From the Sun of July 26.

FORTIFICATION of LONDON.

Copy of a note delivered to the Marquis of Titchfield, July 17th, 1803, by Lieutenant General Lord Cathcart.

It is in the contemplation of his majesty's government to provide the most effectual means for securing the metropolis from the incursion of an enemy, who, favored by extraordinary fortune of war, might not only have eluded the dispositions made by land and sea to resist invasion, but being landed in superior force, should through the same fortune be enabled to penetrate into the country, near enough to the capital at least to occasion apprehension for its security, if there were no precautions taken and no plan made for its protection. Such a plan must not only be thoroughly digested, but must actually be put in a state of preparation sufficient to ensure the practicability of its being carried into effect the moment appearances of danger may justify the expense and inconvenience, small as these objects may be.

Although the completion of the operations proposed may for the present be postponed, it is nevertheless indispensably necessary to proceed, without the delay of an hour, to make certain preparatory arrangements through the aid of the lords lieutenants of the adjacent counties, and even to mark out some ground relied upon in case of necessity, for the construction of field works and batteries.

His royal highness the commander in chief has, in the course of the last war, directed his thoughts to the consideration of this subject; a most accurate military survey has been made under the inspection of an officer of the greatest eminence and professional skill and experience. The situation of every necessary work, battery and line, has been ascertained, the necessary guns and troops to guard and defend these works have been calculated, as well as the number of hands necessary to complete them within a given period. The whole arrangement has undergone consideration and revisal for years, and is ripe for execution.

It must afford the greatest satisfaction to every well wisher to his country to know, that in the opinion of all professional men who have been consulted, the means, which nature has afforded to the cities of London and Westminster of providing for their security, are beyond what have been found in the case of any city in the universe; that with due attention to the advantages to be made by such positions as encircle them, and with the armed force which may be collected for their defence, and that amply supplied with provisions, this capital may bid defiance to any invading force, at least until ample time is given for the arrival of such a power from the country as, when combined with the force within the lines, must be much more than sufficient to exterminate any army that could be transported to England.

Part of the line of defence alluded to in what has been said, runs through the county of Middlesex in the semicircular form, beginning at the Thames near the mouth of the river Lea, and ending at the Thames above and near to Battersea bridge; it passes in its northern and north-western direction through Stratford-le-Bow and near Clapton, along the high grounds which bound the marshes on the right or western bank of the river Lea, as far as the neighbourhood of Stamford hill, when it quits the Lea, & takes a western course, passing from near the turnpike on Stamford hill, by Hornsey Wood to the ridge extending by Mount Pleasant, over the village of Crouch-end, and from thence by the Sheep-house ridge to Highgate and adjacent, from thence by Hampstead and adjacent towards Willsdown Green; here it changes its direction to the south-west and south, running down to the canal near the Red-house, then crossing the canal near Kensal Green, proceeding to Kensington Gravel Pits and Holland House, passing near Little Chelsea, and reaching the Thames above Battersea-bridge.

The lord lieutenant having appointed a general meeting of the lieutenancy of the county of Middlesex, to be held on the 18th inst. for the purpose of carrying into effect certain provisions of an act passed this session of Parliament, entitled, "An act to enable his majesty more effectually to provide for the defence and security of the realm during the present war;" it becomes the duty of lieutenant-general Lord Cathcart, in consequence of orders given to him by his royal highness the commander in chief, as commanding the district in which that part of the county of Middlesex, through which the intended lines of defence pass, is situated, to communicate with the lord lieutenant on this subject, and to request, that in framing the arrangements for the country divisions of the county of Middlesex, under the powers of the above recited act, according to the plan of establishing a system of communication, and another plan of rendering the body of the people instrumental to the general defence, proposed by his majesty's principal secretary of state for the war department: the lord lieutenant will be pleased to hold in view the peculiar circumstance of the intended construction of lines of defence.

