

If then Great Britain, shall have committed acts towards the United States, which furnish just cause of war, the United States possess the right, consistently with the laws of nations, to exercise any act towards Great Britain, which would be justifiable in a state of war. The United States having received the injuries, are authorized to select such measures and means as they may deem the most expedient for self-preservation and indemnification. Reprisal is within their power:—All other means of redress, are without their power. In such a state of things, reprisal is a right—reprisal is a duty. An objection more plausible than solid, has been made to this course of reasoning, that the individuals who will be the immediate objects of the reprisal, have not been the immediate agents of the aggression. The laws of nations state, that the property of individuals, is as much a subject of reprisal, as the property of the aggressing nation; but as the nation is the immediate agent in the wrong, the individual who sustains an injury thereby, becomes intitled to recompence from his nation.—The nation which commits the wrong, by this process will ultimately sustain the loss. Hence in the present case, the innocent and unsuspecting victims of the United States, have received losses from the lawless aggressions of Great Britain, and the question is, whether they shall finally sustain these losses, without any clear claim of indemnification upon the government of the United States? Or whether the losses shall be transferred to British subjects, who will thereby possess the clearest claim for recompence, from the British government? He thought the laws of God, the laws of morality, the laws of reason, the laws of nations, would all pronounce, that the British Government which had done the wrong, should afford the recompence.

Mr. Giles said, that if the losses were to be ultimately borne by the individual subjects of Great Britain, the remedy would seem to be a harsh one; but even in that case, the only alternatives left to the United States would be to say, whether their own citizens, to whom they have promised protection should finally sustain the losses, or the British subjects, to whom they have promised no protection. But the situation of the individuals, who may be the subjects of reprisal, is greatly meliorated, by the consideration of their just claim to recompence from their own government; which he had no doubt but they would ultimately obtain, if they were put into a situation to demand it; but if they should ultimately be denied justice, it would be a consolation to reflect, that it was the injustice of their own Government, not of the United States.

He observed, that a reprisal in the way proposed, stood upon the same ground as the invasion of the property, in every other case did, and was justified upon the same principle, to wit, Self-preservation. He presumed if there existed an acknowledged state of war, letters of marque and reprisal, commissions to privateers, &c. would be deemed justifiable and expedient, and that no discrimination would be made between the property of individuals and the property of the nation; yet the invasion of the rights of property in that case, would be as palpable, as in the case of the reprisal proposed, with this aggravation; that in that case, the individual sustaining the loss, would not be intitled to ultimate recompence from the government—in the case proposed he would be intitled to recompence. He observed, that the British nation had not discovered this delicate discrimination between national and individual property, in their late instructions given to their privateers and ships of war, although they had sustained no wrong; and he thought their conduct an example in point for the United States, who had received the injury and committed none.

A gentleman (Mr. Smith, S. C.) yesterday attempted to make a distinction between vessels at sea, and other property; although he acknowledged that at the first blush he could discern no distinction in principle.

Mr. Giles said, that every species of property, stood on the same principle, the promise made by the government to afford protection to all property—the same rights are attached to every species of property, and the government is bound to afford an equal security to all. A sentence read yesterday, by a gentleman (Mr. S. Smith) from a writer upon the laws of nations,

clearly shews the right of a nation to make reprisal upon all the effects of individuals of an aggressing nation indiscriminately, except stock in the public funds; which has been exempted, under the idea of its being a pledge in the hands of government,—the withholding of which, would be a breach of public faith. He believed that the practice and policy of some nations, might have given rise to this distinction, but he doubted whether the practice had been uniform and universal, and he was clear that there was no rational distinction in principle. The idea that the public funds are a pledge in the hands of government and ought not therefore to be touched, is equally applicable to every other species of property. In the case of contracts between individuals, the government guarantees the performance upon the refusal of one party to pay, or comply. In the case of lands or personal chattels, the government guarantees the exclusive enjoyment to the proprietor; it would be equally a violation of faith, for the government to deny its obligation in the one case, as in the other, and nothing could justify an invasion of the rights of property, in any case, but Self-preservation—the first of all rights, and the highest of all duties.

He positively denied that any pre-eminence was due to one species of property, over another. He said, however, that this discussion was not immediately necessary, as the resolution under consideration, did not embrace the stock in the funds of the United States.

(To be continued.)

## Foreign Intelligence.

PARIS, December 14.

Yesterday Anacharis Clootz, and Duben, both deputies of the Convention, were expelled from the Jacobin Society; Roberpierre chiefly prompted their expulsion, and was much applauded.

