

MESSRS. EDITORS,

The Message to Congress, and the report on our Foreign Relations, are the two documents with which I fortify my suspicions of the scheme of the Executive. If the public mind will be guided by these pole-star papers of the Administration, we are as attached to BONAPARTE as DIDO was to AENEAS, and, like her, we may be left to nothing but unpitied bewailings for being allured from our fidelity to a dependence on the most faithless promisers.

The first and most interesting paragraph of the Message, is covered with a veil, through which we can discern the symmetry of a countenance; but which refuses us the gratification of a full gaze. It must be recollected, that during the recess of Congress we have had three ships in the trade of *billet-deaux* with France and England. The effect of the negotiation has unceasingly been the object of the most anxious curiosity. It is partly worked into the first paragraph of the Message, with the same precautions against its full disclosure which it would be proper to regard in bringing a bright light to act upon the eyes of a man who had long been blind. We may have looked through this kind of verbiage, as through smoked glass at an eclipse, or we may have found it simple as water to reduce the glare which might have overpowered us. That the Message is without a trait of real concern to relieve the anxiety of the greater part of the nation, and to satisfy the enquiries, to the full, which have grown out of it, I consider as a strong indication of a Gallican predilection. It suits such a temper to treat with coldness and indifference the deprecation of a war with the other power. The sense of the paragraph does not invalidate the inference we have drawn from the inanity of its style.

The proposition to Great-Britain was, that the revocation of her orders should produce, with respect to her, exclusively, the repeal of our Embargo Laws. The proposition to France was, that the revocation of her Decrees should produce, with respect to her, the repeal of our Embargo Laws, and War with England. Mr. Jefferson's expectations of the accession of France to this offer were founded on its production of this effect. This is expressly asserted in the Message, and in the letters of Mr. MADISON to Gen. ARMSTRONG. The proposition to England was rejected because it was *invidious*. That to France is under the rejection of neglect, and will probably so remain. The suppression of her Decrees would throw down the condition which the Orders have taken for their duration, and thus render impracticable to us the alternative of war against England. It has been virtually acknowledged by the Emperor, that the Embargo is the measure next in character to War, to which we could resort against his enemy. This boon might slip from his grasp should he grab at the greater of direct hostility.

The speciousness and the puerility of the proposition to England, is very ably elucidated by Mr. CANNING, in his answer to Mr. PINCKNEY. Except from this answer, the asserted right, at our expense, of an unlimited retaliation, and the polls and summers of it are not wanting in substance. But it probably stands upon hills which are unseen. As one of these, we may consider the Naval power of England, which, unarmed as we are, and in the event of a war between her and us, could, unobstructed for some length of time, impose an Embargo upon our trade with France.—What lure, then, was there in the offer, that if England would revoke her Orders, our "trade should remain shut to her enemy?" Another of these hills may be the presumption, that the injuries inflicted on England through the Embargo, are more than repaired by her monopoly of trade. The advantages to England from our abandonment of the ocean, and which counterbalance the detriments arising from our "municipal regulation," elude my discernment. The disadvantages of the measure to the principal belligerents, are not equivoiced between them, and though the British may find it an auxiliary in their present expedition to the West-India Islands, yet in the great concerns at home, the highest weight of injury is in the other scale. "It is asked," (says Mr. GILES,) how does the Embargo laws operate on France? It is readily admitted, that the commercial connection between the United States and France, is not of such a nature as to make a suspension of it operate as injuriously to France herself, particularly in the interior, as on Great-Britain."

Contemplating, as I have been accustomed to, this as a great nation, I own that my equanimity is disturbed when I undertake to estimate the effects, upon gigantic and ambitious powers, of a humble measure of "self restrictions." In fact we have nothing but philosophy and gun-boats to back any proposition. Our situation resembles that of POLYPHEMUS, a giant, mentioned by HOMER in the *Odyssy*, of uncommon strength, but rendered by blindness incapable of its exertion!

In the Report of the Committee on our Foreign Relations, the proposition of "A general repeal and arming our merchant vessels," is rejected with the indefensible assertion, that it "would be war with both powers, and war of the worst kind, suffering the enemies to plunder us without retaliation upon them." I anticipated an answer to this objection in my observations upon the right to the Newfoundland fishery. Arming and suffering plunder are contradictions in terms. The arming which should be inadequate to effectual resistance, would certainly leave our *incontestible rights a prey*; but the arming which should be competent to their defence, would not suffer plunder. But in what particular has the rejection of this proposition a leaning towards France? In the main particular, that the forcible exercise of our imprescriptible rights would completely contravene the designs of the Emperor against the English trade and commerce. The proposition of "a partial repeal," is discussed in the Report, and is discarded, because the true effect of it would be to open an indirect trade with Great-Britain." And because "a measure which would supply exclusively one of the belligerents, would be war with the other." The disposition of this proposition was glaringly dictated by an unwarrantable bias; both reason and truth have been violated to its gratification. If,

by their oppressions, France and England turn our trade into new channels, what have we to do with the inquiry which of them will be the greatest sufferers by their injustice? If the new direction of our trade would be war against the one who derived from it the least advantage, the Embargo, with more strength of argument, is war.—It is not a necessary, but a voluntary measure, of unequal operation on the belligerents. The advocates for a dignified retirement may be discomfited, when they find that the arguments, falsely assigned for restraining the activity of their country, really endanger the felicity of their refuge.

