

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in legal Town-Meeting assembled.

YOUR representation and request were received on the 22d inst. and have been considered with the attention due to every expression of the sentiments and feelings of so respectable a body of my fellow citizens. No person has seen, with more concern than myself, the inconveniences brought on our country in general, by the circumstances of the times in which we happen to live;—times to which the history of nations presents no parallel. For years we have been looking as spectators on our brethren of Europe, afflicted with all those evils which necessarily follow abandonment of the moral rules which bind men and nations together—Connected with them in friendship and commerce, we have happily so far kept aloof from their calamitous conflicts, and by a steady observance of justice towards all by much forbearance and multiplied sacrifices. At length however, all regard to the rights of others having been thrown aside, the belligerent powers have beset the highway of commercial intercourse with edicts which taken together expose our commerce and mariners under almost every destination, a prey to their fleets and armies. Each party indeed would admit our commerce with themselves, with the view of associating us in their war against the other. But we have wished war with neither. Under the circumstances we have passed the Laws of which you complain, by those delegated to exercise the powers of legislation for you, with every sympathy of a common interest in exercising them faithfully. In reviewing these measures therefore we should advert to the difficulties out of which a choice was of necessity to be made. To have submitted our rightful commerce to prohibitions and tributary exactions from others, would have been to surrender our independence. To resist them by arms was war, without consulting the state of things or the choice of the nation. The alternative preferred by the Legislature of suspending a commerce placed under such unexampled difficulties, besides saving to our citizens their property, and our mariners to their country, has the peculiar advantage of giving time to the belligerent nations to revise a conduct as contrary to their interests as it is to our rights.

In the event of such peace, or suspension of hostilities between the belligerent powers of Europe, or of such change in their measures affecting neutral commerce, as may render that of the United States sufficiently safe, in the judgment of the President, he is authorized to suspend the embargo. But no peace or suspension of hostilities, no change of measures affecting neutral commerce, is known to have taken place.—The Orders of England, and the Decrees of France and Spain existing at the date of these laws, are still unrevoked as far as we know. In Spain indeed a contest for the Government appears to have arisen; but of its course or prospects, we have no information on which prudence would undertake a hasty change in our policy even were the authority of the executive competent to such a decision.

You desire that, in this defect of power, Congress may be specially convened. It is unnecessary to examine the evidence or the character of the facts, which are supposed to dictate such a call: Because you will be sensible, on an attention to dates, that the legal period of their meeting is as early as, in this extensive country, they could be fully convened by a special call.

I should, with great willingness have executed the wishes of the Inhabitants of the town of Boston, had peace, or a repeal of the obnoxious edicts, or other changes, produced the case in which alone the laws have given me that authority; and so many motives of justice and interests lead to such changes, that we ought continually to expect them.—But while these edicts remain, the Legislature alone can prescribe the course to be pursued.

TH: JEFFERSON.

August 26, 1808.

COMMUNICATION.

REMARKS ON MR. JEFFERSON'S LETTER.

We would always wish to treat with respect the communication of our first magistrate, especially when it is couched in language so civil and soothing, as the letter from Mr. Jefferson to the Town of Boston; but we must not be led by its honied words, into a ready credence of its contents. We have enough of PROFESSIONS, under this administration, and would now wish to realize that our rulers sympathize with the people, in their distress, by seeing some effort to relieve it. Now, we know Mr. Jefferson has not taken one step towards an accommodation with England; and if he has done any thing more, than send to the Court of the Continental Tyrant, assurances of obedience, we know no relief is to be expected;—for at the very moment the haughty Napoleon assures Mr. Livingston of his hearty approbation of all Mr. Jefferson had done to please him, he positively declares he shall not relax, and orders all our ships to be condemned.—Not so with England. While suffering every insult from us, in non-intercourse and prohibitory laws, and the most abusive language from government papers, accompanied with threats of our vengeance, she makes every concession to us, even to a degree satisfactory to the patriotic Pinckney. Yet all is vain—no adjustment must take place, lest it offend Napoleon, and bring us into a war with France—as if we were not already at war, while her cruisers arrest, and her courts condemn, every American ship brought within her ports.

Citizens of Boston, be not deceived, the danger to which our Commerce is exposed, as described by Mr. Jefferson, is OF HIS OWN MAKING—he keeps up a quarrel with England, to please his French master, who issued his Decrees for this very purpose; and he then takes the advantage of these dangers, (brought on and continued by his own choice) to ANNHILATE our Commerce. This is the GRAND OBJECT in view. Mr. Jefferson says, “we have wished war with neither.” Yet, we know that he did try every means to work Congress up to a war with England, but could not succeed;—we do know this is now his object. He speaks in his letter to New-Hampshire, of preparing for the “LAST APPEAL,” and we have already some hints from Washington of his insidious plan to involve

us in a war, which is to be brought forward in Congress—and which, in time, we shall fully expose. We forbear to remark on the attempt of Mr. Jefferson to convince the people that all our commerce with each of the belligerents is interdicted by the other, when it is notorious that Great-Britain will not interrupt our immense trade with her enemies' colonies. But a volume of severe reply might be written to this letter—which is full of cold, hollow hearted HYPOCRISY;—but one point only have we time to touch upon:—His apparent indifference with regard to the fate of Spain—astonishing boldness in the ruler of a FREE PEOPLE, after all his professions, to speak of the “Contest for the Government in Spain,” with such indifference. Does he think our feelings are buried with our servile acquiescence in his own arbitrary measures? We may have lost feeling for ourselves, but we do feel for the patriots of Spain.

