

no diplomatic skill. This skill had apparently produced some effect even upon the mind of the envoy himself, when he declares it as his opinion that the French government are desirous of a reconciliation with this country. What! when this government has appointed three envoys to treat with the French government, is it a sign of an amicable disposition to say by their conduct, "We do not consider you as an independent nation who may appoint what agents you please; we will ourselves chuse with whom we will treat; we will rather some of your officers, and negotiate with the person upon whom we think we can make the best impression." So far from this showing a spirit of conciliation, he thought it a conduct most hostile to our independence.

The third point, viz. to throw the blame of a rupture on the United States, if it should take place, shews no intention to conciliate our differences. If the French government were convinced that our grievances were just, and that they ought to conciliate with us, would they have gone into an elaborate defence of their conduct? When they justify their decrees and the confiscation of our vessels, can it be conceived that when they talk of peace they are serious? If they had, indeed, come forward and disavowed their former conduct, he should have considered it as a conciliatory circumstance; but when they justified every thing they have done, it evinced no disposition for peace.

Mr. P. said he would not trouble the committee longer, except in one point, and that was as to the consequences which might flow from a declaration of independence on the part of St. Domingo. He should endeavor to answer the gentleman from Pennsylvania as to the consequences which it might produce to the southern states. It was a subject to which he had paid all the attention in his power. He did, on all questions, endeavor as much as possible to divest himself of any thing like party spirit; but in this case, where he had himself so much at stake, in which his native country, and every thing dear to him, was concerned, his sincerity could not be doubted. Mr. P. did not himself believe that this bill would have the least tendency to procure the independence of St. Domingo; but as some gentlemen think it is probable that this may be the result, and as no one could say with certainty what the effect of any measure would be, he had considered the subject, and was clearly of opinion, that should the independence of that island take place, the event would be more advantageous to the southern states, than if it remained under the dominion of France, considering the disposition which France has evinced towards us, and of which he saw no prospect of a change, and the present conduct of the inhabitants of St. Domingo. Nothing which we can do, said Mr. P. can bring back the internal state of that island to the state it was formerly in. Considering the inhabitants then, in the light of freemen, whether will it be better for us, in the southern states, to have to deal with them as such, or under the direction of the French government, unreasonable and arbitrary as we have found it? He had no hesitation in saying, that it would be more for the safety of the southern states to have that island independent, than under the government of France, either in time of peace or war. If our dispute with France should not be accommodated, and they keep possession of St. Domingo, they could invade this country, only from that quarter. There is there a large body of troops, and their unofficial agents told our envoys, that in case we did not submit to their conditions, we might expect an attack from that quarter. It would certainly lessen the danger from that island, were it to be separated from France; but remaining in the hands of France; and supported by the powerful navy of France, notwithstanding all the vigor we have shewn on the ocean, we might be very much annoyed from thence.

If these people in St. Domingo find that we withhold from them supplies which are necessary for their subsistence, said Mr. P. though they are friendly disposed towards us, they will look elsewhere for support; they must either turn their attention to cultivate their land, look to Great Britain, or become free-booters. In which situation is it most for the interest of the United States that they should be in? Surely the peaceable cultivators of the ground; and to induce them to take this course, it will be our interest to supply them with what they have occasion for; lest, they should get the habit of freebooting, and make our commerce the object of their plunder. He hoped, therefore, the motion for striking out would not prevail.

Mr. Macon had no doubt the gentleman from South Carolina had paid particular attention to this subject. It was to be expected that every gentleman from the southern states, would pay attention to it. In one respect he was precisely in the same situation with the gentleman from South Carolina. He lived in a country that would be affected by any event such as had been mentioned, and all his connections were there. It was the same with all other gentlemen from the southern states. He differed in opinion, however, when the gentleman said, that we should have left to apprehend from St. Domingo, in case it should become independent, than whilst it remained a part of the French Republic. He believed the state of society to be such in this country, as not to admit of self government. In case they separate from France, he should apprehend that the consequence will be, that instead of being ruled by one of the European powers, they would become the tools of them all in turn, and we should probably have the same game played off upon us from thence, that we have heretofore had played upon us by means of the Indians.

Mr. M. said, that although the part of the bill moved to be struck out, does not go directly to say that it has reference to St. Domingo, it is a little extraordinary that no other case will fit it. There could be no doubt if the island became independent, we should have a right to trade to it; but he believed it would puzzle gentlemen to find an

influence of a legislature passing a law in order to fit a case which might happen. As he thought it improper, he hoped the section would be struck out.

