

have applied to America. How could the stupendous works I have enumerated, have been carried on, had New York been burthened with what Bentham, in his quaint language, terms "The costly equipment of kingship?" A royal palace costs more than all the locks of the Erie Canal! The civil list of the least prodigally endowed of the reigning kings, is a larger sum than that spent by that young state in educating her entire population; and the expense of purchasing diamonds, to adorn an imperial bride, would exceed that esteemed requisite to enlarge her great canal to its intended dimensions!

I have adverted only to works of public utility, for I well remember what had been effected by the whims of despots, for the gratification of vanity, of idle phantasies. A whole nation may be converted into makers of brick and hewers of granite: and pyramids, intended to incase a mummy in a marble mountain, rise in sullen majesty, to admonish nations of the madness of unlimited power! I had seen Versailles—wandered through its solitary halls. I had listened, filled with grave meditations, to the echoes of my own steps, repeated along its lofty galleries; and I felt my heart gladdened by its gloom. "Stand ever thus!" I inwardly exclaimed, "the splendid testimony of that monarch's heartlessness who built thee with cement, kneaded with the blood and tears of a noble people."

I cannot bring this letter to a close without conveying to you a thought that has long weighed on my mind. Those among you who were the companions in arms of Jackson, the witnesses of the events of the wonderful campaign of '14 and '15, cannot have forgotten the spectacle that saddened the pride of triumph, and filled with sorrow every grateful heart, when the chief, whose skill, prudence, and salutary energies, averted from our city the calamity of lying conquered and prostrate at the feet of ruthless invaders, was summoned, by a vindictive judge, to appear as a criminal before a tribunal, that, but for his valor would have had no jurisdiction over which that judge could have exercised his abuse of power, and sentenced, unheard, (since his counsel were not allowed to take the ground they deemed necessary to occupy, in order to his full defence) to pay a fine of \$1,000, with costs. Nearly twenty-five years have elapsed since that iniquitous judgment has been recorded and executed; and, as yet, not one voice has been heard, calling on Congress to redress this unprecedented violation of the most sacred of the rights secured to every American by the constitution, that of being heard in his defence, under every accusation, by himself, or counsel.