We hardly imagine that any civilian will contend, that a British ship could have this right of search by force, because such a right is wholly inconsistent with the sovereignty of the U. S. of America. To all intents & purposes the sovereignty of the U.S. is complete in all its branches, and surely therefore, in whatever relates to military jurisdiction and authority over its public force, is as complete as that of this or any other nation over its army or navy.— But what can be a more direct invasion of this right of sovereignty, what a more flagrant attack on the honor of an independent nation, than to insist as a matter of right, on going on board a ship of war, and searching for deserters? We do not know any case that would support such a demand, for there can be no necessity for it—but the pretence in this case is very trifling, and far below what could justify one nation in demanding that another should submit to such a badge of ignominy. Let any military man, or any seaman, reflect for a moment what the thing demanded is! It is that the public ships and vessels of one power shall when and where they please, send on board the public ships and vessels of another friendly power, and by force pass in review the whole crew, search the whole ship, and do every thing the most inconsistent with the discipline of the ship visited, and the dignity of the nation submitting to this supposed right?

Let us put this home to ourselves. Suppose the Constellation, [Chesapeake] had been lying at Portsmouth. Suppose captain Truxton, or any hot headed American had got information that some runaway American sailors were on board a British sloop of war. Admitting that they were runaways, would any English officer commanding such sloop of war, have acceded to the impudent and insulting demand of Truxton, to send or come on board his vessel, make his crew pass muster, each tell where he was born, search every cranny, and do that which in the very nature of things cannot be done without outrage and insult? Yet if there be right in this pretension, it is a right common to both nations; and captain Truxton would have been full as much entitled to exercise it at Spithead or in the Downs, as the commander of the Leopard in Hampton Roads. The claim is so inconsistent with the clearest rights of independent sovereignty, that it can have no foundation in the law of nations; and it would necessarily lead in practice to such disorders among the high spirited officers of two different navies, as must satisfy every reasonable man that, being utterly repugnant to common sense, it cannot form part of the international code of civilized societies.

This is not a case in the smallest degree affected by that of the Swedish convoy. The principle is wholly different. In the case of the Swedish convoy there was no claim made to visit and search the ship of war. Our claim was to visit the merchant ships under convoy; and the Swedes said "no—the presence of our ship of war is sufficient security that this convoy carries no contraband." We again denied this and insisted upon visiting the ships under convoy, provided we had a reasonable ground of doubt or suspicion.

The demand to visit and search a ship bearing the flag and commission of an independent neutral power, on pretence of catching deserters, is of a quite different nature. Surely if any place ought to be privileged from a forcible entry on such ignoble pursuits, it is the royal, or the national navy of an independent state. Surely if any courtesies are mutually due, it must be to prohibit such indelicate and disorderly intrusions. We do not plead the cause of the American navy here—we plead that of the British navy. We say that British ships of war are not, and cannot be subject to such visits from the Americans, or any other nation; and therefore the Americans are not bound to submit to them from the British. The law is equal to both, and the existence of a law at once so humiliating and so dangerous, cannot be supposed. We deny then that such a law exists. We defy ministers to produce a single paragraph from any respectable writer on public law, or any admitted case, by which the proceedings of the commander of the Leopard, can be authorized or defended. His conduct, come what may of the dispute, ought to be disavowed.

We are glad to find that Sir John Nichol, the King's Advocate, was present at the Council upon this affair.— The learning and sound sense of Sir John Nichol, we trust would correct the intemperance of ministers, and satisfy them that the intention insisted upon in this case is wholly unprecedented, and is utterly inconsistent with the common rights and dignity of independent states.

What may be the facts of this case, we do not pretend to be yet informed. It is said, however, that the deserters in question were really Americans and not British sailors; that, as we have said, does not alter the question of right. If they were British sailors, redress surely might have been obtained by application to the American government; and there was no such pressing emergency or urgent danger, from the escape of these deserters, as to justify the adoption of a violent remedy, or the appeal to that sort of law which nothing but necessity can sanction.

