

# The Weekly Observer

BEING

## A NEW SERIES OF THE STAR.

Vol. I.

SAINT JOHN, TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 1829.

No. 39.

### THE GARLAND.

STANZAS—Composed during a Tempest.

BY BERNARD BARTON.  
Dazzling may seem the noontide sky,  
Its arch of azure shining;  
And lovely to the gazer's eye  
The west, at sunset glowing.  
Splendid the east—at morning bright,  
Soft moonlight on the ocean—  
But glorious is the bushy delight  
Born in the storm's commotion!  
To see the dark and lowering cloud  
By vivid lights and tints,  
To hear the answer, stern and proud,  
By echoing thunders given;  
To feel, in such a scene and hour,  
Mid all that each discloses—  
The presence of that vengeful Power  
On whom the world reposes—  
This, to the heart, is more than all  
Here beauty can bring o'er by  
Thought—feelings fancy own its thrill,  
And joy is hushed before it!

### HYMN.—By Bishop Heber.

By cool Sileon's shady rill,  
How sweet the lily grows,  
How sweet the brain beneath the hill  
Of Sharon's dewy rose.  
Lo, such the child whose early feet  
The paths of peace have trod;  
Whose secret heart, with influence sweet,  
Is upwards drawn to God.  
By cool Sileon's shady rill  
The lily must decay;  
The rose that blooms beneath the hill  
Must shortly fade away.  
And soon, too soon, the wintry hour  
Of man's mature age,  
Will shake the soul with sorrow's power,  
And stormy passions rage!  
O Thou whose infant feet were found  
Within thy Father's shrine!  
Whose years, with changeless virtue crown'd,  
Were all alike divine!  
Dependent on Thy bounteous breath,  
We seek Thy grace alone,  
In childhood, manhood, age and death,  
To keep us still Thy own.  
From the Memoirs of Allen Gray.  
Ob softly sleep, my bonny bairn,  
Rock'd on this breast of mine;  
The heart that beats as mine within,  
Will not awake thine.  
Lie still, lie still, ye canker'd throats,  
That stich the breast of youth;  
And if ye break the mother's heart,  
Yet let the baby sleep.  
Sleep on, sleep on, my wee bairn,  
Nor look as we on me,  
As if ye felt the bitter tear,  
That blins thy mother's eye.  
Dry up, dry up, ye sad, sad tears,  
Lest on my bairn ye creep.  
And break in silence, wae's heart,  
An' let my baby sleep.

### THE MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE DEATH OF MAJOR LAING.**  
The following interesting letter, written from Timbuctoo by Major Laing the day before his departure from that city, and a few days before his death, and the account which follows of his death, are copied from the London Standard of Jan. 27, where they are credited to an article by Mr. Barrow in the Quarterly Review, which was to be published on the following day. It appears that the papers of Major Laing referred to in the latter part of this article, have not been reserved, but there is some faint hope that they may yet be, as an Arab who carried a correct account of the murder to the English consul at Magadore, said that a friend of his had books, not printed but written, that belonged to the Christians, and that he thought he could make the attempt.—Phil. Nat. Gaz.

