

Being thus left without any hope of protection from the mother country, and betrayed by a magistrate whose duty it was to have provided for the safety and tranquility of the people and government committed to his charge, and exposed to all the evils of a state of anarchy, which we have so long endeavored to avert; it becomes our duty to provide for our own security as a free and independent state, absolved from all allegiance to a government which no longer protects us.

We, therefore, the representatives aforesaid, appealing to the supreme ruler of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do solemnly publish and declare the several districts composing this Territory of West Florida to be a free and independent State, and that they have a right to institute for themselves such form of government as they may think conducive to their safety and happiness,—to form treaties—to establish commerce—to provide for their common defence, and do all acts which may of right be done by a sovereign and independent nation.—At the same time declaring all acts within the said Territory of West Florida after this date by any tribunal or authorities not deriving their powers from the people agreeable to the provisions of this convention, to be null and void—and calling upon all foreign nations to respect this our declaration, acknowledging our independence, and giving us such aid as may be consistent with the laws and usages of nations.

This declaration made in convention, at the town of Baton Rouge, on the 26th day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred & ten.—We the representatives in the name, & on behalf of our constituents do hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to support with our lives and fortunes.

Signed by the following gentlemen: John H. Johnson, John Mills, John W. Leonard, William Barrow, Philip Hicky, John Morgan, Edmund Hawes, Thomas Lilley, Wm. Spiller, JOHN RHEA, Pres.

By order of the Convention,
ANDREW STEELE, Sec.

Postscript.—Just as our paper was going to press, we were informed by a gentleman direct from the town of Washington, that his excellency David Holmes, governor of this territory, had received intelligence by an express, that Colonel James Callier, of Washington county, [formerly of Warren N. Carolina,] with a party of forty or fifty men had taken possession of the garrison and Spanish settlement on the Mobile. We give this as we receive it.—we cannot vouch for its authenticity.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

"Pinkneyville, Sept. 25.

"We have information directly from Baton Rouge, that on Saturday night about 150 men, under the command of gen. Thomas, entered the fort of Baton Rouge. Young Grand Pre, who commanded, gallantly attempted to defend it, and received a severe wound in the neck with a broad sword. One of his guard fired on the assailants, and was immediately shot down. Another of the Spanish guard was wounded; no damage received by the troops of the convention. Having quieted every thing in the fort, they proceeded to the house of the governor, dragged him out, and carried him to the fort with two boxes of money found in his room, and loaded him with irons, but not without having to knock him down with the butt end of a musket. The convention had about 250 men in the place when the messenger left it, and every thing was quiet."

Important Despatches from London.

WASHINGTON CITY, October 20.

BRITISH ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

LONDON.

SIR,

Lord Wellesley sent me yesterday, his answer to my note of the 23th ult. respecting the Berlin and Milan decrees.

I hasten to transmit a copy of it. A copy shall be sent without delay to Gen. Armstrong.

I have the honor to be, &c.

WM. PINKNEY,

Hon. Robt. Smith, &c. &c. &c.

(COPY.)

Mr. Pinkney's Letter to Lord Wellesley.

Great Cumberland Place, August 25, 1810.

My Lord,

I have the honor to state to your Lordship that I have received from General Armstrong, minister plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, a letter, bearing date the 6th instant, in which he informs me that the government of France has revoked the decrees of Berlin and Milan, and that he has received a written and official notice of that fact, in the following words:—"Je suis autorise a vous declarer, monsieur, que les Decrets de Berlin et de Milan sont revokes, et qu'a dater du ler. Novembre ils cesseront d'avoir leur effet."

I take for granted that the revocation of the British Orders in Council of January and November 1807, and April 1809, and of all other orders dependent upon, analogous to, or in execution of them, will follow of course; and I shall hope to be enabled by your Lordship, with as little delay as possible, to announce to my government that such revocation has taken place.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed)

WM. PINKNEY.

The most noble

The Marquis WELLESLEY, &c. &c. &c.

(COPY.)

Lord Wellesley to Mr. Pinkney.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date of the 25th instant.

On the 23d of February, 1808, his majesty's minister in America declared to the government of the United States, "his majesty's earnest desire to see the commerce of the world restored to that freedom which is necessary for its prosperity, and his readiness to abandon the system, which had been forced upon him, whenever the enemy should retract the principles which had rendered it necessary."

