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From the New York Evening Post.

JOEL BARLOW.

When this man was appointed by the President to the station of minister to the Court of France, and while that nomination was pending before the Senate, waiting for their confirmation, I thought it due from the editor of a public paper, explicitly to make known the unfitness of the candidate for the situation, and the disapprobation it would meet with, and therefore the little paragraph was written, giving a brief biography of Mr. Barlow. The next mail, unexpectedly, brought us the news of his appointment by the President, and this evil being now over, and admitting of no remedy, and having no personal ill-will towards the minister to gratify, we should probably never have troubled our readers with the subject again, but unfortunately for Mr. Barlow, he had a friend and this friend who adopts the signature of AMICUS, has entered the lists in his defence, against "the contemptible editor of the Evening Post," that "prostituted vehicle of defamation," as he expresses it: This friend, though he admits that Mr. Barlow was a chaplain in the American army, resents my charging him with having once been a Connecticut Clergyman, and denies he ever was so. In doing so, this champion of Mr. Barlow wilfully mistakes the charge; nothing could be further from my intention than to state such a fact as a charge; but the charge was, that Barlow officiated as a Clergyman, in that state, and then apostatised from the very religion that he had been professing and preaching.

That he was a Clergyman in Connecticut, and that he publicly preached the Christian religion, after the revolution, will no longer, I fancy, be denied; the friend is before this time, better informed as to that. I shall satisfy him as to the other.—The following is an extract from a letter of Joel Barlow's on this subject, written at Hamburg, to his friend in this city; a copy of which is full length, lies before me.

"I rejoice at the progress of good sense over the damnable imposture of *Christian Mummy*. I had no doubt of the effect of Paine's Age of Reason. It must be cavilled at a while, but it must prevail. Though things as good have been often said, they never were said in so good a way. I am glad to see a translation, and so fine a one, of Bodanier's *Christianisme Devote*. It is remarkably correct and elegant. I have not had time to compare the whole of the translation with the original, but so far as I have compared it I never saw a better one. Some few mistakes, which I have noticed, which appear to be the effect of haste. I have not, at this moment, the translation by me, or I would point them out to you, that they may be corrected in another edition. I wish Mr. ———, would go on, and give us the next volume, *the History of that famous manufacturer St. PAUL*, &c.

Here I stop for the present. If the letter is copied, or doubts are expressed, as to its being genuine, the whole of it shall be given, with the name of the person to whom it was addressed.

Now, then, where is Barlow's friend? Does he now stand ready to defend him on this point, against the defamation of the "despicable editor of the Evening Post?" But we have not yet done with Mr. Joel Barlow. Public curiosity has been raised about him, and it has a right to be gratified.

Let it not be supposed, however, that the above is the topic to which, only, we alluded in *Yesterday's paper*. We are not idle, and as soon as the matter placed in our possession, can be prepared, which will probably be in time for tomorrow's paper, or the next number, at farthest, shall appear.

FROM THE SAME.

The New French Minister.—It is not our design to examine into Mr. Barlow's history any further than as it respects his conduct when acting as an agent for others. As to this, the public has now a right to be informed, for the administration have seen fit to commit to his care very great and important interests of the nation; and to him hundreds of individuals will have to look for assistance, in their attempts, (vain attempts) to recover their property to the amount of untold millions. To this part of Mr. Barlow's life, then, we shall confine ourselves.

This is not Mr. Barlow's first mission to France. He had one to that country before the present government was formed, as agent to a company of speculators in land. This company, having made a bargain for a tract of some thousand acres on the Ohio, to be paid for at a future day, in certificates, sent this Mr. Joel Barlow with the land to Paris, there to dispose of it to settlers. He accordingly went, and soon hunted up a good map-maker, one Playfair, with whom he formed a partnership. Playfair, in a short time produced a beautiful map, out of Joel's materials; in which he only occupied the land, as a second partner. He put down the city of New York, Philadelphia, there, Baltimore and Charleston, at notable distances, *Gallipolis* (that was the name of the city he had to sell) about where it now stands, and streets, waiting for and wanting nothing but a few more houses and settlers, just to complete the very best lots. In short, Messrs. Barlow and Playfair effected a sale of it at a crown per acre, to a company of people in Paris, with their families. These consisted of a few mat-

