From the WASHINGTON FEDERALIST.

To. Mr. SMITH, Editor of the National Intelligencer.

SIR,

In the hiſtory of every civilized country the reader finds too much cauſe to mourn for the turpitude of man. The United States with the experience of many ages for a guide, formed a conſtitution which contains checks upon his frailty, and ſeemed to defy even modern degeneracy. A preſident of our choice, a congreſs with diſpoſition for economy and peace, commerce pouring wealth into our country, and the ſtate governments yielding allegiance and receiving protection—Republicaniſm attired in all the charms of innocence and virtue, roſe triumphant from its ſhackles, diſpenſing happineſs throughout the empire. But alas, how much have we to deplore the incertitude of human calculation! for while but 'a little' year ago, our citizens felt ſecure in the peaceful enjoyments of their religion and the bleſſings of ſelf-government—the convulſions in Europe have raiſed a political Etna, vomiting out its lava to overwhelm the world. It has reached our once happy land, diſguiſed with the faſcinating mantles of peace, and reaſon—it delights to feed on unſuſpicious virtue—and not till it has acquired Coloſſean maturity, will it avow its bloody purpoſe. Already has it aſſumed the form and ſhape of a ſyſtem in this country; and the preciſe manner which was practiſed in France, is purſued here. Did they not inflame the public mind through the preſſes? And has not Paine and other foreigners done the ſame here? Did they not deſtroy religious worſhip and ſet up their Temples of Reaſon? And has not religion been openly attacked here by Paine and other infidels, and temples of reaſon aſſigned in our large towns for Palmer and others, to lecture againſt chriſtianity? Did they not overturn their government by theſe means, murdering tens of thouſands of men, women, and children; and the moſt abandoned of the human race ſeized upon every thing valuable, winding through rivers of blood to get a hold in power?. And do we not ſee the ſame claſs of men, nay, ſome of the very ſame men driven from other countries for advocating ſuch principles, are now here meeting in Jacobin clubs, dictating both to the preſident and congreſs in moſt indecent language? Do we not ſee Duane, a foreigner, conducting a preſs to publiſh ſuch atrocities? Does he not with Paine, vilify the memory of Waſhington? Has he not like another Robeſpiere proſcribed the whole mercantile claſs of our country? Has not Paine publiſhed his pamphlet, called "Agrarian Juſtice," in which he ſays, "ſociety muſt be revolutionized" and the property of the rich maintain the poor in idleneſs? Yes, ſir, it is all too true, and "it cannot—will not come to good."

With theſe facts ſtaring you and the whole world in the face, with what propriety can you call my letter to Mr. Hoxton, diſclaiming Paine and his principles "indecent or "invective?" The uſe of language is to convey ideas appropriate to the ſubject. I appeal to the candor of gentlemen whether I have not on the contrary, ſhewn great forbearance when our religion is attacked—our citizens abuſed—and our preſident and congreſs inſulted by Paine and other cut-throat myrmidons diſgorged from the jails in other countries. You ſay "there has been a careful excluſion of indecent language and perſonal invective." by the National Intelligencer. I will admit there has been before the arrival of Paine, and that it was our pride to meet federal accuſations with your temperate columns, no longer ago than laſt year. And how is it that theſe batteries are now turned againſt us? And the ſame columns made to ſubſtantiate charges of very ſerious import to Americans? But, ſir, your paragon has not only ſeduced you into a mortification of republicans, a dereliction of principle, to the great injury of our cauſe; but he has paralized your recollection. Paine's ſecond letter, November 22, 1802, is the moſt finiſhed piece of ſcurrility and invective I have ever ſeen.—Waſhington—Adams and all the federaliſts are branded with *Treeſon, Apoſtacy, Hypocricy, Arrogance, Conteuipt, Fools.* The third letter, November 29, 1802, he ſays Waſhington's and Adams's adminiſtration was a *reign of terror.* Again, *that Waſhington and Adams were in character the ſame ſort of men as Robeſpierre.*

