FOR THE FEDERAL GAZETTE.

EPAMINONDAS—No. V.

NOTWITHSTANDING all the lies and misrepresentations, by means of which the jacobins have endeavored to justify the measures of our administration respecting the Louisiana business—until now, I have never seen one of them who has been bold enough to assert that the taking immediate possession of that territory would be attended with any difficulty.

A publication in the *Aurora* of the 8th instant, entitled "CAMILLUS, No. 3," contains so much vapid declamation, and so false a statement of facts, that it would not be deserving of any animadversion did it not come from the source to which all the ignorant and wicked democrats of our country look up, as an oracle of wisdom and truth.

I have not had the satisfaction of perusing the two first numbers of "Camillus," wherein he has shewn "the true nature of "the transactions at New-Orleans, and exhibited the absurdity of the arguments "which have been held forth by those who "wish to agitate the public mind, and provoke *them* into a war with Spain." I presume, however, that the ignorance and stupidity of the author must appear quite as conspicuous in those as in the number now under my notice. After half a column of bombast and rhodomontade, about the evils of war and the blessings of peace, he comes to the main branch of his subject; allows in the course of his argument, that the French will take no share in the contest; but that we must be left in the *horrid predicament* of being obliged to combat the INVINCIBLE Spaniards. He then politely acknowledges that the fortifications of New-Orleans cannot be placed on a footing with Gibraltar, or a few of the greatest fortresses in Europe; and for this concession we must feel particular obligations to the immaculate "Camillus." But "we must not accept the fanciful and crude "suggestions of men who never saw the "place, nor of those who, having seen, possess no capacities competent to the formation of a correct judgement." I must confess that I cannot determine in which of these classes to rank "Camillus;" for it appears to me incomprehensible, that any person who has been at New-Orleans could form such ideas, and equally so, that any human being, (except the renegado editor of the Aurora) could publish to the world, as facts, the most deliberate falsehoods which can be so easily refuted.

We come now to the statement respecting the means of defence possessed by the Spaniards at New-Orleans: "We shall say "nothing of the situation of New-Orleans "between two waters"—It is best you did not, good Mr. Camillus, for then you would have been informed that between these two waters the plain is wide enough for an open engagement between armies much more numerous than the whole population of Louisiana and the Floridas.

"The Spaniards possess at New-Orleans "a squadron of gun-boats equal to any in "the world, carrying twenty-four pounders "in the bows, and manned by sixty men "each." This is *a most abominable lie*, without the least shadow or shade of foundation; for to my certain knowledge the Spaniards possess no naval force of any description at New-Orleans.

"To land at the city of New-Orleans, "from the water, it would be requisite," &c. As to this paragraph, it relates to the gunboats, and the arguments are of course without foundation. I would observe, however, that the learned Camillus must have had in his "mind's eye," some idea similar to the French plan of attack, by balloons, when he thought of "landing from the water."

"The Spanish troops of the line are "estimated at 3000 men; the militia, said "to be equally hardy and of similar habits "with their neighbors on our side of the "Mississippi, are estimated at 10,000 men, "well disciplined, and commanded by offi"cers of experience, able engineers and ar"tillerists, who have been employed in their "profession all their lives, and possessing a "numerous, heavy and well provided artille"ry." Of this last paragraph, every word is absolutely false. The fact is, that not more than 400 or 500 men are stationed at New-Orleans, and not more than 300 or or 400 more in all the posts of Louisiana and Florida. The militia of the country is merely nominal—have no kind of form or discipline—know nothing of war, and are besides uniformly desirous of being under the protection of the American government. As for officers, there are not five in the whole country who have ever seen actual service; and as to the "heavy train of artillery," about twenty pieces of heavy cannon are all that could be produced at New-Orleans, and as many more could hardly be found in all the posts throughout the country.

My principal object in this number has been to disprove and deny the false statements of Camillus, which are too daring to pass uncontradicted. His subsequent reasonings I shall briefly notice.

