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Political.

To the Editor of the United States Gazette.

Greensburgh, Penn. Aug. 25, 1813.

Mr. Editor,

I have lately seen in the newspapers a letter from Mons. Turreau, the French minister, to our secretary of state, written, I do not recollect when, together with a deal of debate about it, taken from war papers, and peace papers—Tory papers and Whig papers—and such an a do has been made in my neighbourhood, and especially in my family, as you never saw.—You must know, sir, that I am a republican—a friend to my country, and one of those usually denominated patriots of '76 having come to this country, from the British dominions, more than twelve years ago, for sufficient and urgent reasons, not necessary to be mentioned. But my wife is of an old Tory family, being the daughter of a man who was born in the Tory state of Massachusetts, who became an officer in Washington's army when lying before Boston, and continued in it till he was killed at the head of his regiment just before the taking of Cornwallis. Unfortunately for me, she inherits all the prejudices of her father and the party to which he belonged—in other words [with sorrow I say it] she is a *rank Tory*, and maintains with zeal, all the treasonable doctrines of that faction, as you will perceive when I tell you that she says, that the British treaty negotiated, under Washington's direction, by that old traitor John Jay, and ratified and signed by Washington himself, was a very tolerable treaty, and that this country flourished better under it than under the present just, necessary and successful war. Nay she even goes so far as to express a wish that Washington was now alive and president of the United States, and that our late and present differences with the British government had been settled by just such another treaty—a treaty, as I have always understood [for I was not then in this country] which was opposed by all the *real* Americans to a man, and especially by all those active and zealous patriots who flocked, in such numbers, to this country after the expenses, toils, and dangers of the American revolution had been happily and gloriously terminated. Indeed, she seems not to be at all aware, and will not be convinced, that the ratification of that treaty by Washington confirmed the people (all, I mean, except the Tories) in the belief which they had before entertained of his being actually the leader and head of the British party here; and that he had set on foot and completed the treaty for the very purpose of bringing back this country to its former state of dependence upon Great Britain.

You see now what a kind of woman I have to deal with. As you might naturally suppose, I have used all the means in my power to wean her from these unreasonable and Tory prejudices, and to break her of the habit of uttering such "moral treason" against the present wise, virtuous, and impartial administration of our national government. One of my first efforts was, to compel her to abstain from the purchase of every article whatever of British origin or manufacture; because I knew that one of the principal causes of the prevalence of Tory sentiments in this country had been the encouragement which that party, from the time of Washington and Hamilton, down to this very day had given to foreign commerce in general, not excepting even a commerce with Great Britain.—Formerly, as often as our storekeeper came up from Philadelphia with a fresh supply of goods, she would be running to the store with her butter, her cheese, her lard or any other little matters she might have to dispose of, and buying such things as she happened to want for herself or her children, according to the quality and price of the articles, without caring a great what had been their origin. It was always a mortification to me to find that in these little purchases, nine parts out of ten were of British production.—However, as matters had not yet come to actual extremity between the two countries, I merely remonstrated with her for thus indulging her Tory principles; and the thing went on. Soon after the declaration of this just and necessary war, however, seeing her return from one of her customary visits to the store, I examined her purchases, and found, among other articles, a number of little books, which she had bought for the amusement of the children, who were learning to read. Now, what books do you suppose these were, which she had pitched upon to make early impressions upon the minds of young republicans? Why, sir, no other than Jack the Giant Killer; Mother Goose; Tom Thumb; the House that Jack built; Giles Gingerbread, and some others of the same kind—every one of them of English origin, containing sentiments which have, from generation to generation, been systematically taught to the young slaves of Britain, who were, from their very infancy, to be fitted for submission to the most odious tyranny, and to the most corrupt of all governments. This, as you may suppose, was more than I could bear. It had been sufficiently mortifying to me to see the limbs of my dear, patriotic, republican children, enveloped in English flannel; my oldest boy with British broad cloth up in his back; and my youngest girl tricked out with an English hat upon her head, because, by smooth as my wife said, they were *cheap*—and better than American manufactures of the same description.—But to find that their tender minds were to be subjected to foreign influence by the perusal of such books as their mother had

