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a private citizen, it is true; let him bluster and below—rejoice when his fellow creatures are enslaved or murdered—toast the Bastille or the Guillotine; words are but wind; let them alone and they pass harmless away: But such a man is not fit for a ruler. A ruler must be a *MAN*; a man of feeling, who can make allowances for the frailties of human nature. He must be of no party, for the moment he espouses the side of a party he becomes prejudiced and sees every thing by halves. The idea of resentment or revenge, ought never to be cherished by an earthly judge; vengeance belongs to the Lord.

Foreign Intelligence.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

March 8.

General Cartaux, in a letter complained that he had been kept 74 days in irons, without a trial, and requested his speedy judgment.—He lamented that he could not go and shed his blood to save the republic.—Referred to the committee of general safety.

In the name of the commission of customs, and of the united committees of public safety, commerce, legislation, and marine, Bourdon presented the following plan of a decree, which was adopted:

- I. The treaties of navigation and commerce existing between France and those nations with whom she is at peace, shall be executed in their form and tenor, without changing them in the least by the present decree.
- II. All nations, whose government is at peace with the republic, have a right to the justice and friendship of the French nation. All those foreign nations who commit no hostilities against France, shall be treated in the same manner.
- III. In all those ports and places of France which are not intersected by a foreign territory, the same laws, decrees and tariffs, shall be observed.
- IV. The foreign vessels, and the French vessels coming from abroad, shall not be permitted to anchor in the islands of Corsica, Croix, Bouin, La Croisiere, Noirmoutier, Isle-Dieu, Bellisle, Ushant, the Island of the Mountain, Mole Nehedie, Isle des Saints, the Isles of Rhe, Oberon, and other great or small islands, unless they are in stress, or obliged to come to anchor.
- V. The commodities and productions of territory, of fishing, and salt, drawn from the places denominated by article IV. shall pay no duty in the French ports; but no manufactured goods shall be imported from those places in France.
- VI. French ships may be dispatched from the places pointed out in article IV. from one harbor to another, the same as for a French harbor.
- VII. Those articles, the importation of which is lawful from the United States of America to the French colonies, shall not be exported from the said colonies to France.

The convention having ordered a written hand bill to be read, beginning thus: "Sans Culottes, It is time—order the general to be beat;" and concluding with, "Because I speak truth itself;" Referred the said bill to the public accuser of the revolutionary tribunal of Paris, charging him to make, without delay, the strictest search after the authors, accomplices, distributors or stickers of the said hand-bill.

March 9.

Bourbotte sent the Correspondence of the rebels of La Vendee; and adds to his letter the following paragraphs:

"Among those papers, some are extremely precious; they show the villainy of certain individuals who sported among us the most energetic patriotism, and corresponded at the same time with chiefs of the Banditti.

"Several among them have already expiated their signal treachery with their heads. If the committee to whom these pieces are referred examines them attentively, it will find that there are many more traitors to be brought to condign punishment.

"I also send back the Seal which the self-constituted Superior council of Chantillon used for its acts, and the plate with which they fabricated false assignats."

A deputation from several popular societies from the southern departments, complained that Carras and Freron, the representatives of the people who helped so

much in promoting the recapture of Toulon, had been denounced and recalled.

Freron immediately after ascended the Tribune, and spoke as follows: "Citizens, we are just arrived from the army in Italy: Slander preceded us to this hall; but we earnestly supplicate you to pre-judge nothing, till you have heard the varied accents of truth from our lips, and discomfited the manoeuvres of those intriguing men who wanted to struggle against the national Representation, and to debate it. We demand of you to be heard on the 21st of March.—Decreed.

UNITED STATES.

ALEXANDRIA, May 13.

Copy of a Letter from a gentleman in Philadelphia, to his friend in this town.

Philadelphia, May 1st, 1794.

DEAR SIR,

AS you have been pleased to request my opinion on the present state of our political situation, I cannot refuse to comply with your wishes, however incompetent I feel myself to develop it fully.

The transactions in Europe certainly exhibit the most wonderful scene of things to be found in the annals of man. They can be measured by no events of ancient or modern times. They form an *unique* in the history of the world: and in what they will terminate, no human wisdom can conclude. I heartily pray that the result may be a melioration of the condition of mankind, and general peace and happiness to the human race. I particularly pray that the storms of France may soon subside; and that we may soon see this wonderful people in the tranquil enjoyment of peace, liberty, and good government, the just reward of heroes, and which it is our happiness to possess.

