distributed with prudence and fidelity.

"I have the honor of being

"Your excellency's most obt. &c.

"JAMES CRAWFORD."

HALIFAX, Sept. 7.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NOVA-SCOTIA.

Countrymen and Fellow-subjects,

Nearly two months have elapsed since we have had intelligence of an hostile rencontre, between a ship of war of our Sovereign, and one belonging to a neighboring nation, which circumstance alone was likely to produce a rupture between the two countries. Since that period every conveyance has brought us intelligence of the deep resentment occasioned on the part of that nation by this event, of their menacing and insulting language, of their active and hostile preparations. But what effect has this intelligence produced on us? Do we appear as if were in any degree concerned in the event, as though we had the remotest interest in what is transacting so near to us, as if we were at all the object of that warlike preparation, the noise of which cannot fail of reaching our ears? So far from it, that it would seem as if we reposed on a bed of poppies, environed by walls of adamant, as if we had an indefeasible title to that protection from the calamities of war, which Divine Providence has so long vouchsafed to afford us. Indeed my friends, this is not the way to avert such calamities. An humble trust in the protection of Divine Providence, is unquestionably our duty, but it is equally so to exert the means for our own defence and security which that Providence has blessed us with. To preserve peace, we should be prepared for war.

Since the event just alluded to, all has been activity and bustle in the neighboring states, every exertion has been made or is still making. Fortifications are erecting in all quarters for the defence of their towns and coasts; naval equipments are forwarded with the greatest zeal; a considerable number of regular forces are raising, the whole body of their militia is put on the alert, and a detachment of one hundred thousand, (mostly volunteers) drawn from the different states, is organized, armed, and preparing with all dispatch for actual service. And can we conceive that all these preparations are for defensive war, surely not; if we did, their own undisguised declarations would soon convince us of the contrary, and that we are in some measure their object, as they speak of the invasion and subjugation of these colonies, as one of their first hostile measures, of the success of which they do not appear to doubt.

For our protection, what have we under Providence to rely on? The naval and military forces of our parent country, the natural strength of our own, our knowledge of it, our courage and capacity for its defence. The two first resourses will, I doubt not, be usefully employed; I have confidence in the skill and zeal of our naval and military commanders and those under their authority; but we should recollect that the ships of war must be employed at a distance from our shores, that their utmost vigilance may be eluded; that the events of war may, and most probably will occasionally produce a temporary superiority of the enemy on our coast; in which case we shall be open to invasion. In this event the military force in the province, or any addition we could reasonably expect his majesty's government could spare from the general defence of the empire, would alone be inadequate to that of the country; our internal and natural resourses must then be resorted to, and be assured, my countrymen, they are incalculably great, if so managed as to become available. Our country is naturally strong, and presents numerous obstacles and impediments to an invading enemy; it may, with little labor and expence, be rendered infinitely more so, by the fortification of different passes and military stations; we have in many parts of it a numerous population, which would afford abundance of men for its defence; those men are able of body, hardy, active, acquainted with the ground they would have to contend for, deeply interested in the success of the contest; and I am convinced nowise deficient in that personal courage by which such contests are often decided.

Telegraphe.

NOTICE.— There is a vacancy for a *TEACHER* that wants to make up a good School, in the neighborhood of the subscribers, about five miles from Bladensburg on the road to Annapolis. Those who wish to fill that vacancy can make application to us; one who can come well recommended in Arithmetic, Reading, Writing, &c. will meet with encouragement.

JONATHAN BEALL,

HUMPHRY WILLIAMS,

OLIVER BARRON,

and others.

October 26—w3t

WASHINGTON CITY.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26.

Congress meet this day on the extraordinary call of the Executive. The interesting events which have recently occurred have excited the public expectation to an unusual pitch; and there is every reason to think that this expectation will be fully satisfied during the ensuing session. For a crisis in the affairs of our country has undoubtedly arrived which calls for decisive measures. Should the wanton aggressions committed on our rights and the insults offered to our national character be unredressed, the American spirit cannot, will not rest satisfied. What course shall be pursued will rest with the wisdom of the Representative body. To them exclusively the Constitution assigns the high power of declaring war, of granting letters of marque and reprisal, of raising and supporting armies, and of providing and maintaining a navy. To the same body is likewise assigned the power of regulating commerce with foreign nations, and of laying and collecting duties, imports and excises.

