

to the good people of this commonwealth, and ought not to be undertaken, unless it shall appear manifest to be the will of a majority of the citizens thereof; only a small portion of whom have expressed any opinion to this House upon the subject, and that...

And whereas, the constitution points out, and defines the power of the government, and we recognize no principle therein which authorises the legislature, or any branch thereof, to express opinions with respect to any supposed defects in said instrument, or to take any measures for amending the same; but, on the contrary, provision is made that the members of this House, as well as the other branches of the government shall, before they enter on the duties of their respective stations, take a solemn oath or affirmation to support the constitution, from which obligation, nothing but the voice of a majority of the citizens, legally expressed, can exonerate them, therefore

Resolved, That it would be improper in this House, as a branch of the legislature, to take any measures, or to express any opinion upon the subject of the before mentioned petitions and memorials.

On the question to postpone, for the purpose of introducing it, the Yeas were 22—Nays 54.

The question on the original resolution then recurred. A motion was made to strike out the following words: "altho' the House of Representatives are impressed with the opinion that the constitution is defective yet."

This was lost, only 22 members rising in favor of it.

The main question was then taken and carried 51 to 25.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE FRENCH EMPEROR AND THE BRITISH KING.

We lay before our readers the interesting Letter of Napoleon I. to his Britannic Majesty, proposing peace, alluded to in the King's speech to his Parliament at the opening of the present session, with the British Minister's answer. They are translated from the Moniteur (the official Journal of the French Government) of the 5th of February.

CONSERVATIVE SENATE.

Paris, 4th February.

THE Senate assembled this day in grand costume, under the presidency of his Serene Highness the Arch-chancellor of the Empire.

His Excellency M. Talleyrand Minister of foreign relations, was introduced, and presented the following report:

M. Talleyrand.—The national solemnity of the coronation, that noble and necessary completion of our social institutions, attached to it sentiments too profound and too universal not to occupy the whole attention of all classes of the state; at the near approach of this great internal event, which has just assured forever the destinies of France, in consecrating by the voice of men and heaven all that we have acquired of glory, of greatness, and of independence, the interest of all other events was generally, as if by one common impression, felt to diminish and grow feeble; even the thought of war seemed to vanish from the bosom of a nation which owed so much to its victories.

All is accomplished; the Empire is founded; and in re-assuming the cares of the exterior, and recalling genius to the interests of war, the first sentiment of the Emperor has been to elevate himself above all the passions, and to justify the great destiny for which Providence reserves him, by showing himself inaccessible to hatred, ambition, and revenge.

If there exist men who have conceived the project of combating us with the weapons of crimes; who have, as much as lies in their power, realized that cruel thought; who hired assassins; and who even at this moment, subsidize our enemies, it is over these very passions, that the Emperor has wished to triumph. The more natural & common it is to men, to be irritated by personal attacks, and to show sentiments of resentment, so much the more he felt that it was the part of a great soul to rise superior to them.

This determination prevails in every instance, but it is far removed from the ordinary rules; and in so singular a case, I must forget, for a moment, the principles of courtesy which at any other time would forbid me from offending by encomiums the sovereign to whom I have the honor of being minister. Here, I cannot explain the steps of a genera-

lity which supposes a forgetfulness of the common laws of prudence, without justifying them; and without intending it, my justifications are eulogiums.

The Emperor has made the first advances towards a government which has the guilt of being the aggressor; which has manifested without motive and without reserve, towards him and towards us, sentiments of an inveterate hatred. To comprehend well this moderation, it will be necessary to retrace the events which are passed, and to follow the tent of our august sovereign to the end of his noble career. Men have not studied his character, have not acknowledged by the boldness of his conceptions and the vigour and constant execution of all his enterprises, a calmness of mind, a prudence, a serenity which prevented all abuse, an effervescence, a shortness of justice and of humanity, which tended incessantly to moderate the effects and to cut short the term of necessary violence?

Thus, after a train of advantages obtained upon the borders of the Drave, far from abandoning himself to hopes which the most liberal for toxication, devaluated that it would be more useful to France and to her enemies to understand each other. He combated the great allurements of glory with the still greater interests of humanity. He heard the cries of the victims who were speedily to be immolated during the last struggles of an implacable war, and he made overtures of peace.

