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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1807.

To the Editor of the Aurora.

Sir—In your paper of the 3d, there are some details of an experiment which was made on the coast of England, near Walmer Castle, in the autumn of 1803, by which a brig was blown up. It is there stated to have been made by Mr. Francis, and in effect to be the same species of operation as my experiment with the *Torpedoes* at New-York. The fact is, I made that experiment near Walmer-Castle, to convince Mr. Pitt and Lord Melville of the power of my engines; and as I had made similar experiments in France, those ministers, on my arrival in England, thought proper to call me by a fictitious name, a circumstance which was to me of little importance, my object in France and England being to get my invention introduced into practice, for when any nation adopts it as a system of defence or attack, I believe it will become general and lead to the destruction of military marine, and the establishment of the liberty of the seas, an event of the utmost importance to the tranquility, prosperity, and independence of America; for out of the unjust pretensions which can be supported only by a naval power, arise all our disputes on foreign politics, and difficulties with foreign nations.

With this view to the interest of my country, I have acted both in France and in England. It may be asked why I have not yet succeeded in destroying a ship of war? I answer not from any defect in the principles of the machines, but for the want of time and means to exercise men to the use of them. Such engines cannot, like a steam boat, be carried into effect by the private funds of an individual, they must be sanctioned, supported, and organized into a system by some government; and governors, unfortunately to the governed, being seldom men of science, have their doubts and fears of new projects, until ocular demonstration compels them to believe. Such have as yet been the obstacles in the way of torpedo war, and the good effects which might be expected from it. However I am not disengaged, I believe military marines to be a political disease, which will be cured by the improvement of the useful arts, and I will persevere in the prosecution of my inquiry to that end whenever opportunity may offer, regardless of vulgar opinions either continental or mechanical; and as I am now occupied in improving my mode of attack, I have the greatest pleasure to give this explanation of the experiment at Walmer Castle to prevent an opinion being circulated that I had plotted the plans of the supposed Mr. Francis which idea would no way diminish the confidence which I now the reflecting and best informed of my countrymen will give to my mode of acting out defence, and might deprive me of the use to which I otherwise should have of being useful.

ROBERT FULTON.

BOSTON, October 16.

It was conjectured at Gibraltar, when the Wasp and Constitution left the place, that an attempt would be made on the fortress by the French; and that the assembling of the troops at Bayonne, was intended as a preparatory step towards that object. Great preparations were in progress making to put the forces in the highest possible state of defence.

NEW YORK, October 19.

STANT.—Capt. Reynolds, of the actor, arrived at this port yesterday, left St. Petersburg on the 9th of August, passed Copenhagen the 22d, and left Elsinor on the 23d. Captain R. informs, that when passing Copenhagen, he was boarded by three officers from the Danish navy of war, who were then waiting for an opportunity to get their ships into the inner Roads of Copenhagen for the purpose of commencing the bombardment, the troops having been previously landed. On the 23d, when Captain Reynolds was at E sineur, thirty miles from Copenhagen, he heard the commencement of the bombardment, as he supposes of Copenhagen—by ten o'clock, the fire became general and tremendous, and continued till between three and four in the afternoon, when it ceased. Captain R. having but little wind, was at nine o'clock where he might have heard the firing, had it reported. The impression on Captain R. is, that Copenhagen has surrendered.

On Monday last the ship Tom, captain Seaward, arrived at Portsmouth, in 49 days from Elsinor. Captain S. states, that Copenhagen had surrendered to the English.

Good news.—The election in New-Jersey for Members of the Legislature took place last week. In Newark the republicans succeeded by a majority of 400; and throughout the state the triumph of the federalists and quakers is great and decisive.

EASTON, October 13.
STATE ELECTIONS—SO FAR AS WE HAVE RECEIVED.

Queen Ann's County—John E. Spencer, William Sudler, John Brown, and Doctor William Gleaves, esqrs.—Republicans.

Dorchester County—Robert Dennis, Joseph Ennalls, Solomon Frazier, and Hugh Henry, esqrs.

Caroline County—Frederick Hobrook, Alemany Jumpp, Peregrine F. Maynard, and John Boon, esqrs.—Republicans.

ALEXANDRIA, October 20.

The following intelligence is from Louisville, August 13, 1807.

"Yesterday Davis Floyd was found guilty of a misdemeanor by the circuit court of the Indiana Territory, held at Jeffersonville on a charge of the U. S. as concerned with Aaron Burr in his late treasonable expedition. It is expected the court will pronounce their sentence this day. The honorable judges Davis and Taylor presided."

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1807.

From the AURORA.

An article appeared in Mr. Gazebo's Saturday evening, which from the nature of the circumstances to which it relates, we think proper to copy and to notice.

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA GAZETTE.

"An act marked with singular prudence and sagacity occurred in this city yesterday afternoon. A Delaware pilot, who had been boarded by the Capes by a British cruiser from Halifax, an encounter with a packet directed to the British minister, Mr. Erskine, and endorsed by admiral Berkeley, yester-day reached

to him his way to deposit the packet to his office, he fell into conversation with a person opposite the Aurora office, to whom he showed the packet. This person, upon hearing the circumstances, took possession of the packet, and delivered it to the editor of the Aurora, who has since returned it to the President of the U. S. The post has made oath to the circumstances of the case. Mr. Erskine is in this city."

"Yours is a plain tale well set these down"—a person whom the editor never saw before since, pretended a packet, concerning which the explanation agrees generally with the above account of its receipt, but differs in some particular—it was stated to have been put on board an American vessel, and impeded by abuse and negligence, if it was not destroyed, with many other packets, and Yankee raised and the like, by a British ship.