procured for them, was too bad. I accordingly ordered that those books should be immediately returned to the storekeeper and, if he refused to take them back, that they should be burnt. My wife submitted with as good a grace as could be expected considering the Tory principles in which she had been educated, and the affection which she yet feels for the memory of Washington, Greene, Montgomery, Warren, Hamilton, Amos, and the rest of that Tory party, with whom her father was associated. The only condition which she insisted upon was, that she might herself be permitted to compose, from time to time, as occasion might offer, and inclination prompt, such exercises as she should think proper, to amuse the childish imaginations of our young family. To this I readily consented, little dreaming what would come of it.

No sooner did Mons. Turreau's letter make its appearance, than I found my wife betake herself to her closet; and after a little while, she came out with the following story of the "House that Washington Built"—though I do not much like it, I must confess that it is of "Domestic Manufacture"—and coarse and homely enough too.

Now, sir, I know that you are a printer; and as I am told that you had the misfortune to be born in this country, I make no doubt that your paper is a Tory paper. I have therefore to request, as all my children have learnt this foolish story, and several of my neighbours' children are already repeating it after them, that you will have the goodness to print it.—Not because I wish to give currency to such nonsense; but because to tell you the truth, I am afraid there is "moral treason" in it—and of course, if it makes its first appearance in a Tory paper, the government will not suspect its having originated in my family—a suspicion which I am particularly anxious to avoid; because I have a prospect of obtaining a commission in the army under Gen. Harrison for the campaign of 1814, against Detroit and Fort Malden. For the same reason, I hope you will suppress this letter; but above all, do not print the name of.

Your humble servant,

P. S. I am sorry that I am not able to send you the cuts which have been made to adorn and illustrate the story.

THE HOUSE THAT GEORGE BUILT.

This is the house that George built.

This is the file, that lies in the house that George built.

This is the note, that Turreau wrote, that's not on the file, that lies in the house that George built.

This is the Swiss Rat, that stole the note that Turreau wrote, that's not on the file, that lies in the house that George built.

This is the King Cat, that caught the Swiss rat, that stole the note, that Turreau wrote, that's not on the file that lies in the house, that George built.

This is Webster who helped, that same King cat, that caught the Swiss Rat, that stole the note, that Turreau wrote that's not on the file, that lies in the house that George built.

This is the Translation, that should have been torn, unknown to the Webster, who helped the King cat, that caught the Swiss rat, that stole the note, that Turreau wrote, that's not on the file, that lies in the house that George built.

This is Jack Grame, the Clerk that was sworn, who made the translation that should have been torn, unknown to the Webster, who helped the King cat, that caught the Swiss rat, that stole the note, that Turreau wrote, that's not on the file, that lies in the house that George built.

And This is poor Madison, all forlorn, who appointed Jack Grame, the Clerk that was sworn, that made the translation, that should have been torn, unknown to the Webster, who helped the King cat, that caught the Swiss rat, that stole the note, that Turreau wrote, that's not on the file, that lies in the house, that George built.

P. S. To the Postscript. Since the above was copied, I have found that my wife is still writing. The following lines I have seen and transcribed—I know not what will come next.—Yours as above.

THE HOUSE THAT NAPOLEON BUILT.

This is the house that Nap. built.

This is the file, that lies in the house, that Nap built.

This is the Note that's on the file, that lies in the house, that Nap built.

This is Talleyrand who with a clump foot was born, who ordered the Clerk, with a pen and ink-horn, to copy the Note that will never be torn, that's *yes* on the file, that lies in the house that Nap built.

(Desunt Cetera.)

From the Boston Gazette.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE U. STATES.

I again address you, fellow citizens, under my proper signature; because a primary object in view being to state facts, these ought to be supported by evidence; by public documents, where applicable to the subject and attainable, or my own testimony, or that of others, who, in my opinion, are entitled to credit I am desirous also, that the observations, I make on facts, may be presented to your consideration, with that degree of interest to which a long practical acquaintance with public affairs and public men give me some

claim. And I hope the time is at length arrived, when strong, not unfounded prejudices, favorable to one set of men, and adverse to another, may give place to wholesome, though to some perhaps, unpalatable truths. On such a salutary change in the public mind, the salvation of our country depends.

