

*French History*

THE extravagant pretensions of the British commissioners at Ghent—their assertion of a right to interfere with the territorial dominion established at the peace of 1783—their attempt to assert that the Indians residing on our soil were entitled to form alliances, and be treated as a civilized people, under the laws of civil society to which the Indian tribes are strangers—the attempt to cut off a section of our territory, under the pretext of a road between Canada and Nova Scotia, for which there would be no need in peace, and which would afford them an inroad upon us during war—their occupancy of part of Massachusetts unmolested by the State authority—their known designs on Orleans: all these and other facts known to the government of the United States, left little prospect of a peace in the early part of the present year; it is believed that the government was apprized in the course of the last year, that peace could have been accomplished in August 1814, were it not for the *encouragement* which the British government received from three of the Eastern states to persevere in the war.—In these views, the Executive had determined to make a full and final appeal to the American people, and by presenting at one view to the country the causes and the progress of the war, shew the necessity of such mighty and efficient preparations for the campaign of this year, as would assure its successful and triumphant termination by the certain expulsion of the enemy from all his possessions on this continent. The measure proposed by the Secretary of War for raising 100,000 men, was part of this plan of vigorous measures; and a declaration or exposition was prepared to go to the public. This able paper was ready for publication, when the advices of a peace being concluded were received. A copy of it has accidentally fallen into the hands of the editor of the Aurora, and we think we can do no better service than give it to the public, as the best means of repelling the ribaldry issued by those whose chagrin is excited to the greatest extravagance by the successful and glorious termination of the war.