

MR. FENNO, The enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from a gentleman in Connecticut, with his desire to get it published in your paper—I perceive the drift is counter to the general current of your paper, and in that respects as a reason that you will not give it a place, I will send to-morrow for the copy.

Decus has made some animadversions on the fracas between Col. Lyon and Mr. Griswold, which calls forth the sentiments of the people of Connecticut; and we solicit you to insert the following observations. In the first place, we observe that Griswold is epithet with Mr. while Col. Lyon is totally devoid of title. This difference is the partiality which printers, editors or scribblers have no right to. Col. Lyon has his commission as commandant of a regiment, and with propriety ought to be styled colonel. Then you proceed to say, "that an unmanly ruffian has offered Mr. G. an insult never to be endured," and has put it into the hands of the representatives of the United States with the affront, and thereby expedited to rescue Mr. Griswold from a just punishment for his ungentlemanly and insolent behaviour to Col. Lyon, by repeating his wooden sword insult. Had Col. Lyon ever been divested of his rank in the army, and been cashiered for cowardice consequently entitled to the English dub of a knight errand, and thence have attached to him the idea of wearing a wooden sword; if a state in the Union had been pleased by their suffrages to have honored him with a seat in the legislature, it was ill becoming an individual to have branded the whole state with a stigma—but as that is by no means an appendage of his character, it was cruel in Mr. G. to say it, and childish in him to repeat it. The only apology which Mr. G. can offer is, that he has been bred and educated in a puritanic state, where words do not authorize blows, and where the legislature have protected themselves from injury by enacting severe laws against dueling, the particular history of which may come up in future. But the legislature of Connecticut did not expect by their act against dueling, to extend it to congress, or beyond the limits of the state; to be sure, while within the limits and boundaries of the state, they have powerfully defended themselves against any attacks in which their indiscretion or wantonness may involve them, but they had no idea of extending it further than their puritanic borders. It would amuse the states perhaps, to give them an history of the cause of the law; but as it would drive us too far from our purpose, we shall only observe that it might be numbered with the blue laws. Griswold, thus educated, might plead privilege, and suppose himself authorized to say any thing, and be by law protected from assault or injury. Col. Lyon knowing the puritanism of the state, might have the first aggression, but could not the second, without implicating himself in the reality of Griswold's supposition, and thereby rendered himself worthy a wooden sword. But however the matter may turn in congress, whether Col. Lyon be expelled from the house for spitting in Mr. Griswold's face or not, we beg leave to assure Mr. G. that we did not send him to congress to abuse or insult the members, and we most heartily repeat our choice of a man, who had no little knowledge of the world, as to affront a member of that honorable House, by an affe tion, a question or insinuation so directly injurious to his feelings. We have no idea of running down any character—We expect that reason, argument and laws will supersede all other considerations. We had no idea of sending you, Mr. G. as a champion of Connecticut; we detest the conduct which you have been guilty of, we pity your puerility and want of urbanity, and will reform our choice.

The true character of large bodies will never be known from individuals who compose them; much less that of states, from the individuals who represent them. Were we to characterize them from these circumstances some years ago, we should have supposed Georgia to have been made up of cowards and desperados; the Carolinas of duellists and parade gentry; Virginia of Cincinnati jantoids and demagogues; Pennsylvania of Pennites and broad brims; New-York of gallants and bubbles; Connecticut of deists and atheis; Boston of courtiers and gimblets; while Vermont alone retained the true American character of plain, honest, sensible men. So also were we to judge of Congress by their acts, we might suppose our finances established, our revenues infinite, our political situation a source of envy to Europe, and of importance to the world.

Do we wish to derive a true knowledge of facts, we fly to newspapers. But alas, they are contradictory and fallacious—One says our nation is respectable and respected abroad, while another details the injuries and insults we daily suffer from foreigners. So vibrating and refluxing are all things, that a state of rest and certitude is not the lot of any of the works of God. As the heavenly bodies are affluing diurnally and periodically their opposite extremes, so also are things vibrate from one extreme to the other as if impatient of rest or stability, much less of permanency and duration. As in the natural world, the moral world, does all nature rush from one to its opposite extreme; and it seems as though it was the study of the rational world to accelerate the movements of those vibrations, and hurry to "their vast extremes." Nature seems busy in effacing those extremes, for quickest growths most quickly decay. The most beautiful flowers wither the quickest; the flattest oaks the heaviest falls, the most delicious and excellent carcases the most offensive smells; and it is not cause of grief and disagreeable reflections, that man, the noblest work of God, should be subjected to the truth of these observations? Is it because Adages pronounce that "reformed rakes make the best husbands," that gallantry has many advocates? Is it necessary that impiety should be a prelude to devotion, and honesty to the making a fortune by swindling to the dishonor of human nature? Numberless examples justify the generality, if not the universality of the observation. That misers should beget spendthrifts, and vice versa, is not strange—the reasons are obvious; and that external integrity should be made a John de Baptists; the fouler knaveries grow out of the general jargon: for who has read the great volumes of nature's productions, but will subscribe to these truths? Hence, when we see a large estate amassed by the penny and the indefatigable industry of one, frequently lavished by another generation. When I see a large edifice I pity its tenants, or a small cottage I envy its inhabitants; when I travel in a rich kingdom, I see miserable citizens, but in a new world, happy peasants; if I sojourn to the Indies, famous for their riches, I observe 9000 slaves to one independent freeman; if I read the

