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[Whole No. 450.]

FOR THE GAZETTE.

TO THE PEOPLE.

THE discovery lately made in this city concerning political writers is of a nature so extraordinary that it should be understood by every good citizen, for it may induce him to examine with caution the invectives that are discharged every day from particular presses against the reputation of confidential officers. The nation has observed with astonishment during the last three months the torrent of abuse that has been poured out against the President and the chief officers of government. They have been treated as men who deserve no confidence—men who are ready to sacrifice the safety and honor of the nation. When we enquire what is their crime, it centers in the late proclamation. The President issued that Proclamation, and the other executive officers have been uniformly endeavoring to preserve a strict neutrality; hence those complaints. Let us travel along the country from one end to the other; across it from the sea coast to the wilderness, and the general cry is "Peace, Peace! Let us preserve Peace and we shall be happy." The nation being thus disposed, how should it happen, that a great proportion of our political writers should be furiously clamorous and indecently outrageous against the executive for attempting to preserve the Peace! This paradox will be fully explained by considering that much noise may be made by a few individuals, that a single factious citizen or a stranger who is no citizen, by writing under different signatures may raise much dust and loom, like an host of combatants. It should also be considered that in every city there are men who are pleased with a conflagration; on every coast there are men who are pleased with a shipwreck, and in every State there are men who are pleased with wars and revolutions, because they may by those means have an opportunity of plundering. To the clamor that may be excited by factious citizens we must add the penitential measures that may be attempted by foreigners, and we shall not be surprised that the thunder of opposition has seemed to shake the foundations of government. Whether we had best be the dupes of foreign influence, whether we are incapable of governing ourselves and have need of wiser help, are questions for the consideration of a serious hour; the only thing to be considered at this hour is the clear and positive proof we have received that foreigners are interfering in the administration of our government; that they are attempting to turn out some of the principal executive officers, for no cause that we can discover, but because those officers are desirous to preserve neutrality and peace. Though our courts have been somewhat insulted, where strict neutrality has been recommended by the judges, we do not hear that any attempts have been made to supersede those judges, probably because their places are not to be affected by the breath of faction.

I have intimated that their uniform endeavors to preserve peace is the reason why attempts are made to degrade and cashier our executive officers. This is certainly the true reason, for the ostensible reasons offered by their political adversaries are so contemptible that no body in his sober senses can pass them for reasons. Two questions lately appeared in the General Advertiser addressed to "two great men, one a piece."—The questions were to the following import, viz. "Whether he, one of whose companions is a man who was employed by the French King to bribe the National Convention and ran off with the money is a proper person to be at the head of the finances?"—"What should we think of a man to whom a late general officer in the French army would dare to cry out in exultation, that St. Domingo was ruined.—Is he not too much delighted in desolation to direct a war?"

The reader should be informed that a French gentleman lately arrived in Philadelphia, bringing with him large sums of money to be vested in American lands. This gentleman brought with him letters of introduction from sundry respectable persons, he had letters among others to the Secretary of the Treasury, at whose house he was seen two or three times, and with whom he then and there conversed, for which reason, it seems, the Secretary ought to be cashiered lest he should rob the Treasury!

The reader should also be informed that the Viscount de Noailles, in conversation with General Knox, with whom he served in the late war, was heard to exclaim emphatically, *St. Domingo is ruined.*—The querist says he exclaimed exultingly, but unfortunately for the veracity of the querist the Viscount is known to have extended to the unfortunate sufferers of St. Domingo unequivocal proofs of sympathy. Such my fellow-citizens are the reasons for which two executive officers ought to be degraded in order to make way for other persons of a more proper kidney, more flexible and more fitted to the purposes of the writer.

Our curiosity is naturally excited to know who is the person or persons so ardently de-

sirous of regulating our government and turning out our officers. The Viscount de Noailles very happily has enabled us to answer this question. He was displeased at the insult offered to his humanity, he called on the Printer and demanded his author. He was assured that he was not the person, but Gen. Knox intended to be hurt by the query.—As if Gen. Knox could be criminal in hearing what the other might say without offence. The Viscount however was not satisfied with this fine distinction, he insisted to have the author, and in due time he was informed that the questions were written by the Secretary of Mr. Genet, the French Minister.

If we may suppose that Mr. Genet sees and approves of the political essays of his Secretary, or that those essays are his own, we must for the sake of system admit, that he is ready to recommend other officers in the place of those whom he turns out. And if we might suppose, a case not improbable, that the President is indebted to the same pen for some of the extraordinary remarks on his Proclamation, it would naturally follow, that a foreigner, hardly four months in America, is willing to take upon himself the trouble of governing the country.

NESTOR.

From the New-York DAILY ADVERTISER.