Whatever assistance might be rendered from the metropolis itself, or from the adjacent and inland counties without the line, in the event of completing the works (and such assistance would doubtless be amply and systematically afforded), it is essentially requisite, for the sake of order, expedition, and regularity of payment, as well as protection of property, that all preparatory and incipient operations should be made through the assistance of the inhabitants resident upon and near the line of defence; for this reason it is to be wished, that in appointing the lieutenant of divisions, or of inspectors of hundreds, provision may be made to ascertain as many points of communication near the residence of lieutenants of divisions, or of inspectors of hundreds, as possible, the same being contiguous to or within reach of the line. If the residence of gentlemen, accepting charges of lieutenants or inspectors, do not suit this purpose, the inconvenience may be obviated by appointing inns, or places near inns, where post horses may be had, and where letters or requisitions may be addressed, and received and forwarded to the responsible person. These places will also serve for rendezvous to the superintendants of parishes, who will also have places of meeting for the agents they employ in their respective parishes.

Thus a system of most expeditious communication will be established between the commanding general and the lieutenancy, and between the lieutenancy and the parishioners of the parishes in the adjacent hundreds; opportunities will be given to make those who are expected to comply with requisitions clearly understand the nature of the requisitions likely to be proposed to them, and to know the places where individuals may be desired to assemble, or where materials may be collected and deposited.

With such confidential persons, implements necessary for works of this sort, but not otherwise to be found, will be deposited; through their means in a few hours, the whole power of the parish may be collected, or in the first instance a few hands to mark out ground—and, lastly, through their means, proper notice and communication may be given or made to the owners and occupiers of any lands, tenements, or hereditaments, intended to be measured, surveyed, or marked for the lines of defence, or any of the purposes of the above recited act. The same arrangements will also facilitate the payment of such labor or materials as may be furnished. In the next place, and as soon as the system of communication is completed, it will be necessary, with the utmost dispatch, to prepare the registers of the parishes near the above mentioned line, which must be made with reference to the object of the line of defence, as well as to the other objects set forth in the secretary of state's letter. These registers must specify resident gentlemen willing to attend to animate and encourage the work or given parts of the line—gardeners and others expert in, or habituated to, laying off any measured ground, with remarks, distinguishing superior abilities; smiths, and masters and journeymen carpenters, and sawyers, timber merchants, willing to supply timber for platforms, and fit persons to overlook their construction and erection.

Carts and teams, laborers and tools, men who have been trained to great guns; the few men in each division who would first be wanted to mark and measure ground, and proper attendance for that purpose with carts and stakes.

When it is reflected upon, it must strike every inhabitant that it must be much more agreeable to have a survey or preparation of this sort made by neighbors and acquaintances, in many cases by their own servants and laborers, than by strangers.

But the object and its advantages are equally lost, if the utmost dispatch and celerity are not used in making all previous arrangements, and in proportion as these arrangements are completed, the security of the metropolis is ensured.

America Ruined by the Democrats!!!

To the Editor of the Mississippi Herald.

Mr. Marschalk,

My last piece in your paper has been so much thought of by a discerning public, that I have been quite impatient ever since to write to you again. The love of fame comes as natural to me as if I had been a statesman all my life. I wanted very much to say something about the cession of Louisiana, and I turned the matter over in my mind, this way, and that way, and every way—but could make nothing of it. At one time I damned the whole as a vile democratic lie, and said that the truth was not in it; then again I shook my head—it was too true; and would be the ruin of us. View it one way—the thing was impossible; view it another—it could not be otherwise than fact. *Now*, it was palpably the result of deep and horrid design. And, *again*, it was all accident; and nobody could claim the merit of it. 'Twas a puzzling subject, I assure you, Mr. Printer. I could determine on nothing, except, at all events, to FIND FAULT. But unluckily I had not received a single New-York Herald to give me the proper cue. And as I could not make head or tail of the matter myself, a fear of making some mistake kept me silent. At length however that *invaluable, candid and impartial* paper, the New-York Herald of of the 6th ult. has enabled me to maintain an *independent opinion of my own* in the business. And I no longer hesitate to declare that Louisiana and New Orleans are not worth one two-penny piece to the United States; and that the spiritless acquisition of those pitiful places will prove, in the end, a most calamitous event to America. Nay, I go farther, and aver, that should any benefits arise from that acquisition, we owe them not to Mr. Jefferson, but (as atheists account for the creation) to *chance medley*; and that the present administration though entitled to no credit should the event be fortunate (as it was none of their doings) are nevertheless responsible for all the injury that may ensue should the event prove as disastrous as I and all my brother *feds* most sincerely hope it will.

