

THE MINERVA.

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[No. 578.]

New-York Election.

The state election in New-York takes place this month. From our late papers it is likely to be one of the most warmly contested of any which has ever preceded. Every passion is roused, every engine of ambition which cunning or ingenuity can devise, to ensure the election of the more or democratic candidates. An undue attempt to influence the minds of the city, is a letter published in the newspapers, by Thomas Addis Emmet, addressed to the Hon. Rufus King, of the candidates to represent that city in the state legislature; calling upon him to explain part of his official conduct, relative to some of the Irish state prisoners, who he was our minister at the Court of St. James, nine years ago. Mr. Emmet is one of those gentlemen, who, for many years, left Ireland for the United States, and arriving in New-York, was received with that respect and politeness due to a foreigner of distinguished talents. He was admitted to the Bar although he was not a citizen. This right he has not yet acquired, not having been two years in the country. But he has repaid their liberality, by the folded adder, by endeavoring to get to the heart the bosom that warmed him. How different is the conduct of the virtuous General Moreau?—In this letter to Mr. King was published, it seems to have roused the indignation of the Americans beyond any former example. The Resolves which we publish show the manner in which they view Emmet's attempt to influence the minds of our citizens on the eve of an elec-

tion into a political engine, is an act which ought to meet with the most pointed disapprobation of every friend to this country.

Resolved, That to punish a man, for any vote which he may think proper to give at an election, is a species of tyranny, hitherto unknown in America, and which could only have been suggested by a stranger to the principles of our government, and an alien in our country.

Resolved, That the resolution which was lately passed at a meeting of the *Hibernian Provident Society*, in this city, threatening to expel any member who should vote for Mr. Andrew Morris, at the ensuing election, because he was one of the candidates on the *American Ticket*, is arbitrary, unjust and highly disgraceful.

Resolved, That among our naturalized fellow citizens, from Ireland, we recognize many whom we are proud to acknowledge as Americans, and who are highly respectable for talents and worth.

Resolved, That the conduct of Thomas Addis Emmet, in taking an active part in our elections, before he has a right to vote, and in commencing an attack upon the character of Rufus King, for his conduct, while our minister abroad, is an impudent intermeddling with our concerns, and an outrage upon all propriety and decorum.

Resolved, That every American is called upon by a sense of duty to himself and to his country to use his best exertions to promote the success of the *American Ticket*, at the approaching election.

JOSEPH DEDEKER, Chairman.

WILLIAM VAN HOOK, Secretary.

From the (New-York) Crisis.

Quit us, at the fact!

Friend Mitchell,

Citizen Genet has thought proper to consider himself as pointed at in my former communication, and has come forward in the Register under the signature of *Spartanum*, with a kind of justification of his conduct, which I should have let pass for as much as it was worth, had he not thought proper to season the hotch-potch a little too high with the pepper and vinegar of invective. As he has exhibited himself at full length, I must criticise him a little. He has, forsooth, good man, "been for twelve years studying nature and nature's God!" Has he found there any lessons of imposture? I fear he has studied to little purpose.

The Citizen must not suppose I am unacquainted with his political biography. I know it well. I learnt it, not in this country. "Sixteen years was he in the service of the king of France, in the diplomatic department." Bravo! How we apples swim! The Citizen will judge whether I know any thing of him from the following narrative. Madam de Barry, the mistress of Louis the 15th, patronized Madam Genlis, and procured an appointment for her as instructress to the young Princess of Orleans. Now the old Duke was a pretty lickerish blade: though that is not thought much of in France, particularly as it leads to the study of nature. Madam Genlis patronized Madam Compon, the Citizen's sister (the why and the wherefore is immaterial in France,) and established her in a school at St. Germain. This connection produced a place for the young Citizen in one of the Bureaux of the minister of exterior relations; and when the Count de Segur went on his mission to Russia, procured for him the birth of private secretary. It is true, when the dreary prospect of affairs recalled that worthy nobleman to his country, he left the Citizen, because he had none else to leave, as charge des affaires for a few months. This, together with his diplomatic exhibition in this country, is, I suspect, all he has to boast of in that line.

The Citizen has also made a little flash in the military line. But I believe never went so far as to breakfast on a Ravelin, or pick his teeth with a Palisada. It was said in France, but I will not vouch for the truth of it, that he once had expectations through the interference of a female friend,

to be preferred to the office of adjutant-general of the army of Italy; but I believe he never obtained it.

But the Citizen, we are told, was of the Girond party; the friend of Brissot and of Condorcet. Brissot I knew—I respected his talents and some of his political opinions. But Condorcet, the atheistical Condorcet, the parricide Condorcet, who caused his good old friend and benefactor to fall beneath the hands of assassins, while sitting between his wife and daughter, I should not have been proud of an acquaintance with. It is the boast of the Citizen that it was during the reign of this party, that the Septembrizers deluged the streets of Paris with the human blood they poured from the defenceless victims in the temple and Concergerie? Does he forget, that, during the reign of this party, hired assassins were sent in coaches from Paris, to massacre the unfortunate prisoners at Versailles? Does he forget that this party, on the 23d day of January, 1793, shed the blood of their sovereign on the scaffold?

