NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. II | WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. | No. CLXVII.

FIVE DOLLS. PER ANN. | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1801. | PAID IN ADVANCE.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

HOW pleaſing muſt it be to the philanthropiſt to reflect on the actions of human nature, when under the immediate direction and control of right reaſon. Unruffled by the boiſterous ſurges which agitate the turbulent and ungovernable proceedings of human affairs, they are excited only by the ſteady current of the more gentle paſſions. Minds thus regulated, are alike averſe to the doctrines of a ſtoic, a ſceptic, an cynic, or an epicurean; and prudently relinquiſh their futile pretenſions for that of experimental reaſon. Their country, their kindred, and the human race, are equally their concern, varying only in the rational ratio of proximity of connection.

Under the immediate guidance of this beſt of pilots, have our republican leaders invariably ſhaped their courſe; and that at a time when it required the greateſt efforts of human prudence to regulate the paſſions. When their motives were miſrepreſented, their meaſures calumniated, and even their perſons in danger of inſult and abuſe—when their brethren of the ſame principles were taught to ſuſpect their integrity, and to decry their proceedings. But they having taken a different poſition, and viewing things through a different medium, eaſily diſcovered the deluſion, by reaſoning thus: all power is derived from the people, for without them there can be no power. This axiom needs no comment. The inference then is, that the people, whenever they have the diſpoſition, may chooſe what form of government they pleaſe, and what deſcription of legiſlators they may conceive moſt agreeable to themſelves. But that form of government which ſecures to man all the bleſſings and advantages of civil ſociety, is moſt aſſuredly the beſt, and ſhould moſt undoubtedly have the preference. Now as there is but one way left for fallible man to procure this government, that way muſt be explored by reaſon. It is true, that human reaſon is liable to err; but if it remains open to the convictions of experience, no danger can be apprehended; for it is this conviction that makes wiſe men change their minds and alter their plans, and the not attending to it, which makes fools poſitive and untractable. It therefore follows, that that conſtitution or form of government, which is conceived and produced by deliberative reaſon, and from time to time matured by experience, is the only one which rational man ought to ſubmit himſelf to be governed by: And as thoſe members of ſociety who are moſt diſtinguiſhed for theſe pre-eminent properties, are the beſt qualified to carry ſuch a government into operation, certainly they ought to be ſelected by the people for that purpoſe.

Let us now, fellow-citizens, take a view of a contrary mode of procedure, and mark the conſequences.

Prejudice and folly aſſert, that all power ſhould centre in one ſupreme chief, and emanate from him alone. The liberties, the properties, and the opinions of millions, muſt originate in him, and be conſigned to his ſole diſpoſal. But how is it that this individual comes to be inveſted with the whole authority of a nation? Is he really poſſeſſed of more underſtanding or ſtrength than all the people collectively taken? Reaſon ſays no. It is the mere caprice of fortune; for the neighing of a horſe, or the accidental flight of birds, have been known to be a ſufficient pretext for the aſſumption of this authority: or when, in caſe of a diſagreement, the matter is put to the iſſue of a ſtruggle, that perſon who happens to be uppermoſt in the ſcramble, or who perhaps ſtept in when the reſt were exhauſted, takes the command; ſuperſtition comes in to his aid, and ignorance and folly pay him implicit obedience, and acknowledge him the favorite of heaven and the anointed of God. Thus commences his authority, and thence he diſpenſes his will as law; his caprice creates nobility, who are inveſted with titles, eſtates, and excluſive privileges, and who in turn aſſiſt to ſupport his dignity, as well as their own, at the expence of the people. But this being a work of chance, or fraud, and an unfair diſtribution of power and property, it is no wonder that murmurs ſhould ariſe among the great body of the people, whenever they come to reflect. Theſe murmurs, at length, by accumulated oppreſſions, burſt into a flame, and the people, in a fit of phrenſy for their long loſt liberty, tear off their chains. All then is uproar and confuſion. But alas! what rational ſtep can be taken in ſuch a ſtate of things. Kings and nobles, with their adherents, on one ſide, the body of the people on the other, claſh in horrible diſcord. The people at length prevail, which proves their power, but being ſtill agitated by reſentment, and former miſtaken ideas of liberty, fall into the oppoſite extreme. Licentiouſneſs, like a torrent, carries all before it. Being, however, a little exhauſted, it becomes a ſort of democracy; but from its number, is incapable of being a deliberative body. Thus reſtleſs and unſtable, it naturally reſolves itſelf into a kind of republic, in which, indeed, the people are repreſented by delegates; but wanting the neceſſary checks and balances requiſite to form an equilibrium, it is ſoon agitated by parties. One or other of theſe prevailing, aſſume the reins of government, and introduce an ariſtocracy. This being compoſed of the leading characters of the community, they ſhortly become impatient of oppoſition from each other; form cabals, the moſt influential of which gaining the aſcendancy, produce an oligarchy. What with pride, private reſentment, family feuds, and a thirſt for power, one of thoſe few, more intriguing than the reſt, takes the ſole command, and inveſts himſelf with regal dignity.