The question was put and negatived 55 to 35.

Mr. S. Smith, moved to strike out the words "shall clearly disavow."—Carried.

Mr. Livingston observed, that gentlemen had frequently told the committee that they did not mean by the general expression of this clause, to allow any disavowal of an agent of any act of his government, but merely such an avowal of intention as they were entitled to make by their proper authority. In order to test the sincerity of their declaration, and to prevent any improper interference between an officer and his government, and to prevent any lure being held out to insurrection and revolt, he moved to add these words: "being duly authorized by the government thereof, shall clearly disavow."

After a few observations upon it, this motion was negatived, 57 to 29.

Mr. Pinckney, in his opposition to the above amendment, said, he believed the gentleman from New-York to be perfectly sincere; and his judgment appeared to be disordered, and to be in a situation something like the jealous man whenever the subject of war is in any way touched. And we know, said Mr. P.

— "Tricks light as air, Are to the jealous, confirmation strong, As proofs of Holy Writ."

Mr. Gallatin proposed an amendment which he supposed would be free from the objections urged against the last for effecting the same purpose. It was to add these words: "by virtue of powers derived from the government, and in its name."

This motion was negatived, 52 to 38.

Mr. Sprague moved to insert the words, "and having" after the word "exercising," and between the words "authority" and "in," in the same line. "under the same."

Mr. Dayton (the speaker) thought the amendment was unnecessary, as it went to make no material alteration in the bill, but on

Mr. Champlin's noticing the latter part of the amendment, which the speaker had not heard, he expressed his disapprobation of it.

Mr. Gallatin said, there was no difficulty in discovering why the gentleman from New-Jersey and Rhode-Island dislike this amendment; it is obnoxious to them because if adopted, it would prevent a treaty being made with persons in a state of rebellion, and this amendment was liable to no other objection.

Mr. Harper thought this amendment one of those things which might be adopted, or not, without making any material change in the bill; and believing it to be of this nature, as he supposed it would, at least, make it more agreeable to the mover, he should vote for it.

Mr. Nicholas was of a different opinion. If a man had thrown off his allegiance to a government, he could not be said to be exercising an authority under it.

Mr. Varnum observed, that the gentleman from S. Carolina had said, that he should vote in favour of this amendment, because it would make no change in the bill; he should, on the contrary, vote for it, because he thought it made a most material change in it. That gentleman says, he cannot see how a person can claim or exercise a command without having it from the French government. He thought this very conceivable. A person, or a number of persons might usurp an authority; and this amendment went to prevent a treaty being made with such persons; and surely gentlemen who do not wish to countenance the doctrine of dividing the people from their government, can have no objection to this amendment.

Mr. Goodrich said, this amendment went to change the principle of the bill. The bill goes upon the idea, that when any island in the West-Indies shall cease to make depredations upon our commerce, our trade shall be opened with them, without regarding by what authority or force the change was effected. The matter is not placed upon the ground of any treaty whatever; for, said Mr. G. we can neither increase nor diminish the power of the President in this respect. A great deal of mist has been thrown on this subject. The effect of this amendment will be, that the person refraining from depredate upon our commerce must act under the authority of the French republic; on the contrary, the friends of this bill wish not to examine by what authority the thing is done, provided that it be done. We have a right to say that our vessels shall go to any port we please; but according to the doctrine of this amendment, supposing the island of St. Domingo was conquered, we could not send our commerce there; nor could we send it to a place in rebellion; so that our commerce was to be affected by every change of circumstances which might take place. He hoped the committee would recognize no principle which shall apply we have not a right to send our commerce wherever we please, whether the places to which our vessels go are in war, peace or rebellion.

Mr. Gallatin was astonished to hear the gentleman from Connecticut say, that this is merely a commercial question. Let us, said he, examine the effect of this amendment. We are told that the provisions of this bill do not extend to any colony which may be conquered; for instance, to St. Martins, St. Lucia, or any other colonies which have been conquered. Let us see, then, how it will apply if this amendment is rejected, and whether the question is commercial or political. Let us enquire, said he, what is the case provided for, if the amendment is rejected, and which are they which are unprovided for, if it is adopted, and it will then appear what ground is covered by the opposers of this amendment. If rejected, it will result that all persons who may claim or exercise any command in any island, &c. although they have not

that command under the government of France, and who shall refrain from privateering, shall be entitled to a free trade with this country—the only case is a case of insurrection and rebellion. Suppose, said Mr. G. I should agree with the gentleman from Connecticut, that if once a rebellion takes place, or any colony shall declare itself independent (but by the bye the doctrine is not countenanced by the law of nations) that we may trade there as we please. Does it result that we have a right to pass a law beforehand to contemplate such an event? If we do, it will be speaking publicly thus: "If any persons shall, in any island, port or place, belonging to the French republic, raise an insurrection, and declare themselves independent, and shall be found to refrain from committing depredations upon our commerce, we will open a free trade with them" and yet the gentleman from Connecticut calls this a mere commercial question.

