ntellectual faculties, or *private instructions enchain his mind.*

Mr. Pickering having thought proper to sanction his writings with the authority of his name, I have been induced to be fairly at issue with him, though with less fame and talent, to sign also my comments, which are the result of my researches and studies, in the department of foreign affairs of France, and of the observations which I have had an opportunity to collect during diplomatic missions, at different courts of Europe.

EDMOND CHARLES GENET,
A citizen of New-York.

Prospect-Hill, Aug. 20, 1811.

INDIAN NEWS.

St. Louis, August 8.

From Mr. Bradbury and Mr. Brackenridge, lately arrived from the Mandan villages, we learn the following particulars.

Mr. Hunt, contrary to every expectation, passed the Sioux bands without any difficulty. His force consisted of nearly eighty men well armed, in four barges, with howitzers and swivels in each. He was determined to pass at all hazards, but expected that the Indians would not be on the river; the fall being the usual time of their coming on it. At the Maha village he learned that the Sioux were informed of the ascending of the boats, and were assembling on the river for the purpose of stopping them; he also learned that several white men had been killed by them, and others had narrowly escaped; a Sioux of the same band had also been shot by an American hunter. The Sioux had a general council, in which it was determined to stop every party that ascended the river, unless too strong for them. Mr. Hunt found all the upper bands collected some distance above White river; the Tetons, bois Brule, Aconda-da's, and Saones; about three hundred warriors shewed themselves, but being intimidated by the formidable appearance of Mr. Hunt's party, they accepted of a small present, and suffered them to pass by unmolested. Perhaps the knowledge which they had of Mr. Manuel's boat being behind, with a weaker party, had some effect, together with the appearance of a war party of three hundred Arikaras, who were discovered about the same time. The Sioux retired from the river, and in the mean time Mr. Manuel, who was only one day and an half behind Mr. Hunt, passed them undiscovered, not being expected for some time, but being favored by winds, he ascended with amazing rapidity.

Mr. Hunt and his party have by this time set out from the Arikaras to proceed on the rest of their journey by land. Mr. Hunt has purchased one hundred horses, and intends to ascend a river which enters the Missouri a few miles below the Arikara villages. From this river he will cross over the Big Horn, and from thence he will steer a west course for the southern branch of the Columbia. He has with him several hunters who have crossed the mountains in that direction.

Very unsatisfactory accounts have been obtained from Mr. Henry, a member and agent of the Missouri company. Some hunters who arrived at the company's fort at the Mandan villages, early in the spring, bring information of his being still on the waters of the Columbia, and with a considerable quantity of beaver. He had suffered great distress from want of provisions; his horses had also been stolen by the Crows in crossing mountains. There is reason to believe that he is now on his way to the Mandan villages. Shortly before his abandoning the fort in the three forks of the Missouri, there had been a battle between eighteen or nineteen of his hunters, and upwards of two hundred Blackfeet, in which twenty-two of the latter were killed, and the hunters enabled to make a safe retreat to the fort with the loss of only one man. The Blackfeet and Assineboin, it is said, have lately appeared extremely well provided with ammunition, perhaps by the British establishments, in order to annoy the Missouri traders.

Last winter, on the upper part of the Missouri, was remarkable for the unusual quantity of snow, and there has been during the whole spring and summer seasons, a continued succession of heavy rains.

FROM FORT STODDART, Aug. 21.

The editors of the Whig are indebted to a correspondent in that part of the Mississippi Territory for the following extracts from the "Centinel" of the same date, containing the latest news from that quarter.

"A NEW ORDER.

"The commandant of Mobile has received from the captain general of Cuba, a positive order not to permit the passage of any *powder, troops or armed vessels* past Mobile, belonging to the United States—that should he permit any to pass, it would be considered a disobedience of orders by him, and that he should answer for the same. In a private letter to the commandant he evinced much displeasure at permission being given to the last powder schooner to pass unmolested.

