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FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

*To the People of the United States.*
No. III.

*The principle of retaliation*, as a ground of belligerent pretention and deportment, is one, which it is our duty firmly to examine and deliberately to consider. Its great delicacy and vast importance may forbid a well-intentioned individual to pronounce on the nature and extent of the rights, which an injured, endangered or provoked belligerent may practically enjoy or colorably claim, on this serious and inconvenient principle: but the same objections do not occur against argument or demonstration, calculated to quash *all pretention to retaliate* on the part of any government, from which we suffer. Hence it has been that fair and weighty considerations, applying negatively to the *British claims on the ground of retaliation* have been explicitly introduced into these papers.

After an honest and candid recollection of the rise or progress of neutral spoliations, we are unable to call to mind a single proclamation, order of council, or other act of the British government from 1791 to 1806, in which they for a moment set up, in substance or in words, the slightest pretention to retaliate on France or the neutral states any alledged original abuses or perversions of neutral trade, navigation or seamen, until the attempt of the court of London to procure an admission of that nature in their own addition to a treaty, otherwise mutual, in December, 1806. This fact is the more strong, because general Hamilton in his publications of "*Americus*," while he was exercising the functions of a President over a federal administration in 1798, ane colonel Pickering, then secretary of state, in a public official report, advanced the unfounded ideas, that England had *followed* France in all her violations of neutral commerce, whereby those eminent citizens *put into the mouth of Britain* all the pretentions of a power entitled to retaliate, *which she had never theretofore claimed.* And here, *Britain*, we will ingenuously confess, in your favor, that these and other children of America, adopted and native, while honored by our high trusts and fed by our treasures, have done *much* indeed, (and *often* have done so *much*) to mislead you into unwarrantable, irregular, and pernicious acts, and to confirm you in a course towards neutral trade and persons, which has threatened ruin to us and now suspends fearful dangers over your beautiful and noble country. But we return to our point: England, sharp and ingenious, and thus goaded by Americans as she has been, never once mentioned the doctrine of retaliation, till the last of December, 1806, in the proposed rider to the treaty of Monroe and Pinkney, Auckland and Holland.

Let us now examine the opposite side. What has been the conduct of France? She always, even in 1792, took the ground of a power aggressed on, offended much, and much endangered by those aggressions. She avowed, before the war with England her right and duty to retaliate on the Hanse towns the perversions of their resources, which *neutral* Britain committed in January, 1793. She took measures of regular indemnity from England on the 1st of February, 1793, by an open declaration of war. In May, 1793, France issued her first general order touching neutral trade, and though it was *to save her bread*, and she avowed the right, duty and *necessity* of retaliation, or *of using the resources of neutrals to save her country, to prevent England from using those neutral resources to ruin her country*, yet France did not add *the penalty of confiscation* of neutral property, as England does, but, agreed to pay for the neutral property taken in retaliation of English abuses. In the same spirit, grounded upon the same defensive grounds, avowing the same principles, it will be found that the legislative proceedings, executive acts, official communications and soundest publications of France from 1792, inclusive, to the memorable decrees of Berlin, Milan, and Bayonne, all avow the right, duty and necessity of retaliation. The government of France, incommoded, injured, justly provoked and deeply endangered by illegitimate British perversions of the vast supplies, purchases, ships and men of neutrals to her own gain or power, and *to the destruction of the French*—France, we say, under these circumstances, contends for the right, duty and necessity to retaliate; and unhappily for the neutrals, she at length adds that ruinous confiscation, in these neutral cases, which Britain had *long before* adopted and enforced in her first aggressions. Thus does a fair and calm review of the history of neutral spoliations *prove* to us, that England from 1792 till the last week of 1806, never even pretended that France had so *abused and perverted* neutral trade, as to give her a color of pretention "to *retaliate*;" while France, from 1792, to that day, always maintained the charge of aggression against England in all her acts, and in the most steady, explicit, and open manner. The principle of retaliation has never carried France to the lengths of England. She is not like England in the invariable and odious practice of taking either American, or French, or other foreign seamen by impressment, or rather capture, out of our vessels. She has never extended her claims on persons sailing in our vessels, to passengers. Her Milan decree, with the exception of the wrecked vessel, is not executed by final and effectual confiscation, as are *all* the orders of council of G. Britain. Various other differences in the conduct of England and France exist. It is true, we believe, that as Britain assured our ministers in December, 1806, that she would act towards us as we should permit France, so France in 1808 has said she will follow that example of England, and confiscate under the Milan decree, if we do not resist similar English anterior aggressions, affording, by a new and solemn fact, another serious evidence, that *original aggression of pernicious example* is the characteristic of the English conduct, and *an imitative retaliation* the characteristic of the conduct of France. England, by claiming and insisting on a right of retaliation against reason, justice, and public law, gives the most unfortunate sanction to the conduct of France, so far as she has that law on her side.

