NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

Vol. II. | WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. | No. CCLXXXVI.

Five Doll. per ann. | FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th, 1802. | Paid In Advance.

From the *American Review*.

The Political Writings of John Dickinson, Esq. late President of the State of Delaware, and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

[Concluded.]

"Through the murky exhalations from a bleeding land, a ray of hope twinkled. Soon afterwards the prospect brightened; and when the sky became clear, with transports of joy, we saw *France* firm at her post, and true to herself, to freedom, and to mankind.

"Do we censure her for enduring the horrible despotism of *the monsters*, during the paroxism of her destiny, and not give her credit, for putting, as soon as circumstances permitted, a period to them and to their abominations? That would not be fair dealing.

"Her submission to them was proportioned to the foreign efforts to destroy her. These compelled her, these imposed upon her a necessity to submit. How? By a combination of almost all *Europe* against a single nation in a new and untried state, proclaiming 'threats of fire and sword,' and labouring to execute those threats, by the most numerous and best disciplined armies, commanded by the most experienced and renowned generals in the world.

"But who assisted her to extinguish *the system of terror?* Any emperor, king, or prince? Any of the crowned professors, protectors, and practisers of '*morality and religion?*' No. What then? Her own good sense, spirit, and humanity. *This glorious act was all her own.*

"It was an act congenial to the feelings of *Frenchmen*. Universal France—the miscreants of murder and pillage are too inconsiderable to be regarded—universal *France* rejoiced in the deed. Read the accounts written by foreigners who were witnesses of the public exultations upon the event. There one may find some traces of French mind.

"The nation revived. She flung off her enemies from her frontiers, into their own territories. Thither she pursued them, as she had a right to do. The war blazed. Her victories were brilliant. She had declared herself a republic—was evidently competent to the final establishment of her liberty—and, in that attitude, standing upon her trophies, stretched out her right hand to us, and proffered us her friendship."

"There is not a nation upon earth whose welfare would not give me pleasure: and, as I wish that the observations now offered to my fellow citizens may not be impeached, at a period so momentous to my country as the present, by a charge of prejudice in favour of *France*, or of enmity to *Great Britain*, I trust that, by the candid, I shall be pardoned, if with anticipation I answer to such a charge.

"If to believe that the *French* are engaged in a just war—that their success in it will be favourable to the interests of liberty—that they are as brave, generous, and humane a people as any we know—and to wish that there may be a perpetual and most intimate friendship between them and these States, is to be prejudiced, I am prejudiced.

"If to wish that *Charles Fox* may be the minister in *Great Britain*, and that she may never be conquered by *France*—that she may immediately, without losing an instant (a perocinity of consequences may be involved in an instant), make peace with her on terms mutually advantageous—that then they may enjoy a participation of benefits, enhanced by the participation—and that, imitating *the being* to whom they owe their happiness, they may communicate it as fully as the utmost exertions of their united powers will enable them, to others—so that the blessings flowing from their concord may far, far exceed, 'in measure, number, and weight,' the evils that have sprung from their discord—and that, amidst the joy-born acclamations of grateful nations, they may have an inheritance in the highest human felicity, is to be an enemy to *Great Britain*, I am her enemy.

"What real *American* can desire the desolation of that land, the birth-place of heroes, patriots, sages, and saints—from which we have derived the blood that circulates in our arteries and veins—from which we have received the very current of our thoughts—a land, whose meads, hills and streams point out the spots where her gallant sons met death, face to face, for liberty—a land, whose kind-hearted nobles, in every charter wrenched in attestation of their freedom from the gripe of tyranny, inserted clauses in favour of the commons; while the nobles of some other countries, after involving the people in their selfish quarrels, pretended to be leagues for public good; left them naked to injuries, and made splendid bargains with their monarchs for themselves. The after-reckoning soon followed. Their provoked kings broke in upon them. In dismay they cried out for help, but experienced the holy power of that eternal truth, that *they who are false to others are false to themselves.* There was no help.

"To this difference of behaviour, the nobles of *Britain*, at this day, in a great measure, owe that portion of freedom in which they partake with the people, when the nobles of some other countries are—what I wish to forget. *So much wiser and better is it to communicate than to monopolize those things in which all ought to share.*

"Another praise is due to *Britain*—for the purity of her tribunals in the administration of justice.

