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MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1855.

From the (Richmond) ENQUIRER.

NEUTRAL RIGHTS.

What must we think of a politician, who at this time of the day and in this country steps forward as the advocate of the British doctrine in regard to maritime law? who wishes to sacrifice the rights of neutral nations to the voluntary or inevitable injustice of belligerents; who represents the rights of war as of greater dignity than the rights of peace; who declares that "free ships ought not to make free goods," and thus exposes the commerce and carrying trade of America almost always, at peace, to the rapacity of England and France, almost always at war? What then must we think of the labors of a writer in a Baltimore federal print, who virtually advocates each of these positions, and declares that Great Britain would "wave common sense, if she conceded to a contrary doctrine?"

These errors however would not have been worthy of the slightest notice, or refutation, if they had not been connected by their writer, who affects to have made very deep researches into the law of nations, with another assertion, whose fallacy is not equally obvious to most of our countrymen. Every institution it is plain may be viewed in two different positions: What ought to be, and what has been? The first is in fact the only question worthy of an examination; but there are few reasoners who cannot also advance into the other, for the purpose of supporting their favorite opinions. Antiquity, they seem to think, has a certain air of dignity in it, which is necessary to give truth its proper support; and when they can once prove with respect to any custom or institution, not only that it ought to be, but that it has been through time immemorial, they seem to think they have attained the greatest certainty possible. It is in the pursuit of this erroneous principle, that *Vindex Britannicus* in a Baltimore paper has rested a great part of his argument upon the antiquity of the British doctrine. If he can prove that the maxim "of free ships making free goods" is a modern one, he supposes that it would be on that account entitled to less respectful consideration; as if the eternal nature of truth could be altered by the capricious and mutable judgment of man. What will this author however say, when he discovers that what he calls the modern law of nations is in fact of much greater antiquity than his limited chronology would make it? That such however is the fact, we can produce the very best authorities to demonstrate.

"That free ships make free goods" was (according to this author) even altogether unheard of and unknown until Frederick the great brought forward the subject during the war of 1755. Will he now turn to Schlegel's "neutral rights," written in refutation of Sir W. Scott's decree in the case of the Swedish convoy, which I cannot pass by without recommending as one of the ablest controversial tracts that I have ever perused, and he will find this chronological statement abundantly refuted. Among other passages, we shall select the following for his special instruction:

The celebrated Brown has published a list of 35 commercial treaties, concluded between the year 1642 and 1780, which are all favorable to the principles, while on the contrary, only two have been concluded in that interval, in which the principle, anciently established by the *Consolato del mare*, upon the liberty of seizing enemy's property on board neutral ships, has been followed. The treaties, are those which Great Britain concluded in 1561 with Denmark, and in 1670 with Sweden. We find besides, some other treaties, in which the sense is equivocal, relatively to this point. Since 1780 up to the present day, we can cite, at least, 23 treaties, in which the prerogative of the neutral flag has been acknowledged, as may be seen by the list annexed to this work. I know on the contrary, of only one treaty, that between Great Britain and the United States of America, which is founded on the opposite rule."

What will *Vindex*, however, say, when he discovers that even his favorite nation, the English, had long before the time of the great Frederick been among the warmest advocates and patrons of the modern law.

"Great Britain, says *Vindex*, insisted then (the period of forming the armed neutrality) as she does now, and as she has always done, that free ships do not make free goods?" But what does the English history declare on this last point? Schlegel says that—

"To appreciate still better the pretension of the English, it is not impertinent to remark, that so early as about the middle of the 14th century, and at the time when the *Consolato del mare* was the only law in force, they established by for-

mal treaties, for the first time, the rights of the neutral flag, as may be seen by the treaties of EDWARD III. with the commercial cities of Spain in 1351, and afterwards with Lisbon and Oporto towards the middle of the 17th century. It is farther England, which first concluded a treaty conformable to this principle, that of 1642 with Portugal, renewed in 1654, the only one of the kind which, for various political reasons, the English have still considered as sacred. It is from the era of that treaty that a long series of similar acts commences, by which the inviolability of the neutral flag is acknowledged, &c. of which several have been concluded by England herself, such as those with France in 1655, 1677, 1713, 1742, and the last of the 26th of September 1785, so remarkable for its very detailed determinations relative to the rights of a neutral flag; those with the United Provinces in 1668, and 1674 and finally, the commercial treaties with the Porte and with the Barbary powers."