For five months subsequent to the last winter session of congress, you were amused with the talk and cheered with the prospect of peace, under the mediation of the Russian Emperor. With this subject president Madison opened his message to congress at their late summer session; suggesting, with his usual art, what might induce you to think that Great Britain ought to agree to a peace to be negotiated under that mediation. "That the sentiments of Great Britain (said the president) towards that sovereign will have produced an acceptance of his offered mediation, must be presumed. That no adequate motives exist to prefer a continuance of war with the United States, to the terms on which they are willing to close it, is certain."—To which after some observations, sufficiently sophistical and obscure, on the subject of impressions, he adds: "If the reasonableness of expectations drawn from these considerations could guarantee their fulfilment, a just peace would not be distant." Thus the president meant to prepare the good people of these states to throw all the blame on Great Britain, if peace did not speedily take place. And an attentive examination of the message warrants the opinion, that the president himself did not expect peace to result from this project of the Russian mediation. Accordingly, his remarks immediately following the passage last quoted, far from a conciliatory tendency, were calculated to keep up and aggravate all the angry passions of the people towards Great Britain, to induce their acquiescence in a continuance of the war. That the president had much reason to doubt of success in his mission to Russia, will appear from the views of it which I shall offer to your consideration.

I am the more inclined, and indeed constrained to examine this subject, because at one period, during the late session of Congress, I said that I was then disposed to believe our administration intended to make peace. For several of Mr. Bayard's friends had informed me, that he said his instructions were broad enough to admit of a practical peace; that is, one which should be satisfactory to G. Britain as well as to the U. States. And my strong doubts whether the offer of the Russian mediation had proceeded from the Emperor, and been tendered to the British, as well as to our own government, had abated in consequence of information received at Washington through a respectable channel, which seemed to render it probable that such were the facts. But though the channel of information was entitled to respect, its source ought to have excited serious doubts of its purity.

THE RUSSIAN MEDIATION, which when first announced was an interesting subject to the people of the U. States, and peculiarly so to those citizens who, feeling deeply the evils and miseries produced by the war with G. Britain, earnestly wished for the restoration of peace—appears to have excited not less concern since intelligence has arrived that the mediation has been rejected by Great Britain; whereby all hopes of peace are banished.

The use that will be made of this rejection it is not difficult to anticipate. By the administration and its partisans it will be cited as a new proof of the perseveringly hostile spirit of Britain towards the U. States; a spirit which, they will say, regardless of justice and neutral rights, proud of the uncontrolled dominion of the sea, and envious of our commercial prosperity, which was fast rivaling that of G. Britain—would crush and annihilate all our foreign trade and navigation. All this and much more will be said and with a boldness and confidence of assertion proportioned to its want of truth.

The arrangement with Mr. Erskine, in 1809, will be again called up, and its rejection charged afresh, impudently by some, ignorantly by most, to the perfidy of the British government; when that whole transaction and its result are to be ascribed to the juggling, misconduct and bad faith of our own. I speak this without reserve because the public documents themselves authorize the inference. To go into details on that subject would here be improper. I will only observe, that the word arrangement (of which our government seem peculiarly fond) when applied to the settlement of differences, means an agreement, and an agreement between nations is a treaty, which may be more or less formal.—Now no man knows better than Mr. Madison, that in order to make a valid treaty, the minister who concludes it ought to be furnished by his government with specific powers or instructions for that purpose, and if such minister offering to treat, does not produce his powers or instructions, it is the duty of the government to which he makes the offer to demand them: and should he refuse to exhibit them, no government acting with prudence and good faith would treat with him. But Mr. Madison did treat with Mr. Erskine, and make an arrangement relative to the attack on the Chesapeake, and the revocation of the British orders in council, without knowing, according to his own statement, whether Mr. Erskine had adequate powers or instructions for that purpose. When, therefore, the arrangement with Mr. Erskine was rejected by the British government, because made in violation of his instructions, Mr. Madison had not the shadow of

right to complain of the rejection, because he knew it was his duty to have demanded a communication of Mr. Erskine's powers or instructions, to see whether they authorized him to agree to such an arrangement, and to have the evidence thereof in his own hands. Yet Mr. Madison, in his subsequent message to Congress, dared to insinuate, that because the arrangement had been made by the British minister plenipotentiary, therefore it was of binding force on the nation!

