THE WEBSTERIAN ATTACK.

To the President of the United States.

I approach you, sir, with the respectful freedom of a citizen—at the same time with the reverence I owe to the First Magistrate of my country, adorning his high station with all the virtues which dignify the man.

Your recent triumph over the Websterian attack is the triumph of the American people. If you had fallen, the deep-rooted oak of the forest had given way & the lofty mountain was overturned from its base; then the black cloud of public calamity would have hung with portentous gloom over our devoted heads. If you, the pride of the nation, had warped in your integrity, where would the wandering eye have found repose! where could Hope have sought a resting place in all that yet remained of Revolutionary patriotism!——In your high-raised reputation we implicitly confided. Great intellectual powers and acquirements have been possessed by a Catline and a Burr, but these splendid qualities more frequently decorate vice than blazon virtue. It is in their combination with a pure integrity that man rises above his fellow man. It is thus has been formed a Fabius, an Aristides, a Scipio and a Washington.

Never for a moment has my confidence been shaken in the sterling purity of your character. I smiled at the impotent attempts. I foresaw the disgrace of baffled calumny, and anticipated the glorious result as the great reward of persecuted innocence.

If the hollowness of profession d'd not often betray itself, more of decorum to even official situation might have been expected, from those who have arrogated to themselves without one solitary pretension to the title of friends to order.

If Frenchmen had landed on our shores, burned defenceless villages and towns, murdered the feeble, and rioted on females, violations without any legitimate object of warfare but the wantonness of power and the lust of plunder and depredation, where could an avowed partizan of that nation, justifying its outrages and palliating its wickedness, have found refuge? The stream of legal vengeance would have been poured on him—he would have been an isolated being—the object of general dread and abhorrence—the precursors of condign punishment.

What is to prevent the severance of our wide spread republic but that common fortune which first cemented its discordant parts? Petty animosities, factious views, and state predilections must yield to the national will, or the proud but solitary column of republican greatness which yet graces the world thus basely undermined, must at once fall in majestic but ever to be lamented ruins. Is it not treason against the republic, when a state sovereignty has the unprincipled audacity to declare a war unnecessary and *unjust*, which has been proclaimed just and necessary by the constituted national authorities? If this daring usurpation is patronised by a reelection of its leaders and members, it proves that the main pillar of the republic has become weak—the pillar of public, of political virtue. Who could have divined the rapid degeneracy of that state once the focus of liberty and the cradle of the revolution? Shall any state become in fact a Warwick or a Percy, to make or unmake the republic? In the paltry tax of six pence in the pound upon tea, America found involved a principle which dismembered the British empire. Is our nation independent, or has it fallen back to the colonial state, when its native produce has been seized for a series of years on leaving our ports when native Americans thus legally employed have in the same moment sunk into worse than Algerine slavery? Is there an American seaman who would not prefer capture in the present state of war to British impressment in profound peace? A wonderful paradox is now before the world, and what might shake the belief of the most credulous; it is a people both south and west, ardently fighting for a principle of liberty with which they have little comparative connexion, but abandoned in the east, where in the bondage of numberless husbands and fathers belonging to it, the wife and helpless offspring are its immediate victims.

In a government constituted as ours, is deeply sown the seeds of party intolerance. The breeze of opposition, which may gently agitate and refresh, now rises to the hurricane of furious and maddening ambition, sacrificing in its course every thing holy and sacred.

There has been no public measure of whatever hue, which has not been discoloured through the jaundiced medium of party malevolence. I do not confound honorable men of the federal party with factious and venal printers. I am disposed to cherish and esteem good men of whatever party, but I condemn the solid phalanx of opposition which moves as a wedge, riving the noble body of the republic. There is a fierceness in its spirit which will not falter at the most audacious enterprize—admit of no wavering of sentiment, which derelicts the chastity of opinion; if it doubts or even ponders on the federal purpose.

In the moment of some newly inflicted British insult or injury, high and honorable ground has often temporarily been occupied; but how soon has federalism descended to the vale of penitence and humiliation! how short the triumph of generous indignation! how rapid the transition first to palliation and next to aggression on our own unoffending and upright government!