He ſays the men who oppoſe his infidelity are a "banditti." That general Waſhington had the *icy-heart of ingratitude,* "and that HE had done as much in the revolution as our beloved hero." And may I not aſk is there nothing in all this which is *indecent or invective?* And do we not find all his and much more in your columns pourtrayed in tints of prominent aſperity? Pitiful indeed, ſir, the ſubterfuge you reſort to! There is, however, another evidence of your want of memory of much more ſerious alarm to honeſt men. Mr. Brown, whoſe veracity will not be queſtioned, was the bearer of my letter for your preſs. He left it for conſideration until Monday, when he called for your anſwer! this was given, as you have ſtated, but you added that "*it would be impolitic to print it!*" and may I not alſo aſk, why it was *impolitic* for my letter diſclaiming *Paine* and *Infidelity* in the language of plain truth to appear in *your very chaſte* Intelligencer, when *eight* of *Paine's ſacriligious* and *ſcandalous* eſſays had been obtruded upon your readers? Men have not now to learn the meaning of words, and the explanation you have deigned to make will not releaſe you from juſt imputation unleſs you can firſt prove that ſince the arrival of Paine there is a revolution in our language, or that all he has ſaid and done, is *juſt* and *proper.* Sir, there are times and circumſtances in the annals of every country, when a little exertion by the virtuous part of its citizens would ſecure to them a laſting happineſs. Such a time and ſuch circumſtances have now arrived in the United States. They call aloud upon American virtue. The political ſtate of man, like his natural body, is alſo liable to infirmity and infection; it is a phyſician's duty to adminiſter for the latter; the energies of virtue to relieve the former; and as in many caſes the lives of men can be ſaved only by cutting off a gangrened limb, ſo the ſafety of a government can be preſerved only by ſevering cankering doctrines from wholeſome principles.

WILLIAM BAKER.

Maryland, Prince Georges' county, July 4, 1803.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, May 23.

HIS MAJESTY's MESSAGE.

The order of the day was read for taking his majeſty's meſſage into conſideration, on which

Lord Pelham roſe, and addreſſed their lordſhips on the occaſion. He adverted primarily to the great importance of the ſubject they were about to diſcuſs, and expreſſed his hope that all their lordſhips had peruſed and duly conſidered the important documents referred to in the royal meſſage, and which he had the honor of laying before the houſe by command of his majeſty. The body of the information which was before their lordſhips relative to the ſubject of that night's diſcuſſion, would, he was confident, render it clear to every candid and unprejudiced perſon, that ample grounds were furniſhed by our adverſaries for the line of conduct adopted by his majeſty's government, and that the ſyſtem purſued by the former, rendered neceſſary the ſtrong meaſures which were lately adopted. Under theſe circumſtances, he doubted not their lordſhips would agree with him in thinking, that it was the duty of that houſe to ſet an example to their country at ſo important a criſis, in ſtepping forward in the joint ſupport of the honor of his majeſty's crown—the undoubted rights and intereſts of his ſubjects, and of the defence and ſecurity of his dominions. He admitted that theſe conſiderations formed diſtinct grounds of diſcuſſion from the conduct of his majeſty's miniſters, abſtractly taken, and he was pleaſed that it ſeemed the general ſentiment of the houſe ſo to conſider it, which on that ground ſeemed inclined to poſtpone the diſcuſſion of the latter ſubject. He would detain their lordſhips on that head no farther than to ſay, that his majeſty's miniſters felt ſatisfied they had diſcharged their duty conſcientiouſly, and to the beſt of their abilities, and had always adviſed that, which under all the circumſtances of the caſe, they deemed moſt conducive to the honor of his majeſty's crown, and the beſt intereſt of their fellow ſubjects.

The noble ſecretary then proceeded to a detailed expoſition of the moſt material parts of the papers which has been laid before the houſe, and obſerved, that the real queſtion then at iſſue was, whether thoſe papers furniſhed proofs, that there exiſted in the late tranſactions with the French government a juſt cauſe of war.—On the delivery of his majeſty's firſt meſſage, the queſtion was one of confidence, and in that view materially differed from the preſent diſcuſſion, in which every document that could properly be made public was open to the peruſal of their lordſhips. He argued, that the documents before the houſe furniſhed proofs of a caſe ſufficiently ſtrong to juſtify the meaſures that had been adopted; indeed a ſtronger or clearer caſe, he would venture to aſſert, had never, in any former inſtance, been made out; from the tenor of thoſe documents, he aſſerted, it would unequivocally appear that his majeſty was actuated by the moſt ſincere and anxious deſire to avert the calamities of war.

