

course with Great Britain, which was adopted last Saturday evening in the other House, we shall then have acted in complete conformity with the views and wishes of the French Emperor, as they are supposed to have existed at the time the embargo was laid. We shall then have shut all our ports against the entrance of British ships and British merchandize; just as the unfortunate and submissive nations of Europe, who are within the reach of his arm, had previously shut their ports. I do not say, sir, that it was in obedience to a requisition of the French Emperor, that the President recommended the embargo; but the facts I have adduced shew, that the embargo, with its various reinforcements, up to the non-intercourse now in embryo, happens to be in exact conformity with the views and wishes of the French Emperor, as they are supposed to have existed a year ago. But it seems that this will not now satisfy the emperor. We have been too tardy in our movements. A non-intercourse with G. Britain, twelve months ago, might have appeased him. Now we can no longer remain neutral. Now we must be his allies or his enemies. To the offer to suspend the embargo, if he would repeal his decrees, he has not even deigned to give an answer.

With respect to Great-Britain, the overture to suspend the embargo, on condition that the orders in council were revoked, has been answered. She maintains her original position, that the orders in council were purely retaliatory for the French Berlin decree; which she says "was the commencement of an attempt, not merely to check and impair the prosperity of G. Britain; but utterly to annihilate her political existence, through the ruin of her commercial prosperity...that in this attempt almost all the powers of the European continent have been compelled, more or less, to co-operate; and that the American embargo, though most assuredly not intended to that end (for America can have no real interest in the subversion of the British power.....) but by some fortunate occurrence of circumstances, without any hostile intention, the American embargo did come in aid of the blockade of the European continent, precisely at the very moment when, if that blockade could have succeeded at all, the interposition of the American government would most effectually have contributed to its success."

"To this universal combination (continues Mr. Canning) his Majesty has opposed a temperate, but a determined retaliation upon the enemy...trusting that a firm resistance would defeat his project...but knowing that the smallest concession would infallibly encourage a perseverance in it."

If the embargo was designed, as professed, why did our government declare a blockade against the British dominions by land as well as by sea? Neither seamen nor property could be exposed to capture by continuing the trade which had been advantageously carried on by land with the British colonies bordering on the U. States. The people of Vermont, particularly, had been accustomed, ever since the peace of 1783, to exchange their productions with the British subjects in Canada, for salt and other articles of merchandize. Yet even this beneficial trade has been prohibited by the embargo acts; and bloodshed and death have been the consequence. Simi-