From this time, with that view of futurity which outruns events, and distinguishes them from the causes by which they are produced, he had seen all the blood which was to flow on the field of Marengo, on that of Hohenlinden; and regardless of the presages which promised to France and to her brave armies, new laurels and new conquests, he listened but to the dictates of wisdom and humanity, which legalize glory, but command sacrifices.

The same principle inspired him, the same magnanimity, when, being called to take the reigns of government, he united the title of First Consul to the fame of his Generalship, and the powers of the first magistrate to the immense influence of the glory he had acquired. Every where he addressed the words of peace, and he succeeded in making himself heard. The Continent pacified, there remains yet an enemy to France. On the 5th Ventose, year 8, he proposed peace to the King of England.

The generous conqueror of the year 5, the First Consul, pacificator of the year 8, were again to be found with the same magnanimous moderation in the august sovereign to whom heaven has entrusted our destinies. The degrees of power, the diversity of situations, change none of those eminent qualities, which might justly be termed virtues of character; and the Emperor owed it to himself to propose peace the third time, to prove that it was not in vain he had used on a solemn occasion these ever memorable expressions: "Soldier and First Consul, I have had but one thought; Emperor, I have no other." For these two years war is declared, and could not yet be begun. All have been preparations and projects; but the moment being come when their execution was to bring on real events, and give birth to the most terrible hazards, the Emperor has thought that it was in the principles of that policy, which no doubt draws down upon the thoughts and the efforts of just and generous princes the assistance of heaven, to do every thing in his power to prevent great calamities by making peace.

I am ordered to communicate to you the letter, which in that view of moderation and humanity, his Majesty the Emperor has judged it proper to write to his Majesty the King of England.

Letter from the Emperor to the King of England.

SIR MY BROTHER,

Called to the throne of France by Providence, by the suffrages of the Senate, the people, and the army, my first sentiment is the wish of peace. France and England are wearing out their prosperity; they may contend for ages. But their governments, do they fulfil faithfully the most sacred of their duties? And so much blood shed unnecessarily and without any prospect of an end, does it not accuse them in their own conscience? I attach no dishonour upon making the first step. I have sufficiently, I think, proved to the world that I fear not any of the chances of war; it offers me nothing of which I ought to be afraid. Peace is the wish of my heart; but war has never been adverse to my glory. I conjure your Majesty not to refuse to yourself the happiness of giving peace to the world; let not this sweet satisfaction be left to you

in short, there never existed a moment to put an end to favours, and to listen only to all the merits of humanity and of this moment at once lost. The term of duration can be assigned a war which all my efforts shall have been unable to close? Your Majesty has gained more in territory and in riches during the last ten years than the whole extent of Europe; your nation is at the highest point of prosperity. What is she to expect from war? To coalesce some of the powers of the Continent? The continent will remain tranquil. A coalition would only increase the preponderate and continental grandeur of France. To renew the troubles in the interior?—The times are no longer the same. To destroy our finances? Finances founded upon a good agriculture can never be destroyed. To deprive France of her colonies? The colonies are with France only a secondary object; and does not your Majesty possess already more than you can maintain? If your Majesty will think seriously, you will perceive that the war is without an object, and without any presumable result. Alas! what a melancholy page of our history! The world is large enough for our two nations to live in. Reason is sufficiently powerful to find the means of reconciliation, if a suitable disposition to be reconciled exists on both sides. I have meanwhile fulfilled a duty holy and precious to my heart. May your Majesty believe in the sincerity of the sentiments I have just expressed to you, and in my desire of giving you proofs of it.

NAPOLEON.

Paris, 12th Nivose, year 13 (2d Jan. 1805.)

In calculating the advantages of our position, and in thinking upon that unanimous burst of affection and of respect which in the late circumstances have shown to us all France disposed to devote itself to maintain the honor of the French name, the glory of the throne, and the dignity of the Empire, I shall not conceal that being the only one admitted, as minister, to the confidence of such a determination, it was my duty to appreciate it wholly, considering it less in itself than in its heroic principle, and to view it rather as a consequence of character than as the application of a maxim of state. Had any other prince manifested to me such a disposition I would have thought that the honor of my place, and my personal devotedness, would have indispensably required me to oppose it by my counsels.