The Committee have been told of a number of cases which he had been astonished to hear—cases which happened in our war. Gentlemen who have mentioned these have not attended to any of the facts of the war. Mr. G. referred to the case of the treaty made in Holland, which has already been explained in a former debate.—Mr. G. said, Gentlemen might put what construction they please upon this section; but certainly publicly to tell the French colonies that if they will rebel against their government, and refrain from depredate against us, we will treat with them, is to invite them to do it. A declaration of war has always been the consequence of such a conduct in other countries; and he supposed gentlemen are not ready for a declaration of war, though they tell us there is no chance in our affairs for the better; that negotiation is at an end; and that no idea can be entertained of the sincerity of any professions of the French; and not being ready to bring in a declaration of war, they are not ready to make it, or provoke it; and if not, why assume a principle that may have this effect? He hoped the amendment would be agreed to.

Mr. Otis was apt to think, that if the gentleman from N. Carolina, whose candour and attachment to this bill are well known, could have foreseen the eagerness with which gentlemen opposed to the bill have seized upon his amendment, it would have had some weight with him in preventing the motion; and if the sagacity of his friend from S. Carolina (Mr. Harper) had not been a little surprized on this occasion, he would not have given his consent to it. This amendment, said Mr. O. contains the same principle which has already been three or four times rejected; it will necessarily lead to an examination whether the officer in any island is legally authorized, or not, whereas it is our wish to let that question alone. To say that this bill will be a cause of war is ridiculous. The gentleman from Pennsylvania had so long and often predicted causes of war, that every body would discredit them in future; for being at peace at present, was a full contradiction of all his former predictions.

The committee rose and had leave to sit again.

Friday, February 22.
Mr. Bayard called up the resolution which he laid upon the table on Wednesday, proposing the expulsion of Mr. Lyon from his seat as a member of this house. After delivering an exemplification of the record to the clerk, which was read, Mr. Bayard spoke at considerable length in support of the resolution. It was opposed by Messrs. Nicholas and Gallatin. Mr. Lyon also said a few words with respect to the manner in which his trial had been conducted, and was replied to by Mr. Allen. At length the question was taken by yeas and nays as follow;

YEAS.
Messrs. Allen, Bartlett, Bayard, Brace, Brooks, Champlin, Champman, Cochran, Craik, Dana, Dennis, Edmund, Evans, A. Foster, D. Foster, J. Freeman, Glen, Goodrich, Gordon, Griswold, Grove, Harper, Hartley, Hardman, Hofner, Messrs. Inlay, Kittera, Lyman, Muelier, Matthews, Morris, Otis, I. Parker, J. Parker, Pinckney, Rutledge, Schureman, Sewell, Shepard, Sinnickton, N. Smith, Sprague, Thatcher, Thomas, Thompson, Tillinghast, Van Allen, Walm, J. Williams, 49

N A Y S.
Messrs. Baer, Baldwin, Bard, Brown, Cabell, T. Claiborne, W. Claiborne, Clay, Clopton, Davis, Dawson, Dent, Eggleston, Elmendorf, Findley, Fowler, N. Freeman, Gallatin, Gillespie, Gregg, Hanna, Harrison, Havens, Messrs. Heister, Holmes, Jones, Livingston, Locke, Macon, M'Clenachan, M'Dowell, New, Nicholas, Skinner, S. Smith, W. Smith, Sprigg, Stanford, Sumpter, A. Trigg, J. Trigg, Van Cortlandt, Varnum, Venable, R. Williams, 45

The speaker declaring the state of the vote, said, "the Constitution requiring two thirds of the members present to expel a member, the resolution is not carried." Adjourned at near five o'clock.

