

It is of no moment to consider the *private* motives which have led to this undue prejudice. It is sufficient to say that the fact exists, and is avowed and justified in Mr. Jefferson's paper, the *National Intelligencer*.

They even declare that we ought to go back to the events of the revolutionary war, to sharpen our resentments against Great Britain.

Whether these prejudices had any share in inducing the President to send back the treaty, made by his *own* ministers extraordinary, I shall not undertake to decide; but I take the liberty to make on this topic three remarks.

1st, That it is a thing unexampled in the history of nations, to send back a treaty made by authorized agents, unless they were either corrupt, exceeded their authority, or compromised the most essential interests of the State, in either of which cases the ministers ought to be recalled.

2d, That it is unreasonable to expect in a publick treaty with another nation, that every article should be in our own favour—something must necessarily be given up on both sides, or a state of hostility never could cease. The only question ought to be, whether it was as good, as under all the circumstances of the case, we had a right to expect? It is believed that this treaty, on the whole, was such an one as the United States ought to have accepted.

3d, That there was no foundation for the report, that there was annexed to the treaty a *condition* which the United States ought not to have acceded to.

It may perhaps occur to some of our readers, convinced as they will be of the impolicy of entering into a war with Great Britain, and of the total incompetency of our means to carry on such a war, to ask, Is it good policy to expose the weakness of our country to the world? Does it not betray a want of patriotism, to publish our opinion of our *own* misconduct, and to endeavour to prove that we are unable to cope with a nation with whom we may possibly be embroiled? This is a species of popular error, too common with many descriptions of persons in our country.

With my justification on this topic, I shall close this address to my fellow-citizens.