"As this order is positive, we may expect that in case an attempt is made, to hear of a few shot being exchanged; in fact, this expectation, in the minds of some, was realised, when our gun vessels appeared off Mobile the 2d of last month, but a council of war was held, and a majority were of opinion, that it was their *safer* plan to permit the sch'r to proceed, than to contest her passage. In this *new* order, it is observed, "that should any vessel having any of the before mentioned articles on board, and being conveyed by an armed force, attempt to pass, and a council of war be held, that if ONE of the officers is for opposing their passage, they *shall* do so" —from which we may calculate that the passage will be warmly contested.

"We deem it unnecessary to call the attention of government to this subject, as we claim the free and undisturbed navigation of the Mobile river, and as we expect to see it asserted in a short time, not by proclamations, but by cannon.

"In addition to the troops lately sent from Mobile to take possession of Dolphin island, which is included in the Pascagoula parish, we understand that a party will be sent in a few days to retake possession of all that tract of country lying between Mobile bay and the Perdido river, which is also included in the said parish. As we have once taken possession of it, we cannot for a moment believe, that gov. Claiborne will suffer the Spaniards to exercise any jurisdiction over the same."

FROM THE BOSTON CHRONICLE.

AMERICAN POLITICS.

WALLACE.—No. I.

"MY VOICE IS STILL FOR WAR."

The political situation of the United States for these four years past, has been to the last degree embarrassed and distressing. Exposed to insult and pillage, we have been deprived of the last consolation of a magnanimous spirit, that of having resented and avenged the indignities offerred it. Assailed by all belligerent Europe, we have been lost in a state of amazement and doubt, whether to declare *indiscriminate war*, or to single out our enemy; and in this perturbation and hesitancy, have yielded to the pressure and sunk under the ignominous oppression of our foes.—But, those who are acquainted with the American character, its firmness, enterprise, and vigor; its unconquerable attachment to liberty, and its insurmountable obstinacy, when roused to defend its rights; traits which do certainly belong to it, notwithstanding the contemptible and sordid disposition discovered by a few miserable *importers* of British trash: satisfied, that it would not long remain in this state of infamous repose. They were apprised, that the insults and injuries, so liberally bestowed upon us, still *rankled* in our bosoms; and whenever the favorable moment for resistance and redress arrived, that the vengeance would be keener, in proportion to the length of time in which it has necessarily been smothered.

An opportunity is at length presented *to chose our enemy;* the Berlin and Milan decrees are repealed; the difficulties between our government and that of France, *so far as Great Britain is a party* have been honorably adjusted:—and is there any one, who has marked the proceedings of the British government, the outrageous system it has introduced, the enormous principles it has assumed, the base subterfuge it has resorted to,—*wild* enough to suppose, that England will *forego* that violence and rapine, so congenial to her nature, and supposed so necessary for her favorite *dominion of the Seas?*