CHATHAM.

## AMERICAN EMBARGO.

From an American paper, celebrated for its liberality, we have copied the following article, said to have been taken from the English "Political Review." The writer begins by quoting the subsequent paragraph from the "Morning Chronicle."

LONDON, October 24.

"We are gratified to learn that previous to the date of the last dispatches from the West-Indies, thirteen sail from Brazil, bringing live stock, had arrived in the different Islands. The current, with all sails down, brings them thither from Brazil in four or five days. From North-America, the passage is from 25 to 30 days, and the price much higher. The fact is, that on the Spanish Main, beef and mutton, can be procured at one penny per pound, which in the United States would cost three pence. The carriage is also less, and much more prompt."

The writer then proceeds—"A great triumph has been obtained by those who foretold that the emigration of the court of Lisbon to the Brazils, would open new channels of commerce for the mercantile interest of the British empire; and that the American Embargo, if persisted in, would release an immense trade which had been almost monopolized by the United States, and throw it into British hands. In the last number but one of this Review, I pointed out the numberless advantages which our West-India colonies and our settlements in North-America, had already derived from the sulky policy of Mr. Jefferson. If it should happily be continued for six months longer, our commerce will recover its lost ground, and all that it had forfeited by improvident concessions to American importunity. I stated in that number, that while the embargo had taught our West-Indian colonies how to subsist without any intercourse with the United States, it had reduced the French Islands to such distress, that they were obliged to look to the precarious supplies from France only for their support. This statement has since been confirmed by the London Gazette of the 22d inst. in which there is a letter from Capt. Hawkins, of the *Minerva*, to Lord Gambier, stating that he had chased the *Josephine*, a French letter of marque, pierced for 18 guns and mounting 8, with 50 men, bound from St. Sebastians to Guadaloupe, with a cargo of flour, brandy, wine and clothing; and intended, after delivering her cargo, to cruise against our trade in the West-Indies. This vessel overtook the *Minerva* some within shot of her. From this authorized statement, we may ascertain the effects of the American embargo, both upon France and her colonies.—The United States being thus interdicted by Mr. Jefferson, their inhabitants have little means of subsistence, except what they procure from the mother country; which, as I have already observed, are constantly in danger of being intercepted by our cruisers. At the same time, the commercial navigation of France is so insecure, if not altogether annihilated, that no mercantile house will run into the hazardous speculation of shipping commodities for the West-India market. The government therefore, or associations of mercantile men, are under the necessity of sending out supplies in armed vessels, without the least hope of any returns; and consequently, these ships are fitted out to be employed as privateers after they have delivered their cargoes, by which it is, no doubt, intended that they must encounter every risk in carrying out supplies from France, and then, pursue their predatory warfare against our commerce in that quarter. This is a new species of hostility; and I am persuaded, the admiralty will take the hint from the information contained in the Gazette; or, in a few months we must expect to hear of swarms of privateers in the West-Indies, which are the inevitable fruits of that stern necessity, under which the French government finds itself constrained to act, in order to preserve its Islands. Can any fact evince a greater proof of distress than this method of supplying the colonies? Nothing therefore remains for us to do, but to pray that the American embargo may endure twelve months longer. In that interval, the intercourse between our Islands and the Brazils, and our settlements in Canada and Nova-Scotia, will become so firmly established, that it will not incur the chance of any interruption, from the obstruction of the commerce of the United States, whenever Mr. Jefferson, or the Congress may be graciously pleased or fearfully compelled to try to be in a good humor, and to re-open the ports of that country. It is the nature of commerce to flow in regular channels, and mercantile men are of all others, least disposed to alter the course of things and to renounce their old and profitable connexions for new ones. Time will soon break off that pertinacious spirit with which our countrymen cultivated the favor of America, as an indispensable support of our colonies. It will prove that we can do well without them, and that the new markets which their embargo has materially contributed to open to our commerce, will very soon enable us to forget that we ever held any sort of commercial intercourse with the United States.

"In addition to these remarks, it should be observed that a most extensive market is now opened for the manufactures of this country which were formerly contraband in Spain. The Junta of Seville have permitted all British goods that were formerly prohibited, to be imported upon paying 15 per cent duty, and 5 per cent farther if for internal consumption. The goods are then to be considered as Spanish, and may be exported to all their colonies upon paying 2 per cent royal duties, and such other imposts as similar foreign goods pay. General Marla, the Governor

of Cadiz, received this communication from the Junta of Seville, and it was by him transmitted to our consul, Mr. Duff. No wonder that the Americans, foreseeing this necessary consequence from the renewed friendship and alliance between Great-Britain and Spain, should abhor their embargo, and remonstrate against its continuance. For they are now convinced, though too late, that every act fulminated by the tyrant of the continent against British commerce, and re-echoed by his deputy "King Tom," as the Americans call their President, has only served to stimulate our efforts, to augment our resources, and to accumulate disgraces and disappointments on the inveterate enemies of our national power and prosperity. We still continue to progress while France is stationary, and America is retrogressing; and if this blessed embargo should last a while longer, it will be of very little consequence to Europe, whether the Americans become a people of agriculturists, shepherds, manufacturers, or seamen.