Pray what is this New Orleans which the democrats make such a fuss about? A little paltry island, with a town upon it;—nothing but a downright swamp; where, but for the *levies*, the inhabitants (poor devils) would be up to their necks in water half the year;—a place absolutely fit for nothing but to raise frogs in. It contains some huts and few hundred inhabitants—all French and Spaniards—not one respectable American in the place. Indeed I doubt if there be any Americans there at all—for I never was there—and the New-York Herald is of my opinion—or I of theirs, which is the same thing. If indeed government had done what I wanted, and taken the place by force of arms; if it had cost us a war, to the tune of sixty or eighty millions; and some thousand of lives—the place might have been made of some consequence.—"*Every thing*" says the merchant, "*is worth what it fetches.*" What has cost little or nothing, therefore, is worth little or nothing. Don't tell me that the batteries of New-Orleans command the trade of the Mississippi. I know better. You might as well call Gibraltar a key to the Mediterranean.

Then there is Louisiana—a mighty matter indeed! an absolute barren that nobody knows the bounds of. Oh!—Then how is all this vast tract of country to be settled? In all probability, by imported patriots. Europeans will come over here, whole nations of them; or as Mr. Davis elegantly expresses himself "*men a plenty.*" Then will the United States (to our sorrow be it spoken) be twice as big, and twice as rich, and twice as populous, and twice as powerful as ever they were. O ruin, ruin! The president ought to be ashamed of himself.

I don't like this acquisition of territory. John Adams (the very wisest of presidents) never added a foot to the territories of the United States. He never added to any thing but the national debt—nor gained any thing: but like a man of honor and spirit, he went to war and got nothing by it. Had the poor spirited Jefferson followed that glorious example, we might have had a war about New-Orleans too—and taken it—and lost it again. Or, if we wanted it, (as the New-York Herald wisely suggests) we might have gone to the expence of taking it first, and bought it afterwards. In short had we gone to war, as we ought to have done, we should have supported the dignity of the nation, without being encumbered in the end, with perhaps a single foot of territory on this side the mountains. But, like ninnies, we *negociated* ourselves into the whole of it.

There is one circumstance which seems to have escaped my New-York oracle—or perhaps my little friend Alex: has reserved it for a better opportunity; I mean the distination of the money which may be received in the sale of public lands in Louisiana, and from the imposts at the port of New-Orleans. For doubtless they will contribute in some shape or other to the discharge of the national debt. And thus at one blow will be ravished from us that *Palladium* of federal empire, without a national debt or internal tax, our government will become a perfect paradox—the common laughing stock of all those energetic and well organized governments in which the rest of the world abounds. The English dread a revolution, as a merchant dreads the death or bankruptcy of his principal creditor. Nay their very taxes attach them to the government; as that which cost as much must needs be *very dear* to us. But in America, alas, should the present rage for economy succeed, and the President persist in giving us no chance of that great national blessing a foreign war, the government will in a short time have no claim on our loyalty, but its intrinsic worth, for which it is well known the well born, and well informed and wisest part of the community (meaning myself and others in this Territory and elsewhere) do not care a fig about.