And, in truth, what is our position? and on which side are the advantages of war? We have lost nothing neither abroad or at home; every thing has improved amongst us. Our flotillas, whose creation appeared a chimera, whose assembly seemed impossible, have been created and collected as if by magic. Our soldiers have become sailors; it seems as if the ports and the coasts of the ocean had transformed themselves into cities, where our soldiers of land and sea, in full security, as during a time of peace, devote themselves to the terrible and perilous exercises of war. We have, without doubt, a smaller navy than England; but their number when united and wisely directed, is sufficient to strike a mortal blow to the enemy.

Spain, drawn into the contest by provocations without pretext or excuse, has given to us for auxiliaries the disapprobation of Europe against an unjust aggression, the indignation of a generous people, and the forces of a great kingdom. Invulnerable upon our own territory, we have experienced that vigilance, and an energy never at variance with itself, are sufficient for our security. Our colonies are sheltered from all attack; Guadalupe, Martinique, and the Isle of France, would resist an expedition of twenty thousand men.

Our cities, our fields, our manufactures, are prospering; the regular and easy collection of the taxes attests to the never failing resources of agriculture and of industry; commerce, accustomed during the last ten years to dispense with the costly intercourse with England, has taken another direction, and finds in it communications more profitable, more independent, and more safe. No new imposts, no loans, a debt which cannot increase but must diminish; an accumulation of means sufficient to maintain during ten years, the actual state of the war. Such is the position of France.

This war has been very little on the offensive, but it has been far from inactive. France has been

secure. She has raised up a force until this day unknown. She has planted in the very bosom of the enemy's country a principle of inquietude without remedy; and by a prudence and an energy unceasing she has secured for ever the confidence of the continent, a little shaken at the outset of an incendiary war which might have set Europe in a blaze, and whose progress has been arrested by the assiduous efforts of watchfulness and wisdom.

What is the situation of the enemy? The people are in arms; and whilst want, assisted by genius, has prompted us to invent a new species of marine, Want and Fear have compelled the English cabinet to substitute every where irritation instead of the ordinary weapons of war. The cabinet is divided between two projects, those of invasion and defence. It is prodigal of useless intrenchments; it covers the coasts with fortresses; it incessantly builds up and takes down its batteries: it searches for some means to arrest or turn aside the course of the mighty torrent. It projects inundations on its own fields. The indolence of the cities is transferred to the camps, and the turbulence of the camps is in the cities.

Ireland, and the Indies, even the shores of England, are objects of perpetual and indeterminate inquietude. Whatever appertains to England is unceasingly menaced by 1500 vessels which compose our flotilla, and by a valorous army commanded by the first generals of the universe. The most alarming of all menaces, would it not be that of a flexible patience, by which we might persist during ten years in that state of rest and expectation which would leave to our operations the knowledge and the choice of places, of time, and of the means of annoyance?

These considerations, and this contrast, ought, in my opinion, to have inspired the English government with the wise resolutions of making the first advances to prevent hostilities; it has not done it. It has left to the Emperor all the advantage of that honorable beginning. It has, however, replied to the propositions which have been made to it; and if we compare this reply with the disgraceful celebrated declarations of Lord Grenville in the year 8, I must acknowledge it is not destitute of moderation and of wisdom. I have now the honor of reading it to you.

Letter from Lord Mulgrave to his Excellency M. de Talleyrand, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

His majesty has received the letter which has been addressed to him by the Chief of the French government, dated the 2d of the present month.

There is no object which his majesty had more at heart than to seize the first opportunity of procuring anew to his subjects the advantages of a peace founded on a basis not incompatible with the permanent security and the essential interests of his states. His majesty is persuaded this object cannot be attained but by arrangements which must at the same time provide for the future safety and tranquility of Europe, and to prevent the renewal of those dangers and misfortunes by which she has found herself surrounded. Conformable to this sentiment, his majesty feels it impossible to reply more particularly to the overture which has been made to him until he has had time to communicate with those powers of the Continent with whom he is engaged in confidential intercourse and connection; and especially with the Emperor of Russia, who has given the strongest proof of the wise and dignified sentiments with which he is animated, and of the lively interest he takes in the safety and independence of Europe.

MULGRAVE.

Downing-Street, 14th January, 1805.

The character which prevails in this reply is vague and indeterminate. One idea only presents itself with precision, that of recourse to foreign powers, and that idea is not of pacific nature; a superfluous intervention ought not to be required, if there is no wish to embarrass the discussions and to render them endless. The ordinary result of all complicated negotiations is to soar the mind, to weary the good intentions, and to throw the states again into a war become more violent by the disappointment of not having succeeded in bringing about a reconciliation. It is a question, however, which

embraces a great number of interests and of passions, which have always been at variance, it is not be proper to step at this point.