writings of patriots, I look forward to their expectations, of rising in power; if they rail at religion, I expect to see in old age a devotee; if I hear, I expect a rude retirement; if I oblige abroad, a domestic tyrant; if I find of dea-cons, some impudence, if I see the vice of society, I will guard my purse; if a devotee and religious, I expect to hear that some honest estates have been ruined by them, that they expect to settle some large estate, to get into some great employment, make some bargain, or some capital overreaching; if I hear a priest decrying the riches of this world, I conclude he wants to buy a farm cheap; if decrying the good things of life, it is with a view of enjoying them himself; if I hear a traveller speaking lightly of foot walking, I remove my horses to another stable and lock them up, lest he should indulge a variety at my expence; if a young man speaks lightly of the fair sex, the next news I hear he is married; if a man be proverbially poor, he is soon mounted in his coach, and if imminently rich, I look for his name on the list of bankruptcies. So general are the vibrations, that we almost suppose that one extreme grows out of the other. An oppressive government by a revolution begets a free one, and the free government pants for an energetic one.—To this flux of sentiment, as of tides, the sentimental world has its periodical revolutions, almost as periodically fixed as those of nature. With this exordium, which will meet the assent of every critical observer, may we account for the fracas that happened in the representatives' chamber during this session, between Col. Lyon and Mr. Griswold. Griswold, habituated to the ebbing and flowing of sentiment, wishes to accelerate their movements, while Col. Lyon, regarding the constitution as an eligible standard of rights, privileges and benefits, wishes above all things, to see no innovation upon the principles of democracy which brought it into being—he being born under the government of Britain, and educated in the full belief of the extension of the prerogatives of the crown, is ardently desirous to check every movement which in issue shall alter the tone of the respective branches, as permeated by our blessed constitution; and that he should feel with more weight the dangers of oppression, is rational, when we consider his native country, and their wretched and unalterable situation; and that his whole soul should be engaged to suppress any and every thing which in the vibrations of government, tend to impair the liberty of the people. And may we not rationally infer, that if he has not the abilities of the most able orator to produce his sentiments and give the air of respectability, in a well connected chain of reasoning in a set speech in the house, that his mental powers will be ever awake to accomplish the object of his mission by means within his reach? No one who is acquainted with Col. Lyon, but allows him possessed of strong mental abilities; and on the footing of accomplishments, let us a moment contrast the combatants. Mr. G. brought up at the foot of Gamaliel, and having received a polite education, was one of those characters from whom I ought to expect polished manners, while Col. Lyon spires to no greater elevation than that of a plain honest man. Under these impressions, where does the rudeness of manners commence? Most assuredly from Mr. G.'s ungentle interposition. It would have been esteemed rude in Mr. G. to have interrupted the Col. in his observations—but horridly rude and barbarous to insult him and repeatedly, with a stigma which was fabricated at the seat of government. The world expect more from a polite gentleman than from a rustic farmer—the insult by Mr. G. was therefore doubly forcible, and yet Mr. Griswold's Decus files Col. Lyon "an unmannered ruffian," as unrespectable, dishonorable and useless.—As Mr. G. was the reverse, it was too pointedly partial to gain any credit. "Sunk in the filth of party," Mr. Decus, do you endeavour by such language, to animate the house to revenge as a body? So doing an outrage as that committed by yourself or your friend, where did the party commence? We say under combination of government, under the banners of which Mr. G. has ingloriously enlisted; and because Col. Lyon did not wish to sacrifice the republicanism of the state he had the honor to represent, by grasping after the pomp and pageantry of Eastern courts, Mr. G. volunteers to dub with cowardice a military character, and has his reward.