All of the officers and crew of the ship l'Apollon, sent from Toulon to Rochfort, by permission of lord Hood, have been accused of an intention to corrupt the public mind, and delivered up to the revolutionary tribunal established in that place.

The act of accusation passed against them contained the following charges:

"That it is proved by the diaries kept by the prisoners, that they call the most distinguished patriots, anarchists, ruffians, hangmen, cut-throats, worthy children of Marat; that they strained every nerve to dissolve the Popular Society; that they trod the national badge under foot, hoisted the white cockade, cried Vive Louis XVII. and dated their writings in the first year of his reign; that it had been in their power to save the French Squadron, and that they preferred to deliver it up to the English; that they reiterated refused to quit the harbor and engage the hostile Squadron, by which Toulon would have been saved; that they furnished detachments to fight against Carteaux; that they received and distributed among the crews considerable sums to corrupt them; that they corresponded with the emigrants; that they contributed to the infamous arrest of the Representatives Bayle and Beauvais: finally, that they demanded certificates, attesting their good conduct of the traitors of Toulon."

They were all found guilty, and suffered death by the guillotine.

The commissioners at Bordeaux, in a letter dated Nov. 30, state, that the guillotine is busy in decapitating the rich, the merchants and monopolizers. On the 28th all the actors of the Great Theatre were put under arrest as aristocrats. A great number of suspected persons were also taken into custody the same night, out of the number of 2000 persons who were at the theatre.

The female citizen Marbeuf, a merchant, has been committed to the prison of St. Pelagie, on a charge of monopoly. In her castle at Champ, a small village, the officers found 18,000 cwt. of soap, 15,000 weight of sugar, between 15 and 16,000 chaldrons of charcoal, 30,000 faggots, and a great quantity of coffee, kali, and other articles of merchandise, which has been put in circulation.

In the night of the 30th ult. 200 of the most principal merchants of Bourdeaux were put under arrest, and will be delivered up to the revolutionary tribunal to be guillotined.

December 17.

For some days past the Parisian bakers are so afraid of the guillotine, that the people are served in due time with all the

bread their shops can afford. Their shops are never opened before nine o'clock, and this in the presence of a commissioner of police.

December 19.

The revolutionary tribunal has just condemned to death the following persons, viz.

Anthony Machi, grocer, and James Louis Tonnelier, mercer, both commissioners of equipment; and Bernard Lemonier and John Baptist Giblin, tailors;—all convicted of dilapidation of the funds of the Republic by fraudulent purchases.

FRANCE.

## NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Sunday, Nov. 10.

"We have long," said Seyes, "wished to see reason triumph over superstition and fanaticism. The day at length arrived, and I rejoice at it as one of the greatest blessings that could happen to the French Republic. Though I have for many years laid aside the ecclesiastical character, let me, however, be permitted to declare at present, that I know no other worship than that of liberty and equality, and no other religion than the love of mankind and my country. I have lived a victim of superstition, but I was never its instrument. None can say he was ever deceived by me; and many are indebted to me for the truth. At the moment my reason was disengaged from the fatal prejudices by which it was fettered the energy of insurrection entered my heart. Since that period I have been retained in my sacerdotal habit by the same force which retained other free souls in chains. These were all destroyed on the day of the revolution.

"I have been known only by my efforts for liberty and equality. It was as a plebeian, a Deputy of the People, and not as a Priest, for I was then no longer one, that I was called to the National Assembly. I cannot, like many of my colleagues, deliver to you the paper or titles of my former state; for a long time they have not been in existence. I have no resignation to give in to you, because I have no ecclesiastical employment; but I have still an offering to make my country, that of an annuity of 10,000 livres, which the law gave me as an indemnification for my former benefices.—Permit me to deposit on your table my formal renunciation of that pension."

The Convention ordered this speech to be inserted in the minutes.

Thursday, January 2.

Roberpierre, jun. from Toulon, ascended the tribune, and spoke as follows:

"You know the exploits of the soldiers of the Republic. The capture of the English redoubt has decided the fate of Europe. The enemy had exhausted all the resources of art and genius to profit by it. Well, the defenders of liberty wanted to take it, and they became masters of it."—He now traced the picture of the cruelty of the English, who threatened the patriots with cutting out their tongues, and pouring boiling lead into their brains. To escape such cruelties, Bayle made away with himself. Beauvais, who survived, suffered such shocking treatment in his dungeon, that the features of his face are so much altered as to render it difficult to know him again.—"I have now," continued Roberpierre, "to speak to you respecting the army of Italy, to which you sent me. That army encamped on huge rocks, in the midst of the snow, far from the woods, having every where fresh obstacles to conquer, and redoubts to carry, flew, for these five months past, from one victory to another. Its valour has been too little celebrated: too little has been said respecting the affair of Cillat, where the brave Dugomier, conquered 4000 men, and took 800 prisoners, and where a post, defended by 100 men, stood an attack of 12 hours against 1000 assailants. That army has not only the enemy to combat, but it is also surrounded by thousands of assassins: The peasants kill our brave soldiers, and instances of this kind are daily renewed." Roberpierre having informed the Convention that it had been the enemy's design to seize Provence, and having unmasked the treachery of Kellerman, who left the town of Entrevean destitute of troops, cannon, and ammunition, concluded by moving, that the Assembly attend by a decree, that the army of Italy had well deserved of the country. Decreed, and his report ordered to be inserted in the bulletin.

Barrere read the following letters:

From Dentzel, Representative of the People at Landau.

"Landau, Dec. 28, 1793, second year of the French Republic, one and indivisible, first year of the Popular Constitution, first hour of the raising of the blockade.

"Victoire! Vive la Republique!  
"O my friends, my dear colleagues, regenerators of all posterity, once more our country is saved! Long live the republic and Sans Culotterie!

"The blockade of Landau is raised; we are free; our slavery is at an end. Our brothers, our saviours are here. What transport prevails among us! I am carried beyond myself! O my country, thou art saved; I, along with my brother soldiers, have saved this place, so important to the republic. We have braved the bombardment and the vain menaces of these audacious combined tyrants; the bearers will inform you of particulars. I wait your orders, to fly into your arms, to inform you of the success of the French and the total defeat of tyrants.

(Signed) J. F. DENTZEL.

"Citizens," continued Barrere, "Such is the result of the courage of your armies, such are the fruits of your labors. Fort Louis is blockaded; tyranny will not long dishonor it. What remains to be done for the Republic? Forthwith to enfranchise the Pyrenees, who have forgot the victories of Rencèveaux and the siege of Barcelona. Then to chase away the disreputable Cobourg from Conde, Valenciennes and Quefnoy, and to give him once more a Belgian lesson. In fine, to strike and punish London, that haughty, banking, mercantile, ministerial, and royal city, that devours the earth, tyrannizes over the seas, plunders Europe, and debases the morals of every people.—It is, above all, on this courageous garrison of Landau that the committee think it their duty to fix your regards. Locked within the enemy's country, abandoned almost to themselves for more than four months, ignorant of what French valour was meditating for their deliverance, imagine what constancy it must require, and with what courage they must arm themselves from day to day! they resisted all kinds of corruption. The enemy was desirous even, by urgent solicitation, to make them despise their General, and to name a Chief devoted to himself."

## UNITED STATES.

BOSTON, April 2.

FROM CAPE-ANN, April 1.

"Yesterday arrived here a vessel from St. Vincents, in 13 days passage, confirms the agreeable intelligence, that the new orders had arrived there from England, not to molest any American vessels; and all processes were to cease against those already taken. This vessel spoke with a droger from Grenads, which confirmed the same news. Before the vessel sailed from St. Vincents, intelligence had been received from Martinico, that the English forces had attacked Fort Republic, and had been repulsed with the loss of seven hundred men."

A Correspondent asserts,

That the orders for the release of American vessels have actually been received in the West Indies, and that they have altered the countenances of the plunderers very much. Several Captains at St. Eustatia are said to have repaired to St. Kitts to receive their vessels. Heaven grant the intelligence may be true, and that the sails of our vessels may speedily whiten the harbors of the United States. If true it is to be lamented that so many officers and seamen have been forced to leave the Islands.

On Monday last arrived here, Captain Crocker, in the schooner Ann, from Martinico, which he left about the 5th of March. Captain C's vessel was one of those taken when that part of the island was captured where he lay. He with all the masters of neutral vessels, were sent on shore to live at their own expense; the mates and sailors were put on board a large ship provided for that purpose; they were not under a guard, and had two boats provided for them to go on shore when they pleased; that they had only two thirds of an allowance; that a number of the American seamen, about 40, were pressed on board the British ships of war: the vessels had all their sails unbuttoned, yards and topmasts struck, with a guard on board, who plundered them of whatever they pleased. This vessel was sent here to bring M. Bellegarde, a general of colour, in the service of the Republic, who capitulated to the English, and agreeable to capitulation, was sent here in an American vessel. Capt C's cargo was all taken on shore, or the heads of the casks stove in; his adventure was returned him, such articles only excepted, as had