I am commanded by his majesty to repeat that

declaration, and to assure you that whenever the repeal of the French decrees shall have actually taken effect, and the commerce of neutral nations shall have been restored to the condition in which it stood previously to the promulgation of those decrees, his majesty will feel the highest satisfaction in relinquishing a system, which the conduct of the enemy compelled him to adopt.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed)

WELLESLEY.

From a London Paper received at the Office of the Public Ledger.

LONDON, September 6.

We have been favored with the annexed copy of the Instructions transmitted from Paris to general Molitor, and by him to the directors of the customs on the rivers Elbe, Weser, and Jade. The 6th article is important, inasmuch as it allows vessels proceeding to France, under licenses from that government, to touch at an English port, and even land part of its cargo there, without danger of being prosecuted for the same:

1. Every vessel must be provided with a license, bearing the number and series of the port, and the number of the licenses delivered in each series.

1st series, Hamburg; 2d series, Bremen; 3d series, Lubeck.

To these licenses will be affixed the signature of the emperor; those of the ministers of the interior and of marine; and also, that of the director-general of the customs, who will transmit them to the directors of the customs at the ports above-mentioned.

2. The director of the customs at each of these ports, must instantly send advice of the arrival of these licenses to his majesty's charges d'affaires and consuls in the Hanseatic cities. He will no tify to the consuls the applications addressed to him for licenses. The consuls are to fill up, in their own hand-writing, the number of the license, the name of the vessel, the amount of tonnage, and the number of the crew: the name of the captain, the firm of the commercial house under bond for the vessel, and the port of destination in France.

They will also inscribe on the licenses a motto, with the cypher which they have from the ministry for foreign affairs; this motto is to be different for each license.

3. A minute will be drawn up of the delivery of each license to be signed by the consul and the director of the customs; and notified to the military commandants at Hamburg, Bremen and Lubeck, who will report thereon to your excellency. This minute, besides the descriptions in the body of the licenses, will contain a specification of the packages of all the articles of merchandize composing the cargo of the vessel.

4. The same day that the vessel sets sail, the military commandants must apprise me thereof, and also notify the same to your excellency. The military commandants will thus continue to notify the departure of every vessel sailing from any of these ports.

The destination of the vessels will be for Dunkirk, Nantes and Bordeaux.

5. For every license there must be paid at the port of departure, and to the treasury of the customs, the sum of 60 francs, for each ton of the burthen of the vessel for which the license shall have been granted.

6. The vessels provided with licenses may proceed direct to their port of destination in France, without being liable to be questioned for having been visited by English men of war or privateers. They may even land in a port of England the whole, or such part as they may think proper, of their cargo, without being questioned for having touched in England.

7. These vessels will be admitted into the ports of France, either in ballast, or with such articles of the merchandize of the North, as are useful to the marine; and also with the productions of the soil of Germany and Poland, permitted to be imported into France, conforming nevertheless to the laws, tariffs and regulations relative to the French customs.

8. Licensed vessels entering the ports of France above-mentioned may load, in return, wines, brandies, merchandize of French manufacture, and all other productions of the soil or industry of France; grain and flour of every description excepted.

9. Each license will be in force only for a single voyage, including the going and returning.—On re-arrival at the port of departure, a French license may be obtained on the same conditions.

10. The master of any vessel inclined to sail from the ports of Hamburg, Bremen and Lubeck with a cargo, consisting, exclusively of all other merchandize, of timber, spars, hemp, and other articles of the north, proper for the service of the French marine, may apply to the directors of the customs in the ports of France, respecting the disposal of his cargo.

11. The laws relative to the embargo must be republished, and put in full force in the three ports before mentioned.

Hamburg papers to the 26th ult. arrived yesterday. Notwithstanding excessive vigilance of the French government to prevent the publication of unfavorable intelligence, it will sometimes find its way into print. The Correspondent, thro' inadvertence we suppose, contains the particulars of the destruction of a convoy that was proceeding from Naples to Scilla. This affair took place on the 24th of July, when the whole of the enemy's flotilla, that were engaged, as well as the vessels under their protection, appear to have been completely disposed of. This event has been suppressed in the French papers, though from the manner in which it is copied into the Correspondent, we should suppose that it appeared in the Neapolitan Monteur. Indeed the disaster could hardly be concealed in the territory of Naples, and therefore was likely to be officially announced from an affection of magnanimity.