I do not envy the tortured feelings of Mr. Grosvenor, nor the blush of shame which must have mantled his quivering cheek when the report of the Secretary of State on the disclosure of the French edicts was read to the House. Such men as him, Mr. Pickering, &c. rivet every link of the republican confederation. Nor am I inclined to believe that any usage of the House would justify the Speaker in permitting a torrent of unfounded invective on you, sir, the first man of your country, and in the presence of the nation, without having been promptly called to order. I would ask Mr. Grosvenor what can extenuate the enormity of his offence, and what atonement can he make to the outraged feelings of the American people? What individual so obscure and humble as to passively endure the imputation of murder and treason, on the bare assumption of a fact, of the existence of which there was not the slightest vestage of proof? What will Europe think of our far famed republic when the Executive power can be assailed in such language as Mr. Grosvenor uttered? At the very time when I apprehend you, sir, to the great federalism itself, lay on the bed of sickness, thus he spoke—"If by any means the decree came to the knowledge of the President, &c. what malediction can suit his conduct—what new and horrible punishment is commensurate with the bloody crime?"

Did Mr. Grosvenor contemplate the introduction of the rack or guillotine? or what new and horrible punishment did he meditate?——Was Congress to arrest all proof and declare itself satisfied, like a French revolutionary tribunal, and decree you, sir, to be the subject of this *new and horrible punishment?*

Had he the delusive hope that language like this would bereave you of the public confidence? Could he entertain the desperate wish to *tempt* virtue from the seat of power, that the vacancy might be supplied by some ambitious and profligate chief, establishing on the ruin of our republic a Presidency for life, and finally a Napoleon dynasty?

HORTENSIUS of P.

EXECUTIVE PROCEEDINGS.

IN SENATE OF THE U. STATES.

Saturday, July 31.

On motion by Mr. Leib,

Ordered, That there be furnished to any member applying for the same, an extract from the executive record, comprehending the Messages of the President of the United States, in relation to the nominations of Albert Gallatin, John Q. Adams, and James A. Bayard, as Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary, to negociate a treaty of peace and commerce with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and a treaty of commerce with Russia, with the proceedings of the Senate thereon.

On motion by Mr. Dana,

Ordered, That the Secretary of the Senate cause the extract which may be furnished from the executive record as before mentioned, to be printed for the use of members who may request the same.

EXTRACT.

Monday, May 31st, 1813.

The following is an extract of a Message this day received from the President of the U. States by Mr. Graham:

To the Senate of the U. States.

Commissions having been granted during the recess of the Senate to the following persons, I now nominate them to the same offices respectively annexed to their names: Albert Gallatin, John Quincy Adams, and James A. Bayard, to be jointly and severally envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary, to negociate and sign a treaty of peace with G. Britain, under the mediation of the Emperor of Russia; to negociate and sign a treaty of commerce with G. Britain; and the said John Quincy Adams, Albert Gallatin and James A. Bayard, to be jointly and severally Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary, to negociate and sign a treaty of commerce with Russia.

(Signed) JAMES MADISON.

Washington, May 29th, 1813.

The message was read.

Ordered, That it lie for consideration

Note.—A few other nominations of minor importance were contained in the Message.

Wednesday, June 2.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the message of the President of the U. S. of the 31st May, nominating Albert Gallatin and others to offices; and

Mr King submitted the following motions for consideration, which were read.

"*Resolved*, That the President of the U. States be requested to cause to be laid before the Senate, copies of communications from the Emperor of Russia offering his mediation to bring about a peace between the U. S. and G. B. together with copies of the answers to such communications, and noticing the dates at which the same were respectively received and answered.

Resolved, That the President of the U. States be requested to cause to be laid before the Senate, copies of the commissions granted to Albert Gallatin, John Quincy Adams, and James A. Bayard, to negociate Treaties of peace and commerce with Great Britain, and a Treaty of Commerce with Russia.

Resolved, That the President of the U. States be requested to inform the Senate whether Albert Gallatin, commissioned as one of the envoys to treat of peace and commerce with G. Britain, and of commerce with Russia, retains the office of Secretary of the Department of the Treasury; and in case of his so retaining the same, to inform the Senate under what authority & by whom the powers and duties of the head of the Treasury Department are discharged during the absence of Albert Gallatin from the U. States.

