

The Raleigh Minerva.

Vol. 19.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1814.

No. 951.

RALEIGH (N. C.)

PRINTED, WEEKLY, BY ALEX. LUCAS.

Terms of subscription: Three dollars per year, one half to be paid in advance. No paper to be continued longer than three months after a year's subscription becomes due, and notice thereof shall have been given.

Advertisements, not exceeding 14 lines, are inserted twice for one dollar, and for twenty-five cents each subsequent insertion; and in like proportion where there is a greater number of lines than fourteen.

Congress.

MR. HANSON'S SPEECH, CONCLUDED.

Tedious and desultory as my remarks have been, Mr. Chairman; worn out as your patience must be, and as is my strength, I must nevertheless claim further indulgence, while I offer a few remarks upon the subject of an armistice. As such an event is now ardently desired, certainly by the people, if it is not expected by government, it is proper to show how administration has met this question on former occasions. So shall we arrive at the probable result of our negotiation for such an object. I mean to show, how administration has made and met advances for an armistice, as it may have an important bearing on events which will sooner or later engage our attention.

Eight days after the declaration of war, 26th June, instructions were sent to Mr. Russell, from which I ask the indulgence of the house while I read an extract:—"If the orders in council are repealed, and no illegal blockades substituted to them, and orders are given to discontinue the impressment of seamen (remark! British or not, naturalized or not) from our vessels, and to restore those already impressed, there is no reason why hostilities should not immediately cease—securing these objects, you are authorized to stipulate an armistice."

Such were the conditions upon which a cessation of hostilities would be consented to by Mr. Madison. An actual renunciation of the practice of impressment must precede even an armistice. Great Britain, as a condition precedent even to a suspension of hostilities, must relinquish the exercise of a practice which she claims as an essential right. It may be thought impossible that our government betrayed so much presumption and folly as this demand pre-supposes, but let us see how Mr. Russell understood and construed his instruction. In his letter of 24th August, 1812, to Lord Castlereagh, he says, "he is authorized to stipulate with his Britannic majesty's government an armistice, on condition that the orders in council be repealed, &c. and that orders are immediately given to discontinue the impressment of persons (not American citizens, but persons, deserters or others) from American vessels. In other words, sir, as a condition precedent to a suspension of arms, Great Britain is, in the outset of the contest, to give up every thing for which she has been contending, as absolutely as though she were beaten in battle, and conquered. A proposition for a truce would neither be made or listened to by our haughty, proud cabinet, unless England yielded, surrendered unconditionally, and passed under the yoke. The power of England was considered still in the wane—our imperial ally was yet in the plenitude of his greatness. I need not enlarge upon this topic. Whatever relates to it is now understood, and begins to be felt by the whole body of the people.

We may inquire impatiently; well! how did Lord Castlereagh answer this demand of Mr. Russell, made in the language of his instructions? As was expected, desired, and no doubt foreknown by our rulers, if after all their experience they have yet learnt any thing of the English character. I will read his lordship's reply—"I cannot refrain on one single point from expressing my surprize, that as a condition precedent even to a suspension of hostilities, the United States have thought fit to demand that the British government should desist from its ancient and accustomed practice of impressing British seamen from merchant ships, simply on the assurance that a law shall hereafter be passed." &c. Thus, sir, Mr. Madison was once more disappointed in the attempt to extort from the fears of England what she could not otherwise be induced to concede, as endangered her existence. Will the same language be held at Gottenburg? It depends upon another question—how fares it with the great belligerents? will there be a general peace? have dissensions sprung up among the allies? is the "Great Napoleon" stripped of his power and renown? are we to be no longer dazzled by the lustre of his foreign conquests?

But governor Prevost offered us an armistice. It was instantly rejected by Mr. Madison. In a letter from Mr. Monroe to Mr. Russell, August 21st, 1812, he says—"As a principal object of the war is to obtain redress against the British practice of impressment, to suspend hostilities even before the British government is heard from on that subject, might be considered a relinquishment of that claim." And yet Great Britain was to relinquish all her claims, abandon all she contended for to obtain a truce. This kind of reasoning at once puts an end to all armistices. An armistice implies, submission by neither party, nor the abandonment of any point.

