

From the Columbian Centinel.

IMPROMPTU,

Upon a Rye man's saying his Townsmen were sold, that JAY had sold them to Great-Britain.

HAD the Rye folks by JAY, to Great-Britain been sold, As they by a Great man were told, Great-Britain, not Rye, was ill treated— For if aught has been paid, By the maxims of trade, Great-Britain is curiously cheated.

SHORT BOB.

* Rye is a small town of New-Hampshire, of about as much importance in that State, as Dracut is in Massachusetts. The map is reckoned very accurate that has a dot for either.

FROM THE ARGUS.

THE DEFENCE—No. XXIII.

THE preceding articles having adjusted those controversies which threatened an open rupture between the two countries, it remained to form such dispositions relative to the intercourse, commerce, and navigation, of the parties, as should appear most likely to preserve peace, and promote their mutual advantage.

Those who have considered with attention the interests of commerce, will agree in the opinion that its utility, as well as general prosperity, would be most effectually advanced by a total abolition of the restraints and regulations with which the jealousies and rival policy of nations have embarrassed it. But though we are not chargeable with having contributed to the establishment of these errors, so discouraging to the industry and perplexing in the intercourse of nations, we found them so deeply rooted and so extensively prevalent, that our voice and opinions would have been little regarded, had we expressed a desire of a system more liberal and advantageous to all.

The rights of commerce among nations between whom exist no treaties are imperfect.

"The law of nature, says Vattel, (b. 1, f. 89) gives to no person whatever, the least kind of right to sell what belongs to him, to another who does not want to buy it; nor has any nation that of selling its commodities or merchandize to a people who are unwilling to have them. Every man and every nation being perfectly at liberty to buy a thing that is to be sold, or not to buy it, and to buy it of one rather than of another."—Every state has constantly (continues the same author) a right to prohibit the entrance of foreign merchandize, and the people who are interested in this prohibition have no right to complain of it.

States by convention may turn these imperfect into perfect rights, and thus a nation not having naturally a perfect right to carry on commerce with another, may acquire it by treaty. A simple permission to trade with a nation, gives no perfect right to that trade; it may be carried on so long as permitted, but the nation granting such permission, is under no obligation to continue it. A perfect right in one nation to carry on commerce and trade with another nation, can alone be procured by treaty.

From the precarious nature of trade between nations, as well as from the desire of obtaining special advantages and preferences in carrying it on, originated the earliest conventions on the subject of commerce. The first commercial treaty that placed the parties on a more secure and better footing in their dealings with each other than existed in their respective intercourse with other nations, inspired others with a desire to establish by similar treaties an equally advantageous arrangement. Thus one treaty was followed by another, until, as was the case when the United States became an independent power, all nations had entered into extensive and complicated stipulations concerning their navigation, manufactures and commerce.

This being the actual condition of the commercial world, when we arrived at our station in it, the like inducements to render certain that which by the law of nations was precarious, and to participate in the advantages secured by national agreements, prompted our government to propose to all and to conclude with several of the European nations, treaties of commerce.

Immediately after the conclusion of the war, Congress appointed Mr. Adams, Doctor Franklin, and Mr. Jefferson, joint commissioners, to propose and conclude commercial treaties with the different nations of Europe. This commission was opened at Paris, and overtures were made to the different powers (including Great Britain) through their ministers residing at Paris. The basis of these numerous treaties, which Congress were desirous to form, was that the parties should respectively enjoy the rights of the most favored nations. Various answers were given by the foreign ministers in behalf of their several nations. But the treaty with Prussia was the only one concluded, of the very great number proposed by the American commissioners. Mr. Adams in 1785, was removed to London, Doctor Franklin soon after returned to America, and Mr. Jefferson succeeded him as minister at Paris. Thus failed the project of forming commercial treaties with almost every power in Europe. Treaties with Russia, Denmark, Great Britain, Spain and Portugal, would have been of importance, but the scheme of extending treaties of commerce to all the minor powers of Europe, put omitting his holiness the Pope, was, it must be acknowledged, somewhat chimerical, and could not fail to have cast an air of ridicule on the commissions that with great solemnity were opened at Paris.

The imbecility of our national government, under the articles of confederation, was understood abroad as well as at home, and the opinions of characters in England most inclined to favor an extensive commercial connexion between the two countries, were understood to have been opposed to the formation of a commercial treaty with us; since from the defects of our articles of Union, we were supposed to be destitute of the power requisite to enforce the execution of the stipulations that such a treaty might contain.