Thursday, June 3.

The Senate proceeded to consider the first resolution submitted yesterday by Mr. King and

On the question, "Will the Senate agree thereto?"

It was determined in the negative, Yeas 13, Nays 18.

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Dagget, Dana, German, Gilman, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Leib, Smith.

NAYS—Messrs. Bledsoe, Brent, Brown, Bullock, Campbell, Chase, Condit, Cutts, Gaillard, Lacock, Morrow, Robinson, Stone, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Worthington.

The Senate proceeded to consider the second resolution yesterday submitted by Mr. King; and

On the question to agree thereto?

It was determined in the negative.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the 3d resolution submitted yesterday by Mr King:

On the question, will the Senate agree thereto?

It was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Secretary lay the said resolution before the President of the United States.

Monday, June 7.

The following written message was received from the President of the U. States, by Mr Graham:

To the Senate of the U. States.

In compliance with your resolution of the 3d inst. the Senate are informed that the office of the Secretary of the Treasury is not vacated, and that in the absence of Albert Gallatin, commissioned as one of the envoys to treat with G. Britain and Russia, the duties of that office are discharged by William Jones Secretary of the Navy, authorised therefor according to the provisions of the act of Congress, entitled, "an act making alterations in the Treasury & War Departments," passed May 8th, 1792.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, July 3, 1813.

The message was read for consideration

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of Albert Gallatin.

On motion by Mr. Gilman,

It was agreed to take the question (to advise and consent) by yeas and nays.

Ordered, That the farther consideration of the nomination be postponed until to morrow.

Tuesday, June 8.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of Albert Gallatin; and

On motion by Mr. Bledsoe,

That the further consideration of the nomination be postponed until to morrow, and

It was agreed that the Senate adjourn.

Wednesday, June 9.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of Albert Gallatin.

A motion was made by Mr. Anderson,

To refer the said nomination to the consideration of a select committee, together with the message of the 7th June; and

The Senate adjourned.

Thursday, June 10.

It was determined in the affirmative, Yeas 20, Nays 14.

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Bledsoe, Brown, Dagget, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Gilman, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Leib, Smith, Stone, Wells—20.

NAYS—Messrs. Brent, Bullock, Campbell, Chase, Condit, Cutts, Lacock, Morrow, Robinson, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Worthington—14.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the nomination of Albert Gallatin, together with the motion, to refer the consideration thereof to a select committee, as also the message of the President of the U. States, received 7th June, to enquire and report thereon.

On the question to agree to the motion for reference,

Resolved That the nomination of Albert Gallatin, together with the message of the President of the U. States received the 7th instant, relative to the said nomination, be referred to Messrs. Anderson, King, Giles, Brown, and Bledsoe, to inquire and report thereon.

Monday, June 14.

Mr. Anderson, from the Committee appointed on the 10th inst. on the nomination of Albert Gallatin:

That in obedience to the resolution authorising the committee to enquire and report thereon, he had addressed a letter to the President of the U. States, enclosing a copy of the resolution under which the committee were appointed; that he afterwards called on the President of the U. States, who informed him, that he did not consider the authority given to the committee, by the resolution, such as to authorise them to call on *him* in their official character; but, that, if they were especially instructed to call on him, he would freely receive them and appoint a time for that purpose," and

Mr. Anderson submitted the following resolutions for considerations, which were read:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Senate, the powers and duties of the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury, & those of an envoy extraordinary to a foreign power, are so incompatible, that they ought not to be, and remain, united in the same person.

Resolved, That the Committee to whom was referred the nomination of Albert Gallatin (Secretary of the Department of the Treasury) as an envoy extraordinary to treat of peace and commerce with G. Britain, and of commerce with Russia, be instructed to communicate the foregoing resolutions to the President of the U. States, and respectfully to confer with him upon the matter thereof.

Tuesday, June 15.

The Senate proceeded to examine the first resolution submitted yesterday, by Mr Anderson; and

On motion by Mr. Robinson, it was agreed that the question be taken thereon by Yeas and Nays; and after debate adjourned.

Wednesday, June 16.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the resolutions submitted by Mr. Anderson on the 14th inst; and

On the question to agree to the first resolution, it was determined in the affirmative; Yeas 20, Nays 14; as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Anderson, Bledsoe, Brown, Dagget, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Gilman, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Leib, Smith, Stone, Wells.

