FROM THE COLUMBIAN PHENIX.

Who or what I am is of no importance. I desire not to be believed on my naked assertion, or to crutch a lame argument with the authority of a name. The allegations I shall make will I trust find corresponding proof in the general knowledge of my fellow citizens, and my attempts at reasoning be in unison with their own good sense. I pretend not to have been a soldier of 76, or a traveller—to envelope myself with our own revolutionary glory or to bring home from other nations their accumulated wisdom. These characters are indeed often assumed but seldom supported. The base and willing slaves has no title to the first, and a claim to the latter is forever foreclosed by homebred ignorance and scurrility. The signature is but a hollow charm to render, invisible the deformity of a performance, and those who resort to it rely rather on slight and imposture than on the strength of their understanding or the justice of their cause. While I make no boast and aspire to no distinction—while I frankly avow I have not the vanity to suppose that I write well, I persuade myself that I have a right to hope for candor, and charity from the public. Let the patriot weigh well the matter, I care not how the mere critic considers the style.

Since our revolutionary efforts were crowned with the universal acknowledgment of our independence, there has occurred in our affairs no crisis so important or so perilous as the present. To demonstrate that this crisis has been produced by events which we could not foresee and over which we had no controul; that it cannot be fairly ascribed to a want of wisdom, or to a want of energy in the administration of our government, & that every good citizen ought to prepare himself to suffer manfully the privations, and to encounter with intrepidity the dangers which it may present, will be the object of my labors. Happy shall I be if my feeble talents shall contribute to vindicate our rulers from the unjust suspicions of the deluded, or the wicked calumnies of the depraved, thereby promoting union and confidence at home, the surest pledges of respect and justice from abroad.

Had a prophet fifteen years ago, full of his God, foretold the events which have since happened, and had performed no miracle to prove his mission, like Cassandra, he would have passed for a maniac and beheld his predictions disregarded. The astonished historian has scarcely been able to keep pace with the rapid revolutions which have burst upon him, and to record them for the wonder of posterity. The whole order of civilized Europe has been changed; and that balance of power, in which the minor sovereigns were essential to the equipose, exists no longer. The old family of nations has been broken up and dismembered—republics have been created and have perished like the ephemera of a day—and a new order of kingdoms, governed by a new dynasty, has succeeded them. Fifteen years ago England led coalesced Europe against solitary distracted France, sanguine to dictate to her government and share in the dismemberment of her territory—now in her turn, France rises in the vigor of her consolidated might, and marshals the subjugated continent against England, alarms her with the fate of Carthage. During this eventful conflict these leading powers have often disregarded, or accommodated to the moment, the law of nations, and under the indefinable plea of existing circumstances or imperious necessity invaded the rights of neutrals.—France has continually extended these invasions in proportion as her power became absolute on the continent; and England as she became the undisputed mistress of the ocean. At length the time has arrived when the world appears to be divided between these powers, neither of whom can brook a rival, and who seem disposed to wage a cruel and interminable war for the sole possession.

In the prosecution of this ambitious project, they consult only their passions and their power, and brush away like cobwebs those laws which have hitherto bound the civilized nations of the earth. The one under the vain pretext of vindicating the *liberty* of the seas, blots the world from the records of humanity and endeavors to tear the sentiment itself from the heart—while the other preposterously proclaiming herself the assertor of the independence of other powers, almost forbids them the use of the common elements of nature, and washes their names with the blood of their own women and children from the list of nations. From them the insignifiance of the weak and the unsuspecting innocence of the virtuous afford no sanctuary. Portugal is stript of her tinselled rags and cloathed with chains—while Denmark is surprised and slaughtered amidst her house hold goods.—The infuriated nations who have done these things find in every lawless outrage of their adversary, a fresh incentive to their own fury and a new pretext for indulging it; and in every crime committed by themselves a conscious sacrifice of character that lessens the value of the paltry remnant that is left, and diminishes the anxiety of preserving it. Thus inflamed and hardened by the repetition of ruffian deeds, France would snatch from the red right hand of Jupiter the forked bolt, and hurl it through the vitals of unoffending neutrals, at the heart of her enemy—and England would seize the trident of Neptune, and smite waters and rock the solid earth, till friend and foe had perished in one common ruin.