In this tremendous agitation of human things, the United States are placed in a most delicate and critical situation. A situation which calls for the firmest courage and most deliberate prudence. To support our dignity without rushing into the incalculable calamities of war; and to maintain peace which is filling our country with riches, and every day making prodigious additions to our strength without humiliation, is the difficult task imposed on our government. Happily we have at the head of our administration, a man, who in war, having defended us with the shield of Mars, seems in peace, to be guided by the wisdom of Minerva.

The conduct of the court of Great Britain, has certainly been inexplicably mysterious, and in some instances, has discovered strong tokens of deep-rooted hatred, and hostility towards this country. Often have my resentments urged me to measures of passionate revenge: Often to favor the prohibition of the importation of articles the growth and manufacture of Great Britain and Ireland, and the sequestration of debts due from American citizens to British subjects, measures, which, though proposed in the House of Representatives, seem to have been dictated rather by a generous indignation, than by calm and deliberate prudence. But public bodies, as well as individuals, have their honest resentments; and it is as difficult for the one as for the other, under circumstances of extreme irritation, perfectly to controul their passions; nor are either to be censured, if they sometimes yield to their power. However, it is a truth, of which every man's experience must convince him, that passion is not a good counsellor—that it frequently leads us into errors of which we bitterly repent for the whole course of our lives; and when we are most provoked, we ought most to suspect its advice, and fly to the aid of reason, which will, of course, always give us good counsel. If this is so necessary in individuals, it is still more necessary in public servants, on whose conduct, not merely their personal interests, but the safety, the peace, and the happiness of the whole people depends. They ought for ever to banish from their hearts, so indiscreet an adviser, and consulting reason only, pursue in the most prudent and temperate way, measures which shall appear best calculated, on mature reflection, to guard the public peace—the greatest of human blessings—and to establish the general happiness. It must be confessed, however, to be extremely difficult under the knowledge of our late injuries, to maintain all that patience of character which I have described to be so necessary. Perhaps it does not belong to the nature of man.

I will, however, endeavor in the following observations, to give you the result of my most dispassionate reflections on the present interesting crisis of our nation.

I have ever viewed the court of Great Britain as hostile to the prosperity of the United States. For it may be regarded as a fact, founded on human nature, that *the person, who, deliberately and maliciously injures another, never forgives him, because the injured party is a continual memento of his folly and vice, and acts as a perpetual goad to his conscience.* Applying this principle to the court of Great Britain, I am led to believe that their unjust and unsuccessful attempt on our liberties, still rankles in their bosom. Besides they cannot suppose that we can heartily forget the injuries they did us.—And it is certain that we have not forgiven nor forgotten them. Consequently there exists a mutual hatred and jealousy between the court of Great Britain and this country. Yet, notwithstanding the unfriendly disposition of the British government towards us; and our antipathy to it, it is certainly the interest of the people of the United States, and of the people of Britain, to maintain a peaceable and friendly commercial intercourse with each other. And it is *more our interest than theirs.*

I have never been surprised, that the British court regarding us as a people inimical to it, should view with pain our growing wealth and strength; particularly the increase of our commerce and marine importance.

They must have seen with peculiar regret, these things effected principally by the agency of British capital. British gold and British subjects were continually flowing in, to improve and people the United States, at the expence of their nation. Observing these things and regarding us as an unfriendly nation, it was naturally to be expected, that the British court would be inclined to check a commerce which was undermining their strength; and that they would be tempted to seize the first colourable pretext—to annihilate a navigation which threatened to rival their own. Having the command of the ocean, it is unfortunately too much in their power to accomplish such designs; and that they have meditated such a policy, is probable from the recent transactions in the West Indies. But the very reasons which may have suggested such a policy to the British court ought to have induced us to have permitted the commerce to have remained in the state in which it was. Under this view of the relative interests and dispositions of the two countries, I ever thought commercial restrictions, directly pointed against Great Britain, impolitic. They might prompt the court to execute plans of mischief against us, which they probably only waited for a pretext to attempt. By leaving to the people of Great Britain the benefits of the commerce they enjoyed, I wish to interest them in the preservation of our peace, and to make them a counterpoise to any hostile designs their court might meditate against us. I am apprehensive that a systematic plan to turn our commerce from that country, would be considered by the people of Great Britain, as a proof of implacable hatred to them, and regarding us no longer as friends, but enemies, they might be induced to support with zeal, any attempts which their cabinet might be inclined to make, to distress and weaken us.

