

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM PECHIN, (PRINTER OF THE LAWS OF THE UNION.) 31, SOUTH GAY-STREET, NEAR THE CUSTOM HOUSE, BALTIMORE.

Daily paper 37 and Country paper 5 per ann. All advertisements appear in both papers.

MONDAY, JUNE 2, 1806

LATE FOREIGN NEWS, Selected from London and Greenwich papers to the 2d May, received by the Family.

[From the Monitor.] FRENCH EXPOSE.

PARIS, April 18.—England has declared war against Prussia. All the King's ships have received orders to attack the Prussian vessels, and letters of marque have been issued to privateers. Is it a just proceeding on the part of the English government? Is it a political one? These are questions which it is not our intention to examine. It is sufficient for us to discover, that this measure is advantageous to France; that one of its first consequences will be to shut the North against the English trade; and there is little wisdom on the part of England, in acting so towards a considerable power, whom she forces into a nearer connection with France; and whom she determines to remove from her councils the agents and the influence of England. France & Prussia united can, if they please, shut the Sound. If England had learned how to accommodate her policy to circumstances, she would have maintained her party and her creatures in credit in Berlin. She would have rendered the blockade of the ports of the North less severe. She would have, in fact, preserved the advantage which she derives from the Russian flag; for commerce has occasion for intermediate agents between the merchant and the consumer. But, however it may be, we cannot consider this new political event but as tending to accelerate peace; for, assuredly, Prussia is neither a weak enemy for England, nor a weak ally for France. We know that there are persons who accuse themselves with difficulty to the idea of these connections between France and Prussia; but they do not see that the hesitation which was first manifested by the latter Cabinet, depended upon temporary circumstances which have neither altered the principles of the King, nor those of his most faithful and intelligent servants. If there was any thing which gave offence to France, it could only be imputed to a frantic minister, who was sold to England, who was formerly in her service, and who quitted it, for reasons which the dignity of this paper will not allow us to mention. It, perhaps, may be supposed, that England, in the new circumstances in which she finds herself with regard to Prussia, had no medium left her, and could not avoid declaring war. But the occupation of Hanover, by Prussia, was the only means of preventing the French from returning to that country; and if they had returned, the freedom of the English trade would not have been the greater. It may be said, that Prussia has not only shut the ports of the Elbe and the Weser, as they were by the French, but that the occupation was made in the name of the King, and in the same form as if he has determined to annex this fine province to his vast monarchy. However, there is nothing, in fact, to prove that this was the intention of Prussia; and it is very possible, that the cession of Cleves, Anspach, and Natchatel, may relate to some other principles of arrangement, since the population of all the three does not equal a 5th of the population of Hanover. Some discussion, therefore, might have taken place between Prussia and England; and the wisest course would have been, not to have begun by declaring war. Supposing occupation to be equal to final incorporation, England, instead of avoiding that consequence, makes it more certain, for whatever losses the Prussian trade may experience during two or three years war, one will be indemnified by the more considerable loss which the trade of the enemy will sustain; and England submits to these losses for an interest which the English nation has always disowned. It has always considered Hanover as a foreign property, solely belonging to the House of Brunswick. How happens it that it has so suddenly changed its principles in this respect.

It appears that M. Schimmelpenninck, the Grand Pensionary of Holland, has entirely lost his sight. Who is to be his successor? What effect will be produced by this change in the magistracy? These questions excite the attention and anxiety of all the Dutch, who are sincerely attached to the country. It is well known, that the Emperor never gave any positive sanction to the late changes in the Constitution of that country; and that he said, on that occasion, that the prosperity and liberty of Nations could only be assured by two modes of Government—either a temporal and constitutional Monarchy, or a Republic constituted according to the theory of liberty, and which should be the true organ of the public will. All nations cannot, with safety, leave to the people the choice of

their representatives; and when a Nation has to apprehend the effects of assembling the people; when the advantages which it expects are less than the inconveniences which it foresees; such a Nation, which cannot find a protection under a republican form of Government, has recourse to the principles of a good and prudent monarchy.