With the full conviction of these truths: what American will be hardy enough to stand forth the apologist of these mad nations and impute their abominations to the administration of his own country. Can the most honest and impartial neutrality placed for us with more soul-moving eloquence, than it did for the fallen and insulted nations of Europe? Were not their wisdom and their virtue vain! What wisdom can indeed arrest the headlong torrent of Niagara or what virtue charm the eruptions of Soma? As well might you make the administration responsible for the ravages of the storm which desolates your fields, or of the deluge that sweeps away your labors, as for the high and head strong measures of British and Gallic violence.

Is not this violence and the obvious temper that dictates it, sufficient to account for the calamities of the present crisis, and do not reason and duty require that we should acknowledge it? In seeking for another origin for these calamities we shall but vex ourselves with vain pursuits, and by an affected distrust of our government scatter the seeds of disaffection, promote the weakness and confusion of disunion and thus invite the great malefactors of Europe to offer us new courage; but in referring them to their local cause we shall rally with confidence, round our rulers, and bound together by a common love of country, and by a common sense of the wrongs she suffers, we shall present a phalanx to the offending sovereigns not to be dismayed by their threats or broken by their power. Do we love peace, this is the only way to preserve it with honor; do we wish for war, this is the only way to prepare for it with a prospect of glory.

PHOCION.

FROM THE TRENTON TRUE AMERICAN.

"*He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.*"

Every age of the world, as we are informed by history sacred and profane, has been witness to some horrid crimes, far more atrocious than common murders, and which marked the perpetrators as a species of Monsters detestable to mankind. We read of the massacre of the children of Bethlehem by Herod; of the cruelties exercised by and upon the Jews at the destruction of Jerusalem; of those by the ancient Greeks, Romans and Carthagenians in their thousand wars; of the millions sacrificed in the first ages of Christianity on the altar of Bigotry; and in more modern times the Barbarities in East and West-Indies have swelled every bosom with sorrow—The French revolution was marked by crimes peculiarly its own; nor has our land been exempt—many thousands of our brethren were literally *starved* to death whilst prisoners with our *good friends* the *British*—our towns reduced to ruin by the same *kind* hand—the Indians were excited to slay our defenceless women and children, and even the *scalps* of our *unborn infants* have been purchased by *British gold*. "Husbands," says one faithful historian of our Revolution "have been murdered in defence of the "chastity of their wives, and Fathers in "attempting to preserve that of their almost infant daughters." Yet, as these things happened some twenty or thirty years ago, they seem to be almost forgotten; and had it not been for some *trifling* differences now and then with the Barbary states, and the savages on our frontiers, we might possibly have concluded that *peace* was to ever smile upon our country.—The death of *Pearce* arroused us in some degree from our lethargy, and the murder of the *Chesapeake's crew*, kindled a spark of that fire which once animated the spirits of our fathers. The treasonable attempts of Burr, Dayton and Co. convinced us that our hopes were fallacious; and that tho' eminently favoured by heaven, we were not exempt from the common lot of humanity; but were subject to cruel injustice from the nations around us, and that our soil, though so congenial to Liberty, *might* give birth to and foster in its bosom *Vipers* who would sting us even unto death.—But these *Murders* and these *Treasons* it seems, were but the fore-runners of evil—the Messengers that should awaken us to the peirls of our situation, as by sound of trumpet, and in the language of scripture cry unto us, "*To your Tents, O Israel!*"