Complaints of taking each others men are common to us and the Americans, and probably in both cases to some extent well founded. But this is to be considered, that in the one our men follow their own inclinations, in the other they are pressed. We do not believe, however, that there 1000 British seamen altogether in the American service.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

Observations on the conduct of Great Britain—Continued.

No. V.

Great Britain was not contented to make and execute her own anti-neutral orders of council and to give open indemnity for those breaches of *public* law, in the manner we have seen, but she used her utmost endeavors in the year 1793, to lead other powers into the adoption of those unprecedented and illegitimate provisions in her convention with Russia, which we have already noticed. Prussia, Austria, and Spain were drawn by England into similar engagements, and America, Genoa, and Tuscany immediately witnessed the separate or joint efforts of Great Britain and her lawless associates to coerce them into an injurious and degrading submission to this new English project of depriving the opposite belligerent of *all* the benefits of neutral commerce. Let it be well remembered, that this act was commenced, matured and published in *London*, under the official signatures of the British and Russian ministers on the *25th of March*, 1793. *There, then* and thus was the unlawful foundation laid for all the subsequent violations of neutral rights by this great anti-neutral combination.

Let us suppose for a moment, that upon the receipt of that anglo-Russian treaty at Paris in the close of March, 1793, whereby the French were attempted to be deprived, by dint of naval power, of all rightful and legitimate intercourse with neutrals, the government of France had instantly avowed the right, the duty and the necessity of retaliating the measure, in form and substance, and had immediately passed legislative and executive acts, directing the total prevention of neutral intercourse with England and her dominions. No sober and honest American will doubt, question, or deny that such a law and decree of France in 1793 would have been justly chargeable to Great Britain, & that it would have been a clear, simple and mere retaliation on the part of the French. It requires but a little effort of a sound mind and an honest heart then to place to the account of the government of Great Britain the various infractions of our neutral rights by the governments of France and her allies, which have occurred since the dates of those numerous and stupendous violations of those rights in the years 1792, and 1793, which have been faithfully represented in the three former numbers of these papers.

"*The law of nations*," till *England* thus began, was the great charter of American peace—that peace the God of nature gave, and we estimate, as a most blessed fruit of his divine will. We had but to be just, and public happiness was ours!—But alas, the scene is changed. The foundations of the law of nations have sustained from the hands of England, in her early treaties with Russia, Prussia, Austria, and Spain a rude and malignant stroke intended to destroy it—and with that law, to destroy our peace. If we trace the conduct of Great Britain, further and similar evidences but thicken around us.

Let us proceed in the painful, but necessary duty. In the progress of the war, Spain and all her allies, including England, were unable to protect her from the vigorous attacks, which this unprecedented engagement with England in 1793 brought upon her. She was forced to abandon her English connexion and to save herself from ruin by engaging on the side of France. No sooner had this new war of Spanish necessity taken place, than the English admiral, Nelson, published a proclamation, dated off Cadiz, declaring to the neutrals, that on that account, "It was found right that Spain should no longer have any trade!!" The history of the civilized world never before witnessed an instance of a mere blockading admiral at a port, attempting to proclaim to all nations that a whole kingdom was no longer to have any trade, to the total, consequent and illegitimate destruction of neutral rights. Will any man wonder, that powerful belligerent monarchs should, in retaliation, do half what a secondary English admiral had thus done many years before.

This strange and extravagant act of admiral Nelson's is a part of that monstrous and crude mass of British violations of neutral rights, which are to be found in the orders of their king in council, in the proclamations of their generals and admirals, and even in the acts of their parliament, under the two heads of

Blockades and Regulations of Neutral Trade.

These acts of the British government are in a great many very important instances, and far much the greater part, entirely unsupported by law or reason, in direct violation of the law of nations and indisputably injurious to neutral rights. As they apply to one important subject, they are most accurately, faithfully and ably characterized in the following concise summary of the English conduct, in the pamphlet (of 1806), written by Mr. Madison: a work which every neutral statesman and merchant, and every honest belligerent, should carefully read and well consider.