"The history of mankind, as far as I am acquainted with, does not afford an instance where the stream has flowed so clear, for such a length of time. Power or faction has not been able to pollute it. The poor and the rich, the labourer and the nobleman, have equal rights to the wholesome draughts. There even peers are blameless.

"Yet three evils have sprung up on its sides. One—the labyrinth of roads leading towards it: another—the expenses of approaching it. The last is, that some of the agents whose duty it has been to facilitate the access, have, for their own profit, put up false directions for those who seek it. These evils must be removed. To know their title, to see but not to taste the refreshing waters, is too hard a lot for innocence in distress."

We need not recommend these volumes to the patriotic, to the curious, or to the admirers of eloquence. The connection of these papers with the public destinies of our country, and their intrinsic merit, will secure to them attention even from those who may disapprove the cause in which they are written.

From the London Morning Chronicle of June 18.

We this day insert a document respecting the deposition of the Nabob of Arcot, which will be read with great interest. It is entitled instructions to his agents in England, and may be considered the official protest against that foul and dishonorable transaction. The time is now come when it is necessary to vindicate the character of the British name, and to consult its true policy. The vast empire we possess in the East is grown to a size, perhaps too great for real utility, and we fear like all vast possessions, it has been too rapidly, to have been very honestly acquired. It is vain for us to tax the ambition of our neighbours, when we have in so short a space gained an empire containing forty millions of people. One acquisition has been followed by another, and the resentment of one usurpation has furnished the pretence for a new attack.—The circle is widening, and while the system of conquest is continued, the evil must grow worse.—The system is unjust and detestable. The difference of manners, the distance of objects, our ignorance of the men, weaken our sympathy with their wrongs. The deposition of a sovereign in Germany, the usurpation of a state in Italy by France rouses all our indignation but we think nothing of the degradation of independent princes, and the annexation of whole kingdoms in the East. We declaim against the insolence of a French Consul, but we overlook the wanton freaks of power displayed by the Pro-consuls of a set of merchants of England.—There is no end to their acts of violence. While a single independent power remains in India every year will produce scenes like those which lately passed in Oude and the Carnatic. The justice, as well as the policy, of the British nation must interpose, for if these things continue, perpetual troubles must ensue, and ill-begotten dominion must be maintained by eternal war. What will be the case when European aid is added to the discontents of Asia?

THE DEPOSED NABOB OF THE CARNATIC.

FROM HIS HIGHNESS THE NAWAB WALAJAH OMEER UL HIND TAJOOL OMRAH OMEER UL MULK MOIN UD DOWLAH MAHOMED ALLY HUSSEIN KAWN BAHADOR JUFFER JUNG, &c. &c. TO JAMES STUART HALL AND SAMUEL JOHNSON, ESQRS.

[*Hall was formerly a captain in the army which he relinquished for the bar; and acquired a considerable fortune at Madras: Johnson was also a lawyer there, and both rich.*]

"When I look around me and perceive the many dangers which beset me, I am overwhelmed with difficulties; every object occasions new alarm; and my little experience in business, my unacquaintance with the world, and my great want of friends, in a trial so serious, leaves me little able to overcome the difficulties which present themselves. Tho' a stranger in person, yet I would persuade myself, that in relation and character, I am not wholly unknown; nor will you forget the anxious solicitude with which my ever honored and lamented father recommended his only offspring to you, at your departure from these regions; a pious solicitude! which seemed to anticipate the awful and melancholy moment which has ensued.

Apprised, as I am, of the esteem in which you were held by his late highness the nabob, of your unalterable concern for his true interests, and of your friendship for his family, I naturally turn to you in this embarrassment of my affairs; and most earnestly entreat the benefit of your advice and endeavours to extricate me from surrounding perils.

I have not trusted to a stranger's aid, to make known these circumstances, which it is my first wish to be communicated to you. I will detail them to you with my own hand—I will trace the unhappy events which have happened, and the evils which they have introduced in their train. I will explain to you the sentiments to which they have given rise—the results to which they have already led, and the consequences which they may eventually occasion. These will not only direct your services (of which I consider myself secure) to proper objects, but will be the means (for I am confident in the justice of my claims) of obtaining the redress which I am seeking. A true and faithful account of my situation, to whom it may be required to be made known, will be all-sufficient to the success of my application.