NAYS—Messrs. Brent, Bullock, Campbell, Chase, Condit, Howell, Lacock, Morrow, Robinson, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Worthington.

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Senate, the powers and duties of Secretary of the Department of the Treasury, and those of an envoy extraordinary to a foreign power, are so incompatible, that they ought not to be and remain united in the same person.

On the question to agree to the 2d resolution, it was determined in the affirmative; Yeas 20, Nays 14 as follows.

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Bledsoe, Brown, Dagget, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Gilman, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Leib, Smith, Stone, Wells—20.

NAYS—Messrs. Brent, Bullock, Campbell, Chase, Condit, Howell, Lacock, Morrow, Robinson, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Worthington—14.

Resolved, That the Committee to whom was referred the nomination of Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Department of the Treasury, as an envoy extraordinary to treat of peace and commerce with Great Britain and of commerce with Russia, be instructed to communicate the foregoing resolution to the President of the U. States, and respectfully to confer with him upon the matter thereof.

Monday, July 19.

On motion by Mr Anderson,

It was agreed by unanimous consent to amend the record of the verbal report made by him on behalf of the committee, on the 14th June last, as follows:

In the first line of the report of the Committee on the nomination of Albert Gallatin, after the word "states" insert "*a copy of which accompanies this report*"—Line after "him" insert "*and the specific object should be designated*,"—Line 15, after the word "consideration," insert "*as chairman of the committee*;" so that the record of the report will stand amended as follows:

Mr. Anderson, from the committee appointed the 10th inst. on the nomination of Albert Gallatin, reported:

"That in obedience to the resolution authorising the committee to enquire & report thereon he had addressed a letter to the President of the U. States, *a copy of which accompanies this report*, enclosing a copy of the resolution under which the committee were appointed; that he afterwards called on the President of the U. States, who informed him that he did not consider the authority given to the committee by the resolution such as to authorise them to *call on him* in their official *character*, but that, if they were especially instructed to call on him, and the specific object should be designated, he would freely receive them, and appoint a time for that purpose."

Copy of a Letter from the Chairman of the Committee on the nomination of Albert Gallatin, to the President of the United States.

Capitol Hill, 11th June, 1813.

SIR,

I take leave to inclose you a copy of a resolution of the Senate. The committee appointed by that resolution, have directed me to inform you that they will wait on you at such time as you may please to appoint, in order to commune with you upon the matter referred to them.

Accept assurances of my high respect.

JOSEPH ANDERSON.

Mr. Anderson then made this further report, to wit:

"The committee to whom was referred the nomination of Albert Gallatin, to be one of the Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary to negociate and sign a treaty of peace with G. Britain, under the mediation of the Emperor of Russia, to negociate and sign a Treaty of Commerce with Russia, together with the message of the President of the U. States, of the 7th of June report:

"That according to the instructions of the Senate of the 16th June, the committee, thro' its Chairman, addressed a note to the President of the U. States, on the 19th inst. a copy of which accompanies this report, and, in reply thereto, the President addressed a note to the Chairman on the 14th inst which note also accompanies this report, appointing Friday the 16th inst. to receive the Committee, to communicate the aforesaid resolution of the Senate, and apprising the committee of his late message to the Senate containing the grounds on which he would be obliged to decline the proposed conference with the Committee; upon due consideration of this reply, the Committee deemed it an incumbent duty to wait on the President according to his appointment, and to present to him both the resolutions of the Senate, in relation to the nomination referred to the committee, and did accordingly wait on him and present them. When the President was pleased to observe to the Committee in substance, that he was sorry the Senate had not taken the same view of the subject which he had done, and that he regretted that the measure had been taken under circumstances which deprived him of the aid or advice of the Senate. After the committee had remained a reasonable time for the President to make any other observations if he thought proper to do so, & observing no disposition manifested by him to enter into further remarks, the committee retired without making any observations on the matter of the resolutions, or in reply to those made by the President.

Copy of a Letter from the Chairman of the Committee, on the nomination of Albert Gallatin, to the President of the United States.

July 12th, 1813.