Why cannot we contemplate this subject without beholding the acts of the federal administration rising up in judgment against it? Who does not recollect the celebrated British treaty, which first surrendered the native policy of our country? That treaty might in one respect be excused as it was made with a nation, which had always advocated a different policy. But what shall we think of Mr. Adams's treaty with Prussia, which expressly abandoned those two great principles of the former one negotiated by Mr. Jefferson and Dr. Franklin: 1st "That free ships shall make free goods; & 2d. "That privateering in time of war be abolished?" principles, which it appears from the correspondence laid before the senate; the enlightened ministers of the Prussian monarch were brought with great difficulty and reluctance to abandon, and at the earliest solicitation of the American negotiator, John Quincy Adams? And upon what suggestion, will the reader demand? That the maritime powers, particularly Great Britain, would never sanction or permit them.

From the same.
LORD MELVILLE.

Most of our readers will scarcely recognize under the title of Lord Melville, the celebrated Henry Dundas; the uniform and able friend of monarchy and corruption. He was the younger son, and by a second marriage of a Scotch family; became an early and ready adept at the Scottish bar; and advanced his fortunes by a marriage with the heiress of the state of Melville, in the vicinity of Edinburgh. He rose under the administration of Lord North, to the office of Lord Advocate for Scotland, and soon became a representative in the British Parliament. On this theatre he filled a character equally distinguished for its influence and its infamy. Under the young and inexperienced administration of Mr. Pitt, Mr. Dundas became an invaluable instrument. He was made *Treasurer of the Navy*, *President of the board of control of the East-India company*, in the management of the *affairs*, with a seat in the cabinet council. In his knowledge of the details of East-India affairs his biographer appears to have given him an unrivalled ascendancy. The American revolution found in him an implacable foe. The French revolution excited his opposition in the same proportion, in which it appeared to favour the interests of the people. Under the present ministry of Mr. Pitt, he has been elevated to the office of first Lord of the Admiralty. Such is the man, who has lately been dismissed by the king on the petition of the House of Commons. Such is the statesman.

..... whose exalted soul
No bonds of vulgar prejudice controul,
Of shame unconscious in his bold career,
He spurns that honour, which the weak reverse;
For true to public Virtue's patriot plan,
He loves the Minister and not the Man;
Alike the advocate of North and wit,
The friend of Shelburn and the guide of Pitt.
His ready tongue with sophistries at will,
Can say, unsay, and be consistent still;
This day can censure, and the next retract,
In speech extol, and stigmatize in act;
Turn and return; whole hours at *Hanings* bawl,
Defend, praise, thank, affront him, and recall.
By opposition he his King shall court;
And damn the People's cause by his support.
He like some angel, sent to charge mankind,
Shall den for the plagues—in energy designed,
The West he would have starv'd; yet, ever good,
But meant to save the effusion of her blood:
And if, from fear of his controul releas'd,
He loses Rapine now, to spoil the East;
'Tis but to fire another *Asses* to plan,
Some new starvation scheme for Hindostan;
Secure, to make her flourish, as before,
More populous, by losing myriads more.

A man of such a distinguished standing in England can scarcely have experienced so dishonourable a dismissal, without producing some other impression on the ministry. Under certain circumstances, the popular opposition demands a victim, as in the case of Bying; and one victim sometimes satisfies the people. It may be so in the present instance, tho' there are some probabilities against it. From the long and intimate connection between Mr. Pitt and Dundas, both in public and private life, the first will scarcely escape the odium which has been heaped upon the last; and Mr. Fox has already declared, that the country was governed by a disgraced ministry.