Letters from Dantzic to the 17th ult. give a deplorable account of the vexations to which trade is subject in that port. A strong detachment of French custom-house officers, under the command of a commissary, had arrived there for the purpose of superintending the exports and imports. The merchants remonstrated, but in vain, against this interference.—They were told that these measures, however galling and oppressive they might appear at present, would ultimately

turn out for their advantage. It was learned, that the same system would be applied to Pillau, Koningsberg, and, in short, to every port in the Baltic accessible to a battalion of French troops.

A Gottenburg mail arrived in town this morning. Turkey is at length making vigorous preparations of defence—the departure of the Grand Seigneur for the Musulman army is no longer doubtful, and the Pachas of Asia, are hastening with their masses to reinforce the army of the Grand Vizier. While the Russians insist on the cession of Moldavia, a report is circulating at Stockholm, that Servia will fall to the share of Austria. Menaced by these formidable neighbours, the preservation of the Empire of the Turks in Europe is now dependent on the future influence of France with Russia. Should Alexander quietly acquiesce in the meditated consolidation at the outlet of the Baltic, it may be rationally concluded, that a secret arrangement exists between France and Russia and Austria, for the disposal of the Turkish empire. To the demand of Moldavia will succeed that for the possession of Bessarabia and Wallachia. The Danube, it will be argued, is the natural boundary between the two empires.

Gen. Armstrong lately presented several of his countrymen at the Thuilleries. Bonaparte addressing one of them, who had lately returned from England, said, brusquement, "do you think the British will permit your vessels to navigate the ocean—you see I have removed their apologies for obstructing your commerce? To be a great nation, you should sustain your flag, and sustain it by your cannon." Without waiting for a reply, he turned to general Armstrong, and asked him if he was not going home, and when congress would meet! and then passed to another part of the circle. The attention of Bonaparte to the empress, who was present, and evidently pregnant, is extreme. Her character is said to be of the true German school of supercilious dignity. It is remarked, in Paris, that the intensity of Bonaparte's application to business is evidently relaxed—and that he has increased in bulk considerably, but hitherto without any apparent diminution of activity.

A large expedition was fitting out at Madras, at our latest dates, the destination of which was kept secret. The prevailing opinion was that it was intended against the Isle of France.

The intelligence from Spain is of a very favorable complexion. In the important provinces of Navarre and Biscay, as well as in every other part of Spain the spirit of resistance is daily gaining strength.

By the French accounts of the war in the Peninsula, their armies are uniformly successful: yet they conceal the fact, that bands of warriors are every where to be found in Spain as well as in Portugal. These, we trust, they will ever continue to find:—and these, if they continue to act on the harassing system, we doubt not, will ultimately, make the French recross, by the shortest way, the Pyrenean mountains.

CONSTANTINOPLE, July 3.

The accounts of the success of the Russians have thrown the inhabitants of this city into the greatest consternation. It was the less expected, as the highest confidence was reposed in the talents of Pehlivan Aga. The Sultan, however, is not dejected, but makes every possible effort to reinforce the army of the Grand Vizier. New commissaries have been sent off to procure fresh supplies of provisions for it. The fleet, which consists of 16 sail of the line, has received orders to proceed with all possible dispatch, to take on board the troops that are coming from Asia.

VIENNA, August 8.

We learn by letters from Constantinople, that the standard of Mahomet has been raised there: that the Grand Seigneur has declared, that the empire was in danger; that it was the duty of every Mussulman to take arms in its defence; and that he would put himself at the head of his brave and faithful subjects. The people, on this, pledged themselves to shed the last drop of their blood in defence of the ancient glory of the empire. The intelligence was received there, that the Russians had raised the siege of Warna.

Extract of a letter from Odessa, July 6.—"We are inclined to think that peace will shortly be concluded, between the Russians and the Turks, by means of the cession which this last power will make of the country situated on the left bank of the Danube. The porte must, it says, be convinced that it never can, notwithstanding all its efforts, reconquer Moldavia."

FROM UPPER CANADA.

KINGSTON, (U. C.) Oct. 2.

Just and liberal policy of this province towards the United States.

