

a sufficient number of either government, privateer, or letter of marque prisoners should be taken, the number would be completed: that the officers and owners of the whale ships, which sailed before the declaration of war, would be exceptions, and on that account a part of the seventy had been released; but that the order was actually issued, and would be put into execution!"

## NOTE C. PAGE 15.

If we may judge from what we experience, from what our eyes behold, and from the memorials of a suffering people, especially in the northern and eastern parts of the United States, we shall be bold to say, the present war, in which our country is engaged, is *unnecessary* and *ruinous*. We need no other evidence, than the objects continually before us, to prove, that the war, with its extraordinary accompaniments, has ruined our commerce; and if the prosperity of the eastern states depend on commerce, the ruin of commerce must be the ruin of this section of the union. The commerce of the American States, it is confessed, was greatly injured by the orders and decrees of the great European belligerents: it was still more injured by certain restrictive measures, such as a non-intercourse and embargo before the war. The living principle of commerce, however, remained after the war was declared, and, by a little attention, might have been preserved, and kept in action; but the late embargo act was like a fatal stroke of the palsy; it has destroyed all motion, and put a stop to the pulse of life.

Look at your harbour, and you will scarcely see a sail spread to the wind of your own canvass. Look at your ships, which ought to be employed in bringing wealth from every quarter of the world, perishing with the weather, and rotting in the docks. Look at your wharves, where you have been accustomed to behold enterprise and activity, now wholly forsaken, unless here and there a wanderer, to gaze at fallen greatness, and sigh for better times! Look every where, and your eyes will witness, that the war has hitherto been *ruinous*; and if *ruinous*, certainly *unnecessary*; for surely no people are bound to ruin themselves. And, in addition to the ruin of commerce, and the other calamities attending the war, a debt is accumulating upon us, beyond all example. Under the intolerable burden, our children and children's children will groan, and call each one to his fellow, "TELL US WHAT MIGHTY BOON WAS PURCHASED FOR US, AT SUCH VAST EXPENSE?"