Had France held Louisiana and peopled it, what a handsome frontier would the east bank of the Mississippi have presented to them; guarded by a chain of strong posts from the Ohio to Loftus's Heights—every bluff crowned with cannon—glorious thought! Then, the fleet of gun-boats on the river, which we heard were already ordered. But alas, what do we want with garrisons or gun-boats now? both sides of the river are our own. "The age of Chivalry is past, and the glory of *America* is extinguished forever!!!"

A ridiculous qestion has been started, whether we are indebted to Mr Livingston or Mr. Munroe, for the present acquisition. This, however is clear, that Mr. Jefferson had no hand in it, and deserves no credit. Poor man, he was at Monticello, I dare say, all the time, and knew no more what his ministers were about than the babe unborn. It is the character of the man. For my part I only laugh when the merit of the thing is given to any of those gentlemen. God help them, they little know how they were assisted in that affair, by Mr. King at the court of St. James's. How he contrived it I confess I cannot exactly see. But there is no doubt of the fact, as several of my federal friends say so.—And indeed the arrival of the news in the same ship with Mr. King, puts the thing beyond all question, that he had something to do about the matter.—Giving all due credit to that gentleman, I have, however, to suggest to you an opinion of mine, Mr. Printer, which rests on authority full as good as the former. The fact is, sir, and you may depend upon it, that in this affair of Louisiana, we had a friend we little think of. I have had hints—but *mum*. In solemn truth believe me sir, of all our transatlantic friends, the Dey of Algiers was the man who did the business for us. And it is confidently whispered that the only compensation which he stipulated for, in return for such important services, was the cession of the City of Natchez to the Grand Turk: this being in his Highness's opinion, the most suitable of all the American possessions, for the establishment of an Ottoman colony.

This is certain, that we are indebted either to the Dey, or Mr. King, or mere accident, or occurrence of circumstance, or divine providence, or &c. &c. &c.—For it is well known (at least to me) whatever airs our ministers may give themselves, that they could not help getting or rather taking Louisiana, &c.—For Bonaparte no sooner read some of our federal war speeches, and had a message from Algiers (or what is the same thing, from St. James's) on the subject, than he determined to give us Louisiana whether we should have it or not. In short, he pressed it upon Mr. Livingston; and swore, damn him, if we did not take it quietly, he would go to war with us. This happened on the same day that he rumped lord Whitworth and slam'd the door in his face. The First Consul was in a great passion that day. Our New-York chancellor was quite frightened. So that it was the luckiest thing in the world that Mr. Munroe arrived, just in the nick of time, to save his master from the munificent wrath of Bonaparte.

But the saddest thing of all is, that there will be no persuading the country bumpkins, but that Mr. Jefferson has done great matters: and the fellow will be re-elected to the presidential chair in spite of me and fate. *Hinc illæ lacrymae.* O ruin! ruin!

Yours, &c.

WATTY WATERSNAKE.

'Possom Town, August 4th, 1803.

From the National Ægis.

The approaching session of Congress will bring before the public, two of the most important and interesting subjects, which have ever yet arrested the attention of our National Legislature.—We allude to the proposed amendment of the Constitution, and the convention for the purchase of Louisiana.—On both these subjects, the Republicans will have to contend with the ardent and undivided exertions of the Federal Faction. The parts are already cast:—each individual member of the opposition has had his post assigned to him,—the mode of attack and defence has been long concerted,—and every inch of the ground will be obstinately contested.—To an indifferent observer, the resistance of the enemy will be rendered ludicrously amusing, by the reflection, that almost every individual concerned, in combating either of these measures, will be at war with his own reason, and struggling against the force of conviction.—Like mercenary troops, who are hired to take up arms against their principles and their wishes, they will move on reluctantly to the scene of action; but when their ardor is roused by the heat and tumult of the battle, they will forget the cause in which they are engaged, and their ferocity will outstride the impulse of their opinions:

With respect to the proposed amendment of the Constitution, it cannot be doubted that every intelligent Federalist, considering the subject abstractly, and without any reference to the preponderance of party, has the fullest conviction that it would be expedient and useful. We have never yet heard a single plausible argument, in favor of an indiscriminate vote in the choice of President and Vice-President. If the thing was ever discussed in the Convention which framed the Constitution, it must have been recommended by some fine spun subtlety of reasoning, which is at present far beyond the reach of comprehension. We are more inclined to believe, that it passed *sub silentio*, and was adopted without a serious consideration of the nature and tendency of the provision. This may be doing injustice to the wisdom and prudence of that venerable body; but until we have heard some plausible defence of this exceptionable part of a structure, (otherwise approaching to perfection) we are compelled to resort to it as the most rational conjecture.

However the fact may be as to the origin of this provision; whether it was silently adopted, or whether it was ingeniously supported in theory; practice, experience, reflection, and anticipation, all conspire to convince us, that in this essential particular, the Constitution calls loudly for amendment. Of this there was no Federalist who pretended to entertain a doubt, until it was necessary to doubt, from the hope of defeating the wishes of the people, and the desire of "*preserving them from their worst enemies—themselves.*"—If they can retain the present mode of voting, until after the next presidential election, they flatter themselves they may have a possible chance of placing in the chair, some person whom no individual of either party would select as a suitable candidate for the first office in the government. Convinced, as they are, that it will be mere "*vanity and vexation of spirit,*" to attempt to push a candidate of their own; it will be their sole object to thwart, as far as possible, the views and wishes of their adversaries.

If they can succeed in ejecting the candidate selected by the people; it would be a matter of almost perfect indifference, to whom the vacant chair should be given. While it shall be filled as it now is, they would as soon attempt to scale the battlements of Heaven, as to pass the impregnable barrier, which stands between them and the accomplishment of their wishes. A change which might happen by a secret coalescence with the Republicans, in favor of the candidate for the second office in the government, would afford them a glimmering hope, and relieve them from the dull despondency of their present hopeless prospect. They have once tried the force of intrigue and corruption. They have once dragged the nation to the very margin of a precipice.—Until the way shall be closed, they will travel in the same course, and are ready to "tumble down headlong" with their country, rather than see it prospering in the hands of the present administration.

With these impressions, we shall see every Federalist at his post, in the next legislative campaign, contending against his own reason and conscience, and supporting the present mode of electing the two first officers of the government.

Each man is pledged to his party.—He has entered the sanctuary—he has touched the ark of the covenant—and has sworn upon the altar in the presence of the High Priests of the tabernacle. His faith is in their custody; and to exercise the right of conscience, would be worse than heresy in the sight of his leaders.

But although we may calculate on finding the whole army of federalists in battle array against the measure, yet there can be little doubt that the proposed amendment will be accomplished, before the next Presidential election.—Two-thirds of both houses in the ensuing Congress will deem it necessary, and when it shall be proposed by them, we have little doubt but it will be ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several states. New-Jersey, North and South Carolina, which have been vibrating for a season, are at length fixed at the point of republicanism.—New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, the *La Vendee* of the union, will undoubtedly hold out to the last. If they should succeed in entangling Vermont in their toils, they will still constitute less than one-fourth of the whole number of states, and, with all their boasted influence, they must yield to the amendment, or sever themselves from the union.

With respect to the business of Louisiana, the same indiscriminate opposition may be expected. The very essence of federalism, at the present day, consists in an unyielding and unqualified resistance to every measure of the ruling powers. Whoever, from the impulse of the moment, is betrayed into an unguarded approbation of a single act of the government, forfeits, at once, with his own party, the character of a federalist, and, by a summary process, is convicted, condemned and sentenced as an apostate.—He can only make atonement, and ward off the execution of his sentence, by a public confession of his folly, and by redoubling his diligence, in reproaching, reviling and opposing the very measure,