There is a fact in our own conduct, which is conclusive upon the subject of first aggression and retaliation. In 1794, President Washington, to avoid *our* retaliating on England by a sequestion of property to pay for her illegitimate seizures, sent a special mission to England to obtain redress, and even General Hamilton did not then suggest, nor did General Washington propose to send such a minister for such a purpose to France. It would have appeared very extraordinary indeed thus formally to demand redress of England, if she were correctly retaliating the anterior aggressions of the French, and to be totally inattentive to prevention and redress in the case of the French. In Mr. Jay's negociations and treaty, no trace is to be found of a single idea relative to retaliations by the English for any suggested French original aggressions. Mr. Pickering was then and afterwards as enthusiastic a friend of France as any person in America. He did not then pretend she had given cause for retaliation in 1795. It is also true and is well known to Mr. Monroe, Mr. Jay and others of both parties at this time alive, that General Hamilton was extremely anxious to go to England, in order to be the instrument of our demand of a discontinuance of original British aggressions, reparation for the past and security for the future. His baggage was notoriously begun to be packed, but his appointment was prevented, and the duty was assigned to Mr. Jay. So extreme was the anti-American spirit at that moment in the British *public* circle, here, so bent were they on neutral spoliation, that it was asserted among them, in the most emphatic manner, that "*Mr. Jay*, (our special minister to England for redress) *would not* be allowed to set his foot on shore." It is a curious fact, that after such sentiments and conduct in 1794, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Pickering should hazard the idea, in 1798, that France was the *first* aggressor on neutral commerce, and England, consequently, a mere justifiable retaliator. It is submitted to our countrymen to consider the facts and observations in these papers in their due and very serious relation to the recent letter of Mr. Senator Pickering to the governor of Massachusetts. It will appear to that great commercial state & to our whole country, that the strong and decided encouragement openly given to the misconduct of Great Britain by Mr. Hamilto, Mr. Pickering and other persons in the same pernicious habits, are among the real and most efficient causes of her refusing to us redress and indemnity for the past and security against future violations of our neutral commercial rights. *Nay—the present jeopardy of G. Britain is chargeable in a very considerable degree, to these and similar character, who have taught her by their pamphlet, reports, speeches and conversations to believe, that as the neutrals would bear any ill treatment, she might go on till she has at length excited the utmost indignation of the neutrals & the most awful spirit of revenge & retaliation in the rest of the civilized world.* It is best, even now for England to be persuaded of these truths. What Hamilton could not effect, Pickering cannot accomplish. Not Jefferson or Madison, Clinton or Monroe would be persuaded that England has ever had one particle of ground to retaliate, tho' Hamilton rose from the dead. The only part for England now to act towards the United States is *to be regular and just.* We require not favor nor even liberality though such temper and conduct would certainly go further to promote her American interests than any other. No Senate, no House of Representatives can possibly exist, which will concede to England, against their own knowledge and memories, a right to retaliate on us for the retaliations of the European continental powers. Even in 1798, when the impressions of President Adams against France, the labored publications and incessant exertions of Mr. Hamilton and the official advantages and statements of Mr. Pickering, favored England; the legislature of the United States would not sanction the idea, that France was the originater of neutral spoliations; and England, as she first pretended in her treaty rider of 1806, the mere and justifiable retaliator.

