

# The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,

TUESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 26.

From the VIRGINIA GAZETTE, &c.

No. IX.

A DEVELOPMENT OF THE CAUSES OF THE DISTURBANCES BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND FRENCH REPUBLICS, Addressed to the Citizens of America.

MY FELLOW-CITIZENS,

An excuse which was offered for this very improper correspondence of Mr. Jefferson with Mazzei, in a certain American paper, just about the time he went to Congress in May last, which was soon after the letter made its appearance in America, deserves to be particularly noticed here; not only on account of its being delivered, that it was the excuse of Mr. Jefferson himself, and, therefore, the best on every consideration that could be offered, but because, it will also serve to open a further view to a connection of the means employed by France, and the subservience of other nations in submitting to be made her tools in promoting her nefarious views.

You were told in that excuse, my fellow-citizens, that you ought to pay no attention to the charges raised against Mr. Jefferson, on account of that letter, because it was a mere little private communication with a man with whom he was in habits of intimacy, and held friendly correspondence, who when in Virginia, was a dependant on Mr. Jefferson, and a republican; a friend to monarchy while a prisoner to the British in New-York; and a Jacobin when under a dread of the French in Tuscany—to appease whose threatening vengeance by flattering them with the opinions of this exalted American in favor of their conduct against his own country, or to shew his own importance in corresponding with such a character, it was said the letter was transmitted for publication in Paris.

This is all true enough; but as an excuse for the writer, it is to me only another of those self-contradicting, contra-convincing arguments, with which the letter and its apologies abound. With respect to its being private, I trust, I have already sufficiently shewn, that so far from offering an apology, that adds considerably to the impropriety of such a correspondence from such a hand; and as to the other part of the excuse—if it was written to a man, whose supple conscience in politics was such, as to render him the speckle tool, thus capable of exhibiting all the prevailing colours of the rainbow in the little circle of private life, round which he was doomed to travel, then certainly was it the more improper, as it was the more likely to be used to our prejudice, when the influence he was under, happened to be unfavorable to us.

The various means which the French employed among their neighbours to promote their views, and the cringing dispositions of some of them, are only a stronger proof of the impropriety of any who were yet unnumbered, though they would wish to engage in those views, risking any thing with those neighbours which might be turned against themselves. In the case of Holland and Belgium, under the pretence of setting them free, she obtained their immediate aid as spies, as informers, and as instruments in the project of subduing other nations into the same use, and under the pretence of guarding against the danger from her emigrants, she employed a variety of other means to induce others, who were not to be influenced by the same pretences, to become her dupes. She armed, and finally declared and commenced war against some; and demanded of others to dismiss the emigrants from their territories; till most of the nations round were either involved in war, or became her tools to promote her views. The Swiss cantons were among the few who boldly and successfully resisted her demands: While others were soon reduced and compelled to act as instruments and spies, against those whose dispositions or fate was yet undecided in the part they were to act, in the great revolutionary disorganizing scheme of France.

Spain, for a while was one of the combined powers who opposed her plans: But being at length conquered, and compelled to become her ally, or rather her tool the means which have been employed through that important acquisition, to drive America into her views, serve to shew the impropriety of committing ourselves too far to any nation thus under her controul; at the same time that it adds to the variety of proofs which we have of the commencement and promotion of those means. The unnatural connection of a monarchy, whose leading and national characteristic is jealousy, with a republic, is sufficient of itself to shew the servile readiness of those nations, of that description, under the influence of France, to promote her views by every and the most contemptible means. A monarchy, a principedom, or a dukedom, receiving the fraternal speeches and embraces of a republic, is of itself an odd enough sight; but to be crawling on their hands and knees to receive their orders from those natural enemies of their existence, is what neither of them can do through choice; and, therefore, is the impropriety of entrusting our secrets, which might drag us into the same humiliation, in the bosoms of such dependants, the more striking; and the acts of some of those dependant nations will serve as a further illustration of the causes of the injuries and the insults we have already received from that nation by trusting our affairs with such dependants.

