NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. VI. WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. No. DCCCI.

FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1805. *PAID IN ADVANCE.*

For the NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

ROAD FROM ALEXANDRIA TO GEORGE TOWN.

The session of the legislature of the United States being just at hand, it is worthy of attention that there exists a case at the Metropolis of this country which calls for legislative interposition in the economy of the public roads: I mean in the shameful example of negligence which exists exposed to the censure of travellers between George-town and Alexandria. I presume it will be unnecessary to offer either evidence or argument to impress the public mind with an evil so self evident, and so dangerous to all who have occasion to pass in the night.

The instance cited is, however, not a new one; it is only one of an unlimited number of examples which, every where, pervade this country; and which have, every where, existed in all countries antecedent to the establishment of *turnpikes*. It is within the memory of middle aged men, that England (which now excels all other countries in this species of improvement) was in a similar predicament; and there is no doubt but that country, which now exhibits turnpikes equal to the road before the President's door through every part of the kingdom, and where the arts, manufactures, agriculture and commerce of the land have kept pace with the facilities of conveyance, would have continued so for centuries if she had adhered to the mistaken prejudice of working her roads by *statute labor*, and continued in the practice of *scalping them with weeding hoes to avoid presentments at a county court!*

The great and amiable doctor Anderson, *the agriculturalist*, who never went to bed a night since he approached manhood without leaving an ungrateful world in arrears to his labors, expresses himself on this subject as follows:

* "There is no popular prejudice I have ever met with that is so unreasonable as that which prevails against turnpikes. In most other cases the people are anxious to throw all public burthens upon the rich rather than the poor; but the case is directly reversed in this instance. The roads are all made where no turnpikes exist, by the labor of the poor, for which they receive no payment; many of whom have neither horses nor carriages ever to travel on these roads: but the rich, in consequence of that labor, are enabled to loll in their carriages at their ease, and while they are thus cutting up the roads contribute nothing to put them in repair.

"A turnpike act, which subjects these persons, and others who are to use the roads, to a tax to put them in repair, is obviously the most equitable plan for making the roads that ever could be devised, and shifts the burthen, in the first instance, from the shoulders of the poor to those of the wealthy: one would imagine that a turnpike act, on this principle, ought to be universally a very popular thing."

Does it not merit a question, under this fair mode of reasoning, whether the inhabitants of Washington, George Town, and Alexandria, ought not immediately to hold public meetings, and correspondence, on the question of petitioning Congress for an *act to facilitate their mutual intercourse, and to promote the public interest and accommodation, by the incorporation of a company for extending a turnpike road, the nearest and best level, from the town of Alexandria to the ferry at George town?*

I could say a great deal on this topic, which, being too voluminous for a newspaper may, perchance, be the subject of a pamphlet, while I tarry amongst you; but if any should question me on the score of advantage in the road now proposed, I am free to answer, according to my observation,

1st.—Your mail stage will be relieved from the danger of breaking the drivers neck, and of killing or crippling his passengers.

2ndly.—Your transient cash, in the commercial circulations of your country, will be less exposed to night robberies.

3dly.—Your mail stage will be able to sound its horn, at the ferry, at an early and regular hour: your merchants will be thereby relieved from irregular and tedious waitings at the post-office; and their business, in course, be more promptly dispatched.

4thly.—Where a horse drags one hundred weight in the present state of the roads he will be able to convey three hundred in their improved state.

5thly.—Where one person now passes, on occasions of commerce or pleasure, twenty will be found to pass shortly after the completion of the proposed improvement.

6thly.—Instead of strangers, and travellers, imbibing a strong prejudice against the metropolis, and country, (in consequence of the disgust they must feel at being jolted through dreary and dangerous hills in the dark) they will be delighted with the view of a grand and beautiful river and country, diversified, in its scenery, by landscapes, composed of woods, farms, villas, rising towns and cities; the strongest evidence of increasing commerce, population and prosperity which could induce them to settle here.

7thly—Instead of the houses, in Washington, &c. tumbling down for want of tenants, we shall see the proposed turnpike form a street between the two principal cities; and the towns themselves will become inhabited at both ends of the link.

Lastly.—The situation of this road is, on many accounts the most eligible of any in the union for commencing, at the capitol, *an exemplary improvement*, which will have a tendency to reconcile the intrusions of science, and to prove, against prejudice, the infinite advantage of promoting similar intercourse through all parts of the union; and by means which cannot fail to reward the adventurer co-equal with his number of shares, and the increase of population.

With the best wishes for the prosperity of America, I am, Mr. Printer, your obedient humble servant.

A STRANGER.