PRUSSIA AND FRANCE.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY.

Frederick William the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Prussia, margrave of Brandenburg, anti-chamberlain, & prince elector of the holy Roman empire, &c. to the French republic, and in her name to the citizens who compose the Executive Directory.

Great and Dear Friends,

Providence having disposed of the days of the king, my father, who departed this life the 16th of this month, and having called me to the throne of my ancestors, I hasten to announce to you this double event; persuaded that you will take part in the loss I have sustained, and that you will interest yourselves in my advancement to the rule over the Prussian states. I shall take the greatest care to cultivate and cement the harmony which I find so happily established between the two nations; and upon this I pray God to keep you, great and dear friends in his holy care.

Your good friend, FREDERICK WILLIAM.

Berlin, 17th November, 1797.

LONDON, January 4.

Three per cent consols, 49 1/2, opening. We this morning received the Paris journals up to the 31st ult. (December) inclusive. We have made such extracts from them as our room and our time would permit; and by these extracts our readers will observe that strenuous preparations are making for the invasion of England, for the accomplishment of which the Secretaries and Clerks in the public offices have, among many others, come forward with patriotic donations.

PARIS, (11 Nivose) Dec. 31.

The Dey of Tunis has liberated without ransom, eighteen Frenchmen, in return for an act of kindness on the part of Gen. Buonaparte, who some time ago liberated and sent to Tunis eight Turks shipwrecked on the coast of Leghona. On this occasion Buonaparte has addressed a letter to the Directory, by whom the letter written on this occasion by the Dey of Tunis has been also published.

The blacksmiths employed in the naval arsenals have just given a new proof of their attachment to republican institutions, and have at the same time shewn how anxious they are to contribute towards the speedy execution of the descent on England, by declaring that they will allow themselves no repose on the Decadis.

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The Directory has published an arret to the following effect, in consequence of a representation made by the inhabitants of the Pays de Vaud: "The minister of the French republic residing at the Helvetic cantons, shall declare to the Governments of Berne and Fribourg, that the members of those governments shall answer personally for the safety of the persons and properties of the inhabitants of the Pays de Vaud, who have addressed themselves, and may still address themselves to the French Republic, to claim, in execution of ancient treaties, its mediation, and to be either maintained in or restored to their rights.

The persons employed in the internal administration of the Directorial Palace, have addressed a letter to the Directory, in which after pouring forth many in veives against the English government, they state as follows: "The Secretary, Clerks, and others employed in the general Secretaryship (Secretariat) of the Executive Directory, the persons employed in the internal administration of the Directorial Palace, detained at their posts, regret that they cannot share in the labours of their brave brethren in arms; but wishing to concur, at least, in the means calculated to ensure their success and the triumph of the Republic, they have just closed the subscription they opened on the first of this month (December 20) which has produced the sum of 2,500 livres. They place in your hands citizens directors this patriotic offering, to be employed in the preparations making for the punishment of the tyrants of the seas."

A letter from Brussels contains the following statement: "In consequence of the movements which have recently taken place, both among the Austrian troops, who have successively evacuated their positions, and retreated towards Bohemia and Austria, and the Republican troops, the two most formidable bulwarks of the Germanic Empire are now in the hands of the French."

M. Oche, Envoy from the Canton of Basle, has been presented to the Directory, & was present at the public entertainments recently given by the constituted authorities on occasion of the peace with Germany.

CONTINUATION OF Latest Foreign News.

By the brig Mary, captain EARL, from Dover.

PARIS, December 14.

The three Commissioners sent by the Congress of the United States are here, without having advanced one step in their mission. They are the victims of the just indignation with which the conduct of the present rulers of their country has inspired our government. It looks as if all communication would be interrupted between the two countries. They have not had a place among the members of the Diplomatic Body at the fete of the 10th of this month; not even the Consul General of the United States, Mr. Skipwith, was invited to it, although that honour has been hitherto paid him on all such occasions. It has been remarked, that M. Signeu, the Consul-General of Sweden, has been also forgotten.

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The report of a dispute between France and the above Canton is therefore erroneous.

The directory has received satisfactory advices relative to the present situation of St. Domingo, extraordinary efforts were to be made when the accounts came away to expel the British troops. Tranquility had been restored in the southern part of the island.

