

tives of one nation for those of the other, and retained five of the hands as being British subjects, without giving an equal number of Americans, whom he acknowledged to have on board.

L. TREZEVANT, and } Esquires.

W. TIMMONS,
Gentlemen,

As acting American consul for this city and district, and of course obliged to forward the most correct statement possible to the government of the United States officially, I would beg the favour of you, gentlemen, to furnish me with an exact relation, under your signatures, of the unpleasant occurrence which took place off the Moro Cattle, on the 16th instant, by which you will much oblige,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

GEO. C. MORTON.

Havanna, Nov. 17, '98.

N. B. It would be proper to premise, that you were passengers, and your distance from the Moro Cattle at the time of capture.

G. C. M.

Havanna, 18th Nov. '98.

SIR,

Agreeable to your request, we now commit to writing the best account we are able to give you, of the conduct of captain Loring, commodore of the British Squadron, which was lately off the Moro towards the United States ship the Baltimore—we must observe, however, that all we can lay it is from the information of captain Philips, as we were not on board of the Baltimore when she was visited by captain Loring's officers.

In the morning of the 16th inst. we discovered this Squadron when we were in sight of the Moro, and afterwards found it was composed of captain Loring's ship the Carnatic of 74 guns; captain —'s ship the Thunderer, of the same force; captain Dobson's ship the Queen, of 98 guns; captain Donnelly's frigate the Maidstone, of 32 guns; and captain Hardy's frigate the Greyhound, of the same force. We were passengers in the brig Norfolk, captain Butler, which together with the ship Eliza, captain Bass, and the brig Friendship, captain Feller, were cut off from their entrance into port, and were all made prizes within gunshot of the Moro. We obtained leave to go on board the Baltimore without our baggage and did so. When captain Philips discovered they were English ships, which was before we were taken, he stood towards them, and spoke the commodore.

After we got on board the Baltimore, the captain informed us, that he had been on board the Carnatic, and the commodore had told him that he should take out of the Baltimore all such men as had not American protections; that he had remonstrated with him against shewing such an indignity to our flag; that to do so would leave his ship in a very defenceless state, and would deprive him of nearly all his men, as not even those who were really Americans, or at least very few of them, could shew protections, because it was always thought that our flag on board a government ship was a sufficient protection. All this, however, was urged in vain. Captain Philips returned to his ship, and the commodore sent an officer on board the Baltimore, who carried away 55 of her men to the Carnatic.

Captain Philips remained in expectation that nearly all the rest would be taken from him; but whether the commodore upon reflection thought better of it, or whatever else might have been his motive, he sent back 50, and kept five, among whom was the ship's boatwain. Captain Loring proposed to give up a number of American seamen, who, he said, were in his fleet, if captain Philips would give him English subjects for them.

Captain Philips refused this offer, and the American seamen were not delivered to him. Before any of the men were returned, he sent a messenger to captain Philips to let him know if he or one of his officers, would go on board of him, and point out who were Americans and who were not, he would return all the Americans; but this was declined also. After we got on board of the Baltimore, he sent a letter to captain Philips which he shewed to us, in which the commodore "demanded" that he would give up all British subjects on board the Baltimore, to this captain Philips replied that he could not know any of his men as British subjects, nor could he, as commander of a ship in the service of the United States, voluntarily give up any of his men; but if he thought fit to send an officer on board, with orders to take any number of his men, he should not oppose it. In this answer captain Philips mentioned he should lay before the executive of the United States a full account of the occurrences of the day. Shortly after sending this reply, the Squadron set sail and left the Baltimore. Commodore Loring was very polite to us, and was so to captain Philips when he went on board; but captain Philips complained of indecent behaviour from the inferior officers.

LEWIS TREZEVANT,
WILLIAM TIMMONS.

G. C. Morton, Esq.

V. Consul of U. S. at Havanna.

(CIRCULAR.)

To the commanders of armed vessels in the service of the United States: given at the Navy Department, December 28, '98.