\* A favorite word in the United States.

CLEANINGS FROM LONDON PAPERS.

*Ceremony of deposing a Spanish King.*—About the middle of the fifteenth century, when the patience of the Castilian people was exhausted by the crimes and follies of the flagitious HENRY IV. they in a body claimed to themselves, and exercised the privilege of trying and passing sentence on their Sovereign. A spacious Theatre having been erected in a plain near Avila, an image representing the King was seated on a throne clad in royal robes, with a crown on its head, a sceptre in its hand, and the sword of justice by its side. The accusation against the King was read, and the sentence of deposition was pronounced in presence of a numerous assembly. At the close of the first article of the charge, the Archbishop of Toledo advanced, and tore the crown from the head of the image; at the close of the second, the Comte De Placentia snatched the sword of justice from its side; at the close of the third, the Comte De Beneventi wrested the sceptre from its hand; at the close of the last, Don Diego Lopez De Stuniga tumbled it headlong from the throne. At the same instant Don Alfonso, Henry's brother, was proclaimed King of Castile and Leon in his stead.

## ANECDOTE OF DONA CARO,

Aunt of the Marquis De La Romana.

During the war at the beginning of the French Revolution, this courageous Lady used to attend her husband, General Don Ventura Caro, who commanded the Spanish army in the neighbourhood of Yrun. At the beginning of an engagement this lady was accustomed to take her station in the battery of San Carlos, whereon was erected the signal post for the left wing of the army. She held a telescope in her hand, through which she viewed her husband, whilst he exposed himself to the ring as a common soldier; neither the firing of twelve twenty-four pounders, which were placed around her, nor the bombs which fell beside her, could move her; the telescope never trembled in her hand. In the intervals of hostility, she employed herself in visiting the hospitals, and contributing to allay the distresses of the sick and wounded. Such an instance of courage and benevolence is scarcely to be paralleled. She preferred witnessing the conflicts and the fate of her husband, to the anxiety of mind she knew the most have suffered till she could have heard it from others. The Marquis de la Romana at that time commanded a post called *Casa fuerte* (the strong house.)

*New species of swindling.*—On Saturday last, as a remarkably well-dressed young lady, accompanied by a servant in rich livery, was walking in Hyde Park, she was suddenly seized with a violent fit of sickness. A maid servant, who had the care of some children, seeing her distressed situation, recommended her to repair to her master's house, which was at no great distance in Park-street, where she would experience every kind of attention. In pursuance of this advice, the sick Lady, leaning on her footman's arm, accompanied by the girl, went to Mr. C's house. Being shown into a room, a surgeon was immediately sent for, to render her every assistance. Her arm was bled, and it was recommended to her to repose herself for some time on a sofa. In about two hours afterwards she rang the bell, and ordered her servant to call a coach to carry her to her place of residence, which she stated to be in Upper Cadogan-place. After returning a thousand thanks to the hostess for her kind attention, the recovered sick Lady drove away. But how great was Mrs. C's astonishment on finding that a number of silver spoons, of different sizes, and other valuable portable articles, had made their exit out of the cupboard along with her late sick guest. She dismissed the coach at Hyde-Park-gate, and has hitherto eluded every search and enquiry.

The following very extraordinary robbery took place on Thursday, between Cappagh-Hill and the Nineteen Mile house in Ireland. Three Gentlemen, travelling in a post-chaise, were stopped by a single highwayman, who demanded their money, watches, &c. The gentleman on the side of the carriage which the highwayman attacked told him he had but a few shillings in cash, and gave him a handful of silver, with which the robber appeared perfectly satisfied, and rode off; in a few minutes he returned, and said, "you're a very honest fellow, and shake hands." The gentleman took him by the hand, and having got him in his grasp, he "held on," until his companions in the carriage got out, by which time the highwayman had disengaged himself and made off. One of the carriage horses was immediately disengaged from the harness, and he was instantly pursued and apprehended. He now lies in the goal of Naas to take his trial for the offence. When taken before Mr. Aylmer, of Kilkork, the Magistrate who committed him, he addressed him as follows:—"Now, Sir, take my advice, and don't sell my horse under forty guineas, for on my honor he's the best horse in the kingdom."

On Friday a man went into a gun-maker's shop in the Borough, booted and spurred, as if from the country, and asked to look at some pistols—he looked out two pair, and had them put by—he then on sudden recollected that he had an appointment in the City, but was in a great dilemma