Timbuctoo, Sept. 21, 1826.  
My dear Consul—A very short epistle must serve to apprise you, as well as my dear Emma, of my arrival at and departure from this great capital of Central Africa, the former of which events took place the 18th ult.—the latter will take place, God willing, tomorrow morning. I have abandoned all thoughts of retracing my steps to Tripoli, and came here with an intention of proceeding to Jenné by water; but this intention has been noticed by the Sultan, and my situation in Timbuctoo rendered extremely unsafe, by the unfriendly disposition of the Foolahs of Massina, who have this year upset the dominion of the Toure, and made themselves patrons of Timbuctoo, and whose Sultan, Bello, has expressed his hostility towards me in no unequivocal terms, in a letter which Al Saidi Boukhar, the Sheik of this town, received from him a few days after my arrival. He has now got intelligence of my being in Timbuctoo, and as a party of Foolahs are hourly expected, Al Saidi Boukhar, who is an excellent, good man, and who trembles for my safety, has strongly urged my departure; and, I am sorry to say, that the notice has been so short, and I have so much to do previous to going away, that this is the only communication I shall, for the present be able to make. My destination is Segou, whether I hope to arrive in fifteen days; but I regret to say the road is a vile one, and my perils are not yet at an end; but my trust is in God, who has hitherto borne me up amidst the severest trials, and protected me amidst numerous dangers to which I have been exposed. I have no time to give you any account of Timbuctoo, but shall briefly state that in every other respect except in size it has completely met my expectations. Kaila is only five miles distant, and is a neat town, situated on the very margin of the river. I have been busily employed during my stay searching the records of the town, which are very abundant, and in acquiring information of every kind; nor is it with any common degree of satisfaction that I say my perseverance has been amply rewarded. I am now convinced that my hypothesis concerning the termination of the Niger is correct.  
May God bless you all! I shall write you fully from Segou, as also my Lord Bathurst, and I rather apprehend that both letters will reach you at the same time, as one of the Ghadamis merchants leave Timbuctoo for two months to come. Again, may God bless you all! My dear Emma must excuse my writing. I have begun a hundred letters to her, but have been obliged to get through one. She is ever uppermost in my thoughts; and I look forward with delight to the hour of our meeting, which, please God, is now at no great distance.  
This letter was left behind at Timbuctoo, and appears to have been brought by the nephew of Babani, together with an important document in Arabic, of which the following is the substance:—  
"About a month after their safe arrival at Timbuctoo, [Laing and Young Mokhtai] the Prince of the Faithful, Sultan Ahmad Ben Mohammed Labo, the

of fishermen going out every spring from Waterford, Pool, and other places. This must militate against the profit of the adventurer, in addition to the expense of freight, and many other contingencies, independent of engendering restless and dissolute habits. On the contrary, the following superior and economical system is pursued by the fishermen of the United States.  
Six to ten farmers join and build a sloop or schooner in the winter, of from 50 to 100 tons burthen, which they get ready for sea by the first of May; and, after tilling and cropping their farms, and each person supplying his quota of provision, raised by themselves, and appointing the most experienced amongst them as their captain, they set sail for the banks of Newfoundland, Gulf of St. Lawrence, or Labrador Coast. They generally make up a full cargo of fish in about six weeks, and perform the voyage altogether in three months; and on their return find the harvest ripe, and all things ready to recommence their agricultural pursuits. Thus, in fact, do these hardy, frugal, and industrious Americans, not only reap a profitable crop on shore, but carry on an equally lucrative traffic in fish from the ocean.  
It is well known, that to the Eastern States the American Government looks for hardy seamen to man their navy, in the event of future war; and the want of such a class of persons would be materially felt in the districts of our Colonies, in the event of an appeal to arms, to preserve the territory under the dominion of the British Crown.  
The importance of the grant of the Islands of St. Peter's and Miquillon, on the south of Newfoundland, and near the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, has (it appears to me) not been duly considered. The French make them a depot for their manufactures, which are thus easily introduced into our Colonies, to the manifest injury of British interests.  
The fine harbours of Louisburgh, in Cape Breton Island, Gaspe, and Bay Chaleur, present unrivalled situations for carrying on fisheries upon those coasts; and also, between Anticosta and the Labrador shores, the fine harbour of Mingia, and the Bay of Seven Islands, lie easy of access, and possess great facilities for forming fishing settlements; and asylums would be thereby afforded to the unfortunate mariners, who are by necessity compelled to take shelter in those perilous seas (particularly, on the approach of winter.)