SIR,

IT is the positive command of the president, that on no pretence whatever, you permit vessels of war under your command to be detained or searched; nor any of their officers or men, belonging to her, to be taken from her by the ships or vessels of any foreign

nation, so long as you are in a capacity to repel such outrage on the honour of the American flag. If force should be exerted to compel your submission, you are to resist that force to the utmost of your power, and when overpowered by superior force, you are to strike your flag, and thus yield your vessel as well as your men; but never your men without your vessel.

You will remember, however, that your demeanor be respectful and friendly to the vessels and people of all nations in amity with the United States; and that you avoid as carefully, the commission of, as the submission to, insult or injury.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your obedient servant,

BEN. STODDERT.

Annapolis, January 17.

The honourable William Hindman, Esquire, is elected a senator of this state in the room of William Perry, Esquire, deceased.

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Whilst insinuations injurious to my character, were confined to a few public prints which disgrace our country by the too general abuse of republican citizens, and vicious stragglers, I considered them as unworthy of notice; confident that none but minds, totally devoid of every principal of honour, and truth, would credit or propagate them. But as persons high in office, have become the agents of private slander, it becomes my duty to vindicate myself, by a short statement of facts, leaving to my slanderers the full benefit of invention, surmise, and falsehood.

To defend and support the rights of our country as an independent commonwealth, is certainly the first duty of every good citizen. But a state of war is inevitably attended with so many calamities, that an enlightened nation will seek every honourable means to avoid it. With France, the situation of the United States, appears to me peculiarly delicate, having received from that nation the most essential services during our arduous struggle, against the wanton injuries and oppressions of the British government.

Under these impressions I embarked for Europe; on my arrival at Hamburg, I met with that distinguished friend to our country, general La Fayette. He procured me the means of pursuing my journey to Paris. Regarding himself equally the citizen of the United States as of France, he views with particular anxiety, the existing difficulties between the two republics; and has written to general Washington on this important subject.

I arrived in Paris on the 7th of August, when I received the first certain intelligence, that our commissioners had left that city, without having accomplished the object of their mission; and that all negotiation was at an end. The consul-general of the United States informed me, that an embargo had been recently laid on our shipping in the ports of France; and that many of our seamen were confined as prisoners.

Unacquainted with any law moral or political, by which I was prohibited from benefiting my country, I availed myself of every legal means to procure an interview with influential characters. When as a private citizen of the United States, I gave it as my opinion, that it was in the power of France, by acts of justice and magnanimity worthy of her elevated situation, to restore harmony between the two republics. I suggested the propriety of releasing our seamen confined as prisoners, and raising the embargo on our shipping, detained in their ports. I stated that acts of this kind, taking place immediately after the late declarations of friendship made by the Directory to Mr. Gerry, might become the basis of a happy reconciliation.

In my conversations with the citizens of France, or with strangers whom I met in Paris, I spoke of the situation of my country as I felt, but at all times with respect. I represented that the idea of a party in the United States, ready to sacrifice the government of their own country to that of any other, was totally without foundation; that the people constituting the sovereign authority and enjoying all the advantages of a representative government, had it always in their power to alter the constitution and laws of their country—I observed that the French not being so much attached to commerce as to agriculture and to the arts; it was undoubtedly their true interest, to place the neutral flag on the most respectable footing, by which means, a competition would take place in their own ports, for the produce of their agriculture and manufactures, in exchange for the productions of the United States to the advantage of France—That no people were so well calculated to afford these advantages to France, as the citizens of the United States; and therefore the commerce of the United States in a peculiar manner merited her attention—That it would not only promote the immediate interest of France, but it would redound to her reputation, to recur to the original principles of her own glorious revolution, respecting the neutral flag, and secure by this measure the first step towards a perfect freedom of commerce among all nations.

