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From the Connecticut Courant.

Under the present order of things, it would seem hardly worth while for this country to be at the vast expence of supporting a body of men called the congress of the U. States; since the President, alone, can manage the affairs of the nation, and is so obliging as to take into his own hands the business expressly committed to the congress by the constitution. Under the old French government, the king, together with his privy council, held from time to time a *Bed of Justice*, where the laws for the nation were enacted in conclusion; and the parliaments had nothing more to do than to register the royal edicts. Those mock parliaments were the standing jests of the world, even of Frenchmen themselves.—They were considered, very deservedly, as useless bodies of men; and their sittings were ridiculed as a solemn farce.

In one late instance, the footsteps of their most Christian Majesties, the former kings of France, have been closely followed with us. The President of the United States, arrogating to himself the whole power of congress, arrogating to himself the power of legislation, the power of levying troops and money, and the power of making war—taking these essential and most important powers of congress into his own hands, he directs, by his proclamation and accompanying orders, the forcible occupation of West-Florida. He directs the annexation of that territory to the New Orleans territory. He appropriates money for the expedition. He makes laws for the territory in question. He names a governor, and gives him jurisdiction over it. Soon after this is done, congress come together. For what?—to register the edicts of the President. With mock solemnity, they frame and bring forward a bill, containing the very same articles which were contained in the President's proclamation and accompanying orders.

Whence came Mr. Madison by the authority he exercised in this instance? Most certainly the constitution did not give it him; nor did he derive it from any prior law of congress. It was, therefore, *unwarped authority*.

What brought Charles I. to the block? Arrogating to himself the powers which the laws of England vested in the parliament. What was the crime of Aaron Burr, for which Mr. Jefferson, and Co. employed all possible means, *per fas et nefas*, to get him hanged? He attempted to employ force for the purpose of seizing possession of Spanish territory. Yet he did not accomplish this nefarious purpose; nor did he actually invade the territory in question. What has Mr. Madison done? He has actually invaded Spanish territory, with an armed force, and has taken possession of it.

But Aaron Burr was a private citizen; whereas Mr. Madison is President of the United States. Be it so, it aggravates rather than excuses the conduct of the latter. It is in fact more criminal in the President to violate the constitution, than in a private citizen; because the former is under a solemn oath to obey the constitution; and because, if he break through it, he endangers the public much more than a private citizen could do. The truth of the matter is, the President, beyond what the constitution gives him, has no more power than a private citizen; and if he overleaps the constitution, he is doubly guilty. As the constitution has devised a due balance between the several branches of the government, if any one branch arrogate to itself more power than is allotted to it, that balance is destroyed, and of consequence the whole constitution is subverted. Besides, if Mr. Madison may go beyond his constitutional powers, in one instance, he may do it in ten, or in a hundred. If he can seize on West-Florida, by his sole authority, what is there to hinder him from sending an army to take Canada, or Mexico, or any other foreign territory, that he might think proper to invade?

Will expedience be placed in this case? Away with such a subterfuge. Expedience has been the tyrant's plea, from the beginning of the world to this day. Charles I. of England, plead expedience for levying ship money, and for his unconstitutional acts. Oliver Cromwell plead expedience for his usurpation. He did not love power; not he. In a speech to his parliament, he said, "There is not a man living can say I sought it; (the protectorship) no, not a man nor woman (treading upon English ground)." And again, "I can say, in the presence of God, in comparison with whom we are but little poor creeping ants upon the earth, I would have been glad to have lived under my wood side, to have kept a flock of sheep, rather than undertake such a government as this." Expedience led him to usurp the government, and to trample the laws of his country under foot.

Time was when the citizens of the United States were jealous in the extreme on this point. President Washington issued a proclamation for a national thanksgiving. No body could dispute the uprightness of his intentions, or the propriety of the object. But his authority for the proclamation was not found in the book. The constitution, they said, gave him not such authority. This thing occasioned much noise and heat; and some even talked of an impeachment.—Compare that with Mr. Madison's proclamation for the forcible occupation of West-Florida. Compare the overweening jealousy of that day with the apathy of the present time.—What an astonishing change! Already has the constitution become a nose of wax, which certain men can twist and new shape at

their pleasure, and the people look on with indifference.

