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We presume our readers will have no objections to hear what Mr. Fox has to say on the subject of Peace. The following account of his anniversary dinner, we copy from the London Morning Chronicle of the 12th of October.

MR. FOX'S

ANNIVERSARY DINNER.

On Saturday the 10th of October about 400 (persons some high and many low) assembled at the Shakespeare Tavern, to celebrate the anniversary of Mr. Fox's election.

On the cloth being removed, Mr. Fox drank to The independent Electors of Westminster.

He then drank Success to the Preliminaries of Peace; may they soon be followed by a definitive Treaty—and by a cordial and lasting Friendship between Great-Britain and France!

Mr. Dingnam then sung a Hymn to Peace, written by Mr. Charles Smith, to the Air "Rule Britannia."

Mr. Erskine drank to the health of Mr. Fox; and after taking notice of the extraordinary coincidence of Peace taking place on this particular day, he observed, that his Hon. Friend had, even before the commencement of the war, deprecated its consequences; he had during its continuance, made various efforts to bring it to a conclusion; but these efforts had always been frustrated. At length Peace was concluded. It was at all times wise; but it had now become indispensable. He was not disposed to cavil at the terms; every person must rejoice that it had taken place; and his Hon. Friend would, he was confident, give it his cordial consent and sanction both in and out of Parliament.

The health of Mr. Fox being drank, he rose and spoke to the following effect:—

"Gentlemen, it is now twenty-one years since you first did me the honour to elect me as your Representative to Parliament. In this choice I do not look upon the man whom you preferred as entitled to any pre-eminent distinction; but the cause was every thing. We were then engaged in a war against the freedom of the human

race; [with America] and having, as I flattered myself you had done, given myself credit for opposing, with all the powers I was able, this diabolical war, and the detestable views that produced it, you elected me as an abettor of your general principles, rather than on account of any intrinsic merit of my own. At that time, however, I was comparatively but little known to you. We have since been better acquainted—a war of a similar description has since been excited; and the political sentiments which induced me to oppose the former have compelled me, with all the powers of which I am possessed, for year after year, to resist this second aggression against the general liberties of mankind. A frequent appeal to your principles has rendered me well acquainted with them: I know that in general you, as well as myself, objected to this war, and I exerted all the efforts of which I was possessed to put an end to it. I saw that it involved the very basis of our own free Constitution, as well as that which the Republic of France had voluntarily determined to accept: its very commencement declared, that mankind should have a Monarchy, whether they wished for a monarchy or not: and that a monarchy—with respect to the nation then resisting so detestable a doctrine—the worst and most tyrannical under heaven; for, let us not deceive ourselves, the increased gentleness in the manners of mankind at large, and particularly in those of the people to whom I now advert—the augmented diffusion of knowledge, and the superior cunning of diplomatic science, had certainly, even long before this period, rendered the tyranny of this Constitution less prominent and consequently more tolerable than that of perhaps several other Constitutions within the precincts of Europe—but I scruple not to assert, that in itself it was the most despotic and detestable Constitution under the sun. The War, however, was commenced for the express purpose of compelling this immense body of people to submit, against their consents, to this iniquitous Government. The ministry of this country were

determined that they should have a King whether they would or not: and sanctioned by what I knew to be the inhabitants of this city, I felt myself bound, as I ever shall do, to resist so tyrannical an effort, and to hope and pray that the general rights of mankind would be triumphant over every part of the globe whenever called in question. With this view I opposed the conduct of Ministers as long as I thought my own individual opposition could be of any avail; and I then withdrew, from a consciousness of my own inability, but not without its having been since supported by far greater talents and abilities than those to which I have any pretension. Whether, indeed, any future attendance of mine may be more productive of general benefit, I am scarcely capable of determining. I shall nevertheless readily embrace every opportunity in which I think I can be of use.

"Gentlemen, we are now by a happy concurrence of circumstances, the cause of which is, I apprehend, known to few, and in no respect to myself called upon to celebrate a termination of this second contest; and I trust there is not an individual inhabitant in Europe, I am sure there is not one in this city, nor with a very few exceptions, in the British kingdom at large, who will not rejoice upon so happy an occasion. As to the terms, I will not critically enquire into them; and I hope they will not scrupulously be enquired into by any man. The mere possession of an Island or two in the West-Indies, or a province in the Mediterranean, ought not to be put in competition with the durations of the evils of war for a month—much less for a year; and I owe obligations to the men, whoever they may be, who, upon almost any stipulation, will consent to put an end to this detestable scourge upon mankind at large. I opposed the late Ministry till I thought opposition was useless, because, if I had any insight into national politics, I did not think they would, or could put a period to the war; and I looked forward to any change that could happen, whatever change it might be, because merely in

consequence of such change, I was assured we should be put into possession of at least one more chance of a speedy and solid Peace. I confess; that in the late change that has occurred, I was not very sanguine; but nevertheless, I had my hopes; and I thank God, that, slender as those hopes were, they have not been disappointed. The present ministry have exceeded my wishes, and I owe them my obligations. I will not be scrupulous into the terms upon which they have concluded peace, and I hope no one that hears me ever will. The war was in itself bad, and whatever puts an end to it cannot but be good.

"It may be said that the conditions are glorious for the French Republic: it must be confessed that they are; and there is not a Briton but who ought honestly to rejoice that such is the fact. The people of France resisted, as they ought to do, and as our ancestors hitherto have done, the whole combination of powers who would have imposed upon them a constitution contrary to their own will. Theirs was the cause of liberty—the cause of mankind at large. They had every obstacle to oppose which imagination can suggest—but they have triumphed over such obstacles—their cause has been crowned with an everlasting triumph; and if we be not dead to the exertions our own ancestors made at the period of the dethronement of James II. and the establishment of the glorious revolution of 1688, in which a prince was then elected to the British Crown who had no right whatever—we shall rejoice not only that Peace has been restored, but that it has been restored upon such terms—that the rights of mankind have triumphed—and that the lesson (which can never be forgotten) has been read to the world at large, namely, that a cause so sacred must ever be victorious, be it opposed to whatever power, or whatever concentration of Powers it may.—We have not, I acknowledge, obtained the objects for which the War was undertaken—so much the better—I rejoice that we have not. I like the Peace the more on this very account—those ob-