

FROM THE BOSTON CENTINEL OF JULY 26.  
**IMPORTANT QUESTIONS, AND PLAIN ANSWERS.**

1st. Has the British Minister, Mr. Erskine, in the arrangement made with our Government, deviated from his instructions?

This is a question of fact, the solution of which depends upon a comparison of his instructions with the correspondence between our Secretary of State and himself. When the public are in possession of the instructions, every intelligent man will be competent to form a correct opinion for himself. Mean while, the presumption is unfavourable to Mr. Erskine. His authority is disavowed by his own Government, and no candid mind can admit the belief that Mr. Canning would expose himself to folly and infamy of asserting a falsehood, and furnishing the Parliament and the world with the means of detecting it.

2d. Admitting that the British Minister has exceeded his authority, is his Government bound by his act?

By the law and universal practice of nations, a treaty or convention made by a public Minister is not binding until ratified by his Sovereign. The right to ratify would be a nullity, unless it implied the power of deliberating, of comparing the treaty with the instructions and of rejecting or approving the unauthorized acts of the Minister. It is well understood that Ministers are always furnished with private instructions, and the Government who negotiates with them, take the chance of their acting in conformity with their powers. They sometimes assume a responsibility which is either justified or condemned by their Sovereigns according to circumstances. Our own country furnishes examples of both cases. Messrs. Jay and Adams, were instructed by Congress, through the influence of the French party which has existed from that time to the present, to make no peace with Great-Britain except with the privy of the French Cabinet. They discovered the perfidy of that Cabinet, and disregarded their instructions. Mr. Chancellor Livingston, then Secretary of Foreign Affairs, reprimanded them for their conduct, but complimented them upon the merits of the treaty, and it was ratified. But Messrs. Monroe and Pinckney concluded another treaty with Great-Britain a few years since, and Mr. Jefferson rejected it without even consulting the Senate. A nation is indeed bound in honor, and by the principles of justice and the duty of self-respect, to see that those Governments who treat with her accredited agents, shall sustain no detriment by their mistakes or misconduct. But every man knows that in a private concern, a principal is not bound beyond the terms of an authority given to a special agent. How much less can it be imagined that a nation will submit its destinies to the uncontrolled discretion of a Minister? Is it possible to believe if Mr. Erskine had agreed to cede to the United States Canada, the Island of Jamaica, or a portion of the British navy, to dismember his country, or to repeal the British navigation act without authority; that his government would be bound to ratify his act and seal her ruin? The pretension is absurd. Those who advance it, if sincere in their opinions are referred to all the writers upon the modern Law of Nations, and to invariable usage.

3d. Is the President of the United States culpable for making this arrangement with Mr. Erskine?

I am of opinion that no blame can attach to the President, whether he saw Mr. Erskine's instructions or otherwise. The Executive was under no obligation to require an exhibition of the instructions, nor was the British Minister bound to disclose them. The general letters of credence were a sufficient foundation for the negotiation, and the offer of distinct propositions afforded a just presumption of an authority to make the offer. If the execution of our part of the proposed arrangement, in the event of the dissent of Great-Britain might have proved disastrous to the country, the President ought to have insisted on a fight of the instructions. But this he knew could not be a consequence; he was sure of disentangling us from the network of our own follies and mistakes, and of restoring us to the *statu quo ante insanitatem*; and was right to seize the first occasion for this purpose. This is upon the supposition of no notice of the contents of the instructions. On the other hand, if he was acquainted with these, and was satisfied that the stipulations required were such as he in virtue of the treaty making power is willing to agree to, and intends hereafter to meet; he was still right in this mode of disencumbering the nation and himself of the existing impediment to our commerce and prosperity.

4th. What is the comparative state of our country, supposing the British Orders in Council should not be rescinded?

