

then urged, is utterly impracticable. I can only then confer informally and un-accredited on any subject respecting our mission and communicate to the Government of the U. States the result of such conferences, being, in my individual capacity authorized to give them an official stamp. Nevertheless every measure in my power, and in conformity with the duty I owe my country shall be zealously pursued to restore harmony and a cordial friendship between the two republics. I had the honor of calling on you last evening for the purpose of making this communication verbally, but as you were absent, to prevent misconceptions, I have thought it best to reduce it to writing.

Accept, I pray you, Citizen Minister, the assurances of my perfect esteem and respect.

E. GERRY.

To the Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the French Republic.

To Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, John Marshall and Elbridge Gerry, Esqrs.
Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers
Plenipotentiary from the United States
of America, to the French Republic.

Gentlemen,

On the 4th inst. came to hand your first dispatches since you arrived at Paris; these were your numbers, 1, 4 and 5—and on the 6th inst. your numbers 2 and 3 were received—On the 5th, your No. 3 dated the 8th of Jan. and a translation of the message of Jan. 4th, from the Directory to the Council of Five Hundred, were laid before Congress. In this letter you "repeat, that there exists no hope of your being officially received by that government, or that the objects of your mission will be in any way accomplished." This opinion is sanctioned by the whole tenor of your communications; and we trust that soon after the date of your number 3, you closed your mission by demanding passports to leave the territories of the French Republic.

An official copy of your letters of credence having been delivered to the minister for foreign affairs, and by him laid before the Directory, they were sufficiently informed of the great objects of your mission; and considering that you were an extraordinary delegation from an independent nation, you had a right to expect a prompt and respectful reception. The fair and honourable views of the American government, which dictated your appointment and your powers, entitled you to expect the early appointment of a commission by the French government, with equal powers, to negotiate on all the matters in controversy between them. Had the French government been influenced by similar views, the objects of your mission would long since have been accomplished, to the advantage and peace of both nations. But, instead of coming forward on such equal and proper ground, they have treated you, and through your country with extreme neglect.

Under these circumstances, the President presumes that you have long since quitted Paris and the French dominions: yet actuated as you were with an ardent desire to preserve peace, which you know would be so grateful to your country; and having for this object manifested unexampled patience, and submitted to a series of mortifications; as you also proposed to make one more direct attempt, subsequent to the date of your last letter, to draw the French government to an open negotiation—there is a bare possibility that this last effort may have succeeded;—The President therefore thinks it proper to direct,

1. That if you are in treaty with persons duly authorized by the Directory, on the subjects of your mission, then you are to remain and expedite the completion of the treaty, if it should not have been concluded. Before this letter gets to hand, you will have ascertained whether the negotiation is or is not conducted with candour on the part of the French government; and if you shall have discovered a clear design to procrastinate, you are to break off the negotiation, demand your passports, and return. For you will consider that suspense is ruinous to the essential interests of your country.

2. That if on the receipt of this letter you shall not have been received, or, whether received or not, if you shall not be in treaty with persons duly au-

thorized by the Directory, with full and equal powers, you are to demand your passports and return.

3. In no event is a treaty to be purchased with money by a loan or otherwise. There can be no safety in a treaty so obtained. A loan to the republic would violate our neutrality; and a discount to the men now in power, might by their successors be urged as a reason for annulling the treaty, or as a precedent for further and repeated demands.

It is proper to apprise you that a motion has been made in the Senate, and will doubtless be repeated in the House of Representatives, to desire the President to lay before them your communications; and he will probably be under the necessity of doing it; only withholding the two names which you promised should in no event be made public.

I have the honor to be with great respect, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Department of State,
Philadelphia, March 23d. 1798.

European Intelligence.

LONDON.

April 20.

Arrests for treason have now become so common, that every hour we expect to hear of persons being taken into custody. On Wednesday night, about twelve o'clock, a magistrate from Bow-street, with a party of officers, went to a public house in Compton street, Clerkenwell, and seized sixteen persons, by virtue of a warrant from the Secretary of State's office. It is said they were a committee of division of the London corresponding society. The prisoners were conveyed in six coaches to Clerkenwell sessions house where they underwent an examination, and from whence two of them made their escape; the others were sent to the different prisons, and will this day or to-morrow be taken before the privy council for examination. We understand that the following are the names of some of the prisoners:—Mr. Neagle, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Webb, &c.