* *Agriculture of Aberdeenshire, page 132.*

FRENCH PUBLIC PAPERS.

(Continued.)

TRANSLATED FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Letter from the minister of exterior relations to count Philip de Cobentzel, accompanying a memoir in reply to a note of the 25th Fructidor, year 13.

The undersigned has the honor to transmit to his excellency the count de Cobentzel the annexed memoir, drawn up in consequence of the Note from the cabinet of Vienna, which count de Cobentzel addressed to the undersigned the 25th Fructider.

Since this memoir has been approved by his majesty the Emperor of France, the Austrian army has passed the Inn and invaded Bavaria. If the pacific sentiments avowed by his majesty the emperor of Germany and Austria are real, he will perceive that no negociation could have taken place, no new proposition be received, until the Austrian troops shall have repassed the Inn, and re-entered their own territories. If the court of Vienna refuses to oblige them to return, it is the intention of his majesty the emperor to compel them by force of arms. The evils which will inevitably result from such a war, will fall wholly upon the House of Austria, and victory will side against the oppressor in favor of the oppressed.

The undersigned has received from his majesty the emperor and king a positive order to declare, that in no case will his majesty permit Austria to extend herself in Germany, make acquisitions in Bavaria, and put in execution the project of which she has frequently manifested indications, of extending her frontiers even to Leck, and confining the Elector of Bavaria to the left bank of the Rhine. This project is too hostile to the interests of the Germanic body, to those of France, to the promises which his majesty the emperor and king has made, and to the engagements which he has taken to preserve the integrity of Bavaria.

After this positive avowal of a determination, which, under all possible circumstances, will constitute an invariable rule of conduct for France, it becomes the duty of the House of Austria to consider whether it is convenient for her to run all the hazards of war, in order to obtain a part of Bavaria, which is her object, but which she cannot reasonably expect to accomplish: for she need not fruitlessly strive to conceal what is already known to all Europe, that such is, in reality, her true and sole view.

The undersigned renews to his excellency the count de Cobentzel the assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed)
CH. MAUR. TALLEYRAND.

Memoir alluded to in the preceding Note.

"Without noticing the allegations with which the Note of the cabinet of Vienna is filled, of the date of 16 Fructidor (3d Sept.) we will examine the pacific sentiments which this Note apparently presents.

"The court of Vienna has made levies and preparations of every kind; and has at this very time permitted a foreign army to enter her territory.

"Her only view, as she assures us, is to compel France and England to conclude peace; but if such is the view of the court of Vienna, why has she forgotten to make known the basis on which this peace may be concluded?

"Shall we take, as a basis, the treaties of Luneville or Amiens, or the *present state* of the two nations, as Austria had desired at the first overtures of the last peace? Or, in short, pretensions drawn from the same source with the allegations at present made against France?

"In attentively perusing the Note of the court of Vienna, we think we discover that she wishes to take as a basis for future negociations the treaties of Luneville and Amiens; but has England, who lately refused to re-establish peace on this very basis, yet adopted them?

"The cabinet of Vienna has not made it known, and if it so happens that she does not wish to adopt them, his majesty the emperor of Germany, who would not assume the character of mediator if he was not truly such, which essentially consists in inflexible justice and perfect impartiality, has doubtless taken the same measures, in concert with other powers, to compel England to recognize his principle of mediation, as he had taken to constrain France; she no doubt has fleets prepared, cruizers fitted out, in short, all the means which are indispensibly necessary to the end proposed.

"The Note of the cabinet of Vienna throws no light on any of these points. It is, however, essential to know:—

"1st. Whether the court of Vienna understands that the treaties of Luneville or Amiens should be taken as the basis of new negociations, or whether these treaties should be considered as abolished?

"2d. According to the last supposition, on what basis does the court of Vienna understand that the negociations shall be settled?

"3d. Whether England has evinced her adherence to the principles of mediation?

"4th. In case of a refusal on her part, what measures are to be adopted by the mediator, and what means are at his disposal to compel her to adhere to them?

"If the court of Vienna has not put these questions to itself, and if it wants time to answer them, that alone should teach her that she has used in her proceedings a precipitation, hostile, not only to all the assurances she has given, but also to the end which she declares herself to have in view; and, we may venture to say, to what an enlightened policy would dictate to the House of Austria. As to the rest, time will decide whether she has been guided by a just conviction of her own interests, or seduced by blind prejudices."

Extract of a dispatch from the minister of foreign relations to M. Otto, minister plenipotentiary of his majesty the emperor and king, at the court of Munich.

29 *Thermidor, year* 13.