It is in all respects more eligible than it was the last year. It is the source that a majority of the Legislature of Massachusetts and of all New-England, at least, were anxious to arrive at. We are rid of embargo, non-intercourse, non-importation and proclamation madness. The records of those follies are we trust doomed to eternal sleep in the same pigeon holes with the dry-dock and gun-boat messages. We have in substance the same advantages of commerce that we should enjoy if these orders were repealed; for in that event there would be no safety in a direct commerce with France or her dependencies, and all other commerce is now open to us. But what is of most consequence, all obstacles to amicable negotiation with Great-Britain are removed, and a treaty will probably be yet framed upon the fair bases of mutual concessions. Hitherto we have lost nothing but our own chains. Let our good democrats be consoled. If another embargo should be required, they have only to say "we will not deliberate."

From Newburyport, July 24.

Arrived brig Aidar, Harrod, 63 days from Gottenburgh. Spoke, June 8, English brig Henrietta, Damon, from Nova-Scotia, for Liverpool, a wreck; took off 16 persons (crew and passengers.) 16th June, put nine of them on board brig Orient, Hunter, which the spoke in lat. 54, long. 21, from N. York for Dublin; and three more were put on board two British brigs, which Capt. Harrod spoke 5th July, bound to Greenock.

**Latest Foreign Intelligence.**

PRAGUE, JUNE 15.

According to official intelligence just received from the head-quarters of the Generalissimo Archduke Charles, which still continue in Gratin Neufeld, no action had taken place between the two grand armies; but his imperial Highness expected a battle would be fought the following morning, the 14th, and had taken the necessary measures for that purpose.

The following account has been published:—

*Bulletin of the Imperial Army. June 11.*

Capt. Menniger, of the cuirassiers of the Archduke Francis, crossed the Danube on the 3d of May, and dispersed in Langenslein a detachment of Saxon dragoons of the regiment of the Duke Albert. He advanced the same day to Amstatten, when he fell in with a corps of Saxon and other enemy's troops, which he engaged, killed 200, among whom were officers, and made 11 prisoners.

On the 9th inst. the enemy attempted to render himself master of the post of the Theben, situated opposite to Heimburgh, probably with a view of taking Presburgh, and the bridge-head constructed on the right banks of the Danube. Five hundred men approached our banks in five vessels, but one Austrian battalion of militia (Landwehr) which were posted there gave the enemy such a warm reception, that he found himself compelled to retreat with the utmost speed.

The battalion of Bohemian militia, which is commanded by Count Huntmeun, has captured in the vicinity of the village of Obermeil, two large vessels laden with rice and brandy, and destined for the enemy's army.

*From the Austrian Imperial Head-Quarters.*

Woltersdorf, June 12.—His Majesty the Emperor of Austria has received the following report, by a courier who was dispatched from Inspruck the 31st of May:

After Field Marshal Lieut. Chasteler, who commanded in Tyrol, had marched to Lienz, in Pustertale, in order to attack the Italian army, which was advancing against Styria and Carinthia, with part of his corps, the Austrian Major General Buol remained, with part of the 7th corps, in the strong position at the foot of the Brenner Mountain, in the Lueg, in order to cover South Tyrol from the attacks of the Bavarian troops, who had entered Inspruck.

While the inhabitants of the towns of Inspruck and Hall were laying down their arms in order to relieve their districts from the calamities they suffered, fresh assemblages of armed peasants were formed in the vale of the Upper Inn, as well as the Lech, and in Vinsglau, with the assistance of Teimer, as in the vale of the Lower Inn and the Wipp, chiefly by the well known Sandworth and Andros Hofer, who commands the Fusiliers: and as early as the 27th of May the former arrived with 2000 men, in the environs of Schonberg, and Major Teimer with a larger number in Telf. Schonberg is situated 3, and Telf 5 hours march from Inspruck.

On the 28th, an action took place with the Bavarian troops, from 6 to 8000 strong, and an armistice was concluded for 12 hours. The Bavarians had evacuated Inspruck, but were overtaken near Vomp, where another severe conflict was fought. According to the same account, the Imperial Austrian troops are making inroads from the southern part of the Tyrol, as far as Verona.

