

NAPLES, 12th March, 1810.

Joachim Napoleon, King of the two Sicilies, has decreed and does decree that which follows:

Art. 1. In conformity to the orders which have been given from Paris the 21st of December 1809, we declare confiscated the American vessels whose names are subjoined; that is to say:

The Augustus, Hercules, Zephyr, Sophia, Romp, Two Betsevs, Kite, Sukey and Betsey, Mary, capt. Derby, Syren, Emily, capt. Waterman, Francis, Hound, Peace, Victory, Dove, Urina, Fortane, William, Nancy, Maria, Hamilton, Phoenix, Ousitonack, Rose and Mary, Orozimbo, Amherst, Mary-Ann, Louisiana, and the John.

Art. 2. Such of the cargoes of the said vessels as have not yet been sold, as well as the ships, are hereby directed to be disposed of at public sale, by the Minister Administrator General of the indirect duties, and under the inspection of our minister of finances, or may be otherwise sold, at private sale, by the said Minister, as he shall judge most conducive to our interests.

Art. 3. The proceeds of these sales shall be deposited in a particular bank, to be hereafter employed as we shall judge convenient.

From Gen. Armstrong to Mr. Smith, dated Paris, April 16, 1810.

SIR.—The John Adams being yet detained, I am able to inform you, that on the 11th inst, the Emperor directed the sale of all the American vessels taken in the ports of Spain, and that the money arising therefrom should be placed in his *caisse privée*. He has also refused to give up the *Hero* and has ordered that the case be brought before the council of prizes where condemnation necessarily awaits it. I send a copy of a note upon which this last order was taken, and another relating to our business in Naples, and am, sir, with very high consideration, &c.

From Mr. Armstrong to the Duke of Cadore, dated Paris, 20th April, 1810.

SIR.—The United States, wishing to fulfil their engagements to the holders of their public debt in Holland, but unable from the present state of commerce to do so by the ordinary mode of remitting bills of exchange, found it necessary to enter into contracts with certain merchants of the said states, to make remittance in tobacco. A cargo of this article was accordingly put on board of the American ship *Hero*, and dispatched for the port of Tonnigen in Denmark, with orders that the net proceeds should be placed in the hands of the American bankers in Amsterdam for the purpose above mentioned. The passage having been uncommonly stormy, the ship much damaged and the crew quite exhausted, the captain believed it to be his duty, on principle of self preservation, to enter the first port he could make. He accordingly entered that of the Texel, and, after having taken on board two pilots and being within the fourth buoy, was captured by a boat belonging to a French privateer. Besides the customary papers, all of which are in rule, the *Hero* sailed under a certificate granted by the government, that the voyage was undertaken for the purpose of effecting a national remittance.

I have thought, sir, that the peculiarity of these circumstances made it proper for me to ask a special decision of his majesty on this case, and with this view I have the honor of offering to your Excellency the present representation.

From Gen. Armstrong to the Duke of Cadore, dated Paris, 21st of March 1810.

SIR.—I had yesterday the honour of stating to your excellency the case of the American ship *Hero* and requesting thereon his majesty's decision. I have now that of informing you that a number of American ships coming directly from the United States to the port of Naples, under a promise of protection from his majesty the king, have notwithstanding been seized and their cargoes sold "for the benefit of the fisc." Nor does the injury stop here. Though thus deprived of all means of subsisting themselves, the captains have been obliged to subsist the crews [amounting nearly to 300 men] and are now menaced with a farther exaction for port charges. This, in the strong language of one of the sufferers, is literally to strip them naked, & then to demand from them the expence of doing so.—As the consular agent of the U. States at Naples has made several unavailing representations on this subject to the king, and as he has reason to believe that the system, of which this treatment is a branch, emanates from his majesty the emperor, it becomes my duty to submit the facts to your excellency, and to seek through your intervention, such correction of the evil as humanity and justice may conspire to dictate. A remark which equally applies to the crews of the ships captured in Spain and Naples, is, that should the vessels to which they belong be

confiscated, means ought to be afforded them of returning to their country. In this event, therefore, I have to propose to your excellency that two or more ships be put at the disposition of the nearest American consul, and permitted to sail for the U. S. under bond for the amount of their valuation respectively.

From the New-York Evening Post.

Democrats at a stand.—Our democratic editors who are wishing to retain the appearance of Americans, are puzzled how to proceed in their animadversions on Bonaparte's late conduct. Such men as Duane and Irvine indeed, come out boldly in favour of their master. They throw off all disguise, and declare that we must succumb to Bonaparte, or he will destroy us! How long such men, will be permitted to insult and bully the people and their representatives is not for us to determine. We are happy to find however, that the democratic editors in general have more modesty. However much they may wish for "Napoleon to be our King," they have too much sense to proclaim him emperor of the West as well as the East at this time. Binns, the editor of the Democratic Press, in his paper of Saturday, attempts to talk like an American; he says:—

"Long, and deeply, and often as Britain has been wrong towards us, what prudent or virtuous American can suffer the awful monitions, derived from the treaty of last March between France and Holland to be unhinged in his considerations of the cure for the evil of the times? The little, soberminded, industrious, moral Dutch nation, have injured no country or government in these times.—They have quietly taken a king, who appears to be no worse than their stadholders. But they are required to receive foreign, civil and military power, in their government and trade—to dismember their country—to be subject to a foreign appellate power—to admit foreign exemptions, by foreign licences from their own laws and treaties, and consider a foreign constitution, as a rule by which to dispose of their dominions and their allegiance; and to receive a guarantee of their country and their independence in the instrument and from the hand that destroys them.

