FairburnsTohn

## FAIRBURN's

# SELECTION

OF

## LOYAL and PATRIOTIC

# PAPERS:

CONTAINING THE

## PROCEEDINGS AND DECLARATION

OF THE

MERCHANTS, BANKERS, &c.

AT THE

ROYAL EXCHANGE:

THE

RESOLUTIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS AT LLOYD's:

WITH A GREAT VARIETY OF PAPERS PUBLISHED IN LONDON
ON THE SUBJECT OF

INVASION, &c. &c. &c.

LONDON:

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Proceedings and Declaration of the Merchants, Bankers, Traders, and other Inhabitants of London and its Neighbourhood.

ROYAL EXCHANGE, LONDON, JULY 26, 1803.

Meeting was this day held upon the Royal Exchange, of the Merchants, · Bankers, Traders, and other Inhabitants of the Metropolis, in consequence of a public Advertisement, for the purpose of expressing their sentiments in support of their King and Constitution, and the Honour and Independence of

their Country.

At one o'clock, between 4 and 5,000 of the most opulent and respectable of the mercantile interest filled the area of the Royal Exchange, while those who were more immediately instrumental in forwarding the Meeting occupied a temporary booth, erected within the walk, upon the east side. Among them were distinguished those who rank first in the City of London for character and wealth—men whose breath could in an instant raise millions of money, should the service of their country require it.

JACOB BOSANQUET, Esq. was unanimously called to the Chair, and peals

of applause ratified the choice.

Mr. D'Almeida, the Secretary of the East-India-Company, having read the Advertisement under which the Meeting had been convened,

The CHAIRMAN stepped forth, and in a manly and energetic manner expresed himself as follows:

#### "GENTLEMEN,

"When I look round and behold these walls, which have so often witnessed the honour and good faith of the mercantile interest of the British Empire; when I look round and see this representation of persons under whom the country has been made almost the emporium of the world; Gentlemen, when I look round and see myself surrounded on all sides by those among whom I have lived, and with whom I was born, I flatter myself that what I shall have the honour of proposing to you this day will meet your unanimous approbation; because I know the honour, the independence, and, above all, the spirit, of those among whom I have lived; and that their honour, independence, spirit, and integrity, have carried the British name from Pole to Pole. Gentlemen, it is almost needless for me, on the present opcasion, to state what I believe you all know, that an enemy, a proud and imperious enemy, is at your doors; an enemy who thinks that nothing

nothing stands between them and universal dominion, except this country; an enemy who pants to act over, in this country, those scenes you have seen realized in every country to which their arms and power have reached. They are now burning with impatience to extend their ravages to this happy land, and, should they succeed, you would see those scenes again transacted, which have spread desolation wherever their force has prevailed. You would see your wives and daughters violated, and put to shame before your eyes; you would see your dearest friends assassinated in the public streets, your altars profaned, and the land poluted with rapine, violence, slaughter, and blood. (An instantaneous burst of applause. Many exclaimed, " Never will ze live to see that day!" J Gentlemen, when Rome and Constantinople, the two greatest cities the world ever saw, were sacked, the one by the Saracens, and the other by the barbarians from the North, it is reported, that though every thing abroad bore the appearance of war, every thing within retained the semblance of peace, tranquillity, and quiet. It is said the merchants were seen, as usual, in their public walks, attending to their affairs, and that the - money-changers were calculating their speculations with the indifference of perfect security. What was the consequence? They lost the whole of that wealth, in the accumulation of which their hearts and souls were concentrated; whereas, had they but sacrificed a part of what they possessed, . and had they gone out themselves to meet the enemy, instead of trusting to others, whom they had hired to defend them, Rome and Constantinople might have remained to this day what England is, the protectors of themselves and other countries from unjust violence and oppression. For want of their own exertions they fell—two of the greatest cities the world ever saw flourish, perished. God send their fate may never be our's! [Five thousand Britons repeated the words!) But God send, if it is to be so, that I and my children may perish in the first ranks, and not live to witness the ruin and dissolution that will ensue.— (Bravo! bravo! exclaimed the whole Assembly.)—Gentlemen, it would be wrong, at a time like this, to deceive you. You have a numerous, bold, hardy, and determined, enemy at your doors; and, if they ever should reach this country, there remains nothing for you but to conquer or die! (Bursts of British enthusiasm.) What! can I believe it of Britons, that you would be content to live the slaves of those, who are themselves the vilest slaves? (Never! never! resounded from all parts.) Countrymen, it is in your power to be safe—you have only to exert yourselves, and it is impossible you should fall; for, the history of the world does not produce an example of a free and determined nation ever having been conquered. You would ask me, what should be done? I say, let us join in a unanimous determination, if necessary, to conquer or to die; and, when that has been done, let each man go to his proper place, and endeavour with hand, head, and heart, to support the public cause. What! shall a proud lawless banditti-men who are fighting for plunder and for gain-shall they be prodigal of their lives and fortunes, and shall Britons, who have every thing to save and defend, shew cowardice, when they ought to shew the most determined reso-Intion! But, Gentlemen, if our enemies were to reach this country, though they might fill the land with ruin and desolation, great would be their disappointment.