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,

SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 23.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 23.
Six Per Cent. 113 to 9
Three Per Cent. 97 1/2 to 9
Deferred 6 Per Cent. 7 1/2
BANK United States, 2 1/2 percent.
— Pennsylvania, 20 to 21
— North America, 46 ditto
Insurance comp N.A. shares 30 } Dividend off
— Pennsylvania, shares, 35 }

COURSE OF EXCHANGE

On Hamburg 33 1/2 cents per Mark Banco.
— London, at 30 days 56 1/2
— at 60 days 54
— at 90 days 52 1/2
Amsterdam, 60 days, pr. guild. 36 to 37 1/2 cents

There is distinguishable in the character of Jacobinism, a wonderfully consistent depravity; it can be attributed only to the simplicity of those virtues and of that system, by which they are guided, and which exists to them a substitute for the dull and formal codes of morality and law. Hence it is that their joy at the acquittal of a murderer, is exactly commensurate with that which arises at the murder of an innocent.

How long outrage is to be screened by virtuous sermons and republican juries, and how long accomplices are to be allowed to triumph openly at its impunity, I leave those to calculate, who can coolly speak of these things as matters of course, as the natural effects of that party spirit which rendles amongst us, and who can even pretend, after all, to call themselves freemen, and to boast their security of person and property. I have been accustomed to view them all in the same light; or, if any distinction takes place, it is, that the conspirator to save a criminal from justice, by whatever means his conspiracy is carried on, is the worst villain of the two: The consequences of his conduct, tend more to deprave the community, and he has no plea to offer in extenuation.

But these are not the only people on whom the consequences are to fall; they are, perhaps, the only people on whom they will not fall. It is in another quarter we are to look for the "rock on which the storm will beat"; and these catiffs have not even the craft of the Polyplus, to stick to it.

The tide of events is rapidly hurrying us on to that vortex, which we have heretofore so hardly escaped; and that state of things is hastening, which it has so often fallen to the lot of this Gazette, to point out and endeavor to foreclose.

The scenes which have passed before our eyes, are sufficient to convince every man, who is not sunk in bestial ignorance and sloth, that a regular connection and association exists between knaves in and knaves out of office—the laws of which, require no other claim to protection and immunity, than the commission of some pretty flagrant crime: it is no matter of what nation, tongue, kindred, or employment, the Brother may be: it is enough that he is a Brother; and no enquiry ever takes place, whether he be a Saint in Lawn or a Saint in Grape.

All the evils that assail us, spring from France: she has converted all countries, whithersoever her principles have extended, into so many Criminal Warehouses, wherein are exposed to sale, thieves, pick-pockets, highwaymen, assassins and parricides, the choice spirits of the earth, the select devotees of illumination, of every description and grade. As these become over-stocked (and they overflow more frequently than the tide) they are exported. Against these cohorts, more than her open force of arms, should we declare war—Against these must we declare war, or they deluge the country. But at such a time, and under such a necessity, to see no temper, at all adapted to the rigour of circumstances, is enough to chill the best of causes with dismay—For who can have hopes of that country, upon whose national pride, upon whose dignified independence, upon whose high-souled republicanism, the impending of such curses, works no other emotion than is raised by tickling the contemptible Torpedo?

COMMUNICATION.

MR. FENNO,
I AM a countryman, and don't often see the Aurora or Universal Gazette, but happened to meet with one of them a few days past, in which I observed a protest of the minority against the patriotic address voted by the House of Representatives of this State to the President of the United States. This piece excited the attention of the people very much in my neighborhood; some few thought it a pretty good thing, others approved of part, but the great majority of them considered it as false, scandalous and libellous, and have admired that the authors of it have not been arraigned for sedition; surely the moderation of government has been the only thing that screened their rascality from punishment. Perhaps it is right to let it pass quietly into oblivion where the authors, if I am rightly informed, are swiftly hastening—apropos, it is true there were eleven of the same minority in the House of Representatives base enough to vote for the acquittal of B. Brannon the Democratic judge, of Delaware county, although the charges exhibited against him by the Legislature of assisting to screen the man who robbed the Bank of Pennsylvania of so much treasure, were substantially true: this story is freely circulating in the country, and the people are looking for another protest; if they prepare one, tell them not to abuse the President in it for not respecting men of their party, for he only said he should esteem such as were virtuous; another protest on this business I fear will not appear on their part, but let me tell you, the people talk very

loud in a neighboring county about protesting at the next election against thieves, and all who take their parts.

TRIM.

Extract of a letter from Bourdeaux, Nov. 6th, 1798.