It can hardly be believed that any man in this country is so miserably ignorant as to fear any thing from the prowess or the military talents of the Spaniards; and yet this writer lays great stress on these points, and works himself up to the highest pitch of sensibility, by brooding over the bloody massacres and misfortunes which might be the consequence of a rupture with this *savage and warlike nation*. I cannot convey a more clear idea of the light in which he considers such an event than by considering our nation as consisting of a small number of feeble Asiatics, and the Spaniards as an innumerable host of hardy Greeks, breathing naught but war, and far-famed for military exploits and desperate atchievements. Can it be possible that an *American* would thus represent us? Can it be supposed that any one of us, who, before we had ever seen an engagement, encountered and vanquished the brave and disciplined legions of Britain and of Germany, should, now that we are used to war and animated to exertion by an unexampled prosperity and increase of riches, fear to face the idle, the cowardly Spaniards, or even such as are infinitely more formidable, the brave conquerors of Italy. But the idea of invasion of our territory or of trouble on our coast from either Spaniards or French, even should we be involved in a war with them and not be assisted by Great-Britain, can only exist in the minds of those who are entirely unacquainted with the present situation of Europe, and of those who are employed by the ruling powers as apologists for the weakness or wickedness of their measures.

The most consummate depth of reasoning could not so perfectly prove the impropriety of the conduct of our government respecting the business now in agitation, as the innumerable host of infernal lies and infamous falsehoods which have been propagated by the time-serving politicians of the day, who are determined to go the utmost lengths with their Great Lord and Master in the order of Jacobinism, hoping by such conduct to reap the reward of a share in the all-attractive *loaves and fishes*.

Among the filthy vehicles of democracy, none has been so forward as the Aurora in advancing, repeating and insisting on the most barefaced falsehoods. It might be supposed by any one unacquainted with the circumstances, that such a paper would fall and be destroyed by the enormous weight of its own iniquity, but strange to tell, it is fostered and patronized by our immaculate and philosophic administration, and the editor is rewarded by a lucrative employment for his infernal labors in the diabolical cause of confusion, anarchy and jacobinism.

Let all the enlightened citizens of these states consider well their situation; reflect on the means which have so far degraded them, and judge for themselves, what the nature of a cause must be, in support of which it is necessary to ransack the uttermost depths of nether Hell, for the most scandalous and abominable falsehoods and misrepresentations.

From the Gazette of the United States.

Piscataway, February 20, 1803.

To GEN. JOSEPH STANTON.

SIR,

In the National Intelligencer of the 11th of February, I have read, much to my astonishment, an extract of a letter, said to have been written by you to a friend in Rhode Island; in which you are pleased to say "That no credit ought to be given to the affidavit made by me, relative to the affray between Mr. Ellery and Mr. Rutledge. That my affidavit is partial and directly the reverse of what I, without hesitation, in the presence of Mr. Gray and Dr. Elmer, declared to you at my house; and that I have impiously used the sacred name of God," meaning, I suppose, that I have been guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury. Had you been absent from the seat of government at the time the abovementioned extract was published, I should not have made any remarks upon it, until I had received information from yourself, that you were the author; but as you are yet at the city of Washington, and have not denied the writing of the letter republished in the National Intelligencer, I must believe you to be the author, and shall treat you as you deserve.

However elevated your rank in life, and I perceive you are dignified with the title of "General," I hold you up to the world as lost to the feelings of a gentleman, and a disgrace to the name of a soldier.

The base insinuation, the wicked falsehood which has been thrown upon the public, under the sanction of your name, *without contradiction* is sufficient to brand you with infamy. As a *gentleman* you should have blushed at an attempt to sacrifice my reputation, on the altar of falsehood, for the despicable purpose of shielding a coward from merited contempt. As a SOLDIER, where, general Stanton, was that nice sensibility, that jealous honor, which ever characterises a brave man, and keeps him tremblingly alive to fair fame? Have you forgot, sir, that to assassinate life or reputation is the lowest grade of infamy, to which a soldier can descend? or were the honorable sentiments of an upright man sunk in the filth of party spirit? Believe me, sir, nothing but your grey head and advanced years can protect you from chastisement, when an opportunity offers of conferring it. This is strong language, general Stanton, but weaker would disgrace my cause. You have had the base and profligate audacity to charge one with perjury who will never shrink from investigation into his character for integrity or truth. Perhaps as I am unknown in R. Island, you vainly fancied your high rank could, under a despicable falsehood, give temporary countenance to your friend; but you have overshot the mark. Where I am known, my word or my oath will carry equal credit with yours, and truth will find its way to Rhode-Island. Your feelings will forever be harrowed by a consciousness of your improper conduct, and a recollection of the dirty step you have taken to injure me.

