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MISCELLANEOUS.

TALLEYRAND.

TALLEYRAND and CAMBACERES, it appears have declared in favour of the Bourbons. This might have been rationally expected whenever the destinies of Paris were decided. The fate of the "Mistress of the World," as Frenchmen enthusiastically and impiously hoped to behold her, has at length been fixed—and multitudes, who only waited for this cast of the die, have doubtless already mounted the white cockade. At this interesting crisis, the following letter from THE BELGIAN TRAVELLER, (letter 82, page 340,) will be read with equal curiosity & satisfaction.

LETTER.

PARIS, MARCH 1805.

My Lord,
Several friends of Talleyrand, since my arrival here, had hinted that he desired to see me, and offered to introduce me to his acquaintance. I have, however, from various motives, hesitated to converse with a man who never had any principles of his own, but who acted according to circumstances—was a traitor with La Fayette, a Jacobin with Brissot, a friend of equality with Robespierre, a republican with the Directory, and a slave under Buonaparte—But yesterday his cousin, the Prince de Chalais, called upon me, and pressed me much to come and dine with him to-day, and to meet the political luminary of the 19th century.
During dinner nothing particular occurred, except that Talleyrand paid some compliments to the consistency and constancy of the adherents of the house of Bourbon, whose misfortunes, as a citizen of the world, he sincerely lamented. When coffee and liquors had been served up, he said to me, "in my cousin's library there are some curious books I want to shew you, as you pass here for a kind of savant—will you walk up stairs with me?"
When in the library he said—"you have now been here near three months, and though a friend of mine, Baron du M. invited you to call upon me the first week after your arrival, I have not until this time had the pleasure of seeing you—and had it not been for the complaisance of my cousin, you would have gone away without affording me what I so much desired, a moment's conversation with you." When I assured him that I was equally flattered and honoured by the condescension of such an eminent statesman, he replied—"Well, then, I will speak to you frankly, and without disguise, not caring whether what I tell you here should remain behind us in the room, or go abroad."
"From my agents," said Talleyrand, "I knew who you were, and your business here, before you left Holland. You are sent here by Count de —, the minister of Louis XVIII. to discover the spirit of the country—of Buonaparte's civil functionaries, as well as of his military commanders." Without waiting for a reply, he continued, "Tell me sincerely, what opinion has that unfortunate prince of me, of my patriotism, and of my principles?" Upon my assurance that I had not seen Louis XVIII. for seven years, or any of his ministers since 1799, he said rather abruptly, "but you correspond with them. You received a letter two days ago from Count de —, which I might have stopped—can you deny it?" I told him that I had several correspondents, but all I could assert was, that my letters never had any political speculation in them. "Then," said he, "my copyist has misinformed me. Here is the copy of your letter. In it you are not only questioned about France as it is, but asked to penetrate into futurity, and to discover what it is to become hereafter, at the death of the Emperor."

When I declared that I did not remember ever to have received such a letter, he interrupted me by saying, "let us converse with sincerity, and without artifice." You have received such a letter, and in the postscript was the following question: "can Talleyrand a man of rank and talents, who has no great crimes to reproach himself with, be sincerely attached to a government of ill-bred upstarts, of middling capacity, accused and guilty of enormities?" "If such a question had been asked, tell me," said I, "what answer should I have given?" You might have said, that I am always a gentleman in sentiment as well as by birth, but that I love my country and its glory above every thing—that the prince whom I judged capable and willing to promote it, whether a Louis XVIII, Louis XIX, or a Napoleon the First, should always find in me an obedient servant and a firm adherent. That during the whole period of the revolution, I never was the adherent of any particular faction, but spoke and wrote for every party that I supposed inclined like myself. I will lay my whole political life open to the scrutiny even of my most inveterate enemies, and I will defy them to discover any where the partizan, while every act of mine proves the true patriot. Had fortune placed Louis XVIII. upon the throne, now occupied by Napoleon the First, he would have found in me the same faithful, and I dare say, disinterested servant, as long as I had observed, that he was sincerely bent on promoting the grandeur and happiness of my country.

Even should I have the misfortune to survive the present sovereign of France, Louis XVIII. from the opinion I have recently formed of his liberality and patriotism, may count upon my humble services, adherence and attachment; because, with all other men of any historical or practical information, I am convinced, that the first Buonaparte upon the throne of France will also be the last, and that, with Napoleon the First, the Buonaparte dynasty will descend into its native and original obscurity. All Frenchmen who wish for the splendour and tranquillity of their country, and who have no interest or inclination to see the renewal of the disasters France has experienced since the revolution, must desire a Bourbon, for a successor of Buonaparte. The French monarchy is now established upon a more firm foundation than it has been since the middle of the reign of Louis XIV, but it requires also a great firmness of character in its sovereign to prevent factions from undermining a throne erected upon the ruins of their power."