The conduct of England towards this country, for these last six years, has been, in her negociations, studied arrogance and perfidy; in her assumed rights and principles, as practically exhibited, the most stupendous tyranny that ever one nation claimed over another.——First she demanded that we should abandon a lucrative branch of commerce, from her enemies' colonies to the continent: a fair and legitimate trade, warranted by every principle of national law and justice. We consented to such abandonment, and to please that haughty nation, went through the tedious and expensive process of shipping colonial produce in America.—Next, her prohibition of her enemies' produce from the continent was absolute and unconditional:—to that imperious decree, we likewise submitted.—Then, she declared an extensive line of sea-coast, from Elbe to Brest, under a state of blockade: In this usurpation we also acquiesced. France then issued her Berlin and Milan decrees which were explained away, as to their operation on the commerce of the United States, and might ever have remained a dead letter, had not the Orders in council *worked them into life*, and given rise to the indignities & oppression to which we have so long been subjected. Lest, amidst this accumulation of injuries, the object of the nation should be mistaken her statesmen came forward, and openly avowed, that the absolute *sovereignty of the seas*, was both the right and policy of Britain. So long ago as the year 1805, STEVENS, in his "*War in Disguise*," laid claim to such preposterous authority. "America will resist," says he, (he thought, no doubt, that some of the blood of our forefathers circulated in OUR veins)—"America will resist:" What then?—*We will plant a wall of fire round their coast:* we will *force* our commodities *upon them*, and either *divide* that feeble and ill-connected country, or render it *subservient to our views.*" Such were the sentiments, promulgated by a member of Parliament, in face of the American nation and the world! And shortly after the Orders in Council were announced, another member of Parliament, in a pamphlet, (always the fatal precursor of the course marked out by the cabinet) advocates the policy of continuing these Orders, *even if France should rescind her obnoxious decrees.* In the mean time her agents were directed to tamper with the factions in the bosom of our country.—Reports were regularly made, as appears from the official letters of Mr. Erskine, of the *degree of resistance* that might be expected from the *opposition*—of the force of sedition—the efficacy of cabal—and the prospect of a convulsion, if government should be rash enough to resist. The conclusion was highly flattering: All attempts (reasoned the British ministry,) to presevere in hostilities against us must be defeated. The North will rise up in rebellion—a *separation of the States* will take place, and that weak and contemptible people will soon find employment enough in cutting one another's throats in their own country. Lamentable as it is, it is too true, that a few vociferous demagogues in the capital of New-England, who made up in noise and outrage, what they wanted in patriotism and true courage, gave plausibility to the argument, and countenance to the system!

In every stage of this progressive usurpation, we opposed remonstrance, plead the law of nations urged argument and entreaty?—and what did we obtain? The taunting insolence of Canning; the laconic effrontery of Wellesley; which seemed to imply, with a cold-blooded superciliousness, that we were interfering in concerns beyond our province, and though they really felt great commiseration for the *people* of America, they would not condescend to enter into any explanations, with our *government*, with regard either to the course they pursued, or the outrages they perpetrated. But it was not enough that such lawless pretensions should be advanced and persisted in. A national ship is fired into in our waters; our ports are blockaded; our countrymen dragged into servitude, and murdered in our harbors.—And amidst all this accumulation of outrage, not a solitary instance is presented, either of the principles being disavowed, or of reparation being proffered. For I will not insult my countrymen with such base sophistry, as that the principle is disavowed, when the perpetrator is promoted; or that reparation is proffered, when acknowledgment on our part, and still deeper degradation are demanded as preliminaries.—Even now, a *cordon* of frigates lines the American coast, and our countrymen, sailing peaceably from one port of the United States to another, are pressed into the blackest and most ignominious slavery. In sight of his native hills, which still *fringe* the western sky; in view of the shore, where an affectionate wife eyes the *lessening sail* and implores the protection of Heaven,—is her *sailor boy* dragged into a gloomy dungeon, compelled to fight the battles of strangers, & exposed to cruelty and disease, without one arm to avenge, or one eye to pity!

Gracious Heaven!—Is it possible that the American character can have so far retrograded; that every finer feeling of patriotism can have become so blunted as to submit to such a series of humiliating aggressions! And not only to submit, but that there should be characters among us to justify the conduct of Great Britain, and assert that *she has rendered us no essential injury.**