Time will soon unfold the secret of the resolutions of the English government. If these resolutions are just and moderate, we shall see an end to the calamities of war; if, on the contrary, this first appearance of reconciliation should prove a feint calculated only to serve speculations of credit to facilitate a loan, to give time to collect money from abroad, to make purchases and enterprizes, then we should know with certainty how far the dispositions of the enemy are implacable and obstinate, and we should have no other alternative than to reject with disdain the hopes of a dangerous allurement, and commit ourselves to the goodness of our cause, and the justice of Providence, and the genius of the Emperor.

Until a new light shall brighten the obscurity of the present situation of affairs, his Majesty the Emperor has thought that the imperfect disclosure which his Majesty the King of England has judged proper to make of the first advances of France, required on his part a complete exposition of what he wished, of what he has done, and the answer of the English government.

In the mean time he has charged me to announce that he will find a satisfaction real and dear to his heart, in acquainting the Senate and his people by frank communications, full and free from doubt, with every thing which concerns the great interests of their prosperity and glory, whenever such communication shall be compatible with the principles of policy and the rules of prudence.

After this report a member moved an address to his Imperial Majesty, thanking him for this new testimony of confidence which the Senate had just received, by the communication of a report so remarkable and so important; which was referred to a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Barthelemy, Cacault, Hedouville, their Excellencies M. le Marshall Perignon and Francois Neufchateau, President of the Senate.

Valuable Lana for sale.

On the first Monday in May next, at Greenville Court-house, will be exposed to public Sale,

A Tract of Land, containing 1087 3/4 Acres, by late actual survey, lying on Tabb's Creek, in the county of Greenville, about eight miles south-east from the Court-House; one hundred acres of which are excellent low Grounds, and were lately valued by competent judges at 15 dollars in cash per acre; the rest of the Land lies well, is plentifully watered, and covered with the best Timber. The whole well adapted to the culture of Tobacco, Wheat and Corn. A small part of it is cleared, perhaps enough to work six or eight hands to advantage. It is believed by those who are acquainted with its situation and quality, that no Tract of high Land in that, or any of the neighbouring Counties, exceeds or equals it in value. It will be shewn previous to the day of sale to any person wishing to view it, on application to William Walker, Esq. or Mr. John Peace, jun. who live adjoining it. A credit of one and two years will be given to the Purchaser, on the Purchase-money being secured, to carry Interest from the day of sale till paid. DUN. CAMERON. At above, Mar. 15, 1805.

BURRAMPOOTER

WILL be let to Mares the ensuing Season, at my House in Orange County, on the south side of Haw-River, on the following Terms: The single Leap seven Dollars, payable at the Stable Door; and if a Mare does not stand the first time, she may be put by the Season, on the payment of seven Dollars more at the time of entering upon it; For the Season ten Dollars, and for the Insurance of a Foal, fifteen Dollars. Any person putting a Mare by Insurance, and parting with her before it can be well ascertained whether she is with Foal, shall be liable for the Insurance Money. The Season to commence on the first day of March, and end on the 15th July. On Notes being given before the expiration of the Season, credit will be allowed until the tenth of January, otherwise the Money will become due at the expiration of the Season.

Mares, if required, fed at a reasonable Price. I will not be accountable for Accidents, but great Care will be taken of Mares left with the Horse.

BURRAMPOOTER is rising six years a fine Bay, upwards of sixteen Hands high, elegantly formed, highly strong-boned, and said by the best of Judges, to be as fine a Colic as his Sire Dare-Devil is a Horse, being like him in every Part, shape and size. He is found to be a sure Foal-getter, and his Colic is remarkably fine. His Pedigree will shew him to be as fine Blooded as any in America.

BURRAMPOOTER was got by the imported Horse Dare-Devil, his dam by Fair-weather, his grandam by Fearought, who was imported by Col. Baylor of Virginia; his great grandam by Godolphin, who was got by Fearought out of a full-blooded Mare; his great great grandam by the imported Hob Nob—his great great grandam by the imported Horse Jolly Roger—his great great great grandam by the imported Horse Yaliam, out of a Tally Mare of Col. Archer-Carey's, which was got by the old imported Horse Tryal. A. S. WILKINSON.