pointment. They would expect to find the riches of the country in the pockets of the individuals, and in the coffers of the State; but it is not there our riches reside: they reside in the heads, the hearts, the commerce, and the industry, of the people; and in the protection afforded them by the Laws, Constitution, and Government, of this happy land. (Loyal and patriotic acclamations.) Gentlemen, I am unwilling to trespass too long on the present occasion (hear! hear!) and particularly as I am unused to speaking before so numerous an assembly, but I hope and trust that before we part we shall all unite in a unanimous declaration to stand or fall with our Country and our King? (Every voice gave assent to the proposition.) I hope as, when that has been done, we shall determine to throw off all other cares except those for the defence of our country; that we shall also determine to consider as public enemies those who would divide and turn our attention to other objects. In short, that we shall consider ourselves as having done nothing till we have placed our country out of the reach of danger. All I can urge upon this momentous occasion, I dare say, you will feel from the bottom of your hearts. I ain persuaded you have even anticipated what I have stated; I have only to add, that I shall be ready to appear the foremost of the ranks, resolved to stand or fall in the glorious cause of my country. I will not intrude farther upon your time; I presume that such a declaration will be read to you as will be consonant to your feelings, and meet with your warmest approbation. (Incessant applause for some minutes succeeded this patriotic speech.

Mr. D'Almeida then read the Declaration, as sollows, during which he

was frequently interrupted by bursts of applause.

### THE DECLARATION.

We, the Merchants, Bankers, Traders, and other Inhabitants of London and its Neighbourhood, deem it our bounden duty, at the present moment-ous period, to make public our unanimous determination to stand or fall with our King and Country.

The independence and existence of the British Empire: the safety, the liberty, the life, of every man in the kingdom, are at stake. The events, perhaps, of a few months, certainly of a few years, are to determine whether we and our children are to continue freemen and members of the most flourishing community in the world, or whether we are to be the slaves of our most implacable enemies; themselves the slaves of a foreign Usurper.

We look on this great crisis without dismay. We have the most firm reliance on the spirit and virtue of the people of this country. We believe that there exists a firmer as well as nobler courage than any which rapine can inspire; and we cannot entertain such gloomy and unworthy apprehensions of the moral order of the world, as to think that so admirable a quality can be the exclusive attribute of freebooters or slaves. We fight for our laws and liberties; to defend the dearest hopes of our children; to maintain the unspotted glory which we have inherited from our ancestors; to guard from ourage and shame those whom nature has entrusted to our protection; to preserve the honour and existence of the country that give us birth.

We,

We fight for that Constitution and system of Society, which is at once the mobilest monument and the firmest bulwark of civilization! We fight to preserve the whole Earth from the barbarous yoke of Military Despotism! We fight for the Independence of all Nations, even of those who are the most multierent to our fate, or the most blindly jealous of our prosperity!

In so glorious a cause—in the desence of these dear and sacred objects, we trust that the God of our Fathers will inspire us with a valour which will be more than equal to the daring serocity of those, who are lured, by the hope

of plunder, to fight the battles of ambition.

His Majesty is about to call upon his people to arm in their own defence. We trust, and we believe, that he will not call on them in vain—that the free-men of this land, going forth in the righteous cause of their country, under the blessing of Almighty God, will inflict the most signal chastisement on those who have dared to threaten our destruction; a chastisement, of which the memory will long guard the shores of this island, and which may not only vindicate the honour, and establish the safety, of the British Empire, but may also, to the latest posterity, serve as an example to strike terror into tyrants, and to give courage and hope to insulted and oppressed nations.

For the attainment of these great ends, it is necessary that we should not only be a unanimous, but a zealous, an ardent, and unconquerable, people; that we should consider the public safety as the chief interest of every individual, that every man should deem the sacrifice of his fortune and his life to his country as nothing more than his duty; that no man shall murmer at any exertions or privations which this awful crisis may impose upon him; that we should regard faintness or languor in the common cause as the basest treachery; that we should go into the field with an unshaken resolution to conquer or to die; and that we should look upon nothing as a calamity compared with the subjugation of our country.

We have most sacred duties to perform, we have most invaluable blessings to preserve, we have to gain glory and safety, or to incur indelible disgrace, and to fall into irretrievable ruin. Upon our efforts will depend the triumph of Liberty over Despotism—of National independence over Projects of Universal Empire—and, finally, of Civilization itself over Barbarism.

At such a moment we deem it our duty solemnly to bind ourselves to each other, and to our Countrymen, in the most sacred manner, that we will employ all our exertions to rouse the spirit, and to assist the resources of the kingdom: that we will be ready with our services of every sort, and on every occasion, in its defence; and that we will rather perish together, than live to see the bonour of the British Name tarnished, or that noble inheritance of Greatness, Glory, and Liberty, destroyed, which has descended to us from our Forefathers, and which we are determined to transmit to our posterity.

JACOB BOSANQUET, Chairman.

Mr. Forster—" Gentlemen, unexpectedly called upon by a set of my friends upon this occasion to address you, I could have no time for preparation; but, in a cause like this, a very little preparation serves my turn. Gentlemen, the Declaration has been laid before you, and it is, I think, as pathetic and energetic an appeal to your feelings, as men and Britons, as could have been

been made. I have only to call upon each of you to play the man in desence of your estates, your families, your country, and your God; I have only to call upon you to recollect, that on the ground of France, Englishmen have triumphed; witness the glorious atchievements in the fields of Cressy, Agincourt, and Blenheim; and if, in the cause of conquest, Britons have prevailed, never let it be said, they were unable to contend successfully with their enemies upon their own native soil. Abroad we have vanquished our foe, and of our exertions at home I can never despair. I will not detain you farther, than by proposing that the Declaration just read be approved of; and let all the people say Amon. (Amen was re-echoed from every quarter.)

The CHAIRMAN put the question, that the Declaration be approved of, printed in all the public Papers, copied, and circulated in the vicinity of the

metropolis. Agreed to with acclamations, nemine contradicente.