A message from the executive directory to the councils (which we shall give in full when we can spare more room) states, that "the cabinet of St. James has determined to withdraw, from the 10th of January, the usual subsistence from 22,000 French republicans confined in England, who are, contrary to the rights of nations, detained in dungeons." It proposes to raise a contribution for their support; the amount of which is stated at one million a month. It concludes in the following manner; Citizen representatives, every class of society, every citizen anticipates the plan, which you have in view, to settle the national loan, which is to assist the conquerors of Arcole, Neuwied, Kbel, Fleurus and Lody, to carry back into the walls of St. James all the evils, with which the British cabinet has defolated the world. The eagerness with which the mode of the loan is universally expected; and even anticipated, by previous subscription, is for the directory a certain pledge of the zeal and punctuality with which the contribution for the prisoners will be paid. The government of Great Britain lately imagined that public spirit was annihilated in France; they were mistaken. The national spirit only slumbered; when it awakes, it must be terrible to the tyrants of the seas.

(Signed) "BARRAS, President.

"LA GARDE, Sec'y.

LONDON, December 21.

Last night we received the Paris journals to the 18th inst. they are chiefly filled with the fetes and rejoicings complimentary to Buonaparte on his arrival in Paris. The dinners and balls given by the directory, the ministers, the members of the legislative body, &c. are very numerous; and the sentiments expressed at them are full of exultation in the victories gained over the enemies of the republic, in the continental peace, and of vengeance against the English government. Preparations for attacking this country continue to be made with energy, and every opportunity is seized by the directory to inflame the resentment of France.

An unfounded report has been circulated in Paris of an attempt to poison Buonaparte and some of the members of the directory.

Mentz is to be surrendered to the French on the 31st inst. and the emperor is to take possession of Venice the same day.

But the most important article is the letter from the new king of Prussia to the French republic. In this letter, is contained sentiments of peace and amity towards France. His majesty shews himself a wise king: He is not to be seduced from his duty to his subjects by the delusive promises of an English minister, nor the tempting offers of English gold. The whole continent of Europe is now at peace, and we believe it out of Mr. Pitt's power to disturb its repose. England alone has to dread the ravages of war.

They write from Vienna, of the 30th of November, that the emperor was indisposed, for some days, with a violent cold, which has brought on a fever. Hopes, however, are entertained that his health will be shortly re-established.

December 22.

A letter from Petersburg of the 25th ult. acquaints us with the arrival of the Prince of Condé in that city; and states that the duke de Broglie, who has been appointed field marshal general in the Russian service, is likewise shortly expected there.

We learn by a private letter from Hamburg, of the 12th inst. "that M. Scultz, the Prussian minister, has officially notified to the Senate that city, in the name of the new king, that his majesty would continue effectually to protect the line of neutrality, and would moreover employ his good offices at Rastadt, to effect whatever might tend to the advantage of the Hanse Towns.

PARIS, December 12.

Buonaparte continues to receive the deputations from the different military corps on the confitiated authorities at Paris. At home he is surrounded with several aids-d'camp—Whenever he goes out he is accompanied by a general officer, a Pole, between twenty-six and twenty-seven years of age, who was the particular intimate of Kościuszko.

The first of this month three emigrants were shot at Toulon, and on the second, four women were condemned to banishment. Seven inhabitants of Soliers, taken with arms in their hands, have been sent before the council of war sitting at Marseilles.

It is said, that to the different propositions that have been made to the king of Prussia by our government, is that of his surrendering the principality of Neuchatel, to be united to the Pays de Vaud to form a new republic.

The directory have named the vice admiral La Croix, commander of a division in Brest Roads. He is said to be as brave a soldier as he is a good sailor. In the expedition to Ireland, he commanded *les droids de l'homme*. On his return he sustained an engagement of more than twelve hours against Sir Edward Pellew and capt. Reynolds.

Letters from Amsterdam mention, that the commerce of that city and of Holland is so confined, that the little that remains of it will be carried on through the medium of neutral states, and chiefly in Danish and Hamburg vessels. Coffee, sugar, and tea are both scarce and dear. As to spices, with which the magazines of Amsterdam formerly furnished all Europe, scarcely a

sufficient quantity is imported for the use of the Batavian republic.

Letter of Citizen Thomas Muir to the Executive Directory. Paris, 5th Dec. 6th year of the French Republic.

Citizen's Directors,

Two days have elapsed since I arrived at Paris, very weak and very indisposed. Permit me to pour out all the dutiful and grateful effusions of my heart. To you I owe my liberty, to you I also owe my life; but there are considerations of infinitely superior importance, which must strike my mind with an irresistible impulse. Your energetic conduct has preserved liberty not only in France but in my country, and in all the nations of the world who now groan beneath oppression. It is unnecessary for me to make any professions of my love for the republic.—Until my last sigh, I shall remain faithful to my adopted country. I shall reckon citizens directors, the day when I shall have the honor of being admitted into your presence, the happiest of my life; and if I have passed through dangers and misfortunes, that moment will efface their remembrance, and prove a rich compensation.