The politeness of a foreigner of distinguished talents, whom I met with at Paris, procured me an interview with citizen Merlin. My visits to him were those of a private friend, in his own family. On one of these occasions he informed me, that France had not the least intention, to interfere in the public affairs of the United States; that his country had acquired great reputation in having assisted the United States to become a free republic; they would not disgrace their own revolution by attempting its destruction. He observed, that with respect to the

violation of our flag, it was common with all neutrals, and was provoked by the example of England, and intended to place France on an equal ground with her, so long as she should be permitted by the neutral powers to avail herself of their resources. But that the government of France, averse to such a competition, were contemplating measures to make their laws more favourable towards neutral nations. In confirmation of this declaration, I received whilst at Bourdeaux, a letter from the consul-general of the United States, dated Paris, August 30th, in which he says, "the opinion which circulated when you left us, of this government adopting a liberal system, in regard to the flag and property of neutrals, gains ground every hour." When I left Paris, the ministers from the northern neutral powers were earnestly engaged in promoting this event, by friendly negotiation.

These governments are jealous of the commerce of the United States, and if an accommodation should not take place with the French republic, they will seize the opportunity to procure for themselves advantages which it may not afterwards be in the power of the United States to command; and by which means they may become the carriers, even of our own produce.

Whilst I was in Paris Mr. Skipwith, the consul-general of the United States, received officially from the government of France, an arrete, by which the embargo was removed from all American vessels in the ports of France, accompanied by another, respecting the release and kind treatment of all our men. He was also at the same time informed that the Directory were pursuing measures to promote in the legislative bodies, an alteration in their laws, more favourable to the rights of the neutral flag.

Believing that this manifestation of friendship on the part of the republic of France would be highly acceptable to my country; I offered my services to the consul-general to be the bearer of his dispatches to the president of the United States. I understood dispatches were forwarded at the same time by major Woodward, by the way of Boston.

On my arrival in Philadelphia, I embraced the earliest opportunity of waiting on the secretary of state, with the public dispatches intrusted to my care. I had a long conversation with him. What I knew of the situation of France, I expressed freely—every thing relative to my own conduct, which I thought important, I communicated; and I offered voluntarily, to answer any interrogatories he might think proper to put, and to communicate any papers in my possession. It was then in the power of government to have substituted facts for insinuation. From what motives they have rejected the one, and chosen the other, they best know. I also waited on the president of the United States, soon after his arrival at the seat of government; he received me with politeness, and we conversed for some time respecting the relative situation of France and the United States.

As some of the most respectable citizens of the United States are implicated with myself, respecting my late journey to Europe, I think it necessary more particularly on their accounts, in the most pointed manner, to state the following facts.

I did not go to France, at the request, or on the advice of any person whatever—I went for my own pleasure,—with my own views, and at my own expense.

I did not go, or act as the agent, official or unofficial of any man, or set of men whatever. I did not carry any message, letter or introduction from any citizen of America whatever, addressed to any citizen or public body in France; the two certificates of citizenship which I carried with me were addressed to no one; they were not taken or ever used for the purpose of procuring an interview with any citizen or public body in France, but such as I thought might be necessary in my passage through Germany and Holland—I never conversed with any person in France, in their official capacity, or as being in any public capacity myself—nor did I associate with any person whose name I am afraid or ashamed to avow.

If after these declarations which I aver to be true, any person shall think fit without proof, to assert or insinuate to the contrary, I shall regard, or rather disregard him, as a contemptible and malignant propagator of falsehood; confident that on the strictest examination, my conduct whilst in Europe will be found neither dishonourable to myself, nor injurious to my country.

GEORGE LOGAN.

Stenton, January 2, 1798.

CAME to the subscriber's plantation, on the north side of Sevier, in October last, a red COW, about five or six years old, no perceivable mark. The owner is desired to prove property, pay charges, and take her away.

THOMAS ROBINSON.

January 12, 1799.

I HEREBY certify that HENDERSON MACDONALD brought before me this day as a Gray, a small dark bay HORSE, about five years old, thirteen hands one or two inches high, black legs, small mane, short switch tail, no perceivable brand or spot marks, when rode he trots and gallops.

THOMAS DUCKETT.

Prince George's county, January 7, 1799.

MR. LEWIS NETH, merchant, of the city of Annapolis, and no person else, except myself, at my residence, is empowered to sell "Doctor FUNDALL'S COLUMBIAN ANTISCORBUTIC" with directions for using the same.

art B. FENDALL.