Here, fellow-citizens, we ſee the ſad effects of uſurped power in the hands of either the one, the few, or the many; yet ſuch has been the ſtate of things from the days of the Patriarchs to the happy era of American independence, and that for the obvious reaſon of leaving every thing to chance.

From the above period, if we look back to the peopling of this country by our anceſtors, and conſider the cauſes and circumſtances attendant on it, we will find that there never was a nation, or a deſcription of men ſo well calculated as they were, to ſupport the rights of humanity, and to control the ſtrong arm of arbitrary dominion. It appears more like a preordained diſpenſation of heaven than the fortuitous work of chance.

Behold colonies of perſecuted men flying from their native ſhores, and taking refuge in the boſom of a wilderneſs, amidſt ſavages and wild beaſts, yet to them leſs formidable than the government whence they fled. Bleſſed, however, in all the uſeful arts, learning, and experience of former generations, and ſupremely bleſſed in the poſſeſſion of their unalienable birth-right, liberty, this was the ſcene and ſeaſon for rational men to have a fair trial. Self-governed and ſelf-protected, reaſon was their watch-tower, frugality and induſtry their hand-maids. Thus ſituated and thus circumſtanced, it was no wonder that they ſoon ſurmounted all ſurrounding difficulties, and raiſed themſelves into opulence and conſequence. Here we ſee what rational man is capable of, and how much he has been abuſed by thoſe tools of deſpotiſm, who aſſert, "*that he is not equal to the government of himſelf*"—The contrary, however, is the fact; for the moment that the hand of regal power laid hold of him, that moment were all his fair proſpects blighted, and he doomed to experience all the evils attendant on arbitrary dominion. His ſons ſlaughtered, his daughters deſpoiled, his property pillaged, and his liberty uſurped. But that unconquerable mind which ſubdued the ſavage, and made the ſavage deſert ſmile, was not to be overcome by the hand of deſpotiſm. His reſources were equal to his exigencies; he fought when he had no other alternative, and he conquered. The blood of thoſe patriots who fell in the firſt conteſt, like the croſs of Cadmus, produced bands of armed heroes to avenge their deaths. The hand of tyranny, inſtead of dividing and weakening, united them more firmly, and increaſed their ſtrength. Finally, that inſatiable thirſt for dominion and arbitrary power produced the glorious era of American liberty. Peace ſucceeded, and the hero and the ſage, with one heart and one voice, united in the formation and organization of our federal republican conſtitution and government; rational man's beſt and laſt hope.