"I asked him whether I could write to that friend, whom he supposed my correspondent, the particulars of our conversation. "You are at full liberty," replied Talleyrand, "to communicate to him sentiments which I have not concealed even from the Emperor of the French, who esteems me for my frankness, though he is not flattered with my views of the continuance of his dynasty, as he firmly believes, that the fortune which has elevated him in such an unexampled manner, will also make him the chief of a new dynasty, and support the supremacy of his family after his death."

I have heard from others, that Talleyrand, has in reality, more than once advised Buonaparte not to look beyond the grave for the continuance of his authority, and that he has, more than once, in Madam Buonaparte's drawing room, been publicly rebuked for his opinion. "Should a Bourbon ever possess my throne," said Buonaparte, "he will hang you with every other counsellor, minister, general, or public functionary, who have been my servants, or avowed themselves my subjects." "Sire," answered Talleyrand, "should he act so imprudently, he will strangle his own grandeur in its cradle. Misfortunes must have made the Bourbons wiser than to begin with hanging before they are securely established on the throne. If they are prudent and patriotic, they will entirely forget the interregnum; and every thing

that has occurred during it, from the 10th Aug. 1792, to the day of their restoration."

From the Federal Republican.

THE ENGLISH PRINTS

Have, of late, indulged in language towards this country, not only unworthy of the great cause in which their government has acted a distinguished and leading part, but altogether contemptible and to be despised for the little, low, malicious and vindictive spirit which it evinces. It is the more to be contemned for the very close resemblance it bears to the tone of our Jacobin prints towards the English government.

Whether addressed to the American people collectively, or to either of the great parties into which they are divided, this style of menace and denunciation will be alike unavailing. Blows, and not words, decide contests between nations when the sword is drawn. If their country is disposed, able and prepared to strike—let them strike—lay on Macduff. If they are disposed to forbear to strike, and magnanimously to give us an honorable and advantageous treaty, let them do it with a good grace, in a manner that will bless him that giveth and him that receiveth."

We admire the British nation, we entertain a just sense of the benefits they have contributed so largely to confer upon mankind, by their recent glorious and successful struggle against the desolating tyrant of Europe. We say too, with Mr. Pinkney, in spite of their senseless uproar to be raised by the friends of anarchy and licentiousness, we feel a becoming admiration for her political institutions, securing as they do all classes of citizens in the enjoyment of their rights and liberties. Our own blessed republic accepted, we think it the best government ever yet devised since civil societies were first framed. The French people, after trying various imperfect forms of government, have now adopted that of England for their model. But much as we respect the people of England, applaud their valor, and admire their free institutions, if they do not, or pretend not to know the character of the federal party, they will soon receive the most decisive demonstrations of their undivided devotion to their own form of government and the soil that gave them birth. Courageous, just and honorable, the federalists would disdain to demand what they would not grant to a foreign nation, and would die in the last ditch before they would yield their honor or their rights. They are just, therefore will never support a war waged for a profitable wrong or a doubtful right. Since the repeal of the orders in council, they are free to say they do not even think the point we are contending for, a doubtful right—they consider and pronounce it a positive wrong. They think the party in power ought to abandon a pretension so flagrant and unjust as the protection of foreign subjects against the claims of their own government. They believe now it will be abandoned. If it is not, except so far as the constitution and the laws of the country esjoin, they will give no sort of support to the war. Herein they have uniformly evinced, and will continue to manifest their strong and unalterable sense of impartial justice. If, however, G. Britain, with whom they have ever desired and struggled to preserve the relations of amity and peace, shall, in the moment of triumph, presume to impose upon their country degrading terms of accommodation, the federalists as one man will oppose all their power to the enemy, and glory in throwing themselves into the gap. They could no more avoid acting thus, they could no more avoid such a course, than their nature would have permitted them to receive quietly the yoke destined for their necks when this unfortunate war was first declared. They do nothing from rashness, passion and prejudice. They decide after deliberation. The principles of justice are always carried with them in their deliberations, and enter into their decisions. Having decided, they