Their lordſhips would ſee, that not only the honor of his majeſty's crown, was affected by the conduct of our adverſaries; but that even the deareſt rights and intereſts of the country, its commerce and its liberties were menaced by the government of France. It would be ſeen that in the courſe of the negociation, a prominent and leading conſideration was the proviſion of the 10th article of the treaty of Amiens, and which reſpected the iſland of Malta; their lordſhips would perceive by the papers, the ſteps adopted by his majeſty's government with reſpect to that important point. The appointment of ſir Alexander Ball, in the firſt inſtance, as miniſter for carrying the arrangements with reſpect to Malta, into effect, manifeſted, in the outſet, his majeſty's ſtrong deſire to fulfil the ſtipulation entered into on that head. The readineſs of his majeſty to acknowledge, in quality of grand maſter, the perſon ſelected by the pope for filling that office, was another irrefragable proof of his majeſty's wiſh to do every thing in his power, conſiſtently with good faith, for the further execution of the arrangement---and, indeed, throughout the whole courſe of the correſpondence it would be ſeen, that his majeſty had omitted no ſteps whatever, to conciliate the growing difference, and to induce our adverſaries to come to a ſpeedy, reaſonable, and amicable concluſion upon the ſeveral points which, from the intervention of circumſtances, were neceſſarily under diſcuſſion; in ſome time after, as lord Whitworth's diſpatch of the 27th January, it would appear the French grew preſſing for the evacuation of the iſland, and by ſubſequent parts of the correſpondence, the ſtrong reaſons were ſet forth, which, upon every point of view, with reference to the intervening circumſtances, rendered it almoſt impoſſible that ſuch a requiſition could be complied with. In this ſtate of the diſcuſſion, a circumſtance of the moſt important nature came to the knowledge of his majeſty's government, and which not only, in a certain degree, affected the honor of, but implicated the character of the Britiſh nation, and connected itſelf with conſiderations of the utmoſt importance, to certain moſt valuable parts of his majeſty's dominions. He alluded to the report of the officer diſpatched to Egypt and Syria, on a miſſion of the moſt queſtionable nature, and which of courſe immediately became matter of ſerious diſcuſſion with the French government. What tranſpired on this important point would be ſeen from the documents before the houſe, and the little ſatisfaction which was accorded to the juſt repreſentations on the part of his majeſty's government. He then alluded to the circumſtance of the publication which appeared in a foreign Gazette, and adverted to the tendency of its contents, which were of that nature, as ſufficiently ſpoke for themſelves. His lordſhip then adverted to the unjuſtifiable conduct of France with reſpect to the Ottoman Porte, which, he contended, was in direct violation of the treaty of Amiens; he adverted to the different communications which took place on thoſe points and noticed with due effect, the declaration of the firſt conſul, reſpecting the value of Egypt as a ground for war. He expatiated on the peculiar and relative importance of Malta, under the preſent circumſtances of France and England, and pointed out the ſtrong neceſſity there exiſted for ample ſecurity on the point in queſtion; this part of his argument aroſe from the incontrovertible principle, that the poſſeſſion of Malta was on our part one of defence and ſecurity, but for purpoſes of offence and aggrandizement on the part of France, and that he contended that the determination to retain that poſt at preſent, was founded not only in juſtice, but in true political wiſdom. Purſuing this topic of diſcuſſion ſtill farther, he expreſſed his confidence that all who read and duly conſidered the papers muſt feel convinced that his majeſty's government were perfectly juſtified with reſpect to the detention of Malta, as the beſt ſecurity againſt the obvious deſigns of France in the eaſt, and alſo on the ground of its being totally impracticable to execute the propoſed arrangements, on the principle upon which they were incontreſtibly formed on account of the intervention of circumſtances, beyond the power of this country to control. With reſpect to the other points of the negociation, the noble lord contended rather generally, that no endeavors had been wanting, on the part of his majeſty's government, to continue the bleſſings of peace, conſiſtently with the honor of his majeſty's crown, and the real intereſts of his people; while miniſters had hopes of preſerving that bleſſing, they ſcrupled no ſacrifice which did not militate againſt theſe paramount conſiderations. Drawing to a concluſion, he recapitulated his ſeveral arguments, and placed them in a condenſed point of view; he laid particular ſtreſs on the attempts made by the government of France, with reſpect to the internal concerns of this country, their complaints made with reſpect to the freedom of publication and debate which went to affect that eſſential part of its freedom, the liberty of the preſs: He hoped the diſcuſſion would be conducted with that temper and moderation which beſit ſo ſerious and momentous a ſubject: Party diſtinctions, in a criſis like the preſent, ſhould be laid aſide, as ſhould the heat and fervor of debate; their deliberations ſhould rather aſſume a judical character, and the deciſion of the houſe be formed ſolely from the conſideration of the official papers and documents laid before them. His lordſhip then moved an addreſs to his majeſty to the following general effect:

"That an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, thanking him for his gracious meſſage, and for the information his majeſty had been pleaſed to order to be laid before the houſe of lords; to expreſs to his majeſty the juſt ſenſe the houſe of lords entertains of his majeſty's anxious and uniform endeavors to preſerve the bleſſings of peace, and of his majeſty's inclination to terminate the calamities of war, whenever that object can be attained conſiſtently with the honor of his majeſty's crown, and the rights and intereſts of his people; that the houſe of lords ſaw with great ſatisfaction his majeſty's laudable endeavors to repel that ſpirit of ambition and encroachment, which the government of France had frequently manifeſted, as well as having advanced the moſt injurious pretenſions, inconſiſtent with good faith, and militating againſt the moſt eſſential intereſts of the Britiſh empire, and on which occaſion his majeſty had in vain demanded ſatisfaction and redreſs.

"Impreſſed with theſe important conſiderations, the houſe of lords felt itſelf called upon readily to concur in the meaſures beſt calculated to call forth the ſpirit and reſources of the Britiſh nation in ſupport of the honor and dignity of his majeſty's crown, and the rights and liberties of the people, as well as every other conſideration which can be dear to them, as a free and independent nation."

The duke of Cumberland roſe to ſecond the motion, which he did in a very elegant and impreſſive ſpeech.

Earl Stanhope thanked the noble ſecretary of ſtate for the candor diſplayed in his ſpeech, prefatory to the propoſed addreſs. He hoped their lordſhips would follow the patriotic line of conduct ſuggeſted by his royal highneſs; that they would bury all party diſtinctions, and would ſee, that if the country was to be ſaved by their deliberations, it muſt be ſaved by moderation and temper. He was determined to proceed in this way, as much as if he were giving a judicial ſentence in Weſtminſter hall. Upon going through the papers, he found the principal article with regard to the iſland of Malta. He was ſorry to view this as the principal ground of quarrel.—It was ſtated that the French government had preſumed to interfere in our internal management, and in the liberty of our preſs. If this were true, that would be with him a ſtrong and invincible ground of quarrel. This would be an infringement upon our conſtitution; an encroachment upon our juſt rights, to which we could not, with honor ſubmit. He ſhould not contend, that Malta ſhould have been given up in virtue of the treaty of Amiens. That muſt be the ſubject of examination. We had offered to give up the poſſeſſion of Malta in ten years.

