

That it is a "novel" one is true, because Mr. Madison is the first president who has ventured to give an alarming and dangerous construction to the powers of the constitution.

If *his* construction be right, we never need talk in future of the consolidation of the states—The state sovereignties are extinct. We have one vast military consolidation; and the only remedy and bulwark, which the constitution provided against the usurpation of an ambitious and unprincipled president, is gone. The state governments have nothing left to them to resist any and every species of usurpation.

Compared to this, all our foreign disputes dwindle into insignificance. If this doctrine, advanced by Mr. Madison; if this bold assumption and usurpation be submitted to, it is, in our estimation, of no moment whether we are conquered by Great-Britain or France; we shall fall a prey to our own domestick usurpers, who will be as hard task-masters as a foreign potentate could possibly be.

That an attempt is seriously making to destroy the state sovereignties, and of course the union, we shall prove by two quotations from papers published under the influence and patronage of administration.

In the National Intelligencer, Mr. Madison's paper, speaking of the refusal of the New-York militia to march out of the United States, to wage an offensive war, it was observed, "that these *wretches* (the militia) dared to talk of the *constitution*, when their country was in danger."

As if a *Quizotick expedition* into a foreign country was a proof that the country was in danger—and as if it was also a crime in a citizen to shield himself, his blood and his life, his liberty and his family, under the sacred provisions of the *constitution*.

It would seem, then, according to Mr. Madison's paper, that the constitution is to be no safeguard to the citizen when he most needs it, but that to invoke its aid and its principles makes a citizen "*a wretch*."

The Aurora, another Madisonian paper, carries its insolence still farther.—Speaking of the people of New-England, it says,

"Can these *infernal traitors* expect to escape with impunity? They have no foundation for such forbearance, while they are daily guilty of treason by adhering to our enemies. But we do not fear them, for they are a *cowardly set of villains*. Neither the Governour of Massachusetts or Connecticut *dare fight*."

Fellow-citizens, we do not quote these things to inflame your minds, or to excite your rage, but to shew you that your adherence to the constitution, and to your rights, expose you to the insults, and scoffs, and contumely of your opponents. Not content with destroying your commerce, they seem ripe for the invasion of your most sacred rights.

I should despise these rash writings, if it were not that they are countenanced by the president's message.

It is, therefore, important for us to inquire whether Gov. Strong has acted imprudently—whether our own judges have given a