Had the ministry suffered this sacrifice to be made without any opposition, they would have merited the thanks of the commons, and have averted that portion of dishonor, which the affair is of itself calculated to bring upon them. Mr. Pitt has not probably pursued this policy; for we find that on taking the votes on Mr. Whitbread's resolutions, there were 216 for and 216 against them. The casting vote of the speaker, and the gracious acquiescence of the king, may however be some compensation for this opposition. Should the fate of Mr. Dundas involve with it the unpopularity of Mr. Pitt, & the change of a ministry, he will have rendered more services by his fall than injuries by the political labours of his life. A more pacific policy may pervade the British Cabinet, and peace may once more revisit the powers of Europe.

PHILADELPHIA, August 2.

OF OUR CITY.—We are happy to state, that the two persons sent down to the Lazaretto are on the recovery, and that their disease is not, as was at first apprehended, *Yellow-Fever*.—We can add, with confidence, that the health of the city generally is highly flattering.

BELGER, the fellow who so wantonly shot his neighbor Flahavan, and for whom a reward of Two Hundred Dollars was offered by the Mayor, was on Wednesday last taken up in Lower Darby township, and yesterday morning committed to gaol.—Flahavan, we understand, is likely to recover.

ROBBERS.—Other attempts at house breaking were repeated on Wednesday night last. Four of the gang, who are black, were apprehended and committed to gaol. They are generally old offenders.

FIRE!

Between three and four o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in a house occupied by Mr. Ford, in Vine street, near Sixth.—The house in which the fire originated, together with a soap manufactory adjoining and several dwelling houses, principally built of wood, were entirely consumed. It is presumed that most of the damage might have been prevented had there been a proper supply of water.—Owing to negligence or to some other cause which ought to be explained by those concerned, there was no Schuylkill water in the pipes until near half an hour after the engines arrived at that place.—If we mistake not, the reservoirs ought always to be left full at night; otherwise the city may suffer immense damage before intelligence can be given at the engine houses and a supply of water furnished.

Sugar & Coffee.

150 hhds. } Muscovado SUGARS
20 barrels }
Chiefly of the best quality and fit for retailing.
50 bags containing about 5,000 weight best
Green Coffee, just received per the schr. Sally
and Eliza, from Martinique, and now landing at
Bosty's wharf, for sale by
BIGELOW & PROUD.
August 3 d4t

ELOPED

FROM the subscriber on the evening of the 29th inst. a bright mulatto man, named PERRY BENTLEY, aged about 20 years, but in appearance not more than two or three, and twenty; he is a straight made handsome fellow, about 5 feet 10 inches high, and rather slender, his visage long and features small, with a direct and steady look when addressed.—He took with him a change of good summer and winter clothing. Any person securing the above described man, so that the subscriber can obtain him, shall receive 20 dollars if taken in the state, if taken out of the state 40 dollars, together with all reasonable charges.
PEREGRINE TILGHMAN.
Talbot County, July 29. (A 2) d

CASH.

A CONSIDERABLE sum of money can be disposed of on good approved paper, on reasonable terms, and the greatest discretion observed—by
BENJ. CHASTELLIER, Broker.
No. 18, Bank-street.
N. B. All kinds of Commissions done as usual.
August 3 d12t

Constables be Active!

10 Dollars Reward.

I FOLLOWED my handsome portly black lad JAMES MORGAN, from Pennsylvania to Baltimore, and this morning espied him at Elliott's wharf, carrying wheat—he saw me, dropped the bag and ran.—He is 20 years of age, has a fine set of teeth, and is about 5 feet 8 inches high; he has a remarkable scar on his left temple, owing to a fall when a child. He will be free at 28 years of age. Bring him to me at the Globe Inn, Baltimore, or confine him in the goal.
JOHN SHIPPEN,
Of Shippenburg, Pennsylvania.
August 3 d4t

To Underwriters, Merchants, &c.
The Subscriber, Proprietor of the ROYAL GAZETTE AND BALTIMORE ADVERTISER, published at Nassau, has been, and purposes to continue transmitting, by every opportunity, EARLY and CORRECT information to subscribers in Europe and America, of the Arrivals, Clearances, Captures, and Misfortunes that may happen to vessels about these and the different West India Islands.

