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CONSULATE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
ISLAND of CUBA.

By this public instrument, be it made known to all whom the same doth or may concern, that I, John L. Ramage, consul of the United States of America for the Island of Cuba, resident at Havanna, do hereby certify, that on the day of the date hereof before me personally came and appeared Thomas B. Bennett, master, Thomas Lynch, mate, and Giles Williams, seaman, of and belonging to the schooner Agenoria, of Baltimore, who being by me severally duly sworn, according to law, did severally solemnly depose and declare, that they the deponents on the second day of August, inst. sailed in and with the said schooner from Baltimore aforesaid, bound to Vera Cruz; that nothing remarkable happened until the 23d, when they made the Berry Islands, and on the next day having light winds and pleasant weather, they brought up the said Islands, and at 6 P. M. in company with several other vessels, came to anchor on the bank.

That on the 25th, at sun set, the British schooner Haddock, Lieut. Foley, commander, with a pilot boat schooner, her prize, also came to anchor, and at half past eleven P. M. the said Foley sent a boat along side, and an officer came on board and demanded her papers; that at this time he the said Thomas B. Bennett was not on board; that in about a quarter of an hour he came on board and objected to the shewing his papers, as they had been regularly examined by a British brig of 16 guns, then lying at anchor near them; that upon this the said John Foley came on board and abused the said Thomas B. Bennett very grossly, snapt a pistol at him, and knocked him down several times.

That the said Bennett stated, that if a proper officer had come on board at first, he should have no objections to shewing his papers; but the said Foley was then very much intoxicated, and ordered his men to search for the crew, who came aft to get their protections; and the said Foley having looked at Henry Hara's (second mate's) protection, first struck him, and then ordered him and three others, to wit, Edward Williams, Giles Williams, and Joseph Fraley into the boat, without paying any attention to protections; that at 1 A. M. the boat returned and delivered up the said Giles Williams and Joseph Frailey; and at day-light they discovered the said schooner under way, upon which they immediately made sail for her, in hopes to get the other man released; but the winds being light they could not succeed in their attempt to get up with her, and at 9 A. M. she was almost lost to view, and finding their endeavours fruitless, they at 10 hove about and stood in for the place they had been at anchor; that they again came to anchor there, and at 5 P. M. got under way; and on the 13th, in consequence of the impressment aforesaid, being short of hands, they put into this port. And the said Thomas B. Bennett did further depose, that the persons thus impressed are citizens of the United States, had protections, and were also certified as such by the collector of the port of Baltimore, on the list of the crew of said vessel; which he, the deponent, also exhibited to the said Foley.

And the deponent further saith, that there were several other vessels which he, the said Foley, under the assumed name of John Haddock, also boarded at the same time, and abused the captains and crews in an infamous manner.

The said Thomas B. Bennett therefore doth, and I, the said vice consul do, by these presents, most publicly and solemnly protest, as well against the said Foley, for the impressment and improper conduct aforesaid, as against all other matters, and causes whereby or by means whereof any damage, loss or injury has been, or shall or may hereafter appear to be sustained in the premises, and for all costs and charges attending the same, to the end that the same be submitted unto, suffered and borne by those to whom of right it shall appertain, to be adjusted and recovered in time and place convenient.

Done and protested at Havanna aforesaid.

THOMAS B. BENNETT,
THOMAS LYNCH,
his
GILES ⋈ WILLIAMS.
mark.

In testimony whereof the said deponents have hereunto subscribed their names, and I, the said vice consul, have hereunto set my [L. S.] hand, and affixed my seal of office, the 1st day of September, in the year of our Lord, 1806, and of the Independence of the United States the 31st.

JOHN L. RAMAGE.

Capt. Bennett requests us to state, that when he pursued the said schooner Haddock, he reversed his colors, and that when his men's protections were shewn to the said lieut. Foley, he insultingly said, that "all the six-penny protections the rebels could produce, were fit for nothing else but to ——."

Captain Sherman was one of the captains mentioned in the above protest, who shared the fate of capt. Bennett.

MALTA, July 18.
(Private letter.)