The acquisition of Spain in the grand maritime coalition that was to disorganize, and, in fact, destroy all Europe, was a thing of no small importance, as it related to the reduction of the United States of America into the scheme. Situated as the colonies of Spain and America are, and interested in

some of the western waters alike, it was easy to perceive, that the subservience of that nation to France, was of as much importance in aiding her in her pretences for quarrelling with us, as if she had possessed those Spanish settlements herself. What this Jacobinical republic could not find a pretext for, as the very natural friend and ally of the Spanish monarch, or accomplish herself, situated as she was, she found the means of availing herself of, from the ascendancy which she held over that enslaved king. Accordingly, our treaty with Great-Britain, which had been the pretence of quarrel on the part of France herself was also made the pretence of jealousy and uneasiness on the part of Spain. Our having admitted Great-Britain, however, into a participation of our right to the use of the Mississippi, being too glaring an absurdity to be made the ground of any serious objection, a pretence was then raised, of an intended expedition from Canada, against Upper Louisiana; in consequence of which, the execution of our treaty with his Catholic Majesty was suspended, and instead thereof, forts and garrisons erected and manned within our territory; reports made to our executive of the intended violation of the neutrality of the United States, by the supposed preparations making by the British to march through our territory; while our soil was actually erected into fortifications, and our treaty broken on the part of Spain: And when doubts were raised by our executive (after a thorough examination into the complaint of the pretended expedition into Louisiana) about the grounds for those suspicions, proofs given of the actual fortifications erected in our country being at least as great a violation of our neutrality, as any mere suspicion of the intentions of the British to march through our territory; and the suspension of the execution of our treaty on the part of Spain on these pretences complained of; our government was addressed by the minister of that king, in a style unparalleled, except in the diplomatic history of France, in the execution of the same. Not only the business between America and Spain, but even the manner of conducting our internal affairs to suit ourselves, as it had been by the French ministers, was objected to by that of Spain; the representatives of the people even, with whom a foreign minister can have nothing to do, insulted and called tools to the executive.

This certainly, no one can deny, was a continuation of the French system, countenanced and promoted by some of our own citizens: For who, that will reflect on the situation of the Spanish settlements in America (possessing every temptation to the inhabitants of the western parts of the United States, and subject at a moment's warning to be swept away) can suppose, that they would be so imprudent, of their own accord, as to insult and offend us? And the French having no public minister here at that time, there is no doubt, in my mind, but that the philippic of Yrujo was only another of those little private communications of some of our American chiefs, brought forth by the influence of that nation over the minister of another; as in the instance of the one at the court of Tuscany, who, it is admitted, published the secret labors of his friend in Paris, to justify and encourage their treatment of America!

The influence, the pretences, and intrigues of France; the uses made of the information obtained from the communications of some of our own citizens, by means of that influence over other nations; as well as the co-operation of those citizens immediately in their plans, are all very perceivable in this whole affair; as well as some other things connected therewith. First, general Clarke, of Georgia, who had actually received a commission from Genet, and was ever known to be devoted to France, it was pretended, was engaged in the service of the British, in their intended invasion of Louisiana.

Blount's plot next breaks out. A man ever devoted to the French; in the strictest intimacy with the Spanish minister, who is under the influence of the same people; of no acquaintance or visible connection with the British; from a state whose politics were entirely of the French cast; (to whom Adet in the scheme of electing a president "devoted" to France, deputed one Collet to promote the plan) advocated by a senator violent in the interest of the French; and defended by an attorney distinguished as a reporter both in politics and law;—where, let me ask, are the proofs of his correspondence being intended to bring on a British war with Spain, except in his letter itself, which was nothing but another of those little private communications, which, according to some men's opinions, ought not to operate against their writers! Why, if it was a British plot, has there never been one man at least proved to be connected with Blount, but those of open and avowed attachments to France? Is it because those of an opposite description are not to be trusted with the secrets of their own party? And why did that exalted character, whom Blount had labored to have elected president of America, desert his post, while that important enquiry was on foot; to which no mere matter of official etiquette, form, or private business should have preferred? Was it that he was afraid of being suspected of being engaged in a British plot? Was it that he was afraid of offending his friends the French, in assisting in detecting and punishing such a plot against their Spanish ally? Or was it that he really thought such a little private communication with a friend at a distant court (which was only

\* After having heard a certain member of Congress, who is known to be the organ of the disorganizing influence, says Yrujo; and then draws his conclusions in his diplomatic communications from those illegitimate premises.

† See Dallas's report, Genet versus King and Jay.  
‡ The person to whom Blount's letter was written, was an interpreter at an Indian court; which interpreter, and which court, were as honorable, as worthy, and as much to be trusted with secrets, as I dare say, as that person and that court to which Mr. J.——'s was sent.

calculated to involve America in a war) was not worth the notice of the people of this country? These are questions I should like to see answered with all that openness, candor and sincerity, with which some of our eminent characters are now supposed to abound!