As the procuring and forwarding such information, will occupy much time, and be attended with considerable expence—to insure this attention, it will be necessary that men interested in mercantile and other information, should subscribe with liberality to his Gazette. It is published twice a week, price eight dollars and a half per annum.—One half in advance.
ROBERT WILSON.
Nassau, N. Providence, June 28.
Subscribers will be received at this Office.
July 20

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 1855.

Early on Saturday afternoon, a thunder gust visited our city. One flash and its accompanying report, was the most severe we ever experienced. Its awful force seemed to shock all nature, and afforded a grand display of the power and majesty of him "who maketh the clouds his chariot—and who walketh on the wings of the wind." The stream of electric fluid seemed, by its effects on different and distant quarters, coextensive with our city; in this one explosion, it struck the Presbyterian Meeting-house, in East street; it also struck a house in Cumberland Row, and swept off one side of the fire-wall; the damage in both instances was but trifling. We likewise learn, a negro man was killed, who was working on a house, near Charles and Pratt-streets. The body of vivid fluid seemed to fill the atmosphere, and its terrors operated so violently on a number of females, as to occasion some of them to faint away—included, in some instances, we have heard, it proved difficult to resuscitate them.

The Gazette, in a strain of its low wit and affected smartness, says, Mr. Jefferson stood god-father for the *Evening Post*—and this, forsooth, because his name heads its list of subscribers; and then, in its usual good English, in a flight of *redoubtance*, it states, (on the authority of one of Elliot's letters) "that under the same pretence that it would be a *quidite*" it obtained its subscribers. Thus Mr. Brown would make it appear, that Mr. Jefferson is a *quidite*, and patronised the *Post* under an impression, that it would support *quiddism*. This must be the inference, if any can be drawn from his language.

He then, in his contemptible nonsense, contradicts this opinion, after conveying it to the minds of his readers, and in quick transition, declares, "the *Evening Post* is no *quidite*"—and adds, it advertises, recommends and vends the frothy productions of Duane & Co. and is striving to foment a Duane faction in this state"—after this, he adds, "Mr. Jefferson is its patron—you may know what Mr. Jefferson is." Now this is Brown's logic; he endeavors to prove Mr. Jefferson a *quidite*, and the reverse, all in the same breath—in short, he struggles to render him like Mr. Adam's republicanism, any thing, or nothing; and if the kind of argument should not convince the understandings of his readers, it will, as usual, at least, have a chance of confounding their senses!

Of the American Brown says, "a *quidite* it cannot be without a change of editors or a desertion of principle."—This looks like a compliment; as such we receive it, and assure its author, that the change is possible, but the desertion is not. The American disavows all devotion to *third party* views; it will never create, or promote feuds, among "brethren of the same principles." *Union, not division*—is its motto. Its editors, and the paper shall be solely devoted to the defence of the government (whilst it continues faithful) and the annoyance of the common enemy. The Gazette talks of factions in this state—we feel persuaded, itself is one of the mouth-pieces of the only faction in Maryland—but so contemptible in point of number, as to be not worth regarding.

The Gazette proceeds to say, "We know the conspicuous figure Mr. Pechlin made at the last election, and how he strove to out-duane Duane himself—how he summoned the filth and froth of the wards to wait upon him and hear his wise speeches and receive his gracious mandates—how he created himself *directors*, and under the appellation of one of a set of *corferrees*, declared his will and pleasure as to who should be electors, councilmen, &c. The poor fellow was woefully cut down though—and since Mr. Duane, or Mr. Jefferson, has, in consequence, thought fit to despise his intellectual faculties and *corferree*-talents, by putting the *Evening-Post* over the editors of the *American*, will they become *Quidites* thro' sheer spite?"