Alas! Messrs. Printers, when shall we be at rest?—A plot has just been discovered at Washington, which, if we can believe report, exceeds for subtilty and wickedness all that history details or the human mind can imagine. But let me not deceive you—I will give you the account in the very words of my *faithful* informant. A transaction has lately taken place which will "furnish "cause of greater alarm to our citizens "than any thing that has yet occurred "in the United States—with what "temper this outrage will be borne, remains to be disclosed. If there is a "single spark of the feeling which ought "to animate freemen, in the breasts "of the American people, it must be "blown to a flame which will expel the "*conspirators* from their confidence "forever, and consume their *nefarious* "projects; such an *outrage under the* "*mask of R****** has been attempted in any age or nation.*"

Well may your readers exclaim, for what dreadful fate is our country reserved? If I was possessed of the whole plot, I do not feel myself at liberty at this moment to disclose *all* the horrors of a *plan*, before which, in the understanding of my informant, all the crimes which have hitherto outraged humanity from the beginning of the world, sink into mole hills. But as the times are awfully momentous, it becomes the indispensible duty of every good man to *devote* himself to the service of his country—born in this land I feel for it a love that can never be dissolved but by death—a love that swallows up every personal consideration—and actuated by which I pledge myself solemnly to you and to the public, and in defiance of all *traitors*, and *risk* of *life* itself to inform my fellow citizens through your press in a *very few days*, the whole extent of the nefarious plot—nay, should the daggers of the traitors be pointed to my breast I will not fail.

LIVINGSTON.

Great-Egg-Harbour, Feb. 13.

On the 11th inst. was discovered off this port, about ten miles in the offing, a large ship with a jury foremast and the stump of her mainmast, laying to her anchor—on the 12th, the custom-house boat well manned, and the collector on board proceeded out after her, and reached her about eleven o'clock, A. M. went along side and boarded her, found her to be the Dutch ship Jupiter, bound from Charleston to Falmouth, England. Had on board two women passengers and four children—had been in that wrecked condition three weeks driving about the ocean, then endeavoring to make the Capes of Delaware, in order to get to Philadelphia, to repair. The commander informed the collector that he had been in three different heavy gales of wind, and the sails he had then set was the remaining part of the third suit—had plenty of men, water and provision. They knew not what land they were opposite, nor how it trenched along the coast, until the boatmen informed them. It blew very heavy E S E during the night, and it is doubtful whether they are not driven on shore.

During our revolutionary war, the ladies vied with the other sex in true patriotism.—They with cheerfulness denied themselves the use of tea, and those other delicacies and luxuries to which they had been accustomed, but which the patriots of that day thought it the duty and interest of the nation to abstain from; instead of *cards* and other idle amusements, they employed their time at the spinning wheel and other branches of domestic manufacture. Such conduct was praise-worthy in the highest degree; and it is with pleasure learned, now our country is again threatened with war, the ladies of this district are about following an example so worthy of imitation. Ladies of the first fortune in the district, despising, at such an era, the extravagancies of fashion, and the frivolity of what is called amusement, are setting examples of useful industry. It is hoped the example will be followed by their sisters throughout the union.

Georgetown, S. C. paper.

Every exertion it is said is making amongst a number of our most opulent planters to remedy the inconveniences which may arise in consequence of the importations from England being interrupted, several of them have already begun to erect spinning jennies to spin their wool and cotton, for the purpose of having them wove into cloathing for their slaves; many of them believe that they will be able to have a sufficient quantity prepared by the fall of the year to answer all their exigencies.

(Charleston paper.)

NAVIES.—The *Russian* Navy consists of 53 sail of the line, 34 frigates, 50 cutters, brigs, &c. smaller vessels 226, carrying in all 4,428 guns.

The *Swedish* navy consists of 12 sail of the line and 8 frigates, besides cutters, galleys, &c.

The *British* navy consists of 214 ships of the line, 31 between 50 and 44 guns, 247 frigates, and sloops of war, brigs, &c. enough to make the amount of British vessels of war 1,067.

The *Danes* since their navy was carried away by the British, have by extraordinary exertions prepared for sea 2 sail of the line, 3 frigates, 13 brigs, 1 schooner, 9 gun-boats, &c.