SIR,

The Committee to whom was referred the nomination of Albert Gallatin to be one of the Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary, to negociate & sign a treaty of peace with G. Britain under the mediation of the Emperor of Russia, to negociate and sign a treaty of commerce with Russia, together with the message of the President of the 7th of June, having directed me to enclose to you a copy of two resolutions passed by the Senate, and to request that you will be pleased to appoint such time to receive the Committee as may entirely comport with your own convenience.

The committee sincerely lament, that your indisposition for some time past has been such as would have rendered it improper to have addressed you upon this subject at an earlier period; and are much gratified to learn that you are so far restored to your health as to be enabled to attend to your official duties.

Accept my best wishes for a perfect restoration of your health, and assurance of my high respect.

JOSEPH ANDERSON,

Chairman of the Committee.

PRESIDENT's REPLY.

James Madison presents his respects to Mr Anderson, & informs him that he will, on Friday next at 11 o'clock, receive the Committee of the Senate instructed to communicate to the President their resolution of the 15th ult. The committee are apprised, by his late message to the Senate, of the grounds on which he will be obliged to decline the proposed conference with the committee upon the matter of that resolution.

Wednesday July 14th 1813.

Whereupon the nomination of Albert Gallatin, J. Q. Adams, and James A. Bayard, agreeably to the message of the President of the U. States of the 31st May last, was resumed.

On the question, will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment of Albert Gallatin?

It was determined in the negative, Yeas 17, Nays 18 as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Bibb, Bledsoe, Brent, Brown, Bullock, Campbell, Chase, Condit, Lacock, Morrow, Robinson, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Worthington—17.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Dagget, Dana, Fromentin, Gaillard, German, Giles, Gilman, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Leib, Mason, Smith, Stone—18.

On motion by Mr Worthington, to postpone the nomination of John Q. Adams & James A. Bayard:

It was determined in the negative.

On motion by Mr Bullock that the nominations of J. Q. Adams and J. A. Bayard be postponed until to morrow:

It was determined in the negative, Yeas 16, Nays 19 as follows:

YEAS—Messrs Bibb, Brent, Bullock, Campbell, Chase, Condit, Gaillard, Howell, Lacock, Morrow, Robinson, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Varnum, Worthington—16.

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Bledsoe, Brown, Dagget, Dana, Fromentin, German, Giles, Gilman, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Hunter, King, Lambert, Leib, Mason, Smith, Stone—19.

On the question, will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment of John Q. Adams?

It was decided in the affirmative, yeas 30, nays 4, as follows:

NAYS—Messrs. Anderson, Bledsoe, Brent, Brown, Bullock, Chase, Condit, Dagget, Fromentin, Gaillard, Giles, Gilman, Goldsborough, Gore, Horsey, Howell, Horsey, King, Lambert, Leib, Mason, Morrow, Robinson, Smith, Stone, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Worthington—30.

NAYS—Messrs Dana, German, Lacock, Varnum—4.

On the question, will the Senate advise and consent to the appointment of James A. Bayard?

It was determined in the affirmative, yeas 27, nays 6, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Anderson, Bibb, Bledsoe, Brent, Brown, Bullock, Chase, Dagget, Fromentin, Gaillard, Giles, Gilman, Goldborough, Gore, Horsey, Howell, Hunter, King, Lambert, Leib, Mason, Smith, Stone, Tait, Taylor, Turner, Worthington—27.

NAYS—Messrs Dana, German, Lacock, Morrow, Robinson, Varnum—6.

Resolved That the Senate do advise and consent to the appointments J. Q. Adams & James A. Bayard, agreeably to their nominations respectively; and that they do not advise and consent to the appointment of Albert Gallatin.

Ordered, That the Secretary lay the aforegoing resolution before the President of the U. States.

WASHINGTON, August 7.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Adjutant & Inspector Genl's. office, Washington, 5th Aug. 1813.

All officers of the army of the U. States, commanding districts, posts or fortresses, are commanded to turn back, and in case of any attempt to evade this order, to detain all vessels, or river or bay craft, which may be suspecting of proceeding to, or communicating with any station, vessel squadron or fleet of the enemy, within the waters of the United States.

By order of the Secretary of War,

C. K. GARDNER, Ass. Adj. Gen.