number of twelve hundred men, women and children. That he ordered Gen. Molins to proceed with his column to Montague, to disarm its inhabitants, and annihilate every soul, without distinction of age or sex. That he was accused of committing the most unheard of crimes in La Vendee; giving orders for the massacre there of even old men, women and children. That the people of entire parishes were shot by his orders. And finally, that several witnesses deposed that General Terreau, after an excursion in La Vendee, returned in triumph to Rennes; and wore as trophies the ears and hearts of chouans pinned to his coat, and in the loop of his hat!"

Admitting he committed but one half or one quarter of the horrible crimes alleged against him by his own countrymen, he must have been a human monster, next in cruelty to Robespierre his former master. Yet he was civilly received in this country, and was treated all along with decent manners, as well by the people as by the cabinet. No means were employed at his first coming over, to render him odious with the public. No threats were made to mob or insult him. The reason was, all parties sincerely wished for an accommodation with France, if it could have been effected on equitable or even tolerable terms. All parties therefore tacitly consented to give the minister fair play.

Not so with the British minister.—Mr. Jackson, for aught we know, is in his general character both a moral and humane man. Once indeed he was the bearer of a message, which seemed at the time to be severe and cruel. He was sent by his government to demand of the Danes the surrender of their fleet, under the promise that it should be restored to them after the expiration of the war between England and France. This message he actually did communicate to the court of Denmark; but there is no reason to suppose that he aggravated it by any personal insolence. The Danes refused to surrender their fleet, Copenhagen was bombarded, and the fleet was taken forcibly—not by Mr. Jackson, but by Lord Nelson. Yet Lord Nelson never, as we have heard, had been greatly blamed, even by our democrats, for executing the positive orders of his government. They never nick named Copenhagen Nelson: because he never came to this country, as a public minister to negotiate a friendly settlement between it and England.

Mr. Jackson did come over it that character. And no sooner was it known that he was coming, than Copenhagen Jackson resounded over the whole country. All means were employed to render him odious, and to spirit up the dregs of the people to insult him. It was not known at that time that Mr. Jackson would in any wise wound the delicate sensibilities of Robert Smian. He had done nothing, as yet, directly to offend the United States or any of its citizens.—Nothing did