

The emperor acts in many respects on principles diametrically opposite to those of his late mother. There remains no doubt but that he leans towards Prussia; that he will not furnish one single man to Austria against France.

### LONDON, December 27.

Mr. Secretary Dundas, on the subject of the late Negotiation for Peace, brought up yesterday the following Message from His Majesty to the House of Commons:

#### “GEORGE R.

“IT is with the utmost concern, that His Majesty acquaints the House of Commons, that his earnest endeavours to effect the restoration of Peace have been unhappily frustrated, and that the Negotiation in which he was engaged, has been abruptly broken off, by the peremptory refusal of the French government to treat—except upon a basis evidently inadmissible—and by their having in consequence required His Majesty’s Plenipotentiary to quit Paris within forty-eight hours.

“His Majesty has directed the several Memorials and Papers which have been exchanged in the course of the late discussion, and the account transmitted to His Majesty of its final result, to be laid before the House.

“From these papers His Majesty trusts it will be proved, to the whole world, that his conduct has been guided by a sincere desire to effect the restoration of Peace—on principles suited to the relative situation of the Belligerent powers—and essential for the permanent interests of his kingdoms, and the general security of Europe—Whilst His Enemies have advanced pretensions at once inconsistent with those objects, unsupported even to the grounds on which they were professed to rest, and repugnant both to the system established by repeated treaties, & to the principles and practice which have hitherto regulated the intercourse of independent nations.

“In this situation, His Majesty has the consolation of reflecting, that the continuance of the calamities of war can be imputed only to the unjust and exorbitant views of his enemies; and his majesty, looking forward, with anxiety, to the moment when they may be disposed to act on different principles, places, in the mean time, the fullest reliance—under the protection of Providence—on the wisdom and firmness of his parliament, on the tried valour of his forces by sea and by land, and on the zealous public spirit, and resources, of his kingdom, for vigorous and effectual support, in the prosecution of a contest which it does not depend on his Majesty to terminate, and which involves in it the security and permanent interests of this country and of Europe.

#### “G. REX.”

December 22. The French fleet consists of 17 line of battle ships, 8 frigates, and 2 cut down ships of war, having on board 8000 land troops. According to the last Paris papers its object was said to be with a view of landing these troops at Vigo in Galicia, one of the finest harbours in Europe about two miles distant from the frontiers of Portugal, in order to attack that kingdom. The fleet is under the orders of M. De Gall, one of the ablest officers of the ancient royal navy of France, and who during the last war greatly distinguished himself in the East-Indies under M. De Suffren. The fleet is very badly manned, is incapable of fighting an equal force, or even of withstanding the common accidents of the season if the weather should prove boisterous. This was the reason that rear admiral Villaret Joyeuse, and 12 captains refused to put to sea, for which they were dismissed.

December 30. Yesterday Lord Malmesbury arrived in town, from France, and we received Paris journals up to the 15th inst. inclusive; and they came fortunately in time to give the sentiments of the French directory on the tenor, and issue of the negotiation. The papers contain all the official documents that passed between Lord Malmesbury and M. Descaux, of which our readers are already in possession. We do not find, however, that the French minister has rendered any account to his government of the private conversations which passed between himself and the British ambassador; he has not given any display of his own artifice of reasoning; no attributed to his opponent, expressions so suitable to the cause of France, as to be printed in their original text. This is a manœuvre of the diplomatic art beyond the adolescence of the republic; though perhaps his forbearance may be a symptom that decency has not totally taken flight from the palace of Bourbon.

But though they shew a proper respect to England in not publishing the partial report of a conversation, where two persons engaged in contention may have urged arguments hypothetically, or been provoked to them unguardedly, which comment upon the propositions as defined ought not to be fixed upon them as their genuine opinion; they have not failed to comment upon the propositions as defined in their written letter, and to expose what they regard as the arrogant pretensions of England. These commentaries we have translated from the Redacteur, *literaire*; they come seasonably to inform our representatives of the sentiments of the French, before they shall commit their country to the prosecution of the war, for the now avowed purpose of refusing from the French their most essential conquests; and retaining almost all those which we have acquired.

