

changes which had taken place in the constitution of the order, since the conclusion of the treaty of peace. It was to the order of St. John of Jerusalem that his majesty was, by the first stipulation of the tenth article, bound to restore the island of Malta. The order is defined to consist of those languages which were in existence at the time of the conclusion of the treaty; the three French languages having been abolished, and a Maltese language added to the institution. The order consisted, therefore, at that time, of the following languages, viz. the languages of Arragon, Castile, Germany, Bavaria, and Russia. Since the conclusion of the definitive treaty, the languages of Arragon and Castile have been separated from the order by Spain, a part of the Italian language has been abolished by the annexation of Piedmont and Parma to France. There is strong reason to believe that it has been in contemplation to sequester the property of the Bavarian language, and the intention has been avowed of keeping the Russian languages within the dominions of the emperor.

Under these circumstances the order of St. John cannot be considered as that body to which, according to the stipulations of the treaty, the island was to be restored; and the funds, indispensably necessary for its support, and for the maintenance of the independence of the island, have been nearly, if not wholly, sequestered. Even if this had arisen from circumstances which it was not in the power of any of the contracting parties to the treaty to control, his majesty would nevertheless have had a right to deter the evacuation of the island by his forces, until such time as an equivalent arrangement had been concluded for the preservation of the independence of the order and of the island. But if these changes have taken place in consequence of any acts of the other parties to the treaty; if the French government shall appear to have proceeded upon a system of rendering the order, whose independence they had stipulated, incapable of maintaining that independence, his majesty's right to continue in the occupation of the island, under such circumstances, will hardly be contested. It is indispensible that the revenues of the two Spanish languages have been withdrawn from the order by his Catholic majesty; a part of the Italian language has in fact been abolished by France, through the unjust annexation of Piedmont and Parma, and Piacenza, to the French territory. The elector of Bavaria has been incited by the French government to sequester the property of the order within his territories; and it is certain that they have not only sanctioned but encouraged the idea of the propriety of separating the Russian languages from the remainder of the order.

As the conduct of the governments of France and Spain have, therefore, in some instances directly, and in others indirectly, contributed to the changes which have taken place in the order, and thus destroyed its means of supporting its independence, it is to those governments, and not to his majesty, that the non-execution of the tenth article of the treaty of Amiens must be ascribed.

Such would be the just conclusion if the tenth article of that treaty were considered as an arrangement by itself. It must be observed, however, that this article forms a part only of a treaty of peace, the whole of which is connected together, and the stipulations of which must, upon a principle common to all treaties, be construed as having a reference to each other.

His majesty was induced by the treaty of peace to consent to abandon and to restore to the order of St. John the island of Malta, on condition of its independence and neutrality. But a further condition which must necessarily be supposed to have had considerable influence with his majesty in inducing him to make so important a concession, was the acquiescence of the French government in an arrangement for the security of the Levant, by the eighth and ninth articles in the treaty stipulating the integrity of the Turkish empire, and the independence of the Ionian islands. His majesty has, however, since learnt, that the French government have entertained views hostile to both these objects; and that they have even suggested the idea of a partition of the Turkish empire. These views must now be manifest to all the world from the official publication of the report of colonel Sebastiani, from the conduct of that officer, and of the other French agents in Egypt, Syria, and the Ionian islands, and from the distinct admission of the first consul himself, in his communication with lord Whitworth. His majesty was, therefore, warranted in considering it to be the determination of the French government to violate those articles of the treaty of peace, which stipulated from the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire, and of the Ionian islands, and consequently would not have been justified in evacuating the island of Malta, without receiving some security, which might equally provide for these important objects. His majesty accordingly feels that he has an incontestable claim, in consequence of the conduct of France since the treaty of peace, and with reference to the objects which made part of the stipulations of that treaty, to refuse, under the present circumstances, to relinquish the possession of the island of Malta.

Yet notwithstanding this right to clear and so ungratefully the alternative presented by the French government to his majesty, in language the most importunate and menacing, was the evacuation of Malta, or the renewal of the war. The views of ambition and aggrandizement, which have thus been manifested by the French government since the conclusion of the treaty of peace, have in a very particular manner attracted the attention of his majesty, and it has been equally impossible for him not to feel, and not to notice, the re-

peated indignities which have been offered by that government to his crown and to his people.

