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No. 1.

ON the establishment of the federal government, it was reasonably expected by the free citizens of America, that they would find that protection to their general and individual interests, which it is the duty of government to render: Nor did any man suppose that, immediately upon its organization, one of the first acts of the administration thereof would be to enforce the obligations of a treaty mutually obligatory upon the contracting parties, and which, having been shamefully and avowedly infringed by one party, could no longer be deemed binding on the other. It will be seen, that I allude to the cognizance which the federal courts have taken, and the decision they are about to give on the subject of British debts, in the event of which, as I conceive, the dignity, peace, and safety of the government greatly depends: And altho' those courts, from the terms and manner of their institution, cannot avoid to meet the question, whenever it is brought before them, yet surely a notorious public infraction of the treaty on the part of Great-Britain, and that too, in the instance of with-holding public and private property, should have induced such a proceeding on the part of the present government, for obtaining indemnity for this infraction, as would have kept equal progress with the claims of British creditors in our courts of law, or, in case of refusal or delay of such indemnity, a like refusal or suspension of the recovery of British debts.

It may perhaps be alledged, that the violation of the government hitherto, and the dubious terms of the constitution, as to the competent power for declaring an infraction of the treaty, on the part of Great-Britain, have delayed such a proceeding: it may be so; but surely a farther delay for this cause will argue a disinclination, and not a power to demand and obtain justice. The power to make the declaration I have mentioned, certainly exists; nor is it to be supposed that a longer delay will be patiently acquiesced in; for already in one state (and that an important one) is the public mind awakened, the public voice exerted, and the measure of equal justice and full protection demanded, on behalf of its abused and injured citizens. Perhaps the patient suffering of this people hitherto, may be misconstrued by some into an admission of the truth of that common but mistaken suggestion, that the payment of the private debts, due from the individuals of one country to those of the other, has no relation to that infraction of the treaty on the part of Great-Britain, which is complained of. It cannot, however, be forgotten, that this suggestion has been fully and publicly refuted by the conduct and declaration of both the contracting parties; by the former Congress in the instructions to their ministers at the court of London, which produced so long, tedious, and ineffectual a negotiation on the subject, on their part; and by the court of London, in the well-known animadversions made by the marquis of Carmarthen, on the existing laws of the several states respecting the recovery of British debts, and in which it was ultimately avowed, that the impediments to a recovery, which those laws had created, and the well-known imbecility of Congress under the powers of the then existing government, to enforce the execution of the treaty on their part, were a sufficient justification to Great-Britain for with-holding a compliance on its part. The recollection of these facts, therefore, will be sufficient to justify the conduct of the state to which I have alluded, which demands that the policy of the British court should be retorted upon

them, by with-holding a compliance with the treaty on our part, so far as respects the recovery of British debts, until adequate reparation be made for with-holding the western posts, and for the value of the slaves carried off; and it is almost superfluous to add, that this example of the British, in holding fast a security for our performance, should be followed by us in holding fast this only security for a performance on theirs, until in the course of future negotiation the dispute is accommodated to mutual satisfaction. Perhaps no reasonable objection can be offered to this mode of proceeding, so proper to vindicate the violated rights and honor of an independent nation, unless it be a blind adherence to certain fashionable and courtly maxims of the day, by which it is endeavored to be inculcated, "that peace, and a good understanding with Great-Britain, must be preserved at any price; that by pursuing this policy alone can the infant system of our government take root and stability; and that America ought, imperceptibly, to grow to greatness, like the trees of her wildernesses, in the midst of silence and retreat."—Maxims, repugnant to the essential interests and prosperity of our country, which do not apply to her relative situation and circumstances, and which, in the opinion of the great body of the yeomanry of America, flow from the influence of that partial system of things, wherein the advantage of the many is made subservient to the emolument and aggrandizement of the few; a system already too well understood, to admit the aggravation of that farther injury to the rights of the people, which, an adherence to those maxims in the present instance, might produce.

AMERICANUS.

December 7, 1791.

Extract from UMFREVILLE'S "Present State of HUDSON'S-BAY."

(A late Work.)

THERE is not, perhaps, any joint trade or monopoly existing, that is carried on in a manner more ostentatious, or what is meant by the vulgar term *snug*, than that which is in the hands of the Hudson's Bay Company. The commodities in which they trade, are procured in so sterile and frigid a climate, and by so few agents, that there is no scope for that eager competition for subordinate emoluments which the more genial and extensive territories of the East hold out to needy adventurers.

Twenty years ago the governor of York-Fort, which was the company's principal establishment in the Bay, annually sent home at least thirty thousand skins, and maintained no more than twenty-five men, at very low wages; at present that place has upwards of one hundred men at it, who have increased salaries, and it sends home no more than twenty thousand skins, upon an average, from itself and four subordinate settlements; and these are procured at an expence, which a few years back would have been looked upon as next to an annihilation of their commercial existence.

It is an incontrovertible fact, that since the French have evacuated Canada, the fur trade from the inland parts of Hudson's Bay, has been carried on to a greater extent than ever it was before; for the company, who till then confined themselves to the sea-shore, knew nothing of the numerous nations inland; and these again knew as little of them: that the company, notwithstanding they had obliged themselves by their charter to explore the whole of their territories, confined themselves within a small circle. They consequently did not exert their influence to procure peltries, or to augment the con-

sumption of British manufactures, by any other methods than through the channel of a very few Indians, comparatively speaking. These Indians, however, brought down enough to enrich a few individuals, whose interest it was to prevent too great an influx of furs, which would not only lower the price at market, but probably open the eyes of an injured commercial people. In the days I am alluding to, the port of York-Fort was surrounded with nations of Indians entirely unknown to the traders of the company; and they would have remained in the same state of ignorance to this day, had they not been awakened from their reveries by the unfathomable perseverance of a few Canadian merchants, who found them out, through obstacles and impediments attended with more danger and personal hazard than a voyage to Japan.

