

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY
HALL AND BRYAN,
AT THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM, PAYABLE
HALF YEARLY IN ADVANCE.
ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED
AT SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS A SQUARE, THE
FIRST WEEK, AND THIRTY-FIVE CENTS
FOR EACH CONTINUATION

Letters upon French Influence.
No IX.

To the People of the United States.

The secret message of the President of the 6th of December 1805, which was annexed to the last number, opens an ample field for investigation and criticism. It is not probable that all history can produce an instance of conduct at once so unprincipled and undignified, in the ruler of a free people, as that of Jefferson upon this occasion will appear to have been, when fairly and fully developed.

Acknowledging the duty incumbent upon the Executive of the United States to require from the government of Spain indemnification for our injured citizens, the message announces that a convention was accordingly entered into between the Minister of the United States at Madrid, and the Minister of that government for foreign affairs, by which it was agreed that spoiliations committed by Spanish subjects, and carried into ports of Spain, should be paid for by that nation, and that those committed by French subjects, and carried into Spanish ports, should remain for further discussion. It would seem to appear that the transfer of Louisiana by France to the United States occasioned the rejection of this convention on the part of Spain. But it is believed that this was not the case. In this, as in all other instances, Spain was bound to know what the commands of France were, and to obey them. France would not suffer Spain to make an arrangement with us, unless we would give our discharge in full for what France pre-emptorily pronounced an unfounded claim on our part, that of payment for French spoiliations carried into Spanish ports. And why? Because, as happens to leak out, towards the conclusion of the message, "France was prompt and decided in her declarations, that our demands on Spain for French spoiliations, carried into Spanish ports, were included in the settlement between the United States and France." That France, in ceding Louisiana to the United States, looked forward to all the difficulties which the omission of boundaries must naturally produce, and that she even then intended to take that advantage of her own wrong in this respect which she has since done, by preventing an adjustment between us and Spain, except upon terms which should replenish the French treasury, there can now be no doubt in the mind of any man of common apprehension. It was one object, indeed, to have a plausible pretext for evading payment for French spoiliations in Spain, the existence of which proved that, politically speaking, there was no Spain. But it was another and a greater object to keep the boundaries of Louisiana unsettled, as the instrument of establishing a strong French influence over the United States, whether in expectation of obtaining more money from us or not, is quite immaterial. Yet facts abundantly and conclusively shew that such an expectation must have been entertained. M. Talleyrand was then chief counsellor to his Imperial Majesty; and had he not been, Napoleon would have known the true character and situation of our country. He knew our extreme love of peace; our deep animosities against England; the ill conduct of England towards us; our ardent attachment, from revolutionary recollections, to the French nation; our consequent indisposition to view the wrongs of France in so strong a light as those of England; our deficiency in military and naval power; the unpopularity which would attend the creation of armies and navies; the idolatry of the people for the existing administration; the probability that that idolatry would continue while the people should believe the administration to be devoted to economy and peace; and the certainty that, should we be impelled to war with a foreign power, every disposition would exist among us to go to war with England rather than France. He was also acquainted with Jefferson's philosophizing, theorizing, and timid disposition; with his total want of nerve; and

with his ardent hatred of England, and profound devotion to France. He knew that the same President Jefferson, excessively ambitious of literary fame, had staked his reputation as a writer upon a prediction that the Sun of Britain's glory was about to set forever, and of course that he was deeply interested to turn his own prediction into prophecy. Under all these circumstances he must have been a fool to doubt that the American President was ripe so far as depended on himself alone, for the great and good work of completing the destruction of Old England. He could not therefore but expect with confidence a perfect submission to his dictates in regard to our relations with Spain.

There were several statements in the message, which, if not in fact false, were extremely deceptive. After the President had spoken of Spain as the efficient power in reference to the contested boundaries of Louisiana, he incautiously admitted, in the very same paper, that France was managing the business to promote her own purpose, as appears by the singular expression, *Whatever direction she might mean to give to these differences*—that is, whatever direction France might mean to give to the differences between the United States and Spain. He was sensible, indeed he had been informed by his agents in Europe, that France intended to give some direction to those differences, and he affected to be ignorant what it would be. Yet he perfectly knew what it was, and was at that moment secretly labouring to give those "differences" the very same "direction" which his friend Napoleon contemplated. This may be considered a high charge, but it will be amply supported by unquestionable facts. The direction which France meant to give, and had in fact given, was, that several millions of dollars should be paid out of the treasury of the United States into that of France. We could prove the fact to the satisfaction of any independent court or jury in the United States. But Jefferson knows that we can prove it, we shall not be called on for the proof. We cannot exhibit in these letters the same sort of evidence, either as to this point, or as to a presumed particular correspondence between Jefferson and Napoleon, which it would be in our power to command in a court of law.

