

BOSTON, NOVEMBER 22.
COMMUNICATION.

Letter, "From New-York, November 18.

"Every thing is in a state of agitation and alarm here, in consequence of recent events in Washington. English Goods have had a great rise; and exertions are making to send off the shipping, in expectation of AN EMBARGO immediately after the meeting of Congress. The best informed people in Washington, not belonging to the administration, say, it is apparent that our government is resolved to go to war with England, if the people will bear them out in it. The quarrel between Messrs. Smith and Jackson, you will have learnt from the papers; at least one side of the story. But will not the American People ask, Why the whole correspondence between the Secretary and Minister is not published; as the correspondence between Messrs. Erskine and Smith was the last spring? The late correspondence must be of the greater importance. The letters from Washington state many particulars on the subject of the rupture, particularly, that when the whole correspondence is made known, and the proofs and explanations fairly developed, very different feelings will arise from those now attempted to be excited. If it should appear, on undeniable evidence, that Mr. Jackson holds in his hands a copy of a letter from Mr. Erskine to Mr. Smith, in which the former avers the fact asserted by Mr. J. that the instructions were shewn the Secretary previous to the signing of the arrangement:—If also, it shall be proved, that Mr. Secretary Smith, in the first instance charged Mr. J's government with having acted PERFIDIOUSLY, in not ratifying Mr. Erskine's agreement, and that Mr. J. on the evidence of Mr. E's letter, and to exonerate his government from the charge of *Perfidy*, alleged that Mr. Smith was acquainted with Mr. Erskine's instructions from the beginning; and if too it should appear to the American People, that because both parties persisted on their points, that the American Government, having the power, interdicted all communication between Mr. J. and that government: Will that People consent to be involved in all the horrors and deprivations of war? I trust not.

"It is a fact, Mr. Jackson has left Baltimore for Washington, in consequence of the exposition in the government paper; and it is reported, he will request the government to publish all the correspondence on the subject; and on refusal, that he shall inclose copies to all the Consuls in the United States.—This is given as report. It is certain he has given orders to hire a house here for him and his family to reside the winter."

WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 15.

All negotiation with the British government at this place is suspended by one of those events which we should call extraordinary, did not their frequent occurrence for a few years past make them familiar to us. Without any redress for the accumulated wrongs heaped upon us, or for the bitter indignity committed by the outrage on the Chesapeake, a new and wanton insult has been offered directly to our government by a Minister, whom the unsuspecting magnanimity of the nation trusted would in truth have turned out to be a messenger of peace. Sent, expressly as we have been told, to heal misunderstandings, occasioned by the acknowledged mistakes if not injuries, of his own government, he has permitted himself, in violation of the plainest dictates of reason, and the clearest precepts of the law of nations, to offer the grossest insult, in the power of ingenuity to devise, to the American nation, by insinuating a doubt of the veracity of its government.

Sensible that our countrymen are no ways deficient in spirit, and that foreign injury and insult, so far from possessing the power to awe, will only serve to excite a just resentment, we shall abstain from ministering fuel to a flame which we risk nothing in anticipating, will blaze from one end of the nation to the other. It is indeed most manifest that since the inexplicable disavowal of the arrangement entered into with Mr. Erskine, it has required every effort of moderation and wisdom to keep down the tone of the public mind; and had the government chosen with that sense to close all further intercourse with Britain, there is no doubt that the nation would have gone heart in hand with them.

As, however, this case is somewhat new in our political annals, we shall lay before our readers a few extracts from Vattel, the most approved writer on the law of nations, and certainly the writer, who from the uncommon benevolence of his disposition, of all others is the most cautious in narrowing and circumscribing the causes of collision between nations.

Book 2, Chapt. 3, Vattel says:—Every nation, every Sovereign, ought to maintain his dignity by causing the respect to be paid to it which is his due, and especially not to suffer that any stain be cast upon it.—If he has then, titles and honor that belong to him according to constant custom, he may require them; and he ought to do it, on occasions where his glory is concerned.

"But it is proper to distinguish, between negligence on the omission of what ought to be done according to commonly received custom, and positive acts of disrespect and insult. The prince may complain of negligence, and if it is not repaired may consider it as a mark of bad disposition; he has a right to demand, even by force of arms, the reparation of an insult. Gzar Peter 1. complained in his manifesto against Sweden, for not having fired the cannon on his passage to Riga. He might think it strange that they did not pay him this mark of respect, and he might complain of it; but to make this the cause of a war, was being extremely prodigal of human blood.

Book 4, Chapt. 7, he says:—"Should a foreign minister offend the Prince himself, be wanting in respect to him, and by his intrigues raise disturbances in the state and court, the injured Prince, from a particular regard to the minister's master, sometimes requires that he should be recalled; or, if the fault be more heinous, the Prince forbids him the court, till he receives an answer from his master; but in important cases he proceeds so far, as to order him to quit his dominions.