quisses, to make their governors & great men of, but the principal part of them were artisans and persons in middle life; such as leather breeches makers, ship-wrights, silver smiths, confectioners, and probably hairdressers: But as they did not propose to lay acqueducts; they neither brought mechanics to build Manhattan water works, nor a gentleman to inspect them at 1500 dollars a year. They set sail as soon as they were ready, and landed at Amboy. The principals in the speculation being notified of their arrival, assisted them, so far as to provide means to transport them on to the city of *Gallipolis*, where they were left to themselves. To their utter astonishment, these poor Frenchmen found themselves in the midst of an immense wilderness, and at a frightful distance from all civilization. However, there they were, and there they must remain; they had no choice but to live along as well as they could. Unused to the climate and to their new situations, wretched and forlorn, they began to decline and die with rapidity; and to finish their misfortunes, they found before a great while, that they had no title to the land. Those that remained, at length presented a statement of their whole case to Congress, and petitioned for a grant; which was made them, to the amount of 24,000 acres. Here we must leave them, and turn once more to Joel Barlow and his friend Playfair at Paris.

Joel and Playfair had touched the purchase money, and a round sum it was. They, however, took good care to say nothing about it to their employers in America. Months elapsed, but no satisfactory account came; letters followed upon letters, and still neither money nor explanation was received in return. At length the company sent a gentleman of character and intelligence, across the Atlantic, to see if he could not find out Mr. Joel, and bring him to some account. Joel he found in Paris, but alas! poor was Joel, and pitiful was his story: That he and Playfair had effected a sale at a crown an acre, and that the purchase money had been received, he did not deny, but he added that Playfair had got the whole of it, and run off with it; leaving him as poor as a church mouse, and consequently unable to pay a dollar.—Here ends the information as to Mr. Barlow's first essay in France in the character of an agent.

The next case which we shall lay before the public, is found in the second volume of Robinson's Admiralty Reports. An account of facts is all our limits will permit.

In the summer of 1793, the French and English in the character of American agents, were where, having succeeded in procuring the sale of some American property, they sent the ship *Fortune*, which they had chartered of merchants, by the name of *Fortune*, to carry them to Marseilles, and to be employed at war with Genoa and Tuscany. They thought best to send out the vessel under the American flag.—For this purpose, Barlow took a bill of sale of her, in his own name, and sent her with the prisoners to Marseilles, directing the captain to destroy the instrument when he got there. Had the transaction ended here, no blame would have been ascribed to the Consul; but Joel, it seems, thought this too good an opportunity for making something, to be lost; he, therefore, dispatched a letter to a Capt. Smith, an American at Marseilles, in which these words are found: "The Jews who own the ship, wish you to take the command of the vessel after the Americans leave her. I wish you to keep this a secret for the present." A bill of sale was, at the same time sent on, and delivered to Smith, by one of the Jews, signed "J. Bacri, acting by order and for account of Mr. J. Barlow." Smith accordingly, received the bill of sale, and took upon himself the command of the ship, under protection of the *American flag*; although she continued to be the sole and entire property of Messrs. Busnah and Bacri. About the middle of November she set sail in ballast for *Bona*, on the coast of Africa, where she arrived in January following, and was immediately laden with a cargo of wheat, to be delivered at Marseilles; though in the bill of lading specified for Genoa.—In which, also, the cargo appeared to be shipped by the aforesaid Busnah and Bacri, the Algerine Jews. On this voyage she was captured by the English. The Jews went to the Dey, and made a representation of the whole matter, complaining that their property had been captured while sailing under the *American flag*, with the knowledge of the American Consul. The Dey then sent for Mr. Joel Barlow and demanded satisfaction; and Mr. Joel Barlow, to get out of his scrape, very honestly sat down and drew an order upon his government for the sum of \$40,387 2-3 the sum demanded as the value of the ship and cargo, to be paid within six months in Algiers; and if not then paid, giving them a right to draw at three months sight on the American government, payable in Philadelphia. The first draught was duly honored by the drawers, on the presumption that its agent had fairly rendered them accountable for it. Afterwards, however, a suit was instituted by order of the government, in the Court of Admiralty, in London, praying to be received to stand in the place of the Algerine merchants, and reclaim the property. On this trial, the above facts came out, and both ship and cargo were condemned. Thus it appears that the *American flag* had been prostituted by the American Consul, to views of private interest; which cost the American government upwards of *Forty Thousand Dollars*.—This, I suppose, is one of those instances of Joel's "zealous efforts for the interests of his native country," alluded to by his friend in the *Public Advertiser* of Tuesday last.

FROM THE SAME.

