NEW-YORK, Feb. 5.

[The public were informed, in this paper on Monday last, that the Convention with France had been transmitted by the French Government to Gaudaloupe, and had been proclaimed there — From the following Circular Letter (which we received yesterday by captain Wallace, of the brig Nancy, from St. Thomas) it appears that the Agency are taking the necessary measures for carrying into effect those articles in which it is more immediately concerned; acting, we presume, from a conviction that the Convention will be ratified by the President and Senate of the United States.]

[CIRCULAR.]

Port Liberty, 11th Nivose, (Dec. 31) 9th year of the French Republic, one and indivisible.

The Agents of the Consuls of the French Republic to the Wandsmen of Guadaloupe.

To the administrators of the Marine and War Administrators of the Department Municipal Agents, Civil and Commercial Judges, Justices of the Peace Commissaires of the Government near the Administrative and Judicial Bodies, Military Commanders, Commandants of Ports, Captains of Armed Vessels, &c. &c.

A Convention, Citizens, has been solemnly promulgated, which reestablishes between the French Republic and the United States of America the accustomed relations of friendship and commerce.

Already two articles of this convention (the 4th and 17th) are obligatory on the two contracting nations.

The 4th and 17th orders of the government of the Republic, notified to the agency of the Consuls by the ministers of the marine and the colonies, are the authorities that the dispositions of the articles (a copy of which is subjoined) be executed with the greatest punctuality.

[Here follow abstracts of the 4th and 17th articles of the convention.]

Every one of you, citizens, in that which concerns you, are to require, overlee, procure or maintain, with the utmost exactitude, the strict execution of all these points. This injunction engages all your responsibility.

All the Americans, whom the fate of war may have brought into Guadaloupe and its dependencies, are to be instantly released.

In case of the absence of the persons interested in reclaiming the American property acquired since the signing of the treaty, and not yet definitively condemned, &c. The public ministry are to take charge of the business for the persons absent; and to put them in the way of obtaining delivery on the part of the agents or the government, the satisfaction to which they may be entitled.

In case of the arrival at Guadaloupe and its dependencies, &c. of prizes captured from the Americans, the commissaries of the government, delegates, or the prize commissioners, are immediately to intervene, and to adopt every measure for preserving the interest of whoever may have a right to it.

All captains of privateers and letters of the marque are bound, on pain of losing their money, to conformity to the dispositions of the said articles, under the penalties, damages, &c. to conform themselves to the spirit of the convention of the 8th Vendemaire, and particularly to the 4th and 17th articles.

Copies of the said articles, and of the present circular letter, will be this day sent; and there was no difficulty about annexed to the commissions of all vessels of war and letters of Marque.

All privateers and letters of marque now at sea, which may touch at Gaudaloupe or its dependencies, &c. shall be provided with the same documents by the chiefs of the war-office, or by delegates or commissaries, who will take a receipt for the same out the back of their commissions.

Your may conceive, citizens, how much damage the non-observance of these dispositions may cause to the public treasury, as well as to the owners, captains, and the securities of the privateers and letters of marque.—Yourselves, citizens, have the greatest interest in preventing this non-observance.

The functionary who by prevarication or negligence shall suffer the least infraction of the clauses which have been just made known, will most certainly be responsible in his person and property.

You will have to render an account, citizens, each in your several stations, for the execution of the said clauses, at every opportunity: and we repeat to you that your responsibility in this respect is very serious.

Health and Fraternity.

JEANNET BRESSEAU.

CONGRESS

House of Representatives.

Sedition Act.

Mr. Harper. As a great part, Mr. chairman, of what I have to offer to the committee on this question, is connected with the statements of abuses which gentlemen who oppose the continuation of this law, tell us have been committed in the course of its execution, I have chosen to offer it at this stage of the debate, in order that the correctness of the errors with which those statements abound, may go forth with the errors themselves.

The objections of gentlemen, Sir, to the continuation of this law, have been directed, as usual, against its constitutionality and its expediency. Those against its expediency are reducible, as far as I have been able to understand them, to some instances of oppression, which gentlemen say have taken place under the law. In what did this oppression consist? If I understand gentlemen aright, they stated it to consist in the denial to persons who have been indicted under the law, of the proper time, means and opportunity of making their defence. The objections have seldom been very distinctly expressed, but as far as I was able to understand them, this was their full amount.

Let us, then, Mr. Chairman, examine the instances which have been given of oppression. Let us enquire whether they afford any foundation for the imputations which have been made on the conduct of the courts.

The first case is that which occurred in Philadelphia last year.* In this case, we are told, the party was denied the means of making his defence; was prevented from adducing his witnesses by which the truth of the publication for which he was indicted, might have been proved. Fortunately for us, there are many now present, who were the witnesses of this business, and who were present at the trial, and can bear testimony to the manner in which it was conducted. They can testify that the party was allowed all the indulgence that he asked for, was permitted to carry before the jury all the testimony which he chose to adduce.

In the first place he summoned several members of congress to attend as witnesses in his behalf. I myself was summoned. An honorable member from Pennsylvania who lits near me, (Mr. Gallatin) was also summoned; and the several other honorable members who were present, and who were included in the summons. It happened that we were prevented from going into court when the party preparing an affidavit, or prepared to give evidence, was ready, and holding it in his hand, ready to produce it, and to have it read, as soon as we had intended, but we did not, to produce the material testimony which we had prepared, or the material evidence which we had prepared, or the material evidence which we had prepared, or the material evidence