The Chairman—" Gentlemen, allow me to congratulate you sincerely, on your unanimity upon the present occasion."

Mr. Forster-" And allow me to add, that with such unanimity there is

no power on earth we need fear."

The CHAIRMAN—" I have to move that the Gentlemen, who called the Meeting, be a Committee to carry the Declaration into effect." Agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Forster—"Gentlemen, though from circumstances I could not be present at the previous Meeting, there can be no impropriety in my moving the thanks of the Assembly to the Gentlemen who called the Meeting, and prepared the business of the day."—(Assented to with loud plaudits.)

The CHAIRMAN moved, that EDWARD FORSTER, Esq. be a Member of

the Committee. Agreed to nem. con.

Mr. Forster—" I beg leave to move the thanks of this Meeting to Jacob Bosanquet, Esq. our Chairman, for his animated, zealous, and truly British, conduct this day." (Reiterated plaudits preceded the general assent to the motion.)

"God save the King," and "Rule Britannia," were called for, and the whole Assembly having given thrice three cheers, the Meeting dissolved.

Such an expression of zeal, loyalty, and patriotism, as was exhibited in the whole conduct of the Meeting, was perhaps never paralleled at the most glo-rious æra of the histories of Greece or Rome, or any other nation under the canopy of Heaven.

#### Lloyd's, London, 20th July, 1803.

The Merchants, Underwriters, and other Subscribers to this house, having this day met for the purpose of setting on foot a General Subscription on an extended scale, for the encouragement and relief of those, who may be engaged in the defence of the country, and who may suffer in the common cause; and of those who may signalize themselves during the present most important contest:

And feeling confident that, when our very existence as a great and independent nation is at stake, it only becomes necessary to point out any means by which the exertion of our native spirit, and the application of our powerful resources, may receive an additional stimulus; they beg leave to submit to the liberal consideration of their fellow-subjects, the following Resolutions, which have been unanimously passed at this meeting, and presume to hope, that the object of this Subscription will be so promoted and sanctioned by public bodies in general, by the higher ranks and opulent classes of society, and by individuals of every description, that the mite of the labourer, combining with the munificent donation of the noble and wealthy, shall be the best pledge of our unanimity; shall inspire our seamen, our soldiers, our countrymen at large, with a well-grounded confidence in the liberality and gratitude of the community: and shall impress on the minds of our enemies the appalling conviction, that the energies of this great Empire are irresistible, as its resources are incalculable.

#### BROOK WATSON, Esq. in the Chair.

On a motion made, the following Resolutions being produced, were read, and passed unanimously.

Resolved, That in a conjuncture when the vital interests of our Country, when the peculiar blessings which, under our beloved Sovereign and happy Constitution, endear our social state, are involved in the issue of the present contest; when we are menaced by an enemy, whose haughty presumption is grounded only on the present unfortunate position of the Continental Powers, and when we seem to be placed, for the moment, as the last barrier. against the total subjugation of Europe by the overbearing influence of France; it behoves us to meet our situation as men, as freemen, but, above all, as Britons. On this alone, with the Divine Aid, depends our exemption from the yoke of Gallic despotism; on this alone depends, under the same Protecting Power, whether this Empire shall remain, what it has for ages been, the strenuous supporter of Religion and Morals, the assertor of its own, and the guardian of the liberties of mankind, the nurse of industry, the protector of the arts and sciences, the example and admiration of the world; or whether it shall become an obsequious tributary, an enslaved, a plundered, and degraded, department of a foreign nation.

Resolved, That to give more effect and energy to the measures adopted by Government for the defence of our liberties, our lives, and property, to add weight to those personal exertions we are all ready disposed to contribute, it behoves us to hold out every encouragement to our fellow subjects, who may be in any way instrumental in repelling or annoying our implacable foe, and to prove to them that we are ready to drain both our purses and our veins in the great cause, which imperiously calls on us to unite the duties of loyalty and patriotism with the strongest efforts of zealous exertion.

Resolved, That, to animate the efforts of our defenders by sea and land, it it expedient to raise, by the pratriotism of the community at large, a suitable fund for their comfort and relief, for the purpose of assuaging the anguish of their wounds, or palliating, in some degree, the more weighty misfortune of the loss of limbs; of alleviating the distresses of the widow and orphan, of smoothing

smoothing the brow of sorrow for the fall of their dearest relatives, the props of unhappy indigence or helpless age; and of granting pecuniary rewards or honourable badges of distinction for successful exertions of valour or merit.

Resolved, That a subscription, embracing all the objects of the foregoing resolution, be now opened; and, to set an example to the Public Bodies throughout the United Kingdom and its dependencies, and to our fellowsubjects of every class and denomination, that, independently of our individual contributions, the sum of 20,000l. Three per Cent. Consolidated Annuities, part of the funded property of this Society, shall be appropriated to this purpose.

Resolved, That on Friday, the 29th instant, at twelve o'clock precisely, a General Meeting of the Subscribers to this fund be held at this House, for the purpose of appointing their Committee, and that the Committee of the House be requested to become, and they are hereby constituted, a Committee, ad interim, for the receipt and management of the subscriptions, and other purposes expressed in these resolutions.

Resolved, That the Committee of this House, and the Bankers in this Metropolis, and in the Cities and Towns of the United Kingdom, be requested to receive Subscriptions; and that such part of the Fund, as shall not be used for the purposes now intended, be returned in proportion to the sums subscribed.