You must remember, sir, that when Mr. Ellery came to my house he was attended by doctor Elmer, Mr. Gray and yourself—that Mr. Ellery whilst there, took from his pocket and read a paper, containing a representation, as he said, of the affray between Rutledge and himself—you must further remember that I told Mr. Ellery his was incorrect, and that the Washington Federalist had published in substance the affray as it happened; and, sir, unless you are sunk deeper in infamy than I can conceive, you will recollect that your affected indignation at the passive conduct of your friend then extorted from you these words: "if any man had treated me in this manner I would have attacked him even if my hands and feet had been cut off." What is your idea, general Stanton, of comparative merit? Which most deserves reprehension—he who will not protect his ears and his nose from the insulting twitches of his adversary, or the man who in a manner not less cowardly, assassinates his neighbor's reputation?—This knotty point is left for your determination at the first leisure moment, when, reflecting on your conduct, conscience may be calm. Happily for me, sir, I was (before and since my affidavit was made) requested by gentlemen who came to my house, to relate the circumstances of the battle, and I trust the subjoined certificates from gentlemen of irreproachable reputation, will convince the public, that in your letter to your friend in Rhode-Island, you have asserted a base and shameful calumny.

In hopes this letter will produce your reformation or your apology,

I am, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH M. SEMMES.

We, the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Piscataway, do certify, that the facts stated in the affidavit of Joseph M. Semmes, respecting the affray which took place between Messrs. Rutledge and Ellery at his house on the 28th of December last, correspond in substance with his relation of the affair both before and since his affidavit was given.

We farther certify that we believe Mr. Simmes to be a man of veracity and integrity.

WM. MARSHALL,
JOHN B. BOWIE.

Piscataway, Feb. 21, 1803.

I hereby certify, that I have heard Mr. Joseph M. Semmes relate, before and since his deposition respecting the rencontre which took place in his house on the 28th of December last, between Messrs. Rutledge and Ellery, in substance, as stated in his deposition. And that from the knowledge I have had of Mr. Semmes, believe him to be a man of veracity.

JACOB DUCKETT.

I do certify, that I heard Mr. Joseph M. Semmes relate the particulars of the battle between Mr. Rutledge and Mr. Ellery, which took place at his house on the 28th of December last, which particulars I have since seen published in his deposition.

CHARLES F. BRODHAC.

Febtuary 24, 1803.

I hereby certify, that a few days after the affray at Piscataway between Mr. Rutledge and Mr. Ellery, I passed through that town and heard Mr. Semmes give an account of the circumstances, which were in substance the same that I have since seen published in his affidavit. I further certify, that Mr. Semmes is a man of integrity and veracity.

FRANCIS DIGGES.

February 21, 1803.

TOUSSAINT TO BONAPARTE.

[The following has been communicated to us as the answer of the black chief to the letter of the first consul, requiring his unconditional submission to the mother republic. We cannot vouch for its authenticity, though the reasoning of it appears perfectly just.] [*Lond. paper.*]

Toussaint Louverture to general Bonaparte, first consul of the French republic.

"November 18, 1801.

"CITIZEN CONSUL,

"Your letter of the 27th Brumaire, has been transmitted to me by citizen Leclerc, your brother-in-law, whom you have appointed captain-general of this island, a title not recognized by the constitution of St. Domingo. The same messenger has restored two innocent children to the fond embraces of a doating father. What a noble instance of European humanity! But, dear as those pledges are to me, and painful as our separation is, I will owe no obligations to my enemies, and I therefore return them to the custody of their jailers.

"The forces necessary to make the sovereignty of the French people respected have effected a landing also, and they are spreading slaughter and desolation around them. Why is it thus? For what crimes, and by what authority, are a rude but inoffensive people to be consumed by fire and by the sword? We have dared, it seems, to form a constitution adapted to our circumstances, containing as you admit, many good things, but containing others, forsooth, derogatory from the sovereignty of the French people? In whom does it reside, and how far does it extend? Is it to be beyond control, without measure, and without bounds?