Yes, the people of Boston, the cradle of American Independence, do know and feel that the patriots in Spain are engaged in a contest like ours—for National Independence—though with much stronger grounds of union.—There is no subtle question there to be discussed as here about the right of taxation. The only alternative there, is the submission to the dominion of a foreign despot, to the most odious and hateful tyranny, or a successful resistance and re-establishment of their own Self Government. We also know, there is no division among THE PEOPLE, every soul is animated with the holy fire of patriotism, and resolved to live free or die;—we know that they have been hitherto successful—having possession of nearly all the kingdom—and having also possession of all the Colonies;—we know, that with this whole people we might, and ought on every principle to have free trade, and we should have it, if this cold-hearted philosopher was sincerely willing to relieve our distresses. But it is too plain that he does not;—he affects to doubt that a peace is made between Spain and her Colonies, and Great-Britain.—Yet he knows that there is the most friendly intercourse, and that with regard to those immense tracts of country, the English orders do not proscribe Neutral Commerce, and of consequence we might have free and profitable trade, sufficient to take nearly all our produce;—but he dares not offend the tyrant Bonaparte, who calls the Spaniards “Rebels;”—he too probably, does not wish to open any Commerce to us again;—and he therefore pretends there is no “such peace” as will authorize him to grant us permission to trade.

We hope the letter of Mr. Jefferson to the inhabitants of Boston, will not deter the citizens of New-England from remonstrating against the Embargo Laws. They should “do what they ought”—although Mr. Jefferson “does what he pleases”—If the voice of nineteen twentieths of the whole population of America, on subjects of national interests, is to be disregarded, we may as well renounce the advantages which was supposed to result from a federated government, and return to the state, from which we cheerfully emerged, in the hope of bettering the condition of our common country. Unshackled by the fetters of Virginian politics, our merchants would now possess the advantages of a rich and productive commerce with half the world, and while profiting by the exercise of a free and lawful intercourse with distant nations, would leave Mr. Jefferson and his partisans to seek in “dignified retirement,” whatever schemes they might think proper.

HALIFAX, SEPTEMBER 19.

It appears, at the present period, that the conquest and power of Bonaparte has arrived at its climax, and now shudders on a precipice that threatens immediate destruction. Since he first usurped the kingly power in France, there has never been a cause so universally disposed to resist his arbitrary innovations, as the present crisis. From a country like Spain, so nobly fired by a just sense of insulted royalty and a total subversion of sovereignty, assisted as she is by Great-Britain, what may we not expect to be the result. Other nations, too, animated by their bright, and prosperous example, may no longer suffer his galling yoke; but will be roused and assert those rights, which by nature they are intitled to, but which they have been deprived of by his insatiable ambition and wonderful success. Now is the time for them to strain every nerve for their emancipation, and they may again be enabled to possess that place among nations which for ages they have held. Nor can it but be thought, but that his downfall will be far more rapid than his rise:—indeed the only wonder is, that power like his, which has been obtained by every act of iniquity, by every atrocious crime that ever stained the annals of mankind, unaccompanied as it has been by acts of virtue or magnanimity, could have lasted even the few years that it has. We trust that in a short time we shall have to congratulate our readers, that the balance of power is again restored, and that the calamities which have been so universally felt by the depredations of the usurping power of France, will teach the danger of changing laws and governors for the domineering edicts of Despotism.

VOLUNTEERING TO SPAIN.—The cause of the Spanish Patriots has created a lively interest among all classes of persons in Great-Britain, inasmuch that several regiments of Volunteers both in England and Scotland have offered their service in the general cause. The 1st Brigade of guards, which were at Deal on the 23d ult. and who lately returned from Sicily, have likewise most handsomely petitioned to be sent to assist the Spaniards, and in consequence, the order for the second brigade of guards to be in readiness for immediate embarkation, was countermanded.—In Ireland too we view even a greater desire to assist.—From an article from Dublin it is stated, “Our Militia Regiments are possessed with the ardour of the times so fully, that many of them have pressed for permission to join the Expeditions. The North Cork Regiment of Militia, Commanded by Col. MOOR HODDER, an officer of exemplary ability and merit, has, we know, to a man demanded to be sent upon service, and especially to Spain, and have addressed his Majesty to that effect. The Yeomanry too are fired with the love of military exploit. Several corps have come forward and offered to serve in Spain—others have volunteered military duty at home in order to allow a larger embarkation of the army if it should be thought

expedient; in short every existing sentiment in the great body of the public, indicates that nobleness and generosity of spirit which one gallant and high-minded people entertain for another.”

THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.

SAINT JOHN, September 26, 1808.

By the Schooner Experiment, Capt. Stewart, which arrived yesterday from New-York, we have been favored with papers from that place to the 17th inst. from them the following Highly Important News is copied.

NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 17.

SPANISH NEWS.—Spanish papers to the 27th of July, received by the Ship Shepherds, in 46 days from Cadiz, state officially that two important battles took place on the 17th and 26th July, between the Spanish patriotic troops under command of General Don Theodoro Reding, and those of the French Generals Gobert and Dupont, at the villages of Baylen and Andujar, sustained with great obstinacy, courage, and intrepidity by both armies, and terminating in the complete defeat of the French, who lost 2000 men killed, amongst whom was General Gobert, and a great number wounded; amongst the latter were General Dupont and two officers of distinction. The remainder of the French army capitulated. The Patriots are said to be successful in almost every direction, and are rallying under their victorious standard nearly the whole physical strength of the country.

NAVAL ENGAGEMENT.—Letters, received this morning by the Ship Shepherds, state that an engagement had taken place in the Mediterranean between the British fleet and the Toulon squadron in which the former were victorious. It is said that two French ships of the line were taken and two sunk, and that the British were pursuing the remainder.—The French squadron had troops on board to aid their forces in Spain.—It is likewise stated that Joseph Bonaparte, lately created King of Spain, had been attacked by the Patriots, and defeated with the loss of his whole Army, himself escaping in disguise.

Extract of a letter from a Spanish gentleman of the first respectability, dated St. Sebastians, July 10, 1808, to his friend in this city.

“Yesterday at ten o'clock, arrived here Joseph Napoleon, who left Bayonne early yesterday morning, with the title of King of Spain and the Indies, and this day he departed hence at 11 o'clock, on his way to Madrid. All the Kingdoms of Galicia and Andalusia, Estramadura, Valencia, Catalonia, and Arragon, have risen en masse, and the French troops and Spanish Patriots near Saragossa, have had several very severe, horrible and bloody battles, in which the latter have uniformly had the advantage. The couriers from most of the Provinces have been intercepted for near two months past. All American ships detained in the ports of France have been declared good prize, and the same will take place in Spain, if Bonaparte succeeds in his views.”

HEAD-QUARTERS, FREDERICTON,
20th September, 1808.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

HIS MAJESTY has been pleased to appoint Lieut. Col. GEORGE CUYLER, to be an Inspecting Field Officer of Militia in British North-America.—That Officer is attached to the District of New-Brunswick. His HONOR the PRESIDENT and Commander in Chief is therefore pleased to direct that he be obeyed as such, and that the Commanding Officers of the several Regiments shall communicate with him on all matters appertaining to the training and discipline of their respective Battalions.

Capt. ARCHIBALD McLEAN, on the half-pay of the late New-York Volunteers, is appointed Adjutant to Lieut. Col. CUYLER, and is to be observed as such.

H. W. HAILES, Adjut. Gen. Militia.

DIED] Lately at Long-Reach, Mr. ISAAC BOSTWICK, an old and respectable inhabitant of that place.—His remains were interred with Masonic honors by the Brethren of Midian Lodge at Kingston, of which he was a worthy member. He has left a widow and a numerous offspring to lament his loss.

BRUCE and SHIVES,

Have just received per Ship OSCAR, Capt. INNES, from ABERDEEN,

AN ASSORTMENT OF WOOLLENS, &c.

Which they will sell on low terms for Cash, viz.

BROAD and Narrow CLOTHS, SERGES, Bath COATINGS, DREADNOUGHTS, ROSE BLANKETS, VEST PATTERNS, SLOPS, &c.
Saint John, 26th September, 1808.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE,

Saint John, New-Brunswick, 19th Sept. 1808.

BILLS of EXCHANGE to the amount of £400 Sterling, on the Right Honourable and Honourable Board of Ordnance and Paymasters of the Royal Artillery, to be disposed of at the above Office, to the best bidder.

To be Sold at Public Auction,

On SATURDAY the 1st Day of OCTOBER next, on the Premises, in FREDERICTON, York County:

BY Virtue of a Licence from His Honor the PRESIDENT and His MAJESTY'S Council—A HOUSE and two Town LOTS, the real Estate of the late Nathaniel Underhill, deceased, and sold for the purpose of discharging the debts due by the deceased.

DUNCAN McLEOD, Administrator.

Fredericton, 5th September, 1808.