The aggrandizement of France, ſince the treaty of Amiens, had been ſtated as a ground for retaining Malta. This, however, could upon no juſt principle ſerve as the foundation for ſuch retention. Suppoſing that, ſince the concluſion of that treaty, Spain had ceded to us Cuba, or that we had acquired Sicily, would the noble lords have eſteemed theſe ſufficient grounds for France refuſing, on their part, to implicate the treaty? Allowing the principle, however, to be juſt, he denied that France had been aggrandiſed St Domingo had ſince that period, been loſt to France, by the unwiſe policy, he confeſſed, of the firſt conſul; but ſtill it was a loſs of influence upon their part, equal to the whole of the Weſt-Indies. Had the views of a ſet of men, who ſome time ago exiſted in France, been gone into, who under the name of philanthropiſts wiſhed to alleviate the diſtreſs, and to connect themſelves on a friendly footing with the native chiefs, it had been proved in evidence before that houſe, that Jamaica and our other Weſt-India iſlands muſt have fallen into the hands of ſuch aſſociation. By the unſound policy of the firſt conſul, France, ſo far from being aggrandiſed, had ſuſtained a loſs ſince the treaty of peace. Upon the idea. however, of Malta ceaſing to be in the poſſeſſion of Britain at the expiration of ten years, in what greater ſecurity would Egypt then be, than at preſent? Malta, however, had been in a manner proffered to us in perpetuity. Why was not ſome propoſition made upon this ſubject? The conduct of ſome emigrant biſhops, and others of ſimilar deſcription, had been complained of by the French government, and hints as to the iſlands of Jerſey and Guernſey had been thrown out. He knew that conciliating language, although he himſelf had little confidence in words, had often a good effect, and he thought that leſs haſty meaſures than thoſe adopted by our miniſtry, might with ſucceſs have been adopted on the preſent occaſion. Suppoſe two noblemen poſſeſſed, the one of a large eſtate, though in a diſtant part, and leſs contiguous to his other property; the other, of two ſmall parks, contiguous to the grounds of the former, and therefore more valuable to him, than the more valuable though farther diſtant property: what impropriety would there be in ſuppoſing that theſe perſons might enter into an exchange of their reſpective properties, Malta is from its connection with the Eaſt-Indies, of conſequence to us. Jerſey and Guernſey, from their contiguity to France, are of conſequence to the French government. Bonaparte, however, is ſaid to have evidenced intentions with reſpect to Egypt, of which miniſters were not aware. Were ſuch views or intentions, however novel or unexpected? Were they ſuch as France had never formerly evidenced? He apprehended they were not, and that the character of the man, and the nature of his enterprizes warranted them in ſuppoſing him capable of forming any enterprize. While he objected to the conduct of miniſters, in thus hurrying over the compromiſe which he thought might have taken place, he could not help adding his teſtimony to the public opinion of the honeſty and candor of Mr. Addington, our preſent worthy prime miniſter. He hoped that by his endeavors and thoſe of his brethren in office, war might ſtill be avoided.

The duke of Clarence ſupported the motion.

Lord Mulgrave and Melville followed.

The duke of Richmond obſerved, that it ſeemed to him to be a war undertaken for the ſake of the iſland of Lampedoſa.

The marquis of Lanſdowne ſaid, that the preſent ſubject involved a variety of conſiderations which preſſed upon their lordſhips' attention. He ſhould confine himſelf, in the preſent inſtance, to the declaration of war, and he confeſſed that he did not ſee very clearly, the ground for war. It had been ſaid, that the report of Sebaſtiani was a principal object of complaint, but it was well known that it was the cuſtom of every country to collect information with reſpect to colonization, however remote it might be from any preſent purpoſe, it was well known it was peculiarly the habit of France at every period; this therefore was no ſufficient cauſe for war.

With reſpect to Bonaparte he was far from approving of his character or his conduct, the influence of which was felt ſo ſtrongly in Europe, and by means of which ſcarcely any man could call his own ſecure, but at the ſame time it was a matter of grave and ſerious conſideration how far this was a ground for war to this country. As to Malta, he did not think that iſland of ſo much importance as ſome noble lords had ſuppoſed; it was but four or five years ſince, that Malta was offered to this country by the Grand Maſter, and declined. He did not mean to ſay at the ſame time that Malta was of no importance, for unqueſtionably it was; but when it was conſidered we were in poſſeſſion of it, why ſhould we make war upon account of that iſland, when we might retain it by means of negociation? He tho't that ſome means might be found to keep open a door for negociation; if war muſt take place the iſſue would no doubt be as it ought to be ſucceſsful to this country, and favorable to general liberty; but there was ſtill a hope that all grievances might be redreſſed, and it ſhould be remembered that in the caſe of the American conteſt much was loſt in conſequence of not making uſe of that time which might have been employed in amicable negociation. It was therefore of importance that an opening might be left for negociation, and that we ſhould not too precipitately plunge into war.

[*To be continued.*]

NEW-YORK, July 12.