BY the twenty-third article of the treaty of amity and commerce, between the United States and France, it is declared—

ART. 23. It shall be lawful for all and singular the subjects of the most christian king, and the citizens, people and inhabitants of the said United States, to sail with their ships, with all manner of liberty and security, no distinction being made who are the proprietors of the merchandizes laden thereon, from any port to the places of those who now are or hereafter shall be at enmity with the most christian king, or the United States. It shall likewise be lawful for the subjects and inhabitants aforesaid, to sail with the ships and merchandizes aforesaid, and trade with the same liberty and security from the places, ports and havens of those who are enemies of both or either party, without any opposition or disturbance whatsoever, not only directly from the places of the enemy aforesaid to neutral places, but also from one place belonging to an enemy to another place belonging to an enemy, whether they be under the jurisdiction of the same prince, or under several. And it is hereby stipulated, that free ships shall also give a freedom to goods, and that every thing shall be deemed to be free and exempt, which shall be found on board the ships belonging to the subjects of either of the confederates, altho' the whole lading, or any part thereof, should appertain to the enemies of either, contraband goods being always excepted. It is also agreed in like manner, that the same liberty be extended to persons who are on board a free ship, with this effect, that although they be enemies to both or either party, they are not to be taken out of that free ship, unless they are soldiers, and in actual service of the enemies.

By the 24th article, it is declared that this liberty of navigation and commerce shall extend to all kinds of merchandizes, excepting those only which are distinguished by the name of contraband, &c.

In the Daily Advertiser of August the first is contained the following

Decree of the National Convention, May 9.
ART. 1. Ships of war and privateers are authorized to seize and carry into the ports of the republic, merchant vessels which are wholly, or in part, loaded with provisions being neutral property, bound to an enemy's port, or having on board merchandize belonging to an enemy.

ART. 2. Merchandize belonging to the enemy is declared a lawful prize, seizable for the profit of the captor; provisions, being neutral property, shall be paid for at the price they would have sold for at the port where they were bound, &c.

It also appears by the papers that our vessels, having British merchandize on board, have been captured by French ships of war, and the merchandize confiscated.

We have as yet no evidence of the authenticity of the above decree—or of those captures, but such as is furnished by newspapers. These are unquestionably not that kind of testimony which could claim the serious attention and operation of government—but if these things are true, and certainly the concurrence of circumstances furnishes too much reason to fear that they are; then the French government have by a deliberate judicial act, been the first to violate a solemn treaty: in the most material respect, in which our commercial interest could be affected, and it is said that insurance on our vessels, rose immediately above one hundred per cent—such was the credit given to it by the merchants.

And if it is true—what does it prove—why that there is no faith, or binding force, upon independent communities, farther than their interest is concerned.

They always have a pretence at hand for exculpation.—The law of nations, also, seems to countenance such conduct, when it declares that in case a nation by adhering to a treaty will be most essentially injured, that nation may justifiably disregard such treaty—Vattel.

What part our government ought to act in case there has really been this infraction of treaty, is not for me to say. But for myself, such are my feelings for that republic, contending for its own undoubted rights—and the rights of mankind—surrounded and invaded by a host of nations determined to direct their internal affairs, and impose a form of government—That had I the reigns of administration, the partial advantage of America, from the neutrality of her vessels, should give way to urgent necessities of the French republic, and I would aid them with the same zeal as heretofore, in every way compatible with the public tranquility of our own country.

From the present complexion of things however with regard to the treaty, I draw this inference, that it must afford an additional reason, to every considering fellow-citizen, why he ought not to be in such mighty haste about volunteering an address to Mr. Genet.

Those, however, who do not know or think that the magistracy of their government has been insulted, who are willing that foreigners should revile the government—and fan the fire of party spirit, may have a right so to do—It is an unfortunate specimen of our freedom, and if we cannot agree otherwise, let us at least agree to differ. I am determined to maintain and exercise the same privilege; and will always in the most public manner assert, that a foreigner of any rank whatever, who intermeddles with our internal dissensions, or who shall dare to insult the first magistrate of the republic, is a dangerous man—and may expect to hear from

Citizen, WILCOCKS.

New-York, August 6, 1793.

Burlington, County, New-Jersey.

THE sentiments of free citizens upon the measures of their government on interesting or embarrassing occasions, are of the greatest importance, both to the liberty of the citizen and the operation of the government: impressed with this idea, the citizens of the county of Burlington, embrace the opportunity presented by the sitting of the circuit court in their county, and the presence of a large number of their most respectable members, convened from every part of the county, to take into consideration the proclamation of the President of the United States, and the Vice-President of this state, relative to the neutrality of the United States of America, in the present European war—Whereupon, an hour having been appointed for the meeting of the citizens, and they having met accordingly at the Court-house of the said county, on Tuesday the 13th August, 1793, and having appointed

General JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, Chairman of the said meeting,

It was unanimously Resolved,

1st. That the republican citizens of the county of Burlington, are highly impressed with the policy and justice of the measures recommended by the said proclamation, which declares to the people, the supreme law of the land founded upon the existing treaties between the belligerent powers and these United States. And that in so doing, the President acted strictly in the line of his duty, and for the best interest of his country.

