

THE BRITISH-AMERICAN REGISTER.

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POLITICS OF FRANCE.

SIR,—If you think the fragments herewith inclosed worth the notice of the Public, you will much oblige one of your readers to insert them, or any part of them, in your Register. They are transcribed from the journal of a gentleman now travelling in France. The work itself is under the press, but not yet ready. Yours, &c.

SWENSKA.

France has the forests of Germany for the use of her dock-yards; with Holland, she acquires an extent of coast and a chain of sea-ports, which may enable her to raise a numerous navy in a few years.

It has been said, that the Consulate intends to raise an enormous navy, and to distribute it as follows: in the Mediterranean, France shall maintain - - - - - 30 } 65 sail of
Spain - - - - - 20 } the line
The Italian states, in- } of battle
cluding Naples - 15 } ships.

From Cadiz to the Texel.
France shall maintain 100 } 160 sail of
Spain - - - - - 40 } the line of
Holland - - - - - 20 } bat. ships.

Should the French compose a navy in this manner, and oblige their allies to keep up 95 sail of the line for the service of the republic, the Dutch and Spanish officers and men will be under the immediate orders of their

masters, the *French*. The inconvenience of separate commanders, which has so often frustrated the best combined plans of confederate forces, will thereby be avoided.

The heavy navies of France will not, however, be in a state to give much uneasiness to her rival neighbour. Should Buonaparté seriously set about building line of battle ships, Great-Britain may congratulate herself and let him go on. Lucky gamblers play boldly; but, when they meet with a few successive checks, they lose their clue, and become more disconcerted than others. The Consul has hitherto staked high, and with remarkable success; should he attempt to pursue his fortune upon the ocean, his preparations will be analogous to his usual measures; skirmishing is not in his tactics; if he send a fleet to sea, it will be such a fleet, as France never could boast of before; but if the spirit of the British nation do not entirely subside in the interval, that fleet will be beaten; every effort, which revenge can devise, will be made to augment its force, and it will be beaten again; its creator may then lose his temper, and France will lose her stake in the game.

The light *flotillas*, which the republic is preparing, may, perhaps, merit the attention of the British government, more than all the heavy navies of Europe and America together. *It is certain*, that at this moment, arrangements are making to form and repair such *depôts* and convenient harbours, between Brest and