"The system of Great Britain (says this invaluable pamphlet) may therefore now be considered, as announced to all the world, with no disguise, and by the most solemn acts of her government. Her navy having destroyed the trade of her enemies, as well between the mother country and their colonies, as between the former and neutral countries, and her courts, by putting an end to re-exportations from neutral countries, reducing the importation into these to the mere amount of their own consumption, the immense surplus of productions accumulating in the American possessions of her enemies can find no outlet, but through the free ports" (of the British West Indies), "provided for it, nor any other market near the British market, and those to which she finds it her interest to distribute it; with a view to which she not only allows her enemies to trade with her possessions, but allows her subjects to trade with her enemies. And thus, in defiance as well of her treason laws, and of her laws of trade, as of the rights of neutrality, under the law of nations, we find her, in the just and emphatic language of the President, "taking to herself, by an inconsistency, at which reason revolts, a commerce with her own enemy, which she denies to a neutral, on the ground of its aiding an enemy in the war."

Could it have been credited of Great Britain or of any other respectable government, that they could have passed laws to promote and facilitate trade between the British dominions, (and by British subjects) with the dominions and ports of France, after entering into four solemn treaties with the great European states to prevent the neutrals from trading with those very French ports and dominions, under the penalty of a degrading and fatal confiscation? Can it be expected by Great Britain, that the neutral world will for ever submit to the substitution of so monstrous a system of *monopolising* inconsistency and oppression for the eternal justice of the law of nations.

The hostile influence of the government of Great Britain upon neutral trade, has been manifested in another form, particularly unjust, injurious and offensive. From the earliest time the British courts of admiralty have burdened both acquitted and condemned vessels with costs and charges, fatal to ordinary adventurers; and every shade of inconsistent opinion, from acquittal to condemnation in cases turning on the same principle, has marked the decrees of the judges themselves. The more high and proud are the claims of the British judiciary department to honor and confidence, in its dispensations at home, the deeper is the stain of such facts, in their administration of law to neutral suitors.

Such as we have stated in these papers was the conduct of the British government towards her belligerent adversary and the neutral states, in *the first months* of the war of '93. So did she teach that adversary, by her own illegitimate example, to impede, to harrass, to despoil, to mulct, to diminish, & to destroy the commerce of neutrals—so did she induce and teach Spain, Russia, Prussia and Austria. So did she coerce the U. States, Genoa & Tuscany: and so did she attempt Denmark and Sweden. So did she still continue to act towards us in the month of November, 1806, when the government of France adopted its act of avowed and actual retaliation. For this act of France, erroneously supposed at the first to be a total prohibition of neutral trade with the British kingdoms, England sets up, against the universal law of nations, and a new formed treaty with the U. S. a pretension to a right to retaliate; *profiting of her own wrong* against the maxims of law, and the absolute rules of reason and justice. —The great original parent-aggressor and seducer of Europe, in the moment of a retaliation inferior far to her acts of provocation, and drawn by years of malconduct on herself, preposterously claims from that retaliation a right to repeat her innumerable malefactions against the most useful and necessary of her neutral friends! The law of nations she had long and often torn in public to miserable tatters, and our new treaty was not to bind *her*, because *she* had taught France *her own new system* of *commercial* blockade. On us, the written letter of the treaty articles and the old fashioned rules of the law of nations were to continue absolutely obligatory. The treaty with England, tho' suspended or annihilated there by a convenient rider of her dictation, was to be and continue "*the supreme law of the land*" in the U. S. Thus did England prove, that she had repeated her injuries till our apparent insensibility caused her to believe we had *no feeling*; and that she had deceived us by the color of law in her council orders and of regularity in her pretended blockades, till we had *no sense*. The hopes of the two countries are brought now into a narrow ground, capable of fair and thorough explanation. We are two nations. Both independent.— The universal prescriptive law of nations must govern both as to *men* and *things*. No dispensation can be claimed by either party, as of right. We can yield no solid provision of the law of nations, with safety or innocence. The times require of us an enlightened, a sincere, and an undaunted neutrality.

JURISCOLA.

NOTICE.