"Every sovereign has an unquestionable right to proceed in this manner; for being master in his own dominions, no

foreigner can stay at his court, or in his dominions, without his permission. And though sovereigns are generally obliged to bear the overtures of foreign powers, and to admit their ministers, this obligation ceases entirely with regard to a minister, who being himself wanting in the duties incumbent on him from his character, becomes dangerous or justly suspected by him, to whom he is to come only as a minister of peace."

So much for this particular case. We shall in our next, should nothing more important offer, lay before our readers more copious extracts on the duties and privileges of public ministers; it being desirable that on this delicate point, the citizen should know and conform to his duties, as well as the minister.

It remains to be seen in what manner this extraordinary cause for the rupture of the negotiation will be received by the public. That a vast majority will rally round the government there can be no doubt. As little can exist of the cordial co-operation of the legislative and executive departments between whom and the people there happily exists a perfect identity of interests and feelings. But how will the Federal Part of the community receive it? Will they seize this new opportunity that offers, to shew that, in a juncture they know no government but their own? That they are as sensible to the insults it receives, as they are interested in the maintenance of its honor and their own rights? Will they co-operate in the exhibition to a foreign world of a spectacle of harmony and union, that will insure our eventual triumph, and draw closer perhaps, than ever, the bands of fraternity among ourselves? We sincerely trust and hope they will. It has recently given us pleasure on more occasions, than one, to express our satisfaction at the honorable and dispassionate temper which has characterized the most respectable members of the federal party, those, who in point of talents, property and distinction, hold the deepest stake in the country. They have not scrupled to avow their confidence in the honor and wisdom of the administration. Now is the time for them to shew the sincerity of their profession, the purity of their patriotism. They have now the noblest opportunity of serving their country. Will they not seize it?

The public will look with interest for the correspondence between the Secretary of State and Mr. Jackson, which will, we presume, be laid before Congress at the opening of their session.

REMARKS.—Notwithstanding the remark in the preceding article of abstaining to administer fuel, we consider a great number of the above sentiments as more calculated to excite the infuriated passions of a *barbaric* mob, than to enlighten the understanding of the great body of the American People. On the subject of the outrage on the Chesapeake we gave our opinion frankly at the time; we too expressed our hearty satisfaction at the promptitude with which the arrangement with Mr. Erskine was made and promulgated; and no regrets could be stronger than that which we felt when that arrangement was disowned. In this temper we declare, that circumstanced as our country is, in relation to the two great belligerent nations, our political ship to be guided with safety between *Sylla* and *Charybdis*, must be steered by judgment, temperance and firmness. We see no necessity that "a flame of angry passions should blaze from one end of the nation to the other," even if Mr. Jackson has been indecorous, or even openly impudent in the collisions of official communications. We have believed the powers of the President adequate to meet the occasion; and are told, they have been exercised by an interdict of further communications from the British Minister. While we view this a strong, we hope it will prove a rightful exercise of Presidential Authority. But we confess this hope is not a little weakened by the rude remarks of the *Intelligencer*. In these remarks, though the Correspondence between the American Secretary and British Minister, has not been submitted to the public—as was the case with the correspondence between Mr. Smith and Mr. Erskine in April—the patriotic editor of this demi-official paper endeavors to exasperate the people against the conduct of the Minister, by a recapitulation of all the complaints against his nation which the three last years have produced. If the conduct of Mr. Jackson justified the proceeding of the government towards him, where is the necessity of introducing foreign and extraneous matter to support them.—Those measures of state which require such auxiliary arguments to be upheld, we venture to pronounce impolitic—and unwise. With respect to the appeal to the Federal Part of the nation; as one of them, we state explicitly, that an independent, impartial national policy, and public measures intrinsically found and good, have heretofore, and we dare say, ever will meet the hearty countenance and support of the Federalists throughout the United States. But while they maintain their understanding and integrity, they can never be convinced, by the arguments of the *Intelligencer*, that because three years ago one of our national ships was unwarrantably attacked by a British ship, of war, that therefore Mr. Jackson's demeanor to our government has been outrageously insulting, and demands the vengeance of the whole American people.

After writing the above, we received the *Intelligencer* of the 17th, in which we find the following libel upon its preceding remarks:—in recommending to individuals to suffer the government to manage the highly delicate and important business themselves—and in which individuals are forbid to engage their rancorous passions in support of the government, which were so loudly called forth in the same consistent vehicle only two days before. We shall see how the advice in it is needed.

WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 17.