"It matters not to us, what is the government that should offer to us the bitter cup, which the world has lately seen to be forced upon Holland. The government that offers it must be resisted. The editor that is silent on so awful a case, will not do for an oracle in America. If innocent Holland, under a Bonapartian chief magistrate, sustains the operation of such a treaty, what are other nations to expect? What all-wise editor will propose a cure for such evils? What editor is it that shall presume to arrest the free thoughts, discussions, and action of the people upon such stupendous inroads on the vital safety of nations and of states? This solemn time, which requires the cordial union of all wise, and good, and effective men, ought not to be devoted to the abuse of every man and thought, differing from ourselves and from our own."

Duane and Wilkinson.—Since Col. Duane has resigned his commission, he has undertaken to defend the conduct of Gen. Wilkinson. To combat facts and popular opinion is of itself a business in which few would wish to engage. And when we consider that Duane has these to encounter, and to fight his own dear self into the bargain, we may almost predict that he has undertaken a task which even the towering genius of a colonel editor will not be able to perform. The following hard questions are from the Philadelphia Democratic Press;—when will the colonel answer them?

From the Democratic Press of June 7.

"An Enquirer would be glad to know whether the General Wilkinson whom Duane now defends is the same General Wilkinson whom he, (Duane) charged as having been concerned in the Conspiracy to divide the Union and put the now Western States under the protection of Spain? If it be the same General Wilkinson, an Enquirer would wish to know whether it be unconstitutional and criminal in Congress to do that which Wm. Duane thinks he has a right to do, and to be applauded for doing?"

"If Congress be dishonored by directing an investigation into the conduct of Gen. Wilkinson, what shall be the measure of dishonour which should be poured upon his head who first accuses; then accepts a commission under the accused; next exculpates and defends, and lastly abuses every authority that will not unite with him in whitewashing a man he had heretofore blackened?"

Call of Congress.—The news of the day is, that Congress is to be immediately convened by proclamation. The President, it is said waited only for the arrival of the John Adams to determine on the course he would pursue. The John Adams has arrived, and we shall, of course

soon know whether Congress are to meet immediately, or not. The next question is, why do they meet?—What will they do? Will they lay another permanent embargo?—No. The country has already decided against embargo. Will they declare war against France? No. There is a strong party in this country in favour of Napoleon.—Congress dare not offend that party. Will they declare war against England? No. A majority of the people are opposed to such a measure. What then will they do? They will make flaming war speeches. They will pronounce loud curses and anathemas against England, and whispers of disapprobation against France. They will propose and discuss, for many days, the old exploded system of commercial and social restrictions; but be careful to lay none of them. They will talk of Wilkinson's *army*; but will be sure to have no army but an army of useless officers. They will bring forward resolutions relative to the navy, but suffer what few ships we have to rot in the mud of the Potomac. They will bring in bills providing for arming and disciplining the militia; but the militia will never be armed nor disciplined.—They will be loud in favour of fortifications, but grant no money for their erection.—They will talk a little about gun-boats, and great deal about torpedoes. They will propose direct taxes; but they dare not lay them. They will hold caucuses to influence the elections.—They will make arrangements to promote the views of the ruling party, at the expence of the nation. They will authorise another loan—and adjourn.—They will do every thing but what they ought to do.—They will tremble before the "super-eminent robber of Europe when they ought to oppose him like men. They will deliberate when they ought to act, and hesitate when they ought to determine. They will in fact, do as every other government has done which has attempted to court the friendship of the Corsican tyrant—they will suffer the energies of the nation to be paralyzed by foolish experiments and to fall an easy prey into the jaws of the devourer.

TO THE FREEMEN OF THE COUNTIES OF JOHNSTON, WAYNE, GREENE, LENOIR, JONES, CARTERET AND CRAVEN FELLOW-CITIZENS,

IN deference to the wishes of many estimable friends, and in the humble hope of being useful to my country—uninfluenced by motives of interest, of vanity, or of ambition—I present myself to your consideration as a Candidate for your suffrages at the approaching election of a Representative to Congress. To many of you it is known, and by all I am willing it should be understood, that this tender of my services has not been resolved on without hesitation, and is not made but with diffidence. Since the avowal of Mr. STARLY'S determination to decline a re-election (a determination which few can regret more than myself) I have been honoured with applications from different parts of the District to permit myself to be nominated for the appointment. Grateful to my feelings as these testimonials of confidence and affection necessarily were, yet a compliance with them was opposed by too many considerations, not to occasion doubt and demand time for reflection. A reluctance to engage in an electioneering contest—a distrust of my capacity for the awful functions of a National Legislator—the abandonment of my private and professional pursuits—and the sacrifice of so many domestic enjoyments—these and many other objections were placed before me in strong array.—But whatever has been their force they operate no longer. If it be the deliberate wish of a majority among you, at this momentous period of your public concerns, to confide to me this highly important trust, a sense of duty forbids me to decline it. Whether such be your wish or not I am unable to ascertain, but by declaring my willingness to obey your call.