Way or no reason this paper would have been brought to the editor, sitting quietly in the bottom of his family, was not to be accounted for. But it was put into the editor's hands, and there remained no other consideration for the ed or how to act, but that he should at once do it at once if there was any meditated—and take care that it was really no imposture "the man about save us more."

The thing looked very suspicious on its outside; it appeared to be, and perhaps may turn out to be, what the editor suspected, a parcel of a couple of long and news-papers; for there was not even a seal upon it—it was superseded in the British mail, Major L. Lee, was assured to the ambassador of G. Britain.

For Mr. Erskine as a private gentleman, and as the son of the late chancellor of England, there can be no motive for distress or even the want of respect. But the editor of the paper has neither the *more* nor the *less* of information, which is very nice to know where the British Ambassador is in occasion of his absence.

But the editor I know, and he did not so well know it after he had depicted the packet to the rest of the general government—the usual and the proper residence of ambassadors, yet he should not have acted otherwise than he has done, and which he would do tomorrow with the knowledge of Mr. Erskine's presence, if he should be presented with a packet in the same way.

That he need do no mistake in the motives, they must be very fully, explicitly, and unreservedly explained.

It is well known soon from the conduct of the agents and the corrupt auxiliaries of the British government, that the *Aurora* is particularly odious to them. One of their emissaries, who from his position in the *Aurora*, a competent evidence, has publicly declared, that the *Aurora* under the direction of its present editor, has cost the British government upwards of a million sterling. This notion must have been laid out in some way in the U. S. States, for it is pretty evident that it has not been laid out in promoting the *Aurora*—other persons must know.

The destruction of the editor, it cannot be doubted, would gratify that government—and whether it is by the means which Cobbett pointed at: "there is no doing any thing with such a man when you take his life"—or by destroying his character, and standing in society, is not to material to that government as that it should be done; they view him as a mere *Irishman*, and would give more than forty marks to remove the humbling block.

With this knowledge, the editor would have been indeed a greater fool than they suppose him to be, if he had, for an instant, reflected on the mode of disposing of the packet.

It was delivered by a person whom he never saw before—nor since—never but the once.

It was delivered in a very questionable manner—for it was not the person who had received it that delivered it, but a person who had received it from another.

Aware of the intrigues of the British, and strengthened by the exterior appearance of the packet—without even a seal, and to a appearance containing either a couple of newspapers or a small pamphlet, the editor could not forget the use that had been made of a similar occurrence in relation to his predecessor—he conceived it to be a *trick*, intended to trap him—and these reflections arre—

Suppose this packet to be a political contrivance—

Suppose it to contain something personally insulting to Mr. Erskine.

If it was, and we do still believe it to be a trick invented here, the object must be too obvious.

If it was any thing personally insulting to Mr. Erskine, then the very circumstance of its passing *in manus* by *what man*, through the hands of the editor of the *Aurora*, no doubt

the intention would be or was to fix the act or authorship on the object. So obnoxious to the British.

There could be no choice of conduct left in such a situation. The man was questioned if he had any ill intercourse, contrary to the president's proclamation, with the British arm'd ship? The reply he made was, that he was not the person but a relation of his.

The reply made by the editor was, the only course for you and for me is to send it to the executive.

Accordingly, it was put under a cover along with a short open note to the secretary of state, noticing how it was received, and intimating the editor's ignorance of Mr. Erskine's actual residence.

A gentleman, not an agent of Mr. Bond as has been said—in abut three hours afterwards, called and enquired about it, but the packet had been dispatched, and of course was out of the power of the editor; but had it been in the power of the editor, he would not have acted as he did, because he found it incumbent of him to place the government of the country between him and the *pertinacity* of British *despotism*.

As to Mr. Erskine's being in this city, the editor did not know it, until informed to three hours after the transaction; if he had known it, under the circumstances in which it reached him, he would not have treated to any equivocal course.

The *adversaries* of the British government have now the whole advantage of their trick, for which we must fling, I give it to be *Br. see trip ad not catch*—they must try another trick or give it *on their turn*; and they had best repeat a copy of the original note of the editor to the secretary of state.

VINCENSES, (I. T.) August 29.

"DEAR SIR.—I had the honor to receive your favor, covering the resolutions entered into by the citizens of Richmond, and I sincerely thank the committee and yourself for this mark of their attention. The resolutions are such as I expected from the capital of my patron state, which is, in reality, the "head-quarters" of patriotism and courage, *independent* and *invaluable*.

"The exertions of the British emboldened us with the Indians of this country, whom I believe have never been inclined to us, the commencement of the revolution, and every where within a few months past, and in entire disuse of activity. To be sure, the *British* have *very* meanly behaved to us as a *negligent* nation would do, and to employ, one of the instruments which they are using, with the greatest effect, to do us injury, people and to destroy the innocence which the government had obtained over them. A series of bad offices executed against them, especially, in an *Irish* Assembly, with a few means which are reported to be a *negligent* nation would do, and to employ, one of the instruments which they are using, with the greatest effect, to do us injury, people and to destroy the innocence which the government had obtained over them, especially, in an *Irish* Assembly, with a few means which are reported to be a *negligent* nation would do, and to employ, one of the instruments which they are using, with the greatest effect, to do us injury, people and to destroy the innocence which the government had obtained over them, especially, in an *Irish* Assembly, with a few means which are reported to be a *negligent* nation would do, and to employ, one of the instruments which they are using, with the greatest effect, to do us injury, people and to destroy the innocence which the government had obtained over them, especially, in an *Irish* Assembly, with a few means which are reported to 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