constancy to the trial, and may at once attack both the affections and the consciences of citizens.

Mr. Drake had an agency at Paris. But other ministers, instruments of discord and seduction like him, can also have agencies. Mr. Drake, in his correspondence discloses all those which exist in France, by the very care he takes to deny that he knows them. I repeat, says he in his letters, (No. 4, 5, 6, 8 & 9) that I have no knowledge of the existence of any other society than yours. But I repeat to you, says he in several places, that if there exists any, I doubt not but you and your friends will take all proper measures, not only not to embarrass yourselves, but to assist each other. And in fine, he adds, (Munich, 9th Dec. 1803,) with a brutal fury, and worthy the part he acts: It is of little importance by whom the animal is knocked down; it suffices that you all are ready to join in the chase.

It is in consequence of this system that when the plot with which justice is now occupied, was manifest, he wrote—If you see means of getting any of the associates of Georges out of the scrape, do not omit to make use of them [No. 9.] And as the genius of evil, even when disgraced is never discouraged, Mr. Drake did not wish his friends to abandon him in this unexpected reverse of fortune.

I intreat you instantly, he writes, [Munich, 25th Feb. 1804, No. 6,] to get printed immediately a short address to the army, officers and soldiers. The principal point is to seek to gain partizans in the army; for I am firmly of opinion that it is by means of the army alone we can reasonably expect to bring about the change so much desired.

The vanity of this hope is now strongly characterised by that affecting unanimity of sentiment which bursts forth from all sides, at the moment it was known what danger France had been threatened with.

But after the attempt to commit a crime the very meditation of which is an offence against humanity, and the execution of which would have been a calamity not only national, but, if I may say so, European, there must at once be a reparation for the past and a guarantee for the future.

Brigands dispersed, sequestered, a prey to want, without concert, without support, are every where more feeble than the law which is to punish them, than the police which must intimidate them. But if there existed for them a means of uniting, if they could correspond among themselves and with the brigands of other countries, if in a profession the most honorable of all, since the tranquility of states and the honor of sovereigns depend upon it, there were men authorised to make use of all the faculties their position gives them, to recruit in all parts, vice, corruption, infamy and villainy, and to form of every thing most vile and most perverse in the world, an army of assassins, of revolt, of forgers, at the orders of the most immoral, the most ambitious of all governments, there would exist no motives of security in Europe for the consistency of states, for public morality, and even for the duration of the principles of civilization.

It does not belong to my ministry to discuss the means which may be in your power to quiet Europe, by securing it against such dangers. I content myself with informing you, and with proving to you, that there exists at Munich an Englishman named Drake, invested with a diplomatic character, who, under favor of that character, and of the proximity to France, keeps up secret and criminal practices in the heart of the republic; who engages agents of corruption and revolt; who resides out of town, that these agents may have access to him without scandal, and go out of his house without being exposed, and who directs and suborns men in France, charged by him to prepare the overthrow of the government.

This new species of crime escaping by its nature the means of repression which the laws have put into my power, I have been obliged to confine myself to disclosing it to you, at the same time exposing to you its sources, its circumstances, and its consequences.

I have the honor to remain, &c.

REGNIER.

FROM THE DEMOCRAT.

MR. OTIS'S SPEECH.

No. I.

When we see the legislative champion of political party at their head, about to make a display of the arguments which are to influence such party in voting on a great and interesting question, we are induced to expect sober investigation, and pertinent reasoning. The public will not be so uncharitable as to suppose that "the tinsel of declamation" is to be substituted for plain good sense and "the cobwebs of sophistry" and misrepresentation for an upright and candid narration of facts. In this, however, they have for once been disappointed. The speech of the hon. Harrison G. Otis in the General Cour on Tuesday last, on the question for providing a method in which Electors are to be appointed to vote for President and Vice-President of the United States, although finely wrought up by the softer touches of rhetoric, and carried to the hearts of a number by a splendid display of tropes and figures, yet upon examination, must be pronounced, by every candid man to be nothing more than a specimen of handsome though hollow declamation, and an address to the feelings of a fallen party, in defence of the principles of which, this gentleman has made so bold a stand. This speech might have passed for what it is worth among all parties, without inducing a single observation from me, had the remarks it contained been confined singly, to an abuse of the measures of the present national administration. But when every candid man present saw that its great object & scope was to sow the seeds of discord, jealousy, and disunion among the people of this Commonwealth in relation to the general government, under the flimsy pretence of contending for state rights and state influence.—When this, at present favorite object, is aimed at by an attempt to shew an overgrown and improper influence in a particular section of the union—When for this purpose, we see the orator transported beyond all reasonable limits, to take "a general view of the present administration," irrelevent and unappropriate to the question, which ought solely to have engaged his attention, and therefore an insult upon the understanding of the members; and when, in fine, we see the legislative hall converted into a forum, for the purpose of giving currency to popular calumnies, and raising still higher the already heated feelings of a party who seem to give themselves no bonds on this side the borders of hideous ruin, I cannot in duty to my country and my own feelings, forbear to invite the attention of the public to a momentous consideration of the doctrine publicly and legislatively inculcated by one of the leaders of that party.