THOMAS MUIR.

They write from Lisbon, that from the extraordinary collection of Portuguese troops which has taken place in that capital, it is supposed that these preparations are intended to support the summons which is to be made by the court of Lisbon to the English admiral to leave the port and evacuate the forts after the ratification of the treaty of peace with France. The court resides at Queluz; two great councils will be held there after the arrival of a courier coming from Paris.

In the sitting of the 9th of this month, a message from the Directory informed the council of Five Hundred, that they had received the ratification of the treaty of peace concluded with the Emperor.

The minister, Buonaparte, has received orders from the Directory to demand from government the liberty of the patriots imprisoned since the 2nd of August. The Holy Father after some reluctance has consented.

On the 13th inst. a ball was given by the Directory, to the ministers of the interior; it was very brilliant, and prolonged until six in the morning. Several ministers danced at it, among others the minister of war, and the minister of police. Buonaparte appeared there about a quarter of an hour with the members of the Directory. The day following the Ottoman ambassador gave another ball.

They have constructed, in the ports of Bologne, Calais, Dunkirk, and Ostend, gun-boats of a new invention, of which plans have been sent to the builders by the minister of marine. These boats will carry pieces of 36 pounds.

Letters from the Hague state, that an extraordinary movement against the government is apprehended in Holland, the forces of which is placed in Amsterdam. They even go so far as to mention the names of the chiefs.

Camille Jourdan, says a letter from Neuchatel, of the 26th of November, was arrested some time ago, in that city, under a feigned name. Besides the declaration of this ex-deputy, there has appeared a piece of considerable extent, upon the events of the 18th Fructidor; its title is "an appeal to the French nation." Lemeter, another deputy condemned to transportation is the author.

The archduke Charles is to be married to a princess of the house of Saxony.

The late king of Prussia's mistress is threatened with the same fate as *Jane Shore*. Already has she been arrested, and a great part of her property seized.

CADIZ, Nov. 18.

The gun-boats of Algeziras attacked a fleet of two merchantmen from Lisbon, under convoy of two frigates, on their way to Gibraltar. A transport, the Prince William, and the Tartar, from London, have fallen into our hands.

BERLIN, Nov. 21.

His majesty, our new sovereign, has bestowed the order of the Black Eagle on counts Bruhl and Backhoff.

His majesty attends to public business with the greatest assiduity. He as yet resides in the palace which belongs to him as hereditary prince, and wears the uniform of the prince of Prussia. He has entered on the administration of the affairs of government with all that noble simplicity, firmness and exemplary virtue, which distinguished him when hereditary prince.

It is expected that general Bischoffswerdem will retire, and reside upon his estate, but relative to this nothing official is known.

MILAN, Nov. 7.

The arrival of general Buonaparte, the founder of the republic, was celebrated here on the 3d by a general illumination and great rejoicings. The members of our Directory the foreign ministers, &c. waited on him. The next day he reviewed the different corps of troops in the Field of Federation, and notified to them his appointment to the command of the army of England, telling them at the same time, that they must not expect to lay down their arms till they had humbled that kingdom.

The army is now in motion; five divisions are destined for the army of England. The names of these divisions are not exactly known; but the report of the day mentions those of Massena, Joubert, Bernadotte, Victor, and Brune. The division of Brune is certainly to be one.

Buonaparte has now divided the Cisalpine republic into 20 departments: our legislative body will consist of 240 members; that is, the council of Elders, of 80; the great Council of 160.

Our republic, like the Batavian, is to

TO LET.

And may be entered on immediately.

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Three stories high, and in an excellent stand for business. Apply to

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March 1. 5 No. 5, Dock-street.

James C. & Samuel W. Fisher,

AT THEIR STORE,

No. 13, corner of Arch and Front street.

HAVE FOR SALE,

Cotton and worsted Hosiery in trunks, assorted.

A few bales red, white, and yellow Flannel.

Ditto furromal Handkerchiefs.

Ditto Persian silk ditto.

Ditto Pondicherry and Madras ditto.

Ditto Gurreas.

Bengal black Taffeties.

4000 pieces Nankens, and

Few chests best Hyson Tea.

Also—1500 boxes best London Window Glass,

from 3 by 6, to 19 by 24—and 14 hds. Glass

Ware assorted, which they will dispose of cheaper than any in the city.

Nov. 8 31w4