"I now come to relate to you an event of the most melancholy description, and almost unparalleled in regard to its dreadful and miserable consequences It happened this morning. A magazine took fire, and blew up with an explosion scarcely ever known to be equalled; by it 370 barrels of gunpowder, and above 1600 shells and grenades, were blown up. Such an immense quantity as 10,000 lbs. of gunpowder must occasion the most dreadful havoc and destruction. The houses adjacent in every direction were immediately blown into ruins—and how shocking it was to the inhabitants you may easily conceive, as there was no chance of escaping. The buildings are all of stone, of an immense thickness. It is calculated that one thousand persons have either perished or are dreadfully maimed. The principal sufferers are the Maltese, who chiefly live near the place. One man has lost his wife and six children; others nearly the same; and whole families are buried together. Those who escaped momentary death perhaps, are shockingly maimed and disfigured, and crawling about in a miserable condition. Fourteen artillerymen, who were in the magazine, were of course blown to atoms. The band of a regiment, (the 39th) were just playing "*God save the king*" near the place—two men were killed on the spot, the whole remainder were much wounded. The guards on duty were killed. The magazine is situated on the side of the water opposite to the city of Valetta; it is called Barmola. Stones were thrown over to us, some to the distance of two miles. It was situated close to the water side, and the bed of the sea was so shook by it, that it rose up and overflowed the banks. Two vessels (small ones) were sunk. Immense stones were thrown up which fell into the water; others on the ships & rigging; one I saw which fell on a vessel just arrived, weighed an hundred weight. The guard ship, the Madrass man of war, is moored some distance from the disastrous place; but a stone fell on the quarter deck, and broke the thigh of the gunner, who had lately arrived. A Mr. Woodhouse, here, who, with his brother has a great wine-making concern in Sicily, has lost 250 pipes of it, worth nearly 7000l. they were at some distance from the place; but the shock was so great that the casks burst.

"In short, it is a scene of misery which no language can describe. The churches are filled with the dead. A friend of mine, just come from the ruins, says, that he was walking over them, when he lighted on the head of a woman, her body was crushed flat; and although it is only a few hours since the general calamity took place, her body, owing to the intense heat, was entirely putrified. Nothing farther has yet been ascertained.

"It is supposed, however, that the men were employed in cutting away the fuses from the shells, or doing something like that, when by some means a spark arose. The merchants here have begun a subscription of twenty pounds each, for the relief of the poor sufferers. A whole town, I may say, is destroyed.

"The accident happened this morning about a quarter past six o'clock, They say there are now buried in the ruins one thousand barrels of gun powder that are in danger; but I trust in God it is untrue; were that to blow up it would bring all Malta in ruins. May the almighty avert such another disaster."

From the Aurora.

We noticed a few days since, a voluminous pamphlet which has appeared in this city; it is published by S. F. Bradford, bookseller, and extends to 183 pages of close writing! The title of the pamphlet is—"*An inquiry into the present state of the foreign relations of the union, as affected by the late measures of administration,*" and it has a motto from lord Bolingbroke, the drift of which is to persuade us in *advance* that we are arrived at a crisis. Unfortunately for the anonymous writer he has chosen his text from a prophecy that never was fulfilled, and from a man who for splendor of talents is not to be compared with his copyist, nor in any other respect unless it is that political chagrin, the consequence of disappointment in political ambition, and remorse for the desertion of early politics and principles, may be a feature common to both.

The writer assumes in a very flimsy preface, which would rather appear to be a puff from the bookseller, than the grave production of a political censor and counsellor, that he is *an independent American*, and while he assures his readers that we are "*the happiest, and almost the only freemen on earth,*" he in the same breath declares that our "*political relations wear a gloomy aspect*" and assures the reader that he is neither "a *British agent* nor "a *French intriguer*"—no disgusted subject of "democratic intolerance, nor disappointed "seeker after public honors."

The length of the pamphlet necessarily circumscribes the portion of the extract we most earnestly wish every man may read it who can obtain it, and nothing concerning it would give us more pleasure than to see it go through twenty editions, and a copy in the hands of every man in the nation.

The pamphlet consists of an introduction of 16 pages, and the remainder is composed of a professed discussion of two heads of argument—the first is entitled—"*of our foreign policy*: and of the policy pursued *towards Great Britain*" This professed subject extends to the 97th page. The 98th page begins with—"*The system of policy pursued towards* France and Spain;" this occupies to page 162, and the remainder is what the writer calls a "*conclusion.*"

We said above that it was a *professed* discussion of these heads; it is only professed; for the introduction is principally occupied with railings and revilings against the modern Charlemagne; lamentations over the Bourbons; prophetical anticipations of imaginary horrors; and deprecations of hostility, which in the course of the pamphlet he sedulously labors to provoke, and which he reproaches the government for not before now commencing. Tho' we are the only free people in the world, he tells his readers that although he is for peace, that we must take "a high and commanding station, and preserve an intrepid air," and the reader will ask, for what is the intrepid air to be assumed—why truly to overawe France which has subjected all Europe, and to uphold that Britain which has plundered our ships and enslaved 3000 of our citizens, and with whose vengeance he menaces us for daring to legislate for ourselves as Britain has legislated for herself. This lofty conduct, he says p. 13—'supplies the want of many an inferior talent or advantage in the government of nations.—It commands respect and veneration, and *like the reverence yielded to enthroned majesty, it covers all foibles and defects with the mantle of sacred mystery.*'

This last sentiment will enable the American reader to estimate the POLITICAL character of this anonymous *Mentor*: and to shew that the sentiment is not one hastily thrown out as mere figurative embellishment, we beg leave to take from page 100 of the pamphlet, the following analogous sentiments:

"Speculators have looked for a parallel to this genius, and have compared him with Alexander, and with Caesar, and with Cromwell; he is neither the one nor the other of these characters.