From the Connecticut Courant.

IT happened about 170 years ago, that the English house of commons, by certain misadventures were thrown into such perplexities and confusion that they knew not how to steer their course; or what measures to propose. The members had sat together for some time, in sullen silence; when sir Dudley Carleton, who had been a sea voyager, arose, and spoke as follows:

"I find by a great silence in this house, that it is a fit time to be heard, if you please to give me the patience, I may very fitly compare the heaviness of this house, unto some of my misfortunes by sea, in my travels; for as we were bound unto Marseilles, by oversight of the mariners we mistook our course, and by ill fortune met with a sand; that was no sooner overpast, but we fell on another; and having escaped this likewise, we met with a third, and in that we stuck fast; all the passengers being much dismayed by this disaster, as now we are here in this house, at last an old experienced mariner, upon consultation, affirmed, that the speediest way to come out from the sands was to know how we came there. So, well looking and beholding the compass, he found, by going in upon such a point we were brought into that strait; wherefore, we must take a new point to rectify and bring us out of danger."

This story of old sir Dudley is no less accommodated to certain great folks on this side of the water, than it was at that time to the English commons. The government of the United States may be compared to a ship. This political ship, for several of the last years, has been among the quicksands, striking now against one sand bank, and then against another; and the danger of wreck and ruin has been and yet is constantly increasing. In the meantime all is confusion and hubbub aboard—on rather stupefaction.

Now if the captain and pilots of the political ship would but consider how they came among these dangerous shoals, and resolve to retrace their course, there would be yet some chance of escape. This ship, whilst Washington commanded her, was the very best sailor in the world, and never once struck, or sprung leak. This illustrious old captain minded well the compass. He kept the ship exactly balanced, her hull clean and tight, and her tackling all in good order; and he seized and improved every favourable gale to carry her forward. But not so Jefferson, Madison and Co. Whilst their negligence occasioned the ship to become intolerably foul, and dangerously leaky, they must needs alter her course. Hence she got among the shoals; where she will be lost inevitably, unless, by good hap, there be a change of officers aboard, or unless (what is rather to be desired than hoped) her present steersmen tack about, get out where they came in, and then followed the track of the first captain.

To speak plainly, the vexations attending both our foreign relations and our interior national concerns, the loss of countless millions of property, the ruin of trade, the bankruptcies of our merchants and shippers, our perplexities at home and disgrace abroad—are all owing in a great measure, to a departure, by our late and present administration, from the wise, honest and dignified policy of Washington. That great and good man was truly styled *Father of his Country*. As well in peace as in war, his single object was his country's interest. He had no political party to build up, no sinister ends to answer. He had discernment to know, and virtue and resolution to pursue, the right way. His policy, both foreign and domestick was impartial, open, honest and honourable. And had this example been followed, all would have been well.

The political mummery of his two last successors, who utterly abandoned the plain and noble path that he marked out, has occasioned most of the public evils we have cause to apprehend, as well as those we already have felt. Nor shall we ever again see good times in this country, till the U. States be governed with more wisdom than at present. The people have employed their endeavours to gather "grapes of thorns and figs of thistles," long enough to be satisfied of the futility and folly of the experiment.

NEW-YORK, March 9.

LATEST LONDON NEWS.

The January mail, brought by the British government hired sch'r Thistle, Lieut. Dupyster, arrived at this port last evening, *via* Amboy. She sailed from Plymouth on the 21st of January and was cast away on Squam Beach the 6th of Feb.—6 of the crew and three newspaper mails were lost. Passenger Capt. J. G. Ogden of the 56th regiment, with dispatches from the British government to Mr. Morier. At the time of her departure the King was better, and had appeared in public at Windsor. The Regency Bill had passed to a third reading.—The Essex frigate was at Plymouth, waiting the orders of Mr. Pinkney. A few days since, spoke brig Fairy, from Gibraltar for New-York.

We understand the packet has brought dispatches from Mr. Pinkney, for Government.

Since preparing the above verbatim news, the Editors of the Mercantile Advertiser have been politely favored with a file of the London Morning Chronicle, to the 12th of January, inclusive, from which the following important extracts were made.

LONDON, Jan. 7.