Whether the former or the latter of these means of coercing our enemy will, in such an event, be pursued; whether the violated honor of the nation shall require a direct resort to war, or shall seek a surer reparation through the medium of commercial regulation or restriction, or a total non-intercourse, it will rest with the immediate representatives of the people, and of the state governments to pronounce. It is fortunate, at a crisis so solemn, when the measures taken may have ultimate effects of the greatest consequence, that the voice of the people will be clearly expressed by representatives, recently chosen, and who may be therefore presumed unequivocally to speak their sentiments. These sentiments have been already on one point audibly expressed by the people. An unanimity, almost without parallel, has manifested their indignation and their determination to have reparation. They have not, however, but in a very few cases, undertaken even to recommend that course of measures which it will be the policy of this country to adopt, provided the temper of Britain shall be hostile. This has been most properly left to the government, and especially the legislative department, which will not only possess the means of forming a correct judgment, but likewise from its organisation be more competent, dispassionately, to weigh the interests of the country and deliberately select those instruments either of offence or defence which events and a sound policy shall require. Nothing can be more absurd or ill founded than the charges made on the other side of the ocean against the conduct of the American people on this occasion. Outrageous as were the insults we received and the wrongs inflicted upon us, the sensation they produced, though deep, was calm and solemn. Not an instance of turbulence or riot marked the effervescence of the public mind through the wide extent of the union. Its feelings were, it is true, plainly and forcibly expressed, but altogether unmixed with any dictation to the government, which was, and still is, left free to adopt such measures as it shall deem best. A different course might have been pursued without the least incroachment of public opinion on the legitimate powers of the government. For it is the prerogative of every American citizen unreservedly to express his opinion of public men and public measures; not only to approve or condemn what is done, but to recommend, as forcibly as reason and fact can urge them, such measures as he thinks best for his country; and it is the duty of the government, whenever such expression clearly announces the national will, to obey it. But although this is the prerogative of every American, although it is the indefeasible right of a republican, yet, in this instance, such has been the singular, and we will say the illustrious display of circumspection, and of confidence in the wisdom and virtue of the constituted authorities, that there has been an almost universal forbearance to suggest any definite measures of redress. No doubt was entertained, nor is any doubt now entertained by the people, of the competency of their representatives to adopt what shall be best, and it may not be going too far to say that there are few men in the union that would not, were the alternative offered to them, rather that the government should decide than themselves.

The last Enquirer received gives the details of Gen. Wilkinson's evidence at Richmond, which, as we have already published from another print, we shall not again present to our readers, although given more circumstantially. But there is one part of it, which we ought not to omit. For cutting sarcasm, and, if rumor be at all correct, for well merited reproof, it cannot be surpassed. Our readers will hold in recollection the rude and coarse deportment of Luther Martin through the whole trial, and say whether the Cicero of the American bar has not done an act of justice in his retort courteous to the "honorable friend" of Aaron Burr.

EXTRACT from Gen. Wilkinson's testimony.

Gen. Wilkinson. I have to offer, sir, a letter from James L. Donaldson, which Mr. Martin called for yesterday.

Mr. Martin. This is only an extract.

Gen. Wilkinson. I had no other.

Mr. Martin (returning the paper.) We take no extracts.

Mr. Wirt, (in an under key.) Unless it be of molasses."

The following article, from a London print of the latest date received, may serve in some measure to shew the temper of the friends of the English ministry towards this country. As, however, we have good reason to believe the allegation of a peremptory demand of an answer within four days to be unfounded, it may, perhaps, be inferred that this and like articles in the ministerial papers are not written by persons in their confidence, and are consequently, not clearly indicative of their temper. It is, however, very manifest that the avidity with which such an unfounded rumor is seized, and the zeal with which it is endeavored by the government prints to turn it to the purposes of inflammation, are presumptive proofs of the existence of a party in England anxious to precipitate the differences between the two nations into open warfare.—That the British government will be called upon to give an early answer to our demands; that they will be informed that in this case the indulgence of a procrastinating spirit will not be admitted, is extremely probable; and it may be that this intimation has been tortured, under the influence of hostile feeling, into the having made a demand for a categorical answer within four days. While on the one hand we can scarcely suppose these prints to have received any official information thus stamped with error, we cannot, on the other, believe that they would, without some authority, sport opinions so hostile to the U. States. It is not improbable that they may be thrown out to feel the public pulse, & to ascertain whether a war with this country would meet with that degree of public favor which is essential to its being carried on with any prospect of success.