Agreeably to our promise, we this day submit to our readers extracts from Vattel of considerable length, [we cannot find room for them this day] which merit a dispassionate attention, not merely because they vindicate the course pursued by our government, and indeed manifest its mildness, but because they define the existing character of Mr. Jackson, notwithstanding the necessary step taken by the President, and shew especially that he still preserves all the inviolability attached by the law of nations to a public minister. Had the President ever gone further than he has,

and ordered him to leave the country, while he remained in it he would continue to enjoy all the immunities attached to his appointment. The inviolability of his person, and the respect due to his office, would be in no wise impaired. It requires no argument to shew that, in a case where the government has gone a much lesser length, the same inviolability and respect attach to him. Although the President has refused to receive any further communications from him, he is still a public minister and the representative of the British government, in many important respects.

Our comparative unacquaintance with the law of nations, arising from the infancy of our national existence, and our fortunate freedom from foreign connections or collisions, renders the diffusion of these truths at this time more important, lest the indignation likely to be excited by Mr. Jackson's conduct should prompt any of our citizens, in the warmth of their feelings, to offer an insult to him, or be wanting in those offices which his station entitles him to claim. Such an incident, independent of the just reproach to which it would expose our character, might have an unpropitious influence on the concerns of the two nations, at the very moment our government was urging to that of Britain a just complaint against her minister, the might have cause to complain of the conduct of our citizens, and the acts although distinct, be but too likely to be blended together.

Should the feelings of any one tend to excite a disposition to treat Mr. Jackson indecorously, let him reflect on the punishment to which he would thereby inevitably expose himself, and to the deep injury he might, however unintentionally inflict on his country, and we are persuaded he will feel it a sacred duty to abstain from all violence or indecorum, leaving to his government the management of an affair of so much delicacy and importance.

INTERESTING LETTER.

The following is a correct copy of a CIRCULAR LETTER, addressed by the British Minister to the several Consuls of that nation, in consequence of Mr. JACKSON's recent removal from Washington to New-York.

(CIRCULAR.)

WASHINGTON, 13th NOVEMBER, 1809.

"SIR—I have to inform you, with much regret, that the facts, which it has been my duty to state, in my official correspondence with Mr. SMITH, have been deemed, by the President of the United States, to afford a sufficient motive for breaking off an important Negotiation, and for putting an end to all Communication, whatever, with me, as the Minister charged with that Negotiation, so interesting to both nations; and on one most material point of which an answer has not been returned to an official and written overture.—On the affair of the Chesapeake.

"One of the facts alluded to has been admitted by the Secretary of State himself, in his letter to me of the 10th of October, viz.—That the three Conditions forming the substance of Mr. ERSKINE's original instruction were submitted to him by that gentleman. The other, viz. That that instruction is the only one in which the Conditions were prescribed to Mr. ERSKINE for the conclusion of an arrangement on the matter to which it related, is known to me by the instructions which I have myself received.

"In stating these facts, and in adhering to them, as my duty imperiously enjoined me to do, in order to repel the frequent charges of ill faith, which have been made against His Majesty's Government, I could not imagine that offence would be taken at it by the American Government, as most certainly none could be intended on my part; and this view of the subject has been made known to Mr. SMITH. But as I am informed by him that no further communication will be received by him from me, I conceive that I have no alternative left, which is consistent with the King's dignity, but to withdraw altogether from this City, and await elsewhere the arrival of His Majesty's commands upon the unlooked-for turn which has thus been given to his affairs in this country.

"I mean, in the interval, to make New-York the place of my residence, where you will henceforward please direct your communications to me, as I shall be accompanied by every member of His Majesty's mission. I am, with great truth and respect, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

F. J. JACKSON.

"To —, His Majesty's Consul, at —."

NORFOLK, November 20.

On Saturday the French national schooner *Tilfit*, Capt. Desmolands, arrived in Hampton Roads, in 40 days from Bayonne; having, it is said, dispatches for the French Minister in Washington.

WASHINGTON, November 22.

Affertion.—"We are authorized to say, that the contents [of the late Circular Letter of Mr. Jackson to the British Consuls] so far as they contradict the article published in this paper on the 13th inst. relative to the course of the negotiation between our government and Mr. Jackson, are unfounded."—*National Intelligencer*.

REPLY. GEORGETOWN, (Columbia) Nov. 23.

It might be well for Mr. Editor Smith to inform the public by what authority he makes the above declaration.—His "We are informed"—"We are authorized," &c. are intended to impress an idea on the public mind that he has his intelligence from the office of the Secretary of State. But we are authorized to say, that Mr. Secretary Smith never authorized Mr. Editor Smith to make the declaration."—*Independent American*.

REJOINDER. WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.

"Solely to guard against misconceptions, we deem it proper to say, that the declaration made in this paper on the 23d inst. as quoted above, is strictly correct."—*National Intelligencer*.

Mr. CHAMPAGNY to Gen. ARMSTRONG. LONDON, October 18.—The French papers contain the following letter from the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, to the American Ambassador in Paris:—Letter of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of France, Mr. Champagny, to Gen. Armstrong, Minister of the United States at Paris, dated Altenburg, August 22, 1809.