The new French Minister.—We have had two instances of the adroitness with which Mr. Barlow conducted himself in the capacity of an agent abroad. We shall now present a third not less interesting than either of the others.

Mr. Barlow fled to Paris, a Jacobin of the first order; having been a member of all the seditious societies in London. In France he joined Tom Paine, and soon distinguished himself by disorganizing writings against all established order and government; was duly naturalized and received the fraternal hug as a *good republican*. He then offered himself as a candidate for the National Convention, but had the mortification to lose his election. During his residence in Paris, he was joined by Mr. Fulton, who came to unite his fortune with Mr. Barlow's. Fulton lived under the same roof with him; they agreed, it is said, to an equal division of property, with remainder over to the longest liver, and here it was that by their joint invention, the *Torpedo machines*, were first brought into the world, and under their inspection, properly constructed. But more of this anon. Let us proceed to another of Mr. Barlow's agencies, or to speak with particular correctness, his sub-agencies, for here he appeared in the character of an agent of an agent.

In the beginning of the year 1793, the ship *Hannah*, owned by the House of May and Hills, of Savannah, was fitted out for London. May, one of the firm, soon followed the ship and fitted her out again for Bordeaux, consigned to a Mr. Church, to whom he transmitted an order to sell her. Church accordingly, sold her, to Romberg Bapt and Co. a House in Bordeaux, for 3,500 pounds sterling, payable in bills upon London. But he informed the owners, that he sold her for only 1,809 pounds, thus putting 1,700 pounds into his own pocket. As the war between France and England had then commenced, it was not safe for her to sail under French colours, and it was therefore agreed between the two purchasers and Church, that the American Consul at Lisbon, that he should cover the ship and cargo, that she should continue to wear the American flag; sail as a ship owned by Church, and make her voyage in his name; for which fraudulent conduct, he was to receive 100 pounds sterling annually; besides a commission of four per cent on every cargo she might take on board. Romberg Bapt and Co. chartered the *Hannah* to a Mr. Bosc and Co. from the Cape to Lisbon, &c. After which they conveyed all their property in her, together with their rights to the freight, to Kunkle and Co. The ship was then fitted out for Lisbon, at which place she still resided in the capacity of Consul. At Lisbon she was fitted out by M. Bosc, for St. Thomas, where she arrived in safety, disposed of part of her cargo, and the business being all done in the name of Church, the proceeds were remitted on his account to his correspondents in the United States, amounting to 4712 dollars. Capt. Parrot went thence to Cayes, where he made an advantageous sale, took in a cargo of produce, and again fitted out for New-York May 14th, 1794; being the fourth voyage the ship had made, and of course giving Church a premium of 16 per cent. 4 per cent. upon each. But the same day, after she was leaving port, she was met by the English frigate, the *Success*, captured and sent into Jamaica, where vessel and cargo were condemned; but the captain, in the name and on the account of the apparent owner, Mr. Church, appealed to the High Court of Admiralty, in England. The real owners could not appear in the affair, but were obliged to trust entirely to the honour, the activity and zeal of Church; observing a perfect silence. Year passed away after year, but they could get no information from Church what had become of their property. At length, however after a vast deal of enquiry & expence they learned that the court in London had reversed the decree below, & ordered restitution of ship and cargo. There could, then, be only one possible difficulty in the way of recovering their property; the insolvency of the captors; but, as in that case the English government itself would become responsible, the claim was perfectly good; and nothing would be necessary but to present it to the Commissioners under the convention of 1802. All this was well known to Church, & he took his measures accordingly. But he communicated neither his means nor his success to his principals. They pressed him, they solicited him to interest himself for them. He induced them (*says the Memoire*) to believe that he had taken no steps in the affair; he suffered them to reproach him with negligence; and received, without emotion, their letters conjuring him, that, since he would do nothing himself, he would, at least, send a power of Attorney to his agent, in London, Mr. Thomas Wilson, to act for him. These unhappy owners were much mistaken. If Church was blameable in his conduct towards them, it was not for his negligence. He had acted both with zeal and success; but alas! it was not for them.

These gentlemen (the *memoire* proceeds) pressed by their necessities and their private misfortunes, discouraged by the silence and the apparent indifference of Church, debarred by the renewal of the war between France and England, almost entirely from any correspondence with England; retired, principally, into the departments of the interior of France, where it became more difficult to attend to such a business as this; they determined at length to sell out all their right and title for what they could get, to some one who was better able to prosecute the affair to advantage than they. Accordingly, they sold it for a trilling

sum to a Mr. David Gargill, an American born; who immediately took it in hand.