This then, fellow-citizens, is the conſtitution and form of government by which we are protected, and under which we enjoy ſo many invaluble bleſſings. It is a work of the moſt ſtudied deliberation, and the moſt diſpaſſionate and impartial inveſtigation. It has not been produced by chance, caprice, or arbitary power, as moſt other governments have been; but inſtituted for the pure purpoſe of forming a government of laws, not of men. It has had nearly fourteen years trial, during which period, experience has brought it nearer ſtill to perfection, by the addition of ſundry important amendments. And, indeed, when we conſider the letter and ſpirit of it, we would be led to think, that it is now as near perfection as any human inſtitution of the kind can be. But if we reflect that infallibility is no attribute of human nature, and that this conſtitution, which was ſuppoſed to breath nothing but equal juſtice and equal liberty, has been tortured to father and foſter an alien and ſedition law; to countenance conſtructive treaſons and trials without juries, together with certain innovations in the judiciary ſyſtem; one would be tempted to believe, that it ſtill wanted ſome nice though cautious touches, to prevent in future, ſuch monſtrous and unnatural productions. It is true that thoſe violent and unwarrantable meaſures have at length compleated their own deſtruction, by opening the eyes of the citizens at large, and by bringing about the happy reformation which has lately taken place in our public concerns. They have verified the aſſertion of our enlightened chief magiſtrate, "we are all republicans, we are all federaliſts," and it is only neceſſary for us to underſtand one another to be unanimous, and thereby to enſure our own happineſs. We are all equally intereſted in this particular, and we have the means more amply in our power than any other people in the univerſe. Living under the beſt of governments, and educated in the pure principles of true religion and liberty, our moral and political habits are the ſpontaneous productions of reaſon and revelation. We have no inveterate prejudices or principles to contend with; no king to aſſume an inherent right divine to govern us; no inſtalled nobility to arrogate excluſive privileges; no eſtabliſhed religion to trammel the liberty of conſcience—the intolerance of party is almoſt ſubdued, and nothing now remains to inſure our ſecurity and happineſs, but to encourage the national legiſlature to make ſuch arrangements, relative to the conſtitution, as will prevent in future, the poſſibility of a miſconſtruction.

PLAIN SENSE.

TRANSLATED

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,
From a late Paris Paper.

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The affecting details which were frequently given of the ſufferings of foundlings, at the hoſpital appropriated for them; but more particularly of legitimate infants, whoſe parents were induced by poverty to ſend them to this place, awakened the humanity of many benevolent women, who formed themſelves into a ſociety, under the name of *maternal charity.* Their deſign was to prevent the deſertion of legitimate children. They ſought for the pooreſt and moſt wretched families, and engaged the mother to nourſe and take care of their children, by paying them for their care during the two firſt years of the Infants life. They allowed 20 francs for the expence of child-birth, 26 francs for ſuckling, 8 francs per month during the firſt year, 4 francs per month the ſecond year, and 10 francs for clothing; in all 200 francs, (about 38 dolls.) Thus, the infant whoſe birth might have diſtreſſed its poor and helpleſs parents, and who from a ſad neceſſity might have been abandoned to vice, miſery, or even death, is rendered by this timely aſſiſtance, a comfort and bleſſing to its parents, and perhaps a uſeful member of ſociety.

The ſociety of maternal charity, during the 5 years of its exiſtence, has fully anſwered its benevolent purpoſes. It has ſaved the lives of a great number of human beings and has ſpared two thouſand five hundred mothers, the remorſe and anguiſh of abandoning their own offſpring.

To Rent,

And poſſeſſion given immediately,

A TWO STORY

BRICK HOUSE,

North front of the Preſident's Houſe,

CONTAINING

TWO Parlours and four Bed-rooms, with Garden, &c. It is convenient to the Public offices, and may be had furniſhed or unfurniſhed, with or without board, on reaſonable terms, to an agreeable tenant. Enquire of the Printer, or on the premiſes. Alſo,

Wanted Employment,

For a YOUNG MAN, who would engage as an aſſiſtant in a ſtore, having kept one of his own, of courſe accuſtomed to it. Would act as Steward and ſuperintend a plantation, or the like—would make himſelf uſeful in any ſituation.—Enquire of the Printer hereof.