On the arguments in favor of the electing electors by a general ticket so far as they relate to, or are drawn from the Constitution, I have nothing to say. They have already been satisfactorily answered. It is to what Mr. O. called his "general view" to which the public attention is invited, and to which the subsequent observation shall be confined. As he expressed a willingness to enter into particulars, I presume he will not be averse to slight examination of his "general view." In doing this, his ideas, so far as I was able to collect them from having heard them delivered, shall not be misrepresented.

In taking this view of the administration, he avowed his object to be, to shew its growing and dangerous influence; or in other words, the unexampled influence of a particular section of the union, and that therefore the unequivocal voice of this state should be thrown in, to check it which could be best done by a general ticket. Every body understood him to mean Virginia, by a particular section of the union. What was his object in making this avowal? Does he or any one else pretend that Virginia (which, according to the latest federal language, is synonimous with the present administration) has taken any unconstitutional or even illiberal measures to make herself, or the leaders, popular? Has she occupied any power, or acquired any dominion, not given her by approbation of all her sister states in the union? Shall she be branded with the odious and hateful appellation of usurper or tyrant, not be sure, because she has produced a Washington, but because she has given to the world, and to this country, the services of a Jefferson and a Madison! who have by a long course of virtuous conduct and patriotic acts, gained the confidence of the American people? When federalism (falsely so called) like a resistless torrent swept away every opposing obstacle, hushing into silence on its course, the voice of that republicanism which was imbibed at the commencement of the revolution, & which was impressed afresh in the year 1776, did the politician of Virginia meanly attempt to excite a jealousy towards Massachusetts as a member of the Union, and vilify her, because she had produced an Adams or a Pickering!

Did she not approve of republican men and principles wherever they were found, without any thing like an invidious regard to local situation? Does it appear generous or manly to curse Virginia because the present executive, one of her sons, has gained a great influence on the minds, and seated himself in the affections of his countrymen, by accepting their call, and by seeking and obtaining an intelligent investigation of a long successive train of public acts! Shall this calumniated state disown her offspring, because nature has made them great and virtuous, and because, forsooth, their measures are reprobated by a disappointed faction in Massachusetts and Connecticut! Shall she put a restriction on the loftiest and most virtuous ambition of her sons, because they cannot relish the bait of aristocracy, thrown out by the agents of political intolerance in New-England?

Has Mr. O. shewn that there has been any restraint in Virginia or any where else, to a free circulation of federal news, federal investigation and federal politics? As he has not given the shadow of a reason for saying or, if you please, insinuating that Virginia has an undue and improper influence in the nation, I take it for granted, that he cannot do it, and while in charity to his understanding, I must believe that he meant something by making the assertion, the conclusion seems to be irresistable that there was something lurking behind—something like an intention to enkindle a jealousy, and cherish a sentiment of disunion, which if true, is as highly criminal and unbecoming in him, as it is dangerous to the welfare and interest of his fellow freemen in this state.

It must be painful to any man of common sensibility to see, in a great and flourishing state, men of talents and men who in the private walks of life have souls opened by generosity and expanded by benevolence, not only manifest, an invincible spirit of opposition to every measure of the general government, but who in the decline of their political lives, seem to glory and to triumph in such opposition, when their most bright and able advocates, are unable to point to a solitary reason for such conduct! To see men who should be "Americans in heart and sentiment," flocking to a standard of opposition, raised at first by the enemies of republicanism, and to see them rend the air by one voice of exultation, merely because they have the honor to oppose, must be distressing to the bosom of every friend to peace and good order.

But why is the acquisition of Louisiana mentioned as an instance of the growing predominance of the influence insisted upon? After so thorough an investigation of the tendency of this important and distinguished "feather in the cap," of the executive, how happens it now to be dragged in, for the purpose of giving federalism one more triumph in this Commonwealth? Has the orator, did he prove that in making this acquisition any improper influence had been used by any section of the Union; or that the executive had transcended the pale of the constitution. Did he in the wide range which he took, tell the people that there had been any insidious engine kept at work behind the curtain, in the whole of the transaction? Did he pretend that the actuating principles of the executive had been stifled, and could not be explored by every man of common understanding in the United States? No, this he dared not do.