For what did *Warren, Mercer* and *Montgomery* bleed? For what were the privations & miseries of an eight years' contest encountered—but to secure our persons from outrage, and our property from plunder? Time *was*, when we thought it a sufficient cause of war that a *tax* was imposed upon us without our consent;—*now*, our whole property on the ocean, unless sailing under *British licenses*, or pursuing the course pointed out by British squadrons, is seized and condemned.—Time *was*, when it was sufficient cause of war, that our citizens were carried beyond seas for trial;—they are now carried beyond sea, with no plea but force, with no hopes of redress, *with no imputation of crime.* Our ports, as *then*, are *now* blockaded; our citizens, as *then*, are *now* murdered! Why then protract negociation? It is supposed, that all diplomatic artifice & erasion are exhausted? Without doubt. Mr. Foster is armed with reasons sufficient to satisfy the leaders of "the British party in America," that, in all the injuries of which we complain, *we* have been the aggressors; that acknowledgment is still due from *us*, concerning the "affair of the Chesapeake;—that *we* are the authors of the orders in council, and are still *in debt* to them, for five or six thousand impressed seamen. Vain is the hope of satisfying such characters! That Timothy Pickering should ever *professedly* believe that G. Britain has injured America, is a proposition so monstrous and discordant, that the mind rejects it without hesitation. If a British fleet should enter the harbor of New York to-morrow, bombard and sack the city, and leave old age, innocence and beauty, under one promiscuous mass of ruins, we might expect a supplementary number, justifying the transaction. A precedent would not be wanted; the ruins of Copenhagen form a melancholy one; and the same train of reasoning, which has been so often employed in defending the British in the one instance, would apply with equal propriety to the other. Attempts, then, to convince characters, so miserably bigotted, and so criminally bent on the slavery of their country, are worse then hopeless. Full of the most bitter invectives against their own country, the same characters abound with panegyrics of England;—her justice, magnanimity, *good faith*, and above all, her *delicacy in invading and trampling on the rights of others*, constitute a constant subject of their admiration and adulatory address.

England has always been a *piratical* nation. I appeal to her own historians. Scarcely in an instance, (more especially in her controversies with Spain and Portugal,) did ever there an occasion offer of rich & extensive plunder, when that occasion afforded not the pretence for war. Blake was a pirate; Raleigh was executed as such;—and to this day, the memory of James, who was a just and inoffensive prince, is loaded with reproach by Englishmen for this merited punishment. England has always been an usurping and sanguinary nation.—Combine all the enormities which have been committed since the Christian æra; the Vandalism of the dark ages, the persecutions of superstition, and the accumulated horrors of the French revolution, and they form but a feeble picture of human guilt and suffering, when compared with the great mass of atrocity prepared by the English in India. In forming this opinion, I hearken not to the calumnies of prejudiced or interested men; the flippant scandal retailed by foreign courts; but to the deliberate and solemn asseverations of *her own Statesmen* in *her own Parliament*, supported by a cloud of incontrovertible testimony. Let those who think there is too much latitude taken in these expressions, read the speeches of *Burke, Fox and Sheridan*, on the impeachment of *Warren Hastings;* and at the close, they will not only be prepared to say, with a friend of Hastings, who went into Parliament strongly biassed in his favor, "that of all abandoned villains, he was the most atrocious;" but, that of all governments, the British, which was in fact at the bottom of these transactions, and upheld the immediate agent, is the most perfidious, the most sanguinary and destructive.

What then have we to expect from a nation possessing a character of this description?

A continuance of the same ignominious servitude, in which we are now enthralled;—that our national ships will be fired into, to gratify the caprice and *hauteur* of her naval barbarians;—our ports blockaded, and occasionally, perhaps, if we show any symptoms of resentment, bombarded;——our wealth drained off to support the luxury and splendor of a foreign court,—and our citizens compelled to fight the battles of the "*United Kingdom.*" Nor is this the depth of the degredation we are exposed to:—We shall continue to be contemptible abroad & impotent at home; the name of an American, *one so proud*, will become an *epithet of scorn*, applied to every *braggadocia* who first blusters at the invasion of his rights, and then meanly resigns them. On the contrary, resistance will call forth the energies of the nation, and restore the human character to its native dignity;—resistance will put down a despicable Cabal, whose patriotism is *a mere bale of foreign goods:*—resistance will *reinstate* us in our privileges, and *reillumine* the American name. Or if we fall, we shall fall with our arms in our hands,——our *wounds in front*,—in defiance of a righteous cause.—MY VOICE THEN IS FOR WAR,—open, determined, unrelenting War,—until the rights we are entitled to as a nation, are *once more* vindicated, and our independence is *once more* established by sea and by land.

WALLACE.