2d. That the citizens of the county of Burlington, will, upon all occasions with the warmest zeal, co-operate in every legal way—to detect and punish offenders against the rights of neutrality—and by all means in their power discountenance designs or proceedings calculated to interrupt that tranquility and happiness, which the citizens of the United States enjoy, under a pure and pacific administration of the government.

3d. And further it is the opinion of this assemblage of citizens, that as the highest privilege of these United States consists in their republican form of federal government—as the only legitimate source of this government is the people—as they are only the proper persons to elect and appoint those who are to carry it into operation—And to judge of the official conduct of their magistrates—so any interference in the internal administration of the government, by any foreign power or minister, is an infringement of the sovereignty of the people, tends to destroy public confidence, leads to anarchy, and merits the severest reprehensions and discountenance of all independent Americans.

4th. Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forthwith transmitted to the President of the United States and to the governor of this state.

Signed by order of the Meeting.

JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, Chairman.

FOR THE GAZETTE.

COMPARISON of certain Articles in Treaties between France and Great-Britain, with Articles in the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between France and the United States.

Treaty of Navigation & Commerce between France and Great-Britain—concluded at Utrecht, the 31st day of March and 11th of April, 1713.	Treaty of Amity and Commerce, between France and the United States—concluded 6th February, 1778.
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Art. 15. It shall not be lawful for any foreign privateers, not being subjects of one or of the other of the confederates, who have commissions from any other Prince or State in amity with either nation, to fit their ships in the ports of one or the other of the aforesaid parties, to sell what they have taken, or in any other manner whatever to exchange either ships, merchandizes, or any other lading; neither shall they be allowed even to purchase victuals, except such as shall be necessary for their going to the next port of that Prince from whom they have commissions.

Art. 36. It shall be lawful, as well for the ships of war of both their most serene royal majesties, as for privateers, to carry whither they please, the ships and goods taken from their enemies; neither shall they be obliged to pay any duty to the officers of the admiralty, or to any other judges; nor shall the aforesaid prizes, when they come to enter the ports of either party, and shall the searchers or other officers of those places search the same, or make examination concerning the lawfulness of such prizes; but they may hoist (or) at any time, and depart and carry their prizes to that place which is mentioned in their commission or patent, which the commanders of such ships at war shall be obliged to show: on the contrary, no shelter or refuge shall be given in their ports to such as have made a prize upon the subjects of either of their royal majesties. And if perchance such ships shall come in, being forced by stress of weather, or the danger of the sea, particular care shall be taken (as far as it is not repugnant to former treaties made with other Kings and States) that they go from thence, and retire elsewhere, as soon as possible.

Art. 17. It shall be lawful for the ships of war of either party, and privateers, to carry whither they please, the ships and goods taken from their enemies, without being obliged to pay any duty to the officers of the admiralty, or to any other judges; nor shall such prizes, when they come to enter the ports of either party, and shall the searchers or other officers of those places search the same, or make examination concerning the lawfulness of such prizes; but they may hoist (or) at any time, and depart and carry their prizes to the places expressed in their commissions, which the commanders of such ships of war shall be obliged to show: on the contrary, no shelter or refuge shall be given in their ports to such as have made a prize upon the subjects of either of the parties; but if such shall come in, being forced by stress of weather, or the danger of the sea, all proper means shall be vigorously used that they go out and retire from thence as soon as possible.

Treaty of Peace and Friendship, between Great-Britain, France and Spain, concluded at Paris, 10th February, 1763.

Art. 9. The treaties of Westphalia, of 1648, &c. those of peace and of commerce of Utrecht, of 1713, &c. (enumerating many others) "serve as a basis and foundation to the peace, and to the present treaty; and for this purpose, they are all renewed and confirmed in the best form, as well as all the treaties in general, which subsisted between the high contracting parties before the war, as if they were inserted here word for word, so that they are to be exactly observed for the future, in their whole tenor, and religiously executed on all sides, in all their points which shall not be derogated from by the present treaty, notwithstanding all that may have been stipulated to the contrary by any of the high contracting parties: and all the said parties declare, that they will not suffer any privilege, favor or indulgence, to fulfill, contrary to the treaties above confirmed, except what shall have been agreed and stipulated by the present treaty."

Treaty of Navigation and Commerce between France and Great-Britain, signed at Versailles, 26th September, 1786.

Art. 16. It shall not be lawful for any foreign privateers, not being subjects of either crown,