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## IMPORTANT STATE PAPER.

*Declaration of War by Russia against England.*

The higher the value in which the emperor held the amity of his Britannick majesty, the keener the regret he must feel at the complete alienation of that monarch.

Twice has the emperor taken up arms in a cause in which the interests of England were most immediately concerned; but he has solicited to no purpose her co-operation to produce the accomplishment of his own object. He did not require she should unite her forces with his; he was anxious only that she would make a diversion in their favour.—He was astonished that in the furtherance of her own cause herself would make no exertion.—On the contrary, she looked on, a cold spectratrix of the sanguinary theatre of the war, which she had herself kindled, and sent a part of her troops to attack Buenos Ayres. Another portion of her army, which seemed to be destined to make a diversion in Italy, finally withdrew from Sicily, where it was assembled. Hopes were entertained that they had taken that step, in order to throw themselves on the Neapolitan coast; but it was soon understood, that they were employed in taking possession of Egypt.

But what sensibly hurt the feelings of his Imperial Majesty was, to see that in violation of the faith and express stipulations of treaties, England annoying the maritime trade of his subjects; and at what period was this proceeding adopted? when the blood of the Russians was flowing in the glorious battles which accumuluted and directed against the armies of his Imperial Majesty, the whole of the military force of his majesty the emperor of the French, with whom England was, and still is, at war!

When the two emperors made peace, his majesty notwithstanding his just causes of displeasure at the conduct of England, did not however refrain from endeavoring to render her services.—The emperor stipulated in that very treaty that he should interpose his mediation between England and France; and he accordingly made an offer of that mediation to the king of Great-Britain, apprising him that it was with a wish to obtain honorable conditions for him.—But the British ministry, adhering no doubt to the plan that was to dissolve and break off all the ties between Russia and England, rejected that mediation.

The peace between Russia and France was likely to bring about a general peace, but it was at this moment that England suddenly awoke from that apparent lethargy in which she had slumbered; but it was only to throw into the north fresh fire brands, which were to rekindle, and have actually kindled, the flames of war which she was not desirous to see extinguished.

Her fleets, her troops appeared on the Danish coast, to execute an act of violence of which history, so fruitful in example, records no parallel.

A power distinguished for its peaceful and moderate conduct, and for a long and unexpected course of wise neutrality, and who sustained, amidst surrounding monarchies, a kind of moral dignity, finds itself treated as if it was engaged in secret plots, and was meditating the downfall of England? while the whole of these imputations were only meant to justify the sudden and entire spoliation of that power.

The emperor, wounded in his dignity, wounded in the affection he feels for his people, wounded in his engagements with the courts of the north, by this act of violence committed in the Baltic, a close sea, the tranquility of which has so long depended on the court of St. James, and is reciprocally granted by both powers, did not dissemble his resentment against England, and warned her that he should not remain indifferent to such a proceeding.

His majesty did not forsee, that while England, having successfully employed her forces, was on the point of seizing on her prey, she would offer a fresh outrage to Denmark, in which his majesty was to bear a part.

New propositions, still more insidious than those made at first, were made to Denmark, which aimed at binding down to England that power thus subjugated, degraded, and applauding, as it were, every thing that had happened.

Still less did the emperor foresee that it would be proposed to him to guarantee that submission, and to promise that that act of violence should not be attended with any mischievous consequences to England.

The English ambassador seems to have imagined that he might venture to propose to the minister of the emperor, that his imperial majesty should undertake the apology and defence of a proceeding which his majesty had so openly condemned. To this step on the part of the Cabinet of St. James, his majesty has thought proper to pay only that attention which it deserved, and has deemed it high time to set limits to his moderation.

The prince royal of Denmark, endowed with a character full of nobleness and energy, and having been blessed by providence with a soul as elevated as his high rank, had apprized the emperor, that justly enraged against what had recently happened at Copenhagen, he had not ratified the convention respecting it, and that he considered it as null and void.

That prince has just now acquainted his majesty with the new propositions that have been made to him, and which are of a nature rather to provoke his resistance than to appease his resentment, for they tend to stamp on his actions the seal of degradation, the impression of which they never will exhibit.