"Alexander was the son of a king and heir to the sovereignty of Greece—though he fought for glory and was impelled by a boundless ambition, yet he looked at the grandeur of his family, and found there, a motive for rendering his present plans beneficial to the posterity of the ancient kings of Macedon—he looked for a transmission of his regal patrimony, vastly improved & increased, to his descendants, and gathered in his mind, new laurels from the imagined uses which they would make of his brilliant atchievements.

"Napoleon is the creator of his own fortune—he works for himself; he holds no prescriptive and hereditary right to any part of the dominions now in his possession. If Alexander the Great had lost Persia and Assyria, he would have found a home at Macedon, to which he had a legal and acknowledged title—Napoleon, once worsted, is lost; he must advance or be crushed; his motto is "victory or death"—these reflections push him on to a never-ceasing enmity with all who are not humiliated at his feet—he knows that free nations to act, are free to think and to speak of his character, fame and situation—he is conscious of the reflections which naturally arise in the bosoms of those who look at his beginning, his course, and his exaltation; and, he is furiously urged to an annihilation of every disparaging thought, or word, or deed, among men of independence—he works for a supremacy of power, every where, to confound, with his dazzling glories, the whispers of those, who would tell him, that he was once Napoleon Bonaparte.

"Julius Caesar was in the republic of Rome, what Alexander the Great was among the crowd of monarchs. The Julian family was one of the most illustrious in that great city. If the republic was to be changed to an empire, none had a better right than Caesar to sway its sceptre. He was of its high nobility—he had bled for his country, and had achieved wonders for her glory. Roman liberty at an end, Roman citizens might, without envy at the degradation of submitting to one of lower rank than themselves, bow at the footstool of Caesar Imperator.

Napoleon is the first of his family—he has intrenched upon the old order of things which gave the rank of monarch and emperor, to those only who were born of kings, or inherited the blood of the most splendid nobility. Force placed him where he is, and nothing but force can maintain him in his station. There is not one other supporting prop to save him from being precipitated to destruction; and, knowing this well, he sacrifices only to Mars, with some libations to Minerva, to teach him how to govern what he gains by the sword.

"Caesar moreover came to the dominion of Rome after she had subjugated the world. He had nothing left to do, but to complete and secure the conquests she had made. Napoleon sees checks, impediments, obstacles, and many rivals in power all around him—his ambition pushes him to do these away—his fears tell him they do not exist to his safety: and with the sword, which he has used for the execution of his vast purposes, he is resolved to cut away all who refuse to confess his rightful claims to the dominion of the earth.

"There is more of Cromwell belonging to him than of any other man. But still, he is not the entire resemblance of the protector. He has Cromwell's impetuosity, and Cromwell's roughness, all his duplicity and all his penetration—he knows as well, how to manage the passions, the vanities, the virtues, and the weaknesses of man, and he cares as little what means he uses for his ends, provided they effect his purposes. The contrasted conditions of the different stages of the lives of these two characters, bear, too, a strong analogy—they both began their career as subjects unknown, and both lived to wear the glories of monarchs, who never heard of their being in the limits of their respective dominions.

"But Cromwell's ambition was at an end, when he gained the protectorship of England. The pride of an Englishman, caused him to look upon the command of the British empire, as all that a mortal could wish for—and he found himself constrained, from the insularity of his situation, to cherish no ideas of continental conquest. Neither was the continent in a condition to be conquered by England, if England had been vastly more powerful than when Cromwell wielded its strength. France, Spain, and Holland could, either of them, singly, have laughed at an attempt of the protector to humble them to a state of vassalage—they were too powerful on land for his armies to subdue. When Cromwell had usurped the throne of Charles, his mind was entirely taken up in securing himself in his seat, and his ambition looked no further, than to the elevation of the naval glory of England, above that of all the world, and, as a step towards that point, the acquisition of colonial possession. "With all his crimes," says Junius, "Cromwell had the spirit of an Englishman." He fought for the nation, not for himself alone. The spirit of an Englishman impels him to advance the greatness of his country—and so was Cromwell actuated. He made Europe tremble at the navy of England, triumphant under Blake, not for his glory alone, but the glory of his native land.

"Napoleon knows none of this patriotic spirit. His country is not France—if the situation of things had thrown Spain into his hands, as the main engine of conquest, he would feel for Spain as much as he now feels for France. His ambition is a personal one—he borrows nothing from the glory of the nation: but strives to make the glory of the nation come altogether from his splendor.