of fishermen going out every spring from Waterford, Pool, and other places. This must militate against the profit of the adventurer, in addition to the expense of freight, and many other contingencies, independent of engendering restless and dissolute habits. On the contrary, the following superior and economical system is pursued by the fishermen of the United States.  
Six to ten farmers join and build a sloop or schooner in the winter, of from 50 to 100 tons burthen, which they get ready for sea by the first of May; and, after tilling and cropping their farms, and each person supplying his quota of provision, raised by themselves, and appointing the most experienced amongst them as their captain, they set sail for the banks of Newfoundland, Gulf of St. Lawrence, or Labrador Coast. They generally make up a full cargo of fish in about six weeks, and perform the voyage altogether in three months; and on their return find the harvest ripe, and all things ready to recommence their agricultural pursuits. Thus, in fact, do these hardy, frugal, and industrious Americans, not only reap a profitable crop on shore, but carry on an equally lucrative traffic in fish from the ocean.  
It is well known, that to the Eastern States the American Government looks for hardy seamen to man their navy, in the event of future war; and the want of such a class of persons would be materially felt in the districts of our Colonies, in the event of an appeal to arms, to preserve the territory under the dominion of the British Crown.  
The importance of the grant of the Islands of St. Peter's and Miquillon, on the south of Newfoundland, and near the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, has (it appears to me) not been duly considered. The French make them a depot for their manufactures, which are thus easily introduced into our Colonies, to the manifest injury of British interests.  
The fine harbours of Louisburgh, in Cape Breton Island, Gaspe, and Bay Chaleur, present unrivalled situations for carrying on fisheries upon those coasts; and also, between Anticosta and the Labrador shores, the fine harbour of Mingia, and the Bay of Seven Islands, lie easy of access, and possess great facilities for forming fishing settlements; and asylums would be thereby afforded to the unfortunate mariners, who are by necessity compelled to take shelter in those perilous seas (particularly, on the approach of winter.)

**KICKING MEN.**  
GUIDRALL.—"Please your Worship, I want a warrant: agen my wife," said a small, lean, gray-haired, old man, addressing himself to the sitting Magistrate, Mr. Alderman Key; "I want a warrant agen her your Worship; for ralee she's in such a terrible humour that I dare na go home."  
"What has she done to you?" asked the Alderman—"has she threatened your life?"  
She has, your Worship, many a time, replied the old man; "though I didn't think much of that—for the truth is, my wife is a younger woman than what I am a good deal; and lately she's got such a nasty knack of kicking my shins, that ralee I can't bear it any longer; I can't uideed, your Worship."

**THE FISHERIES.**  
Frequent allusion was made, before the late Emigration Committee, to the advantage that might be derived from further encouragement in the prosecution of the valuable Fisheries on the coasts of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Gulf of St. Lawrence; and it has been frequently remarked, that an increase of population in the maritime districts of those countries would materially tend to great national benefit. Now, Emigrants from the South of Ireland, (particularly from the counties of Cork, Waterford, and Kerry,) are well adapted, from their native habits, for that purpose.

At present, the Americans are enabled, from a combination of causes, not only to compete with, but actually to outstrip, us in fishing on the coast of our own territory; and it cannot be denied, that our liberality was extended too far in our commercial treaties with the United States and France upon these points. I do not see upon what grounds any foreign power should be permitted to fish in any of our close waters; and in a geographical point of view, as far as our territorial jurisdiction extends, I am disposed to think we are entitled to exclusive sovereignty in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Straits of Bellisle, as much as in the Irish Channel, between the Isle of Man and the Irish or English coast; in fact, we should consider Cape Ray on the Newfoundland coast, and Cape North in Breton Island, the natural outlets of the River St. Lawrence on the south, and the Bellisle Straits on the north. All the American fishermen frequent these waters, and freely use the Islands of Magellan, and the Esquimaux and Labrador shores, as well as numerous bays in the west and north-west of Newfoundland, and the manifest injury of the British fishermen; and this will, I fear, be the case until we introduce additional population into Cape Breton, the coast of New-Brunswick, and Lower Canada bordering on the Gulf;—by which means a similar method (to that pursued by the Americans inhabiting the State of Maine and Massachusetts, which are the principal residence of their fishermen) might be adopted, but with much greater advantage to us. At present, the bulk of the persons engaged in the North American fisheries are migratory from the South of Ireland and West of England—whole cargoes

ment of treasurers for trusts, deputy treasurers, agents, or others, and this will do (as the undisciplined character embezzles, when there will be another failure of justice, and another social law to fill the gap. Such is the perfection of wisdom, excellent in shutting the stable door when the steed is stolen. Crime, like time, should be seized by the forelock. Our legislators, however, delight in fitting justice to the pleasant and seemingly spot of securing the pig by the soaped tail; and there is a squeak—an evasion—the prey is gone, and Themis floundering on her back in the mire of iniquity.—London Examiner.