Resolved, That all sums, however small, which shall be offered by the patriotism of the poorer classes of our fellow-subjects, shall be accepted the cause affecting equally the liberties and lives of persons of every de-"scription."

Resolved, That these resolutions be inserted in the public papers.

'Resolved, That the Thanks of this Meeting be given to the Chairman, for his able and impartial conduct in the Chair.

Brook Watson; Chairman. (Signed)

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS:

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### PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

THE moment is arrived when War or Peace ceases to be any longer a question of policy; a restless and ambitious usurper, who for some years past has been no less the curse of the country over which he tyrannizes than the scourge of the civilized world, waiting until he had subjugated or silenced every Power on the Continent, now threatens to blast your prosperity, menaces your shores with invasion, your liberties with annihilation! Great Britain

is the only Country in Europe that has defied his power and baffled his arms. Great Britain is therefore the object of his utmost rancour, detestation, and hate. Our riches, our commerce, our manufactures, have excited his envy;—our rights, our free spirit, and our constitution, form too glaring a contrast to his own usurped and tyrannical government, and he has vowed their overthrow and destruction. He would not admit of even French fraternity as the alternative for this Country—he dreads the very name of Liberty, because it is the enemy of Tyrants, and shudders lest the independent principles of England should be disseminated among the Slaves of France.

Slaves indeed! when a Despot, acting from feelings of private resentment and personal ambition, in opposition to the wishes of Thirty Millions of People, involves them in a bloody and disastrous war, and openly declares his determination to sacrifice army after army to effectuate the destruction of this country. That the invasion of our island is not a popular measure, even among the creatures of the Tyrant, is well known—nay, to encourage the devoted followers of his fortunes to engage them to risk their lives, he is compelled to bribe them with promises of plunder, and to flatter their vices to ensure their services. Read, my Countrymen, and blush at the depravity even of an enemy. In a public proclamation, or decoy, to his subjugated people to support him in this effort of his ambition, he assures them, when they have landed in this Country, that in order to make the booty the richer no quarter shall be given to the base English who fight for their perfidious Government—that they are to be put to the sword, and their property to be distributed among the soldiers of the Victorious Army!!!

These, then, are the intentions and projects of our enemy-these are the scenes destined to be exhibited in this country, unless averted by the valour, unanimity, and patriotism, of her Citizens. The danger is imposing; but the moment that it is felt, and its extent generally ascertained, it can be no longer so to the People of England—a people, whose fathers held that they were ever an over-match for the French when equally numbered, and that one Briton would always drive three Frenchmen before him !-A People, whose Ancestors held that the shores of Britain must inevitably be the grave of every one that attacked them!-When once then the danger is duly appreciated, and the gigantic efforts of our implacable soe known, such a people may will destruction upon the head of him who projects, and upon the hosts of those who would attempt, the rash enterprize.—Nor are these feelings to be contemned, or treated as prejudices.—Even in our own day the laurels are still fresh upon the heads of heroes, who have maintained the character that has been handed down to them, and rivalled the example of their illustrious forefathers.

Our Edward, the Black Prince, laid waste the Country of France to the grites of Paris, and on the Plains of Cressy lest eleven Princes and thirty thousand men dead upon the field of battle! The same heroic Prince, having annihilated the fleet of France, entirely routed its Army at Poictiers, took their King prisoner, and brought him captive to London with thousands of his Nobles and People; and all this against an army six times as numerous as that of the English!

Did not our Harry the Fifth invade France, and at Agincourt oppose an army of nine thousand men to the French composed of fifty thousand?—and did he not leave ten thousand of the enemy dead upon the field, and take fourteen thousand prisoners?

Have we not within this century to boast a Marlborough, who (besides his other victories) at Blenheim slew twelve thousand of the French, made-fourteen thousand prisoners, and in less than a month conquered three hundred miles of territory from the enemy.

And are the glories of your Abercrombie and the gallant army of Egypt no longer in your minds? an army of fourteen thousand Britons, who landed in the face of upwards of twenty thousand of the enemy, and drove from a country, (with whose strong holds they were acquainted, and whose resources they knew how to apply,) a host of Frenchmen, inured to the climate and veterans in arms. Did they not cut to pieces that vaunted corps of Bonaparte, whose successes against other Powers had obtained it the appellation of Invincible? and is not their standard (all that was left of it) a trophy at this moment in your capital? Arise, then, my Fellow Citizens and Countrymen, break that silence which you have lately observed: let your spirit burst forth, and let your voice speak out the purpose of your souls; tell the plunderers of Europe that you are not the slumbering infatuated people they have had to deal with on the Continent; tell them that every house, cottage, or stall, is in this Country a Castle; that every man is a Governor of his own Castle, and that he will maintain it against attack as tenaciously as the First Consul would maintain his own Usurped Throne. Tell them, that England would never compromise with infamy to ensure even power or greatness; but, that to exchange a Free Constitution, Our Magna Charta, and our Bill of Rights, for French tyranny, military government, and arbitrary restriction, to barter Freedom of Debate and the Liberty of the Press for imposed silence upon every political subject, and suppression of our Journals and every species of information, and equality of laws for the will and caprice of one, and one whose will is caprice itself, would be the act of madmen and ideots, such as neither Bonaparte nor the House of Bourbon, have ever found the people of England to be. Speak out, I repeat, or these great talkers will suppose your silence to be the effect of timidity and apprehension; call meetings in every Parish, assemble together in your towns, and give the Throne assurances of support. Let every man feel confidence in himself, whether he wield a musket or a pitch-fork. The numbers of our enemy will diminish in the scale, as the individual becomes his own defender, and if, as we have proved, we have ever been victorious over the French upon equal terms, how will they escape an overwhelming destruction and annihilation, when we boast such a superiority of force! God forbid that I should entertain an apprehension upon the ultimate result of an Invasion of this Country? It can only become formidable by being despised and lightly treated. Something more, however, is claimed at your hands than simply averting the threatened calamity: The Lion must rouse himself; the Country must crush at a blow the presumptuous efforts of the enemy; we must not year after year be subject to his insolent menaces; our resources will be drained, our taxes increased, and our comforts abridged; whilst he, without

exertion.