"St. Domingo, a colony forming an integral part of the French republic, aims at independence, it is said. Why should it not? The United States of America did the same, and with the assistance of monarchical France, they succeeded and established it. But there are *defects* as well as presumption in our constitution. I know there are. What human institution is without them? Yet I will challenge that system you have imposed upon the republic you govern, to shew a greater regard to personal or political liberty, to the freedom of speech, or the freedom of man. The high situation I fill is not of my own choosing; it has been forced upon me by imperious circumstances. I have not overturned a constitution I had sworn to maintain. I saw this wretched isle a prey to frantic and contending factions. My character, my complexion, gave me some influence with the people who inhabit it, and I was almost by their unanimous voice called to authority. I crushed sedition—I put down rebellion—I restored tranquility—I established order in the place of anarchy—I gave them peace, and I gave them a constitution. Have you, citizen consul, another or a nearer title to the commanding situation you occupy? If they enjoy not under it as great a portion of liberty as is to be found under other governments, the cause is in their habits of life, and in the ignorance and barbarity inseparable from a state of slavery. I established for an unfortunate race of beings, that were just loosened from the yoke, the only system of rule that was suited to their conditions or capacities. That it leaves room, in many instances, for coercion and despotism cannot be denied; but is the constitution of the republic of France—the most enlightened part of enlightened Europe—quite free from them? If thirty millions of Frenchmen find their happiness and security, as I am told, in the revolution of the 18th Brumaire, surely I should not be envied the love and confidence of the poor blacks, my countrymen. It will be for posterity to decide, whether we have ruled through affection or through apathy and fear.

"You offer freedom to the blacks, and say, "that in all the countries you have been in, you have given it to to the people who had it not." I am not perfectly acquainted with the circumstances that have recently happened in Europe, but the reports that have reached me do not accord with this assertion. In fact, it is of little consequence. The liberty that is to be found in France, or Belgium, or Helvetia, or in the republics, Batavian, Lagurian, or Cisalpine, would never be cordially received, or cheerfully acquiesced in by the people of St. Domingo. Such changes, or such freedom, are far, very far, from being desired even by us.

"You ask me, "do I desire consideration, honors and fortune?" Most certainly I do, but not of thy giving. My consideration is placed in the respect of my countrymen, my honors in their attachment, my fortune in their disinterested fidelity. Has this *mean* idea of personal aggrandizement been held out, in the hope that I would be induced thereby to betray the cause I have undertaken? You should learn to estimate the moral principle in other men by your own. If the person who claims a right to that throne on which you are seated, were to call on you to descend from it, what would be your answer? The power I possess has been as *legitimately* acquired as your own, and nought but the decided voice of the people of St. Domingo shall compel me to relinquish it.

"It is not cemented by blood, or maintained by the artifices of European policy. "The ferocious men whose persecution I put a stop to," have confessed my clemency, and I have pardoned the wretch whose dagger has been aimed at my life. If I have removed from this island certain turbulent spirits, who strove to feed the flames of war, their guilt has been first established before a competent tribunal, and finally confessed by themselves. Is there one of them who can say he has been condemned *unheard* or *untried?* And yet these monsters are to be brought back once more, and aided by the blood-hounds of Cuba, are to be uncoupled and halloed to hunt us down and devour us; and this by men who dare to call themselves *Christians*! Why should it excite your praise and surprise that I have upheld "the religion and worship of God, from whom all things come." Alas! that all-bounteous Being, whose Holy Word has but lately found favor in your republic, by me has ever been honored and glorified. In his protecting care I have sought for safety and consolation, amidst dangers and difficulties, when encompassed by treachery and treason, and I was never disappointed. "Before HIM and you I am," you say, to be the person principally responsible for the massacres and murders that are perpetrating in this devoted isle. Be it so. In HIS all-just and dread disposal be the issue of this contest. Let HIM decide between me and my enemies; between those who have violated his precepts, abjured His Holy Name, and one who has never ceased to acknowledge and adore him.

(Signed)

TOUSSAINT LOUVERTURE."

PORTLAND, February 28.