**COMETS.**—It is calculated by the celebrated Astronomer, Encke, that the comet now moving within the solar system will, at the expiration of two hundred and nineteen millions of years, come in contact with our earth; and of course, one or the other must be destroyed. The length of time before this will take place renders it unnecessary for us to caution the old ladies to be prepared for the rub. The comet alluded to is the only one ever discovered whose orbit is confined within the solar system. Some astronomers ascribe the present favourable temperature of the weather to its influence.

**CHRISTMAS PUDDING.**—The following are the ingredients and their quantities which constituted the pudding served up to the inmates of the workhouse of the parish of Lambeth, on Christmas day. The number of persons who partook of this dish amounted to between 700 and 800.—Flour, 475 lb.; suet 14 lb.; raisins, 300 lb.; Sugar, 44 lb.; ginger, 3 lb.; allspice 3 lb.; milk 160 quarts; and strong beer 17 quarts. The whole weight of the pudding, when the ingredients were blended, was 1,306 lb. 2 lb.; and their cost amounted to 23l. within a trifling fraction.

**AMERICAN RUSTIC HOSPITALITY.**—Returning from one of my excursions, I was overtaken by the night, and found my path obstructed by a deep inlet from the river; which being choked with logs and brush, could not be crossed by swimming. Observing a house on the opposite side, I called for assistance. A half naked, ill-looking fellow came down, and after dragging a canoe round from the river, with some trouble, ferried me over, and I followed him to his habitation, near to which our boat was moored for the night. His cabin was of the meanest kind, consisting of a single apartment, constructed of logs, which contained a family of seven or eight souls, and every thing seemed to designate him as a new and thrifty settler. After drinking a bowl of milk, which I really called for by way of excuse for paying him a little more for his trouble, I asked to know his charge for ferrying me over the water, to which he good humoredly replied, that he "never took money for helping a traveller on his way."  
"Then let me pay you for your milk."  
"I never sell milk." "But," said I urging him, "I would rather pay you, I have money enough."  
"Well," said he, "I have milk enough, so we're even; I have as good a right to give you milk as you have to give me money."—Judge Hall's Letters from the West.

**SECURITY OF RATS.**—Rats Multiply so prodigiously, that were it not that they are universally a proscribed animal, and receive quarter from neither man nor beast, nor even from one another, it is calculated the world itself could not contain them. From one pair, 1,000,000 may be propagated in two years.—Vide Buffon, Querehoet, &c.

**REQUISITES.**—There are five requisites for a professed drunkard:—A face of brass—nerves of steel—lungs of leather—heart of stone—and an insupportable liver.

**ECONOMY.**—A Scotch General, in the midst of a battle, shouted to his men—"Don't waste your powder, but give them the steel."

**NAPOLEON ON NEUTRAL POWERS.**  
DICTATED TO GENERAL GOURGAUND.  
The war between France and England began in 1793. England soon became the soul of the first coalition. Whilst the Austrians, Prussians, Spaniards, and Piedmontese armies were invading our frontiers, she used all possible means to effect the ruin of our colonies. The capture of Toulon, when our squadron was burnt, the insurrection of the provinces of the west, in which a great number of seamen perished, annihilated our navy. Upon this, England no longer set bounds to her ambition. Thereafter, preponderating and unrivalled at sea, she thought the moment was come when she might, without danger, proclaim her subjugation of the east. She resumed the pretensions she had tacitly renounced in 1780, that is to say, that she had a right to the trade of the world. She demanded that she should have no right to have her trading vessels conveyed; or, at least, the declaration of the commander of the convoy does not annul the right of search; 2dly, That a place may be blockaded, not only by the presence of a squadron, but even when the squadron is removed from before the port by tempest or the necessity of taking in water &c.;—3dly, That she should be permitted to search for contraband, and to detain neutral ships on her coast, which was a neutral bottom, are liable to confiscation; 4thly, That a neutral ship has no right to carry on trade between colonies and the mother country; 5thly, That although a neutral ship may enter an enemy's port, she cannot go from one hostile port to another.  
The government of America, seeing the maritime power of France annihilated, and fearing on its own account, the influence of the French party, which was composed of the most violent characters, thought it necessary for its own preservation to conciliate England; and submitted to all that was prescribed to it by that power, for the purpose of incurring and injuring the commerce of France.  
The alterations between France and the United States became warm. The envoys of the French Republic, Genet, Adet, and Fauchet, urgently demanded the execution of the treaty of 1778; but they had lit-