In answer to all this, W. Pechlin has only to observe, that as a native American, to support such order of things as at present prevails, is his greatest pride; and any struggles he may have made use of during the last election, were the offspring of honest views; he cares not what colouring the Gazette may give them. Brown says the "filth and froth" of the wards were summoned—this, we suppose, is furnished as an excuse for his attendance at the meeting, in the 5th ward! At any rate, his being there, was viewed by many, as little, mean, sneaking and despicable! Democratic republicans alone had been notified to meet, and to their indulgence was he indebted for the privilege of getting down stairs by his own efforts! In the reign of terror, the friends of order, would not have been intruded on with similar impunity!

W. Pechlin denies the charge of dictator, &c. He never recommended ward meetings, for the purpose of bringing into nomination any of the city officers.

The uniting of efforts in favor of *principles*, as far as it could operate in the election of delegates to congress and the assembly, was, alone the object we had in view. And to prove this, we need only refer to the American of that period. How then can young Shylock make W. P. the main butt for exultation, because the friends of the amendments to the charter, failed, in carrying their object in the ward meetings. If nominations were made at the meetings for such purpose, they did not originate with us, with such views. But as far as it regards the 5th ward, W. P. when present, did not oppose the making such nominations, as it conformed to the proceedings of some wards which had before met. As to the charter—it was not a party question, as far as it respected politics: republicans were much divided, as to the policy of rectifying it, as it stood. At the period it was first presented to the public, as our files will prove, we conceived it was imperfect and declared so. With such impressions we could not justify ourselves in advocating it as some of our friends, wished. We were friendly to its main spirit, and if so much of it were revived, as struck at, & opposed the aristocratical features in our present charter, it should receive our warmest support.

We know not what opinion Mr. Jefferson may entertain of the American; suffice it to say, he knows our subscription list with his name; and this, according to one of Brown's positions, must prove he is its "open investigator and patron!"

We are not disposed to bestow much more attention on this last wild, incoherent and unmeaning attack, indeed we are willing to indulge its author in such liberties, because we feel emotions of pity excited in his behalf, when we reflect on a late occurrence—so eminent in its consequences to the aspiring *bigness* of our little friend. Lacerating, we know, in the utmost degree, were the wounds inflicted on the occasion we allude to; and we admit the disappointment was admitted to scour the mind, and render *patience* still more *washtish*! For a moment, to conceive, that a man, with a soul so big, should have had his views of ambition, and sordid avarice blasted, at the very instant, when, certainty of success, induced him to calculate, he was to make the *largest* stride, he had ever made, on the road to gain!—We say, to conceive this, we should not wonder if recourse were had to the *filth* or the *crow-bar*, for revenge! Most surely then, little ebullitions of anger, in the Gazette, ought to be expected, and, in a great measure, excused. But in making the American an object for the arrows of his present spleen, perhaps, Matthew forgets the aid we lately gave him. We would ask—Did we not hold forth his name to the *astonished* world, as a candidate for directorship, in his own native radiance, superior to the faint constellation his modesty made use of as a substitute? and, in friendship, had we not been afraid it would have formed too great a body of *Jugence*, we should have dazzled the world with both name and constellation together! And at a future election, if his good conduct deserves, we will encompass his name not only with *stars*, but *garter* too!—The latter, as the badge of distinction, his *politics* richly merit.—These, by way of ornament, will apply the place of the *escutcheon*, the wearing of which, were, by dire necessity, renounced! Bless us, what a frisky, changeable jade is Fortune!—even to some who would seem her greatest favorites, she is sometimes cruel; at least, she has been so to our friend Brown—for when he would be *captain* she would not give him men enough, with the aid of all his journeyman and apprentices on the establishment—and again, when he would be bank director, she frowned, and he wanted votes! And thus, in truth "the poor fellow has been woefully cut down." But, be of good cheer, Matthew, the goddess now seems to smile, inasmuch, that many, who before threw away on thee their votes, intend giving them to thee next time!

The Boston papers state that the inhabitants of that city enjoy uninterrupted health. The deaths for the week ending on Thursday the 25th ult. were but ten. The population is estimated at 32,000 souls.

It is whispered that notes, in a style unusually animated, have passed between the Secretary of State and Mr. Yrujo. [Phil. True American.