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For the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

An Estimate of the motives of those who are clamorous for war.

No. III.

The oppposition were foil.d in their call for papers. Their arguments were overruled by the deliberate decision of a vast majority of the House of Representatives. Did they acquiesce in the decision? On the contrary, they made it, both in and out of Congress, the theme of denunciation. This circumstance goes a great way to decide the motive in which the call originated.

Had it been dictated by a pure love of country, by a sincere regard to the violated rights of our Western brethren, they would while the measure was undecided have urged it with zeal, but as soon as a decision was made, have submitted without reproaching those who made it. They would have said, we differ from the government, we have given our advice, and we are content. Though it would have been most agreeable to us that our wishes had be.n gratified, yet the denial shall not on this great question divide us from the government. They have taken their measures, and we will not shake the confidence of the nation in them; we will not exhibit to foreign powers the spectacle of a divided people. The zeal that we still feel we will exert in support of those measures. This would have been patriotic, and, pardon the expression, it would have been *American*. If any cause could have extirpated the seeds of party hostility among us, this would have been the cause. The administration, realizing the truth of the maxim, that a friend in need is a friend indeed, would have held out the hand of good fellowship to their opponents, and have forgotten past divisions in the common interest. Here was an opportunity for the display of magnanimity that may never return. It should been seized and improved. Instead of that it was spurned and perverted. Feebleness and guilt were liberally charged to the government; inflammatory attempts were made to divide the people, who were taught to believe that the executive magistrate, instead of consulting the great interest of the country by a vigorous application of its energies, was the slave of an inglorious sentiment of fear;—that, in truth, he dreaded the irresistible arms of the First Consul. Had this been true would it have been policy to proclaim it? Did it increase the security of our rights? But, false, in every aspect, the reproach was the more criminal from uniting indignity with injury. Every genuine republican among us, while he deplores the prostration of the liberties of Europe under the foot of a usurper, treats with contempt the idea of danger to this country from that quarter.

Further; when the country is menaced with external danger, the executive becomes the organ of defence; and when that danger is unascertained and contingent, so unascertained and contingent that an immense preparation of force and expence of treasure in order to repel it would be in themselves a greater evil than would probably be averted, there becomes the greatest necessity to arm the executive with those powers which circumstances may require to be exerted, and which in the recess of the legislature must depend upon his discretion. Among those means which have invariably been conferred in all regular governments, and which have never been denied in this, is a declaration by the immediate representatives of the people that the Executive possesses their confidence. Mild and pacific as this declaration may sound, it expresses much. It has a double effect. It inspires the people with the same confidence that their representatives, those best acquainted with their interests, feel; and by uniting the people, and preparing them, if needful, for an assertion of their rights, it arms the executive with high and efficacious authority. Foreign powers, contemplating a harmony between the several departments of the government, and inferring a corresponding harmony among the people, will dread the effects of an unjust step. They will naturally pause and reflect on the temerity of an invasion of our rights. It is undoubtedly true that these powers can have but one hope when they invade those rights; the hope, that by dividing, they may overcome us.

Under these circumstances, and for these reasons the friends of the administration claimed from the House of Representatives an expression of confidence in the measures of the executive on the infraction of the treaty of St. Lorenzo; not an expression of unlimited confidence in every executive measure, such as federalists have been in the constant habit of bestowing upon their favourite chiefs at the opening of every session, totally in the dark, without knowing the extent of their faith;—but a confidence arising from the danger that menaced us, and calculated as one mean to avert it. THIS CONFIDENCE THE FEDERALISTS REFUSED TO BESTOW. On the Journals of the House of Representatives, which will live forever, the federal members, have recorded their political disgrace, which it is hoped will never die. They have courted the applause of party, and they gained it; but an impartial posterity will only remember them as patricides, who, to gratify a sordid selfishness, and a criminal ambition, would have destroyed the peace of their country.

PENN.

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NEARLY opposite Morin's Tavern, on Twelfth street very near Pennsylvania Avenue, built for the Washington Building Company.