..... But yet I say,
If imputation and strong circumstances,
That lead directly to the door of truth,
Will give you satisfaction, you shall have it:

There is no hesitation in asserting that Jefferson, more perhaps through fear than from corruption, had made up his mind to carry into effect the "direction" which France "might mean to give to the differences" between the United States and Spain. He will not deny it. The public may expect the proof.

The publication of the secret documents, "IN EXTENSIO," is suspended for the present. When the Public reflect upon the importance of those parts of them which were disclosed in the seventh number, and which completely proved the fact of the subjection of Jefferson's administration to the influence of France, and reflect also that documents of such importance had been known, for four or five years, to exist, by 50 or 60 inflexible opponents of the administration in Congress, they must have some idea of the power of that charm which binds the members of the National Legislature to secrecy in certain cases. It appears now to be universally admitted that there is no constitutional or legal obstacle to the publication of those documents. But the writer finds that some of those whose judgment he cannot but highly respect, are not quite so clear as to the perfect propriety of such a step. All the members of Congress have uniformly agreed in opinion that some parts of the papers which were laid before them ought not to be given to the world.—More, much more general information upon the subject, however, the Public are entitled to and shall receive.

P. S. The defence set up by Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison, in the National Intelligencer, against the charges contained in No. VII. will be examined at considerable length in No. X. to which will be added an appendix *very much to the point*, in which two great statesmen will be cut to pieces with their own favourite edge tools. It augurs well that those gentlemen treat this subject so seriously, and it would put to the blush, if any thing could, the few wretched French paragraph makers

who affect to ridicule a development which their masters feel to be fraught with death to all their hopes.

NEW-YORK, AUGUST 3.

The late foreign intelligence.—The public have been some days kept in suspense about the news by the late arrival. We have exerted ourselves to procure every information possible for the benefit of our readers; but having to depend on verbal information, we were in some points deceived. We have now been favored with the papers brought by the Tamaahmah down to the 21st of June inclusive. Their contents we lay before our readers this day. It will be observed, that Parliament was prorogued on the 21st of June, instead of the 19th as stated by us. The late decree mentioned yesterday is not so extensive as we were informed; it is issued by Louis instead of Napoleon, and relates to Holland only. We give a correct copy from a London paper. There does not appear to be any great alteration in the state of affairs in continental Europe. Bonaparte is still attempting to enforce his systems of commercial restrictions, and if the new Dutch decree is carried into execution, he will accomplish the destruction of commerce in that country. This is the kind of freedom which Napoleon grants to his friends. No hope is now entertained that any of the American property seized by Napoleon will be restored. He appears to have adopted a system of plunder from which none are to be exempted. His friends, if possible, are the greatest sufferers. It is reported that he has seized and sequestered vessels which carried his own licence, and that this is the reason of the rise of wheat in England. It is not improbable that this is the case, for there is nothing too bad for him to perform. It was the general opinion in France that a war with this country would take place, as it was thought our government would not submit to the insulting and outrageous conduct of the usurper. The people in France, however, are not acquainted with the meekness of our rulers. There will be no war between this country and France. We are sorry to find in the Liverpool papers American vessels advertised with an assurance that "their papers are genuine, and that they had never evaded the non-intercourse laws of the United States." We hope this is the last time that our merchants will be driven to such a degrading situation. If our government will not protect commerce and navigation, they ought at least to let the merchants enjoy the advantages of their industry and enterprise; and not pass laws which must paralyze all honest exertion, and disgrace the American character in every part of the world. How must an American ship-owner feel, when before he can procure business for his vessel, he is forced to produce a certificate of character, like a servant hunting for a master? Our readers will observe that our extracts are principally from the London Morning Chronicle, an opposition print.