Under the present Constitution of Holland, the Grand Pensionary has more power than the King has in England—he has even more than the Emperor has in France, or than any Sovereign has in any country; and what is without example in a republic, is their High Mightinesses, or the representative and legislative bodies, have been nominated by the Grand Pensionary. The defect of this Constitution cannot escape the observation of the sagacious. That cannot be called a republic, where the representative and legislative bodies are not nominated by the electors; and if their be any fear of the electors, it will be best to renounce at once the republican form of government. A government, which neither has the advantages of a republic, nor of a monarchy, combines all the inconveniency of both, should be absolutely proscribed. Such is the situation of Holland, she must be a gainer by any changes she may make in her constitution. If the landholders, the merchants, the enlightened men, are of opinion that they can have a representation made by the choice of the people without distinction of classes or religion, they will create a system much more proper than the present one. If that be not their opinion, and that they think it better to have recourse to a Constitutional Monarchy, they will do that which will be more advantageous to their country than the preservation of their existing constitution can be. It is their duty to examine their situation, to judge of the circumstances in which they are placed, and to choose between the two systems that which is best suited to them, & the most likely to establish, on a solid foundation, the public prosperity and liberty.

Bavaria has taken possession of the Margraviate of Anspach, and has ceded to France the Duchy of Berg, which, united with that of Cleves, is settled upon Prince Joachim, the Grand Admiral of the Empire. Wesel is a strong fortress on her frontiers. The Duchy of Cleves gives us an advantageous point of contact with Holland; and France for the future, will only find on the right Bank of the Rhine, Princes who are allied by blood to the Imperial Family.

General Oudinot has taken possession of the duchy of Nassau and Valengin. He found those counties loaded with English merchandize, heaped there by the merchants of Switzerland, and principally by those of Basle. Of these the French army has taken to the amount of many millions: all the banks of the Lake of Neuchatel were covered with French manufactures.—This measure justifies all the prohibitory measures which may be taken with regard to Switzerland. That country is little more, at this moment than a warehouse for English goods. When it shall be cleared of these manufactures, we shall perhaps have the means of giving a new check to our enemy. Is it possible the Landnamman was not struck with the danger to which he exposed the Country? Who will protect Basle from a visit from the French army? Does this Magistrate, who sees smuggling carried on by wholesale under his eyes, suppose that he is not responsible? If the French consider these depots of prohibited goods so publicly made, and to such great extent, a real act of hostility—if the French government multiplies prohibitory laws between Switzerland France, and Italy, will not the Landnamman be the cause of it? and will not all the complaints that the Swiss may make be unjust and ill founded?

Dalmatia is occupied by the French army. It is separated from the mouth of the Catara by the Republic of Ragusa; the country is mountainous and the roads are bad. The French troops have arrived at Ragusa, when the fort of Cattol Novevo was delivered to 300 Russians, by Gen. Brady, who commanded 2000 Austrians. This General whose ancestors were English, has been wanting in respect to France, and has betrayed his Master. Upon receiving this information, Marshal Berthier gave orders that Brannau, which defends the frontier of the Inn, and which was to have been given up on the 1st of April, should not be restored, and that it should be again garrisoned. The prisoners of war that were to be sent back to Germany have been detained, until further orders, in the places at which they were.

The outrage offered by Russia to the Austrian flag & arms, is the more inconceivable because the Russians who are at Corfu, draw their provisions from the ports of Trieste and Fiume, a free communication with which has not been prohibited. The Court of Vienna has or-

dered that General Brady should be arrested and tried. It has expressed its dissatisfaction to Russia. It will cause Cattol Novevo, and the mouth of the Catara, to be delivered up to France, without having occasion to reply, by arms, to this act of hostility.

The Russians have evacuated Hanover and returned home. The army which the Emperor Alexander commanded has also returned to Russia.—After all the losses which it sustained, it is very natural that it should repay them by recruiting. A part of the troops which were at Corfu have returned to the Bosphorus with General Lacy. A considerable part of those that were in Poland are marching towards Chozim and the Crimea. The illusion, with respect to the Russian armies, is no more. The French army which, in two months, dissipated the third Coalition, was then only on the Peace Establishment; at the end of the three months, which have since elapsed, it finds itself on the War Establishment. It had nothing to fear from all the forces of Europe; but no person will be able to form a fourth Coalition. England knows full well that it would be money thrown away. She reflects with terror, that the first Coalition, which lasted five years, made France mistress of Holland, Belgium, the Rhine, and all the Cisalpine country—that the second coalition, which lasted two years, gave to France Piedmont and Switzerland—that the third, which only lasted three months, gave her Venice, Naples, and Genoa—that the last she could expect from a fourth coalition would be Trieste and Fiume, and the eternal exclusion of the English from all the ports of Europe. Russia, recovered from the vain illusion by which she was deceived, well knows what thirty millions of people scattered over an immense territory, and under the necessity of opposing the Persians, Turks, and Tartars, can do against forty millions of Frenchmen united on the same platform, brave, active, and intelligent, and more capable of conquering Russia than the Russians are of conquering France.