* He who can believe in the truth of this proposition, must first adopt the reasoning of St. Austin:—credo quia impossibile est."

FROM THE ENQUIRER.

"ANOTHER! AND YET ANOTHER."

Day after day we see our vessels swept from us—and another grain added to that *mass* of aggressions which we have received from G. Britain.—When will this list end?—"When will these Catalines cease to abuse our Patience?"

Since our last, further ravages, from the storm that desolates *our coast*, have reached us. The *Minerva*, from Bordeaux to Baltimore, is swept into the fatal abyss. The *Milo*, belonging to Smith and Buchanan of Baltimore, bound from Bordeaux, has been seized off the Capes of Delaware in 13 fathoms water.—The *Betsey*, from R. Island, bound to Sierra Leone, a British Settlement, has been swept in the jaws of *Hell* (Tartarus.) The storm too, begins to rage nearer and nearer to our own doors. The *Orien* from *Petersburgh*, has just fallen a victim to the same Tartarus, bound as she was to a *British* island and laden with the produce of America. And what is still more galling to the pride of an American, this very marauder now dares to violate our laws of interdiction by entering Hampton roads. Where, we ask, are our frigates? Why is not the non-intercourse law enforced to its utmost letter? Will not this insolent Briton be "required to depart" from the harbors and waters of the United States?

Whilst this storm rages upon our coast, our merchants should think of that resource, which the President, *if he had the power* would doubtless at this time extend to them. They will, generally speaking *embargo* their vessels; they must abandon the profits of the continentral trade, for *fear* of British capture.

Let us see—How do we stand at this *time?* France has revoked her decrees as to ourselves—We have such proofs of this fact as ought to satisfy G. Britain. Her minister of foreign concerns has given such an official assurance of it to our own minister as G. B. has been accustomed to use in notifying her own blockades—*And further*——her minister has instructed the judge of the council of prizes, not to judge the American vessels according to the principles of these decrees—What *more* does G. Britain ask? The French cruisers have not captured and carried into France, a single American vessel, bound from or to a British port, since the 1st November. The only one, which is *said* to have been *seized* under the decrees, *in* a French port, has been discharged—for the "N. Orleans Packet" has actually been liberated by France (tho' propably at this moment a British prize!!) and *her bonds have been cancelled.* In the mean time what is the conduct of G. B.? Her O. in C. are strictly executed—terms, which neither we nor she have a right to insist upon, are laid down as the conditions of their extinction—all our trade with her enemy cut up—not a cent's worth even of our *native productions* can be safely exported to them—& our coasts blockaded by British frigates. And Sir J. Yorke is coming in the *Vengeur* (a prophetic name, say the British prints!) with a fresh reinforcement of ships, and *pilots* and *charts of our coast*, to drive the storm of piracy into our teeth. The affair of the Little Belt *must* blow over, for Mr. Foster is satisfied G. B. will not go, formally, to war with us. But the wrongs and insults, which she will commit, will scarce leave us any other alternative than *Force.* Such is the picture of British piracy and of our own situation?——What *shall* we do in this extremity? It is for Congress to say; but should they feel the same spirit, which inspires the great mass of our citizens, they have but one honorable resource before them—*Force.*

COURT MARTIAL.

From Fredericktown we hear, that Gen. *Wilkinson* has objected to three of the members of the Court Martial, viz. Colonels Burbeck & Freeman and Major Backus; & the exceptions were admitted by the Court. Messrs. Stoddart, Swift and Armistead supply their places, they having been summoned as supernumerary members. Col. Williams excepted to himself but the Court overruled the exception.

On Wednesday last Gen. *Wilkinson* surrendered his sword, after a few observations addressed to the Court, which excited the sympathy of friend and foe. His old associates in arms displayed much sensibility on the occasion.

The Court was expected to have been sworn in on Saturday. Some doubts had arisen as to the interpretation of that clause of the articles of war which limits all investigation of offences to the term of two years from their commission. The General, we understand, waves the privilege of this rule.

(Nat. Intel.