The emperor, struck with the confidence which the prince royal placed in in him, having moreover considered his own grounds of dissatisfaction with England, having attended to his engagement with the powers of the North, engagements entered into by the empress Catharine, and by his late imperial majesty, both of glorious memory, has resolved upon fulfilling them.

His imperial majesty breaks off all communication with England: he recalls his embassy from that court, and will not allow any ambassadour from her to continue at his court. There shall henceforward exist no relations between the two countries.

The emperor declares that he abrogates every act hitherto concluded between Great Britain and Russia, and particularly the convention concluded in 1801. He proclaims anew the principles of the armed neutrality, that monument of the wisdom of the empress Catharine, and binds himself never to recede from that system.

He calls upon England to give complete satisfaction to his subjects, with respect to all the just claims they may set up, of ships and merchandize seized and detained, contrary to the express tenor of the treaties concluded during his own reign.

The emperor gives warning, that nothing shall be re-established between Russia and England, until the latter shall have given satisfaction to Denmark.

The emperor expects, that his Britannick majesty, instead of permitting his ministers to scatter fresh seeds of war, in compliance only with his feelings, will be induced to conclude a peace with his majesty the emperor of the French, which would be extending, in a manner to the whole world, the inestimable blessings of peace.

When the emperor shall be satisfied upon all those points, and especially upon that of a peace between France and England without which no part of Europe can expect to enjoy any real tranquility, his Imperial majesty will then willingly return to the relations of amity with Great Britain, which in the state of just resentment which the emperor should feel, he has maintained perhaps, too long.

Done at St. Petersburgh, the 28th October, 1807.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE,
SATURDAY, Nov. 28.

*At the Court at the Queen's palace, the 25th of November, 1807. Present the KING's most excellent Majesty in Council.*

Whereas it has been represented, that it would be expedient to fix certain periods at which it shall be deemed that a reasonable time shall have elapsed for receiving information, at different places, of his Majesty's Order in Council of the 11th of November, inst. respecting the trade with his majesty's enemies, and in their produce and manufactures; his majesty taking the same into consideration, and being desirous to obviate any difficulties that may arise in respect thereto, and also to allow ample time for the said order being known to all persons who may be affected thereby, is pleased by and with the advice of his Privy Council, to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared that information of the said order of the 11th of November, instant, shall be taken and held to have been received in the places hereinafter mentioned, at the periods respectively assigned to them; namely.

Ports and places within the Baltic, Dec. 21, 1807.

Other ports and places to the northward of Amsterdam—Dec. 11, 1807.

From Amsterdam to Ushant—Dec. 4, 1807.

From Ushant to Cape Finisterre—Dec. 8, 1807.

From Cape Finisterre to Gibraltar, inclusive—Dec. 13, 1807.

Madeira—Dec. 13, 1807.

Ports and places within the Streights of Gibraltar, to Sicily and Malta, and the West coast of Italy, inclusive—Jan. 1, 1808.

All other ports and places in the Mediterranean beyond Sicily and Malta—Jan. 20, 1808.

Ports and places beyond the Dardanelles—Feb. 1, 1808.

Any part of the North and Western coast of Africa, or the islands adjacent, except Madeira—Jan. 11, 1808.

The United States, and British possessions in North America, and the West-Indies—Jan. 20, 1808.

Cape of Good Hope, and East coast of South America—March 1, 1808.

India—May 1, 1808.

China and the coast of South America—June 1, 1808.

And every vessel sailing on or after those days, from those places respectively, shall be deemed and taken to have received notice of the aforesaid order: And it is further ordered that if any vessel shall sail within twenty days after the periods above assigned respectively, from any of the said places, in contravention of the said order of the 11th of November instant, and shall be detained as a prize on account thereof, or shall arrive at any port in this kingdom, destined to some port or place within the restriction of the said order, and proof shall be made to the Court of Admiralty in which such vessel shall be proceeded against, in case the same shall be brought in as a prize, that the loading of the said vessel had commenced before the said periods, and before information of the said order had actually been received at the port of shipment; the said vessel, together with the goods so laden, shall be restored to the owner or owners thereof, and shall be permitted to proceed on her voyage in such manner as if such vessel had sailed before the day so specified as aforesaid: And it is farther ordered, that no proof shall be admitted, or be gone into, for the purpose of shewing that information of the said order of the 11th of November instant, had not been received at the said places respectively, at the several periods before assigned.