English, Russian, and Sardinian Eshvoys, and a knot of malcontents from all the countries in the world, had fixed on Rome as the centre of their machinations. The Emperor required that they should be driven from thence; and that a Sovereign, placed in his Empire, should do nothing contrary to the safety of the armies of Naples and Italy. The first care of any army should always be, not to allow itself to be encircled by a coalition of those who encourage rebellion. This demand gave rise to many confabulations, when the persons who were the objects of it did justice to themselves, and all evacuated Rome.

The Kingdom of Naples is entirely conquered. The French troops are at Reggio, at Otranto, and at Taranto. Only a small body of Neapolitan troops could embark and reach Sicily. That Island is defended by 45,000 English. The presence of such enemies is an additional inducement for the French to go there. Gaeta, an insignificant fortress, with a garrison of 1000 men is besieged.

The Victory at Austerlitz has produced as much sensation at Constantinople as at Paris. The exultation there was sincere and universal. The Government of the Porte is neither ignorant nor bold. There may, at Constantinople, be some traitors, but they are not numerous; whilst, on the contrary, the multiplied measures of Russia for sapping the foundation of this vast Empire have not escaped the notice of the real Ottomans. They are not ignorant that the protection of France can alone be sufficient for the Porte; and that France is the only power interested in protecting her. This vicinity of the French in Dalmatia has inspired them with the liveliest joy. The Emperor Napoleon has been acknowledged Emperor. The Porte knows very well that its treaty with Russia was extorted; and that it is rather a treaty between a despotic Prince and his Vassal, than between Sovereign and Sovereign; that it is not the French who have excited the Greeks & Servians to insurrection; whose ships of War are anchored before Constantinople; and who are continually creating commotions in the Morea. This new attitude of the Porte has produced much uneasiness at St. Peterburg; and if the Porte shall be roused to acts of energy against Russia, there will not be found between those two powers the great difference that may be supposed. The Mussulman is brave; and were he but directed and assisted, he would triumph over the Molcovite militia. It is not probable that the Porte will go to War; but she has a right to preserve her independence, and to will for protection against the insults of M. Italkinky, every proceeding of whom, when he communicates with the Divan, is only calculated to excite hatred and indignation.

We intend to collect in this way, every month, information of what is passing: and to throw some light into the labyrinth of false reports, by which the lawful speculations of fair and honest merchants may be injured.

LEGISLATIVE BODY, APRIL 16. PRESIDENCE OF M. FONTANES.

Continuation of the Sitting of the 14th. M. Grotet, Counsellor of State, in presenting the project of finances, has explained the motive of them with much perspicuity. The Orator's reflections upon each part of this immense work have been heard with the liveliest interest. Our limits will not permit us to give them literally, but we shall offer that part to our readers which has the most intimate connection with the political situation of Europe, and particularly that of France and England.

A trifling increase of the public debt, balanced by a redemption executed or prepared, resources derived from the remains of the national domains: foreign success, the fruits of victory, and wise policy; these, added to the ordinary public contributions, M. Grotet observed, might perpetuate to the latest term of glory a vast empire, but lately almost overwhelmed under the wreck of a terrible revolution.

It has been said, and unhappily it is but too true, that Europe seems as if she could no longer reckon up the benefits of Peace which has been promised her by unfaithful Traitors; she does not even enjoy the benefit of a truce, which is a necessary interval previous to the recommencement of hostilities. If we examine how it is that, in the midst of civilization, the people still feel all the effects of barbarism, we must be convinced that some extraordinary cause must have occurred to throw Europe into a state the most opposite to the repose and interest of the surrounding nations.