Actuated solely by these considerations I am without temptation to deceive you; and should be utterly without excuse could I descend to any of the arts of deception. It has been usual for those who have preceded me on similar occasions to make an exposition of their political opinions.—I have no difficulty in complying with the requisitions of this custom. Instead however of amusing you with the cabalistic terms of party, least understood by those who use them most, I will lay before you in plain and explicit language the leading principles of my political creed, formed upon reflection, confirmed by experience, and endeared by habit. A decided attachment to a free government, which derives its origin from the will of the People, and is established by a fixed and paramount constitution—which is managed by Legislators and an Executive chosen by the great body of the Community, and for stated periods of service, not too short to permit them to be useful, nor too long to free them from a necessary sense of responsibility—which is upheld by a Judiciary, wise, virtuous, and dependent on their good

conduct alone for continuance in office—in which the poor and the rich, the weak and the powerful, are alike protected and alike restrained; where justice is administered without distinction of persons; and the liberty and property of every man secured from violation—is a sentiment interwoven with every ligament of my heart. A cordial affection and deeply fixed veneration for that Bond of Union, which makes the American States a Nation, and on the preservation of which depend all our hopes "to establish justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common Defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity"—a conviction that if it be once dissolved it is gone forever—a disposition to construe its provisions in the spirit of those who framed and adopted it, and with that candour which alone can render it useful and efficient—are principles and feelings which "have grown with my growth & strengthened with my strength." Add to these, a wish to preserve inviolate the good faith of the Nation, to cultivate in the spirit of justice and impartiality, peace and harmony with all foreign powers, but never thro' fear or affection to surrender essential rights or submit to actual indignities—a steady purpose to cherish and promote the great Agricultural interests of our Citizens, to give every practicable encouragement and protection to their lawful Commerce, and (in subordination not in preference to these primary objects) to foster the manufacturing establishments of our Country—and you have the great outlines of my political faith.—It is that of an humble pupil in the School of Washington. In His administration it was illustriously exemplified. By Him it was enjoined in his political testament, the last and not the least valuable of his precious gifts to his Countrymen.

These principles, my Fellow Citizens, must continue to influence my conduct in whatever situation I may be placed. Candour requires of me also to declare, that the views and opinions which not long since I had occasion to avow, relative to the then existing difficulties of the nation, remain yet unchanged—have indeed derived strength from experience. The course of policy which I then reproached, has at length been in a great measure abandoned, but not till it had exhausted the public purse—had occasioned infinite private inconvenience and distress—and had obviously effected none of the objects which were said to have required it. With Great Britain our differences are yet unsettled, and our injuries from her are yet unredressed. From the Emperor of France, instead of atonement for the past or security for the future, we have received an accumulation of outrages beyond example in the history of independent nations, and are now menaced with fresh denunciations of punishment, and insulted with the most contumelious terms of reproach.

In the divisions of parties which have distracted our Country, scarcely a man is to be found who has not taken some share.—The part which I have acted all of you know.—In my political opinions, I have always been firm and decided; but I never have been, and fervently trust I never shall be the slave of faction.—None can abhor the intemperance of party spirit more than myself. None can be more fully convinced that it is at once the bane of social happiness, and the deadly foe of our national prosperity. Should I then be directed by you to occupy a seat in the Legislature of the Union, I wish it to be distinctly understood, that on every occasion I shall consider it my duty to discover if possible what is right, and just, and for my country's good—and this once ascertained, to adhere to it inflexibly, whether it lead to the support or to an opposition to the views of administration—whether it be popular or unpopular—whomever it may please, or whomever it may offend.

If after this frank avowal, and upon these grounds, you should select me as the depository of your confidence, I shall indeed feel myself honoured by your choice. As it will be my sacred duty, so will it be my highest gratification, to make to you the only return in my power, by a faithful devotion of all my faculties (such as they are) to the promotion of your welfare. If however you should prefer some other individual, most cheerfully will I acquiesce in your determination, nor regret a continuance in that private station, which nothing can ever tempt me to relinquish, but a sense of duty and an obedience to your will.

With sincere wishes for your happiness individually and collectively,

I am Gentlemen,
Your friend and fellow-citizen,
William Gaston.

Newbern, June 20, 1810.

NOLENS VOLENS,
or the
BITER BIT.

A Comedy in five acts, written by BERNARD HALL, Esq. a citizen of this State, for sale at S. Hall's Book Store—May 7.