When in animating strains of eloquence, he excited party feelings on this most interesting occurrence, why did he not hold out to the world some sort of excuse for the monstrous inconsistency which rises like a pointed mountain against the fabric of modern federalism! In duty to his God and his country, why did he not explain the reason why a party among whom he has obtained an eminence, pronounced, at a late period, that Louisiana was worth "treasure and blood," and now, that it will create an influence in the southern part of the continent, which threatens to sink poor deserted New-England in undistinguished ruin! I demand to know, how this overwhelming influence would have been more effectually prevented had the country been obtained at the cannon's mouth!

But, says the orator, this territory can be cultivated only by slaves according to Mr. Livingston's (the favorite of the executive) own statement. Why do you discredit Mr. L. in every other particular and credit him in this? But suppose Mr. L. had not made the assertion, and the country had been acquired by war, would this have made an alteration in the climate? Would the influence to be apprehended from slavery, been counteracted, had it been acquired by the favorite means of a party who call themselves federalists.

But why is a restless jealousy on account of the representation of slaves now attempted to be excited? Has not the cause, if it exists at all, long ago existed? Is the union of states now about to be destroyed by it, when as a nation we display an unanimity hardly to be expected in so large a country, and which unanimity is increasing, even in New-England, in a degree not anticipated by the admirers of the present administration? Is the influence derived from this quarter about to destroy New-England because the remnant of a falling party in two of her states have declared it? Let us appeal to the candid reflection of gentlemen, seeing they have chosen this crisis to publish sentiments which must be viewed by our southern brethren as unfriendly, invidious, and treasonable—As subversive of the Union which holds us together.

Let us with moderation, but with spirit and firmness demand the cause of this sudden uproar about state influence. Have the southern states stolen or usurped the influence derived from their black population? Have they sword in hand, forced it upon "the friends to order," in New-England, or have they surreptitiously given to their representatives seats in Congress? As to Louisiana, will she acquire an influence from this quarter, unless it is given to her by the constituted authorities of our country? For one moment I would call away the intelligent of our citizens from the fervor of party feeling, and entreat them to look at the constitution—to examine the debates in the convention of this commonwealth at the time of its adoption. Will it not create one blush in the countenances of gentlemen when the public are informed that the leading advocates of modern federalism, were at that time strenuous advocates of the representation of slaves in the southern states, and that upon the principle, of subjecting them to direct taxation, should it be necessary! Will the public speakers in our general court, feel no compunction of conscience when they recollect that Dana, Sedgwick, King, with many others who hold the highest ranks in the catalogue of federalists, stood forth as sticklers for the very influence, which you are now to be persuaded is preying upon, and ready to consume the vitals of New-England!

The preceding observations are not intended to wound in the least, the private character or personal feelings of Mr. Otis.—It is presumed that he speaks correctly the language of his party, and it is to hold up in day light their present views and intentions. To see how far they have acted consistently with themselves, more than to enter into a minute investigation of any particular thing, that these remarks are made. If by any thing said here, or which may be said in a subsequent number, any individual shall be the better enabled to appreciate the exertions which are now making or which have been made in the general court during their present session, by the predominant political party,—if any one shall be enabled to discover whether they are the offspring of a peaceful patriotic & conciliatory disposition, or are the result of heated feelings and disappointed ambition, the writer will feel gratified.—If the former is the case then will it be the bounden duty of ALL to say "well done good and faithful servants"—if unfortunately the latter, every man who has patriotism enough to prize the preservation of the Union, must have his bosom filled with mingled emotions of pity and indignation!

NESTOR.

METHOD OF RAISING HEMP

Being a communication made to a committee of the Agricultural Society in 1789, by the hon. John Read, of Roxbury, and by them ordered to be published.

The soil I choose for raising hemp, is a light rich mould, as free from stones, gravel and Clay as possible; care is taken to have the soil thoroughly manured and once well ploughed in the fall of the year, if other business will admit; in the spring it is ploughed two or three times more, and as often harrowed with an iron-toothed harrow, in order to separate the particles of earth, and leave them as light as possible; then a light brush harrow is drawn by one horse over the ground by which means it is levelled so as to receive the seed equally, after which it is marked out for sowing in the same manner that barley and oats are generally sown, calculating [if the soil is very good] at three bushels to an acre. If but middling good, two and an half bushels to an acre. The seed is always harrowed in immediately after sowing with a fine iron toothed harrow, and nothing is suffered to pass over it afterwards, least by treading or otherways it might be injured.

The seed must be of the last year's growth, and will be benefited by lying in the cellar a few weeks previous to its being sown. In general I sow my seed about the middle of May, [being governed by the season] a little sooner or later will do, my hemp is commonly fit to pull by the 8th or 10th of August, which is known by the male hemp turning whitish just at the time when the farina passes off; this is easily discovered by its smoaking when agitated by the wind or jarred with a stick.