"Since my last respects of 20th ult. very little alteration has taken place every thing here bears a hostile aspect; and instead of any appearance of peace, it seems the war will continue much longer; and even the affairs with America bear a more gloomy appearance. This last week there have been several American vessels condemned, among which is the Mary of Philadelphia, captain Timothy Ruffel, bound to Hamburg, owned by Mr. Wm. Bell, of your city now in Hamburg, he sent me powers to claim the vessel, he had no interest in the cargo, I have been obliged to attend this business very closely, by which I see it will be almost impossible for any vessel to be in rule; his papers were in very good order, nevertheless, he has been condemned on three points, one of which would have been sufficient, agreeable to the idea of the tribunal: I will give you the points that you may avoid them: The first was, that the captain was born in Belfast, and had no letters of naturalization, though there were several Americans of respectability that attested that they knew him to be a citizen of the United States and married in Philadelphia ten years ago;

2. That several of the bills of lading were not in rule; some wanted proofs of property and that there were several parcels of goods that wanted certificates of their origin which made them furnish they were the produce of some English dependence.

3. That the Role D'Equipage was not signed by witnesses, though the Notary Public and another person signed as such; it was not allowed that a Notary Public could be a witness to his own act as he appeared to be the person that made it.

On these principles he was condemned; if these had not been found it is probable they would have been found.

As we have nothing arriving here but what come from prizes our market is but partially supplied; Sugar, Coffee, Cotton, Cocoa, Tobacco and Pepper, as when I wrote you last, dry woods are very much wanting and though every thing is scarce, sales are difficult, and trade is very dull.

The want of the Americans begins to be felt very much."

MARRIED—On Thursday evening, by the Rev. Uriah Dubois, Col. ERKUAIES BEATTY, of Castle Howard, near Princeton New-Jersey, to Mrs. SUSANNA FERGUSON of this city.

—, on Thursday evening last, by the Rev. Doctor White, Mr. JOSHUA PERCIVAL to Miss SARAH CUTHBERT, daughter of Mr. Anthony Cuthbert, both of this city. Feb. 23

*. The result of the Court Martial on the trial of Major Lewis, with his defence, will be published on Monday.

I request the Public will suspend their opinion of Mr. Regis Lablanc's letter until I answer it, on Monday.—The first notice I had of it was this day at 12 o'clock, through the Aurora. WM. BAINBRIDGE.

Metropolitan Theatre.

THIS EVENING, Feb. 23,

Will be presented, (for the third time here) a celebrated COMEDY, called THE HEIR AT LAW.

[Written by George Coleman, the younger; author of the Mountaineers, Inkle and Jarico, the Iron Chest, &c. &c. and performed at the Theatres Royal, Hay-Market, Drury-Lane, and Covent-Garden, &c. &c. at the Theatre, Baltimore, with unbounded applause.]

The Epilogue to be spoken by Mr. Warren, Mr. Wood, Mr. Wignell, Mr. Downie, Mr. Harding, Mr. Bernard, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Marshall, and Mr. Merry.

*. The above Comedy, though some time in possession of the English stage, not having yet made its appearance in print, the managers are indebted to the liberality of the ingenious author, for this opportunity of giving it to the public.

*. The public are respectfully informed that after this evening the above Comedy will be laid aside for some time.

To which will be added, a SERIOUS PANTOMIME, told in action, in one act called The Death of General Wolfe.

[With new scenery and machinery, representing the landing of the troops—the action on the heights of Abraham—and the attack on the town and fortifications of Quebec.]

General Wolfe, - - - Mr. Marshall [With "How stands the glass around," written by General Wolfe the night previous to his embarkation for Quebec.]

The last scene, in which the lamented HERO expires, will display a GROUP, exactly imitative of the celebrated picture by West of the Death of General Wolfe.

The scenery, &c. designed by Mr. Milbourne. The pantomime under the direction of Mr. Francis.

☞ The Doors of the Theatre will open at a quarter past 5, and the Curtain rise at a quarter past 6 o'clock precisely.

*. Places in the Boxes to be taken of Mr. Wells at the office of the Theatre, from ten till one, and on the days of performance, from ten till four.

This Day is Published, AND FOR SALE BY J. FENNO, 110, CHESTNUT-STREET AN ADDRESS To the People of Maryland, ON the origin, progress and present state of French aggression, with a sketch of the infamous attempts to degrade the Government of the United States, and some reflections on the late proceedings in Congress; written the last of April in the present year, by a Member of the House of Representatives. JUNE 21