GENERAL REPUBLICAN STAR OR ADVERTISER.

[Vol. 13 ..... 16] EASTON, TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 2. 1815. [No. 84.....807.]

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED,
EVERY TUESDAY MORNING, BY
Thomas Perrin Smith,
(PRINTER OF THE LAWS OF THE UNION.)

THE TERMS

Are *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents* per annum, payable half yearly, in advance: No paper can be discontinued until the same is paid for.

Advertisements are inserted three weeks for *One Dollar*, and continued weekly for *Twenty Five Cents* per square.

FROM THE AURORA.

NATIONAL POLITICS.

No. III.

From Les Etats Unis et L'Angleterre.

THE CONDUCT OF THE TWO NATIONS TOWARDS EACH OTHER.

ENGLAND.

In those three principal points of view, the conduct of the English government towards the rest of the world may be seen——*ambition, perfidy*, and *inhumanity*.

We shall take a rapid view of England in these relations, which embrace the whole political ground.

The *ambition* of England is notorious to the whole world.——The proofs are written in every page of her frightful history. Her desire of domination, her desire of reigning exclusive mistress of the ocean, and the dictatrix of laws to all people, has caused so much blood that they have become indifferent alike to maledictions and dead to pity.

A year, I have not said that a state of war is her natural element, which is a positive fact,—England could not live at peace with all the world. A universal peace would leave the faculties and industry of other nations free to be employed within themselves; to England this would be the greatest of evils. Her policy is always directed by a double operation, to aggrandize herself, and enfeeble her neighbors. All nations are considered as her rivals, and what will enrich herself, or impoverish others, accords with her policy; the millions of victims sacrificed to her avarice, who have become memorable thro' her jealousy, who have been destroyed that she might be enriched, is beyond circulation, but may be estimated by the history of Europe for successive centuries.

How many of her wars have been enterprises to injure France, on account only of the benignity of her climate, her population & her peaceful prosperity. From the twelfth century they count *twenty-two wars*, which occupy a space of *two hundred and sixty-four years*.

With what sanguinary rapacity have they ravaged the Asiatic territory where every crime of human wickedness was arrayed to shew the power of the English nation in that part of the world! what affections, what barbarities, what a nation to punish America for having dared to shake off the same ignominious & grievous yoke!

Her ships tyrannize on every sea; her merchants disturb and corrupt the morals of every people; they are really the masters of the commerce of the world; they have every where *factories, colonies, agents*, markets to enrich, and ships and forts to protect them.——She sustains a faction in every nation who adhere to her agents, and these agents proscribe individually the very people among whom they reside, who dare not resist their influence nor their corruption: They govern one world, and make another tremble, & still they are not satisfied! They would make the sea exclusive property! and commerce a monopoly! They are not content with being rich and powerful—they wish to be so exclusively; and while there exists a people who are desirous of having a liberal commerce with all nations, or a navy, or perfect independence of all but their own internal laws, that nation will be held to be an enemy of G. Britain, and insidious corruption or ultimate war will be the consequence of those wishes.

The Indies devasted, no longer offers any hope for plunder; she has long turned her views to China, where she meditates a domination like that which she maintains over seventy millions of Hindus.——Events as unforeseen as happy, and which the English government have been long from anticipating as to soon, have produced the peace of Europe.

America alone remained, and when the pretexts of war in Europe had ceased, she wished to continue and carry thither all the horrors with which they could no longer cover other nations. But in vain—a hardy and magnanimous people, not averse in a just cause to shed their own blood, but careful of that of others, proposed the mediation of a sovereign prince the pride and glory of Europe.——This mediation has been refused, because it would have dried up the last channel that was open to the enemy of peace.

Such is England in her relations with nations; such is the excess of her ambition, and her desire to subjugate them to her tyranny; no person can be ignorant of it; she herself does not attempt to conceal it; it is the theme of her national songs, and the text of her statesmen; and her price makes her consider what she avows as natural and right.

We have seen England held forth as the benefactor of the human race; the protector of the independence of nations; the bulwark of the christian religion.—How has England given protection?——How has she benefited independent nations? How supported religion?

If the ambition of this oppressive nation is known, her perfidy is not less so.—Montesquie has said, that England was "*a nation with which they should not have commerce but from the mouths of their cannon*" This saying of Montesquie paints England by a single stroke. For her support of religion, we must read the history of the Cevennes, Ireland, and India.

