

ing to war, good faith requires, that the ordinary hazards of war should be truly encountered, because they are directly contemplated by such stipulations, yet it does not require that extraordinary and extreme hazards should be run; especially where the object for which they are to be run, is only a partial and particular interest of the ally, for whom they are to be run.

As in the present instance; good faith does not require, that the United States should put in jeopardy their essential interests, perhaps their very existence, in one of the most unequal contests in which a nation could be engaged—to secure to France—What?—Her West-India Islands, and other less important possessions in America—For it is to be remembered, that the stipulations of the United States do in no event reach beyond this point. If they were upon the strength of their guarantee, to engage in the war, and could make any arrangement with the belligerent powers, for securing to France those islands and those possessions, they would be at perfect liberty instantly to withdraw—They would not be bound to prosecute the war one moment longer.

They are under no obligation in any event, as far as the faith of treaties is concerned, to assist France in defence of her liberty; a topic on which so much has been said, so very little to the purpose, as it regards the present question.

The contest in which the United States would plunge themselves, were they to take part with France, would possibly be still more unequal, than that in which France herself is engaged. With the possessions of Great Britain and Spain on both flanks, the numerous Indian tribes under the influence and direction of those powers, along our whole interior frontier, with a long extended sea coast, with no maritime force of our own, and with the maritime force of all Europe against us, with no fortifications whatever, and with a population not exceeding four millions—it is impossible to imagine a more unequal contest, than that in which we should be involved in the case supposed; a contest from which we are dissuaded by the most cogent motives of self preservation, as well as of interest.

We may learn from Vattel, one of the best writers on the laws of nations, that "if a State which has promised succours finds itself unable to furnish them, its very inability is its exemption; and if the furnishing the succours would expose it to an evident danger—this also is a lawful dispensation. The case would render the treaty pernicious to the State and therefore not obligatory. But this applies to an imminent danger threatening the safety of the State: the case of such a danger is tacitly and necessarily referred in every treaty."

It too (as no sensible and candid man will deny) the extent of the present combination against France is in a degree to be ascribed to imprudence on her part; the exemption to the United States is still more manifest and complete. No country is bound to partake in hazards of the most critical kind, which may have been produced or promoted, by the indirection and intemperance of another. This is an obvious dictate of reason, with which the common sense and common practice of mankind coincide.

To the foregoing considerations it may perhaps be added, with no small degree of force, that military stipulations in national treaties contemplate only the ordinary case of foreign war and are irrelative to the contests which grow out of REVOLUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT; unless where they have express reference to a Revolution begun, or where there is a guarantee of the existing constitution of a nation, or where there is a personal alliance for the defence of a prince and his family.

The Revolution in France is the primitive source of the war, in which she is engaged. The restoration of the monarchy is the avowed object of some of her enemies—and the implied one of all of them. That question then is essentially involved in the principle of the war; a question certainly never in the contemplation of that government, with which our treaty was made, and it may thence be fairly inferred never intended to be embraced by it.

The inference would be that the United States have fulfilled the utmost that could be claimed by the nation of France, when they so far respected its decision as to recognize the newly constituted powers; giving operation to the treaty of alliance for future occasions, but considering the present war as a tacit exception. Perhaps too this exception is in other respects due to the circumstances under which the engagements between the two countries were contracted. It is impossible, prejudice apart, not to perceive a delicate embarrassment between the theory and fact of our political relations to France.

On these grounds, also, as well as that of the present war being offensive on the side of France. The United States have valid and honorable pleas to offer against the execution of the guarantee, if it should be claimed of them by France. And the President was in every view fully justified in pronouncing, that the duty and interest of the United States dictated a neutrality in the war.

PACIFICUS.

† See Book III. Chap. VI. Sec. 92.

‡ Puffendorf's Book VIII. Chap. IX. Section LX.

Arrivals and clearances at the port of Philadelphia, from the 1st of January to the 29th of June, 1793.

