

1808.
March 6,
Windsor, Vt.

John Henry to Ryland. As the mail leaves for Montreal to-morrow, he will send a summary of what he has learned of the state of the public mind in the northern part of Vermont. The prevalent opinion of well-informed men is that war with England is inevitable. He should have ascribed this to their fears, but the representatives from the several districts in Vermont write to their friends that the majority of Congress are determined, *if forced from their neutrality*, to take part with France, unless Great Britain surrenders the right of search. As this will not be done, they say that if there is a time when concessions can be extorted from Great Britain, it is now. The bold talk publicly of an organized resistance; the timid, who foresee individual distress, would consent to an "armed truce along the borders," or even a union with Great Britain. An alliance with Buonaparte is dreaded, and they seem to value the advantages derived from a state of amity with Great Britain. The general conviction is that the interests of the Northern States are not now regarded and will never again predominate in the Councils of the Nation. General distress prevails. The collector at the frontier has not yet received instructions as to the intercourse with Canada. It is not yet certain that the bill has gone through; but he has not found a man who would tamely submit. Is happy to find that men now speak more rationally of the conquest of Canada and ask where are the arms, ammunition, officers, &c., and think it only a project hatched under the influence of a French Minister. They see their own weakness, and infer from the appointment of our Governor General that Great Britain is determined to preserve the Colony. He goes to see what he can save from the bankruptcy of his agent; he has partly overcome his distress by reflecting that it comes from no fault of his own. Page 115

March 8,
Quebec.

Craig to Castlereagh. (No. 15.) Enclosing copy of an address presented to him by the House of Assembly for the purpose of obtaining a repeal of the Act of 28th of His present Majesty, Chapter 39, stated to be prejudicial to the Provincial Revenue without equivalent advantage to Canada or the Sugar Colonies. The annual difference to the revenue through the operation of this Act, on an average of five years, has been upwards of £2,000. Concurs with the House in recommending a repeal of the Act in question. 90

Enclosed. The Address. 91

March 10,
Boston.

John Henry to Ryland. Sends a paper containing an account of the failure of Mr. Rose's mission, and his intention of immediately quitting the States. Also a letter from Mr. Pickering, formerly Secretary of State, to the Governor of Massachusetts, on the danger of a war with England. The principal men of Boston express their determination not to be at war with Great Britain so strongly as to indicate resistance. The mob appears to be on their side. Despair is felt both by those who lost everything and by those who have everything to lose, and every secret exertion is being made to rouse the people from the lethargy which must end in their subjection to the modern Attila. Fears the mass of the people will awake in the chains of the Corsican. 111

March 10,
Quebec.

Craig to Gore. (Extract.) Has consulted Sir John Johnson as to a proper person to succeed McKee. He points out no one but Elliott, and Mr. Johnson, who, under present circumstances, it is impossible to appoint. 226

March 18,
Boston.

John Henry to Ryland. Has received from England a copy of the King's Speech. His Majesty refuses to concede any point to the American Government in connection with the "Chesapeake." It now remains with Great Britain whether or not there will be a war, as the American Government has pushed coercive measures as far as possible. It only remains for England to commit such an act of violence as will deprive