

has been such, that they have not only enlisted our men under the very eye of their Officers, but when applied to for the delivery of them, their answers have been uniformly evasive and prevaricating.

The President asserts, "that this enormity was without provocation or justifiable cause" and adds, "that *hospitality* under such circumstances ceases to be a duty."

These assertions we will examine separately:—and in order completely to refute the first, we shall merely state the treatment which Captain Stopford, of His Majesty's Ship Chichester received.

Early in February, the Commandant of the American Fort Nelson, accompanied by a file of men, called at Capt. Stopford's lodgings, and informed him that three men had deserted from the Fort, and were on board his Ship, and requested they might be delivered up.—Captain Stopford instantly complied with the request of the American Commandant—sent an order to search the Ship, and on its being reported to him that the men could not be found, he went on board himself, had his crew mustered, and the Ship so effectually inspected, that two of the men were found concealed on board, and the other in a store-house contiguous.—They were immediately delivered up to their Officer, and taken to the Fort.—And, what renders this transaction more deserving of notice, is, that of the men delivered up, one was an Irishman, and another a native of Manchester.—Mr. Brooks, midshipman, stating to Capt. Saunders that he thought it wrong to deliver up these men, as the Americans would not deliver up British Deserters, was immediately put under arrest by Capt. Stopford, who was determined not to be prevented by the misconduct of others, from doing what he thought was proper and gentlemanly.

Let us now minutely attend to the conduct of Capt. Stopford on this occasion:—Did he enter into a nice discussion of the right he had to retain these American Deserters?—Did he go with Mr. Maddison, into all the windings, and turnings, contained in his nonsensical jargon of instructions transmitted on this subject to Mr. Monroe? Or, did he urge a reason, which he might with more propriety have offered, that the men in question, were born in His Majesty's Dominions?—No: he had recourse to none of these subtleties.—He felt as an Officer ought to feel on such an occasion: he honorably did as he would wish to be done by—and as far as respected the right these men might have to his protection as British Subjects, he justly considered them as Renegades, who deserved neither the confidence or protection of either Country.

We will now contrast the conduct of Captain Stopford, with the shameful treatment he afterwards received, from the American Government:

When the Chichester left the West-Indies, four men—two belonging