

who have commissions from any other Prince or State, in enmity with either nation, to arm their ships in the ports of either of the said two kingdoms, to sell what they have taken, or in any other manner whatever to exchange the same; neither shall they be allowed even to purchase victuals, except such as shall be necessary for their going to the nearest port of that Prince from whom they have obtained commissions.

Compare this with the 5th article of the treaty of Utrecht, above mentioned, and the 20d article of the treaty of amity and commerce between France and the United States.

Art. 10. It shall be lawful, as well for the ships of war of their majesties, as for privateers belonging to their subjects, to carry whithersoever they please, the ships and goods taken from their enemies, without being obliged to pay any fee to the officers of the admiralty, or to any judges whatever; nor shall the said prizes, when they arrive at and enter the ports of their said majesties, be detained or seized; neither shall the searchers, or other officers of those places, visit or take cognizance of the validity of such prizes; but they shall be at liberty to hoist sail at any time, to depart, and to carry their prizes to the place mentioned in the commissions or patents, which the commanders of such ships of war shall be obliged to shew: 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 majesties; but if forced by stress of weather, or the dangers of the sea, to enter therein, particular care shall be taken to hasten their departure, and to cause them to retire from thence as soon as possible, as far as it is not repugnant to former treaties made in this respect with other sovereigns or states.

Compare this article with the 36th article of the former treaty (of Utrecht) and the 17th article of the latter.

QUERIES.

1. Whether, if the United States, under the 22d article of the treaty of amity and commerce with France, are bound to admit the fitting out of French privateers, to the exclusion of all others, when France is at war, and the United States are neutral, France is not equally bound, in case the United States should be at war, and France should be neutral, to admit the fitting out of American privateers, to the exclusion of all others?

2. Whether, if such be the construction of that article of that treaty, a similar construction must not be given to the 15th article of the treaty above mentioned, and the 16th article of the treaty of 1786, between France and Great-Britain, those articles being substantially the same with the 22d article of the treaty of amity and commerce between the United States and France?

3. Whether, therefore, in case when the obligation of those treaties was in full force, a war had taken place between Great-Britain and the United States, and France had been neutral, the consequence of such a construction would not have been, that France was bound by her treaties with Great-Britain to admit the fitting out of British, to the exclusion of American privateers; and by the treaty with the United States to admit the fitting out of American, to the exclusion of British privateers?

4. Whether that construction of those treaties be so necessary and unavoidable, as to justify a charge of such duplicity upon one of the contracting powers, and of the grossest folly upon the others, since the treaties of Utrecht and of 1763 were well known before the treaty of 1778 was entered into, and that of 1778 long before the treaty of 1786?

5. Whether, if the construction be in other respects doubtful, such a one ought not to be given, as is consistent with the supposition of good faith in an ally to whom we owe such great obligations, and of a little prudence and common sense in persons who were never remarkable for wanting either?

Philadelphia, August 16, 1793. X.

From the Columbian Centinel.

MR. RUSSEL,

WHEN I saw a prophetic intimation in your last Centinel, that we might soon expect to have some of our citizens denounced by a Jacobin Club, or in the Jacobin mode; I little thought that the prediction would be verified in the same week. But the Jacobin party in every country are so ardent, and are in the habit so strongly of marching with a quick step to the tune of Ca Ira, that they progress much faster than we expected. Their impetuosity is so great, that even here, they seem to proscrib with as much facility and expedition, as they do in Paris; and may perhaps, sentence and execute our citizens with as much celerity as they have done in France. On Thursday afternoon eleven of our citizens, some of whom are of the utmost respectability in town, were denounced, and their names displayed in large letters on the mainmast of the French frigate now in this harbour, as Aristocrats, unfriendly to the French revolution, and averse to having American citizens enter on board French privateers. This was the crime said to be stated on the paper above the names; and it was confirmed to be the crime for which they were denounced, by one of the officers of the frigate to Americans who were on board.

Now, Mr. Russel, I wish the noted Expositor of laws and treaties, the would be Marat for this Department, to shew us by what article of our treaty with France the French naval officers, or the agents of the Jacobin Club in Paris, have a right to proscrib our citizens, because, they wish to live in peace with all the world.