If it was really believed that Blount had no serious intention of exciting an expedition against Louisiana from Canada, and therefore that his letter to Cary ought not to be considered a matter of such criminal cast against him; if it was from this belief that this little private correspondence, let out by the intoxication of liquor, as the one to Mazzei, it is said was by that of vanity or fear, that the sympathetic forbearance of one to be present and aiding in his prosecution, and his continuance in senate was advocated by another, then do I agree most heartily with our French patriots that those little private letters are not of so much consequence and danger as they have been thought. That Blount's letters had no real and serious view to the promotion of a British plot against Spain; but that the scheme (only seen in part in that letter) was to have an exact opposite direction, the evidence of every thing that has yet appeared in the case most clearly shews.

Besides the intimacy which Mr. Blount had with the Spanish minister, it is pretty notorious, that he was also in the strictest intimacy, and held constant correspondence with Adet while in this country. Part of the plan to drag America into the grand scheme of disorganizing all Europe, by the destruction of Great Britain, which has now come to light, and which bears a strong resemblance (when viewed with this pretended Canadian expedition) to a French, a Spanish and American, instead of a British plot, it would now seem, was begun and carried on by Adet, while thus in habits of intimacy and correspondence with Mr. Blount. Instead of an expedition against Louisiana from Canada, aided by the Americans, it is now clear, that the poor Canadians had enough to do at home, to prevent their helpless wives and children being strangled in their beds, or poisoned in the libations of this holy and pious minister of the Spanish ally, to be offered up by American hands. Mr. Adet, it appears, from all the testimony in the trial of M. Lane, had employed that detestable American to stir up an insurrection in Canada. Quebec was to be taken by secretly administering Laudanum, and other atrocious means. Arms were shipped from France; and troops were to be sent from the same quarter, who, in conjunction with some of our good French patriots in America, were to complete this noble work; while good master Trujjo was to raise the pretence of a British and an American plot, to discredit that nation here, obscure the true laudanum plot, or, if it was discovered, to have for it, at least some colorable pretext.

So artful, so horrid, and so wicked a project for exciting treason, murder, and rebellion among nations, could never have been thought of and put into execution, but by the ingenious, the enlightened, and philosophic admirers of liberty and humanity; the inventors and celebrators of their own republican marriages at home! But this affair between Adet and M. Lane was another of those little private correspondences between friends; carried on by the influence of the former over the latter; by vanity arising from the honor of the correspondence; or, perhaps, by the influence of a little French gold; and, therefore, is, with some, perhaps, a thing of no great consequence! While the information of Yrujo (which was also private) of the intended expedition against Louisiana, peremptorily demanded all the attention of the United States—both by its councils and its citizens at large!!

Added to all this—our recalled minister, returned home from France, nearly about the time this grand French, Spanish, and American preparation, for disorganizing and overturning regular governments, was thus drawing to a point. That the circumstances of that recal were to be attended with some little increase of private enmity to the American government, was not to have been wondered at; but that that enmity, too, was to have broken out into overt acts against the government, was hardly to have been expected. Yet, unexpected as it was, the recal of Monroe was made a pretence for justifying the conduct of France, as well as holding out fresh hopes to her of succeeding in her demands, from the division among ourselves. It was well known, that the dispute between the American government and France, took place while colonel Monroe was at that court; and from the long and warm attachment of that gentleman, to the interests of that country, it was certain that an approbation of his conduct, whatever might be the merits of the recal, would be considered as a justification of France, and a condemnation of our own government. Accordingly, without any previous investigation or knowledge of the causes of the recal, an immediate determination was formed to justify the conduct of Monroe.

Trivial facts often throw light upon important designs. The circumstances attending the entertainment given to Col. Monroe, on his arrival at Philadelphia, on that occasion, are not unworthy particular notice here. At that entertainment, the vice president, the speaker of the house of the national representatives, and a senator of the United States of America were present.—An address was presented, approving warmly and completely the conduct of Monroe, "upon the information they had on the subject;" which information could have been but limited and partial, as it was derived from him who has since called for informati-

\* The republican marriages were men and women, or infants, tied back to back, and thrown into water out of their depth for the entertainment of the Jacobins.

† Every plot is a private affair until it be made public by some accident or cause; but their being private, or there being causes for their being disclosed do not render them the less treasonable when they are discovered.

on himself; while a pointed disapprobation of the conduct of the government, marked the whole complexion of this political feat. Besides the address, the evident tendency of the toasts was, to approve of the minister and France, and censure that of the government which had recalled him. Without entering into a condemnation of the recalled minister, unheard, and without knowing the whole merits of the case, as they have done with respect to the government, I shall just observe for the present, that it is the first instance, I believe, in which some of the first officers of government have ever turned their moments of festivity and relaxation from public business, into a serious and pointed censure of the acts of that government.