**BEAUTY OF THE ENGLISH LAW.**—It is the character and the vice of the law of England to deal in specialities; it is shaped on no broad principles, but adapted to particular cases. The consequence is, that between the specialities there are ample wide gaps for escape.—Embezzlement is observed to be a frequent offence of clerks and servants: the legislature accordingly framed a law not comprehending embezzlement in all its forms, by whomsoever committed, but embezzlement by clerks and servants. M. Austin is indicted for embezzlement, and acquitted because he comes neither under the description of a clerk nor a servant! This is the beauty of the English law. Now another law will be made, comprehending the embezzle-

ment of treasurers for trusts, deputy treasurers, agents, or others, and this will do (as the undisciplined character embezzles, when there will be another failure of justice, and another social law to fill the gap. Such is the perfection of wisdom, excellent in shutting the stable door when the steed is stolen. Crime, like time, should be seized by the forelock. Our legislators, however, delight in fitting justice to the pleasant and seemingly spot of securing the pig by the soaped tail; and there is a squeak—an evasion—the prey is gone, and Themis floundering on her back in the mire of iniquity.—London Examiner.

**COMETS.**—It is calculated by the celebrated Astronomer, Encke, that the comet now moving within the solar system will, at the expiration of two hundred and nineteen millions of years, come in contact with our earth; and of course, one or the other must be destroyed. The length of time before this will take place renders it unnecessary for us to caution the old ladies to be prepared for the rub. The comet alluded to is the only one ever discovered whose orbit is confined within the solar system. Some astronomers ascribe the present favourable temperature of the weather to its influence.

**CHRISTMAS PUDDING.**—The following are the ingredients and their quantities which constituted the pudding served up to the inmates of the workhouse of the parish of Lambeth, on Christmas day. The number of persons who partook of this dish amounted to between 700 and 800.—Flour, 475 lb.; suet 14 lb.; raisins, 300 lb.; Sugar, 44 lb.; ginger, 3 lb.; allspice 3 lb.; milk 160 quarts; and strong beer 17 quarts. The whole weight of the pudding, when the ingredients were blended, was 1,306 lb. 2 lb.; and their cost amounted to 23l. within a trifling fraction.

**AMERICAN RUSTIC HOSPITALITY.**—Returning from one of my excursions, I was overtaken by the night, and found my path obstructed by a deep inlet from the river; which being choked with logs and brush, could not be crossed by swimming. Observing a house on the opposite side, I called for assistance. A half naked, ill-looking fellow came down, and after dragging a canoe round from the river, with some trouble, ferried me over, and I followed him to his habitation, near to which our boat was moored for the night. His cabin was of the meanest kind, consisting of a single apartment, constructed of logs, which contained a family of seven or eight souls, and every thing seemed to designate him as a new and thrifty settler. After drinking a bowl of milk, which I really called for by way of excuse for paying him a little more for his trouble, I asked to know his charge for ferrying me over the water, to which he good humoredly replied, that he "never took money for helping a traveller on his way."  
"Then let me pay you for your milk."  
"I never sell milk." "But," said I urging him, "I would rather pay you, I have money enough."  
"Well," said he, "I have milk enough, so we're even; I have as good a right to give you milk as you have to give me money."—Judge Hall's Letters from the West.

**SECURITY OF RATS.**—Rats Multiply so prodigiously, that were it not that they are universally a proscribed animal, and receive quarter from neither man nor beast, nor even from one another, it is calculated the world itself could not contain them. From one pair, 1,000,000 may be propagated in two years.—Vide Buffon, Querehoet, &c.