exertion, may war against our finances, and sap the soundation of a prosperity, against which openly, I trust, he can never succeed. Our vengeance, therefore, must be signal and terrible: Like the bolt from Heaven, it must strike the decoted Army of Invaders, and no less secure us from the present, than alarm and panic-strike the Soldiers of France from suture attempts at so rash and ruinous an enterprize.

Believe me besore we part, Fellow-Countrymen, I am one of yourselves, and have no influence to operate upon me in this Address but the influence of patriotism, the jealousy of our Rights, our National honour, and veneration for the Constitution of our illustrious foresathers: I have seen successively fall beneath the yoke of our ambitious adversary, the people of Holland and the people of Switzerland. Internal divisions and dissentions, fomented by himself, rendered them an easy prey to the watchful and insatiate depredator: he promised fairly, but promised to deceive; he would be their father, their protector, the guardian of their rights: and how has he approved himself? He has indeed assumed the control of a parent, with the severity of a step-father; his soldiers are their protectors and task-masters; and he has so taken their rights under his especial guardianship, as to exclude the devoted victims of his treachery and artifice from any share or knowledge of them. I have seen the Continental possessions of our King over-run and subjugated by the same enemy who now threatens the British shores, because the day of preparation was postponed and the people neglected the duties which they owed their country. Under the lash of their persecutors do they for such criminal and disloyal neglect at this moment languish; and, under subjection to the Consular Soldiers of Bonaparte, look back with remorse and regret to the loss of a British King; a kind protector, and the benevolent father of his people. They could have saved theirs; We WILL save our Country. And may every Briton, who feels not the insults that have been heaped upon his country, and resents not the bloody threats that are held out against it, become a colonist of France, and the ever-repining slave of Bonaparte!

London, July 6, 1803.

PUBLICOLA.

#### SHERIDAN'S ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE.

- Our King! Our Country! And our God!

Can words add vigour to the Virtuous Energies which inspire your hearts?

No: You have judged as I have, the Foulness of the crafty plea by which these bold invaders would delude you—Your generous Spirit has compared, as mine has, the Molives which, in a War like this, can animate their Minds, and ours.—They, by a strange frenzy driven, fight for Power, Plunder, and extended

extended Rule—WE, for our Country, our Altars, and our Homes.—They follow an ADVENTURER, whom they fear, and obey a Power which they hate. We serve a Monarch whom we love—a God whom we adore.—Whene'er they move in anger, desolation tracts their Progress !-- Whene'er they pause in Amity, affliction mourns their friendship!—They boast, they come but to improve our State, enlarge our Thoughts, and free us from the Yoke of error !--Yes; THEY will give enlightened freedom to our minds, who are themselves the slaves of passion, avarice, and pride.—They offer us their protection—Yes, such protection as Vultures give to Lambs, -covering and devouring them ! They call us to barter all our goods we have inherited and proved, for the desperate Chance of something better which they promise.—Be our plain answer this; the Throne we honour is the PEOPLE'S CHOICE—the Laws we reverence are our brave Fathers' Legacy—the Faith we follow teaches us to live in bonds of Charity with all mankind, and die with hope of bliss beyond the grave. Tell your Invaders this; and tell them too, we seek no Change; and, least of all, such Change as they would bring us.

R. B. SHERIDAN.

## PLAIN ANSWERS TO PLAIN QUESTIONS,

IN A DIALOGUE BETWEEN

#### JOHN BULL and BONAPARTE.

Met Half-Seas over, between Dover and Calais.

John Bull. How do you do?

Bonaparte. Pretty well; but hope to be better when I am in London.

John Bull. When do you expect to get there?

Bonaparte. About the end of September; or October at latest.

John Bull. Why would not you remain at Peace with us, which you

know we were anxious to preserve?

Bonaparte. Because I had set my heart on the recovery of Egypt, which I had so disgracefully quitted; and, in recovering Egypt, to pave the way for driving you out of India, to the productions of which you owe so much of your wealth, of the strength and the prosperity which you enjoy.

John Bull. But what did Malta signify?

Bonaparte. I could not cleverly get to Egypt without it.

John Bull. Why are you such an enemy to our Liberty of the Press?

Bonaparie. That's a foolish question, John. Why? because it exposes all my deep designs. Because it makes me odious amongst my own subjects, and in all Europe, by pointing out all the bloodshed, desolation, and rapine, by which I have obtained power, and by which I must preserve it. Because it recommends love, loyalty, and support, to a King whom I mean to dethrone; and unanimity to a country which I mean to conquer, to ravage, and to annihilate.

Jahn Bull. What Religion are you of?

Bonaparte. None; I was first a Deist; then a Papist in Italy; afterwards a Mehometan in Egypt; and am now an Atheist.

John Bull. Why then did you restore the Catholic Religion in France?

Bonaparte. Because it answered my purpose best.