The conduct of Great Britain in 1794, in advancing ideas of *countervailing* duties was an abuse of the idea of commercial retaliation. She excluded us from her colonies, shut out *all* our manufactures, prohibited many articles of our produce, highly duttied others, and refused all foreign goods in our vessels; and because we gave a small encouragement to our own vessels, by a duty on cargoes in foreign vessels, of one per cent. more than in our own, and small tonnage duty, she determined to retaliate or "*countervail*," those two duties, and *to maintain all her other burdens on our vessels, produce and manufactures.* There has been a craft in that country towards us like that of *Ulysses.* It is a kind of wisdom, which has never worn well, since the days of that Greek. Hence it has been, that no writer has ever assumed the signature of *the cunning Ulysses.* No nation has ever followed the commercial devices of the British government, whose sordid merchants clamor, in their rival meetings, that we, their best and then indeed their only customers, "*grow too rich*," though their own commerce had trebled in the time and though they enjoyed all the trade of the world which we did not possess. Americans! think not I am harsh. It was in this *unhappy* spirit that the king and council of Great Britain, introduced for the first time in their Parliamentary history the 35th section of their act of the 17th June, 1793, whereby all impediments from ministerial responsibility, and from the rights of their legislature, to *a complete prostration of neutral commerce with their enemies in innocent articles* were unobservedly removed. With that law in their hands, a British ministry could safely riot—could insolently wanton in *the rich spoils of neutral trade.* Were this base act of June, 1793, and its base repetition in 1803, retaliations of the Berlin, the Milan or the Bayonne decrees of 1806, 1807, and 1808? Ye *little* pirates of the states of Barbary! hide your diminished heads. Ye *children* in the game of plunder, go to London to learn infractions of the christian decalogue Britain will teach you that for every hundred of *our free bodies*, which ye infidels have taken, in thirty years of American trade, she, a christian power, has taken ten-fold the number in a quarter of the time. Britain will teach you, that all your much noised plunder of the Christian world, in centuries past, is less by far, than what her "*corsairs*," have torn from us alone in fifteen years. Britain will teach you that the pious heads of an established christian church can openly vote for these *pirate* laws, and humbly solicit, for their brothers and their sons, formal commissions, civil, military, and judicial, to perpetrate their execution!

Americans! look at this statement; and tell me plainly, if it be not true. Tell me then on what strange grounds, ye ever hoped that France, a witness of our *former* non-resistance, would cease to plunder too. By your peace measures of strong coercion—your interdiction of the manufactures of Britain, the exclusion of her dangerous navy from your waters, and the withholding of all our supplies to their people and their artists, ye have proved to the European world, that wholesome measures of redress at length engage our councils.

JURISCOLA.

## Easton August 30.

CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATION.

Republished to correct an error in the *number* of the *district*, which occurred in a part of last week's impression.

Agreeably to previous notice in the Star, the gentlemen appointed as a committee from Queen Ann's and Talbot counties, met at the Court-House in Easton, on Thursday the 18th instant, (the committee from Caroline not attending) for the purpose of nominating and recommending a suitable character to the Democratic Republicans, to represent the Seventh Congressional District of Maryland, in the Congress of the United States, from the fourth of March next.—When colonel PHILIP FIDDEMAN, was unanimously called to the chair and SOLOMON DICKINSON, appointed secretary. Several gentlemen being put in nomination, the committee proceeded to vote, and on counting the ballots, JOHN BROWN of *Nathan*, of Queen Ann's county, was declared to be duly elected. Therefore,

*Resolved unanimously*, That this committee reposing great confidence in the Republicanism and Integrity of the said JOHN BROWN, do hereby recommend him as a suitable character to represent this district, in the Congress of the United States, to the voters of the same; and hope, at this all important crisis of our National affairs, that the republicans of the district will be vigilent and active in their endeavours to carry this resolution into effect.

*Resolved unanimously*, That the above proceedings be signed by the Chairman, and Secretary, and published in the Republican Star, at Easton.

PHILIP FIDDEMAN Chairman,
Test,
SOLOMON DICKINSON, Secretary.

NOTICE.

*To the Voters of Talbot County.*

I HEREBY offer my services as a Delegate in the next session of the Legislature of Maryland.

DAVID KERR, Junior.

*August* 23, 1808.


Twelve months Credit.

WILL be sold at public sale, on *THURSDAY*, the twenty-ninth day of September next, at the Farm of the subscriber in King's Creek, horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, and farming utensils. A credit of twelve months will be given on all sums over six dollars, the purchaser giving note with approved security, bearing interest from the day of sale—for all sums of six dollars, and under, the cash will be required on delivery of the property. The sale to begin at 11 o'clock.

JAMES PARROTT, jun.

King's Creek, August 30, 1808. 3

Land for sale.