The Houses will be rented on very reasonable terms.

Apply to Thomas Carpenter near the President's Square. eptf.

Dec. 1st.

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An advance of one half the cost will be made to the undertaker upon giving bond and security to be approved of by the Board of Trustees.

Signed by order,
NEALE H. SHAW, Regr

March 19, 1803. ep 2m in m

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TAYLOR,
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From which, and an acquisition of the newest fashions and the best workmen, he can assure whatever commanded.

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Dec. 1, 1802. tf.

FOR SALE OR RENT,

THAT elegant three story Brick House on the corner of Falls & Frederick street in George Town, lately occupied by Mr. Pichon.

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THE two well finished three story BRICK HOUSES, adjoining that occupied by Mr. Samuel H. Smith, Printer, on the Pennsylvania Avenue, east of the centre Market House, City of Washington—Apply to
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Geo. Town, Oct. 20. tf.

FOREIGN.

LONDON.

EXECUTION OF THE CONSPIRATORS.

Yesterday morning, at four o'clock, the drum beat at the Horse Guards, as a signal for the cavalry to assemble, and no less than four regiments of different descriptions are stated to have shortly after assembled. As soon as day-light appeared, the military took their different stations—Two troops of horse were stationed at the Obelisk. Others patroled the roads from the Obelisk to the Elephant and Castle, and down the Borough road. About five o'clock, the populace began to pour in numbers along the Westminster and City Roads to Horsemonger lane, and by six the lane was completely crouded. There are few houses in front of the prison; all of them howev.r, were filled with spectators.—The Dyer's ground, to the left of the prison, was gradually filled, till at last all the parts that had a view of the scaffold, were completely crammed. We suppose that 20,000 persons might be assembled. At five o'clock St. George's bell began to toll, and continued for about an hour.—At half past six the prison bell rang, the signal for the unlocking of the cells. Mr. Winkworth, the clergyman of the prison, and Mr. Griffith, the Roman Catholic priest, the same gentleman who attended Quigley when he was executed, came to the prison, and were immediately admitted to the prisoners. At seven o'clock five of the prisoners, Broughton, Francis, Graham, Wood, and Wrattan, went into the chapel; Colonel Despard refused to attend, remaining in his cell: and Macnamara, being a Roman Catholic, prayed in his cell with the priest. The five former conducted themselves with much decorum in the chapel. They attended to the prayers with great earnestness, but at the same time without seeming to lose that firmness which they had displayed since their trial. Before they received the sacrament, four of them confessed they had done wrong, but not to the extent charged against them by the evidence. The fifth, Graham, said he was innocent of the charge brought against him; but that he had attended two meetings, the second at the instigation of Francis. It was Emblin, he added, who called on him to take him to the meeting, by Francis's desire. For some time the clergyman refused to administer the sacrament to Francis, because he persisted in declaring that he had been guilty of no crime. The clergyman said to him, "You admit you attended meetings." He replied, "Yes." "You knew they were for the purpose of overturning the constitution and government of the country—I by no means wish you to enter into particulars; I only wish you to acknowledge generally." Francis then smiled, and answered, "I admit I have done wrong in attending those meetings." The Clergyman then asked each of them "how they found themselves?"—Francis, Wood, Broughton, and Wratten, replied, "they were never happier in their lives." Graham remained silent. The sacrament was then administered to them. The service in the Chapel lasted three quarters of an hour. Before it was over, Colonel Despard and Macnamara were brought down from their cells. Their irons were knocked off, and their arms and hands bound with ropes. Despard walked up and down before the chapel. Macnamara walked about in earnest conversation with the Roman Catholic Priest, and with a book in his hand. Whilst Despard was at the door of the Chapel, the High sheriff Mr. Peppen, addressed himself very humanely to him, and asked him if he could render him any service? The Colonel thanked him, and replied that he could not. The Sheriff added something in a low tone of voice, which, we believe, but are not quite certain, related to Mrs. Despard. Whilst the Clergyman was gone out of the Chapel to prepare for the sacrament, the five prisoners in the Chapel rose on hearing the Colonel's irons being knocked off near the door. They asked each other, "where is he? And seemed anxious to see him. After they had received the sacrament they were brought out of the Chapel, and their irons were knocked off. The executioner then tied their arms and hands in the same manner as he had before bound Colonel Despard and Macnamara.