John Bull. Why have you suffered your soldiers to burn so many towns, to shed so much innocent blood, destroy cottages as well as palacesin so discriminately, murder in cold blood thousands of poor men, and ravish thousands of poor women, in Italy, in Egypt, in Syria, and lately in Hanover?

Bonaparte. Foolish again, John. I did not merely suffer it, I encouraged it. My object has always been to strike terror. I don't mince matters. Witness the deliberate massacre of four thousand Turks at Jaffa, who were my prisoners; and my poisoning several hundred of my own soldiers, who were of no use to me.

John Bull. What do you mean to do if you come here?

Bonaparte. I won't tell you. It would make your hair stands on end.

John Bull. Arn't you a bit afraid of us?

Buonaparte. To tell you the truth, I am. But I am not afraid to sacrifice 100,000 men in an attempt to invade you.

John Bull. As an honest man, what do you most depend upon for success?

Bonaparte. On foggy weather, long nights, a want of discipline in your troops, a want of spirit and of union in your people.

John Bull. You had better let it alone, Bony; if these are your only

grounds for hope, you're a damn'd fool if you attempt it.

Bonaparte. To tell you the truth, John, I don't much like some of your late proceedings in Parliament. But I am determined on the attempt; so, look to it.

#### INVASION.

#### SCENE OF A PLAY.

Enter John Bull and Bonaparte from opposite sides, supposed to be met half way between Dover and Calais.

#### Bonaparte.

WELL, John, how do you do?

John Bull. I'm very well, which I fancy is more than you can say.

- Bonaparte. Why so, John?

John Bull. Because I think as how your conscience must prick you most damnably.

Bonaparte. You must be deceived, John; you must mean somebody else.

John Ball. No I don't; I know you well. I have heard of all your crimes—of your having murdered four thousand Turks in cold blood; and of

of your having poisoned three hundred of your own soldiers in Egypt. But what do you want with me, you monster?

Bonaparte. Oh, don't be angry, John. I only want to have a little con-

versation with you—I should like to be your friend.

John Bull. None of your damned palaver with me, you ruffian. You my friend! you had better by half hold your jaw, or I'll soon let you know that

you have not got hold of a French citizen to humbug.

Bonavarte. Now really, dear John, you are too hard upon me. A Briton, you know, is always just. Have a little patience then, John, and hear what I have to advance in my defence. The four thousand Turks I murdered, they were my prisoners; and I only cut their throats to prevent their escape: and as for my own soldiers, they had quite worn themselves out in my service, and were no longer of any use to me; I therefore thought that giving them a dose of poison was the cheapest mode of getting rid of an unnecessary burden: but, dear John, I would not serve you so.

John Bull. No, I believe you there; for I'll take care you sha'nt.

Bonaparte. But, my dear fellow, you'll let me pay a friendly visit to 'your island; I hear it's a delightful place, and I'm very fond of travelling and

seeing the world; besides, I would make all your people so happy.

John Bull. Now, you little infernal lying scoundrel. If you're not off I'll give you a lesson such as you'll remember as long as you live. I tell you, that I already know all your sneaking hypocritical tricks; but, shiver my timbers, if you shall manœuvre me. You told the poor Dutchmen, and Italians, and Swiss, that you would make them happy; but in what manner did you keep your promise? Why, the moment you and your army of banditti had them in your power; those who had money, you wantonly laid them waste, and carried off their stock; those who lived in cottages, you destroyed their household goods, and pulled down their houses about their ears; the men you loaded with chains and threw into prison; or compelled them by various modes of torture to enter your army, to destroy their own relations and friends, and to fight against their own country. You ravished their wives and daughters; you murdered or enslaved their children; and those that were lest, you obliged to work for two-pence a day, and to live on water and bread made of husks of oats and bark of trees; and, if they were sulky, you gibbetted them. And you would bring us into the same state of misery and slavery, would you? You would chain a free-born Briton to your chariotwheels, and, after dragging him about in triumph, reduce him to the situation of your own cowardly slaves: would you, and be damned?

Bonaparte. (Looking rather pale.) Dearest John, you really have formed too had an opinion of me. That I have served others so, is very true; but I really have a great regard and respect for you; and, if you would kindly condescend to intrust yourself to my care, upon my honour, John, you

would have no reason to repent.

John Bull, Your honour! you black-hearted treacherous Corsican: your honour! you who have served all gods, and all religions; who have been Turk, Jew, Christian, and Atheist, by turns. Your honour! Don't talk to me so. Damn you, if you were not such a little bit of a fellow, in spite of your large

cocked hat, I'd crack your skull in an instant with my fist. I have also heard of your views on our dear little island. So you have promised your soldiers, have you, that on their arrival they shall be allowed universal pillage, and that, in order to make the booty the greater, you will allow them to put all the base English to death? Now, you little whipper-snapper fellow, (seizes him by the nose,) I'll make you stay a minute or two longer to hear a little bit of sound advice. If your beggarly soldiers come among us, depend upon it they'll soon have enough of it. Though you think me an ignorant fellow, I can tell you that I know something of history. I know how we Englishmen have belaboured you Frenchmen. I recollect Edward the Third, and the Black Prince, and Henry the Fifth, and Marlborough, and Wolfe, and Abercrombie. These were all Britons, who used to beat the French on land as regularly as they cat their meals. And as for a sea-fight, damn you, you have no more chance of success there than I should have if I was to try to jump over St. Paul's. I know too that we have licked you, and most damnably too, when you have been ten to one against us; and, damn me, if any ten of you shall have my person or property. You yourself ran away from Sir Sidney Smith at Acre, and left your army in the lurch; and now you may run away from me, so be off. (Kicks his -----)