He presently discovered that the Commissioners under the convention, had liquidated the demands in the case of the *Hannah*, and made an award on the 9th of June 1803, for principal, interest and expences, amounting to *fourteen thousand, eight hundred and fifty three pounds, four shillings and seven pence sterling*; which sum was made payable on the account, and for the sole use of Edward Church, his heirs and assigns, in three annual instalments; two of which had actually been paid to Church, or his representative; the third was payable at the expiration of the July 1805, then ensuing.

Thus far, we have seen nothing, that implicates our new French Minister; and the reader may begin to wonder why we have consumed all this time about Mr. Church. He must not be impatient. It was necessary, we thought, to give all these particulars, preparatory to introducing Mr. Barlow, upon the stage: for when he is introduced, it will be for no less a purpose than to shew that he was an associate in this scene of fraud and cruelty, and divided the profits with Church.—To proceed:

The owners of the ship & cargo, being reduced nearly to a state of despair, as has been just stated, sent a Mr. Peters to Paris, to see if Church, who was then supposed to be there, would give a sum in gross for their claim to the ship, and and take it to himself. Church was not to be found; but knowing that Mr. Barlow was very intimate with him, Peters found out from Joel, to whom he communicated every thing relating to the affair, from its commencement to that period, so far as had come to the knowledge of his employers; concluding with an offer to sell Church the claim to the ship, for a certain sum, vastly below her value, provided, however, the consent of the owners could be obtained. This Barlow communicated to Church, who closed with the offer, but it afterwards fell through; owing to the refusal of one of the parties concerned to yield his right for so small a sum. The next thing we learn of what took place between Barlow and Church, will best appear by the following note, from the former to the latter after they had talked over the business together:

"DEAR SIR,—I received your note this morning & came immediately over to see you. But not finding you at Mr. Saint George's, I ask his permission to write you a word. If I could see you half an hour to-morrow, I think I could shape a proposition that would be useful to us both respecting the affair of which we spoke, as I have a similar affair now pending, for which I go to London. Can you come and see me to-morrow and take a cup of tea with me? I believe I could make the affair march faster and to better advantage than almost any man. I am to set off the day after to-morrow. Come, if you can, to tea, and let us see what can be done.—Yours truly,

J. BARLOW."

In short a bargain was struck between Church and Barlow under a knowledge of all the circumstances of the case by the latter; who bought of the former, all right and title to the claim for both ship and cargo, for the sum of 6000 pounds sterling.—Having then obtained special permission from the Duke of Portland, through the American minister, to come to England to prosecute the claim before the Commissioners, Mr. Barlow once more shewed his face in London.

The new French Minister.—(in continuation).—

After Mr. Barlow had arrived in England and made himself acquainted with the favorable situation to which the claim had been already brought, he wrote to his friend Fulton, in Paris, for the purpose of getting a little more money out of Church; as will appear from the following copy of a letter from the former to the latter:

"MR. CHURCH, Sir, I have just received letters from Mr. Barlow. It seems the business of the *Hannah's* cargo is involved in much complication, and that jarring interests render the prospect of obtaining any thing for it, even doubtful. You will see Mr. Barlow considers the claim of Capt. Parrot, well founded, and a much larger sum, than you had any idea of. He therefore, proposes that *one half* of the sum to be paid to the captain, shall be paid by you out of the 6000 pounds sterling, and the other half by him, Barlow; otherwise, he cannot, in justice to himself, and to the parties concerned, have the award made in his name; * you will be so good, as to consider this, and I will have the honor of calling on you, to-morrow, Sunday about 2 o'clock.

(Signed) ROB. FULTON."

Whether Church agreed to this proposal of his friend Barlow's, or how they settled the honourable business, we do not know, nor is it of consequence to ascertain. The award was made in London, for the sum of *fourteen thousand, eight hundred and forty three pounds, four shillings and seven pence sterling*. This claim had been purchased by Barlow of Church for *six thousand*; thus putting into his pocket *eight thousand, eight hundred and forty three pounds, four and seven pence sterling*. A very handsome sum of money to make by driving a bargain with a man who had no manner of right to make it, and buying of him a claim which he had no right to sell, and which merely appeared in his name, for the fraudulent purpose of covering French property under the *American flag*; all of which honest Joel was perfectly acquainted with from the beginning to the end.

* As Trustee to Church;