*By virtue of a decree of the honorable Chancellor of Maryland, the subscriber will sell at public vendue, on the first* MONDAY *in October next, at the house of Mr. Benjamin Hatcheson, in Centreville,*

ALL that FARM and TRACT of LAND, lying and being in Queen-Ann's county, formerly the property of *Christopher W. Carradine*, deceased, and which was by him purchased of the heirs of Charles Blake, deceased, containing two hundred and seventy-seven acres, or thereabouts. This estate is situated within two miles of Centreville, has the greatest abundance of wood, and is perceptible of being improved into a snug settlement. It will be sold together, or in lots, as may best suit the bidders, on a credit of twelve months, the purchaser giving bond with approved security, for the payment of the purchase money, with legal interest thereon from the day of sale. All persons having claims against the said Christopher W. Carradine, are requested to exhibit them to the Chancellor, with the vouchers thereof, on or before the first day of November next.

ED. T. EARLE, *Trustee.*

Centreville, August 23, 1808. 6


## SUMMARY OF Latest Foreign Intelligence.

BOSTON, August 18.

Yesterdery arrived at this port the ship Isabella, capt. Higgins, belonging to New-York, in 38 days from Liverpool. Our files of London papers, by this arrival are to July 9 and contain much interesting and important matter. The prominent articles contained in these journals, in letters, and as verbally reported by the passengers, are, That a speedy peace was expected between the northern powers of Europe, in which England would be included as a friend and ally: that in consequence of this expected event Russian goods had fallen more than 20 per cent. and colonial productions risen considerably; that an expedition consisting of 180 transports, with 20,000 men, under the command of sir A. Wellesley, had sailed for Spain: that besides the assistance furnished by government, a general subscription of money was raising thro't the united kingdoms to aid the patriots of Spain in their struggle for liberty; in one of the interior towns it is said 50,000*l.* was subscribed: that his Britannick majesty, in addressing his parliament on their prorogation, had promised his utmost assistance to Spain; and as an unequivocal proof of his zeal and attachment to the glorious cause in which the patriots of that country were now engaged, had rescinded all the orders in council relating to the blockade of Spanish and Portuguese ports: that Lisbon was again in the hands of the Portuguese, and the Russian fleet surrendered to the English: that Joseph Napoleon Bonaparte had arrived at Bayonne from Naples, and been proclaimed king of Spain and the Indies by a council composed of deputies created through the influence and perfidy of the French emperor: that general Murat, who had commanded the French troops at Madrid, and been proclaimed lieutenant general of the kingdom of Spain, had been compelled to fly from the capital, and seek his safety at Bayonne, where he remained at our last dates; that Mr. Canning, on the 25th of June, in reply to some observations from members of parliament, declared that ministers had not received any recent communications from America; that he understood the American cabinet were negociating on some important matters with France; that while waiting the result of these negociations, he could only say it was the wish of his majesty to be on friendly terms with the United States; and that every thing would be sacrificed to that consideration, but the *honour of the country*: that American and British vessels were in great demand throughout England; that insurance to the United States had fallen to 3 guineas; freights to America 4*l.* 10*s.* a 5*l.* per ton; hat many vessels were up, and a number had sailed for Spain and its colonies with goods, provisions, &c: and generally, that the present administration of England never stood higher in the estimation of the people than at this moment.

Capt. Higgins spoke a vessel from Malta, from which he was informed, that several French ships of war had been seized at Malaga and other Spanish ports in the Mediterranean.

*Important Dispatches.*

We understand dispatches to our government, of great importance, were received in the Isabella. They were immediately forwarded to Mr. Madison.

IMPORTANT LETTERS,

"FROM LIVERPOOL, July 11.

"The events which are now taking place in Spain have revived our hopes, and, we trust, hold out a rational prospect of an effectual stop being put to the progress the French were making towards the subjugation of Europe; we have also *well grounded* expectations, that Russia will soon be ranked amongst the number of our friends.

"This unexpected, and we may almost say, miraculous change in the politics of Europe, has had a very material effect on our market; Russian, Baltic, and Mediteranean produce of all descriptions is rapidly declining, whilst our colonial produce is as rapidly advancing, ten to fifteen per cent advance has been given on coffee, from the supposition that the North of Europe would be immediately opened to us, and hemp is depressed full fifteen pounds per ton.

"Rice is in brisk demand, as it is generally understood that Spain will be in great want of provisions, and a considerable advance has taken place. Timber, staves, ashes and naval stores of all