### CORPORAL, TRIM ON THE INVASION.

As much as the public papers is now engrossed with speculations on ou. means of defence against the threatened Invasion, it is vain to imagine that the ignorant and enlightened, the timid and the brave, will hold the same opinions; but that the majority of the most intrepid nation on earth can seriously entertain any apprehensions on that subject, appears to me utterly impossible. And I am one of those, who place no less reliance in the perfect safety of conversing with the public on the subject than I should in preparing the brave army destined for their defence to expect as much danger as glory, their companionship being inseparable. When the object of a general is to make an attack upon the enemy, secrecy must, for many obvious reasons, be held sacred; on the other hand, when the general expects an attack, he cannot be too explicit, both as to the nature of his expectance, and in the means intended to frustrate the attempt; and in performing this duty nothing can be worse policy then to attribute his security rather to the weakness of the enemy than to his own superior means of desence; or for him rashly to assert it is impossible the enemy should carry that possition, that they should be able to cross that river, or to make a landing on the coast; because, if the reverse took place, the troops would be disheartened, and naturally lose their confidence in the general, whereas every danger is half overcome when it is steadily looked in the face. On the other hand, the greatest risk in war is acknowledged to be the occurrence of any circumstance not expected; as for example, it is known a corpse of grenadiers will boldly advance upon a battery

in the mouth of the cannon, and bravely force their way through the embrasures; yet, if an unexpected fire of musketry was opened on their flink, it it is more than probable that a serious alarm would be the consequence of the discovery of a danger they had not made up their minds to. ' Therefore, though the most uncertain military operation in the world is doubtless the invasion of this country, yet we should be prepared to look the circumstance sternly in the face, and in this case our frown is perdition to the enemy. For, though nothing can be more difficult than to place an adequate defence on every part of an extensive coast, by the construction of forts, batteries, and intrenchments, which can only take place in respect to particular points and harbours; as the enemy floating at sea has the choice of landing with a greater force than can suddenly be opposed to him, under a superior fire from his shipping in deep water, and from his gun-boats in shallow water; nevertheless, on being informed of the enemy's approach, it is advisable to throw every obstruction in his way, and to cause as great destruction as possible; which the invaded troops do with every advantage to themselves that soldiers can wish for, by marching down the coast in different columns the moment when the enemy's boats stretch from the shore: at which favourable period our artillery may be advanced without being endangered from the fire of the shipping, which will be so masked by their own boats as to render it impossible for the ships to fire without endangering their own people; and if the boats, after suffering great loss from our guns, should still near the shore, the artillery may instanly be withdrawn to a more distant position, and the cavalry and infantry advance rapidly to cover the retreat of the guns, and to attack the enemy while in disorder. His loss will undoubtedly be ten times ours. Yet it is possible, that by very superior numbers, on a given point, he may be able to make good his landing, which in my mind will to him be no better than digging his own grave; or, in regard to his escape from our ships, be falling out of the frying-pan into the fire. As our generals will no doubt have taken such positions of communication as to secure the speedy assembly of a considerable body of troops and artillery, which, for the sake of argument, I now suppose to be assembled within five miles of the enemy's leading column; and that, at a certain distance between them and the enemy, a ditch be dug across the road, and extending to the right and left of it a considerable distance in the fields, obliging the enemy thereby to remain longer under the fire of our artillery, while the ground on which we decide to give battle be laid open to clear the way for the irresistible impetuosity of our cavalry. Meanwhile, the horse-artillery and sharp-shooters are sent forward to salute the enemy in front, flank, and rear; who, exposed to this galling fire, must be reduced to the necessity of employing a considerable portion of his troops, provided with instruments, to clear away the hedges and ditches for his columns to march, or be confined to keep the high road in a single column: in either case, his movements must be greatly retarded; and, as cannot-shot directed to large. bodies will be destructive at two miles distance, he will, when he arrives within that range of fire, after passing through the ordeal of the horse-artillery and sharp-shooters, be exposed to an exterminating fire from our heavy artillery, which will so enfilade his column, as that, according to his own favou-

rite phrase, the column will be foudroyé-a salutation he cannot possibly return. As if it were practicable for him to land a hundred guns, and their attendant ammunition-carriages, with horses to draw them, his ranks must be devastated by the irresistable thunder of a superior artillery, calibre, and celerity of movement; his guns would soon be silenced without a capacity on his part of replacing a shot he has fired, a man or horse that has been killed, or a gun that has been dismounted. Pelted in this manner, with an iron tempest in front, flank, and rear, the glitter of our bayonets and the sound of our horses -would be sufficient, and he would scarcely venture within reach of our Egyptians; and, if they did, they have experienced what it is to fear God and -level low; and he has experienced also, that neither the possession of all the strong holds of the country, superior numbers united to a superiority of artillery and the means of its movement, with every other advantage and resource, could prevent their surrender to a handful of British troops, who from this - reason he endeavours to underwrite, as he did Suwarrow and the Russians. But his publications were in vain, as it is well known the invincibles were constantly averse to a close connexion with the Russians, though the French generals as constantly pronounced them the worst troops in the world, and the Russian generals the most unskilful. In spite, therefore, of these gascorades, the French are very sensible that their march to the British capital will be the most wearisome their infatuated Consul ever devised for the victims of his ambition. Though by the boastful terms in which the rapidity of his movements is described by hireling writers, many of our old ladies are taught to believe that to march six and thirty miles a day is nothing for him; it may be so where there is no opposition. But, however sorry I may be to differ from such respectable authority, it is my opinion that, when the French van reaches London, their centre and rear will be eaten by the crows; and the Invincibles and Terribles be very glad to surrender their useless arms to our Lambs for the humble consideration of a dinner, which British magnanimity will not refuse.