FROM FOREIGN PORTS.	
Ships	Arrived. Cleared.
Ships	72 49
Brigs, Snows, &c.	111 91
Schooners	51 57
Sloops	44 51
COASTWISE.	
Ships	9 13
Brigs, &c.	37 14
Schooners and Sloops	224 193

Philadelphia, July 6.

Thursday being the Anniversary of Independence, the day was celebrated in this city with such demonstrations of joy as indicate the high sense the people entertain of the invaluable blessings derived from that important event—"Peace, Liberty and Safety."

Several corps of the military made their appearance—The Society of Cincinnati dined at Oellers', where a number of fraternal and patriotic toasts were drank under the discharge of cannon—Select parties were formed and dined in various public houses, in the city and neighboring villas—the public seats of amusement, Gray's, Harrogate, and the Circus, particularly the latter were thronged with company—Mr. Varinot's Fire-works in High-Street, were brilliant, and greatly exceeded the most sanguine expectation.—The hours passed in one continued series of amusements, and no accident, we believe, occurred to abate the pleasing reflections on a retrospective view of the day.

A letter from Jamaica is in town, which says, that the Providence, of 20 guns, and Assislan, of 14, have captured the Ann and Sally, of Baltimore, mounting 6 guns, and having on board 23 men, all speaking English.—The words "Ann and Sally of Baltimore," were covered over with black paint, but the letters plainly discernible.

The Augusta paper of June 15, says, that Major-General Twigg, crossed the Oconee with about 900 men on Saturday last, on their way to the Oakmulgee, where the infantry were to halt and build a fort. The cavalry, amounting to about 450, commanded by Brigadier-Generals Irwin, Clark and Blackburn, were immediately to proceed to the lower (Creek) Towns, and procure satisfaction for the numerous unprovoked murders and devastations lately committed by that faithless tribe of savages.

The Captain of the Jane, in 13 days from St. Eustatia, informs, that the last accounts from Martinique when he sailed were, that the English had been cannonading Fort Bourbon with three 74 gun ships, but had ceased firing, and attempted a landing. A report was prevalent at St. Eustatia, said to be brought by an Irish vessel arrived at Barbadoes, that a negotiation for peace was on foot between England and France.

There is an English Letter of Marque in the river.

A paragraph in the Mail of Monday informs us, that the President of the United States has not decided on the question submitted to him, respecting the prize ship William.

Extract of letter from England, dated April 20, 1793.

"Our Ministry were so wise as to appoint a public fast, to be kept yesterday; many of the dissenting ministers declined complying.—Some complied for particular reasons; in a sermon preached on the occasion it was said "numbers would not be pleased at having it intimated, and yet it is to be feared, that national confidence in and reliance on our own military and naval prowess, has been productive of the disappointments commonly attendant on a vain self-dependence." Was it not this that led on to those hostilities, which were commenced as on this day, eighteen years ago, at Lexington, in Massachusetts Bay; and that brought on and continued an unsuccessful war for more than seven years, and loaded us with a debt considerably beyond a hundred millions of pounds sterling? And is it not owing to the events of that unsuccessful war, that the present has been drawn into existence? Whatever advantages may be gained from the latter, we can reap but little glory from it. We are leagued with so many formidable powers, that should France be completely crushed, by the united force of the confederates, the fun of the divided honor obtained by the event will yield but a trivial share to each ally. However it is not a singular opinion of mine that such an event will not take place within the present year; after which the probability of its ever existing will gradually diminish. These thoughts are natural to those, who recollect the various circumstances of the American war—how suddenly and unexpectedly, the threatening storm which hung over the country the last year, was dispersed, though headed by one of the first Generals, now retired as we are informed, from public service to his private abode with faded laurels—and that it is not the fate of one Arnold or one Dumourier to fix the issue of a war; but of the LORD GOD OF HOSTS.