Arrived, barque Packet, capt. Sawyer, 42 days from Lisbon. Left there, ship New York, Goss, of Petersburg, to sail in 10 days; ship Liberty, Dayley, Philadelphia; brig Lydia, Manson, of New-York, bound to Vallerre, in France; ship Argus, Durcomb, Norfolk; ship America, Gardner, Boston, from Baltimore, under quarantine.

BOSTON, March 3.

From Cape-Francois, February 9.

As all the bad news which goes from this island is generally very much exagerated, I embrace with pleasure an opportunity direct for Boston, to give you an account of the affair which happened a few days past on the mountains, directly back of the Cape. About the 5th instant it was reported in town that the brigands were collecting on those mountains, and intended to decend them to attack and enter the Cape. the report was looked upon as abfurd (feeling ourselves very strong) consequently not attended to. The 5th inst. at about three in the morning, we were awoke by the fire of the musketry, and soon discovered that the brigands had attacked the habitation Meheye, where there was a small post, and two other places equally near to the town. Meheye and Defobrie were soon set fire to; but no more mischief was done, except the loss of one officer and three or four men on our side; the brigands then fled and have not been seen in the mountains since.

The next morning, about the same time, our troops of the line only, made a sortie into the plain with the dragoons of the Cape, met the main body of the brigands, commanded by Clerveaux and Christophe, gave them battle and compleatly routed them. Upwards of 200 blacks were found dead upon the field; we had 15 or 20 wounded and very few killed. A captain of horse in the general's guarde d'honneur, wounded Clerveaux in single combat, and would have taken him but for a musket ball which struck him in the groin and threw him from his horse. General Rochambeau left here about ten days ago, with about 2000 fresh troops, which will doubtless stop the progress which the brigands are making in the south. We are in daily expectation of very large reinforcements that have sailed from different parts of France. General Rochambeau is indefatigable in his exertions, very brave, and his name only is terrible to the blacks. While he was here with less force than we now have, we saw nothing of the enemy. Since our arrestation the American commerce has been put upon the same footing as the French, except only higher impost duty; and we have been repaid the money we were forced to lend.

NEW-YORK, March 8.

Arrived yesterday, (and mentioned in our last) the schooner Nancy, Frost, in 25 days from Havanna.

Same day, the schooner Volunteer, Bell, in 23 days from Curracoa. Left, schooner ——, Stevens, of Alexandria, from Baltimore. American produce was extremly low at Curracoa; where it was very sickly among the Dutch troops and seamen.

Same day, the schooner Ruby, Johnston, in 18 days from Swansbury, (N. C.)

Same day, the brig Regulator, Taber, of West-Port, in 6 days from Charleston, and only 3 to Egg Harbor.

Same day, the brig Minerva, Ray, of Salem, in 22 days from Fort Royal, Martinique. Pork was 18, and beef 14 dols; fish 6 dollars.

Cleared, schooner Enterprize, Pinckham, Wilmington.

IMPORTANT.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of respectability, to one of our subscribers, dated

MALAGA, December, 1802.

"In consequence of dispatches from government to commodore Morris, and which captain M—— opened, he sails tomorrow for the United States. The Chesapeake is to follow, and commodore Morris is to shift his flag on board of the New-York or John Adams, and continues on the station. The Swedes have made a peace with Tripoli, by paying 150,000 dollars. It is also said, there are several cruizers fitting out at Tripoli, which will be at sea this winter. Tunis has demanded from the United States a frigate of 36 guns; and it is expected that Morocco will declare war against the United States before next spring; and if so, we shall have our hands full, and to use the expression of consul O'Brien, "IT LOOKS RATHER SQUALLY HERE."

Accounts from the Havanna state, that vessels were about to sail from thence to take the Spanish garrison from New-Orleans and convey it to St. Augustine; and that the former place was to be delivered up to the French, as a frigate, having on board a colonial prefect, and a number of officers, had arrived at New-Orleans to take possession of it for France.

[*Charleston paper February* 25.]

Extract of a letter from Havanna, dated February 7.

"A national schooner has just arrived from the Cape, in a passage of five days. All goes on well there; 2500 men arrived and 25,000 daily expected. A brig with