The abrogation of the Rights of Nations were prepared, at the commencement of the last age, by the contempt of an ambitious nation, which was disposing itself for the attainment of universal dominion; and it was crushed beyond remedy, when one of the Ministers of the Nation lifting up the voice of audacity, dared to proclaim, that a single cannon-shot should not be fired in Europe without the permission of his Government.

Europe remained mute, and indifferent to this insulting declaration.—She seemed as if she wished to conceal the fact, that this signal of dominion was the loss of her independence; and that as this nation had assumed the command, obedience was absolutely necessary—imprudent flatterer, which has since produced such melancholy consequences!

The association made by the Minister Chatham, flattered the pride and ambition of his nation. England, favored by unheard-of events, pursued its designs with rapidity. London at this day would probably have been the metropolis of the universe if Heaven had not given birth to an extraordinary man; if heaven had not charged him with the re-establishment of the law of nations, in endowing him with prudence, and every necessary means for accomplishing his destiny with success.

His genius has laid those forms incessantly excited by our implacable enemy—his powerful hand has paralyzed her efforts—but at the same time he constructed a vast system, the only one which could remedy the evils of Europe. The struggle which subsisted between France and England, appeared first as though it could not be terminated but by reason or by force. The effects of reason will always vanish in proportion, as our enemies pretend to the dominion of the universe, through that of the seas; and as long as its councils resound with those savage cries for a war of extermination, the means of force must be prepared against this nation; but nature opposes obstacles to their execution, the duration of which, we are unable to ascertain.

New combinations are upon the point of fixing the future, and consolidating our hopes, sooner or later, for the return of a lasting peace. He has formed a power in the centre of Europe sufficiently strong to break the force of every attack it has received, as well as those that may yet be prepared against it.

England, abusing its situation and its immense maritime forces, has itself indicated the point from whence she may be resisted with success. To the efforts that she makes by sea, it may be necessary to oppose greater efforts upon land; and since she pretends to isolate and cut off other nations by laying the ocean under an edict, just reprisals call upon us to isolate her, and to shut her out of the continent to the greatest extent that may be possible.

Thus till England shall console the weeping commerce of Nations, and renouncing an universal monopoly, shall restore them their natural rights, and no

longer pretend to dispute with them, except in respect of the advantages of its soil, and the perfection of its art, her vessels, loaded with unproductive riches, shall shew themselves in vain upon those extensive coasts which shall repulse them. England will at last be tired of this rigorous divorce; it shall restore to Europe the empire of reason, and with it a permanent peace.

Such are the obstacles that oppose a peace so desirable; we ought to render ourselves worthy of it, by putting ourselves in a situation to obtain it by conquest.

British House of Commons, APRIL 22.

On motion of Mr. Secretary Fox, the order of the day was read, for taking into consideration his majesty's most gracious message. The message was then read.

Mr. Secretary Fox rose, and spoke to the following effect:—I am sure that it is impossible for the message we have now read can fail to excite the strongest sensation in every temper and disposition of mind which can exist in this House. In the first place, when we hear it stated that his majesty had abstained from a pealing to his British subjects, on account of the violence and injustice which had been done to him in the seizure of his paternal dominions, it is impossible not to feel great joy for the success of a business which his majesty was always shewn to the subjects of his realm. It was with the most extreme reluctance, that he could consent to involve them in war upon any ground, that was not immediate and directly connected with British interests. After the sentiment of gratitude to his majesty for this tender consideration of his subjects of this kingdom, the next feeling which must be strongly excited by the message, is a feeling of just indignation at the conduct of the court of Berlin.—I hope that every member, while he feels this just indignation, will at the same time, perceive the propriety of taking the most vigorous measures, with a language temperate and moderate, and which do not violate that respect which has been always considered due to crowned heads, and ought not, in the present times, to be departed from. I had only to describe justly the measures, which have been adopted by the court of Prussia against this country, they cannot be called the measures of the king of Prussia, for that sovereign is known to be of a mild and pacific disposition, nor could they be called the measures of his ministers, for no ministers could freely adopt a proceeding so violent and injurious to the interests of that monarch. The measures must be considered as his, as his Prussian majesty had been induced to adopt, from the pernicious counsels of the enemies of this country. Had it been my object to condemn, in the strongest terms, the decision of the Prussian cabinet, I might have thought it necessary to lay some additional papers on the table, but that not being my object, I have moved but so few. More would have been unnecessary, as it is not my wish to give the strong side coloring to the accusation that the message contains. If we are to understand in these proceedings which have terminated in an outrage, unprecedented in the history of the worst proceedings of the worst times of Europe, it will be necessary to view the transaction a little earlier. The origin of this proceeding is to be traced to the convention concluded at Vienna, on the 15th of December, between count Hertzwitz and the French Emperor; but when it is considered, what was the situation of Prussia, at the time that its sovereign concluded that treaty with France, it must be recollected, that its means of negotiation were still greater than what it derived from its own resources, or its own arms.