Another correspondence upon the subject of an armistice took place with admiral Warren, showing on the part of Great Britain a continued desire for peace, on terms honorable to both nations, and compatible with the safety of her

people. As further proof of the pretensions of Mr. Madison, I ask leave to read a short extract from a letter of epl. Monroe to admiral Warren—He says, "that a suspension of impressment during the armistice seems to be a necessary consequence. It cannot be presumed, while the parties are negotiating, that the U. States would admit the right, or acquiesce in the practice of the opposite party." To remove all doubts of the pretensions and demands of our government which they required to be gratified before a suspension of arms would be agreed to, I will read one more extract. It is from the closing paragraph of Mr. Monroe's letter to admiral Warren. "If there is no objection to accommodation relating to impressment other than the suspension of the British claim to impressment during the armistice, there can be none to proceeding WITHOUT AN ARMISTICE to the discussion and arrangement of that subject—The great question being satisfactorily adjusted, the way will be open to an armistice." First settle what we are, or we say we are, fighting for; give up your claim of impressment; acknowledge yourselves in the wrong; concede what we command, and then we will agree to a truce. In other words, there shall be no suspension of arms until the objects of the war on our part are fully obtained and completed. What were we to relinquish in return for such a concession of essential and vital importance to England? Comparatively nothing upon which England placed the value of a farthing. Will the same tone be preserved at Gottenburg? How fares it with the continent? Is Philip sick?

To agree now to an armistice, which is not pre-terred by, or does not include an arrangement of the question of impressment, upon terms consistent with former pretensions, will be submission, not on the part of the country, but by Mr. Madison—It will be hauling down the colors of administration.

Every moment, sir, that this war has been continued since the armistice agreed on between Governor Prevost and general Dearborn, it has been under a new character, whatever may be said of its justice when declared. The policy, necessity and justice of the war was a settled question when the armistice was rejected. If ever just, it became from that moment unjust, wanton and unnecessary, as it has been uniformly ruinous and disgraceful. And yet sir, defenceless as we are, our sea-board unprotected, depending chiefly on the forbearance of the enemy, we are invited to grant more millions to be thrown away.

Upon the subject of supplies a new doctrine is broached, nay has resounded in this hall. No other than the slavish oriental doctrine, that we, the immediate representatives of the people, are bound to grant supplies as long as his majesty and the house of lords are opposed to peace. Suppose the Executive and Senate shall see fit to let their treaty making power sleep for twenty years, and we bound to echo the sentiments of the two privileged estates of the new kingdom? What is the feature in the constitution which gives this house its weight, its importance, its authority? It is the power of the purse. It is for us, like the common house of parliament in England, to make or withhold appropriations. If ever there was a time, or if ever a time can arrive when this boasted prerogative should be exerted in behalf of our suffering country, now is that time, when limits must be assigned to the mad schemes of conquest and ambition, or the country is irretrievably lost.

Gentlemen bounce when our defenceless situation is spoken of. Why, sir, I have no desire to render weaker in public estimation, the public defence, nor to diminish the resources of the country. What the means of defence are, and what they might and ought to have been, are topics worthy the consideration of the house. No man can deny, that a provident administration, might have placed the country in a situation to defy the enemy and scold his menaces. A tythe, I might almost say a centesimal part of the treasure wasted in foreign conquest—in the cruel invasion of unoffending neighbors, who were ready to sacrifice every thing but honor and security for peace—the front and head of whose offending was loyalty to the government of their choice, and resistance of all attempts to seduce them from their allegiance—of the money lavished upon profligate court parasites and favorites, who make politics an article of traffic—of the money squandered in philosophical vagaries of moon-struck empires—of the immense sums bestowed or thrown away upon objects, but a part would have created a marine sufficient to meet the enemy upon the proper element, and to chase from our waters any fleet he could have conveniently sent here. No man can deny, if instead of belabouring themselves solely of the means of obtaining and preserving power, for aught you or I know, sir, to repair out of the public chest the ravages in their patrimonial estates, if they had any, which idleness and extravagance had made—if instead of bargaining and huckstering for office, and sacrificing every thing at the shrine of popularity, a liberal and enlarged policy had been adopted, emanating from generous bosoms and pure counsels, and resting upon the great foundation of all public virtue, disinterested love of country, then, sir, we should not have been reduced to the despicable, ignominious condition which makes the proud American almost ashamed to own his country.