The houſe of colonel Cantey, about ſix miles below Camden, (S. C.) was ſtruck by lightning about three weeks ago, and ſet on fire by it and totally conſumed, with all its contents, except two beds; the accident happened about eleven o'clock at night. Col. Cantey was much ſtunned by the ſhock, but has ſince recovered, no other perſon was injured.

We underſtand that his excellency the governor of Maſſachuſetts, with the advice and conſent of the council, has complied with the requeſt of the legiſlature by the removal of judge Bradbury from his office. His inability to diſcharge his official duties on account of indiſpoſition was the reaſon for the requeſt. [*Palladium.*]

From a St. Vincents paper, June 25.

It is with extreme pleaſure we have to announce the capture of St. Lucia, on Thurſday laſt, by our troops under the command of lieut. general Grinfield, after a very obſtinate and bloody conflict, in which we loſt in killed and wounded about 300 men: [This is incorrect, as only about 100 were killed and wounded, and few of the former, ſo that the loſs on the part of the Engliſh is not great.] The loſs of the enemy is unknown, but it is ſaid ſcarcely a man eſcaped the bayonet—A lieut. col. is reported to have been killed—ſuppoſed to be the honorable col. Packinham, of the 64th regiment.

The expedition left that iſland on the ſame day, ſuppoſed for Tobago, which iſland no doubt will ſoon be in our poſſeſſion.

The above information was brought by a Spaniſh ſchooner which arrived here yeſterday.

We underſtand ſix ſmall veſſels were captured a few days ago off Martinique, by the Emerald frigate, and ſent into Dominique.

On Wedneſday laſt arrived in this bay, the French brig L'Eola, a prize to his majeſty's ſloop of war Drake and Netley ſchooner. She was taken two leagues to the windward of the Diamond rock, off Martinique. Her cargo is ſaid to be very valuable.

PHILADELPHIA, July 14.

Extract of a letter from a merchant in Demerara, dated May 26, to his friend in this city.

"There is no great demand at preſent for American produce, and the reſtrictions on our exports in American bottoms ſtill continue. The ſettlements on this coaſt are in their uſual unhealthful ſtate; of the 1270 troops which arrived here in December laſt, there are only 120, including their officers, alive, and I expect by the time this letter reaches your hands, they too will be carried off. The conſequence is, the inhabitants have been obliged to perform militia duty: not being accuſtomed to fatigues, and the heat of a vertical ſun, many of our moſt reſpectable and valuable citizens have paid the debt of nature. Taxation and contribution go on rapidly.

"We have been ſome time in expectation of hoſtilities commencing between Great-Britain and the United States of America on the one part, and what is termed the republic of France and her allies on the other. The oſtenſible reaſon, it is underſtood here, on the part of the United States, is the violation of our rights in the navigation of the Miſſiſippi; on the part of Great-Britain, the inſolence and inadmiſſible demands of the Corſican uſurper. In regard to America, I hope that an amicable adjuſtment will take place, and the horrors of war be avoided.

"The troops in the colonies to windward, have revolted againſt the government. They have been cheated of their pay, and fed upon ſtinking proviſions, unfit to be thrown to dogs. Is it therefore ſurpriſing that they ſhould raiſe the arm of oppoſition againſt their tyrants, who regardleſs of their ſufferings, live in luxury? 'Tis by ſuch oppreſſions and ſuch treatment, that revolts are occaſioned, and when ſuch is the cauſe, they ſtand perfectly juſtified. The people here are very deſirous that Great-Britain may again take us under her protection; and by a letter which I received a ſhort time ſince from my friend R. of Surrinam, the ſame wiſh prevails in that colony. Perhaps a gun or two may be fired for the ſake of ceremony, but no ſerious reſiſtance will be made. Holland is not capable of taking care of herſelf, much leſs of protecting her colonies. There cannot be leſs than 200 ſail of large Dutch Weſt Indiamen lying at preſent in the colonies, upon this coaſt, richly laden with ſugar, cotton and coffee. They will inevitably fall into the hands of the Engliſh. We have underſtood that a ſquadron of Engliſh frigates are deſtined to take poſſeſſion of theſe colonies the moment war is declared. With anxious wiſhes we look for them daily. The adminiſtration talk of taking the reſtrictions off the American commerce, and allow us