We must all remember the various and ill digested laws for the regulation of commerce, which

were adopted by the several states as substitutes for those commercial treaties, in the conclusion of which our commissioners had been disappointed—the embarrassments which proceeded from this source, joined to those felt from the derangement of the national treasury, were the immediate cause which assembled the convention at Philadelphia in 1787. The result of this Convention was the adoption of the present Federal Constitution, the legislative and executive departments of which each possess a power to regulate foreign commerce; the former by enacting laws for that purpose, the latter by forming commercial treaties with foreign nations.

The opinion heretofore entertained by our government, respecting the utility of commercial treaties, is not equivocal; and it is probable that they will in future deem it expedient to adjust their foreign trade by treaty, in preference to legislative provisions, as far as it shall be found practicable, on terms of reasonable advantage. In the formation of the regulations that are legislative, being *ex parte*, the interest of those who established them is seen in its strongest light, while that of the other side is rarely allowed its just weight. Pride and passion too frequently add their influence to carry these regulations beyond the limits of moderation: Restraints and exclusions on one side, beget restraints and exclusions on the other, and these retaliatory laws lead to, and often terminate in open war: While on the other had, by adjusting the commercial intercourse of nations by treaty, the pretensions of the parties are candidly examined, and the result of the discussion, it is fair to presume, as well from the experience of individuals in private affairs, as from that of nations in their more important and complicated relations, establishes those regulations which are best suited to the interests of the parties, and which alone afford that stability and confidence so essential to the success of commercial enterprise.

That our present government, have thought a commercial Treaty with Great Britain, would be advantageous is evident, not alone from the special and distinct Commission given to Mr. Jay to form one; but likewise from the letter of Mr. Jefferson to Mr. Hammond of the 29th Nov. 1791, which was the first letter to that minister after his arrival, in which the executive says, "with respect to the commerce of the two Countries we have supposed that we saw in several instances, regulations on the part of your Government, which if reciprocally adopted would materially injure the interests of both Nations: on this subject too, I must beg the favour of you, to say, whether you are authorized to conclude or to negotiate arrangements with us; which may fix the commerce between the two Countries on principles of reciprocal advantage."

Further, from the first session of Congress, to that during which Mr. Jay's appointment took place, efforts were made to discriminate in our revenue and commercial Laws, between those nations with whom we had, and those with whom we had not, commercial Treaties—The avowed object of which discrimination was to place the latter nations on a less advantageous commercial footing than the former, in order to induce them likewise to form commercial treaties with us, and it cannot be forgotten by them, who affect to suppose that it was not expected that a treaty of commerce would be formed by Mr. Jay, that Mr. Madison's commercial resolutions, which were under consideration at the time of Mr. Jay's appointment, grew out of and were built upon a clause of Mr. Jefferson's report of the 26th December 1793, which asserts that Great Britain discovered no disposition to enter into a commercial Treaty with us. The report alluded to is explicit in declaring a preference of friendly arrangements, by Treaties of commerce, to regulations by the acts of our Legislature, and authorizes the inference, under which the commercial resolutions were brought forward, that the latter should be referred to, only when the former cannot be effected.

The power of the executive to form commercial treaties, and the objection against the commercial articles before us as an unconstitutional interference with the legislative powers of Congress will in the sequel be definitely examined, together with other objections on the point of constitutionality.

Against the policy of regulating commerce by treaty rather than by acts of the Legislature, it is said that the Legislative acts can, but that a treaty, cannot, be repealed. This remark is true, and of weight against the formation of commercial treaties which are to be of long duration, or like our commercial treaty with France, which is permanent. For, as we are yearly advancing in agriculture, manufactures, commerce, navigation, and strength, our treaties of commerce, especially such as by particular stipulations, shall give to the parties other rights than those of the most favoured nation, ought to be of short duration, that like temporary laws, they may at an early day expire by their own limitation, leaving the interests of the parties to a new adjustment, founded on equity and mutual convenience.

Of this description are the commercial articles of the treaty with Great-Britain; for none of them can continue in force more than twelve years, and they may all expire if either party shall chuse it, at the end of two years after the peace between France and Great Britain.

Did the limits assigned to this defence, admit a review of the commercial and maritime codes of the principal European nations, we should discover one prevailing feature to characterize them all; we should see the general or common interest of nations, every where, placed in a subordinate rank, and their separate advantage adopted as the end to be attained by their respective laws—Hence one nation has enacted laws to protect their manufactures, another to encourage and extend their navigation, a third to monopolize some important branch of trade, and all have contributed to the creation of that complicated system of regulations and restraints, which we see established throughout the commercial world.

One branch and a principal one of this system, that which establishes the connexion between the several European nations and their colonies, merits our particular attention. An exact knowledge of this connexion would assist us in forming a just estimate of the difficulties that stand in opposition to

our claim of free and full participation in the colony trade of Great-Britain.

CAMILLUS.

[To be concluded to-morrow.]

GENEVESE REPUBLIC, Aug. 1.