Mr. Chairman, when we look for a moment at the present situation of our country, and contrast it with the powers, resources, prosperity and fortunes of England, it ought to bring gentlemen to a pause. They should determine at

once to travel no further in the road to ruin, and to retract their steps. I repeat, we have nothing to hope, every thing to apprehend, from a continuance of this unequal, ruinous contest. It must be abandoned, or its authors will be driven headlong from power by the people.

How much better for the honor and fame of our rulers, for the glory and prosperity of the nation, would it have been had their principles permitted them to pursue the counterpart of the memorable, never to be forgotten example of the Crown Prince of Sweden. The name of this illustrious warrior and statesman, was introduced in debate by an hon. gentleman from North-Carolina (Mr. Macon.) He named a Prince, sir, second only to "Alexander the deliverer," in the glory of saving a world from bondage. A Prince, bound by no natural ties to the people whom he governed; raised to that government by the hand of Bonaparte himself, yet declaring, that a sense of honor, gratitude to a people who had received him into their bosom, and a determination to maintain their rights against foreign encroachment, compelled him to resist the insolence and resist the violence of France. Bernadotte would not tolerate the insolence of an upstart French minister, who assumed towards him the tone and port of a Roman Pro-consul talking to his slaves. He, too, was by turns wheedled, flattered, denounced and threatened. No arts or menaces were untried to draw or force him into the French confederacy. But he preserved his integrity, he maintained his independence and honor. He did not cringe, and bow and coax, and in the spirit of meanness, "like a reptile crawling on the belly," entreat the tyrant's insolent minister to take back his insults—or only to erase from the records of his mission the evidence that they were given. He did not send a favorite right-hand cabinet counsellor from Stockholm to Gottenburg, to persuade a French minister to recal or modify his abuse. He did not pick a quarrel with a British minister, and dismiss him to propitiate the tyrant and soothe the anger of his irritated minister. No, sir, this detestable Crown Prince, now so odious in the estimation of the patent republicans, this "traitor" disdained to truckle to a tyrant. He would have cut off his right arm—he would have laid his head upon the block and bled, as every man of true courage and honor would have done, in preference to such a dastardly sacrifice of honor—in preference to such high treason against all that adorns, and exalts, and dignifies individual and national character. No, sir, "Bonaparte's Sergeant," as he is now contemptuously denominated, because he too would not be tied to the imperial cart-tail and consider it a distinction to be dragged through the same mire and thorns that have so beslimed and wounded this people, appealed to the sword, and maintained his own honor and the independence and glory of Sweden. No bribes, nor temptations could compel or seduce him to adopt that fatal system of the Destroyer which was the commencement of our suffering, and is the continuance of our degradation.

Mr. Chairman, how much more solemn and impressive are the considerations which should have found their way to the bosoms of men, elevated to the highest offices in the gift of a free people, by the fair exercise of their elective franchise. The Prince Royal was a stranger, placed to rule over a people to whom he was bound by none of the tender ties of country, yet he set an example of fidelity and attachment to the Swedish cause, to the cause of humanity. For a parallel to which we may look, but look in vain, into the policy and measures of our rulers. We must turn our eyes to the vassal states of Europe if we search for examples that have been followed here.

Foreign.

FURTHER NEWS FROM FRANCE.

Received by the French National brig OLIVIER, arrived at New-York.

We have been favored with the use of a file of Paris Moniteurs from the 9th to the 21st April inclusive. They are filled with the acts of the new government, and the addresses, letters of adhesion, &c. from the various municipalities and public characters in France; and as the Moniteur is the official paper, of course contain nothing adverse to the new government, which, indeed, from the general aspect of these papers, is proceeding in the arrangement of its affairs with much tranquillity, and meets with little or no opposition from any part of the French nation.

We subjoin such translations and abstracts from the French papers as we find in the N. York prints; and shall prepare for our next a summary of such features of the proceedings of the new government as appear to us most important and have not been before noticed.

Meanwhile, from the voluminous mass of addresses, official papers, &c. which appear in the Moniteur, we select the two following from the latest French papers in our possession, which will serve as samples of a vast number in the same eulogiac spirit, and almost in the same courtly words: [Nat. Int.]

From the Moniteur of April 20.