*(Utrecht Gazette of June 12.)*

Vienna, June 12.—The 4th inst. the corps of the Marshal Prince of Ponte-Corvo entered this city; a strong division of Saxon troops forms part of that corps.

On the 5th a heavy cannonade was heard on the part of Kloster Neuberger. It is now known that the French had collected a large quantity of pontoons and other necessaries for the construction of bridges, which the Austrians destroyed by the above cannonade.

The French are employed in constructing numbers of large rafts, which are all carried up the Danube to Eberfsdorf. Deputies have been sent to Hungary, in order to obtain a supply of provisions from that country, for the city of Vienna, where the utmost want begins to prevail. Count Dietrichstein, Vice President of the Aulic Chancery of Bohemia, is at the head of the deputation.

This day a division of French troops marched from hence in the direction of Penzing, Hillusdorf, and Buckusdorf.—A contribution of 18 millions of francs is said to have been imposed on this city.

Since the action near Kislac, in the vicinity of Presburgh, several other severe conflicts have taken place in Hungary. The whole of the Italian army, under the orders of the Prince Viceroy, occupies the districts of Oedenburgh and Wieselburgh. A great number of wounded soldiers continue to arrive in this capital and the neighbouring villages.

WARSAW, JUNE 10.—The General of Division Zajonczeh attacked yesterday the Austrian army, near Guiscafeyew and Warla, with considerable success. The head-quarters of the said General were that day in Glowazewo, and those of General Dombrowski in Skiernewic.

Munich, June 14.—The Tyrolese insurgents have fallen back to their frontiers. By order of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, a separate corps of from 30 to 35,000 men is to act against the northern parts of Tyrol. The Bavarian division of Wrede which was to form part of that corps, has received counter orders, and is for the present to remain in Lintz. In its stead, a division of the army of reserve, under the orders of the Duke of Valmy, is to be conveyed in waggons from Mayenne to Augsburg.

It is also reported that another corps of French troops is to make an attempt to advance over the Brenner to the south of Tyrol, which takes but a small share in the insurrection.

LEIPZIG, JUNE 16.—An Austrian Officer, accompanied by a trumpeter, arrived here at half past eleven o'clock this morning, immediately proceeded to the Senate house, and ordered quarters for a strong column of Austrian troops which is advancing from Dubin, and expected here in the course of the afternoon. Nine o'clock at night.—The above Austrian troops had not yet arrived.

DRESDEN, JUNE 16.—Yesterday arrived here, another corps of Austrian troops from 7 to 8000 strong, under the orders of General Kilnau, and immediately pursued

their march, after having taken some refreshment. Since the 11th inst. from 18 to 20,000 men have in the whole passed through this town. The Austrian army which has entered Bayreuth, is said to be of the same strength.—We understand that both armies are to form a junction, and march to Westphalia.

LONDON, JULY 3.

**THE EXPEDITION.**

The following is said to be an accurate statement of the effective strength of the Corps to be employed in the Expedition:—