The prediction in your Centinel of last Wednesday is now fulfilled. Eleven of our citizens are now proscribed, and their names announced on board the frigate, because they wish to preserve our neutrality, and have been opposed to our taking a part in the present war. I wish also to know what is to be their punishment, and who are to execute it? Are they to suffer by the Lamp Cord or the Guillotine here, or are they to be sent in irons to Paris, to suffer there? If it be not the latter, why was the proscription first announced on board the French frigate? If the former be intended, why was not process made in our own mode, and through the medium of our own laws?

Has the boasted freedom of American citizens come to this—has our valued liberty so soon sunk to a state of vassalage to an European nation? What other foreign nation, since the revolution, has assumed such a power over us? And is this to be viewed as evidences of their friendship as allies, or their love of liberty and equality?

Have we no character as Americans, no laws, no government of our own, that we must be called to a foreign tribunal? Is it laudable and virtuous for us to insult the President and all others who administer the government of the Union; and is it criminal to be advocates for peace, and promoters of public tranquillity and happiness? What a mutable world is this, what a perversion of all good principles, of common sense, and of moral rectitude!

But fear not, Mr. Russel, though you are among the proscribed. We have a faction, and they are known; but their wickedness will fall on their own pates; they will yet probably suffer by the traps, which they have prepared for others.

A FREE AMERICAN.

It is but justice to Captain Van Dongen, commander of the La Concorde, to say, that he holds in the highest detestation the conduct above alluded to, which was done in his absence, and that he is taking measures to discover the writer of the paper.

A CARD.

THE gentlemen, whose names were posted on the main mast of the frigate La Concorde, on Thursday afternoon, present their compliments to the captain of that ship, and request him to enquire and inform them through the Centinel, who it was that did it, or by whose direction or privity it was done, and what was the object in doing it. They are informed and believe, that the Captain had no knowledge of the act when done, and was displeas'd with and reprobated it.—But they know of no channel so clear and direct of coming at the agent, as through the officers of the ship.

Boston, Aug. 10.

The French Patriotic Society,

Residing in Boston, beg leave to inform the American gentlemen, whose names have been posted up as Aristocrats that they hold with contempt and indignation the author of the same, who without any provocation, has cruelly, and shamefully attacked their characters; and that in justice, which they owe to themselves, they take this method to inform them, that they are ashamed of it, sorry for it, and will take every possible step to discover the author, and will expose him to the public.

JOHN DUBALLET, President.

By order of the Society,

S. VERON, Secretary.

Boston, Aug. 9.

United States.

NEWBURYPORT, August 10.

TOWN-MEETING.

AT a legal meeting of the town of Newburyport, held by adjournment, on Wednesday, 7th Aug. 1793, the late Proclamation of the President of the United States, was taken into serious consideration:—AND THEREUPON

VOTED unanimously, That in the opinion of this town, the neutrality of the United States, during the war now waged by the several belligerent powers in Europe, is consistent with the honor and good faith of our government, and not repugnant to any treaties existing between the United States, and any of those powers.

Voted unanimously, That in the opinion of this town, a strict and uniform adherence to that neutrality, is of the utmost importance to the best interests and happiness of our country.

Voted unanimously, That in the opinion of this town, the late Proclamation of the President, declaring that neutrality, was a constitutional and wise measure, resulting from his ardent affection for his fellow-citizens, his knowledge of, and vigilant attention to their just rights and true interest.

Voted unanimously, That in the opinion of this town, any infraction of the laws of neutrality, by any of the citizens of the United States, fitting out, or being interested in armed vessels, to cruise against the citizens or subjects of either of the belligerent powers, or personally engaging in such cruise, will naturally tend to injure essentially, the agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial interests of this country.

THEREFORE,

Voted unanimously, That to prevent any such breach of the laws of the land, we will take every legal method in our power, to discover and prosecute to condign punishment, any Citizen, who, regardless of the duties he owes to his country, may be guilty of such dangerous offences.

Extract from the Records,

ATTEST,

ENOCH TITCOMB, jun. Town-Clerk.

S A L E M, August 13.