That the private citizens, who have no public opportunities of discussing and offering their opinions upon state affairs, should turn their heads into moments of levity and mirth, into seasons of serious judgment and severe censures against the government, is not extraordinary, nor at all dangerous; but that the first officers of government, whose particular duty it is, upon all occasions, and at all times, to examine thoroughly, and weigh well the acts of the governments they are entrusted to administer, before they hold those acts up as unjust and improper; to ward off and not invite foreign dangers; and for that purpose to reconcile and conceal, and not foment and publish domestic differences;—should, in so hasty a manner, at such an improper time, and upon so slight and partial an examination, hold up the government and country, with whole safety and welfare they are entrusted, as improper and unjust, (to a country which waits only for a fit moment of destruction) at the same time that they fan those internal differences that are to insure their success—is indeed unparalleled and astonishing! It was not to be expected that France would be entirely blind to such a striking and conspicuous circumstance; nor was it to be expected, from the principles by which she has been already led to injure us, that she would relax in her determinations to commit those injuries, from a view of such circumstance.

But here let us pause! Facts will now soon perhaps speak for themselves! Without any labored vindication on the one side, or high wrought panegyric on the other, we shall presently be convinced, I trust, by solid and happy experience, by WHO & WHAT our disturbance with France have been bro't upon us, as it is sincerely hoped, that it will quickly be discovered now, by WHO and WHAT those disturbances will be quieted. I have already observed, that they began and attained to their highest pitch, while the gentlemen, whom this feat was intended to compliment, was our minister at that court. They will be ended, I trust, by the powers which the new mission are charged, and the dispositions and talents they possess. The firm and well tried patriotism and integrity of a Pinckney, the open, the candid, and brilliant ingenuity of a Marshall, and the plain and honest understanding of a Gerry, it is believed, will soon place the conduct of our government, and the dispositions of the people of America, in that true light, which will restore that nation to their former dispositions towards us.

Should this be the case, that million, too indulously represented as possessing sentiments and dispositions unfriendly to an adjustment of our differences, will stand in need of no vindication. I shall not fail, however, to seize upon that circumstance to place the charge of a wish in our government and its friends, to bring on a war with that country, in that true light in which it deserves to stand: And until the fate of that embassy should be decided, shall now take my leave of you, my fellow-citizens, with that sincere wish for a speedy reconciliation of all our differences, and prayers for your welfare, which an attachment to one's own interest, without any violent professions of love for others, will most naturally insure.

AMERICANUS.

Richmond, September 11, 1797.

The Development of the Causes of the Disturbances between the American and French Republics, by Americanus, will now be discontinued, until the fate of the new mission to France is known, and a thorough knowledge of the merits of the old obtained; when the nine numbers already written, in haste, for this paper, will be corrected, enlarged and improved, and the subject resumed in the papers, and the whole of the work, with considerable amendments, notes (and vouchers, if necessary) republished in pamphlets.

Fayette county, August 16th, 1797.

Mr. Scull,

I have lately arrived from a western state, and am much pleased to find that the citizens of this and the neighbouring countries are not all led away by a foreign influence; that they are not made Jacobins or democrats, and exerting every nerve to overthrow our present government, and establish a foreign one in its stead: our pretended patriots (as their friend, citizen Fauchet, called them) will deny that they had this in view, but what more honorable object could they be in pursuit of, in raising such a cry against the British treaty and opposing it so violently in Congress. I make no doubt but many well meaning men have been so wrought upon by the designing and knavish as to think the treaty a bad one, for all men are not politicians; but that one well acquainted with politics, and, unbiassed by party and self-interest, I say, for such a person to think the treaty injurious to our people, was and is impossible.

An instrument so well calculated to secure the peace and promote the interest of the states; an instrument from which we are deriving such great advantages, and from which we should receive many more benefits was it not for the French party among us, who strive to inflame the discord and set them against the American government—Yes, Sir, this party have done their utmost to defeat a treaty that has given us peace with the Indians, secured indemnification to our injured merchants, established trade on a

footing advantageous to the United States, and prevented a destructive war with Great-Britain.