| CAVALRY.                           |               |        |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| King's German Legion, 2d Lt. Drag. |               | 600    |
| 3d Light Dragoons, 3 Squadrons     |               | 480    |
| 9th Light Dragoons, 3 Squadrons    |               | 480    |
| 12th Light Dragoons                |               | 760    |
|                                    |               | 2320   |
| INFANTRY.                          |               |        |
| 1st Foot Guards, 1st Battalion     |               | 1320   |
| Ditto 3d ditto                     |               | 1100   |
| Flank Companies, ditto             |               | 666    |
| King's German Legion, 1st Lt. Bat. |               | 725    |
| Ditto 2d ditto                     |               | 630    |
| 2d, or Queen's                     |               | 800    |
| 3d, or Royals, 3d Battalion        |               | 1000   |
| 4th Foot, 1st ditto                |               | 1000   |
|                                    | 2d ditto      | 900    |
| 5th                                | 1st ditto     | 950    |
| 6th                                | 1st ditto     | 850    |
| 8th                                | 2d ditto      | 490    |
| 9th                                | 1st ditto     | 950    |
| 11th                               | 2d ditto      | 775    |
| 14th                               | 2d ditto      | 1000   |
| 20th Regiment                      |               | 900    |
| 23d                                | 2d Battalion  | 400    |
| 26th                               | 1st ditto     | 750    |
| 28th Regiment                      |               | 600    |
| 32d                                | 1st Battalion | 590    |
| 35th                               | 2d ditto      | 794    |
| 36th                               | 1st ditto     | 788    |
| 38th                               | 1st ditto     | 750    |
| 42d                                | 1st ditto     | 700    |
| 43d                                | 2d ditto      | 587    |
| 50th                               | 1st ditto     | 1000   |
| 51st Regiment                      |               | 600    |
| 52d                                | 2d Battalion  | 400    |
| 59th                               | 2d ditto      | 742    |
| 63d                                | 2d ditto      | 406    |
| 68th Light Infantry                |               | 570    |
| 71st                               | 1st Battalion | 1600   |
| 76th Foot                          |               | 700    |
| 77th Regiment                      |               | 550    |
| 79th                               | 1st Battalion | 1000   |
| 81st                               | 2d ditto      | 737    |
| 82d                                | 2d ditto      | 1000   |
| 84th                               | 2d ditto      | 864    |
| 85th Regiment                      |               | 550    |
| 91st                               | 1st ditto     | 750    |
| 92d                                | 1st ditto     | 750    |
| 95th Rifle, Eight Companies        |               | 600    |
| Two ditto                          |               | 200    |
| Total effective strength           |               | 34,403 |

When the artillery, engineers, &c. are added to this force, the amount will, as we have already stated, be not less than 40,000 men complete.

JULY 4.

From Holland, we have a repetition of the rumours of a battle on the Danube, to the disadvantage of the French—but of such an event, certainly no intelligence has been received.

**THE EXPEDITION.**

From the secrecy which has hitherto been preserved, there is not the smallest reason to believe that the numerous points of destination which have been ascribed to the Expedition are announced on any better authority than that of mere conjecture. The quantity of artillery, both field and battering, is so numerous, as to render it extremely probable that a sudden attack is meditated on some great naval arsenal, or place of strength of some of our enemies. Heavy baggage is strictly prohibited; and although every officer employed is as ignorant as the public, of the destination of the Expedition, it is the general opinion that the service will not be of longer duration than that against Copenhagen. It is already discovered that it will be impossible to complete the various arrangements so early as the 8th instant, on which day it was originally proposed that the expedition should sail, and to collect the whole at one point is found to be equally impracticable, within any reasonable time; the expedition must therefore sail from different ports.—Portsmouth is the grand point of assemblage; at Harwich and the Downs also troops are collecting. Notwithstanding the expedient of employing ships of war to convey the troops, which now appears to be a measure of necessity, the deficiency is such, that even foreign vessels have been taken up by Government as transports. The following ships of war have already been appointed to the present service, to which it is expected that there will be a considerable addition:

*Ships of the line.*—Eagle, Impeteux, Revenge, Hero, Valiant, Venerable, Superb, Ganges, Centaur, Aboukir, Resolution, Marlborough, Royal Oak, Alfred, Caesar, Monarch, Belleisle, Bellona, Orion, Achilles, Repulse, Illustrious.—*Frigates.*—Imperieuse, Rota, L'Aigle, Pearl, Pallas, Dryad.—*Bombs.*—Vesuvius, Devallation.

**ARTILLERY.**

Sixty 18-pounders, battering; forty 24 do. 110 pieces of Field Artillery; Ten 68 lb. cannonades; 40 Mortars; many Howitzers; an immense number of Congreve Rockets; Shrapnell Shells; and an ample supply of ammunition for a siege.

Foot Artillery 2300 } Men.  
 Horse Do. 8 Troops 960 }  
 Sir Richard Stuchan, Sir Samuel Hood, Rear Admiral Otway, Sir Home Popham, it is said, are already named to naval commands. With respect to the command of the