November 25. 3tawtf.

Lateſt Foreign Intelligence.

Received at Baltimore by the Ranger, from London, bringing London Papers to the 12th of October.

LONDON, October 10.

Yeſterday evening Paris papers reached us to the 7th inſtant, but at too late an hour for us to communicate, in any ſatisfactory way, the preliminaries of peace, and the ratification of them by the French government, as announced in the Moniteur of the 6th inſt.

This morning we received, by expreſs, Journals of the 7th; and we have the pleaſure of ſtating, that in the flag of truce, by which they were brought over, citizen Lauriſton, aid-de-camp to Buonaparte, came paſſenger, with the ratification of the preliminaries. He landed at Dover at nine o'clock laſt night, and ſoon after proceeded to town, where he arrived this morning. The ratification was communicated to Lord Hawkeſbury, and was announced in the following

London Gazette Extraordinary.
Downing-street, October 10.

The RATIFICATIONS of the PRELIMINARY ARTICLES of PEACE between his Majeſty and the French Republic, ſigned on the 1ſt inſt. were this day exchanged by the right honorable lord *Hawkeſbury*, one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate, and by *M. Otto.*

The park and tower guns were fired upon this happy occaſion, and the general exultation was unbounded.

October 11.

About three o'clock, the following letter from Lord Hawkeſbury was poſted up at the manſion houſe, bank, Lloyd's, and Stock exchange.

To the right honorable the lord Mayor.

Downing-ſtreet, Oct. 10, 1801.

"My Lord—I have the ſatisfaction to inform your lordſhip, that general Lauriſton arrived in town this morning, with the Ratification of the Preliminaries of Peace, ſigned on the 1ſt inſt. The Ratification of the two governments has this afternoon been exchanged between M. Otto and myſelf.

(Signed)

HAWKESBURY."

The ſilence of our government on the terms of this treaty, although of the leſs conſequence from the communication of the Paris Journals, forms a ſtrong and not very favorable contraſt to the attention paid by the French executive to the anxious and legitimate ſolicitude of the people. We are therefore compelled to reſort to the Moniteur for the details of this important paper, obſerving, what we hear to be the fact, in the original inſtrument Great-Britain has precedence to France in the preamble and ſignature.

PRELIMINARIES OF PEACE.

Preliminaries of Peace between the French Republic, and his Britannic Majeſty, signed at London, 9th Vendemiare, 10th year of the French Republic, (First Oct. 1801.)

[FROM THE MONITEUR.]

The Firſt Conſul of the French Republic, in the name of the French people, and his majeſty the king of the United kingdoms of Great-Britain and Ireland, being animated with an equal deſire of putting a ſtop to the calamities of a deſtructive war, and to re-eſtabliſh harmony and good underſtanding between the two nations, have appointed for that purpoſe, viz. the firſt conſul of the French republic, in the name of the French people, citizen Louis William Otto, commiſſary for the exchange of French priſoners, in England; and his Britannic majeſty, Robert Banks Jenkinſon, Eſq. (commonly called lord Hawkeſbury) one of the members of his Britannic majeſty's privy council, and principal ſecretary of ſtate for foreign affairs—who after duly exchanging their full powers in proper form, have agreed upon the following preliminary articles:

Art. 1. As ſoon as the preliminaries ſhall have been ſigned and ratified, ſincere friendſhip ſhall be re-eſtabliſhed between the French Republic and his Britannic majeſty by ſea and land in every part of the world, and that all hoſtilities may immediately ceaſe between the two powers, and between them and their allies reſpectively, orders ſhall be tranſmitted accordingly to the ſea and land forces with the utmoſt diſpatch; each of the contracting parties engaging to give the neceſſary paſſports and facilities to accelerate the arrival of the ſaid orders, and to enſure their execution. It is further agreed upon, that all conqueſts which may be made on the part of one or the other of the contracting parties, from either of them or their allies, after the ratification of the preſent preliminaries, ſhall be faithfully included in the reſtitutions, which are to take place after the ratification of the definitive treaty.