Since that time their affairs have undergone a material change in these parts. The Canada merchants annually send into the interior country, for the Indian trade, about forty large canoes of about four tons burthen each, a considerable part of which goods are conveyed to those Indians who used to send their furs down to the Hudson's Bay, by the Indian carriers, which did not amount to half the quantity at present procured. So that by this interference of the Canadian traders, it is evident that many more peltries are procured and imported into England, and a greater quantity of its manufactures consumed than heretofore. And when it is further considered, that these goods are of a very inferior quality, which perhaps would hardly find a sale elsewhere, this extension of the trade will appear an object not very inconsiderable.

By the prosecution of this commerce from Canada, the Hudson's Bay company found themselves effectually supplanted on the sea-shore, the natives being supplied inland with every convenience for war and domestic uses. This induced the company, in the year 1773, to begin their inland voyages, so that the Canadians from Canada, and the Europeans from Hudson's Bay, met together, not at all to the ulterior advantage of the natives, who by this means became degenerated and debauched, through the excessive use of spirituous liquors, imported by these rivals in commerce.

P A R I S, Sept. 8.

IT may be agreeable to some of our readers to be informed of the projects, wishes, whims, and dreams, of the gentlemen [French anti-revolutionists] beyond the Rhine. For this purpose, we will make a few extracts from intercepted letters really written from Worms, Coblenz, Brussels, Mons, Ath, &c. &c. to their good friends of the clergy, the nobility, and the old government. They are as follow:

"The coalition of sovereigns armed for the support of the interests, and for the restoration of the rights of royalty in France is definitively agreed upon.—The means of executing their resolutions have been concerted between the kings of Spain, England, Prussia, Sweden, Sardinia, the emperor, the German electors, the German princes, the Dutch stadtholder, and the exiled French princes and chiefs."

"Twenty thousand Prussians are upon the march; whose apparent destination is for Liege.—The Austrian troops are coming in from all quarters to the cantons and to the frontiers.—The king of Sweden is on his march with thirty thousand men—he is to be generalissimo of the army.—Five hundred chariots, laden with ammunition and weapons of war, are arrived at Luxembourg.—Fifteen thousand life-guards men have met at Worms and Coblenz; also one thousand gentlemen from Auvergne,

with their horses, baggage and accoutrements; also two hundred Limousins are marching from the same place.—The Bretons are coming in from Jersey.—The British fleet is divided into two squadrons, the one to rendezvous at Plymouth, the other at Portsmouth.—The Spanish fleet is in complete readiness.—The preparations in Savoy go on very slowly, but are very considerable."

"Orders are given to invade France early in September—in the mean time an English Squadron will block up the harbour of Brest; another will form a junction with a Spanish Squadron, and proceed to French St. Domingo to open the ports of that island."—"As no resistance can be made to such a union of strength, the army will be able to penetrate into the heart of the kingdom without striking a stroke. The first step will be to disarm all soldiers that pretend to be citizens, and all citizens that pretend to be soldiers."

"It may be expected that the united forces will get possession of Paris about the 4th of October.—The king will then be re-instated on his throne, with all those prerogatives which support his august title; except that some small dependence shall be retained upon the counsels of the princes, his brothers, and the prince of Conde."

"The national assembly shall be dissolved—its members, absent or present, shall receive sentence of perpetual imprisonment—those among them who were of the noblesse shall be degraded—such of them, without titles, as were in reality attached to the old government shall be ennobled.—The bishops and curates that subscribed the new constitution are to be shut up in their colleges. The faithful clergy to be re-instated in their places, with a benefice.—The parliament to be restored with some modifications, and purged of all weak or unfaithful members."

"To give stability to this renovated monarchy in France, and to extend the advantages of this form of government, the power of the nation shall be exerted to destroy all the republics existing.—It might be proposed, however, conditionally, to retain the republics of Switzerland and Venice. As to Holland, it would seem best to erect it into a kingdom for the husband of the prince of Orange.—With the addition of the Austrian Netherlands Holland would make a pretty kingdom enough. Brabant, with a few of the neighboring margraviates, might be given to the king of Prussia, in exchange for Silesia. This would make a kingdom for the duke of York, the king of Prussia's son-in-law."

"The Milanese, the States of Genoa, and the small republics of Italy, might be thrown into one kingdom, under the name of the kingdom of Liguria. The island of Corsica should be re-annexed to the kingdom of Sardinia. The French part of St. Domingo to be restored to Spain by the assistance of fleets and the white colonists.—These same fleets might afterwards go and take possession of the United States of America, which, when formed into a kingdom, would be very acceptable to one of the sons of the king of Great-Britain."

The means of executing all these projects would no doubt correspond with the convenience of the arrangements.

[Gazette Universelle.]

L O N D O N, Sept. 26.

WE cannot agree with Mr. Paine in considering this country as destitute of a constitution. A constitution we certainly have, and excellent in theory, but what do we behold in its practice? Corruption and undue influence appearing in a thousand horrid forms.—Political honesty made a jest of by men in office; two thirds of the people excluded from any share in the choice of