Last Friday arrived at this port, the sloop Nancy, John Ingersoll, master, with the wreck of the ship "Albion, of Bristol," copper-bottomed, and constructed for the Guinea trade.—Capt. I. had been out 8 days on his passage to the W. Indies: on the 3d inst. early in the morning, saw the above wreck to windward, and came up with her in about 3 hours: on going on board, it appeared she had been left some time by her crew, having been run foul of by some other vessel, and very much damaged, her star-board bow being stove in even with her lower deck, mainmast and fore-mast gone, her remaining sails torn to pieces, and 6 feet water in her hold. She appeared to be a prize worth an effort: by the extraordinary exertions of the master and crew of the Nancy (only 5 men and a boy) she was pumped dry, some repairs made, and then taken in tow for about 40 leagues, when they had got her in a situation to make sail herself before the fair wind with which they were favored; and both arrived here the 7th day after meeting the wreck. Capt. I. supposes some one had been on board before, as there appeared to have been taken from between decks a number of bags of cotton, and large quantities were laying loose upon deck. The ship is about 200 tons; her cargo is sugar, rum, cotton, mahogany and logwood; and she is supposed to be one of the Jamaica fleet, which sailed in June. A Jamaica newspaper, and several private letters, were the only papers found on board.

Marblehead.

At a meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Marblehead, convened on Thursday the 8th of August, 1793, by adjournment from the 7th inst.

On considering the communication from the merchants and traders of the town of Boston of their resolutions at their meeting on the 22d day of July last upon the subject of the neutrality of the United States in respect to the present belligerent powers.

Voted, That the inhabitants of this town do heartily concur in the said resolution of the merchants and traders of the town of Boston, conceiving them to be adapted to promote the public good.

Voted, That the inhabitants of this town have been greatly encouraged in the pursuit of their fisheries and commerce, by the President's very reasonable proclamation, declaring the disposition of the United States to pursue a friendly and impartial conduct towards the belligerent powers respectively, and warning the citizens of the United States to avoid all acts and proceedings which might in any

manner tend to contravene such dispositions.

Voted, that the inhabitants of this town shall view with peculiar alarm and anxiety, and will steadily oppose any acts or proceedings of the citizens of these states or of any persons within the same, which may tend in any measure to contravene the friendly and impartial disposition of the U. States towards the powers at war; and will use their best endeavours to detect and bring to justice all persons who by such acts and proceedings shall violate the law of nations, and endanger the peace and welfare of the United States.

Voted, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions of this town shall be sent to the Hon. Thomas Russell, and shall be printed in the Salem Gazette.

A true Copy from the Records, W. ABRAHAM, T. Clerk.

NEW-YORK, August 16.

Extract of a letter from a respectable House in Barcelona, dated 16th June, to a correspondent in this city.

"The Spanish fleet is just returned here, after having taken the island of St. Peter, and another small one adjoining, which is restored to the Sardinians; drove ashore and burnt a French frigate, and has brought here another, of 36 guns and 1400 prisoners, who surrendered at discretion, without the loss of a man on either side."

Copy of a letter written by his Excellency Geo. Clinton, Esq. Governor of the State of New-York, to Nicholas Cruger, Esq. Chairman of a late meeting of the citizens of New-York.

New-York, 14th August, 1793.

SIR,

I HAD the honor to receive your polite letter, enclosing certain resolutions of the citizens of N. York.

As the approbation of a free and enlightened people is the most honorable and pleasing reward that can be conferred upon their public officers; I entreat you to assure our respectable fellow-citizens, that I receive with the brightest satisfaction, their favorable opinion of my conduct on an occasion so interesting to the happiness of the United States, as that to which their resolutions refer. The firm determination of the citizens to support the government of our country, in the exercise of our important functions, must reflect honor upon their patriotism and good sense.

I am with great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

GEO: CLINTON.

Nicholas Cruger, Esq.

NEWARK, August 24.

We are informed that the patriotic society of this town, at their last meeting, resolved, that the benefactions given by the inhabitants of this place, towards affording a temporary relief to the distressed citizens of Cape-Francois, shall not be transmitted to the French minister, General, as was proposed, but be at the disposal of the committee, who obtained this charity, for the benefit of these unfortunate people.

Philadelphia, Aug. 21.

A large sum of money in dollars, belonging to merchants in this city, was on board an American schooner captured by the Little Democrat, which the officer of the privateer removed, put on board a pilot boat, and sent it up on Sunday last to their agent here. It being discovered by those concerned, that the money was contained in the pilot boat, the vessel was immediately put under the guard of a detachment of militia, and Monday afternoon the money was delivered to the owners.

Extract of a letter from Baltimore, August 6.

"A gentleman arrived here from Dominica says, that the Solebay man of war arrived there from England with orders for the fleet, which was not to return to Europe as was expected. The Solebay left England the 15th of June, at which time little was said to have been done on the continent of Europe."