That confidence which creates friendly relations, that openness which should characterize the intercourse of two friendly people, and ought to exist constantly, are strange s to that nation; whoever holds relations with England, must be governed by caution and experience, and ought to teach this to all nations. It is there that this maxim, repulsive to humanity, peculiarly applies—*We ought to live with friends as if they were one day to become our enemies.*

During a peace experience demands that we should mistrust the English.—They profit by the facility of their intercourse and language to lay ambuscades; they steal into society like assassins, and discover themselves but by the conflagrations they make; they cherish and obtain confidence only to abuse it; they forge chains for the whole world, and rivet them at a moment the most disastrous to those who have not foreseen it. Trace back the contemporaneous movements at Boston, of Capt. Henry and Andrew Allen; the armament of the savages, and the war bursting out in 1811 on the River Wabash; at a time when the seas were covered with American ships, which the peace had caused to leave all the world.

Remember the artifices of her policy, operating with unparalleled perseverance in the Eastern States, and actually converting those States which were the first to resist her tyranny, into allies obedient to her yoke—lifting their rebellious hands against their sister states, who blessed by a popular and free government, were nevertheless proudly able, even with this revolt, to defend themselves against the common enemy.

Reflect on the treaties of alliance made with the savages and barbarians, for assassination and indiscriminate murder. Pronounce the terrible name of *Quiberon*; run over the history of the wars of Ireland, as they are developed by Curry; and of India, even by Burke.

Cast your eyes over the treaty written by Mr. Erskine, and annulled by their orders when the fraud, which it was intended to cover, had been accomplished; examine the notes of their ministers; enumerate the neutral ships pillaged, burned and taken; neutral ports violated; her spies, pamphletiers, gazette-writers & emissaries sent among friendly nations for the purpose of introducing disquietude and disorder, dividing and ruling.

In fine read her annals, consult every man of information, consult your own memory, you will see always & every where treaties violated, the faith of oaths disregarded, neutrality insulted; intrigue, deceit, and machinations accumulated; gold lavished to purchase traitors; you will see in fine the *perfidy* of England written in characters of blood, *in every age and country*.

Ought I to speak of their barbarity; what effect will my voice produce amidst the cries of anguish and vengeance, which the innumerable victims carry to Heaven, the evidences of their torments?——Who does not fear their inhumanity? Who does not tremble at their treachery, and their cold blooded cruelty?

From this disgraceful catalogue, in which every crime is traced, I will select one trait that will call forth universal indignation; and when I have spoken of it, this painful part of my task will be finished.

To prove that the English are cruel, it will be sufficient to, without doubt, o shew their thirst for blood, the murderous ingenuity, which makes war needful to them. He who takes pleasure in their cruel games, is a stranger to all sentiments of humanity, and he ought to be proscribed by men, because he is a scourge.

What is it then, when to the horrors inseparable from war, she adds the other horrors which war itself condemns, and are crimes in the career of crimes themselves.

I will not revert to the conquest, or rather the exterminations of Ireland or of India; districts entirely reduced to famine, others poisoned, and generations annihilated, to make fortunes or estates for her instruments.

I need not search so far from home, when I may chose a subject nearer our fireside.

How do the English make war?—How do they treat their prisoners?—These are two points of which I will offer a sketch.

The sea is not alone the theatre of their barbarian exploits, it is not only vessels that their torches and machines reduce to ashes.

Whilst the yellow fever mowed down the inhabitants of Cadiz, the English, more cruel than disease, bombarded this unfortunate town;—and the flames devoured those whom disease would not permit to escape from the pillow of pain, when life and disease were already contending.

If all the south of Europe trembled at this barbarity, the north of Europe also was witness of the protection which she held forth to independent nations; the flames which devoured *Copenhagen*, which carried to Heaven the cries of the inhabitants, and the flames of those churches which shed a bloody lustre on the coasts of the Baltic and the northern seas—seemed to go and demand justice and vengeance of him whose irresistable hand reaches the criminal.

Their screams and groans were heard, and nature seemed armed to punish the offenders; but the retreat of the British was only a continued chain of outrages and evils. "A terrible tempest," says a Dutch journal, "accompanied the English in their retreat from Copenhagen; every day, every hour that followed, was marked by such afflictions on the barbarism, that it seemed as if the avenging hand had come from Heaven to punish the wanton barbarians.——The harbors, the banks, the coasts of the North Sea were lined with English vessels, upset, grounded, or wrecked. The terrible north-east winds accompanied them thro' the Cottigat, and they were scattered over the coasts of Jutland and Holland."