"When I recollect what immense portions of British capital, till the late interruption of our commerce, were daily sent to be vested in the vacant lands of this country, and other important and permanent improvements: when I recollect how many of the subjects of his Britannic majesty, were not only sending their money to add to the riches, but coming themselves to encrease the number and force of the United States. I recollect a commerce which was peaceably and gradually undermining the strength of the British empire, and raising our own on its ruins.

"The wealth accumulated by their amazing industry, and commerce seemed destined to improve and aggrandize the United States. Under such circumstances, if we consulted our revenge only, we ought to desire nothing but peace, and the commerce we lately enjoyed. The truth is, *time fights for us.* Time fights against them. If we will trust to time, we shall find him a powerful friend, who will render us conquerors—*rich conquerors.*

The British Court must have too much sagacity to be inattentive to all these circumstances; and viewing us as an enemy and rival nation, they may have felt a disposition to check the commercial intercourse between the two countries, and may probably be inclined to use the empire of the ocean, which they possess, to strike a blow which would put our navigation back for twenty years: It is probable, therefore, that the British court would not have been displeased with the passage of the bill lately rejected by the Senate, to prohibit the importation of articles of the growth or manufacture of Great Britain or Ireland—First, because they may wish to check a commerce which is more beneficial to us than to them; and second, because this measure might enrage the people of Britain against us so as to enable the court to execute any plans for our injury which it might design.

(To be Continued.)

BOSTON, May 9.

THE MILITIA.

A well organized and disciplined militia, has been long acknowledged the palladium of a free country. In that situation, the militia are equally ready to resist any encroachments on their rights as men, or extension of power, in their local government; and to protect their country from invasion and plunder, by extraneous armies.

On Tuesday last, there was a general examination of the equipments of the militia, throughout the commonwealth, and we have the pleasure to learn, they were, in general, well furnished, agreeably to the prescription of the law. The Boston regiment, by the unremitting exertions of the commanders of the different wards, appeared in complete uniform. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on those, who, without prospect of reward, and to the injury of their private business, have placed the militia in so respectable a situation; and to those who have generously subscribed to this laudable purpose. The companies of Captain's Homer and Johnson, appeared with elegant new standards.

A M E R I C A.

PROVIDENCE, May 10.

His Excellency Arthur Fenner, is chosen Governor, and

The Honorable Samuel J. Potter, Esq. Deputy-Governor, of the state of Rhode-Island.

BASSETERRE, (St. Kitts) March 29. The annals of modern history, perhaps do not record so brilliant and glorious a conquest as the taking of Martinique; from the landing of the troops on the 6th of February not a moment was lost, and in less than six weeks every quarter of the island was in possession of the British; the fort of Calabasse was stormed, St. Pierre, Trinite, Le Cros Morne, Cul de Sac, de Cohee, Cafe Navire, were taken with a rapidity incredible; General Belgarde's camp stormed and taken; the strong and regular fortified Fort Louis stormed; and lastly, the hitherto deemed impregnable, Fort Bourbon surrendered at discretion; the unanimity that has subsisted between the soldiers and sailors, has no example in the annals of British history.

BERMUDA, April 5.

In the Southern Colonies of America we are told the national cockade is worn generally; in the other States they border nearly to madness; clubs are held similar to the Jacobins in France; and we are informed that some guillotines are actually arrived in the States. Town and field meetings have been held in many parts, all of which breathe the greatest resentment to the English, and threaten destruction to that nation whom they generally suppose to be no more than a small island, and easy to be conquered.

PHILADELPHIA,

MAY 20.

Yesterday in the House of Representatives of the United States, Mr. Sedgwick called up the bill, some time since reported by him pursuant to orders of the house for raising, organizing, and equipping an additional provisional military force.—The first section of which specifies the number of men thus to be raised viz. 25,000.—This section after some debate was struck out.—Mr. Sedgwick then moved the following as a substitute for the first section—"That there shall be raised upon the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned, an additional provisional military force, to consist of non-commissioned officers, privates and musicians, to—