A new Decree has been issued by the Danish Government, by which all trade with England is prohibited, under more severe penalties than any yet inflicted by the cruel Napoleon. It is declared a felony, punishable by death, in the capture of a ship maintaining intercourse with England.

January 8.

Letters were received from Holland yesterday to the date of the 2d instant. The conscription was extended to children of the age of thirteen. The Sch'r fleet was moored in Ruppel. It is said, that a Norwegian, 3,000 men, intended to man the ships of war there, had refused to proceed to Holland, and that the Danish troops which were ordered to compel them had declined any interference.

January 11.

We have reason to believe, that at length the Marquis Wellesley has seriously applied his mind to the consideration of the important question of the orders in council, and has advised his colleagues in office to come to a final resolution on the subject. On Wednesday last an order was sent for an armed vessel to be ready at a moments notice to carry dispatches to America, and we understand they were yesterday dispatched.

On Sunday last, Lord Grenville had an audience of three hours with the Prince of Wales, supposed to be on business respecting the present state of the kingdom.

January 12.

Yesterday the deputation from both Houses of Parliament went up to Carlton House to present to his royal highness the resolutions, to which, after a long discussion, the two houses had agreed. The first resolution expresses the necessity of providing for the exercise of the Royal Authority.

The second resolution states, that the power vested in the Prince of Wales, shall not extend to the granting of any rank or dignity of the Peerage of the Realm to any person whatever.

The third resolution prevents the Regent from giving any office in reversion, or granting any office for any other term than during his majesty's pleasure, except such as are by law required for life during good behavior.

The fourth resolution prevents the disposition of any of his majesty's real estate, or renewal of leases.

The Prince of Wales, in a very handsome reply observes, "I do not hesitate to accept the office and situation proposed to me, restricted as they are, still retaining every opinion expressed by me upon a former and similar distressing occasion."

To the Lords and Gentlemen, he observes, "You will communicate this my answer to the two Houses, accompanied by my most fervent wishes and prayers, that the Divine Will may exalt us and the nation from the grievous embarrassments of our present condition by the speedy restoration of his majesty's health."

The deputation then withdrew. A deputation also waited on the Queen with the address and resolutions of the two houses which were read to her by Lord Harcourt.

The Queen, after the fifth resolution was read, in answer observed, that, "I should be wanting to all my duties if I hesitated to accept the sacred trust which is now offered to me."

We cannot help indulging the hope, from the President's Message, that the differences which have so long disturbed the relations between this country and the United States, are likely to be soon finally adjusted. After all, as it must necessarily be Bonaparte's object rather to injure our navigation than our commerce, provided they can be kept distinct, there is the less reason to be sceptical as to the sincerity of the revocation of his decrees. It appears to be evidently the conjoint intent of England and France, as well as America, that all those obnoxious edicts and regulations, touching the rights and commerce of neutrals, which have given them so much offence, should be finally abrogated and done away. The benefits of foreign trade, well understood, are equally valuable to all parties at all times, and the period we must trust, is approaching when it will be delivered from that inert and shackled state in which it has of late been doomed to remain.

We this day insert the new State Paper issued by Bonaparte, in justification of his late outrageous act in annexing Holland and Hanse Towns, to the great family of the French Empire. In this paper there is the usual torrent of invective against the jealousy and intrigue of England. And the same faithful representation of the lamentable effects of our impolicy. He now says, that the Berlin and Milan Decrees shall be the code of Europe until we admit the principle that neutral flags shall make free goods; and that nothing but an actual blockade shall be admitted as a sufficient ground for seizing a vessel entering a port. Such is the proud language which, through the imbecile Councils of England, he is enabled to hold!

It is mentioned, in letters from Paris, that through excess of Love, Napoleon never leaves the Empress. He attends all her steps, and his passion seems to increase, as she advances in her pregnancy.

VICTORIES IN MEXICO.