This report of colonel Sebastiani contains the most unwarrantable insinuations and charges against his majesty's government, against the officer who commanded his forces in Egypt, and against the British army in that quarter. The paper cannot be considered as the publication of a private individual; it has been avowed, and indeed bears evidence upon the face of it, that it is the official report of an accredited agent, published by the authority of a government to which it was addressed, who thereby have given it their express sanction.

The conduct of the first consul to his majesty's ambassador, at his audience, in presence of the ministers of most of the sovereigns and states of Europe, furnishes another instance of provocation on the part of the French government which it would be improper not to notice on the present occasion, and the subsequent explanation of this transaction may be considered as having the effect of aggravating instead of palliating the affront.

This report had been published a very short time, when another indignity was offered to this country in the communication of the first consul of France to the legislative body. In this communication he presumes to affirm, in the character of chief magistrate of that country, "that Great-Britain cannot singly contend against the power of France;" an assertion as unfounded as it is indecent, disproved by the events of many wars, and by none more than by those of the war which has been recently concluded. Such an assertion advanced in the most solemn official act of a government, and thereby meant to be avowed to all the powers of Europe can be considered in no other light than as a defiance publicly offered to his majesty, and to a brave and powerful people, who are both willing and able to defend his just rights, and those of their country, against every insult and aggression.

At the very time when his majesty was demanding satisfaction and explanation on some of the points above mentioned, the French minister at Hamburg endeavoured to obtain the insertion in a Hamburg paper of a most gross and opprobrious libel against his majesty, and when difficulties were made respecting the insertion of it, he availed himself of his official character of minister of the French republic to require the publication of it by order of his government in the Gazette of the senate of that town. With this requisition so made, the senate of Hamburg were induced to comply; and thus has the independence of that town been violated, and a free state made the instrument, by the menace of the French government, of propagating throughout Europe, upon their authority, the most offensive and unfounded calumnies against his majesty and his government. His majesty might add to this list of indignities, the requisition which the French government have repeatedly urged, that the laws and constitution of his country should be changed relative to the liberty of the press. His majesty might likewise add the calls which the government have, on several occasions, made upon him to violate the laws of hospitality with respect to persons who had found an asylum within his dominions, and against whose conduct no charge whatever has at any time been substantiated. It is impossible to reflect on these different proceedings, and the course which the French government have thought proper to adopt respecting them, without the thorough conviction that they are not the effect of accident; but that they form a part of a system which has been adopted for the purpose of degrading, vilifying, and insulting his majesty and his government.

Under all these insults and provocations, his majesty, not without a due sense of his dignity, has proceeded with every degree of temper and moderation to obtain satisfaction and redress, while he has neglected no means consistent with his honour and the safety of his dominions, to induce the government of France to concede to him, what is, in his judgment, absolutely necessary for the future tranquillity of Europe. His efforts in this respect have proved abortive, and he has therefore judged it necessary to order his ambassador from Paris. In having recourse to this proceeding, it has been his majesty's object to put an end to the fruitless discussions which have too long subsisted between the two governments, and to close a period of suspense peculiarly injurious to the subjects of his majesty.

But though the provocations which his majesty has received might entitle him to larger claims than those which he has advanced, yet anxious to prevent calamities which might thus be extended to every part of Europe, he is still willing, as far as is consistent with his own honour, and the interests of his people, to afford every facility to any just and honourable arrangement, by which such evils may be averted. He has therefore no difficulty in declaring to all Europe, that notwithstanding all the changes which have taken place since the treaty of peace, notwithstanding the extension of the power of France, in repugnance to that treaty, and to the spirit of peace itself. His majesty will not avail himself of these circumstances, to demand in compensation all he is entitled to require, but will be ready to concur, even now, in an arrangement by which satisfaction shall be given to him, for the indignities which have been offered to his crown and to his people, and substantial security afforded against further encroachments on the part of France.