These reverses were not the only punishment inflicted on these criminals; universal indignation, which broke out in all parts for a time, frightened even themselves.

This lesson, terrible as it proved to them and those who conflagrated Copenhagen, was not overlooked at *Washington*——Washington! At this name where is the American—who is the man, whose heart does not beat, and whose blood does not circulate with double celerity? No person can be ignorant, no man will forget that about the end of the month of August, 1814, the English profiting by unexpected reinforcements, which came to their aid, marched to the capitol of the United States, which they entered on the night of the 24th, and with combustibles brought from their ships, on the backs of their sailors, they reduced to ashes the *Capitol, the President's House, the Library, the Navy Office, Treasury, and the depots of the national archives.*

Cockburn had the *courage*, after descending the river a considerable way at Havre-de-Grace, to order the burning of the country seat of the brave Commodore Rogers;—if he did not succeed in this design, it was not owing to his generosity.

When they had accomplished this conflagration, they were so much occupied with the illustrious enterprize, and in such haste to fly after they had consummated it, that they forgot to spike more than two pieces of cannon of the 700 they found there; and they left untouched those foundaries where these cannon were cast.

They say that their minds had been satiated with the sight of our monuments in flames; and having proudly accomplished this truly English enterprize, they duly received the commendation of their chief, the dignified brother of Lord Cochrane.

They may add, "it remains for the renown of this name at the same moment, that the new title of *honor* for the taking of the capitol of Washington, should be united for the glory of this *noble* family, with that of the *pillory* of London."

Behold how the *English* make war; it is like the *Goths* and *Vandals*, whose names remain synonimous with horror to the world. There are occasions in which destruction and ravage are justified by the force of events, by the necessity of self-defence. These are authorised, without doubt, by the usages of war, and if humanity groans, the laws of war sanction it.

But, destruction without necessity, for the sole end of destruction—establishments foreign from war, monuments of arts and taste, the repositories of literature, is an action odious and base, which draws on those who are guilty of it, nothing but indignation and contempt.——"What are," says Vattel in a treatise on the laws of nations, "What are the causes for which they ravage?—they must spare those edifices which are an ornament to human society, and which do not contribute any to impoverish an enemy; such are temples, tombs, public edifices, and all works of remarkable beauty.—What will they gain by destroying them? *He who does it, declares himself the enemy of man*, in thus depriving them, without excuse, of the monuments of art and models of taste.

"See what Belisarius says on this subject, to *Totteic*, king of the Goths: —*We detest alike the barbarians for destroying so many wonders of the arts, when they invaded the Roman territory.*"

What Belisarius has said of the Goths, the whole universe will say of the English. "We detest these barbarians for destroying the capitol of a young empire; the first monuments raised to the fine arts and letters; the brilliant specimens of the genius of a young people, who ought to excite our admiration and benevolence, rather than our envy."

But whilst the just men of all nations spake thus, the Prince Regent of England *felicitates* himself in the face of *his parliament, on the happy and honorable events of the war.*——Ah! When the chief of a powerful nation anticipates applause from the barbarity of the soldiery, what can humanity hope from them?

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

(BY AUTHORITY.)

AN ACT

For the protection of the commerce of the United States against the Algerine cruizers.

WHEREAS, the Dey of Algiers on the Coast of Barbary has commenced a predatory warfare against the United States—