AT a Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Institution for the education of Youth in the city of Washington; It was *resolved* that the Election of PRINCIPAL TEACHER for the *Western School*, be postponed until the 2nd Monday in October next, and that applications for the said place be received by the Secretary until that day.

WASHINGTON BOYD,
Secretary to the Board of Trustees.

September 23—6t

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

The British government has, it appears, signified to Mr. Monroe, that it neither does, nor has at any time maintained the pretension of a right to search ships of war, in the national service of any state, for deserters; and that if it should appear that the act of the British officers in the affair of the Leopard and Chesapeake rested on no other grounds than the simple and unqualified assertion of such a pretension, there would be no difficulty in disavowing the act and making the reparation really due.

If the following are the effects of an *apprehended*, what would be the effects of a *real war* between the United States and Great Britain?

Charleston, Sept 15.

By the arrival of the schooner Clarissa and Eliza, captain Revelle, we were yesterday favored with Kingston papers to the 14th August.

The account of the affair with the Chesapeake reached Kingston, and excited considerable sensations. The inhabitants generally deprecated a war with America, and entertained sanguine hopes that matters would be amicably adjusted. Markets, however, had experienced a considerable change; Rice was advanced to 16 dollars, and lumber which was previously selling at 40 dollars rose to 70. Other articles of export from the United States were proportionably advanced.

St. Jago de la Vega, Aug 8.

The accounts received by the last packet of the deplorable state of the sugar market are fully confirmed by many sales we have seen, in which the unfortunate sugar planter has, instead of reaping any benefit from his immense capital been brought into debt on account of the necessary supplies for his negroes and plantation, the net proceeds of his crop not being sufficient to meet those expences. Such being the case, from the exorbitance of the duties on internal consumption, and the exclusion from a foreign market, the ruin of this island is at hand unless very speedy and effectual measures be adopted to save it from destruction. An income tax of half or two-thirds the net value of the colonists produce would be lenity to the present system, which swallows up every thing, and unless the mother-country, find means of relieving us from so much oppression, she will realise the ancient fable of Saturn destroying his children!!

By the ships Gold-Hunter from London, and Eliza, from Liverpool, arrived at New York, we are furnished with London dates to the 15th of August.— The details given in the British prints are ample; but the interesting nature of our domestic articles compel us to condense their substance into a small compass.

The moſt important articles reſpect the relations between this country and England. Inſurance on American veſſels from England to America had fallen to three guineas. The Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool had tranſmitted a Circular Letter to the ſeveral trading and manufacturing towns, repreſenting the great importance of preſerving amity between the two nations, and ſtating that they held themſelves in readineſs, in caſe it ſhould be found neceſſary, to co-operate with the merchants and manufacturers of England and Ireland to that effect. Mr. Canning had, on the 12th, in an interview with Mr. Sanſom, informed him that he had ſent to the American Envoys, to know whether they had received any farther information, adding "that if they had, the British government was ready to enter into an amicable adjuſtment of all differences." The anſwer was "that they had received no instructions." On the 11th Mr. Canning had delared, in the House of Commons, that "finding upon their entrance into office that a treaty had been signed, though not ratified, His majesty's ministers felt it to be their duty to give the fullest effect to the stipulations of the treaty. They had therefore made no alteration whatever in the course pursued by their predecessors. No new instructions whatever were sent to our minister at the American court; and as to our naval force off the American coast, they had precisely the same orders as those which prevailed under their predecessors." He added that no official information had been received of the affair between the Leopard and Chesapeake. The Revenge had not arrived—There was no prospect of peace between England and France—Bonaparte is represented as more intent than ever on securing the liberty of the seas and the independence of every flag. The English Parliament was on the 14th prorogued. The Moniteur of the 4th says that Prussia will not only shut her ports against England, but likewise delare war against her—40,000 men are to be assembled at Bayonne; to compel Portugal to shut her ports against England. Hamburg letters say a Russian squadron is to join the Danish fleet to shut the Sound against England. Several English vessels had left Petersburg, with half their cargoes, through the fear of an embargo being laid on all British vessels.

A London paper of Aug. 11, says "the orders for preventing aliens from quitting the country, was taken off a few days ago."

