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From the Commercial Advertiser.
To the PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Extracts from the Dispatches.

"IF nothing can be done by the Envoys, arrangements will be made forthwith to ravage the coasts of the United States, by frigates from St. Domingo,—that small States which had offended France were suffering by it. That Hamburg and other cities in that quarter would, in a month or two, have their governments changed—that Switzerland would undergo the same operation; and that Portugal would probably be in a worse condition."

"MR. GERRY, in answer, said—That if the French were disposed to pursue with vengeance the United States, they might, perhaps, ravage the coasts—but they never could subdue them—The measure he thought utterly impracticable, even if attempted by France and her allies.—That they, (our ambassadors) were treated in the eyes of all Europe, and of the American government and nation with the utmost contempt, and were submitting to indignities which they could not reconcile to their feelings, or justify to their constituents.—It was answered, that the observations were just."

The government of France, from the destruction of the Bastille, to the present hour, has exceeded in tyranny and injustice, every thing we have recorded in history, of those monsters who heretofore excited the execrations of mankind.—Americans! read the history of this bloody and lawless revolution.—It is for want of knowledge only, that any of you after the French departed from the system of self defence, and assumed that of universal conquest, retained that affection which originally flowed from the fountains of pure virtue and republicanism.—Whilst they contended for independence, we rejoiced.—Whilst they fought for real liberty, we gave them our prayers—we hazarded the displeasure of all their enemies, and war with the most powerful.—We sent them our bread, when starving.—We even paid them our debt in advance.—What has been our reward?—Their first minister, at the very moment he declares the French did not wish us to embark in their contest, had in his pocket their instructions to engage our citizens in war and rebellion—our chief magistrate is treated with indignity and contempt—the people are persuaded to despise and vilify their rulers—to control the constituted authorities of their country—and in place of liberty, supported by law and order, to establish in a free republic—in time of peace—a system of disorganization, and a pandemonium of Democracy, intended to be made the blind instruments, when opportunity served, for establishing a foreign influence in the bosom of a free and independent nation.—We are next seduced to carry them the immense riches of our soil; and, to their infamy, they have swindled us out of the proceeds, to this day.—Then our vessels are embargoed and our merchants plundered, for years together, to the amount of millions.—Fellow citizens.—It is worthy of your remark, that all these insults, and attempts upon our honour and sovereignty, and considerable of the spoils were committed prior to the British treaty, that bug-bear hobby horse of the servile dependents of France.—For this accumulation of unmerited injury and abuse any independent nation but the United States would have resorted to arms.

But what was the conduct of our government?—they send a gentleman of the first respectability in America, with full powers to reconcile all difficulties—he is treated with contempt.—Our country contends for the sake of peace, to send in addition, two others of our most distinguished citizens—they are also treated with the most lowering indignity—they wait with patience—they supplicate—they offer every possible degradation to effect a reconciliation, or even an interview with a set of claspers and villains.—To all these humiliations, what is the answer? If you do not give us fifty thousand sterling, and thirty-two millions of florins, and fifteen millions of dollars, for the privilege of only being admitted into our presence, and as many more millions as we may afterwards demand, as the price of peace, dear friends and allies, (Oh! the damn'd rascals!) we will ravage your coasts—we will treat you as we have Holland, Genoa, and Geneva, &c.—Republican governments we have destroyed—and as we shall, in a few months, treat Hamburg, Bremen, and Switzerland.—Nay—we will obliterate your existence as a nation—as we have done the Republic of Venice.

Ravaging a country in a military sense and effect, is undistinguishedly taking, burning and destroying—ravishing and murdering man, woman and child.—But Messrs. Greenleaf and Bache's correspondents say this

is all a Tom, Dick and Harry business—a mere bagatelle—it would be a pity, should these Tom, Dick and Harry men put their threats in execution, and ravage our coasts, but that these wretches and traitors of their correspondents should be among the first victims of their paricious machinations. And it would be a valuable service to the rights of men, if they should take their printers along. It is most extraordinary that there should still remain with us men who endeavour to palliate the conduct of the French on the score of the British treaty, when, in fact, in all the communications with our ambassadors, the agents of the directory never once mentioned the British treaty—and it is morally certain, never would have complained on that subject, had they not been stimulated thereto by the folly or wickedness of the French party in America, who first founded this unfounded alarm. Did they not seize our merchandise prior to the existence of that treaty? they did—and they not pass a number of decrees in violation of this treaty prior to the existence of the British treaty? They did.—Put no faith in me—Look to the decrees themselves.

Was it for the British treaty they destroyed the Republican governments of Holland—Genoa—Geneva—and others? Was it for the British treaty they are now destroying the republics or democracies of Hamburg, Bremen, and Switzerland? Was it for this they razed from the list of nations VENICE, the oldest republic of ancient or modern times? and parcelled these republicans like West India negroes, with their lands and cities, wives and children, these very enemies whom they execrate as the tyrants of the earth.

But what has this to do with the British treaty, you will say? Why, nothing at all.—But then it establishes among others, the following important truths, which the United States should hold in eternal remembrance.—that the pride and ambition of nations, when once roused and battered by success, have no bounds—that self interest with them, as with individuals, is the governing principle—that treaties, as they never have been, so they never will be, long regarded, when they do not comport with interest—and that the inferences we may demonstratively draw, is, that as the French found it their interests to plunder and swindle our countrymen before the British treaty existed, so, if it had been made we should under some pretence or other, have been equally the victims of their insatiable injustice and rapacity.