**REQUISITES.**—There are five requisites for a professed drunkard:—A face of brass—nerves of steel—lungs of leather—heart of stone—and an insupportable liver.

**ECONOMY.**—A Scotch General, in the midst of a battle, shouted to his men—"Don't waste your powder, but give them the steel."

**NAPOLEON ON NEUTRAL POWERS.**  
DICTATED TO GENERAL GOURGAUND.  
The war between France and England began in 1793. England soon became the soul of the first coalition. Whilst the Austrians, Prussians, Spaniards, and Piedmontese armies were invading our frontiers, she used all possible means to effect the ruin of our colonies. The capture of Toulon, when our squadron was burnt, the insurrection of the provinces of the west, in which a great number of seamen perished, annihilated our navy. Upon this, England no longer set bounds to her ambition. Thereafter, preponderating and unrivalled at sea, she thought the moment was come when she might, without danger, proclaim her subjugation of the east. She resumed the pretensions she had tacitly renounced in 1780, that is to say, that she had a right to the trade of the world. She demanded that she should have no right to have her trading vessels conveyed; or, at least, the declaration of the commander of the convoy does not annul the right of search; 2dly, That a place may be blockaded, not only by the presence of a squadron, but even when the squadron is removed from before the port by tempest or the necessity of taking in water &c.;—3dly, That she should be permitted to search for contraband, and to detain neutral ships on her coast, which was a neutral bottom, are liable to confiscation; 4thly, That a neutral ship has no right to carry on trade between colonies and the mother country; 5thly, That although a neutral ship may enter an enemy's port, she cannot go from one hostile port to another.  
The government of America, seeing the maritime power of France annihilated, and fearing on its own account, the influence of the French party, which was composed of the most violent characters, thought it necessary for its own preservation to conciliate England; and submitted to all that was prescribed to it by that power, for the purpose of incurring and injuring the commerce of France.  
The alterations between France and the United States became warm. The envoys of the French Republic, Genet, Adet, and Fauchet, urgently demanded the execution of the treaty of 1778; but they had lit-

the success. Various legislative measures analogous to those of the Americans are consequently taken in France; several disputes occurred at sea, and the difference arose to such a pitch of animosity, that France was, in a manner, at war with America. The former of these nations, however, ultimately triumphed through the struggle which menaced her. The French monarchy disappeared before order and a regular government. The Americans then felt the importance of conciliating France. The President himself, was sensible how much the power was to be gained, in protesting against the treaty which he had concluded with England; and, in his heart, he was ashamed of an act which nothing but the force of circumstances had induced him to sign. Messrs. Pinckney, Marshall, and Gerry, charged with the full powers of the American government, arrived at Paris at the end of 1797. Every thing encouraged the hope of a speedy reconciliation between the two Republics; but the question remained wholly undecided. The treaty of 1794, and the relinquishment of claims of neutrality, were essentially injurious to the interests of France; and there could be no hope of inducing the U. States to return to the execution of the treaty of 1778, or to remember what they owed to France and themselves, except by effecting a change in their internal organization.

In consequence of the events of the Revolution, the federal party had gained the ascendancy in the country; but the democratic party was, nevertheless, the most numerous. The directory thought to strengthen it by refusing to receive two of the American Plenipotentiaries, because they were attached to the federal party, and by acknowledging the third only, who belonged to the opposite party. The Directory further declared that it would enter into no negotiation until America should have made reparation for the injuries of which the French Republic had to complain; and, on the 18th Jan. 1798, solicited a law from the councils, purporting that the neutrality of a ship should not be determined by its flag, but by nature of its cargo; and that every ship, laden, wholly or in part, with English goods, might be confiscated. The law was just towards America, as being only in reprisal for the treaty which that power had signed with England in 1794; but it was, nevertheless, impolitic and ill-timed, as it was a violation of all the rights of neutrals. It was declaring that the flag no longer covered the goods; or, in other words, declaring that the seas belonged to the strongest party. It was acting according to the views of the interests of England, which power beheld, and authorizing English usurpation. The Americans were then, undoubtedly, nothing more than the factors of England; and municipal laws, regulating the commerce of France with the Americas, would have destroyed an order of things contrary to the interests of the French Republic; the Republic might have declared, at most, that English goods should be contraband, under those flags which acknowledged the new pretensions of England. The result of this law was disastrous to the Americans. The French cruisers made numerous prizes; and according to the letter of the law, they were all good. If an American ship had a few tons of English merchandise on board, it was enough to condemn the whole cargo. At the same time, as if the law were directed against the Americans, the French Republic, in the two countries, the Directory caused an application to be made to the American envoys for a loan of 48,000,000 francs; grounding their request on the loan formerly made by the French to the U. States, to defray the expenses of the war of the independence. The intriguing Agents, of whom the ministry of exterior relations were full at that period, insinuated that this loan would not be insisted on, provided a sum of 1,800,000 francs were paid, which money was to be divided between the Director B\*\*\* and the Minister T\*\*\*\*.