You may add, that the emperor, desirous of sparing Europe the calamities of a new war, has made such advances as are compatible with the honor of his crown, in order to recal Austria to a sense of her true interests and the observance of an impartial neutrality; and his majesty is of opinion that the Elector, influenced by the same motives, should also send a courier extraordinary to Vienna, bearing an order to the Electoral minister to make such representations to the court of Vienna, and demand of it what are its views in filling the Tyrol with troops when its neighbors are at peace.

Representations, at once wise and energetic, made at the same time by different cabinets, might arrest Austria, were she influenced only by foreign suggestions, as his majesty still flatters himself with believing; and on a contrary supposition, they will attach to Austria alone the responsibility of the events which it is their wish to prevent.

Note—A similar letter has been written to the ambassador of his majesty at Berne. In consequence of the invitation addressed to them, the Helvetic and Bavarian governments have taken the desired steps.

(Signed)
CH. MAUR. TALLEYRAND.

TRIBUNATE.

Secret sitting of the 2d Vendemaire, year 14, the Proces Verbal of which has been read in the public sitting of the 4th.

The President announced that he had received this morning at 5 o'clock, a letter to the following purport from the Secretary of State:

Saint Cloud, 1st Vendemaire, year 14.

MR. PRESIDENT,

I have the honor to inform you that the Orators of the Council of State, will repair to-morrow, Tuesday, at five in the afternoon to the Tribunate, in order to make a communication in the name of his majesty the emperor. The emperor desires that this sitting be not public. Accept Mr. President, the assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed)
H. B. MARET.

The Orators of the Council of State being introduced, one of them explained himself as follows:

Tribunes, We are intructed by the Emperor and King, to communicate to you the speech which His Majesty yesterday delivered to the Senate; as also the exposition of the reciprocal conduct of France and Austria since the peace of Luneville; and of the causes of the present war.

The Orator of the Council of State then read the said documents.

After which the Orator continued as follows:

Tribunes, you have just heard that war has broken out on the Continent. This event will afflict every friend to humanity; but will be only terrible for the enemies of France.

In vain the emperor offered peace to England, in the midst of the terror he had struck her with, in the midst of the prodigies he daily created to restore to the French flag its ancient glory. The British ministry, far from accepting the offer, after having kept assassins in its pay, and exhausted every means to give up France anew to the horrors of anarchy, has just seduced by its gold and intrigues, two governments whose interests are foreign to its quarrels, or rather similar to our own with regard to the liberty of the seas, which the emperor of the French wishes to re-establish, but which England does not cease to oppress.

If passion had not blinded Austria and Russia, the part they had to act was both noble and easy, they might by endeavouring to contribute to the return of peace, have set their faces against the absurd system of blockade, and a second time have proclaimed the principle of that armed neutrality which reflected so much honor on some sovereigns during the war for the independence of America, principles founded on the rights of nations & which one of the Northern powers, by claiming since that period, only drew on herself the vengeance of the enemies to the liberty of the seas. It was no doubt time to promulgate them solemnly, and to set bounds to the haughty pretension of a state to reserve for itself what is the common property of all the human race; and when so great an interest was so evident, how was it possible to misunderstand it to that degree, as not only to abandon it, but even to unite against the only power which wished to defend it?

The Austrian government, which has twice been seen bordering on its ruin, and been twice spared by the victor, dares to oppose itself once more to fall into the abyss, from which it has just escaped. Callous to the wishes of all the German states, it delivers up to the calamities of war countries which on all sides still present the traces of its ravages! it assembles all its forces, it directs them towards France and Italy; it dares to assert that it arms for the preservation of peace. What advantage can it promise itself from this mockery of words? Does it presume that Frenchmen will wait in the midst of their country, for those pretended pacific armies, those negociators of a species hitherto unknown, who, sword in hand, come to dictate their orders.

In short, without provocation from the elector of Bavaria, without the least appearence of legitimate motives, the Austrian Government has just invaded a part of his states. It has not confined itself to threats which our emperor has dissipated, it attacks our allies; it has then begun the war!

Let the evils which will be the consequence of this cruel scourge, recoil upon its authors! they tremble now, no doubt, at the consequence of their enterprise, and their restless looks are only directed to the future; to perceive its misfortunes. How different is our situation! for us all the probabilities are in favor of success.

These sentiments are so conformable to the character of our nation, that it requires no effort to make them known: but should it be useful to propagate them, who more than you, Tribunes, would hasten to employ all their influence, to enlighten the people on their interest, and duties? Who more than you has the right to excite their zeal, fidelity and gratitude towards our august Emperor.

The President made the following reply:

Gentlemen, Orators of the Council of State.