The *Spaniards* have 7 sail of the line at Carthagena, 5 at Cadiz, &c.

In the year 1805 his royal highness, the crown prince of Denmark received an English built frigate, as a present from the king of England. When the English carried away the Danish navy, and plundered the arsenal, they left the frigate. His royal highness, therefore, on his return to Copenhagen, ordered this frigate should be manned with 16 English sailors, who had been prisoners, furnished with necessary provisions, and sent back to England.

The recent arrival at New-York, we learn brings advice of several American vessels being carried into England, ships have been mentioned, and property to the amount of 2,160,000 dollars, ascertained among the number.

Two American vessels of burthen have, it is said, been wrecked and totally lost in the British channel.

The objections to *the embargo*, it is presumed are now removed.

It would seem to be worthy of the attention of congress, to make some provisions for the enforcement of the national laws, were it only to render it unnecessary for the *people to interfere*. Waggons have been employed for some time, we have been told, in conveying goods over land from this city to certain inlets on the Jersey shores—where vessels wait to receive them, and proceed thence in contravention of the law, to supply foreign ports with those things, which the law of the land says, shall not be exported Government are in possession of similar information, relative to an infamous smuggling carrying on, between the British colonies eastward, and the American neighborhood of Passamaquoddy.

Aurora.

As many persons still continue to be deceived by the artifices of British agents and their hireling presses, we think it incumbent on us, from time to time, to reiterate our assurances, to warn our fellow citizens, who are attached to American rights and happiness, that there is *not only no prospect* of any sort of *liberal result* by the medium of Mr. Rose's mission, but that there still is greater reason than ever to think, that his *mission* was conceived in *sinister designs*.

ibid.

Extract of a letter from a respectable house in Nantes, dated 30th Nov.

"It was reported a few days since and is still in circulation, that England has accepted the mediation of Austria, and in this uncertainty our market is dull, otherwise we might have expected to see it in a very different situation, the whole of the ports in France and her allies being under blockade by the English.

"*Markets*—Ashes 20 dols. per cwt. upland cotton 56 cts. per lb. sea island 80 to 90 do. tobacco 17 to 20 cts. per lb. short price; flour, superfine, 4 3-4 per bbl."

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA GAZETTE.

In addition to the interesting foreign intelligence, given in the preceding columns, we shall be enabled to enrich several subsequent numbers of the *Philadelphia Gazette* with copious extracts from a file of the London *Courier*, from the 18th Dec. to January the 6th, received by the *Romp*, arrived at New-York.—*Lloyd's list* to the same date may be examined at this office.

Letters from England by this arrival seem to despair of any accommodation taking place with America. So strong was this impression, that the Romp has come out without a single passenger, or packet of goods; and the American vessels generally in England, were preparing to sail in ballast.

Bonaparte's decree issued at Milan, was received in England, and is animadverted upon in terms of warm indignation and bitter invective.

On Saturday, December 19, appeared in the London Gazette, a declaration from the king of Great Britain, in reply to that of the emperor of Russia; to which is annexed an order of council, authorising the capture of all ships, vessels and goods belonging to the emperor of all the Russians. These documents shall be given at length hereafter.

The proceedings in our congress, down to the 1st of December, were received in England, copious extracts from them appear in the London papers, acompanied in many instances, by remarks of an irritating and insulting nature. On Mr. Randolph's speech on the augmentation of the navy, the Courier says:—

"We have given the substance of Mr. Randolph's speech in the senate, in which he declares, that congress ought to have been immediately convened after the affair of the Chesapeake, and the American minister recalled after redress had been demanded: that, if redress had been refused, America should have invaded Canada and Nova Scotia, and made descent upon Jamaica!!—Poor Mr. Randolph! in the warmth of his indignation, and in the flights of his fancy, he forgets that the whole navy of the United States could not resist for an half an hour two British fifty gun ships—and yet he would invade Jamaica!!!"

