

Niagara, were surrendered to the United States, yet it was not in their power to deprive Great Britain of the Indian or fur trade, carried on to the countries to the southward of the lakes, and across the Mississippi to the Misourie, in the Spanish territories, the trade of those countries being prosecuted through those posts, without a breach of the treaty; they however now attempt to restrict the intercourse on the western side of the Mississippi in consequence of their recent acquisition of Louisiana.\*

The government of the United States having failed in the just performance of some parts of the treaty of 1783, those posts<sup>2</sup> were, as before observed, retained by Great Britain, and the Canadian traders continued to enjoy the fur trade, extending their intercourse to the Spanish territories of Louisiana across the Mississippi, until by the treaty of 1794 it was finally agreed to give up the posts; it was, however, stipulated by the third article of that treaty, that it should, nevertheless, be free to the subjects of both countries, and to the Indian nations, to pass and repass without restraint, and to carry on trade on *either side* of the *boundary line*, into the respective territories of the two states on the continent of America. The freedom of the navigation of the Mississippi was also confirmed, and it was agreed that all the posts and places on its *eastern* side might be freely resorted to and used by both parties. It was fur-

\* See a pamphlet which is highly deserving of serious attention, entitled "An Address to the Government of the United States, on the Cession of Louisiana to the French, and the Memorial on the Cession of the Mississippi to that Nation." Edition, Philadelphia, 1803. This work, which develops the views of the French Government, having been suppressed in America, is worthy of reprinting, and some persons here connected with the British interest on that continent have copies of it. Mentioning the cession of Louisiana to the French, the writer observes,—"As to England, all the disadvantages with which this event is said to menace them are real. All the consequences just predicted, to her colonies, to her trade, to her navy, to her ultimate existence, will indisputably follow. The scheme is eligible to us (France) chiefly on this account; and these consequences, if they rouse the English to a sturdier opposition, ought likewise to stimulate the French to more strenuous perseverance." Of the importance of the Mississippi the author says, "The prosperity of our colony will, indeed, demand the exclusive possession of the river." Again, "The master of the Mississippi will be placed so as to control, in the most effectual manner, these internal waves," meaning the dissensions between the citizens of the United States. This is an able tract, and evidently the production of a person conversant\* in the politics of France. See a project respecting Louisiana in the Collect. of Reports, &c. on Navigation, edit. 1807, Supplement, No. 1., also Mr. Rufus King's Letter to Lord Hawkesbury, 15th May, 1803, and the Answer to it of the 19th of that month in the Official Papers.

<sup>2</sup> See Mr. Justice Marshall's Life of General Washington.

\* Since said to be written by M. Talleyrand:—It is reprinted in the New Quarterly Review.

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