Bifeminated Jacobinism.

Our unfortunate town has always been agitated by the effects of the different shocks which France has experienced. Pillage and murder has been the order of the day here, whenever blood was running through the streets of Paris; and we owe our ruin to the obliquity and audacity with which our terrorists have followed the disorganizing system, which has reduced France to the brink of ruin.

A citizen, who had killed one of those who thirsted after his blood, had the good fortune to escape, and was hanged in effigy. Whilst the people were running to Plainpalais to see this mock execution, seven young men were conveyed through the gate of Rive, having been convicted of the crime of having worn green neckcloths (which one of them had received as a present from Lyons) without any evil design, and which they had left off as soon as they were informed that they were considered as a badge of party. Our government had passed a sentence of banishment against them, and they would certainly have been massacred had not they escaped in time. It is true that the general opinion begins to declare itself decidedly against the terrorists; but the Government, composed of either weak, inefficient, or corrupt men, do not secure the peaceable citizens against their attempts. The emigration of almost all the opulent families, the expenses of the government which annually exceed the public revenue by 500 florins (of our money) complete the picture of our present misery. The aspect of the town is afflicting; the public walks are deserted; whole streets are uninhabited. The number of emigrants amount to near 6000 that is to say the fourth part of the population. The Nation is the Bourgeois, where so many assassinations were committed last year, is frequented by none of the reputable citizens, not even by the Revolutionists.

BOSTON, November 4.

A TOAST, worthy Americans, given a few days since, at an entertainment, after a military parade, at Ipswich.

"Directed to the ear that would patiently hear, dumbbells to the tongue that would utter a calumny against the immortal WASHINGTON."

From Philadelphia.

Mr. Randolph's excusation will commence in a pamphlet, which is now in the press, and will speedily be published. You will see in the papers a most gross and infamous publication respecting the denunciation of the President has observed towards Mr. R. a highly delicate; but as the Father of his country, he must be faithful as well as kind.

NEW-YORK, November 10.

Under the tyranny of Robespierre and the clubs in France, wealth was arbitrary, and to be rich was to be guilty of counter-revolutionary intentions. Of course, almost every rich man was arrested and guillotined and his property confiscated. This became so common under the glorious democracy of France, that the guillotine obtained the denomination of the "Minister of Finance." At the same time, and while the sovereign power was literally exercised by the people, poisoning became very common. Persons arrested on suspicion often kept bills of poison to dispatch themselves, if necessary, to escape the guillotine. The poison was called "pillage de la liberte," liberty pills.

Helen Maria Williams has lately published, in a series of letters, a sketch of the politics of France, from May 31st 1793, to July 28th, 1794; that is, of the complete dominion of the Jacobins.—These letters are written with that glowing fancy and elegant style which characterize her former writings. As she is a woman of undoubted veracity, her relation of facts may be depended on as authentic; and as she is a warm admirer of the French Revolution in principle, she cannot be supposed to have exaggerated any account she gives of French transactions.

Philadelphia,

FRIDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 13, 1795.

The ship Fame, Capt. Eldridge, from St. Ubes, was last Saturday boarded off the Capes of Delaware by the Bermudian privateer Hezekiah, Capt. Frith, who treated him politely, and furnished him with a barrel of bread, which he stood in need of.

The sloop Polly, Capt. Hall, from Port-au-Prince, on the 9th and 10th October, was successively boarded by L'Unique and Republican French privateers of 20 guns each; by the former, Capt. Hall was treated politely; by the latter, piratically plundered of 2 barrels Coffee, and 3 barrels Sugar, his small stores, &c. The Republican is the same privateer that ill treated Capt. Williams.

MARRIED Yesterday, by the Right Revd. Dr. WHITE, KEARNY WHARTON, Esq. of this city, to Miss MARIA SALTAR, daughter of JOHN SALTAR, Esq. of Magnolia Grove, on the Banks of the Delaware.

On Wednesday last, by the Rev. Dr. BLACKWELL, MARY WILLIAM JACKSON, to Miss ELIZA WILKING, daughter of Thomas Wilking, Esq. President of the Bank of the United States.

Tuesday evening died Captain WILLIAM GREENWAY, aged eighty years. He was the oldest nautical Captain in the Port of Philadelphia. He was attached to the interest of his Country, and in the late War was in the public service.—Captain Greenway was a free agreeable companion to persons of every age. He was an early Member of the Marine Society, established for the Relief of the Widows of distressed Captains.—The Members of that society, with Relatives and Friends, yesterday afternoon, attended his remains to the Grave Yard at St. Paul's Church. The Shipping had their Colours half-mast high on the occasion.

COMMUNICATIONS.