LATEST FROM LEGHORN.

Extract of a letter from an Amsterdam gentleman, in Leghorn, to merchants in Salem, dated Dec. 29, 1807.

"Since my last, we have received a decree issued by Bonaparte, the substance of which is—that if any neutral vessel bound to a French port should on her passage be boarded by an English vessel, she shall be lawful prize to any vessel which may capture her—or if on the arrival of any neutral vessel at any French port it shall be discovered that she has on her passage been boarded by any English vessel, she shall be considered as a lawful prize.

"This morning we had a report of Bonaparte's issuing another decree, forbidding all persons from writing to or corresponding with England, under pain of *death*.

"Advices have been received from Mr. Armstrong at Paris, that he apprehended a general seizure of all American property in France."

"December 23.

"Tuscany, it is confidently said, is to be united the to kingdom of Italy, as the government was changed. No distribution of it could have afforded more universal satisfaction. The benefit to Leghorn must prove great in any event."

Extract of a letter from a respectable house in Nantz, to merchants in Salem, dated December 2.

"It is impossible to calculate all the consequences of this extraordinary measure, [*the blockade of France, &c.*] It is further our duty to acquaint you, that the most respectable houses in Holland write to us, that it has become utterly impossible to make remittances to England, and that sterling bills have in reality no longer any course of exchange at Amsterdam or Rotterdam."

The duke of Manchester, is appointed governor general of Jamaica; and is coming out in the Guerrier of 40 guns, captain Shene.

BOSTON, Feb. 18.

Latest from Madeira—Captain Golsbury, arrived here yesterday in the brig Apollo, 46 days from Madeira, informs, that on the 24th Dec. a British squadron, of four sail of the line, six frigates, and a number of transports, having on board 3000 troops arrived off Funchal, and immediately took possession of the island of Madeira. The fleet was commanded by rear admiral Hood, and the troops by major general Beresford

Captain G. remarks, that previous to the arrival of the British fleet, preparations were made to defend the island; that batteries were erected on the shore, and troops placed therein; that the fleet appeared off the town about 8 o'clock in the morning; and with a fresh breeze soon went in, and laid themselves in line of battle, with springs on their cables; the transports standing off and on; that the admiral sent a note to the governor, giving him 1[illegible] minutes to answer his request, which was to give up the place to the British, or stand in his defence, as he should, in case of refusal, immediately fire on the town; that the governor, not having time to collect all his troops consented to the terms of capitulation, and delivered up the island.

Captain G. also adds, that an embargo was laid by the British admiral, on all vessels in port; that he was drove out (intentionally in the night) and escaped. He did not learn how long this embargo was to continue.

An eastern print states the receipt of a letter from *Leghorn*, which gives advice of a decree supplementary to that of 17th December, 1807—in which it is declared "*that all persons holding correspondence with England, shall on conviction of the offence be punished with death.*" Bonaparte appears to understand the politics of all parties; the above decree *if true*, partakes something of the famous federal *Loganian law*—if not true, it owes its origin to the fedarat source.

Aurora.

The following letter from a house in Nantes to another in Salem, dated 2d December, shews what consternation the measures of the belligerents have excited among the merchants on the European continent:—

"It is probable, from the extraordinary measures which have been adopted by our government and that of England, that commerce will be totally at a stand. We must, we fear, take leave now for some time of our American friends, and you may well conceive we do it with the utmost reluctance."

PUBLIC FORCE.

The bill for encreasing the public force of the United States to the war establishment, has passed the committee of the whole of the house of representatives, and the blanks filled up as follows:

Infantry.....	9 regts.	of 1,000 - -	9,000
Artillery.....	1 regt.	1,200 - -	1,200
Cavalry.....	2 regts.	600 - -	1,200
Riflemen.....	2 regts.	600 - -	1,200
			12,600

A resolution for raising and organizing 24,000 volunteer troops, was referred to a committee.