Mr. Benjamin Binns was also arrested yesterday morning by Fugion and Revette, two of the Bow-street officers. He was taken out of bed in Mr. Evans's house, Plough court, where he lodged and after being examined at the Duke of Portland's office, he was committed to Clerkenwell prison.

Last night arrived from Hamburg the mail due on Wednesday, but it brings no intelligence of great importance. The German Journals speak much of the great number of Austrian troops assembling in Tyrol and Italy, and it appears as if some storm were lowering on that side.—We believe the English Government is making efforts to induce Prussia and Austria to renew the war, but with what success we cannot say. Last night Mr. Dreßins arrived with dispatches from Vienna, and at the same time a messenger came from Petersburg to Lord Grenville's office.

April 24.

A paper of yesterday says, that a proclamation is to be issued, calling on all ranks to discover whatever they know of any plot to favor the invasion of the enemy, and offering indemnity to the persons who may make such discoveries. We do not believe this intelligence is accurate; but we can positively state, that in a day or two the secret committee of the House of Commons will be appointed to examine into any conspiracies that may have been formed against the state, in favour of France.

In a house in Cow-cross three or four members of the London corresponding society were taken, and about 500 pikes and daggers were found in their possession.

Thos. Spence, the publisher of Pig's meat, was seized at his house in Oxford road, by Rivett, the Bow-street officer, and lodged in the house of correction.

At seven o'clock, Mr. Schaw, the messenger, and a party of Bow-street officers, went again to Mrs. Evans's house in Plough court, Fetter lane. They immediately took Mrs. Evans into custody, and she and her infant were conveyed to the house of correction Cold Bath fields. A party of officers remained in the house till three o'clock in the morning, and seized every person

who entered it. The following are the names of 8 persons (acquaintances of Mrs. Evans) who were arrested at her house—Mr. Phelps, Mr. Moore, Mr. Ken, jun. Mr. Davis, Mr. Humphreys, Mr. Ebsworth (one of the bail for Mr. Evans on his former commitment), Mr. Oxlade and Mr. Savage.

Mr. Bonne, a bookseller in Lower Holborn, who keeps a reading room, and 2 others were apprehended on Thursday night by Mr. Eaton, the messenger, and fourteen or fifteen Bow-street officers. The two gentlemen were liberated at Bow-street. A party of the officers remained in the house till six o'clock yesterday morning. Mr. Bonne is in the house of correction, Cold Bath-fields.

It now appears that the party arrested at Craven-house, as mentioned in this paper of yesterday, was the executive committee of the society, and the number taken was thirty-five, among whom were Lemaitre, who was implicated in the pop-gun plot; Galloway, secretary, and Houghton, the latter, of Westminster. They had long assembled in the room: the house was kept by an old woman, and is inhabited by other persons. This old woman in sweeping the floor picked up a card, which upon shewing to some person, discovered the business of the meetings. It is supposed that some very important information has been obtained. The Queen of Bohemia public house has no connexion with the place where the parties were apprehended, nor do any political societies meet there.

From the Limerick Chron. of April 14.

On Monday last a special session of the peace was held at Killaloe, at which twelve magistrates of the County of Clare attended, when they unanimously agreed to apply to government to proclaim the said County, as well as the Parishes of Inniscalthra, and Cloncrush, in the County of Galway, which immediately bounds the County of Clare, to be in a state of disturbance.

April 26.

Yesterday Mr. Pitt brought forward, in the House of Commons, his budget. The sum he wants for the service of the present year is 28,450,000. this he proposes to raise as follows:

Land and malt	2,750,000
Voluntary contributions	1,000,000
Assessed taxes tripled	4,500,000
Compelling merchant ships to go under and pay for convoys,	1,500,000
Advance by the bank	3,000,000
The loan, exclusive of 2 millions to Ireland, to be provided for by the Irish Parliament	15,000,000
Lottery	500,000
	<u>28,450,000</u>

The deficient 20,000l. was not mentioned by Mr. Pitt.