I am however, much afraid, from the natural partiality of our seamen to the inhabitants of their own elements, that our poor crows will be cheated of their French ragout and the Armée d'Angleterre be dished up to the fish, with broadsides and gunpowder sauce; in either case his Consular Majesty will be a welcome guest.

So, Huzza for the Tight Little Island!!!

CORPORAL TRIM.

#### BRAVE SOLDIERS,

### DEFENDERS OF YOUR COUNTRY!

THE road to glory is open before you; pursue the great career of your Fore-fathers, and rival them in the field of honor. A proud and usurping TYRANT (a name

(a name ever execuated by Englishmen) dates to threaten our shores with IN-VASION, and to reduce the free-born Sons of Britain to SLAVERY and SERVITUDE! Forgetting what English soldiers are capable of, and ranking them with the Hirelings of the Powers who have falling his prey on the Continent, he supposes his threat easily executed. Give him a lesson, my brave Countrymen, that he will not easily forget, and that France may have by heart for a Century to come! Neither the vaunting Hero (who deserted his own Comrades and Soldiers in Egypt), nor the French Army, have ever been able to cope with British valour when fairly opposed to it. Our ancestors declared, that ONE ENGLISHMAN was ever a match for THREE FRENCH-MEN—and that man to man was too great odds in our favour. We have but to feel their sentiments to confirm them; you will find that their declaration was founded on experience; and that, even in our days, within these three years, an army of your brave Comrades has convinced its admiring Country that the balance is still as great as ever against the enemy. Our. EDWARD, the illustrious Black Prince, laid waste the Country of France to the Gutes of Paris, and on the Plains of Cressdy left eleven Princes and 30,000 men dead upon the Field of Battle-a greater number than the whole. English Army boasted at the beginning of the Action, The same heroic Prince, having annihilated the Fleet of France, entirely routed her Army at Poictiers, took her King prisoner, and brought him Captive to London, with thousands of his Nobles and People; and all this against an Army SIX. TIMES AS NUMEROUS AS THAT OF THE ENGLISH! Did not our Harry the Fifth invade France, and at Agincourt oppose an Army of 9000 men, sickly, fatigued, and half-starced, to that of the French amounting to 50,000: and did he not leave 10,000 of the enemy dead upon the field, and take 14,000 prisoners, with the loss of only 400 men?

Have we not, within this century, to boast a MARLBOROUGH, who (besides his other Victories) at Blenheim slew 12,000 of the French, and made 14,000 prisoners, and in less than a month conquered 300 miles of Territory from the Enemy? Did not WOLFE in the year 1759, gain the Height of Abraham with a handful of British Troops, and afterwards defeat the whole

French army, and gain possession of all Canada? &c.

And are not the glories of our ABERCROMBIE and the gallant ARMY of EGYPT fresh in your minds? An Army of 14,000 Britons, who landed in the face of upwards of 20,000 troops of France, and drove from a country, (with whose strong holds they were acquainted, and whose resources they knew how to apply,) a host of Frenchmen, enured to the climate and veterans in arms? Did they not cut to pieces that vaunted Corps of Bonaparte's, whose successes against other Powers had obtained it the appellation of INVINCIBLE: and is not their Standard (all that is left of it) a trophy at this momen in our Capital?

The Briton fights for his Liberty and Rights, the Frenchman fights for Bonaparte, who has robbed him of both! Which, then, in the nature of events, will be most zealous, most active, and most terrible, in the Field of Battle? the independent supporters of his country's cause, or the Slave who trembles lest the arms of his comrades should be turned against himself: who knows that

that his Leader, his General, his Tyrant, did not hesitate, after having MURDERED 4000 disarmed Turks in cool blood, to POISON 300 of his own sick Sulaiers; of men, who had been fighting his battles of ambition, and been wounded in his defence. English Soldiers will scarcely credit this; but it is on record not to be doubted, never to be expunged. But more; read and blush for the depravity even of an enemy. It is not that these bloody deeds have been perpetrated from necessity, from circumstances however imperious at the moment; they were the acts of cool and deliberate determination; and his purpose, no less sanguinary, is again declared in the event of success in his enterprize against this Country. Feeling that even the slavish followers of his fortune were not to be forced to embark in this ruinous and destructive expedition, he declares to them in a public proclamation, or decoy, that, when they have landed in this Country, in order to make the booty the richer, NO QUARTER shall be given to the BASE ENGLISH, who fight for their perfidious Government-that they are to be PUT TO THE SWURD, and their Property distributed among the Soldiers of the Victorious Army !!! Say, is this the conduct of a Hero? Is this the man who is destined to break the spirit of Englishmen? Shall we suffer an ASSASSIN to enter our blessed Country, and despoil our fields of their produce-to massacre our brave Soldiers in cool blood, and hang up every man who has carried arms? Your cry is vengeance for the insult-and vengeance is in your own hands. It must be signal and terrible ! Like the bolt from Heaven let it strike the devoted Army of Invaders! Every Prenchman will find his Grave where he first steps on British ground, and not a a Sollier of B maparte's beasted Legions shall escape the fate his ambitious Ty-- tant has prepared for him!

#### BRITONS, STRIKE HOME!

Qr your Fame is for every blasted, --- your Liberties for ever lost !!!

PUBLICOLA.

THE END.

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