The Council of Prizes were yesterday admitted to an audience of MONSIEUR. The Count of Berlier, President, addressed the following discourse to his Royal Highness:

My Lord,
Peace in Europe will soon put an end to our labors, and peace among its various nations will find the French in tranquillity at home.
No more divisions, your royal Highness has said; no, my Lord, we shall not have them

under a government which itself wills that all the public powers shall be wisely regulated, and the rights of individuals sufficiently guaranteed.

Under such auspices our government will revive, and under such a paternal administration exhausted France will recover her strength and happiness.

Let Monsieur receive with kindness the vows and homage of the Council of Prizes. The members which compose it have doubtless not long to serve the King your august brother, in those functions which war alone renders necessary; but they esteem themselves happy in being yet invested with a character which permits them to deposit the expression of their sentiments in the bosom of a prince who is a worthy descendant of the great and good Henry.

His Royal Highness replied, in substance, and with a touching affability, "That his august brother would without doubt be disposed to keep account of the services rendered by the Council of Prizes, and that his Majesty, who would enjoy no happiness but in the happiness of all the French, would employ all his means to assure the prosperity of France, and concur in all measures to consolidate the tranquillity of Europe."

From the Moniteur of the 21st April.

MINISTRY OF WAR.

PROCLAMATION.

PARIS, 20TH APRIL, 1814.

Soldiers.

You have followed the example given by your Chiefs. The Marshals of France, the Generals and superior officers have all adhered with eagerness to the brilliant and happy revolution which has taken place, and you have partaken of sentiments so noble. All hearts range themselves around the throne, and throughout the nation all bless the return of the august and legitimate dynasty of the Bourbons, who alone could bring repose and happiness to this beautiful kingdom.

A devotedness so general has penetrated with sensibility Monsieur, the brother of the King, Lieutenant General of the kingdom. My first duty has been to converse with his Royal Highness on the interests of the army; and what has been my joy in finding in his expressive all the effusions of a prince who desires to be the father of his soldiers! How lively an emotion have I experienced in receiving the assurance of his Royal Highness that he was only the faithful interpreter of the wishes of the King his august brother!

The condition of the army and of each of its members will then be constantly the object of the paternal solicitude of the government. The glory with which it has not ceased to enrich itself in the course of a war, so fertile in illustrious feats of arms, is regarded by the Bourbons as a precious portion of the inheritance which restores to them the love of the French.

Officers and Soldiers, give loose to a confidence which will not be deceived. Behold before you the rewards and consideration which ought to belong to the glorious army of a King of France. All grades of rank will be maintained; and if in the new organization destined to repair disorder, and to re-establish the principles of the military establishment, some parts of it should be suppressed, the situation of the officers will not be prejudiced. They shall be replaced in existing corps, or pensions shall be assigned them analogous to their respective rank and services.

How sweet it is to me to transmit to my brave comrades the noble ideas and promises of the Prince Lieutenant-General of the Kingdom! But whilst it has pleased him to announce the beneficence of our august King, I ought to guarantee that the discipline and all military duties of the army shall be observed. Soldiers! Render not vain the confidence of his Royal Highness in this respect; and let the honor of your flag always remain pure and unstained; in all your steps, let order and subordination reign in peace as your valor has shone in war; you will thus respond worthily to the love of a Prince whose presence has made France at once pass from a state of intolerable humiliation and unheard of oppression, to the prosperous and unalterable order of things which we now enjoy, and which all Europe admires.

The commissary of Government in the Department of War.

The General Count DUPONT.

FROM THE MERCANTILE ADVERTISER.

Last evening the French consul favored the editors of the Mercantile Advertiser with the loan of a file of Paris papers to the 20th of April, which he received by the National brig L'Olivier, from which the following translations were made.

PARIS, APRIL 14.

This morning several corps of the allied troops departed from Paris. Their number is computed at 50,000.

The Princess Maria Louisa, arrived yesterday at Rambouillet with her son. She is to become grand duchess of Parma and Placentia.

April 14th.—It is reported that his eminence Cardinal Fesch, and Madame Bonaparte (the mother) are going to request the sovereign pontiff for an assylum; that Louis Bonaparte retires to Switzerland, and Jerome and Joseph are about embarking for America.

Bonaparte was still at Fontainebleau yesterday. After several nervous attacks he fell into extreme weakness; baths were ordered for him and he was put to bed. He appears to be physically and morally indisposed, his ideas, it is said, are not clear. The greatest care, however, is bestowed on him.