When the Hemp is pulled, it is spread on the ground where it grew, about an inch thick, and what that will not receive is carried off to other ground, and after laying two or three days, turned with a small pole about 6 feet long; then, receiving one or two days more sun, it is bound into bundles of about 15 or 18 inches in circumference, and immediately housed from wet, until convenient time offers to put it into water for rotting, which is done as soon as other business will admit. There being a small stream of water that runs thro' my farm, I have erected a dam which enables me to flow a pond about 5 or 6 feet high, wherein the hemp is laid, [much in the same manner that flax is laid for rotting] and after covering it with straw to keep it clean,* the plank and stones being placed thereon, the dam-gate is shut down, and the hemp being overflowed, remains till it is properly rotted, which is done in 6 or 7 days, if put in as soon as the latter end of August or the beginning of September, the weather being generally warm at that season of the year—If put into water the latter end of September or beginning of October, I have let it lay 12 days. If the latter end of October or beginning of November, 20 days, unless the weather has been uncommonly warm for the season, in that case I have found it necessary to be removed sooner, but have made a point of attending to the heat or cold of the weather, as when the water is warm, the hemp will get a proper rot much sooner than when it is otherways.

My practice has been to draw the water from the hemp 24 hours before the taking it up, leaving the weight thereon in order that it may be well drained, as in that case it is much better handled; then it is removed to a dry piece of ground and spread above 2 inches thick and after remaining a week or ten days in that situation, is turned; and in 8 or 10 days after, it is taken up, tyed into bundles and removed into the barn, where it remains till I have leisure time to brake and swindle it out; when barn room cannot be spared, I have placed it up against a rail fence, running the top ends between the two uppermost rails, letting it remain there until proper time for breaking; for which purpose I have always found clear cold weather to be the best.

My hemp is broke and swindled much in the same manner that flax is done, excepting that the first breaking is done in a course break, the teeth or slats being nearly four inches apart, then a common flax break answers well, and being carefully swingled, is fit for use.

My practice for raising seed hath been to set apart in the the field some of my best grown hemp for that purpose, pulling up the male and female hemp for about 18 inches in width, so that a man may pass through; leaving the other in beds about 6 feet in width, in order that two men, one on each side, may reach in their hands and pull up all the male, without injuring the seed bearing hemp.

This process is performed when the general pulling is done in August—the female hemp must stand till the seed is fully ripe, which is known by its turning brown; in wet weather I have been obliged to let it stand till the middle of October before it was fit to pull; after which it must be tied in bundles like the other hemp, and carefully sat against a fence to dry, or if that is not convenient it may be layed on the ground, and after one or two days sun, beat out in the same manner that flax seed is beat out, striking lightly; then expose the other side to the sun one or two days, after which give it a thorough beating, and spread the seed with all the leaves, &c. in a dry place for some days, then thrash it with a light flail or rub it by hand, either way, till the seed is all out, and after winnowing put it in a dry place for sowing the next year.

The seed-bearing hemp, requires a few days longer to rot than the other, owing to the thickness of the bark or hurle, and the greater quantity of glutinous substance occasioned by its longer standing.

I have always preferred old manure to new, more especially if horse or cow dung, but new will do, and it is much the better to have it ploughed in, in the fall.

With respect to the quantity of hemp raised on an acre of ground; it varies from 6 to 12 hundred weight, much depending on the quality of the soil and the manner of preparing it.

The expense of cultivating, &c. an acre of hemp, is not at present in my power to ascertain, great part of the business being done at leisure, and when the time could be best spared; I would just observe, that I can raise 2 or 3 acres yearly on my small farm, without interfering much with other business.†

The present price of hemp, together with the bounty given by the state, to encourage the culture of this useful plant, amounts to about 220 dollars per ton, which bids fair to establish its growth here, and I am fully satisfied from my own experience, that at the present day no branch of agriculture [where land is found suitable] can be carried on to so great advantage as that of raising hemp, and I have no doubt that our farmers will soon be convinced of the truth of this observation. It having been found by experience, both in Europe and America, that hemp may be grown on the same ground for 20 or 30 years in succession, without lessening the crop or impoverishing the soil—this also will have its weight.

The last season I tried the experiment of raising hemp on a piece of diked marsh; the salt water having been kept off better than one year; after being ditched, I had a small part near the upland carefully dug and manured with old dung that was well mixed with sand, the hemp grew to full height, and proved to be of the best kind; this encouragement has occasioned my preparing a larger piece for further trial the next season, when I mean to make several experiments on the cultivation and cleansing of hemp and if any advantages should arise therefrom, I shall do myself the honor of communicating them to you as early as possible.

* *It is to be observed, that a muddy*