

REMARKS.

WHILE the American News-papers have, for two months past, echoed and re-echoed the affair of the Leopard and Chesapeake—while Town-Meetings have been assembled throughout the Union, and strings of Resolutions framed, in which each have endeavoured to out-do the others in violence and invective against the British Navy and Government;—the President of the United States, instead of disclosing the real state of facts, which was in his possession, and the disclosure of which would have furnished the public mind with a just ground of thinking and acting, has, by the Proclamation he issued (though couched in terms of insidious moderation) misled the Public mind; increased the ferment occasioned by the partial knowledge of the facts which led to the transaction complained of, and, to use his favorite philosophical expression, set all parties afloat on “*the tempestuous Sea of Liberty*.”

As the violence of the storm has in some measure subsided;—the Resolutions, Orations and Toasts gone harmlessly by, it is highly probable, that plain, undisguised facts may now be listened to; and that the minds of men, which have been excited to indignant expressions, by false statements of facts, may feel the deception that has been practised on them, and turn with no less indignation on their deceivers.—If this sometimes takes place in Countries where the will of the people is not the supreme law, it is much more likely to happen in a Country, where all power emanates from the people; and where Liberty is indulged to the extreme of Licentiousness.

In the Proclamation, issued by Mr. Jefferson, he states. “that this enormity was not only without provocation or justifiable cause, but was committed for the avowed purpose of taking by force, from a Ship of War of the United States, a part of her crew; and that no circumstance might be wanting to mark its character, it had been previously ascertained that the seamen demanded were native Citizens of the United States.”

Would not any person suppose, from this statement of the President, that the contest between the Leopard and Chesapeake, was solely occasioned by the demand of two or three seamen, who before the sailing of the Chesapeake, had been clearly ascertained to be Citizens of the United States?

Would it be supposed, for a moment, that the following Order of the Honorable Vice-Admiral BERKELEY, a copy of which was delivered to Commodore Barron, could have been in his possession? Or, can it be imagined that Commodore Barron, in making his Report to the President of this transaction, should have omitted to make that Order a part of his Report?