

were split with his applause. To such an extravagant degree did he carry this darling measure, that it almost fixed the period for its own destruction. Discarding any expenditures for coast or maritime defence, it invited foreign aggression and insult : exposed us to the liberal contempt and ridicule of every petty maritime state in Europe, and laid in the course of events, the foundation of that scandalous Terrapin system, which consummated our shame and plunged us into war.

His gun boat system, that ridiculous monument of human folly, outlived all his other schemes. But it existed from necessity, as the only surviving partner of the navy ; it now forms one of the discarded items of philosophic weakness. His dry-dock plan scarcely survived the christening ; and his Canal-project was still-born. Public contempt has fixed the fate of economy for the present, from which the famous Gun-boat system finds a refuge only by its insignificance. Both these experiments have been very costly to the nation : the expenses of the gun-boat scheme, although immense have been paid off, and are no longer felt ; but we are doomed to taste the bitter fruits of Jefferson's economy for ages to come. But still asks the enquirer, are not parties useful in a republican government ? They are, most certainly when opposition is the result of attachment to *measures* and not to *men*. Its efforts then serve to make the ruling party watchful only for the *public welfare* ; not watchful to retain their *offices*. But an opposition formed on corrupt principles and from depraved motives, tends to deprave the *ruling party*, by conforming its measures of *defence* to those of *attack*.—Why then, and on what principles does the opposition to the present administration continue ? We answer :—