Be this as it may, the remarks of the Times are, in some respects, very curious.

The right of one nation to press a negociation with another nation at a period favorable to the former is admitted; but it is said that no such circumstances exist in this case

But both the opinion and fact involved in this representation are full of error; and the former is founded on principles, which, we hope, for the honor of our country, will never be adopted by her. It is founded on the idea that power is right. It goes on the ground that when, either owing to your strength or the weakness of a nation with whom you have differences, you are able to command her compliance with your demands, you may urge them in a more peremptory manner than under contrary circumstances. Why? It must be from the belief of a greater probability of obtaining redress. Does not the Editor of the Times perceive that this contains the admission, not only of the injustice of the *demanding* nation, in urging what according to right, it has no claim to, but likewise that the nation of whom the demand is made, although it be rightful, would not, but for the pressure of power, comply with it? However willing the advocates of Britain may be to allow, the United States will, we trust, forver continue to reject so dishonorable a policy. It is not, because Britain is oppressed by the weight of a hostile world, that we demand any thing of her; but because she has done us injustice. As we should have made this demand in the zenith of her glory, so it is our right to make it in her present perilous, if not humbled state. It is also our *duty* to make the demand; because, if she refuse redress, we have ourselves the means of obtaining it; and, possessed of the right and the power, our national character would suffer were it to be waved.

From the London Times, September 7.

The political horizon, both to the east and west, appear at present sufficiently dark and louring. Russia on the one side, and America on the other, are, if report says true, ready to wreak their wrath upon us. Perhaps, however, notwithstanding present appearances, the prospect may brighten ere long, as the clouds are sometimes thickest just before they break and disperse. Our opinion as to the matter of dispute with the Americans, we have before given, and shall now subjoin a few remarks on what are said to be the reports circulated respecting the dispatches brought over by the Revenge cutter. As to Russia, we know not as yet what may be the nature of the grievance of which she complains, and therefore can say but little at present on that subject. We trust we have sufficiently shewn, that the principle on which we have made an attempt to get the Danish navy into our possession, even whether it is just or unjust, is not one which at all extends to the navies of other continental powers; and therefore Russia can have no occasion to take alarm on that account. We allow, in the fullest extent, her adequacy to defend her own neutrality against the demands of France, but deprecate and decry, in the strongest manner, the temerity of throwing away that neutrality, so dearly purchased by the treaty of Tilsit. We would just ask this plain question—Would Russia have renewed the war against France, supposing Bonaparte, instead of England, had seized the Danish navy? And if not, what right can she have to prevent our enemy from taking those measures, for our preservation, which she would not have attempted to prevent our enemy from taking, for our destruction? We can only suppose our question to be answered in the negative; the contrary opinion, namely, that the emperor Alexander would so have made war upon Bonaparte, is too extravagant to be entertained for a moment.—And we think we are not asking too much of our late ally, when we only demand strict impartiality in the war between us and France. *Tros Tyriuse, mihi nullo discrimine agetur,* should be the emperor's rule. But the Russians, it is said, hiss the English whenever they meet them in the streets of St. Petersburg. Perhaps the unfortunate conclusion of the last war may be the occasion of an hostile manifestation on the part of the Russian populace, in which the government has no concern. If it is, we can only say that they have at least as great occasion to be angry with themselves for being beaten, as with us for being useless allies to them when they were so beaten. But perhaps they may suppose, that the late war on the continent would not have had so disastrous a termination, if we had been more active in the common cause.

We allow it, if they will have it so, in the fullest extent; and what is that but saying, in other words, that Russia is not a match for France without the assistance of England. Where then is the prudence of Russia's uniting with France to subjugate or even weaken England? Does not this very argument prove that Russia is strong in our strength? The emperor of Russia may be well assured, that in allowing his competence to maintain his own independence, we have accused him of the greatest crime that can possibly exist in the eyes of that man who governs France. Such competence would soon be put to the proof, if he could once remove the barrier that we have thrown in his way. Let him but subdue us, and the British navy would indeed enter the Baltic, but with other views than any that have ever been harbored by the British cabinet or nation. It would then be seen of what consequence it is to keep a fleet out of the hands of such a man as Bonaparte; and as you cannot eradicate the pestilent passion of ambition from his breast, to overlook minor considerations, in your endeavors to circumscribe its sphere of agency, and to withdraw as much of the world as possible from the impetuous attraction of its vortex, that all be not swallowed up.

