

had received, we must have had some of the number of prizes which the divine wrath fell down among them. If bread was left abundant, more soldiers would flock to the frontiers, famine and robbery might desolate them in concert, but the Allies would then have a new despair to combat, another obstacle to conquer, and a great danger to avoid.

Royalists.—Under the sole cause of fear to the Convention, and the only danger which menaced the Republic, displayed a mighty energy, because the simple and virtuous peasants of Poitou almost strangers to the rest of France, and to its religious and political novelties, differed totally from the numerous classes of patriots; and in this part, all the members united by the same motive, and in the same cause, attacked the whole class of diffidants.

This very reason, however, circumscribed their progress, and prevented the junction of other departments almost generally infected with the Constitutional democracy, or favourable from political calculation, to the restoration of that constitution. To prove that the majority of France adopted this opinion, we should remark, that the people most bitterly persecuted by the Convention, were the Constitutionalists, on account of the facility of rallying all the other malcontents, except those of La Vendee.

The Convention were so convinced of the extent of the dangers which threatened their power, in the opinion and minds of the people, that a force of seventy-five thousand men, distributed at Nantes, at Rennes and Rochelle, have never quitted those departments, whom it now with difficulty holds in subjection, and against whom it is intended to guard as much as La Vendee. It is still the general opinion in France, that a counter revolution can only be effected in La Vendee, and that if it is immediately discovered, her successes must be decided, and her power in no greater want of them than at this moment.

The separation of their hands, the weakness of the corps, and the dissensions which waned fear and discouragement have occasioned among the peasants, have reduced their forces to twenty-four thousand men.

Malcontents.—The discontented are every where, but none will rebel, unless they could be assured of victory and peace.

—Unless by the great forces of the allied Powers, unless by an explosion in the bosom of the Assembly, or at Paris, (but no deputy announces sufficient energy and means to create an hope,) we must not expect any great internal intervention favourable to the powers of Europe, which would become impossible, should the committee of Public Safety oblige them to make peace. The deputies of great influence, even *Robespierre* himself, may go to the scaffold, and yet produce no essential change in affairs.

The spirit of the Revolution may force these events, and a new Assembly adopt their principles; the power is possible in *Sancti*.

Opinion and Public Spirit.—Every day arguments no fears; the crimes of Greece are exalted, but the crimes of Greece and Rome begin. A new *cybele* has taken place in this nation, destined to preserve nothing of its habits and antiquity. The crimes of the Greeks and Romans, the multitude, and the Grecian and Roman gods will soon deprive France of the remembrance of their ancient country. Gymnasia, cotillions and revellings—triumphal festivals, branches of oak and the pantheons—theatres dedicated to the people, and form a upon the great models of antiquity, which ages have respected, will long mitigate their slavery with the varnished colours of liberty. A religion, whose avails bring down the golden calf, Victory and Justice upon this renovated earth, may perhaps make their old revivets still poignant, and their new vows sincere. These principles which have given birth to public schools, sufficiently illustrate their intentions, and this generation, whose infancy has been nourished by crimes, they will make dangerous to the universe from the necessity of exercising its courage, and maintaining a military Republic; and by dissemination of principles, the most false, but yet the most seductive that men had ever to combat, we should every where see a sovereignty usurped, a lawless equality, and robbery legitimated.

IMPORTANT STATE PAPER.
THE undersigned Envoy of the United States to the King of Great Britain, Lord Grenville, his Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for the Department of Foreign Affairs.

That a very considerable number of American vessels have been irregularly captured, and as improperly condemned by certain of his Majesty's officers and judges.

That in various instances these captures and condemnations were so conducted, and the captives placed under such unfavourable circumstances, as that, for the want of the securities required, and for other obstacles,

no appeals were made in some cases, nor any claims asserted.

The undersigned prunes that the facts will appear from the documents which he has had the honor of submitting to his Majesty's consideration; and that it will not be deemed necessary at present, to particularize these cases and their merits, or detail the circumstances which discriminate favorably from others.

That great and extensive injuries having thus, under colour of his Majesty's authority and commissions, been done to a vast number of American merchants, the United States can for reparation have recourse only to the justice, authority and interposition of his Majesty.

That the vessels and property taken and condemned, have been chiefly sold, and the proceeds divided among a great number of persons, of whom some are dead; some seem to make restitution, and others from frequent removals and their particular circumstances, not easily reached by civil process.

That as, for these losses and injuries adequate compensation by means of judicial proceedings, has become impracticable, and considering the causes which combined to produce them, the United States can in his Majesty's justice and magnanimity to make such compensation to be made to these injured sufferers as may be consistent with equity; and the undersigned flatters himself, that such principles may without difficulty be adopted, as will serve as rules whereby to ascertain the cases and the amount of compensation.

So grievous are the expenses and delays attending litigated suits, to persons whose fortunes have been materially affected, and so great is the distance of Great Britain from America, that the undersigned thinks it would be expedient to expedite his Majesty's justice, and to make such compensation to be made to these injured sufferers as may be consistent with equity; and the undersigned flatters himself, that such principles may without difficulty be adopted, as will serve as rules whereby to ascertain the cases and the amount of compensation.

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But the King will always be desirous that these inconveniences and irregularities should be as much limited, as the nature of the case will admit, and that the fullest

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