In order that you may have a complete knowledge of all that has happened, it will be necessary to begin with circumstances, apparently remote, though certainly not unimportant; nor unconnected with the present situation of affairs. I shall, therefore, first acquaint you, that early in the month of June last, his highness the Nabob of the Carnatic, (the father of the writer) was seized with very dangerous symptoms, which continued, with very little variation, for the space of several days; and were sufficient to alarm his friends, for his highness's safety and life. It pleased the Almighty to allow his highness an interval of a few days of quiet and tranquility, to arrange and settle the particulars of his house, and to provide for the succession to his dominions; and so serene and untroubled a moment of freedom from bodily pain and infirmity did his highness enjoy, that his family and servants had a most reasonable hope that he might be able to overcome the violence of the attacks. After a few days, however, the disease returned with an increase of violence, and disappointed all the expectations and prayers which had been kindly conceived and fervently offered up for his highness's recovery.—Tears will not allow me to describe with exactness the scene that followed. You will learn that his highness lay on the extreme bed of sickness, awaiting the summons from an eventful life, with a dignified patience and resignation: affording a striking lesson, never to be forgotten! of the vanity of sublunary greatness; and in this painful and agonizing state he continued until the 15th of the succeeding month, when his spirit and soul forsook him, in their way to a higher glory, and more perfect happiness.

On the 5th of July, about ten days previous to the melancholy event which I have last mentioned, a large body of troops, consisting of European and native infantry and cavalry, to the number of 800 men, and a proportionate number of artillery, supplied with requisite stores and field equipage of every denomination, were sent by government, [Lord Clive governor] (under the command of Col. M'Neil, one of the company's officers,) to take possession of the garden and palace of Chepauk, [the residence of the Nawab] under the pretence of defending them against any insult or violence which the decease of his Highness the Nabob might possibly produce; a measure which had been advised and adopted without any communication either with his Highness or his ministers, until the very moment of its execution, when major Grant, the town major of Fort St. George, was sent to the sick chamber of his highness to acquaint him with the instant approach of the troops, and to explain to him the reasons which had determined that extraordinary act of government.

It will not be necessary for me to attempt a relation of the various emotions; under the conflict and agony of contending passions, which this sudden and unseasonable communication unfortunately excited. You will be able to form some conjecture at them, if you advert to the situation and condition of his highness at that moment, and to the hand which executed the measure. Whether from this, or some other cause, I am too deeply and dearly interested to dare to form an opinion, his highness's disorder augmented daily in violence, and ended in the unfortunate way which I have been obliged to state.

The troops notwithstanding the representations and last intreaties of his Highness, surrounded his Highness's apartments, and the most inmost recesses of his palace, at the time of his demise; and although but one mind manifested itself amongst his Highness's relations and the ministers of his affairs—although the most uninterrupted order and regularity every where appeared, and a spirit of loyalty (I am proud to say it) universally shewed itself to his Highness's successor, yet the military force still kept its position, under the same instructions, and seemingly with a view to dictate the order and terms of the successions.

Under these unhappy circumstances did an old and honorable ally draw his extreme death!—In this degrading situation did his unoffending successor begin the cares of his government and dominion.

Decent attentions had scarcely been paid to the inanimate form of his Highness, to prepare it for the shroud, when Mr. Webbe (the secretary of the government) and Colonel Close (the President of Mysore) were sent to the palace, under the instructions, as they represented, of the right honorable the Governor. His Highness departed this life at about a quarter past 10; and at a quarter past one o'clock of the same day I was advised of the approach of the commissioners of government. I am thus circumstantial in my detail, as I cannot but conceive that it will tend to shew the features of the policy which was intended to be adopted in the beginning, and which has eventually terminated in the utter subversion of every thing like right and justice.

Though secure, from the position of the force about the Palace, of every access to it, and of the knowledge of every act which might pass within it, yet, at the sacred hour of sorrow, and into the chamber of hallowed affliction, did these cold commissioners obtrude themselves—not with the tender offices of friendship or condolence, but with offers of indignity and insult.

It would not be believed, unless solemnly asserted, and I do assure you, on the honor and faith of a prince unused to any subterfuge or compromise, that at this melancholy juncture, I was drawn by peremptory messages from the side of the great deceased, to answer to the countless interrogatories of commissioners instructed to examine me. I hope I shall not suffer in the eyes and contemplation of good men, in yielding to importunities so unworthy of myself and them, which nothing but the peace and tranquility of my family, and the fear of pollutions have led to. But they are past, I'll endeavour to be calm.