And now as to the Americans. Reports say, and we have as yet no authentic information, that the dispatches from that country hold out but little prospect of amicable adjustment; nay farther, that only four days are to be allowed to our government to deliberate on the nature of these dispatches, and to frame an answer. We gladly indulge the hope, that matters may still be brought to a friendly termination between us and our transatlantic brethern. They are far removed from the scene of European carnage, and a more destructive warfare than ever desolated Europe. Why would they rush, like the dazzled insect into a flame which does not approach them: The act complained by the United States took place in June last, and was known to that government by the termination of the month, as the President's proclamation on the subject bears date the 2nd of July; the dispatches were presented to Mr. Canning on the 3d of September—Now, making every allowance for a slow passage, the American government must have taken nearly as many weeks to draw up their complaint, as they are said to allow our's days to frame their answer. Now what reason can there be for this? We shall discuss this point very briefly, as the opinions we have to advance are obvious enough. When of two parties that are negociating, the one has an evident advantage in temporizing and protracting, the other has as evident a right to insist upon immediate and categorical answers; because he otherwise would lose by treating, what he might gain by acting; the negociation itself would in that case become an evil. And on this ground it was, that Bonaparte demanded immediate satisfaction, himself prescribing the limited time, on the subject of the entrenched camp, in the Friuli and other parts, antecedent to the last war between Austria and France. To have waited the Austrian time would have allowed space for the completion of her plans. For the same reason, Mr. Frere broke off the negociations in Spain, because the evident intention of Cevallos and the Prince of Peace was to gain time, by protracting them, for the arrival of their galleons in the Spanish ports. But what plea of this kind can America advance, for thus insolently dictating to us (as she is said to do) the precise day and hour in which we are to perform what should be a spontaneous act of our own? Does she suppose she can overwhelm us before our preparations are brought to a state of perfection sufficient to meet her doughty valor? Or are her merchants impatient at the delay which a state of uncertainty imposes on them, in sending out and recalling home their investments? But if the apprehension of a war with England produces such a stagnation of trade, what will the reality do? One hundred and sixty-nine vessels under the American flag (we do not suppose they were all actually Americans) entered the harbor of St. Petersburgh alone in the year 1802: how will they get there in future. If America involves herself, wilfully involves herself, with England? And if we are to judge of this specimen of her diplomacy, is she not endeavoring so to do? A just greivance may be discussed and compensated at any time, there is no statute of limitations to the reparation of an injury, if an injury America has received. Intemperate ardor and popular clamors subside in a season; but an immediate answer, if such has actually been required, is a deadly proof against the moderation of the Americans. If their claims are to be discussed in this temper of mind, we know what the termination will be. It is true, the condition above alluded to is extrinsic to the dispatches themselves; they may be of a pacific tendency: they may be so; we hope they will be so; but if the garnish of a dish be nightshade, there is good reason to suspect that there is poison in the diet which it contains.

Samuel W. Dana having declined, the Legislature of Connecticut have made choice of *Chauncy Goodrich,* as a Senator in the Congress of the U. S. in the place of *Uriah Tracy,* deceased.

Admiral Holloway is appointed commander in chief and governor of the British colony of Newfoundland.

Mr. *D. Erskine,* brother to the British Ambassador has arrived in New York, in the Science, from London.

The Aurora offers the following remarks on the Proclamation recently issued by the President.

The President's Proclamation, which we publish this day, it is presumed will shew that the speculations which we have repeatedly given to the public on the prospects of the country as to *peace or war,* were not lightly taken up nor hastily uttered.

There are in the British provinces of upper and lower Candada, upwards of 740 persons who have at different times deserted from the military service of the U. S.

A circumstance more important in the general view of affairs, is the fact that there are now in the prisons of Canada, about 140 persons, who, upon the late call of a conscription for the military service, refused and avowed their determination not to serve against the United States. Many of these persons, however, are citizens of the United States, who removed to Canada under the allurements of great landed acquirements, but who have since found, that there is some difference, in the security of happiness, between the government of a free republic and that of the colony of a corrupt monarchy.

We have also the satisfaction to learn, that there have returned to the single state of Vermont, within two months, from Canada, about 300 families who had been seduced into the British colonies from the United States.