His majesty has thus distinctly and unreservedly stated the reasons of those proceedings to which he has found himself compelled to resort: he is actuated by no disposition to interfere in the internal concerns

of any other state; by no projects of conquest and aggrandizement; but solely by a sense of what is due to the honour of his crown, and the interests of his people, and by an anxious desire to obstruct the further progress of a system, which, if not resisted, may prove fatal to every part of the civilized world.

ANNAPOLIS, July 7. OFFICIAL.

The executive have received official information that a treaty was signed on the 30th of April, between the ministers plenipotentiary and extraordinary of the United States and the minister plenipotentiary of the French government, by which the United States have obtained the full right to and sovereignty over New-Orleans, and the whole of Louisiana, as Spain possessed the same. [Nat. Intell.]

SHERIFF'S SALES.

By virtue of a *feri facias*, to me directed, will be SOLD, on the premises of RICHARD HOPKINS, for READY MONEY, on Thursday the 28th instant, at 12 o'clock,

NEGROES, horses, and wheat; taken at the suit of William Taylor, use of Caleb Dorley, of Thos. B. use of Henry Howard, and for officers fees, taken as the property of the said Richard-Hopkins.

HENRY HOWARD, Sheriff of Anne-Arundel county.

Will be SOLD, on the premises of RICHARD HALL, of Edw. on Friday the 29th instant, for READY MONEY, the following property, to wit:

ONE negro boy called Harry, one ditto man Jack, one horse, mules, cart, and oxen; taken for officers fees due for the years 1801 and 1802. The sale will begin at 12 o'clock.

HENRY HOWARD, Sheriff of Anne-Arundel county.

By virtue of a writ of *venditioni exponas*, to me directed, out of the general court of the western shore, will be SOLD, on the premises, for READY MONEY, on Saturday the 30th instant, at 12 o'clock,

ALL the lands whereon THOMAS WARFIELD now lives, lying on the Head of South river, in Anne-Arundel county, and sundry negroes, consisting of one woman, three boys and a girl, taken as the property of the said Thomas Warfield at the suit of Allen Quynn, administrator of William Goldsmith, and for officers fees.

HENRY HOWARD, Sheriff of Anne-Arundel county.

Sheriff's Request.

AS this is the last year of my sheriffalty, and wishing to close my business against the fall, as I mean to leave the city of Annapolis, I humbly request that all persons indebted either for fees, taxes, or otherwise, will come forward and make payment, or disagreeable measures will be taken to enforce them, and more particularly those that are in arrears, as directions to my deputies of that nature are given, and no request of postponement whatever will be attended to; in this mode of procedure there will be no respect of persons.

HENRY HOWARD, Sheriff of Anne-Arundel county.

July 5, 1803.

By virtue of a decree of the honourable the high court of chancery, the subscriber will SELL, at PUBLIC SALE, on a credit of fifteen months, on the premises, on Monday the first day of August next, at the hour of 12 o'clock, if fair, if not the first fair day, at the same hour and place,

ALL those tracts or parcels of land, lying and being in Anne-Arundel county, called and known by the names of GOVER'S HERN, KNIGHTON'S PURCHASE and BROUGHTON ASHLEY, lately in the tenure and occupation of Gilbert H. Smith, deceased, containing together 324½ acres of land, more or less, THOMAS ROGERS, Trustee.

FOR SALE,

ALIKELY young negro woman, with a male child, two years old. Also a negro man, about twenty-two years of age; the man and woman have both been accustomed to all kinds of house work, and the woman can sew and knit, and is an excellent spinner on the large wheel. Inquire of the printers.

July 5, 1803.

NOTICE, that the Levy Court of Anne-Arundel county will meet on the first Monday in August next, to receive all just claims against the said county.

By order, NICH. HARWOOD, Cl. L. C. A. A. Co.

July 5, 1803.

NOTICE,

THAT the creditors of BENJAMIN WATKINS, of Anne-Arundel county, deceased, are requested to meet the executors of said deceased, at Mr. Caton's tavern, at Annapolis, the first Monday in August next, to receive their dividend of the bonds and notes taken for the sale of the personal property. Sale made agreeable to the direction of the orphans court, and by consent of creditors.

ANNE WATKINS, } Executors,
WILLIAM HARWOOD, }
JOHN WATKINS & Step. }

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