The thoughtless multitude, composed of various orders, having heard the French charged with being a nation of Atheists and Infidels, may imagine, that they are doomed by heaven to destruction. But it may be asked, has not such a notion and infidelity been the natural produce of dark superstition and prejudice, in conjunction with the inconsistent and abandoned lives of what have been denominated the religious orders? and may it not be the design of Providence to bring about a reformation in the principles and practices of the nation by the judgments with which they are visited; and by his providential interpositions, in which he may prevent their ruin—and in this way prepare them for a free government of their own choosing? It is a question not easily solved, whether there is more real atheism and infidelity in France than in Great-Britain, the difference of numbers considered, though in the former the public avowal of it may be more general."

From a Correspondent.

The Commissioners appointed to settle the accounts between the United States and the individual states we are informed concluded that business on Saturday last—what prodigious exactness! after an appointment of more than five years, they hit the very point of expiration of the time limited by Congress with as much accuracy as ever Sir Isaac Newton found the return of a comet answered to his calculations. [General Advertiser.]

July 1, 1793.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Birmingham.

"I have found out a variety of money coining practices here, highly disgraceful I think to the parties, to the country and its laws; and in the instances I shall mention likely to do infinite mischief to the vast circulation of Spanish silver in the United States!

"As early as May 1791, they began with the American copper cent, only upon reading the resolve of Congress to have such a money, and the getting over a print of the American eagle. There were three different sorts of these cents made here, all with the President's head, not a bad likeness and tolerably well executed. I find however, this was merely an attempt of some artists here to induce Congress to give Birmingham the order for coinage of their copper money.

"I have seen pattern cards of shillings, sixpences, and halfpences, so base, as to be marked for sale at the rate of 28, 30, and 36 shillings for the guinea.

"Quarter dollars and pistareens, (but principally quarter dollars) cut into three or rather four pieces. An exact triangle taken out of the centre. The other three pieces of debased silver, nevertheless to be run off as halves of the quarter dollar. The central piece is again coined down, and is left rather plain in the dies (which were shewn to me with ps's* of the money) and the crescent formed pieces struck to nearly as possible the stamp of that part of a real Spanish quarter dollar. The pistareens were worse executed.

"I have also seen Dutch ducats, and dollars which were done as follows. The ducat was cut out of a pure piece of soft silver to the proper size and to be easily bendable in the finger as pure ducats are; there is then a thick amalgam of gold, (which is made of quick silver and gold, and then squeezed through shammy leather) laid on this soft silver, and then struck in the press to the exact size and marks of the Dutch ducat of date 1752. This order came through English merchants from Holland and London, soon after the declared and open assistance given by England to their high and mighty allies the Dutch. The value of these forged ducats is about one and sixpence sterling, workmanship and all. They weigh about 2 dwts. 5 grs. and by weight the real ducat would sell here for nearly ten shillings, so that here rests a neat profit of eight and sixpence on each piece.

"Spanish milled dollars are of three sorts, two only of which I have seen.—The baser one is cut from a well silver plated sheet of copper of due thickness, then hooped around the edge with a silver wire so thick as not to expose the copper if scraped moderately on the edge with a knife (a common mode here to detect base silver) and is then milled to the copied dye, of which there are more than one sort. They are so well executed as to pass easily among others, and are in value, workmanship and all, about one and sixpence.

"The other and more pure dollars, the artists are more close and secret about, as being a better thing. These however come to Birmingham in real Spanish or Mexican dollars, bought at the bank and other places, sent down by land carriages, about 10,000 at a time, in a cask, and they are melted and recoined, copying as exactly the old impressions, of which there are three or four sorts, but mostly the lank visage of his most Catholic Majesty, nine pence of silver being taken from each of the new coinage, and these new ones want but little alloy to bring them to a proper thickness; two one-half, or three pence on each piece is ample pay to the artist here for dies, recoinage, sending back to London, and all other expences, so that the public upon whom they are put, lose nine pence in every four and six pence, and the emitter has a clear benefit of six pence on each. Upon close investigation, no doubt remains upon my mind, but they are meant for the West-Indies or for the United States. Six tons of them and of other silver, have been so melted down since the beginning of August last. The parties were very secret as to names, but dropped to me upon being closely pushed, it was done by them under an order in a regular way from a house in London. * Supposed for PISTARENS.