A correspondent, put in possession of the most recent information from Mexico, by an arrival at Havanna, has enabled us to gratify our readers

with extracts of letters, and copies of official dispatches, respecting the splendid victories of the troops of the vice roy, general Venegas, over the infuriated people, among whom the emissaries of Bonaparte have succeeded in raising a rebellion, now nearly crushed.—Those miscreants, who by their artifices and false pretences, have seduced the Mexicans into ruin, with the expectation of preparing them to receive in due season the Corsican Yoke, have uninterrupted labored from time to time on our shores, and availed themselves of every opportunity of reaching from hence their destination by sea. Many hundreds of these pestiferous desperadoes were here, at Philadelphia and in the neighborhood, equally ready and hired to proceed secretly to Spanish territory, or to join in any treason, which may, in the mean time, seem practicable here, for the furtherance of the dominion of Bonaparte.

Should these passages meet the eye of the magnanimous Mr. Madison, we exhort him to weigh well the power and prowess of our Mexican neighbors, who, he will see, stormed an entrenched, and almost impregnable camp, defended by one hundred thousand men, with 80 cannon; and then let him ask his own understanding, what he can expect to gain by the contest he has invited, by invading without right, pretext or provocation, the possessions of a power so formidable, and engaged in a cause so holy as the resistance of a foreign yoke.—*Balt. Fed. Rep.*

TRANSLATIONS.

Vera Cruz, February 12, 1811.

Saturday (Jan. 27) an American brig and schooner entered with provisions, supposed to be necessary, but this government immediately dismissed them, and gave them but half an hour to remain in port, because it is known, that their coming here was not influenced by the desire of succouring us, and it was therefore presumed, that the confusion of this kingdom would allow of their entering into clandestine negotiations, similar to those they carried on in St. Domingo, to the injury of all civilized nations. Other expeditions, it appears, are ready in the United States, for this port, but they will not have the pleasure of entering the bay.

Extracts of Letters.

HAVANA, Feb. 12.—Yesterday evening arrived at this port from Vera Cruz, a schooner in 14 days, bound to Corruana. The captain says, that the insurgents, to the number of 100,000 men, were defeated six leagues from Guadalupe, that the action was very obstinate, that resort was had to the bayonet, but that our troops defeated and dispersed the rebels, who lost many of their men and 80 pieces of cannon.

HAVANA, Feb. 14.—Enclosed I send you some printed papers from Mexico, received to day by a vessel arrived from Vera Cruz, in 13 days, which will inform you of the state of things in New Spain, which must afford satisfaction to every good Spaniard. The more particular details which may arrive of the victory of Caleja, I shall affectionately send you, but must acquaint you beforehand, that although in the Gazette of the 23d, it is not said that our troops have entered Guadalupe, that fact is known from private letters, of which we are in possession from thence.

From the Gazette Extraordinary of Mexico, January 23.

The troops which compose the army of brigadier Don Felix Caleja, have been crowned with glory, in the brilliant action fought on the 17th, in the plains of Calderon. Those valient chiefs, officers and soldiers have assured themselves immortal renown by their love for our sovereign, and by the constancy and repeated brave actions, in which they sustained the triumph of our holy religion, and the just cause of our common country.

The following communication, which his excellency the Vice-Roy has just received, proves that no praise can be greater than the merit of such valiant citizens.

SIR—It is now 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when I have succeeded in placing myself in the enemy's camp, which was almost impregnable, like all the others it chuses, and garrisoned with 100,000 men, and more than 80 pieces artillery of every caliber, the most of them the best in America, all of which have fallen into my hands.

The obstinacy, boldness, and constancy of these fascinated men, could be only compared to the well known valour of the troops I have the honour to command. After an action of 6 hours, sustained with inflexible valour, I led them the third time, to the attack of a battery of more than 60 cannon, well situated and well served. I took it without firing a shot, our troops sustaining with much calmness the violent fire of the enemy, which they continued until they found themselves surrounded on all sides, and pressed in their escape by our cavalry.

The army suffered some loss, and among the wounded is the general of cavalry, Don Miguel Empanan, in an action well sustained, with many other circumstances, an account of which I have not time to collect, but which I shall transmit to your excellency as soon as my various engagements will permit, recommending to you the many who have distinguished themselves.

I consumed in the action almost all my ammunition, but that taken from the enemy has again fully supplied me.

God preserve you many years.

FELIX CALEJA.

Camp at the Bridge of Calderon, a league and an half from Zapotitlan, January 17, 1811.

To his excellency the Vice Roy, Don Francisco Xavier Venegas.