Heretofore the bills of the banks of the United States were counterfeited in Canada with impunity, there being no law for punishing the counterfeiting of bills of any foreign banks. Advantage was taken of this freedom from punishment, and hence the states were inundated with counterfeit bills, to the great opprobrium of our government as was lately observed by a learned judge of our court of king's bench. But at the last session of our provincial legislature, an act was passed on the subject; and on one of its sections two persons were indicted and were convicted, at the late assizes in this district, for having in their possession counterfeit bills of some of the banks in the state of New York, knowing them to be such, and without any lawful excuse. They were sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and are now suffering their punishment in the gaol in this town. This salutary law, and the spirit with which it is, and will doubtless continue to be carried into execution, is at once a measure of sound policy, and liberal justice towards the states; in most of which, it is said, laws are already provided for punishing the counterfeiting of bills of other countries; and in states where such provision does not exist, it is to be hoped it will soon be made, in imitation of our example. How much more conducive to mutual prosperity are such instances of the reciprocation of acts of justice and liberality, than a state of legislative counteraction and hostility!

FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEWS.

We learn from St. Bart's that in consequence of contention between the government and people, the latter complaining of arbitrary proceedings in the former, an insurrection and rebellion took place on the 23d. of September.—The immediate occasion was, a refusal of the government to concur in the choice of the militia officers by the people, and attempting to appoint them himself. This being resisted, the government ordered them to give up their arms, which they refused to do. He also gave orders for the country militia to come into town, to assist him in compelling obedience: at the same time he was proceeding to the fort, in order to command with its secretary being there told the capt. of the fort to go upon the town which he refused to do; and the Secretary then finding the government was arrested, also arrested, and with his clerk and a number of servants, put on board an American vessel, and forced away, with ample supplies, however, of his maintenance, and with a desire that he might be treated according to his rank, and safely landed in the United States, from whence he might have an opportunity to repair to Sweden, to justify himself before their common sovereign against the complaints made against him.

UTICA, (N. Y.) October 1.

We are informed, that a small triangular lot of the corner of Genesee & Whitesborough streets in this village has been lately sold at the rate of three hundred thousand dollars an acre; while the same land, twenty five years since might have been purchased for one dollar an acre!

WILMINGTON, (Del.) Oct. 2.

An invention for supplying steel springs in carriages with wood, has been made in this town. The wood is said to answer every purpose of steel, and to materially diminish the price of carriage.

CINCINNATI, October 1.

A commotion among the Squirrels and Quails. The former are now migrating northwardly in immense numbers. Many thousands daily cross the Ohio river at this place and the boys load themselves with their dead carcasses. The gardens and town lots are alive with quails and hundreds of them are killed every day.

Maligh:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1810.

The Charleston Carolina Gazette states, that when the account of the late dreadful conflagration in that city, reached General HAMPTON at his seat near Columbia, he immediately directed his correspondent to subscribe, on his account, for the relief of the sufferers, the sum of five hundred dollars. In addition to this, he drew an order on the Secretary at War for the amount due him for his public services, (exceeding six thousand dollars,) directing it to be forwarded to the intendant of Charleston, for the above purpose.—This is an instance of exalted benevolence highly worthy of honorable record.

Despatches from England.—The despatches from Mr. Pinkney, our minister at London, which will be found in our preceding columns, contain nothing but what might reasonably have been expected from that quarter. They merely go to confirm, what has formerly been maintained, that the British government would not hesitate to revoke its orders in council the moment the French decrees were really abandoned.

We find, however, neither in the official note from Mr. Pinkney to the English Secretary, nor in the answer of that nobleman, any thing so explicit or so fully satisfactory as could have been desired. Mr. Pinkney, it is true, not only alludes to the orders in council of November 1807, and April 1809, but also to all others dependent upon, analogous to, or in execution of them. Yet he does not specify any of those measures which we may believe to come under his description. The Marquis Wellesley, of course, is equally vague, and merely declares that his majesty will feel the highest satisfaction in relinquishing a system which the conduct of the enemy compelled him to adopt. They have therefore left us without any positive declaration respecting the English blockades, the subject which is expected to be the great bone of future contention between the two governments.

There can, notwithstanding, be very little hesitation in affirming that the intention of G. Britain is not to yield without a full equivalent, the powerful weapon which has hitherto so successfully galled her adversary. Her naval superiority renders a system of blockade the best of all possible means to distress and wound the enemy, and it is her policy to persevere until she bring her foe to reasonable terms.

The more confidence may be placed in our position, when the order in council, printed in our last, together with the French instructions published this week, are taken into consideration. As the French depart from the strictness of the continental system, the English government relaxes in its countervailing measures. But the latter, as she recedes, still preserves her manifest advantage, and only yields where the profit outweighs the disadvantage. In pursuance of this plan the order alluded to was promulgated, allowing neutral vessels