don, wholly in the East-India line, and that those dollars were meant for the east; but this cannot be the case, the people in that country being very nice and scrupulous as to silver imported coins. I have actually heard professional men (one in the church and the other a physician) speak of knowing somewhat of this last coinage, and having recommended an artist for the purpose of doing it!!

"Assignats in quires, both stamped and signed, as well as in blank unstamped, with the proper paper and all the French words necessary in the water marks executed, as I was told in London, and sent hither for the engraving, printing, and finishing strokes.

"The head of poor Louis however, (which is done by a stamp the same as is on the bills and notes here) appears now to be a want here, and a loss to these schemers, one of whom told me, cursing and execrating the war, that he should have been ten thousand pounds richer, if the declaration had been delayed a month or two longer. Those assignats which I saw were all for ten, twenty, and two hundred livres each.

"In like manner in the war time did they forge and counterfeit boxes full of our continental paper money. In one vessel there was taken four or five boxes of it, and others which got into America helped much the depreciation in 1779. In this place such practices are held not criminal, but a fair advantage over an enemy, indeed hardly any thing else short of murder is criminal among them, for I never yet saw a people so totally devoid of principle, morality, and those lesser ties which bind and unite mankind."

The Dolphin, Rogers, arrived at Boston from Bristol, last Sunday—Monday's papers contain no news by this arrival, nor is the time mentioned when she left Bristol.

According to two publications in the New-York papers—one signed Joseph Brune, the other James Blanchard, it appears that the applications to Congress for depreciation are to be renewed at the next session—and those gentlemen recommend in addition thereto, that the President of the United States should be requested to second these applications.—Mr. Blanchard, in his letter, says, that General Hull's going to Niagara, did by no means injure the claim of the officers—"but the transaction only proved the corruption of the present administration!"

Nine ships, measuring upwards of 3500 tons—ten brigs, amounting to more than 1600 tons—three sloops and five schooners—have been launched in this port since the beginning of March. Nearly as many more are on the stocks, and will probably be launched in the course of the summer.

There are reports, and a letter in town from the West-Indies, which speak confidently of a peace, as having taken place between France, England and Holland—Whether this information is built on a speculation basis, time will determine.

Philadelphia, July 2, 1793.

SIR, I HAVE the honor to enclose, herewith, an account of the FLOUR shipped at this port in the months of April, May, and June last—and am, with very great respect, Sir, your obedient and humble servant, JAMES READ.

His Excellency Thomas Mifflin, Governor of Pennsylvania.

Account of the FLOUR shipped at the port of Philadelphia, for exportation, in the months of April, May, and June, 1793.

	Bbls. Flour.	Bbls. Middlings.
Shipped in April,	74279	461
May,	59319	610
June,	73553	1437
In all,	207151	2508

JAMES READ, Inspector.

His Excellency Governor Mifflin.

The letter-bag of the John & Richard, for Ostend, via Falmouth, will not be taken from the Post Office, before the 12th instant. Letters for the British Packet will be in time on Saturday, this day.

Wednesday morning, died, at his seat at Potts Grove, Samuel Potts, Esq. It is enough to say of him—that a numerous and respectable family lost their friend and guide—that the large circle of his acquaintance has lost a citizen whose heart was warm for their interest, and whose manners were without guile—that his servants have lost a master—his wife a husband, and his children a companion, a friend, and a father—not a tear will be shed on his grave but what will be from the bottom of the heart.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

6 per Cents,	17,6
3 per Cents,	5,8
Deferred,	10
Full Interest Bank U. S.	6 per cent. adv.