The following paper, entitled “notes sur le renvoi du Lord Malmesbury,” is so evidently official, that we should have published it in French and English if it had not come to hand at a late hour. It may be considered as the counter-declaration of the French.

London, Chron. Chronicle.

### PARIS, 5 Nivose, Dec. 25.

Note on the dismissal of Lord Malmesbury, from the Redacteur of December 24.

THE numerous and brilliant successes of the arms of the republic have not that the ears of the French to the voice of humanity. If they took up arms it was in their own defence; if they pursued their enemies beyond their own territory, it was for the purpose of forcing them to conclude a peace. Peace has been the constant object of their efforts and of their wishes, and it was already re-established with the most of the powers of the coalition on a happy and solid foundation when the English envoy was fastidiously announced.

Thus, the victorious French, the French who have shed their blood, and squandered their resources to repel an unjust aggression, were to retire shamefully within their territories, as if they had been vanquished. They were to support the weight and the expence of a war which they were obliged to maintain in defence of their liberty!

Thus in compliance with these demands too, although by the text of the constitution a treaty cannot stipulate any alienation of the territory of the Republic, the directory was to restore the ci-devant Belgium. They were to sign with their hand the instrument of their impeachment, by the violation of the social agreement which they were specially deputed to maintain.

Thus those nations who are connected with us, who have relied upon our friendship, upon our fidelity, were to be basely abandoned!

England next impudently dissolves the treaties we have made with the greater number of the princes of Germany. In her eyes these treaties are of no value. It was only with his Imperial majesty that France could have concluded them; it is upon his Imperial majesty that the English government is desirous of rendering that peace dependant which the Republic has granted to those states of Germany who have detached themselves from the coalition.

The evacuation of Italy is next proposed by England; it would be necessary, therefore, to abandon also ci-devant Savoy, and the County of Nice; it would be necessary then to exercise towards their inhabitants the same perfidy as in the case of the ancient Belgians; and in order that the consequences of this mode of conduct should call down upon France the hatred of those who have seconded her arms with their good wishes or by their means, in order that this baseness might for ever devote the Republic to the execration of nations, England discharges her from the exercise of the power of interfering in the internal affairs of these countries, and by consequence of that of warding off the vengeance which they already meditate against those who have shewn themselves friendly to our cause, who by their exertions have seconded the courage of the brave army of Italy, of those, in fine, who have assisted in preventing the massacre of our brothers in arms.

To these propositions, openly infamous, succeed clauses which a little more carefully conceal the ignominy with which the English government desires to overwhelm us.

It reserves to the Court of St. Petersburg the full and unlimited power of joining in the negotiation when it thinks proper. It would doubtless have interfered, if we had had the baseness to listen to pretensions so odious. It would indeed have interfered, and strongly through the weakness which it might reasonably have imputed to us, it would have required us to submit to new humiliations.

Portugal next figures in the project of this Lord: it reserves to Portugal too the power of joining in the negotiation; and faithful to its secret principle of throwing upon the Republic the whole expence of a war which she has compelled her to support against all Europe confederated to lay waste and dismember her territory, Lord Malmesbury nevertheless, not daring to demand openly that the French government should renounce the stipulation of a sum of money to be paid by Portugal to reimburse the Republic for the expence of the war, prepares in his memorial the foundation of that unjust pretension, and crassly proposes that in the treaty with Portugal, there shall be no question of any burdensome condition either upon one side or the other.

Not content with the important aggrandizement which the partition of Poland has conferred upon her allies; not content with having enriched herself with the spoils of our commerce, by a treaty perfidiously purchased; not content with having thus broken the balance of Europe, the restoration of which she so loudly demands, England, under pretext of re-establishing this very balance, has contended with the Republic against the validity of the cession which has been made by his Catholic Majesty of the Spanish part of Saint Domingo. She demands a compensation for this object. Without a blush she founds her ridiculous pretension upon the 20th Article of the treaty of Utrecht, which she herself, in fact, annulled by the cession which she caused to be made in her favour in 1763, of Florida, St. Augustine and Pensacola.