ANECDOTE

OF THE VENERABLE G. CLINTON.

We are informed that our worthy Vice President, GEORGE CLINTON, who had been detained at the city of Washington, after the rising of Congress, by the illness of his youngest daughter, having taken his passage home with her in the N. York revenue cutter, was fired at repeatedly by the British ship of war Leopard, in order to bring her to and search her. The Vice-President being then on deck, the captain asked him what he should do, and whether it would not be best to heave too. "Why, captain," replied our venerable Sachem, at the same time taking a pinch of snuff with that coolness so peculiar to himself, "It will be time enough to heave too when the Cutter begins to sink." The captain kept on his course and the Cutter was soon out of reach of the English men of war.

Farmers Reg.

By a vessel arrived at N. London, information is received of the death of Victor Hughes, governor of Cayenne.

By captain Conklin, in 12 days from Hayti, we learn that the war between Petion and Christophe continued with varied success, but it was expected Christophe would finally prevail.

Balt. paper.

A Quebec paper of Sept. 4, observes, "that the whole of the Indian nations have offered their services to the British government in case of a war with the U. States."

New York, Sept. 22.

The master of a vessel who left Tonningen on the 24th July, informs that the only reports current at the time of his sailing were, that by a supplementary article between Bonaparte and the Emperor of Russia, Prince Constantine was to be declared king of Poland; and that Bonaparte had expressed his determination to take under his protection the Danish fleet.

THE WASHINGTON
JOCKEY CLUB RACES,

Commence on Tuesday the 27th October next.

First day's purſe, 4 mile heats 600 dolls.
Second day's purſe, 3 miles 300 do.
Third day's purſe 2 mile heats, (free only for colts), 300 do.

On the firſt day will alſo be run for a Colt Sweepſtake of 500 dollars, for ſubſcribers.

All races are to be run agreeably to the rules of the Club

SAMUEL BOOTS, Sec'y.

Sept. 28—ts.

PLATING MANUFACTORY.

GEORGE SHARP, No. 19, North street Baltimore,

Where COACH and HARNESS FURNITURE may be had at reduced prices for caſh; any perſon inclining to purchaſe can be furniſhed with a liſt of prices of each article, ſeparate or in ſetts compleat for Gigs and Coach Harneſs by forwarding a line as above.

N. B. A few pair handſome Coach Handles, and Door, do. at Six dollars for the Coach, and Four for the Door do.

Baltimore, Sept. 28—4t

NOTICE.

This is to give notice that the Subſcriber of Waſhington city, hath obtained from the Orphan's Court of Waſhington in the diſtrict of Columbia, letters of adminiſtration on the perſonal eſtate of SAMUEL KIRKPATRICK, late of ſame city deceaſed: ALL perſons having claims againſt the ſaid deceaſed, are hereby warned to exhibit the ſame with the vouchers thereof, to the ſubſcriber at or before the 31ſt day of March next, they may otherwiſe by law be excluded from all benefit of ſaid eſtate.

Given under my hand this 26th day of September in the year 1807.

GEORGE KIRKPATRICK,
Adminiſtrator.

Sept. 28—w4t.

Valuable Lands for Sale.

In purſuance of a decree of the honorable the United States Circuit Court, of the diſtrict of Columbia, for the county of Alexandria, will be ſold, on the premiſes, on Tueſday the 29th day of September next to the higheſt bidder, on a credit of 6, 12 and 18 months,

One Moiety of a Tract of Land,

called "Abingdon," formerly the reſidence of Mr. Robert Alexander, lying on the Potomack and four mile creek and about 3 miles above the town of Alexandria, commanding a handſome view of the Potomac, Alexandria, Waſhington City, and George Town and the new road to Waſhington paſſing nearly thro' the center of the tract, which contains 554 acres, and is laid off into four lots of different ſizes to accommodate purchaſers; a plan of which may be ſeen at any time on application to the ſubſcribers.

The ſale will commence at 12 o'clock.

Tho's Swann,
G. Deneale, } Com'rs.
Edmund I. Lee,

August 23. 1t