

When the Treaty was ratified and signed, Mr. Jay, the Senators, and the President became the objects of a storm of vituperation from the entire Democratic party. Jay was denounced as a traitor who had been purchased by British gold and was threatened with the guillotine. Hamilton and other speakers who attempted to defend the Treaty at a public meeting in New York were stoned by the friends of Jefferson who sat at the same Council table with him. In Virginia secession was threatened, while in Charleston the British flag was trailed in the dust and burned at the door of the British Consul. The people of the South, who held their fellow men of another color in bondage, and dealt in them as chattels, were greatly enraged because the Treaty did not provide that they should be paid for such of their negroes as were carried away during the Revolutionary War. Others felt a sense of wrong and outrage because the Treaty provided for the payment of honest debts, contracted before the war, such a stipulation being in their opinion wholly inconsistent with those principles of liberty which impelled the patriots of the Revolution to plunder their loyal neighbors, and line their pockets with gold filched from better men.

The conduct of the Democratic party in 1795 sufficiently illustrated the violence of the animosity against Great Britain, which existed in the minds of a large body of the people of the United States, twelve years after the war of the Revolution had been brought to a close. But when the Treaty went into operation it was found to be highly advantageous to the merchants and ship-owners of the United States. The French Directory, however, were greatly enraged, and they issued a secret order authorizing French ships of war to treat neutral