W. FAWKENER.

At the court at the queen's palace, the 25th November, 1807, present the king's most excellent majesty in council.

Whereas his majesty, by his order in council, dated the 11th November inst. respecting the trade to be carried on with his majesty's enemies, was pleased to exempt from the restrictions of the said order, all vessels which shall have cleared out from any port or place in in this kingdom, under such regulations as his majesty may think fit to prescribe, and shall be proceeding direct to the ports specified in the respective clearances: his majesty, taking into consideration the expediency of making such regulations, is pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that all vessels belonging to countries not at war with his majesty, shall be permitted to lade in any port of the United Kingdom, any goods being the produce or manufacture of his majesty's dominions, or East India goods, or prize goods, (all such goods having been lawfully imported) and to clear out with, and freely to convey the same to any port or place in any colony in the West Indies or America, belonging to his majesty's enemies, such port or place not being in a state of actual blockade, subject to the payment of such duties as may at the time when any such vessels may be cleared out, be due by law on the exportation of any such goods, or in respect of the same being destined to the ports of the colonies belonged to his majesty's enemies; and likewise to lade, clear out with, and convey as aforesaid, any articles of foreign produce or manufacture, which shall have been lawfully imported into this kingdom, provided his majesty's license shall have been previously obtained for so conveying such foreign produce or manufacture.

And it is further ordered, that any vessel belonging as aforesaid shall be permitted to lade in any port of the United Kingdom, any goods, not being naval or military stores, which shall be of the growth, produce or manufacture of this kingdom, or which shall have been lawfully imported, (save and except foreign sugar, coffee, wine, brandy, snuff and cotton) and to clear out with, and freely to convey the same to any port, to be specified in the clearance, not being in a state of actual blockade, although the same shall be under the restrictions of the said order; and likewise to lade, clear out and convey foreign sugar, coffee, wine, brandy, snuff, and cotton, which shall have been lawfully imported, provided his majesty's licence shall have been previously obtained for the exportation and conveyance thereof.

And it is hereby further ordered, that no vessel shall be permitted to clear out from any port or place of this kingdom to any port or place of any other country subjected to the restrictions of the said order, with any goods which shall have been laden [after notice of the said order] on board the vessel which shall have imported the same into this kingdom, without having first duly entered and landed the same in some port or place in this kingdom, and that no vessel shall be permited to clear out from any port or place in this kingdom to any port or place whatever, with any goods, the produce or manufacture of any country, subjected to the restrictions of the said order, which shall have been after notice as aforesaid; on board the vessel importing the same, without having so duly entered and landed the same; or any goods whatever which shall have been laden after such notice, in the vessel importing the same, in any port or place of any country subjected to the restrictions of the said order, without having so duly entered and landed the same in some port or place of this kingdom, except the cargoes shall consist wholly of flour, meal, grain, or any article or articles the produce of the soil of some country which is not subjected to the restrictions of the said order, except cotton, and which shall have been imported in an unmanufactured state directed from such country into this kingdom, in a vessel belonging to the country from which such goods have been brought, and in which the same were grown and produced.

And it is further ordered, that any vessel belonging to any country not at war with his majesty, may clear out from Guernsey, Jersey, or Man, to any port or place, under the restrictions of the said order, which shall be specified in the clearance, not being in a state of actual blockade, with such articles only, not being naval or military stores, as shall have been legally imported into such islands respectively, from any port or place in this kingdom direct; and with respect to all such articles as may have been imported into the said islands respectively, from any port or place under the restrictions of the said order, it shall not be permitted to any vessel to clear out with the same from any of the said islands, except at some port or place in this kingdom.