All the above sums are to be raised within the year, except the loan of 15 millions and the loan from the bank. Eight millions of the former are to be repaid by the produce of triple assessments which shall arise after the present year. It therefore appears that parliament has only to provide for a permanent seven millions.

To pay the interest of this permanent debt the minister proposes to lay in the following taxes, calculating them to produce—

5s. per bushel additional upon malt	500,000
5 per cent. on all teas above half a crown per lb.	111,000
Armorial bearings to pay on carriages two guineas—do. 1 guinea, seals &c. of a house-keeper—do. half a guinea on do. to a person not a house-keeper	150,000
Produce of taxes	<u>761,000</u>

Mr. Pitt calculates the interest of the seven millions of permanent debt, at about 577 thousand pounds, that the remainder of the produce of the taxes he proposes to apply to pay the interest of unfunded navy debt, which has accrued since the war began.

He reserves to himself the right of calling a parliament before the end of the next session, for a vote of credit for two millions, making in all for the service of the present year including the Irish loan, 22 millions and an half!

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 2.

War with France.

As Declared by the Executive Government at PHILADELPHIA on Monday last, in the following LAW passed for declaring the Treaties between the United States and the perfidious French Republic Null and Void.

WHEREAS the Treaty of Amity and Commerce betwixt the United States and the French Government, concluded on the 6th of February, one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight, is declared to 'be founded upon reciprocal utility and the justest rules of free intercourse;' And whereas, the treaty of alliance betwixt the same parties and of the same date, was formed for the essential end of maintaining effectually the liberty, sovereignty and independence absolute and unlimited, of the United States, as well in matters of Government as of Commerce: And whereas, a regard to national interest requires (and the principles of the law of nations justify the measure) that when one party to a solemn compact openly violates it, the other is released from all its obligations; And whereas the Republic of France, regardless of its engagements, has repeatedly infringed the most important articles of its treaties with the United States, to the great injury and annoyance of their citizens, and will be fully exemplified by a reference to the following state of facts; viz. Merchandize the property of an enemy, found on board American vessels, is by several decrees of the French Republic exposed to capture, in violation of an article of the treaty of Amity and Commerce, which stipulates, that "free ships shall make free goods." In open defiance of a law which was enacted to enforce the observance of a strict and impartial neutrality, vessels to cruise against their enemy, have been armed in the ports of the United States, by the agents of the French republic. Military commissions, under the authority of the Republic of France have been distributed amongst the citizens, and an armed force to be employed in its services, has been raised, and attempted to be raised, in various parts of the Union, for the evident and avowed purpose of involving the United States in a War with Great-Britain as a necessary consequence of permitting, within their jurisdiction, such a flagrant breach of neutrality. French consular establishments within the United States, have assumed the powers incident to courts of admiralty, and have proceeded to the trial and condemnation of enemies' vessels brought into the American ports, thereby violating the sovereignty and compromising the peace and neutrality of the nation. Similar institutions with the same incompetent authorities having taken cognizance of American vessels captured and carried into foreign ports, and have decreed their condemnation, thereby depriving the American claimants of all these safe guards, which accompany the usual and regular administration of maritime jurisprudence. The regulation of the British Government, in relation to the American Commerce, however unauthorized and unjust, are made a pretext to justify the adoption of a similar system on the part of the French Republic, although it is evident that the United States, not having a controul over the acts of that nation, cannot be responsible for their improper conduct. Merchandize exported in American bottoms which are not included in the list of contraband articles, are, by a decree of the agents of France, made liable to capture, thereby contravening the provisions of the treaty, to the great injury of the commerce and navigation of the United States. Sea papers for merchant ships, not contemplated by the treaty, nor ever required in the commercial intercourse betwixt the parties, were arbitrarily and without any previous notice exacted; and the want of them made a plea for capture and condemnation; by which insidious arrangement, the commerce of the United States became immediately exposed to molestation, and has in consequence thereof, suffered immense depredations. A decree of the French government stipulates, that the character of American bottoms shall be determined by the quality of their respective cargoes. The manufactures or produce of the British possessions, found on board the same,