

be expected that the Consulate will leave the Bosphorus to Russia.

Thus between these two governments matters seem to become nearly to a crisis. Considering the characters of each respectively, and the powers and attitude of the two empires, if the Consul possess only half of those transcendent talents which his penegyrist is willing to allow him, he must certainly see, that their present cordiality cannot be of long duration.* And he is no doubt likewise aware that while Great Britain can powerfully interfere, to risk a quarrel with Russia would be imprudent and dangerous.

In this situation it appears to us, and indeed daily occurrences seem to confirm our opinion, that the plan of the Chief Consul is, to manage the Court of Petersburg until he disengage his rear; that is, *until he shall tie down the British Government to passive inactivity.*

To point out the measures by which the rulers of France intend to reduce

* It is truly pitiful, to see public ministers and men charged with the defence of nations cajoling themselves in the hope, that Russia and France will quarrel and fight! Quarrel they certainly will; but when that event takes place, woe to their neighbours! While at peace, their mutual preponderance requires only dependency and obedience: at war their hostilities will impose upon the eastern continent, submission and slavery.

When the Czar and the Consul draw forth their legions in hostile array, mediation, armed coalitions, neutral conventions and demarcation-lines, will be of little avail. These powers have long been unused to cabinet warfare, and to courtier *étiquette* in the field. The intervention of other states, may hasten their own subjection, but cannot ward off their fate. The chieftains of Russia and France will meet nearly on the centre of the world: the object of their quarrel will not be a bishoprick, a sugar island, nor who shall read their mass in Latin, or say their prayers in Greek: they will fight, for the possession of the *Hellspont* and *Bosphorus*, two posts on which hangs now suspended, the empire of our eastern hemisphere. Such contending parties will not come out to skirish and then mutually retire; nor will they fight for conquests to give away; the one will keep the field,—and with it the dictatorship of the world.

the British Government to inaction: is here unnecessary; they are already plainly exhibited to the world. When the rest of Europe was beaten off the field, Buonaparté saw, that to fight with Great Britain alone, was an unprofitable trade; the archives of Versailles, furnished him with several striking examples: but in that same library, the General learned, that in a campaign of diplomatic negotiations victory was certain; this was certain; this was tried, and, *the Consulate make it no secret, that, the success far exceeded the most sanguine expectation.* Since our continental alliances have been reduced to a few needy subsidiaries, the only means which we have had to check the ambitious projects of France, were, to keep the French colonies and trade under the guns of a preponderating navy. This check the Consul has not only removed, but he has also inverted the position. *The peace of Amiens has left the British colonies under the Guns of France;* every passage to and from our possessions abroad is now flanked by posts already garrisoned, or to be garrisoned by the republic and her auxiliaries; and *England herself is half encircled by the naval depôts and rising flotillas of her enemies.* Buonaparté considers Great-Britain, as being reduced to the necessity of hereafter confining all her military and naval operations to the defence of her own dominions.* Abroad he has now no vulnerable point for us to attack; and our communication with the continent of Europe and Africa, depends immediately upon his will. These circumstances open to the republic, another advantage of a more serious nature, and which, the Con-

* No state, once reduced to fight in its own defence ever fought long. It is now about a century, that the military operations of Holland, Austria and Turkey have been confined to the defensive; and the warfare as well as the independence of these states, may be considered as having nearly ceased.