The armies of Prussia were undoubtedly numerous and respectable; but was it to them alone that the king of Prussia relied, when he was negotiating with France? Certainly it was not. He had a strong additional support, which gave weight to his negotiations. The Emperor of Russia after he had left Austerlitz, gave the whole direction of the Russian troops that remained in Germany to the command of the king of Prussia. This country too had promised him a powerful assistance by pecuniary supplies, if he should be driven to a war with France. These were the means he possessed of giving weight to his negotiations; and how did he apply those means? Why, to seize a part of the territories of one of those powers which had been supporting him in that rank and situation, which enabled him to conclude his treaty. (Loud cries of Hear! Hear!) After this treaty was signed, a considerable difficulty remained in the execution of it. This difficulty proceeded, in a great measure, from the just scruples of the king of Prussia, who perceived that it would be very hard to prevail upon his Britannic majesty to ratify such a treaty, and who, therefore, felt that his title would be so bad as to make the acquisition of Hanover, under these circumstances, a poor equivalent for those provinces that he was obliged to give up to France. He felt, besides, that upon no principle of justice could he pretend to take it on other terms from those which France herself had held it on, and therefore, at first, he did not pretend to take Hanover absolutely, but with the power of restoring it.

On the 22d of April, 1806, the British House of Commons was assembled, and the message of the King was read. The message was then read. Mr. Secretary Fox rose, and spoke to the following effect:—I am sure that it is impossible for the message we have now read can fail to excite the strongest sensation in every temper and disposition of mind which can exist in this House. In the first place, when we hear it stated that his majesty had abstained from a pealing to his British subjects, on account of the violence and injustice which had been done to him in the seizure of his paternal dominions, it is impossible not to feel great joy for the success of a business which his majesty was always shewn to the subjects of his realm. It was with the most extreme reluctance, that he could consent to involve them in war upon any ground, that was not immediate and directly connected with British interests. After the sentiment of gratitude to his majesty for this tender consideration of his subjects of this kingdom, the next feeling which must be strongly excited by the message, is a feeling of just indignation at the conduct of the court of Berlin.—I hope that every member, while he feels this just indignation, will at the same time, perceive the propriety of taking the most vigorous measures, with a language temperate and moderate, and which do not violate that respect which has been always considered due to crowned heads, and ought not, in the present times, to be departed from. I had only to describe justly the measures, which have been adopted by the court of Prussia against this country, they cannot be called the measures of the king of Prussia, for that sovereign is known to be of a mild and pacific disposition, nor could they be called the measures of his ministers, for no ministers could freely adopt a proceeding so violent and injurious to the interests of that monarch. The measures must be considered as his, as his Prussian majesty had been induced to adopt, from the pernicious counsels of the enemies of this country. Had it been my object to condemn, in the strongest terms, the decision of the Prussian cabinet, I might have thought it necessary to lay some additional papers on the table, but that not being my object, I have moved but so few. More would have been unnecessary, as it is not my wish to give the strong side coloring to the accusation that the message contains. If we are to understand in these proceedings which have terminated in an outrage, unprecedented in the history of the worst proceedings of the worst times of Europe, it will be necessary to view the transaction a little earlier. The origin of this proceeding is to be traced to the convention concluded at Vienna, on the 15th of December, between count Hertzwitz and the French Emperor; but when it is considered, what was the situation of Prussia, at the time that its sovereign concluded that treaty with France, it must be recollected, that its means of negotiation were still greater than what it derived from its own resources, or its own arms.