In fine, in a latter article, studiously obscure and methodically complicated, Lord Malmesbury presents certain bases, the object of which does not appear susceptible of any application, unless they refer to the Emigrants, and to the restitution of their property sold or sequestered. And these, forsooth, are propositions of Peace!

The second Memorial of Lord Malmesbury concerns the Allies of France; and this memorial is not less insulting than that we have mentioned.

After having passed cursorily over the interests of Spain, to which he supposes no indemnification to be due, he speaks of Holland, and on this head his pretensions are extravagant even to frenzy.

According to him, the French Republic ought to barter the liberty of Holland—the Stadholderate must be restored. France must sacrifice this Republic, with which the most perfect friendship subsists, to a new revolution—trampling under foot the most sacred conventions—shamefully violating the faith of treaties, she is called upon to let loose upon the head of this people all the horrors which would rise from the re-action of the Orange party.

And what was to be the price of this infamy?—Would it not be imagined that England offers upon these conditions the restitution of what treachery has enabled her to plunder from Holland? Would it not be imagined that she was to add to this offer that of some indemnification to be afterwards arranged? No; she offers only the restitution of a part of what she does not blush to consider as conquest, and doubtless, by means of the indefinite reserve she preserves, she was afterwards to announce the pretension of retaining the Cape and the Island of Ceylon; still with a view of preserving the balance of Europe, which in her understanding consists in being herself every thing, and the other powers nothing.

Lord Malmesbury proposes, in fine, that if the French do not consent to tear Holland in pieces with their own hands, they should give to the emperor and king every thing which Holland has ceded to France in the treaty concluded between them.

Such, truly, are the conditions of peace proposed by the noble lord! Without doubt they must be considered as warwhoops by every man whose heart is not impervious to the love of his country; by every man who respects its laws and faith due to the treaties; it is shame and perfidy which England proposes to us; it is the violation of our constitution and good faith, it is the subversion of our principles, the restoration of the emigrants, the restitution of their fortunes, a counter-revolution, anarchy and civil war; is in every evil, every misfortune, and every crime united, with which they present us in pretending to ask for peace! Perfidious England, or rather, crafty and nefarious English government! You only wish for money, and this was the only object of your embassy! You wished to deceive the people whose happiness is intrusted to you! You wish to obtain from them resources without which your unmeaning rage would become impotent. But do not count upon the successes with which you flatter yourself; you are about to lavish your ruin; your vain boast of public credit will come to nought as soon as the blindness of the nation is removed; French courage will soon lessen your arrogance, the heroes of Gemappe, Fleurus, Werwick, Commines, &c. upon the frozen plains of Holland, upon the banks of the Adige, in the necks of the Brenta, of Trou-d’Enfers, &c. these heroes still exist; they will force you to restore to the world that peace which humanity reclaims, and which your avarice and devouring ambition withholds.

Friends of peace! take courage; blood will not continue long to flow. England cannot steel the hearts of all the powers against the cry that humanity has raised. Austria! Austria! itself will soon open its eyes; alarmed at a war to which it sees no end; exhausted by the immense expence of a lengthened struggle; deprived of the resources of those states now in our possession; undecided respecting the English government, who calling itself her ally has preserved what was its own, and has left her dispossessed of Belgium, of a party of German, and of Italy; pressed by her own subjects, upon whom the devastations consequent upon the war chiefly fall; Austria, in fine, under the influence of better councils, menaced perhaps from another quarter, will feel the necessity of treating with the republic; and then England, standing by itself, and justly exposed to all the retentment of the French, will not be able to dissemble its weakness, and will receive with more gentleness a peace which it now dares to disdain.

### FAYETTEVILLE, MARCH 17.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at St. Pierre’s, Martinique, dated Feb. 1, to his friend in New-York.

“A powerful force is daily expected here; at Fort-Royal all manner of warlike stores and provisions are already embarked on board transports and ships of war, and the troops in all the islands are under orders to hold themselves ready on the shortest notice. Last week arrived at Barbadoes four transports with one thousand of Dillon’s brigade, one slop of war, and a 44 armed en flute, but where they were all going we know not.

NB. A Spanish prize ship brought into Barbadoes a cargo of dollars.