Notice was then given to the sheriff that they were ready. Colonel Despard, who stood the first, retired behind, and made a motion to Francis, who was making way for him, to go before him.—The hurdle had been previously prepared in the outer court-yard. It is the body of a small cart, on which two trusses of clean straw are laid. It was drawn by two horses. The procession moved in the following order:—

The Sheriff of Surrey.
The Clergyman in his robes,
Mr. Ives, the Keeper, with a white wand;
High Constable,
Other constables,
The executioner with a drawn sword.

Macnamara and Graham were first put into the hurdle, and drawn to the Lodge where the inner gates were opened, and they were conveyed to the staircase that leads up to the scaffold. The hurdle then returned, and brought

Broughton and Wratten,
then
Wood and Francis.

Last of all Colonel Despard was put into it alone.

Macnamara seemed intent upon the book in his hand. Graham remained silent. Broughton jumped into the hurdle, smiled, and looked up to the scaffold. Wood and Francis both smiled; and all of them surveyed the awful scene with much composure.—Despard shook hands with a gentleman, as he got into the hurdle, and looked up to the scaffold with a smile.—As soon as they had all been conveyed in the hurdle to the staircase that leads to the scaffold, they were escorted up one by one in the order before mentioned—The Sheriff, Sir Richard Ford, the Clergyman, Mr. Winkworth, the Roman Catholic Clergyman, Mr. Griffith, preceding them. Seven coffins or shells, which had been previously placed in a room under the scaffold, were brought up and placed on the platform, on which the drop is erected. A bag of saw-dust, to catch the blood when the heads were severed from their bodies, was placed beside them. The block was near the scaffold. There were nearly one hundred persons on the platform, including the Magistrates and officers. The greatest order and silence was observed.

As soon as the prisoners were placed on the hurdles, St. George's bell tolled for some time. It was nearly three quarters past eight when the first prisoner was brought up to the scaffold, the rest followed singly. When the cord was fastened round the neck of the first, the second was brought up, and so on till the cords were fastened round the necks of all the seven. Macnamara was the first brought up; he held a book in his hand, and when the cord was placed round his neck, he exclaimed with the greatest devotion, "Lord Jesus, have mercy upon me. Oh! Lord, look down with pity upon me." Graham came second. He looked pale and ghastly, but spoke not.—Wratten was the third. he ascended the scaffold with much firmness—Broughton, the fourth, smiled as he ran up the scaffold stairs, but as soon as the rope was fastened round his neck, he turned pale and smiled no more. He joined in prayer with much earnestness.—Wood was the fifth, Francis the sixth. Francis ascended the scaffold with a composure which he preserved to the last.—Wood and Broughton were equally composed. Of all of them Francis was the best looking, tall, handsome, and well made. He and Wood were dress'd in the uniform of the foot guards, and Francis, when he came on the scaffold, had on his full regimental cap. The rest were in coloured clothes.—Colonel Despard was brought up the last, dressed in boots, a dark brown great coat and red waistcoat, his hair unpowdered.—He had previously desired to speak with the sheriff and Sir Richard Ford, to whom he communicated his wish to address the spectators. They told him they had not the least objection to his carrying that wish into effect. The Colonel ascended the scaffold with great firmness. His countenance underwent not the slightest change while the awful ceremony of fastening the rope round his neck, and placing the cap on his head, was performing. He looked at the multitude assembled with perfect calmness. The Clergyman who ascended the scaffold after the prisoners were tied up, spoke to him a few words as he passed. The Colonel bowed, and thanked him.