LONDON June 9.

We received yesterday New-York papers to the 6th ult. and, by the Pacific, letters from that city three days later. From the journals we have inserted extracts of considerable importance, as affecting the commercial interests of this country. By the arrangements to which we refer, a free trade is established with the United States, unless we should be placed in this singular situation, that Bonaparte should revoke his Edicts, and Ministers should be guilty of mischievous impolicy to continue in force the Orders in Council. The result of the proceedings of Congress may be stated in a few words. No armed ships of either Great Britain or France are to be admitted into the ports of the Republic. The merchantmen of both countries are to be allowed unmolested ingress. The Non-Intercourse Act is repealed; but a power is vested in the President to renew its operation, under the contingency that either Great Britain or France should rescind their Decrees or Orders in Council, against such power as should not so annul those Decrees or Orders. This condition of affairs is in anomaly in the history of diplomacy; since, by such a regulation, two independent powers are voluntarily placed under circumstances to interfere with the external connections of a State, so as to vary all her foreign relations with either of those independent powers.

A letter from a passenger in the Pacific mentions, that she passed in the Channel about 30 American ships, destined for this country, most of which will probably arrive in the course of the day, and supply us with additional information.

A Gentleman who has just arrived from Paris informs us that the new Empress of France having signified a wish that her unfortunate predecessor in the affections of Bonaparte should not retain the same imperial title she had herself received, Napoleon, with his own hand erased from the Register, the rank ascribed to the repudiated Empress, and degraded her to the station of a Princess of one of the States of Italy, to which she is now ordered to retire.

The pregnancy of Bonaparte's Empress, according to letters from Ostend of the 4th, has been officially announced.

DECREE.

Louis Napoleon, by the Grace of God and the Constitution of Kingdom, King of Holland, Constable of France.

Upon the Report of our Minister of Finance of the 21st of May, 1810, &c. We have decreed, and hereby decree—

Art. 1. The line of two thousand rods, established by our decree of the 25th May, 1809, No. 25, and further described in our decree of the 3d of November, 1809, No. 12—within which limits, with the exception of certain places therein mentioned, and the town of the Hague, are prohibited all magazines, depots or warehouses of colonial goods and English manufactures, on articles held to be such according to the proclamation of the 31st of May, 1805—is extended to the distance of five thousand rods from the sea coasts. All unlicensed magazines found within the former space, shall be put under sequestration, to be disposed of in such manner as shall be hereafter provided,

2. The proprietors of such magazines lying between the distance of two thousand, and that of five thousand rods from the sea coasts shall be at liberty to clear and carry off the same, within the space of fourteen days, under the authority of inland permits.

3. All licensed retail dealers shall deliver in at the nearest office of the Director by Water, a special declaration in writing of their stock in hand.

4. The necessary sufferances shall be delivered to the retail dealers, to ascertain the colonial goods and manufactures which they may have on hand, in order to carry on their trade. This stock shall be regulated by the average of the extent of their licences, and the amount of their payment to the weigh-house tax, in case they are rated thereto. The quantity, however, shall in no case exceed one third of the annual sales.

5. The local authorities shall, within the shortest possible period, transmit to the Director General of the Middelen te Water, lists of the licensed shop keepers within their respective districts, dealing in colonial commodities and manufactures, with a statement or the sum they are rated at, to the Weigh-house-tax, which statement they are empowered to demand of the Receiver or Collector of the Middelen te Lande.

The said lists are to be accompanied with such remarks as tend to make the Director-General more particularly acquainted with their local interests in this respect.

6. The present decree shall be published in the Bulletin of our laws.

7. Our Minister of France, Justice and Police, and also the Director General of the Middelen te Water, are charged with the execution of the present decree.

Given at our Palace at Haarlem this 24th day of May, in the year 1810, and our reign the fifth.

(Signed) LOUIS NAPOLEON.

JUNE 20.

Letters were yesterday received from Holland, dated the 16th inst. which state that licences had been granted by the Dutch government for ships to clear out for neutral ports, on giving bonds to the amount of three times the value of the vessel and cargo.

There is a report that Swedish property has been sequestered in France and Holland, in consequence of French consuls having been refused a residence in some of the ports of Sweden, and facilities na-