W. FAWKENER.

*Cockpit, Whitehall, Nov. 19.*—Before the most Noble and Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of Appeals in Prize Causes:

The Wells, Lamson, master—This vessel, under American colours, with a cargo of sugar, coffee, tobacco and staves, on a voyage from Salem to Marseilles, was captured on the 9th of September, 1805, by his Majesty's ship Naiad, Thomas Dundas, Esq. commander, and carried to Gibralter, where the usual proceedings were instituted. It appeared that the judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court restored the ship and adventures of the master, mate and seamen, and also 5921 pipe-staves and 13 hogsheads of tobacco, and condemned the remainder of the goods; from which part of the sentence the claimants appealed.—Their Lordships affirmed the sentence of the court below.

Aurora, Hall, master—This American vessel, with 45,000 dollars on board, and also wine, oil, and other articles, (adventures of the master and supercargo) was captured on the 5th of October, 1805, by his majesty's ship Phœbe, the Hon. T. Bladen Cappel, commander, in sight of his Majesty's ships Weazel, Peter Parker, Esq. commander, and carried to Gibralter. When the cause came on for hearing, it appeared that the Court below restored the ship and private adventures, but condemned the specie—from which condemnation the claimants prosecuted an appeal.—In this case their Lordships pronounced for the appealants, and restored the property as claimed on payment of the captors expences in both Courts.

Washington, Ford, master—This vessel in ballast, from St. Jago de Cuba to Baltimore, was on the 9th of Oct. 1805, captured by his Majesty's ship of war Franchise Randal M'Donald, Esq. commander, and carried to the Island of Jamaica, where a libel, was filed against her.—In this case their, Lordships pronounced for the appeal, and required further proof to be produced.

Mohawk, Peck, master—This American, with a cargo of sugar and flour, on a return voyage from Martinique to New-York, was captured on the 7th of April, 1805, by his majesty's ship of war, Heureux, George Younghusband, Esq. commander, and carried to Tortola, was there proceeded against; and the ship and cargo were condemned to the captors, and the master's private adventure was restored; from which sentence two appeals were presented by the captors and the claimants.—In this case their Lordships pronounced the ship and cargo to belong as claimed, and decreed the claimants expences to be paid by the captors.

NEW BEDFORD, Jan. 23.

Arrived this evening, the fast sailing ship Honestus, captain Nathan Clark, 42 days from the Downs. Left London about the 11th of December, for the Mediterranean. Off cape Trafalgar, spoke a British ship of war, who informed that Algiers had declared WAR against AMERICA, and had captured a number of vessels; in consequence went into Tangier for further information; and on application to the American consul the account of war was fully confirmed; and a letter handed by the consul to captain Clark—a copy of which is given below.

In consequence of this information, captain C. left Tangier for America the 1st instant—touched at Madeira on the 9th, and found it in the hands of the English: they having taken possession of it on the 25th of December.

" TANGIER, DEC. 31.

" SIR—The belief of the Algerines having commenced hostilities on the flag of the United States, is founded on the declaration, under oath of captain Ichabod Sheffield, of the schooner Mary-Ann, of New York, made at Naples; which states, that his vessel and the brig Violet, of Boston, were captured on the 26th October,* by an Algerine frigate of 44 guns. Captain Sheffield adds, that he had heard the same frigate had taken an American ship and schooner, a few days before his vessel. He was fortunate enough to over power the Turks put on board the Mary-Ann, and arrived at Naples on the 4th of November.† This intelligence appears fully confirmed by the advice received at Gibraltar, on the 21st instant from Oran, of 9 American vessels having been carried to Algiers, of which Mr. Gavino has acquainted me. Under these circumstances, it is my decided opinion, your determination not to proceed up the Mediterranean is perfectly right; and I beg you may make this known to every American vessel you may meet at sea.

" With this is a letter for consul Cathcart, at Maderia; if you can conveniently leave it there, or put it on board of any vessel bound for that island, it may be productive of happy consequences. I also deliver you a dispatch for the honorable the secretary of state, which I have to request you will put into the hands of the post master, at the first port you may be able to make in the United States.

" I wish you a safe and speedy voyage, and am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JAMES SIMPSON.

" *Capt. Nathan Clark, ship Honestus, Tangier Bay.*

* Capt. Clark, saw capt. Sheffield's declaration, and is confident that there is a mistake in this date; it was 26th November.

† December 14th, in the original.