There is great confusion in Pandemonium, among the Hollow-ware company—universal bankruptcy is inevitable—no returns adequate to the expense incurred. Vermont and Connecticut Legislatures would not take any of it; it is all returned, cracked, damaged, and ruined—a total loss. Massachusetts, New-Hampshire, Rhode-Island, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland Legislatures, the Company are in fearful apprehensions will do the same—the majority in all these, being found federal men; men that love their country. Nor have the Company any great hopes of their wares in the Southern States.

It has always been an opinion of some of the best Patriots of our country that there was something more than poverty, disappointment and personal malignity of disposition, to originate the slanders on the American name and character which appear in the Aurora. This opinion has received the fullest confirmation, by their recent re-publication of that infamous fabrication which our enemies made in the height of the war, to destroy the confidence of the people in GENERAL WASHINGTON.

The revilers of the PRESIDENT are undoubtedly actuated by the same motives which actuated our open enemies in the war. These revilers hate our country—they sicken at its rising greatness and unparalleled prosperity—And they most cordially hate the man who saved the United States in war; and preserved to us the inestimable blessings of peace.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. FENNO, IN your paper of last evening there are some scurrilous remarks under the signature of Crito, on the extract of a letter printed in Mellis, Timoth & Mason's Gazette of the 27th of October.—The author of the extract is not, never was, nor ever will be a British Debtor; the imputation then, of Crito, is as false as it is scandalous. Perhaps Crito thinks it would be prudent in the people of the United States to "commit the management of their dearest concerns" to speculation in the stock market, and to speculate in the funds. If he wishes for further conviction of the falsity of his assertion, by leaving his address at your Printing-Office directed to A. B. the writer of the paragraph will call on him.

PHILADELPHUS.

Philad. Nov. 13, 1795.

EXTRACT

From GOVERNOR GILMAN'S PROCLAMATION FOR THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING IN NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

And I do earnestly recommend to Ministers and People, of every denomination, that they religiously dedicate said day, and spend a reasonable part thereof in their respective places of public worship, that we may, with grateful hearts and united voices, adore and praise Almighty God for the unmerited favors he has been graciously pleased to confer upon us—To thank him for the continuance of civil and religious liberty—For preventing contagious and mortal disorders from spreading amongst us—For the general health enjoyed throughout this state, and the remarkable plenty of the fruits of the earth—For the preservation of our property, and the maintenance of the rights and confusions of contending nations—For preserving the inestimable life of the President of the United States—and above all for the continuance of the blessings of the Gospel of peace, the means of grace, and hope of future happiness through the merits of the Redeemer.

And together with our Thanksgiving, let us with humble and devout hearts intreat the Father of Mercies, to continue the blessings with which we are favored, and bestow upon us such as we may stand in need of. That he would keep the Government of the United States, and of the several states under his holy protection. Cause all opposition to rightful authority to cease, and unanimity to be restored and prevail throughout our common country.

BY THIS DAY'S MAIL.

PITTSBURGH, November 7.

The Cincinnati paper of the 10th of October last informs us, that a number of persons were to leave that place for Pittsburgh, by the way of Chilacothie, on Little Miami, cross Sciota at Darby's Town, Mulkingum at the mouth of White Woman's Creek or Fort Lawrence.—The distance by this route is computed at about 300 miles, and it is said, by those acquainted with the country, a good road may be had. Should the preat peace with the Indians prove to be permanent, a road by this route will, no doubt, be opened as the distance is not half so great as the present one to that country.

A HAT,

ENTIRELY new, was exchanged last Evening at Mr. Stear d's. Any person who has it in his possession, is requested to call on the Printer.

The Hat had a narrow band with a small buckle, and a white lining; manufactured by James Tiffin, Philad. Nov. 13. Jdt.

Ship Arethusa.

Will be Sold, at Public Auction, On Wednesday, the 18th inst. At 7 o'clock in the Evening, at the Merchants Coffee-House, (For approved notices, at 3 and 6 months)

The American Ship Arethusa, NOW lying at Messrs. Willing and Francis's wharf; burthen about 3000 barrels; New-Hampshire built, sheathed and coppered about 13 months since. The inventory will be seen at the Auction Room. Nov. 13. J. CONNELLY, Auctioneer.

For Jeremie,

(To sail in all this month)

The beautiful new brig

Richard & James,

Thomas Adams, master,

BUILT of live oak and cedar, and is her first voyage. She is intended for a constant trader, and is particularly well calculated for carrying passengers, having most excellent accommodations, and constructed for a remarkable fast sailer. For terms apply to the Captain on board at Race-street wharf, or to

RICHARD & JAMES POTTER.

Who have on Hand,

A large and elegant assortment of Calicoes, Muslins, Ribbons, Shawls, Linens, &c. &c. Nov. 13. d