Is there any one in the United States that still thinks favourably of those who have been foremost in opposing the British treaty, let him compare that treaty with the treaty made with the Algerines and see what a vast sum we pay that little nation from whom we receive nothing but what is justly due us, and let him say why there was no clamour raised against that treaty.

From the (Vermont) Argus.

MAHOMET, the famous Arabian Impostor, died the fore part of the seventh century. His successors in government were styled Califs, their subjects, Saracens. These, impelled by an irresistible fanaticism, and more willing to die than not to be victorious, found none able to stop their career. But they clearly evinced, that victory abroad is not always attended with happiness at home. Those who led them to glory, victory and spoil, often felt the direful effects of their domestic machination.

A comparison of their history with the history of the present Gallic revolution, will present a resemblance, which serves to evince that human nature is the same in distant countries, and distant ages. To day is a chieftain admired at home and victorious abroad; all fear to blame the faults they see—all that is public is plaudits. He orders them in crowds to the dungeon or death—to the dungeon or death they are instantly dragged! Mean while a plot is laid, is ripened—and he, whom none dared dispute, is now by a stroke laid breathless.—The people join to execute him, and a new tyrant becomes their idol.

In less than five centuries more than fifty Califs reigned over the Saracen empire. A few had long reigns; the rest fell mostly by the hand of the assassin, or by poison, the worst weapon of ruffians, but we wish not to level the French nation with the Saracens in every respect. In the midst of murder, and frantic conquest, we still discover the glimmerings of "the sacred flame of Liberty," and we anticipate the day when its meridian splendor shall dissipate the glaring meteors, which have so long deluded that gallant nation.

COLUMBUS.

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, July 20.

His Majesty lately took a very remarkable occasion to express his approbation of the conduct and measures of his present Ministers.—It is an established custom for the Bench of Bishops to go into the King's Closet on the anniversary of his Birth-day, and pay their annual homages of respect and attachment to his Royal Person and House. On Monday morning, the 5th of June, this congratulation was made by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the speech was made by the Archbishop of York. In this Address no allusion whatever was made to the politics of the day. But his Majesty in his gracious answer to the Learned and Reverent Prelates, took occasion to assure them, "That his Ministers continue to possess his entire and unabated confidence; that he is fully approved of their measures; and that he should continue to support them as long as they acted upon the same system," or words to that effect.

Our modern Beaux would be extremely careful of quarrels, if a challenge in the present day were to be conducted as in the Age of Chivalry, Felton the Assassin of the Duke of Buckingham, having received an affront from a gentleman, sent him a challenge; and to prove his magnanimity, he cut off and inclosed in his letter, the tip of his little finger.

A meeting of the London merchants and ship owners, was held on Wednesday at the London Tavern, to consider the late decision in the law case of Smith against Shepherd, which made it necessary for them to take into consideration what means could be most prudently adopted in their present situation with regard to their liability to answer for losses at sea. A bill had been brought into parliament to relieve them from the hardships to which the decision exposed them; but as the session terminated before it could be thoroughly discussed, the ship owners felt themselves called upon to provide some regulation until a permanent law should be made on that subject by the legislature.

The temporary remedy, proposed at the meeting, as the best means to provide against the inconvenience complained of, was that of making an alteration in the bill of lading. After some discussion, in which Mr. Foster (the chairman) Alderman Curtis, Messrs. Hill, Long, Bonner, Curling, Chapman and King took part, it was unanimously agreed to, that instead of the words "Dangers of the seas only accepted," the following words be introduced into the bills of lading in future, "all and every the dangers and accidents of the seas and of navigation, of whatever nature or kind soever, excepted." As the meeting was but thinly attended, the further consideration of the resolution was postponed.

The French Journal called the Sentinelle says,—"Lately a bill was posted up on the church door in the department of La Sarthe, containing an invitation to the Faithful to receive their good Priests who were transported, and to restore, under the pain of damnation, the goods taken from the illustrious nobility. Who could believe that some peasants were stupid enough to believe that these bills were posted up by Angels from Heaven!"

Such is the piety of some of the French peasants, and such the improvement they have made under the instruction of their Priests!

Two naval officers, as they were walking together in the Strand, on Monday last, stopped a man, not apparently a seaman, whom they charged with being a delegate. They had collared him, and were proceeding with him to the navy office, Somerset Place, when the fellow knocked down one of them, and made his escape from the other, notwithstanding there were several by-standers.

The convicts at Portsmouth, to the amount of 100, on Monday evening, had very nearly effected their escape. They were at last secured.

\* See their spirited correspondence with Barthelini, the French minister.