This intelligence was received in America in the month of March; the President communicated it to the Chamber on the 4th April. Men of all parties were round him; the independence of America was even thought to be menaced. All the Gazettes and newspapers, were full of the preparations which were making in France for the expedition to Egypt; and whether the American government really apprehended an invasion, or whether it intended to apprehend it, in order to excite the public mind still more powerfully, and to strengthen the federal party, it caused the command of the army of defence to be intrusted to General Washington. On the 20th of May, an act of Congress was passed authorizing the President to order the commanders of American ships of war to capture every vessel found near the coasts with intentions of committing depredations on shipping belonging to the citizens of the United States, and to retrace such of the latter ships as might be taken as booty of the enemy. All commercial relations with France will be, by a new Bill, suspended. On the 25th, the treaties of 1778, and the Consular Convention of the 4th of Nov. 1798, were declared void by the new Bill, purporting that the United States were discharged from all obligations arising from the stipulations of said treaties. The motives of this Bill were stated to be: 1st That the French Republic had repeatedly violated the treaties concluded with the United States, to the great detriment of the citizens of that country; by confounding, for instance, merchandise belonging to the enemies of France on board American ships, notwithstanding it was agreed that the vessel saved the cargo; by fitting out privateers, against the rights of neutrality; by the ports of the Union; and by treating American sailors, found on board hostile ships, as pirates &c.; 2dly, That France, notwithstanding the wish of the United States to set on foot an amicable negotiation, and instead of making reparation for the damage occasioned by the flagrant injustice, had dared in a hostile manner, to demand a tribute, in the shape of a loan or otherwise. Towards the end of July, the last American plenipotentiary, Mr. Gerry, who had until then remained in Paris, set out for America.

France had just been humbled; the second coalition had gained possession of Italy, and attacked Holland. The French government called some advances to be made by its minister in Holland, M. Pickton, to the American envoy to the Dutch government. Orders were made to Mr. Adams, the President of the United States. At the opening of Congress, he stated the attempt which had been made by the French Government to renew the negotiations, saying, that although it was the wish of the United States to come to an absolute rupture with France, it was nevertheless impossible to send the new plenipotentiary without degrading the American nation, until the French government should first give proper assurance that the sacred rights of Ambassadors should be respected. He concluded his speech by recommending great preparations for war; but the American nation, was far from coinciding in opinion with Mr. Adams, with respect to war with France. The President yielded to the general opinion, and on the 23rd February, 1799, appointed Messrs. Elsworth, Henry and Murray, ministers plenipotentiary to the French Republic to terminate all differences between the two powers. They landed in France in the beginning of 1800.

The death of Washington, which happened on the 15th of December, 1799; gave the First Consul an opportunity of making known his sentiments towards the United States of America. He put on mourning for that great citizen, and directed all his army to wear it likewise, by the following order of the day, dated the 6th of February, 1800.—Washington is dead! The 6th of his country; his memory will always be dear to the French people, as well as to all freemen in all hemispheres, and especially to French soldiers, who, like him and the soldiers of America, fight for equality and liberty. The first Consul further ordered that for ten days all the colours and standards of the Republic should be hung with black crepe.

Mr. G. Chapman