It is impossible to review the recent rulers of France in any better light than a set of scoundrels, scrambling for money and power. Their present power is founded upon the latest usurpation—a usurpation which originated in a violent and daring violation of the laws and constitution of their country—than which no usurpation or tyranny could be more injurious and alarming to the real friends of the Rights of Man throughout the world—it is no wonder, therefore, that those who have trampled upon the constitution and liberties of their own country should invade the rights of others—that those who have attempted to destroy GOD ALMIGHTY HIMSELF, should wish to plunder and destroy the governments of the earth.

Dreadful indeed must be either the humiliation of the French nation, or the tyranny of these usurpers, when such a deadly infringement of their once boasted constitution and every principle of social security could be committed not only with impunity, but scarcely with a murmur.

No political sentiment is more cordially embraced in the United States, than that our true policy consists in withdrawing ourselves as much as possible, from the vortex of European politics—and above all things, never to form with any foreign state, a treaty of perpetual alliance. If, therefore, the French should by a continuance of hostilities, drive us to the last appeal, it will be an immense and pleading consideration that we shall get rid of that accursed part of our treaty which guarantees their West India Islands. For this guarantee we have now no equivalent—because our independence, which is the counterpart, is so well established, as to defy the powers of France and all her allies.

It must afford great satisfaction however, to the real patriots of America, to find that however we may be divided and differ for a time, about men and measures, there is a universal union of sentiment, when the independence and very existence of our country is threatened by a foreign nation, whose power is as great as her ambition is boundless and unprincipled.

April 21, '98. WILLIAM WILLCOCKS.

BOSTON, April 21.

FROM EUROPE.

Captain Howland from Amsterdam, failed March 14. The latest news from Paris, informed that our envoys still remained without being received by the di-

rectory;—or a prospect of reception. French troops had marched into Holland for the purpose of enforcing a mandate for the seizure of British goods—which the Dutch had not executed.—The Batavians evince dissatisfaction at French measures. It was not expected in Holland, that the French would even attempt the invasion of England; all the mighty preparations it was imagined were made with a design to frighten the English into their terms of peace.

Capt. Clark failed from Rotterdam March 22. The common reports were, that the American envoys had not been acknowledged by the French directory; that they would not be unless they advanced a considerable sum of money—which it was not expected they would.

NEW-YORK, April 24.

Last evening the *Therese Friends*, Buchanan, arrived at this port from Nantes, which port she left the 20th March.

By this vessel we have been favoured with some papers, which are not very prolific.—Nantes papers state—

That the minister of war has resigned.—That the minister of marine had set out for Brest, but without Buonaparte.

He who threatens to cowards (says the *Feuille of Nantes of the 5th March*) the English pretend that they were going to make several descents on our coasts: Let them come."

All the princes and states of the Empire have acknowledged the left bank of the Rhine as the boundary, on condition of aid and money.

The greater part of the Consuls General are suppressed: this employ is confided to the secretaries of Ambassadors.

It would seem, that the Spanish government alone, is going to attack Portugal.

They write from Vienna, that the Imperial armies are soon to be disbanded.

VERBAL accounts by this vessel state that our Envoys remain to they were; it is said, the Directory had told them, that all their powers and attentions were now bent towards the maintenance of the LEVANTING of England, after which they would have time to treat with them.

General Buonaparte was talked of as a Director, at the ensuing election, on the 21st of March.

The verbal information of some of the passengers is thus stated—

That our Commissioners had been received and were treating at Paris. That the French were alien treaty. That bets run four to one in Paris that a general peace would take place by May. That the idea of a war with America did not prevail. That it was expected that Barras would go out of the Directory and Buonaparte be elected in his place. That it was reported several Americans were imprisoned for the purpose of determining if they were really Americans or English. That all the privateers were stopped for the purpose of assisting in the determined invasion of England unless peace should arrest them. (Signed.)

PHILADELPHIA, April 24.

Yesterday at 12 o'clock the Mayor, Recorder, and Aldermen, and the S. J. and Common Council of Philadelphia, waited on the President of the United States, with the following

ADDRESS:

To the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

At a moment when dangers threaten the peace and prosperity of the United States, when foreign influence and rapine have deeply wounded our national honour and injured our useful commerce; it is presumed the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the city of Philadelphia will not be unwelcome—when they come forward to assure you of their perfect approbation of your administration, and their entire confidence in your wisdom, integrity and patriotism. While we admire the prudence and moderation with which our government has received the unprovoked aggressions of France; and the sincerity and equity of your endeavours to conciliate her friendship, we feel the independent pride of AMERICANS is your dignity and firmness. As we are satisfied that nothing has been wanting on your part to preserve to us the blessings of peace and safety, we prepare to meet with fortitude the consequences that may follow the failure of your exertions. Confident that our government has been just and impartial in her dealings with all nations, and grateful for the happiness and prosperity we have enjoyed under it in the days of tranquility, we do not hesitate to promise it our utmost assistance in the time of difficulty and need.

Presiding over the councils of your country in a most eventful crisis; we hope and trust you will find a

* This answer of Mr. Gerry was omitted by Mr. Greenleaf in his publication of the Dispatches.