Posterity will scarcely believe that whilst we were fighting for the independence of the seas, and the free commerce of every people, the emperors of Austria and Russia should wish to make a diversion in favor of the common enemy, coalesce with him against the faith of treaties and their own interests, and declare the most unjust and absurd war against us.

This unlooked for aggression is the melancholy result of the ancient hatred vowed against France by the court of Vienna, and of the corrupting gold of that of St. James.

No doubt but that it must produce the effect of dividing our forces; and of suspending for a time the vast projects which the genius of the great Napoleon was at length going to execute against the English government.

But the signal infidelity of the court of Vienna will shortly receive its just punishment, and the Monarch whom France could twice have despoiled of more than half of his hereditary states, will not be long before he repents having renowed the continental war, actuated by motives foreign to the true interests of the Germanic empire, and in contempt of the solemn treaties which had re-establised peace on the Continent.

Gentlemen orators of the council of state, the Tribunate which feels the full value of the independence and consideration of the French Empire, is about to unite all its efforts and use all its influence to preserve them full and entire.

The finest armies in the universe, who feel their own force, who possess the enthusiasm of French honor, and the habit of victory, a people whose dissentions have rendered them more energetic; all the resourses of nature, the sciences and the arts directed by Napoleon, how, whatever be the chances of battles, can we dread the issue of the war!

The courage of our warriors produced the most brilliant triumphs when France was rent by interior troubles; what will it now obtain, when all the citizens of the empire have but one will?

Ambition and augmentation of power are spoken of, but do not these reproaches apply to the rapid progress of the British dominion in the richest country in the world, to the Machiavelism of the means it makes use of to destroy states there which have not yet lost their independence? Do not those reproaches apply to the Russian Empire, three times more extensive, than the territory of all the states in Europe, which daily multiplies its invasions, threatens civilised countries with a new deluge of the barbarians subject to its power, and which it arms with all the resources of civilization

France is indebted for its safety to its illustrious chief. No man, whatever may have been his opinions of political conduct in the course of preceding divisions, can deny that he alone was able to oppose an insurmountable dike to the fury of factions. We owe to him the preservation of every thing that is dear to us, and his enemies deceive themselves so far as to believe that when renouncing, after so many glorious exploits, the sweets of repose, he is about to put himself at the head of its armies, Frenchmen could remain cool spectators of his efforts! Let them at length discover their fatal illusions, experience will teach them ere long, that whilst our troops shall continue to merit our gratitude beyond the frontiers, every Frenchman in the interior will second them by his wishes, his sacrifices, and his zeal to maintain good order and the execution of the laws. However numerous may be the armies of this empire, they do not contain all our warriors; and were it even possible for momentary successes to permit our enemies to set foot in our territory, they would find there as many soldiers as citizens.

In vain will our enemies seek to excite divisions and disturbances in the interior of France; the nation has but one resolution, not to sink from the rank to which its high destinies have called it; it wishes to insure to Europe the freedom of the seas and commerce; animated by an enthusiasm equal to so great an interest, it will never suffer our brave armies to want for a moment any of the means to subsist and conquer.

Conducted by the genius and star of Bonaparte, they are about to cover themselves with new laurels and splendidly avenge the national honor treacherously offended.

The Tribunate gives you an acknowledgment of the reading and laying on the table of the decree which contains your mission, of the documents relative to the communications which you have just made to it in the name of His Majesty the Emperor and King, and of the speech you have just delivered on this subject.

The orators of the council of state then withdrew.

The Tribunate then ordered the speech and the reply to be inserted on the *process verbal.*

TRIBUNATE.

4th Vendemaire—Sept. 26.

SPEECH OF CARION-NIZAS.

The existing circumstances in which Europe now finds herself, are of so serious and threatening a nature, that the least reflecting mind must be awakened to attention, and in the breasts of those who are accustomed to meditate on the vicissitudes of human affairs, the most lively interest must be excited.

Ever since the blood of Lorrain so fatal to France, has mingled with the blood of Charles V. a jealousy and hatred have been kindled, which have increased with our increasing prosperity, which have been inflamed by our order and peace, and which have now arisen to the most astonishing height.

Let the necessitous house of Austria and its phlegmatic government be agitated by the intrigues and dazzled by the gold of Great Britain. It is what we can easily comprehend; since we have been instructed by so many previous examples.

But that Vienna, the natural and constituted guardian of the frontiers of Germany and the barrier of Europe, and who for so long a time defended them with such fidelity against the Turks, should now so eagerly open them to this half corrupt and half barbarian giant, who with one hand agitates the Baltic, and with the other reigns over the Euxine, who calls forth the hordes of Cassacas and the nations of Thessaly, who pushes the east upon the west,