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That it shall be lawful fully to equip, officer, man and employ such of the armed vessels of the United States as may be judged requisite by the President of the United States for protecting effectually the commerce and seamen thereof on the Atlantic ocean, the Mediterranean and adjoining seas.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted* That it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to instruct the commanders of the respective public vessels aforesaid, to subdue, seize, and take prize of all vessels, goods and effects of or belonging to the Dey of Algiers, or to his subjects, and to bring or send the same into port, to be proceeded against and distributed according to law; and, also, to cause to be done all such other acts of precaution or hostility, as the state of war will justify, and may, in his opinion, require.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That That on the application of the owners of private armed vessels of the United States, the President of the United States may grant them special commissions in the form which he shall direct under the seal of the United States; and such private armed vessels, when so commissioned, shall have the like authority for subduing, seizing, taking and bringing into port, any Algerine vessel, goods or effects, as the beforementioned public armed vessels may by law have;—and shall therein be subject to the instructions which may be given by the President of the United States for the regulation of their conduct; and their commissions shall be revokable at his pleasure. *Provided*, That before any commission shall be granted as aforesaid, the owner or owners of the vessels for which the same may be requested, and the commander thereof for the time being shall give bond to the United States with at least two responsible sureties, not interested in such vessels, in the penal sum of seven thousand dollars, or if such vessel be provided with more than one hundred and fifty men, in the penal sum of fourteen thousand dollars, with condition for observing the treaties and laws of the United States, and the instructions which may be given as aforesaid, and also for satisfying all damages and injuries which shall be done contrary to the tenor thereof, by such commissioned vessel, and for delivering up the commission when revoked by the President of the United States.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted* That any Algerine vessel, goods or effects, which may be so captured and brought into port, by any private armed vessel of the United States, duly commissioned as aforesaid, may be adjudged good prize, and thereupon shall accrue to the owners, and officers, and men of the capturing vessel, and shall be distributed according to the agreement which shall have been made between them, or, in failure of such agreement, according to the discretion of any court having cognizance of the capture.

LANGDON CHEVES, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN GAILLARD, President pro tempore of the Senate.
March 3, 1815.
Approved, JAMES MADISON.

AN ACT

To provide additional revenues for defraying the expenses of government, and maintaing the public credit, by laying a direct tax upon the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That a direct tax of nineteen thousend nine hundred and ninety-eight dollars and forty cents be, and is hereby annually laid upon the District of Columbia, which shall be assessed and laid upon the same descriptions of property, in the same manner, and be collected and accounted for likewise, in the same manner as is provided by the "act to provide additional revenues for defraying the expenses of government, and maintaining the public credit, by laying a direct tax upon the United States, and to provide for assessing and collecting the same," and the several acts referred to therein, or which may be passed amendatory thereof, for which purpose there shall be appointed a principal assessor for the District of Columbia, who, with such deputies as he may appoint, shall have the like qualifications and powers, receive the like compensations, discharge the like duties, and be subject to the like penalties, with the other principal or assistant assessors:—*Provided*, That the said principal assessor shall, in addition to the powers of the other principal assessors, exercise the same powers, and discharge the same duties devolved on the board of principal assessors, established by the said act; and the tax lists, made out by him conformably thereto, shall be delivered to the collector within one hundred and twenty days from the first day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, on which day the said principal assessor shall direct and cause the several assistant assessors in his district, to enquire after and concerning all lands, lots of ground, with their improvements, dwelling houses and slaves, liable to taxation: *And provided*, That the collector of the said district, shall, himself, retain the lists of property lying within the said district, not owned, occupied, or superintended, by some person residing therein; and shall proceed to discharge the like duties that are performed in the respective States, by the collector designated by the Secretary of the Treasury for receiving said list.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the principal assessor and assistant assessors for the District of Columbia, shall discharge the like duties required by the "act to provide additional revenues for defraying the expenses of government, and maintaining the public credit, by laying duties on household furniture, and on gold and silver watches," to be performed in the respective States by the assessors, any thing in the tenth section of the said act to the contrary notwithstanding; which said duties, and all other acts therein required to be done, as well by the said officers as by individuals, subject to the said act, shall be performed within the District of Columbia, under the penalties, for neglect or omission, thereby prescribed, & in point of time, relatively to the said first day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, and in every year thereafter, relatively to such day as may be fixed by law for the performance of the like duties and acts in the several States.

LANGDON CHEVES, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN GAILLARD, President pro tempore of the Senate.
February 27, 1815.
Approved, JAMES MADISON.

RESOLUTIONS

Relative to the distribution of the laws of the United States.

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of State cause to be distributed among the members of the present Congress, copies of the laws of the United States ordered by law to be printed, as soon as the same shall be completed.

Resolved, That so many of the remaining copies of the laws as are not already directed to be distributed, be deposited in the Congressional Library.

LANGDON CHEVES, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN GAILLARD, President pro tempore of the Senate.
March 3, 1815.
Approved, JAMES MADISON.

AN ACT

To repeal certain acts therein mentioned.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the act, entitled "an act to authorize the President of the U. States to accept the services of state troops & of volunteers," and the act entitled "an act to authorize the raising a corps of sea fencibles," be, and the same are hereby repealed.

LANGDON CHEVES, Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN GAILLARD, President pro tempore, of the Senate.
March 3, 1815.
Approved, JAMES MADISON.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc3923_scm2839-0295.jpg