II. His Britannic majeſty ſhall reſtore to the French republic and to her allies, namely, to his catholic majeſty, and the Batavian republic, all the poſſeſſions and colonies occupied or conquered by the Engliſh forces in the courſe of the preſent war, with the exception of the iſland of Trinidad, and the Dutch poſſeſſions in the iſland of Ceylon, of which iſlands and poſſeſſions his Britannic majeſty reſerves to himſelf the complete and entire ſovereignty.

III. The port of the Cape of Good Hope ſhall be opened to the commerce and navigation of the two contracting parties, who ſhall therein enjoy the ſame advantages.

IV. The iſland of Malta, with its dependencies, ſhall be evacuated by the Engliſh troops, and reſtored to the order of St. John of Jeruſalem. To ſecure the abſolute independence of that iſland upon the one or the other of the contracting parties, it ſhall be placed under the guarantee and protection of a third power, to be determined by the definitive treaty.

V. Egypt ſhall be reſtored to the ſublime Porte, the territory and poſſeſſions of which ſhall be maintained entire as they were before the preſent war.

VI. The territories and poſſeſſions of her faithful majeſty ſhall alſo be maintained entire.

VII. The French troops ſhall evacuate the kingdom of Naples and the Roman ſtate. The Engliſh forces ſhall likewiſe evacuate Porto Ferrajo, and generally all the ports and iſlands which they occupy in the Mediterranean or Adriatic ſeas.

VIII. The republic of the Seven United Iſlands ſhall be recognized by the French republic.

IX. The evacuations, ceſſions, and reſtitutions, ſtipulated by the preſent preliminary articles, ſhall be carried into execution, in Europe, within one month; on the continent and ſeas of Africa and America in three months; and on the continent and ſeas of Aſia in ſix months after ratification of the definitive treaty.

X. The reſpective priſoners ſhall immediately after the exchange of the ratification of the definitive treaty be reſtored in a body and without ranſom, on the reciprocal payment of the private debts which they may have contracted.

Differences having ariſen reſpecting the payment of the ſubſiſtence of the priſoners of war the contracting powers reſerve the right of deciding this queſtion, by the definitive treaty, according to the law of nations and the principles ſanctioned by common uſage.

XI. In order to prevent all ſubjects of complaint and litigation which might ariſe on account of prizes made at ſea after the ſigning of the preliminary articles, it is reciprocally agreed, that the veſſels and effects which may be taken in the channel, and in the ſeas of the north, after the ſpace of 12 days, the date from the exchange of the ratification of the preliminary articles, ſhall be reſtored on each part; that the term ſhall be one month from the channel and the ſeas of the north, as far as the Canary Iſlands incluſively, whether in the ocean or in the Mediterranean; of two months from the ſaid Canary iſlands as far as the Equator; and finally, of five months in all the other parts of the world, without any exception or any other diſtinction more particular with reſpect to time and place.

XII. All the ſequeſtrations laid on the one part or the other on the funds, revenues, and debts, of whatever kind they may be, belonging to one of the contracting powers, or to its citizens or ſubjects, ſhall be taken off immediately after the ſigning of the definitive treaty.

The deciſion of all debts, property, effects, or rights whatſoever, which in conformity to the acknowledged uſages and rights of nations, ſhould be forthcoming at the epocha of peace ſhall be referred to the competent tribunals, and in theſe caſes prompt and complete juſtice ſhall be done, where ſuch claims ſhall be reſpectively made. It is agreed that the preſent article ſhall, immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty, be applied by the contracting powers to the reſpective allies and individuals of their nations, under the condition of juſt reciprocity.

XIII. With reſpect to the fiſheries