The Citizen tells us, "when he came to this country, his orders were, to have no secrets with freemen and brothers, to act openly and undisguised with them, and to make no mystery of his instructions, if they were misrepresented or misunderstood." How then did it happen that he never showed these instructions when called to account for daring to attempt to raise an army in our country, even before he had been accepted by our government? How did it happen that these instructions were never published until he had been abandoned by his own country, and they became necessary as a peace offering to this? How came he to publish them as secret instructions? The Citizen must not imagine that memory is exclusively his own.

He admits he desired to associate America to the glorious destinies of France.—Have we any evidence that that desire has abated? Is there not reason to suspect the contrary? Is not his sister, Madam Compon, at present instructress to the younglings of the new Dynasty? Is not General Ney the favorite of Bonaparte, the husband of the Citizen's niece? Are not several of his relations in confidential situations under the governments of France and Holland? But above all, did he not in a celebrated speech he made at a late electioneering meeting, declare, "that France had conquered all Europe but Russia and Britain, and that they would be soon subdued, and that then she would turn her arms against this country, unless we treated her with more respect?" Friend Mitchell, verily this Frenchman did utter such unhalloved threat: and when I compare it with one, his cousin De Witt Clinton's printer Cheatham, published not long since in the American Citizen, "that the French would soon land an army in our capital, and purge it of her enemies," I confess I think it time to keep a sharp look out, particularly on such as may be supposed to be enemies.—For really, friend Mitchell, I love not French monarchy, though Bonaparte is at its head, better than I did French jacobinism. I am perfectly satisfied with the government of my own country, and wish to preserve it, such as it is.

In the Athenian Republic, strangers who interfered with the public concerns, were punished with death. I approve not such severity, but surely it is a lesson to us, not to be led by such men, until they have manifested their attachment to us. The case of Citizen Genet is a very peculiar one.—He did not come among us in a way which will justify our hailing him as the fugitive from oppression, who seeks an asylum in our land of liberty.—No, he was thrown upon us from the blood-stained hand of parricides, to distract, divide and subvert us. A pretty employment for a student of nature and nature's author. I wonder, friend Mitchell, when indulging in these reflections, if the ghost of the lovely mutilated Lamball never darts across his vision. Sainted shade! He who could become the servant of thy ruthless butchers, who could

act under a Danton that bestowed thy jewelled rosary on a harlot, shall never be my guide in the path of morality, religion, or politics.

It puzzleth me, friend Mitchell, to discover why this said Citizen hurries us from hence to France, from France to the Mississippi, from the Mississippi to the Hudson, and from thence to the Thames, unless it be to convince us that he is, at least in one sense of the term, a very great Valiant.

THINE.

Mr. King.—The conduct of this gentleman in relation to the Irish State Prisoners may be stated and justified in a very few words.—In the year '98 Mr. King was the Minister Plenipotentiary of the American Government at the Court of St. James.—The American government was at war with France. Both houses of congress had united to empower the President to preserve the country from the influence of men in the views and interests of the French government. The Irish State Prisoners were confessedly in league with that government. The British Cabinet had agreed that these prisoners thus in league with France, should come to the United States.

The following letter was written by Mr. King while minister at St. James', to a Mr. Jackson, one of the Irish State prisoners. It is published by the Jacobins to prevent Mr. King's election to the state Legislature—So far from its doing him an injury, we are confident it will add to his great merit.

BRIGHTON, Aug. 23, 1799.

SIR,

"I ought to inform you, that I really have no authority to give or refuse permission to you or any other foreigner to go to the United States; the admission and residence of strangers in that country being a matter, that, by a late law,* exclusively belongs to the President. It is true that the government of this country in the course of the last year, in consequence of my interference, gave me an assurance, that a particular description of persons in Ireland, who it was understood were going to the United States, should not be allowed to proceed without our consent: this restraint would doubtless be withdrawn in favor of individuals against whose emigration I should not object; and I conclude, that it is upon this supposition, that you have taken the trouble to communicate to me your desire to go and reside in the United States. Without presuming to form an opinion on the subject of the late disturbances in Ireland, I entertain a distinct one in relation to the political situation of my own country. In common with others, we have felt the influence of the changes that have successively taken place in France, and, unfortunately, a portion of our inhabitants has erroneously supposed that our civil and political institutions as well as our national policy, might be improved by a close imitation of France. This opinion, the propagation of which was made the duty and became the chief employment of the French agents resident among us, created a more considerable division among our people, and required a greater watchfulness and activity from the government, than could before hand have been apprehended.

I am sorry to make the remark, and shall stand in need of your candor in doing so, that a large proportion of the emigrants from Ireland, and especially in our middle states, has, upon this occasion, arranged themselves on the side of the malcontents. I ought to except from this remark most of the enlightened and well educated Irishmen, who reside among us and with a few exceptions, I might confine it to the indigent and illiterate, who, entertaining an attachment to Freedom, are unable to appreciate those salutary restraints without which it degenerates into anarchy. It would be injustice to say that the Irish emigrants are more national than those of other countries, yet being a numerous though ve-

* The Alien Law.