remain immovable. Of the grounds of the dispute between the two countries, they entertain, and have long since distinctly avowed their clear and decided judgment. To it they will adhere faithfully & steadfastly. Argument cannot alter it, force cannot make them abandon it. But if the British government injudiciously or presumptuously change those grounds, and convert a good into a bad cause, we embrace unhesitatingly the cause that becomes good. In a word, let what language may be used by the English essayists, let what pretensions may be set up by their government, we will maintain the rights and the honor of the nation. When using the expression, honor of the nation, we mean always to be understood as separating the honor of the country from that of the faction in power. The illustration is simple. The honor of the country is not in the pretension set up by Mr. Madison to protect foreigners, and yet he cannot yield that pretension without dishonoring his administration. Upon this question, will ever be separated, the honor of the country and the honor of the administration. We throw out of view entirely the folly, the wickedness and corruption which plunged the country into its present lamentable and forlorn condition, and look only to the rights and honor of the nation. To these we will cling; to these we will cleave closer, and yet more closely the more they are endangered. If all the powers of Europe were confederated to destroy our independence, and strip us of our rights, we would abandon nothing from expiation. Conquer and colonize, but count on nothing from capitulation. This would be language of a federal administration having justice and right on their side. Their conduct would be in unison with the same unalterable sentiments if any insolent attempt were made to interfere with our internal government. It is absurd to suppose the English government, as impotently menaced by the Halifax writers, will require as a preliminary stipulation to a peace, the dismissal of Mr. Madison from office. Not that any arguments, at this late day, are necessary to convince us of the necessity of such an event to bring back concord, prosperity and good government; but it is a question for the American people alone to decide. We will support the President of the people's choice against all measures of illegal domestic violence, or foreign force. We believe G. Britain desires peace, if she do not, we have no alternative but war. If she do, and it cannot be obtained by reason of the duplicity, insincerity and blind folly of our rulers, she must then judge for herself, of the measure of punishment which her power will enable her to inflict upon these maniacs, and the still more deranged people who support them. In this event, tho' the innocent must suffer with the guilty, we shall not regret a single blow that is struck—the harder the better. If the people have really lost their senses and they are only to be restored by blows, the harder and the oftener they are repeated the better, for the sooner will the remedy have the effect. We had better die than be kept in this lingering state of torment. We put for peace. If not to be had because not wanted by our rulers, the enemy will serve themselves and render the virtuous portion of this people a service by carrying on as vigorous a war as they have demonstrated in Europe their power to wage. Full one year longer has this war lasted already than it would have lasted if carried on by one party as it might have been, being conducted by the other, as it has been.

CONCORD, (N. H.) JUNE 4.

Yesterday His Excellency the Governor met the two Houses of the Legislature, and delivered the following

SPEECH:

Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

Called by the suffrages of my fellow-citizens, to the office of chief executive magistrate for the ensu-

ing year, I return my sincere thanks for this repeated mark of their confidence, with an assurance that such powers as I possess, shall be exerted in promoting the public welfare.

Almost two years have elapsed since war was declared by our national government. And the citizens of our country have been, and are much divided in their opinions upon the subject. How can those who conscientiously believe that neither the preservation of our honour, or of our rights required it, who believe that the war is highly injurious to the true interests of our country, give voluntary aid to attempts at foreign conquest? While it is our duty to support the constitution of the U. S. and the laws emanating therefrom, we surely retain the right of giving, in a candid and decent manner, and with a view of promoting the public welfare, our opinions respecting rulers and their measures. If a times should come when we no longer enjoy this right, we shall cease to be a free people.

Here then, let us distinguish—we are probably as well united in support of our national constitution, and in obedience to the laws, as could reasonably be expected; but let us never blend these with our right of opinion respecting men and measures. The same rule may apply to our state government. In giving opinions, whether with respect to the one or the other, a sacred regard to truth should be preserved; but is it not to be deeply lamented, that in many parts of our country, scarcely an individual can be found in an important public office, or who is a candidate for such office, whatever may have been his character and conduct in life, who escapes the tongue and pen of slander? If virtue is an indispensable requisite for the support of a free republican government, how long may it be expected that our institutions will last, if countenance is given to the vilest abuse of characters, merely for party purposes?

Well might it be, if our divisions should so far cease, that all would unite in discountenancing such conduct, and every man speak the truth to his neighbour. In consequence of repeated representations from the inhabitants of the towns of Portsmouth, of the exposed situation of the town and harbour; and their apprehensions of an attack from the enemy; and finding that the forts occupied by the U. States were very deficient in the requisite number of men; on the 15th day of April, I gave directions for raising 100 men as a watch and guard; since that time, in consequence of repeated causes of alarm, and very urgent applications, I consulted with the council, and ordered out about 500 of the militia, for defence of the town and harbour. These orders were attended to with promptness honourable to those who were immediately concerned, and evincing, what I have always relied upon, a marked readiness in our militia for defending our own country.

I rejoice that the legislature are in session so soon after the transaction, and shall lay before you the papers relative thereto, that such provision may be made as you shall find necessary. To resort to detachments, was to me very unpleasant, but considering it as a duty, it was unavoidable; and it is my ardent desire that arrangements may be made more congenial with the sentiments of our fellow-citizens.

Whether the great blessing of peace to our country is near at hand or far off, I have no particular means by which to form an opinion. Should the war continue, we may expect the enemy will endeavour to keep our sea-board in a continual state of alarm. It is highly reasonable to expect that our national government would provide sufficient force to protect our frontiers in all directions, rather than aim at foreign conquest. But if this is not done, the legislature as particular guardians of the state, will judge what is necessary for them to do.

By a dispensation of the sovereign Ruler of the Universe, particularly afflictive to me in the death of a brother, there is a vacancy in the representation from this state in the senate of the U. S. which it will

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