The ceremony of fastening the cords round the necks of the prisoners being finished, the Colonel advanced as near as he could to the edge of the scaffold, and made the following speech to the multitude:—

"Fellow citizens, I come here, as you see, after having served my country, faithfully, honourably, & usefully served it, for thirty years and upwards, to suffer death upon a scaffold for a crime of which I protest I am not guilty. I solemnly declare that I am no more guilty of it than any of you who may be now hearing me. But though his Majesty's Ministers know as well as I do that I am not guilty, yet they avail themselves of a legal pretext to destroy a man, because he has been a friend to truth, to liberty, and to justice." (There was a considerable clapping of hands, and huzza from part of the populace the nearest to him, but who, from the height of the scaffold from the ground, could not, we think, distinctly hear what was said.) The colonel proceeded:—"Because he has been a friend to the poor, and oppressed—But, citizens, I hope and trust, notwithstanding my fate, and the fate of those who no doubt will soon follow me, that the principles of freedom, of humanity, and of justice, will finally triumph over falsehood, tyranny and delusion, and every principle hostile to the interests of the human race—And now having said this, I have little more to add"—(The colonel's voice seemed to faulter a little here—He paused a moment as if he meant to say something more, but had forgotten it—He then concluded in the following manner: "I have no more to add, except to wish you health, happiness, and freedom, which I have endeavored, as far as was in my power, to procure for you, and for mankind in general."

The colonel spoke in a firm and audible tone of voice—he left off sooner than was expected. There was no public expression, either of approbation or disapprobation, given when he had concluded his address. As soon as he had ceased speaking, the Clergyman prayed with five of the prisoners. Macnamara prayed earnestly with the Clergyman of his own persuasion. Despard surveyed the populace, and made a short answer, which we could not hear, to some few words addressed to him by Francis, who was next him. The Clergyman now shook hands with each of them. Colonel Despard bowed, and seemed to thank him for his attention. The executioners pulled the caps over the faces of the unhappy persons and descended the scaffold. Most of them exclaimed "Lord Jesus receive our souls!"

The last and most dreadful part of the ceremony was now to be performed. The most awful silence prevailed, and many of the thousands present stood uncovered. At seven minutes before nine o'clock the signal was given, the platform dropped, and they were all launched into eternity.

Colonel Despard had not one struggle; twice he opened and clenched his hands together convulsively: he stirred no more. Macnamara, Graham, Francis and Wratten, were motionless after a few struggles. Broughton and Wood, struggled violently for some moments after all the rest were without motion. The executioner pulled their legs to put an end to their pain more speedily.

After hanging about half an hour till they were quite dead, they were cut down, colonel Despard first; his body placed on saw-dust, and his head on a block. After his coat had been taken off, his head was severed from his body by a person engaged on purpose to perform that ceremony. The executioner then took the head by the hair, and carrying it to the edge of the parapet on the right hand, held it up to the view of the populace, and exclaimed, "*This is the head of a traitor*—Edward Marcus Despard"—The same ceremony was performed at the parapet on the left hand—There was some hooting & hissing when the Colonel's head was exhibited. His body was now put into the shell that had been prepared for it.

The other prisoners were then cut down, their heads severed from their bodies, and exhibited to the populace with the same exclamation of—*This is the head of another traitor*; the name of each being mentioned on the head being held up. The bodies were then put into their different shells, and in the course of the day were all delivered for interment to their respective friends.

The populace were struck with the appearance of Macnamara, who, on ascending the scaffold, b.wed; many of them were acquainted with him; they pitied the situation of his wife, to whom he had been married but a short time. It was at first thought from his aged appearance, that he was colonel Despard. The crowd at the entrance of Horsemonger-lane was immense; as the time of execution drew near, the people from all parts came with such force as to bear down opposition. These who had been in dry situations were pushed into the middle of the road, where they stood almost up the knees in mud. Several lost their shoes by the continual pushing and jostling. Many fainted, both men and women; of the latter, however, there