Attended by several of my principal officers, I went to the apartments where the commissioners were waiting; when I was immediately accosted by one of them, with an enquiry as to the disposition which his highness had made of his affairs. I answered with calmness, but not without a sensibility natural to my favored situation from the bounty of my royal predecessor, that such disposition was clear, short, and unequivocal, and was contained in a written paper, which had been executed in quadruplicate, the several parts of which had been sent, many days previous to his highness's demise, to their several destinations.—One of them had been forwarded to his majesty the king of Great Britain, one to the court of directors, one to the governor general; and the remaining part was first delivered to his highness's chief minister, and had been by him, since the decease of his highness, delivered into my possession, where it then remained.

The commissioners requested to see the paper to which I had immediately alluded; when one of my officers, struck with the impropriety of the request at such a season could not restrain himself from observing, that the present moment was devoted, as well by feeling as custom, to the indulgence of grief; and he trusted that they would not again advert to the paper, or to circumstances to which it had relation, but would suffer the interval, allowed to humane and religious considerations, not to be molested with worldly cares or reflections. That after three days, his highness would be happy to produce the Will, and consult with them on the objects connected with it, so far as they related to the company. But the commissioners would not hear this considerate suggestion, but insisted, with a firmness to which I was unused, on the immediate production of the paper.

Fearing that some possible doubts might have been entertained as to the reality of the paper, if it had not been produced at the time when demanded, I gave it to their hands, with as little reluctance as the occasion would permit; they examined it in my presence, and in the presence of my officers, with a particular and a scrupulous care; observing, when it was returned to me, "that his highness had appointed me to the entire dominion and government of the Carnatic, and (with very small exceptions) to the possession of all his property; but that in contemplation of my youth, had placed me under the guardianship of two of the noblemen or kawns about his highness's person, who were to fill the office of regents, until I should arrive at my nineteenth year." I instantly observed to them—"That I had been long sensible of this disposition of his highness's affairs, that I was well aware, and greatly thankful for the kind and tender precaution of his highness in committing my inexperience into such able and worthy hands; that I well knew and highly respected them, and was ready in all things to abide by their council and advice:" and concluded with remarking, that, "since his highness had so disposed of me, and had so consigned the business of the government, it were unnecessary that I should be consulted further, at a moment so inauspicious.—The regents, I was sure, had not less inclination to meet and forward the desires of the company, than what I now felt, and should ever continue to feel—being the first and earliest impression I had received, and would, I hoped, be the last that would remain with me." On this, I was preparing to depart, when the commissioners desired that I would yet remain; having something important to communicate to me, and which they begged to deliver in private, or at least in the presence only of the regents and myself. On this my officers and servants were instructed to withdraw; when the commissioners proceeded in the manner in which I shall now succinctly and clearly relate.

On the immediate departure of my principal servants, the officers of government produced a letter, represented by them to have been written by the marquis of Wellesley, and intended for his late highness the Nabob; which accused *my royal grandfather*, and *my much revered father, of an improper and unjustifiable correspondence with the Sultan of the Mysore;* and concluded with demanding an *immediate surrender of all the country of the Carnatic, for an alledged breach of treaty.* After the reading of the correspondence, they remarked that the territory of his highness had been *forfeited* to the company by the act which had been stated in the letter; and that of consequence, he had no manner of right to dispose of it by will; yet to shew that the company had every disposition to *serve and protect* the son, whom his highness had so favored, they were fully inclined to make a very *liberal provision* for him, on condition of his previous surrender of *all the dominions* which had been nominally willed to him. The regents being present, were as much moved as myself at the extraordinary communication which had been just made to us. And although we were fully convinced that no unauthorised correspondence had ever taken place between his late highness or his predecessor, with the Sultan of Mysore, yet we were so much agitated and afflicted at the serious manner in which the charge was preferred, as not to be able to afford a cool and dispassionate answer. After stating our internal impressions, that neither of the respected personages to whom allusion had been made, could have been engaged in a clandestine communication with any foreign power in enmity with the British interests; and our great mortification at the proposal which had been offered, as founded on that supposed fact—we begged for a few days consideration of the terms which had been suggested, which was conceded to us after some discussion.

Every inquiry was made in the interval, to ascertain the correspondence, which had at that time taken place, of the nature already mentioned, when no vestige could be traced, which could throw the slightest stigma on the venerable names which had been implicated in so unfortunate a charge.