"He is upon the continent, and has the same fixed mind to rule the land, that Cromwell had for England to rule the ocean.—And his power is here more alaming than that of the protector, because, he may by gaining the command of all the resources of Europe, in time, create a maritime power irresistible to the navies of his enemies. England, from her narrow population, has not men in profusion, to spare for continental wars, and continental conquests; but France, with her immense dependencies, can, after settling her dominion upon the land, create myriads of seamen, and direct herself to the conquest of the element which now knows none of her authority. Napoleon has, too, in his hands, the most prodigious and alarming military force that Europe has ever seen. When he came to the supreme command of France, a long succession of prosperous events, and the conquests made during the times of the republic, and the military experience of the armies acquired in seven or eight years of constant warfare, gave him almost the same advantage of conquering Europe, which the successes of the parliamentary generals and armies gave to Cromwell, for raising himself, from the chief command of the armed force of England, to her absolute domination.——The mere continental situation of Napoleon, and the insulated situation of Cromwell make every difference in the opportunities and relations that the two individuals could manage for their purposes, and of consequence in the march and operation of their qualities and talents.

"Thus, whether we look at the vast and efficient force which the sovereign of France holds for use, at his absolute discretion; at the character of the man who now directs her overwhelming powers: at the mode of his operations and attacks; at the motives which impel him; at the ground on which he stands, and the impossibility of his holding it, unless he every day gathers a new title for his station, in victorious advantages gained over other nations, to his glory and their humiliation—— The United States and the world must see, in the present emperor of France, one of the most dangerous enemies of liberties of mankind, that has existed in ancient or modern times—Americans are not on the list of friends—and in truth he keeps no register of that nature. He notes on record his vassals and dependants, and whoever are not there he places in the catalogue of the denounced—He that is not for him is against him.

"Napoleon has, too, an antipathy natural and violent, against us, because we are the descendants of Englishmen—he expects to find in us, the same stubborn, independent stiffness, and abhorrence of every thing like submission, that he finds, defying his power, at the very borders of his kingdom.—He looks at us with a jealous eye, because *he is aware, that our policy is, or must be shortly, a policy that will lead us to treat Great Britain as our best friend abroad*; and he sees in us, one of the greatest aids and supports to the power of his formidable enemy, by the resources which our commerce throws into her hands.—Were it not for us, he might, also hope to add the whole of America to his empire, for which he must now look in vain; and such a check as this to the ambition of a man of the cast of Napoleon, furnishes the most certain & unqualified title to his hatred, that a nation or individual can possibly produce.

In these extracts we have the political character of the writer, and a developement of his political views; which are to excite a spirit of alarm in the American people, as the only means by which the system of *commercial defensive policy may be attacked and put aside.*

The sentiments which are here given, shew the man to be a monarchist, in the extreme of the most superstitious extravagance—the sacred mystery of the mantle of *royalty and hereditary majesty* are favorite themes. Individual talents and greatness of mind have no value in his monarchical mind, Divine hereditary right, the "old order of things which gave the rank of monarch and emperor to those only who were *born* of kings or inherited their blood of the most splendid nobility"—these are the tenets of the instructor and self appointed counsellor of a democratic republic, in which the total dereliction and extinction of every idea of hereditary title, or order deriving from any other source than election and merit, are excluded by the fundamental principles of the government.

Baltimore, November 17.

The honorable Robert Wright, governor elect, appeared in the Senate room on Wednesday, and took the qualifications of his office. The following is a copy of his letter to the president of the senate and speaker of the house of delegates, on accepting the appointment.

ANNAPOLIS, Nov. 12, 1806.

Gentlemen,

Your joint letter of the 10th inst. notifying me of my appointment as the governor of the state of Maryland, I received by express at my residence in Chestertown, at half past twelve o'clock on the night of that day.

I accept the appointment with peculiar gratification, as I consider it the test of your approbation of my conduct in the office of senator of the United States, which by your appointment I have held for the last five years, and in the discharge of the duties whereof I have most cordially co-operated with a virtuous administration in promoting the best interests of our common country, in repealing such laws as imposed odious and unnecessary taxes on our fellow citizens; in restoring the national judiciary to the state it had obtained in the time of our Washington; in the purchase of Louisiana, and thereby extending to our western brethren the great advantages of the important port of Orleans, and the navigation of the Missouri with all its tributary streams; in the measure adopted to acquire the Floridas, that the American empire might be consolidated, and a risk of a collision with a colony of Spain avoided: in the cultivation of the arts of peace with all our foreign relations, with temper and good faith, in an honest neutrality with all the belligerent powers, and in an exact discharge of every duty imposed on us by existing treaties or by the law of nations, and in the laudable attention that has been paid to our native brethren the savage tribes, in instructing them in the culture of the soil and domestic manufactures, and