To render this matter plain to every reader, I will state a case in common life: A merchant or shop keeper employs his clerk in selling the goods in his warehouse or shop; and any person is safe in receiving and paying for them: for such sales are the ordinary business and duty of such clerks every where. But if the clerks were to offer, to sell the warehouse or shop itself, a building lot in town, or a lot of farm in the country, belonging to his employer—the least informed trader, mechanic or farmer would ask—"Have you a power of attorney to make the conveyance?" and if answered "yes"—then before making the bargain and paying his money, he would demand the power of attorney, as essential to the legality and safety of his purchase. In the prosecution of this subject, I shall enquire.—

1. Whether the mediation of Russia, to bring about a peace between the United States and Great Britain was tendered to the President by the orders of the Emperor Alexander—or was gratuitously offered by his minister here, Mr. Daschkoff?

2. What motives might induce the President to accept the Russian Mediation—whether he did or did not know that Mr. Daschkoff had not any instructions to offer it?

3. If Mr. Madison sincerely aimed at peace in the institution of this mission to Russia, what were the terms he must have instructed his commissioners, Messrs Adams, Bayard and Gallatin, to propose or admit, as indispensable to obtain the consent of the British government to make peace?

4. I shall then show, that it was as well known to our administration six years ago, as when the mission to Russia was instituted, that Great Britain would not and could not, consistently with her safety, relinquish the right (the like right belonging to us and to every other maritime nation) of talking her own native seamen found on board neutral merchant vessels on the high seas. But that Mr. Jefferson, then president, and Mr. Madison secretary of state, cordially co-operating with the president obstinately persisted in demanding such a relinquishment, as the indispensable condition of any treaty to be made for the settlement of differences with G. Britain.

5. I trust it will next be made to appear, that this demand was so persisted in, on purpose to prevent the conclusion of a treaty with Great Britain: Instead of which, they have chosen embargo, non-intercourse, non-importation and war. TIMOTHY PICKERING.

September, 1813.

From the Federal Republican. ELECTIONEERING PRANK OF THE INTELLIGENCER.

By way of getting rid of the effect, as much as possible, of the history we have given of the receipt and filing of Turreau's letter in the Department of State, the *Intelligencer* most falsely and impudently denies the following part of it:—"That the letter remained in the office of state until after Mr. Jackson's dismissal, when De Cabre [Secretary of the French Legation] called and took the letter away"—and that truth telling vehicle pretends that it was taken away "some time before Mr. Jackson offered his offensive communication." It will mistake and prevaricate at all times, and it is no matter of wonder that it will plumply assert the thing that is not, in a session of elections, like the present. Due allowance is habitually made for this circumstance by those who do not totally reject its authority at all seasons. But in denying, under a modification, one part only of the statement, and that not the most material, and implicitly giving its assent to the truth and correctness of the rest, it affords hopes of the whole being confessed before long; for it was in this gradual, drawling manner, that from plump denials and insinuations expressed in to me, equivalent to them it has by degrees been compelled to admit almost the whole truth. To sum up, by way of illustration.

The Court paper has admitted the letter to be genuine, and the translation official.

It has admitted that Turreau was called upon, both by an unnamed gentleman in Baltimore, under the president's directions, and by the secretary of the treasury, who went thither for the express purpose, but that in both instances he promptly refused to take it back. It has admitted, that hereupon he was written to by the secretary of state to come to Washington, and that he contemptuously declined taking any notice whatever of the request.

It has admitted that Mr. De Cabre, first secretary of the legation, informed one of the ministers of the president that it had been well considered, and was approved by all the legation, that it had been enrolled in the ministerial archives, that copies had been sent to France, and that it could not be taken back.

The only remaining difference between us is, we assert that De Cabre took it back after the